

difficulties to come. In the Old Testament there is the story of the fat and the thin cows, from the dream of the Pharaoh of Egypt, that Joseph interpreted. Joseph utilized the seven years of fruit-bearing and generosity and gathered goods. However, he did not close the storage bins to anyone in the seven years of drought and of destruction. He was not trapped in the self-sufficiency of the salvation of his people, but he also gave to all those who came to seek his help. He saved and was saved.

This is also the meaning of faith in our times. That we not be trapped in the feeling of self-sufficiency, but that we become generous, both in material goods as well as in communion with the others. The measure that God puts is love. That which He showed us and shows us very richly, saving us from evil and from death, in the life of the Church, and which guides us to the heart, which is open to everyone, which shares and forgives.

Fr. Th. M.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24 2021, SIXTH SUNDAY OF LUKE,

Arethas the Great Martyr and His Fellow Martyrs, Sebastiane the Martyr, Maglorious of Sark

TONE OF THE WEEK : *First Tone*

EOTHINON : *Seventh Eothinon*

EPISTLE READING: *St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 9:6-11 5*

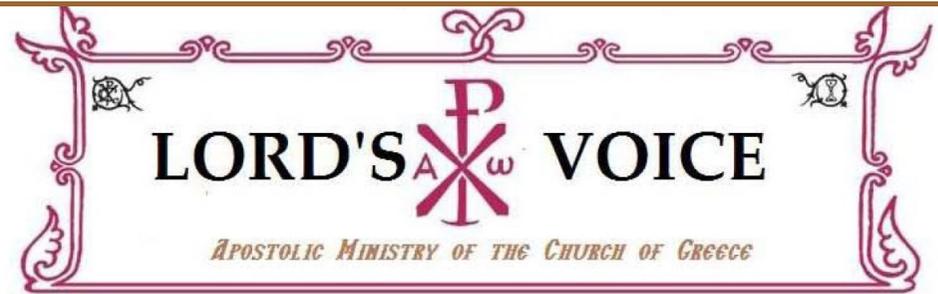
GOSPEL READING : *LUKE 8:26-39*

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31 2021, FIFTH SUNDAY OF LUKE,

Stachys, Andrew, Amplias, Apelles, Urban, Aristobulus, & Narcisus of the 70. Martyr Epinachus of Alexandria, Nicholas the New Martyr of Chios.

EPISTLE READING: *St. Paul's Second Letter to Corinthians 11:31-33; 12:1-9*

GOSPEL READING : *Luke 16:19-31*



69TH YEAR OCTOBER 24 2021 PAMPHLET # 43 (3569)

THE GENEROSITY OF THE LOVE

One of the dilemmas that man faces in his life, has do with the way of handling material goods. Should we be self-sufficient, keep the goods for us, should we utilize them for our own good life or share them with the others, especially those who do not have? And the dilemma is extended: should I scatter whatever I have, or keep them for difficult times?

The needs of the “ego”

The goods pose man before the question: “what is and what brings pleasure, pleasing?” The culture of consumption, in which we live, gives the easy answer: I am pleased when I satisfy my every desire and, furthermore, whatever I consider as my need”. Here, however, we are called to ponder. For example, food is a necessity. However, the necessities also become the abundance and a variety of foods. It is necessary to have a means of transport to serve us when we want to go to our work or for a trip for our own refreshment. However, a necessity also becomes showing off of wealth and luxury with a deluxe car. Thus, we reach the point of fortifying ourself in our “ego” and not looking at and needs of others. Furthermore, we take as our right to use the others as our goods. And as objects, in other

**EPISTLE READING: ST. PAUL'S SECOND LETTER TO THE
CORINTHIANS 9:6-11 5**

Brethren, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures for ever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your resources and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

words, they will fulfill our needs, without us being interested if they have emotions, agonies, their own needs.

"I am pleased when I control also". I can use every means, in order to control the others. For example, we often encounter today a way of handling. I force the others with complaining, with grumbling, by pretending that I feel that supposedly they do not love me, so that they do what I desire. And it doesn't interest me that I'm tiring the others. It suffices that my will becomes a law for them. Of course, authority is necessary in our life, because we people need rules and measures, since otherwise, coexistence exists with difficulty. The controller, however, tyrannizing the others, feels strong.

Imitation of God

Faith speaks about the pleasure that offering gives. Generosity. The joy of seeing the others feeling that they are not alone, thanks to us. That someone cares for what they are lacking and what they really need for their survival, for a basic quality of life. For this reason also, the Apostle Paul, addressing the Corinthians, urges them to be generous and joyous in whatever they are giving, imitating God, "who scattered, he gave to the poor, his righteousness remains unto the ages" (II Cor. 9:9). "He scattered, he gave to the poor, his righteousness and good works remain unto the ages".

Faith indicates to us that in reality, I have we are all poor, unrelated to how many material goods we have. We are poor as regards the capability of defeating death on our own. We are poor in our feelings towards the beauty of the world, as God created it, and we are not able to enjoy it without taking advantage of it, destroying it, or passing it by indifferently. We are poor as regards seeing our neighbor with sensitivity, as regards not handing ourselves over to the pleasure of egocentrism. And nevertheless, in our poverty, if we have our spiritual eyes open, we are able to enjoy the generosity of God, both in the person of Christ who saves us, as also in the person of our fellow man, who gives us the capability to become rich by loving.

The example of Joseph

The answer to the initial dilemma is generosity. Furthermore, that which doesn't deal only with material goods, but extends also to the emotions. In our exit from our ego. In surpassing the fear before others, but also the fear that maybe we lose our goods and perish, since in the future, it is possible for