in the ethos of faith; we speak with the language of eternal life, of the Resurrection and of love, making this ethos, meaning for the world, that has need of our own wealth. Because this is addressed to the heart, to the depth of our being, to the life that is not defeated by any death. The Saints, men, women, children, rich and poor, important and unnotable, educated and simple, martyrs and ascetics, married and virgins, clergymen, monastics and lay people, comprise those guides which remind us of the truth of God. And so, for this reason, we Christians remain joyous and optimistic in the life of the Church.

Fr. T. M

SUNDAY, JULY 11, 2021 3RD SUNDAY OF MATTHEW,

Euphemia the Great Martyr , The All-Praised Olga, Equal-to-the-Apostles, Princess of Kiev, Nektarios the New Martyr , Sophrony the Athonite of Essex, Nicodemos the New Martyr of Mt. Athos .

TONE OF THE WEEK : Second Tone EOTHINON : Third Eothinon EPISTLE READING : St. Paul's Letter to Corinthians 6:1-10 Gospel Reading : Matthew 6:22-33 SUNDAY, JULY 18, 2021 SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FATHERS OF THE 4TH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL, Holy Martyr Emilian, Holy Martyrs Paul, Thea and Valentine, Stephen, Archbishop of Constantinople, Holy New Martyrs Elizabeth the Grand Duchess and the Novice Barbara, Theneva of Glasgow, EPISTLE READING : St. Paul's Letter Titus 3:8-15

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:14-19



THE TRUE WEALTH

The Apostle Paul, speaking about the ethos of Christians, mentions – among other things – to the Corinthians, that the Christians, whereas they are poor, they make many be rich (2 Cor. 6:10). The Apostle to the Gentiles does not limit his thought and experience to the material condition. He means that for the world, Christians are "poor" as regards enjoyments, "poor" as regards the life of sin, as regards the secular ethos, which makes man indifferent toward others, as regards culture, when he considers happiness as the satisfaction of our senses and desires.

Another poverty

Christians are "poor" because they believe in a humble God, a God who did not punish His enemies, who allowed them to crucify Him, who puts up with evil, pride, death, the devil, and leaves boundaries for repentance. The Christians are "poor" before the tactic of authority, which makes man want to impose on his fellow man, not whatever is correct and just, but

EPISTLE READING : ST. PAUL'S LETTER TO CORINTHIANS 6:1-10

Brethren, working together with him, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation." Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in any one's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything

what is to his own interest. They are "poor" towards the culture which deifies only the individual right and the rights, and leaves to the side, love and sacrifice. They are "poor" towards the fear of death, because they are not sad like the rest of the people, but they hope and expect the Resurrection. They are "poor" also as regards the importance of money, since they see it as a means and not as the goal of life. Finally, they are "poor" also as regards sin, which devours man with the passions and with the evil thoughts.

The true life

The Christians, however, enrich many people. They enrich them with the love that sees what man truly needs, and furthermore, in relation to his life in God. They enrich them with the hope that God will not forget people whom He made in His image, and He will give them the power to endure every type of cross in their life. They enrich them with the joy that they have become children of God, from the moment they partake in the life of the Church. They enrich them with the purity of heart, which makes man free from the passions and the needs of the desires. They enrich them with the prayer and support of the word, which consoles and censures, not in order to put down, but in order to deliver. They enrich them with patience. With discretion. With the example of the Saints, who defeated death and preannounced the general Resurrection.

The path of the Saints

We Christians do not cease struggling for the "here". We do not have agony however, only for this. We seek what is good and the improvement of the life of our fellow man, and of our own, but we do not forget where true wealth is found. And so, for this reason, we do not fear the difficulties of life, but we continue calling our own selves and one another to repentance. We remind that hope is found in God. Starting out from godly poverty, we insist in the wealth of the kingdom of the heavens,