

The inheritance of holiness

This wealth is different, as the Apostle Paul describes to the Ephesians: “and He raised us up with Him, and made us sit with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,”. In other words, He resurrected us together with Jesus Christ and placed us to sit with Him in the heavens. Thus, with the love that He showed us through Jesus Christ, He reveals to the future generations how excessively generous is His grace” (Eph. 2:6-7). We people struggle to obtain goods, for those who go after us, to inherit them, without perceiving that true beauty lies in the wealth that God offers through His grace to those who trust Him and know that only near Him and in the life of the Church, is found the truth of life. So, let us make the wealth of holiness our own, and let us hand it to the following generations as an inexhaustible treasure

Fr. Th. M.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28 2021 THIRTEEN SUNDAY OF LUKE,

Stephen the New, Irenarchos & his Companion martyrs of Sebaste, Auxentius, 16 Martyrs of Tiberioupolis

tone of the week : *Plagal Second Tone*

EOthinon : *First*

Epistle Reading : *St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 2:4-10*

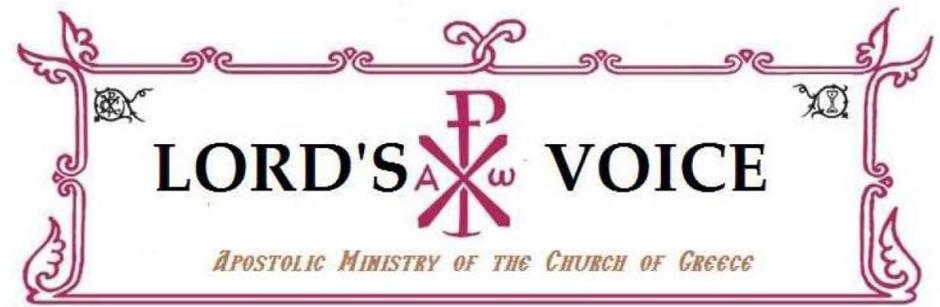
Gospel Reading : *Luke 18:18-27,.*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5 2021 TENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE,

Savvas the Sanctified, Holy Martyr Diogenes, Philotheos the Righteous of Mount Athos, Nektarios the Bulgarian.

Epistle Reading : *St. Paul's Letter to Galatians 5:22-26, 6:1-2*

Gospel Reading : *Luke 13:10-17,.*



69TH YEAR NOVEMBER 28 2021 PAMPHLET # 48 (3574)

A DIFFERENT WEALTH

About our faith, there is a indifferent wealth, which springs from God; it is offered to man with generosity, and leads him to want to render back the gift as an antidoron of love. It refers to the wealth of the grace of God, which is given to us “in Christ Jesus” and which has a duration of eternity. In other words, it keeps its value for each one who possesses it, forever.

The true fullness

This wealth is “exceeding”. Whereas material goods are numbered, their value is estimated in monetary units, the grace of God does not have a measure and limit. Whoever has it, lives it, without limitation. Simultaneously, whereas the material goods give joys to man and leads him to enjoy his life, often it throw him also into many and big temptations. On the contrary, the grace of God gives true fullness to whoever tastes it. It leads him to rejoice in the love of God, to not remain in temporal gladness to aim at holiness, at union with God. This fulness gives beauty to man's heart. It makes him joyous in the face. It delivers

**EPISTLE READING : ST. PAUL'S LETTER TO THE EPHESIANS
2:4-10**

Brethren, God who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with him, and made us sit with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God: not because of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

him from wickedness and revengefulness. It makes him see God in the person of his brother. At the same moment, it makes him try for the good of his brother, in whatever manner is available. This wealth has a duration. It is not inherited, like the material riches from parents to children, but it is obtained by each one personally, so long as he seeks it and struggles for it. This means that it is a wealth available at every moment. So long as whoever desires, makes the step toward it. To be delivered from the domination of the fleshly train of thought. To trust God, in joys and sadnesses. To struggle through the ascetic path of fasting, of prayer, of repentance, and to have a pure heart. And each one sets out, not simply in order to imitate the wealth of grace that the other one has, or to rest on those who already possess it, but

in order to build his own foundation, so that his wealth settles forever within him.

The source, the relationship with God

To most people, spiritual wealth is unknown. Usually we consider our relationship with God as something traditional, festive, and useful in difficulties. We expect a type of “magical religious” intervention in our trials, without however, being ready to change our life. At other times, we see this wealth as a “worthy recompense”, as an excess of good works of the Saints, from whom we seek them to give us, without sensing that, primarily the responsibility lies in us ourselves fighting to receive life through the relationship with God. At other times, again, we pass by this spiritual wealth with the excuse of humility. We are not, we say, capable of having it or handling it. Thus, we leave it to others, and we seek to continue our life without it.

The grace of God, however, is His life-giving energy, which activates the powers of our being in a journey of communion, light and hope. This is also the path of holiness. The Saint, in his humility, seeks the grace and mercy of God. And the Lord gives. Then the grace is imprinted on that Saint's face. In the boldness with which he prays to God for whomsoever he is able to. In the joyfulness of heart with which he hears those who are having difficulty, he offers and loves. But also, in the deep conviction within him that “the Lord God lives” and that He loves him personally, as also each person.