

October 21, 2018

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

Diocese of Toledo - Orthodox Church in America

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The Gospel according to Saint John

21:1-14 (10th Matins Gospel)

After these things Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias, and in this way He showed Himself: Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples were together. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We are going with you also." They went out and immediately got into the boat, and that night they caught nothing. But when the morning had now come, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Then Jesus said to them, "Children, have you any food?" They answered Him, "No." And He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast, and now they were not able to draw it in because of the multitude of fish.

Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment (for he had removed it), and plunged into the sea. But the other disciples came in the little boat (for they were not far from land, but about two hundred cubits), dragging the net with fish. Then, as soon as they had come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish which you have just caught." Simon Peter went up and dragged the net to land, full of large fish, one hundred and fifty-three; and although there were so many, the net was not broken. Jesus said to them, "Come and eat breakfast." Yet none of the disciples dared ask Him, "Who are You?" – knowing that it was the Lord. Jesus then came and took the bread and gave it to them, and likewise the fish. This is now the third time Jesus showed Himself to His disciples after He was raised from the dead.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2018 21ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 4. Translation of the Relics of St. Hilarion, Bishop of Meglin in Bulgaria (1206). Ven. Hilarion the Great (371-372). Ven. Hilarion, Schema-monk, of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves—13th-14th c.). Ven. Hilarion, Abbot, of Pskovoezérsk (Gdovsk). Ven. Theóphil (Theophilus) and Jacob (James), Abbots of Omutch (Pskov—ca. 1412). Martyr Dasius, Gaius, and Zoticus, at Nicomedia (303). Ven. Philotheus of Dionysiou (Mt. Athos—1610). Ven. Visarion (Bessarion) Sarai and Sophronie, of Ciorara, Confessors, and Martyr Oprea of Salistie, in Romania (1776).

TROPARIA

(Tone 4) When the women Disciples of the Lord learned from the Angel the joyous message of the Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the Apostles: "Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy!"

(Tone 4) You appeared as a herald of miracles, and shone forth in the body with the virtues. You established monasteries and built churches for God, thus cleansing your episcopal see, O holy hierarch Hilarion, unafraid of the attacks of heretics. In death, as though in sleep, your body remains incorrupt, granting healing to the sick and casting out demons. Therefore we beseech you: intercede that our souls may be saved!

(Tone 4) In truth you were revealed to your flock as a rule of faith, a model of meekness, and teacher of abstinence, so you won the heights by humility, and riches by poverty, O Holy Father Nicholas, intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

KONTAKION

(Tone 6) Protection of Christians never failing, Mediatress before the Creator, ever constant. Do not despise the voice of prayer of sinners, but in your goodness come to help us who faithfully call upon you. Hasten to entreat, hurry to pray, O Theotokos, interceding always for those honor you.

The Prokeimenon in the First Tone: My mouth shall speak wisdom, / and the meditation of my heart shall be understanding. v. Hear this, all nations; give ear, all inhabitants of the world.

THE EPISTLE OF PAUL TO THE HEBREWS (7:26-8:2) Brethren: it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, unstained, separated from sinners, exalted above the heavens. He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people; he did this once for all when he offered up himself. Indeed, the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect for ever. Now the point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, a minister in the sanctuary and the true tent which is set up not by man but by the Lord.

Alleluia, Tone 4

v: Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of meekness, righteousness and truth.

v: For Thou lovest righteousness, and doth hate iniquity.

COMMUNION HYMN Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

“Our culture has wrongly equated loving everyone with approving everything”—why and how this saying is wrong

This meme apparently does the rounds of Facebook these days. A friend pointed to the basic problem of this saying: “The word that stands out is ‘approving.’ Who is doing the approving? A generic someone? Me? Hardly. If the hand that struck the Savior did not wither but rather He went all the way to death for that very person who struck him (who is me), it is clear that it’s not a matter of approving or not approving but rather it is a matter of God’s love for us, of Him who gives us complete and utter freedom such that He will not bruise our freedom in order to bring us to repentance.”

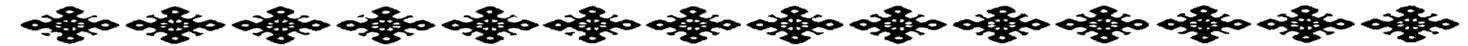
Exactly! This saying is wrong because it lacks the proper language in which such things as right and wrong, virtue and sin, have to be expressed. The proper language is Christ, our life. And it seems to me that at the heart of that language is the way Christ sees us.

Allow me to put it bluntly: the essence of spiritual life is to see the world as Christ sees the world. This is what it ultimately means to be like God. And when Christ looks at the human being, He sees Himself. He sees right through our sinfulness, through this soot that dirties us, and sees what we truly are: icons of Him, dust formed into divine resemblance.

So, loving everyone? First, I doubt that this culture loves everyone. If it does anything resembling love, it is self-pleasing and self-aggrandizing, which paradoxically always hurts others. Today’s love for all is showing its hurtful nature. Approving everything? Our relation with each other should never be a matter of approval. It should be a matter of true, self-sacrificial love. It is only that which takes down the distances between us, as the Incarnation did. What I am trying to say is that even looking at someone with distance of any kind means not to see them truly, for what they truly are. Sin is one thing, and the human being another. When we see sin in someone we don’t see that person accurately, truly. We look at our fellow human being with distance, not the way Christ does. This is what we are after: to see people as Christ sees them. Selflessly, self-sacrificially, lovingly. Do we do that when we offer approval or our “love”? This is the ultimate question here!

. <https://apriestoftheorthodoxchurch.wordpress.com/2018/10/13/our-culture-has-wrongly-equated-loving-everyone-with-approving-everything-why-and-how-this-saying-is-wrong/>

October 21, 2018



CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH AND BLESSINGS OF

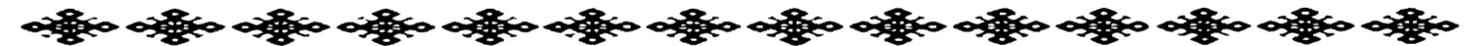
Eugene Akkerman~birthday	Akkerman family
Fr. Tom, Fr. Dimitrie, Fr. Anthony, Aaron, Reggie, John, Alex, Rimi, Allen, Deborah, JoAnn, Susan, Luba, Kosta, David, Anna, Walt, Vladimir, Dorothy, Michael, Allison, Stojan, Mira, Bosa, Jeanette, Christopher, Ted, Marlene, Marcia, Joseph, Nicholas, Margaret, Gladys, my family and friends	Joe Tome
Special Intention	Joe Tome
Health & blessings of Taisa	Akkerman family
Kumovi Stojan, Mira & family. Blessings & good health	Kuma Bosa

CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR BLESSED REPOSE

Memory Eternal~Lewis Elieff~Blessed Repose	His family
Kum Luka u pokoj duše. Blessed Repose~Eternal Memory. Bog da dušu prosti!	Kuma Bosa

ETERNAL LIGHT AT THE ALTAR

Kum Luka Prusac (40 days)	Janja Beslach & family
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WELCOME to all our friends and visitors. Please join us in our fellowship hall.

 **COFFEE, DONUTS & DESSERTS** are provided today by Mira, Stojan & family in memory of Luka Prusac.

ELECTION OF PARISH COUNCIL, AUDITORS, LAY DELEGATES & NOMINATING COMMITTEE

As of October 19, 2018 the nominees are:

Parish Council Nominees (3 will be elected)

Michelle Gerzevske	Sharon Jernigan (term ending 2018)	Fannia Young
Kathy Gonser (term ending 2018)	Cathy Steiner (term ending 2018)	

Auditors Nominees (1 need to be elected)

Linda Branoff

Lay Delegate Nominees will also be voted on for the 2019 Diocesan Conference to be held at St. Nicholas Church, Fort Wayne, IN in the fall of 2019:

2019 Diocesan Conference Lay Delegate Nominees (1 will be elected)

Deborah Gonser-Adams J. Joseph Tome

Nominating Committee Nominees (all are currently on the Nominating Committee):

Deborah Gonser-Adams Paul Brayan Christine Panoff Fred Paul J. Joseph Tome

If your name is listed above and you do not wish to run for the parish council or auditor OR if you would like to nominate someone, please call the parish office at 810-744-0070.

The annual elections will take place on Sunday, November 4.*Absentee Ballots will be made available in the parish office beginning October 21*****

To vote at this meeting, you must meet these requirements from the Parish Bylaws (rev. 2013):

Article VI - Parish Members in Good Standing

1. A member of the parish "in good standing" must be 18 years of age or over and must be baptized and chrismated (confirmed) in the Orthodox Church or have been duly and properly received, if a convert, into the Church according to the decisions of the parish priest and, if necessary, the Diocesan Bishop...
3. A member of the parish must make Holy Confession and receive Holy Communion at least once a year especially during Great Lent or Holy Week.

Additionally, a parish member must sign a Pledge card.

QUARTERLY STATEMENTS can be picked up in the Parish Hall. Please call the office at (810) 744-0070 if you have any questions.

KITCHEN USE If you want to use the kitchen for baking please call the office to have it put on the calendar, insuring it's available when you need it.

HOPE IN A BOX is collecting **socks** for the month of October. Place the items in the blue box in the Parish Hall. Catholic Charities Community Closet will distribute the items.

FOOD DRIVE Place non-perishable food items in the other blue box in the hall.

WORK READY ROOM Catholic Charities Work Ready Room wants your new & gently used career clothes to help individuals in need! i.e. Khakis, Scrubs, Shoes, Work Boots, Dress Pants & Collared Shirts. For more information call 810-265-7025. Donations can be dropped off Mon-Fri at 812 Root St, Flint.

Weekly Schedule:

Today 40 day Parastas for Luka Prusac followed by mercy meal in the fellowship hall

Monday, Oct. 22 Communion Calls in Bay City, Caro, and Lapeer

Tuesday, Oct. 23

6 pm "Exploring Our Faith" at St. George on Thursday
(with plans to meet the 4th Tuesday of each month).

The topic of discussion will be "Divine Providence: God is active in every event in our lives always desiring that through all we experience, both good and bad, we would be constantly turning toward Him. Come and explore more about how we understand His constant presence and guidance in our lives as He provides opportunities for our salvation! We begin with Small Compline at 6 PM (only about 20 minutes long) followed by refreshments, fellowship and a presentation and discussion.

Wednesday, Oct. 24

9:30 am Divine Liturgy
11:15 am Adult Ed. Class

Saturday, Oct. 27

5 pm Vespers

Sunday, Oct. 28

9:30 am Third Hour
10 am Divine Liturgy followed by Church School
6 month Parastas for Zina Pyatenko

Offerings for the week October 14, 2018

Weekly Offerings	\$ 1,780.00
Estimated Average Weekly Expenses	\$ 4,034.03
	\$-2,254.03

77 people were in attendance on Sunday, October 14.

"When your children are still small, you have to help them understand what is good. That is the deepest meaning of life." St. Paisios