

On Giving to God

Many Christians hide behind the secrecy of their Church pledges. These same people will tip a waiter more than they will give to church since one can be done in public and the other in secret. If our parish were to publish the pledges of our parishioner, many people would be embarrassed - not because of the invasion of privacy so much as the fact that they know in their hearts that their gift is *not indicative of their commitment to God*.



On Unceasing Prayer

Ought we to pray without ceasing? Is it possible to obey such a command? These are questions which I see you are ready to ask. I will endeavor, to the best of my ability, to defend the charge.

Prayer is a petition for good addressed by the pious to God. But we do not rigidly confine our petition to words. Nor yet do we imagine that God requires to be reminded by speech. He knows our needs even though we ask Him not. What do I say then? I say that we must not think to make our prayer complete by syllables. The strength of prayer lies rather in the purpose of our soul and in deeds of virtue reaching every part and moment of our life. "Whether you eat," it is said, "or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."

As you take your seat at table, pray. As you are putting on your tunic, thank the Giver of it. Is the day done? Give thanks to Him Who has given us the sun for our daily work, and has provided for us a fire to light up the night, and to serve the rest of the needs of life.

Let night give the other occasions of prayer. When you look up to heaven and gaze at the beauty of the stars, pray to the Lord of the visible world; pray to God the Arch-artificer of the universe, Who in wisdom has made them all.

Thus will thought pray without ceasing; if thought prays not only in words, but unites itself to God through all the course of life and so your life be made one ceaseless and uninterrupted prayer.

St. Basil the Great, *Homily on the Martyr Julitta*

Ss Constantine & Helen

Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Pacific



August 11, 2013

7th Sunday of Matthew

930 Lunalilo Street, Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 521-7220 www.ssconhelhi.goarch.org
Office: saintsconstantine-helenhon@mail.goarch.org
Fr. John: frjohnkuehnle@mail.goarch.org

August 11, 2013

7th Sunday of Matthew

Commemoration of: St. Euplus the Holy Martyr & Archdeacon of Cantania

Apolytikia - Entrance Hymns

Angelikai Dynamis (Hymn of the Day) Tone 6

Metemorfothis en to Orei (Hymn of the Transfiguration) Tone 7

You were transfigured on the Mount, Christ God, revealing Your glory to Your disciples, insofar as they could comprehend. Illuminate us sinners also with Your everlasting light, through the intercessions of the Theotokos. Giver of light, glory to You.

Tou Stavrou Sou (Hymn of the Church) Tone 8

Having seen in the sky the form of Your Cross and, like Paul, having received his calling not from men, Your apostle among Kings, Lord, placed his reigning city in Your hand, which you guard in peace forever, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, for You alone love mankind.

Kontakion

Epi tou Orous Metemorfothis Tone 7

You were transfigured upon the mount, O Christ Our God, and Your disciples, in so far as they could bear, beheld Your glory. Thus, when they see You crucified they may understand Your voluntary passion, and proclaim to the world that you are truly the radiance of the Father.

Epistle Reading

Romans 15:1-7

Brethren, we who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves; let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to edify him. For Christ did not please himself; but, as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached thee fell on me." For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of your Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 9:27-35

At that time, as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed him,

crying aloud, "Have mercy on us, Son of David." When he entered the house, the blind men came to him; and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to him, "Yes, Lord." Then he touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly charged them, "See that no one knows it." But they went away and spread his fame through all that district.

As they were going away, behold, a dumb demoniac was brought to him. And when the demon had been cast out, the dumb man spoke; and the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel." But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons."

And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people.

Today we welcome Fr. Alexander Leong to celebrate the Liturgy, while Fr. John is out of town.

This Week

Mon - *Paraklesis* - 6:30 pm

Feast of the Dormition

Weds - *Great Vespers* - 6:30 pm

thurs - *Orthros/Liturgy* - 8:30/9:00 am

From the Fathers

Pray to the Mother of God. She will intercede for you in this life, and, after death, she will help you pass through the tollhouses and reach the heavenly Kingdom.

St. Barsanuphius of Optina

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.*