

Giving With Love

We can give without love but such loveless giving has no value in the eyes of God. St. Paul writes, "If I give away all that I have ... but have not love, I gain nothing" (I Cor. 13:3). It is only when we give because we love that our gift is pleasing and acceptable to God.

Our weekly offering to God is first and foremost an offering of love. One can give without loving but one cannot love without giving.

From the Fathers

Christ's sheepfold is the Church. Anyone who wants to enter the fold must enter by using the gate: he must preach the true Christ. And not only preach Christ. He must also seek Christ's glory, rather than his own. Many, in seeking their own glory, have scattered the flock of Christ, when they ought to have been uniting it. Christ is the gate that is humble and low. All who want to enter by this gate must humble themselves and stoop low. Any who do not humble themselves, but make themselves important, are clearly proposing to enter by scaling the wall. But climbing the wall means heading for a fall.

Augustine

We should always say the Jesus prayer wherever we are; not just in the morning or at night. When we walk, we should not waste our free time, but instead take advantage of it and repeat the prayer. When we are working in a busy place and it is difficult for us to concentrate on praying, we can quietly chant without disturbing others.

Elder Paisios the Athonite

Let us consider, beloved brethren, what the congregation of believers did in the time of the apostles. Back then, at the beginning, the mind flourished with greater virtues. The faith of believers burned with a warmth of faith that was still new. Back then they sold houses and farms and gladly and generously presented the proceeds to the apostles to be distributed to the poor.

St. Cyprian of Carthage

Ss Constantine & Helen

Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Pacific



September 1, 2013

Sunday of the Indiktion

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September 1, 2013

Sunday of the Indiktion

Commemoration of: St. Titus the Apostle of the 70

Apolytikia - Entrance Hymns

Tou Lithou Sfragisthentos (Hymn of the Day) Tone 1

O Pasis Dmiourgos (Hymn of the Indiktion) Tone 2

Creator of the universe, setting time and seasons by Your sole authority, bless the cycle of the year of Your grace, O Lord, guarding our rulers and Your flock in peace, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, and save us.

Haire Keharitomeni (Hymn of the Indiktion) Tone 2

Creator of the universe, setting time and seasons by Your sole authority, bless the cycle of the year of Your grace, O Lord, guarding our rulers and Your nation in peace, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, and save us.

Ypomonis Stulos (Hymn of St Symeon) Tone 1

You became a pillar of patience and emulated the Forefathers, O righteous one: Job in his sufferings, Joseph in temptations, and the life of the bodiless while in the body. O Symeon, our righteous Father, intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.

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

O Ton Aionon Tone 4

O God of all, Creator and Lord of all ages, truly transcendent, bless the cycle of the year. By Your infinite mercy, O Compassionate One, save all who worship You the only Master, and who cry out in awe, "O Redeemer, grant us all a fruitful year!"

Epistle Reading

I Timothy 2:1-7

Brethren, I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, who

gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time, for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle - I am speaking the truth in Christ and not lying - a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

Gospel Reading

Luke 4:16-22

At that time, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was many furlongs distant from the land, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately he spoke to them, saying "Take heart, it is I; have no fear."

And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, bid me come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "O man of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they entered the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.

This Week

Sat – *Great Vespers* - 6:30 pm Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos

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.*