

techniques are dissolved, which in the end are selfish and the person is transfigured in a way and place of God which fits everyone: sinners and virtuous people, rich and poor, black, white and yellow, people of your own tongue and people of other languages, people of your own religion and of other religions. Everyone fits here, in an Orthodox sacred temple of infinite dimensions, where our Christ becomes for each one, that which he ought and which he needs. He is incarnated Love who treats everyone ("so that everyone be one") the all rejoicing wine of the divine consolation of the Father.

Thus live all those who are undeceivably dwelling, not the nightmarish "deserted country" of human flattened societies of our age, but the "land of the living" of the resurrected Christ, which fits all of us in His body, so long as we want it to.

Archim. E. T.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2014 2nd Sunday of Luke, Charitina the Martyr, Methodia the Righteous of Kimolos, Eudokimos the Unknown of Mount Athos, Peter, Alexis, Jonah, Hermogenes & Tikhon, Metropolitans of Moscow

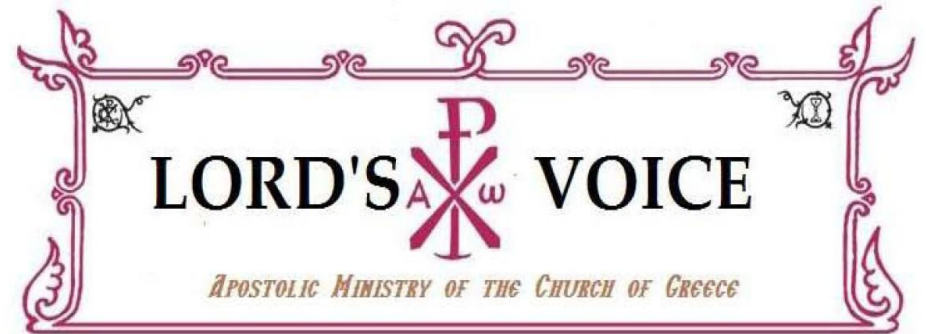
tone of the week: Plagal 4th- **Eothinon** Sixth.

EPISTLE St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 6:16-18; 7:1

GOSPEL Luke 6:31-36

NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2014 Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council, Probus, Andronicus, & Tarachus, Martyrs of Tarsus, Symeon the New Theologian. Martin the Merciful, Bishop of Tours, Cosmas the Hymnographer, Bishop of Maiuma

EPISTLE St. Paul's Letter to Titus 3:8-15 **GOSPEL** Luke 8:5-15



62nd Year

OCTOBER 5, 2014

Pamphlet # 40 (3201)

THE IMITATION OF CHRIST AND HIS SAINTS

Today's gospel passage, beloved brethren, brings us before our responsibilities, because if something characterizes the life of a Christian, this is if he feels as a child and friend of Christ and a brother and friend of His Saints.

If we cast a careful glance inside us, without a disposition to beautify, we will startle from our condition. Our heart is divided, the way of our life is not pleasing to God, our relationships with our fellow men more or less are suffering from a lack of love, directness, sincerity. Thus it shows that we are not living the mystery of Christ and of His Church, the mystery of unity between us around the Eucharistic Table. Christ's exhortation through today's Gospel for us to become compassionate, makes us focus our attention on our triple pathology: as regards our own self, as regards God and as regards our neighbor.

Disorderliness of heart

A condition of internal clashes, worry, fear about the future and anxiety, grief for the past, due to lack of repentance, characterizes us, to the degree that we become causes of dissensions, discords, arguments and disturbances. This is natural in the man who is being hypocritical: saying one thing with the mouth, his mind thinking other things, the inner man desiring

2nd Sunday of Luke

The Gospel of Luke 6:31-36

The Lord said, "And as you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful."

other things, doing other things with the body. Each one of us comes to a wretched condition, reminding us of Paul's saying "Oh a wretched person am I"!

It is the Saints who loved and entrusted Christ, considering Him the beginning and end of their lives. Despite the many and great difficulties they encountered, they were diligent to His calling. They were and are always signs of God among His people and their presence always reconciled, united and unites what was divided. They stand in the glory of Christ, brightly shining and peacemaking, throughout the ages, truly comprising the continuation of Christ in History. They are not superhuman, nor underhuman. They could comfortably be characterized thus by the abolished criteria of this world. They are real people of God, as true, as much as Christ also is, as well as models for us to imitate.

Sluggishness in our relationship with God

We don't love God, we are cold before Him, we don't entrust Him. This deficiency shows at the moment of the temptation, where we yield to the suggestions of the passions, the demons, the disorderly desires, inclinations, proclivities and tendencies of our heart, forgetting Him. Forgetting God, is the symptom of those who have a lukewarm or nonexistent faith, which "is tossed to the wind" at the time of the trial. Independent of the force of the temptation, the person of God, although many times he is bent down and frustrated humanly, doesn't cease ceaselessly and fervently calling upon divine mercy. The Lord always hastens. The history of Peter who startled when he perceived that he began sinking in the waters of Tiberias, becomes a part of our personal history. With the perceptions and departures from divine Grace, the person of Christ becomes experienced in the spiritual battle, so for this reason he constantly seeks God even more.

Let the amazing love of God intoxicate us, brethren. If we remain unshakable on the foundation of the Church, with the One who is more Spacious than the Heavens at Its center and Christ enthroned in the bosom of the Mother of God. Let us entrust the All Holy Mother of God. She is the gate which leads to Christ.

The relationship with our neighbor

The Evangelist John very correctly notes that you cannot say that you love God whom you do not see, while you don't love your neighbor whom you do see (1 John 4:20). The ancients Greeks used to say, do not do to others that which you don't want them to do to you. Let the motive, in other words, of your whatsoever activity and behavior be what you don't like to suffer. This is a completely defensive and psychoemotional attitude. Christ surpasses all these things, telling you to love your enemy, in other words, him who will do to you whatever you hate. Him, He says, you will love like your own self! Here whatsoever defenses and

