WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF MAKING MONEY?

What is the purpose of “making money?” Naturally, self-support and the support of those dependent upon us.

But it is something more than that. “That so laboring you ought to support the weak” (Acts 20:35). “We then that are strong ought to bear the burdens of the weak. “ This does not mean simply the physically weak, but also all who are handicapped by ignorance, superstition, and fear. The Christian should be more concerned with giving than getting. The question is not how much do I give, but how much do I keep for myself?

A great missionary to India, in the days when he repaired shoes for a living, said, “My business is to preach the Gospel; I cobbled shoes to pay expenses.” Many unable to go as missionaries have lived to support those who could go.

Frank Schaeffer, in his book Dancing Alone: The Quest for Orthodox Faith in the Age of False Religion, writes: Unlike the ancient Orthodox Churches in various countries such as Palestine, Africa, Greece, Ukraine and Russia, the Orthodox Church in North America (with the exception of the Church in Alaska) is entirely a Church of migrants. The founders were not monks and missionaries, but people seeking to find a better life."

In the Roman Empire, known as Byzantium, the standards of our society were the Saints, the deified, whoever had communion with God at various levels. Even today in Greece we honor, celebrate and process our Saints. This is precisely the difference between our country and other countries, especially America. If we don't understand this truth we will not be able to understand the difference between us. For this reason Greece and the Greeks of America play an important role in changing the climate and culture in America. When the manners and customs of our country are transferred there, which at its basis is an ecclesiastical atmosphere and life, then the climate of America will change, which has been influenced by Protestantism, who rejected the Saints.

Our models should be the Saints and not the "American dream", in which there are no saints, but folktales from the fields of art, science and politics.

Metropolitan Hierotheos, Metropolitan of Nafpaktos, Greece
The Lord said to his disciples, “Every one who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven; but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny him before my Father who is in heaven. He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and he who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me.” Then Peter said in reply, “Lo, we have left everything and followed you. What then shall we have?” Jesus said to them, “Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of man shall sit on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for my name’s sake, will receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life. But many that are first will be last, and the last first.”

This Week
Sat - Philoptochos Garage Sale - 8 am - 2 pm

To Our Visitors:
We are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us. Just a reminder, however: the Sacrament of Holy Communion is a manifestation of the unity of the Body of Christ. As such, only those who are members in spiritual good standing of the Orthodox Church – and who have prepared themselves for the Sacrament – may partake of the Holy Chalice. However, everyone is welcome to come up with our people at the end of the service to receive blessed bread.

Please be sure to join us at Coffee Hour following Services.

Orthodox Saints and the Future of America
The latest information from our press has announced a new book written about the late actress Marilyn Monroe by Joyce Carl Oates, which in reality is presented as a fictional biography. But what is important in this case and needs to be noted is that in the interview granted by the author of this book there is a characteristic quote: "In America cinematography is a religion. We don't have saints, but we have folklore" (Ελευθεροτυπία, 11/06/2000).

America is a young country, the so-called "new world", created after the migration of entire populations of Europe, primarily to find work. In this way the spirit of the Renaissance, the Reformation and the Enlightenment with all its consequences on individual and social life was transferred. So the spirit that prevails is rationalism and sensationalism. This affects all social behaviors, which is why Puritanism dominates the American land.

When one reads several books by American writers they will find that the examples they use come from films, which at their basis represent the Ameri-