

again, he found the Saint dead, lying on the ground, and near her a note, that wrote: "Abba Zossima, bury here the body of the wretched Mary. I died on the same day, during which I communed the immaculate Mysteries. Pray for me".

The humility of the holy Apostles

All of us resemble Saint Mary of Egypt, but also the holy Apostles, who neither were they able initially to understand what it means to be a disciple of Christ, as shows in today's gospel passage. So, for this reason, let us imitate them at least, since we are proceeding to the end of Holy and Great Lent, in their humility, which at the appropriate time, granted the holy Apostles, on the one hand, to understand the will of the Teacher, while Saint Mary of Egypt to choose repentance over the foulness of sin.

Archim. A. A.

SUNDAY, APRIL 10 2022 SUNDAY OF MARY OF EGYPT

Terence and his Companions beheaded at Carthage, 150 and more Righteous Martyr Fathers of the Sacred Monastery of Pantocrator Daou Pentelis, Gregory V, the Holy Martyr and Patriarch of Constantinople, Holy Father Theonas, Archbishop of Thessalonica

TONE OF THE WEEK : *First Tone*

EOTHINON : *Ninehth Eothinon*

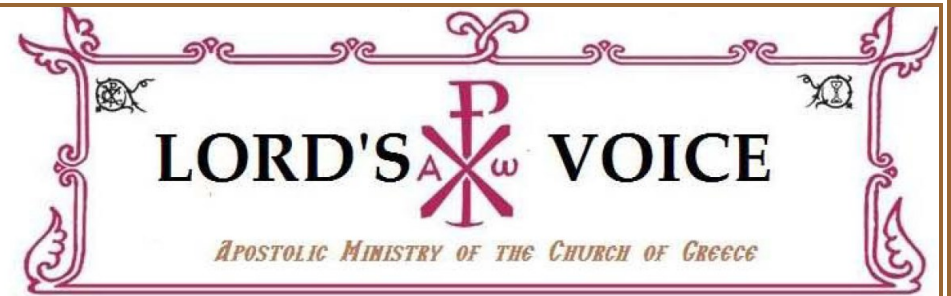
EPISTLE READING : *St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 9:11-14*

GOSPEL READING : *Mark 10:32-45*

SUNDAY, APRIL 17 2022 PALM SUNDAY *Symeon the Holy Martyr, Bishop of Persepolis, and those with him, Makarios, Bishop of Corinth, Agapetos of Rome, Hadrian the New-Martyr, Donnan, Abbot of Eigg, and the Monk-Martyrs with him.*

EPISTLE READING : *St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians 4:4-9*

GOSPEL READING : *John 12:1-18*



70TH YEAR APRIL 10 2022 PAMPHLET # 15 (3593)

THE END IS NEAR

We are a little before the Passion of our Lord. Christ, perfect as regards His divine and human nature, is proceeding conscientiously on the path, obedient unto death, to the will of the Father. His entire journey from His incarnation and henceforth, is a journey towards sacrifice, for the sake of the world.

The newly born infant in the embrace of the Most Holy Theotokos, that we saw before, in the manger of the irrational animals, is the destined Bridegroom of the Church. The "Today is born of the Virgin", that we chanted on Christmas, is united in the great mystery of the Church with the "Today is hung up on the wood", that we will chant in Holy and Great Week, festively but also didactically, since, in precisely the same direction and saving perspective, "today" these things are happening. We see that, according to the saying of Saint Gregory the Theologian, not merely some innocent person had to be hung on the Cross, but God Himself, the Holy Mighty One, in order for the world to live.

The example of Saint Mary

Today is the Fifth Sunday of Lent, and the Church projects a person, that of Saint Mary of Egypt, who par-excellence received a life from Him who gave life, the crucified and

THE SUNDAY GOSPEL (MARK 10:32-45)

At that time, Jesus took his twelve disciples, and he began to tell them what was to happen to him, saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death, and deliver him to the Gentiles; and they will mock him, and spit upon him, and scourge him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise." And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him, and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." And he said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" And they said to him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant of James and John. And Jesus called them to him and said to them, "You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

resurrected Deliverer. As she was proceeding, using her freedom, enslaved to the passions of the flesh, living a conduct, and wandering from the years of her youth, far from God, He intervened and offered her salvation.

Let's look a little at her very pedagogical biographical data. Saint Mary hailed from Egypt, and lived in the sixth century, at the time of Emperor Justinian. When she was 12 years old, she escaped from the attention of her parents, and went to Alexandria, where for 17 years, she lived a prodigal life. Then she went to Jerusalem with many other Pilgrims out of curiosity, to end up at the Elevation of the Precious Cross. When she wanted to enter into the Church of the Resurrection, on the day of the Precious Cross, she felt some invisible power inside her, that prevented her from entering, whereas the multitude was entering without obstruction. Because her heart was wounded by this event, she promised to change her life. When she returned afterwards to the church, she now entered without any difficulty. Then she venerated the Precious Wood and, without forgetting the promise that she made, she departed on the same day from Jerusalem, and after passing the Jordan, she entered into the inner parts of the desert. There she lived for 47 years, a very harsh and usual life, without seeing any person, but having the only one seeing her being God, she alone prayed to Him. She struggled so much, that she exceeded human nature, and obtained life above the earth, angelical and superhuman. She was elevated so much through dispassion, that she was walking on the waters of the river without sinking. When again she prayed, she was elevated from the ground high in the air, and was standing in mid air. Around the end of her life, she happened to encounter a certain hermit, named Zossimas, whom she asked, after she narrated her entire life to him, to bring her the immaculate Mysteries for her to commune. He did it the following year, on Holy Thursday.

When however, the following year, Zossimas returned