

everyone to long and hasten to live, each one according to the measure of his abilities, the salvation that He offers. This is what the holy Apostles do immediately, certainly as "crazy ones" to the world; they leave everything and follow Him.

Christ desires, with fervent paternal love, that we all participate in the joy of His own life, to commune with Him, to taste from now, the taste of His Kingdom. He does not call us to deny, but to enrich our lives, to be sanctified, and to impart this benefit also to our fellow human beings. May our work, effort and struggle be placed, with Christ as our guide, in this perspective. Reading the Holy Gospel will certainly give us the strength to intensify our efforts and to resist the Sirens and the various crafts that the devil sets up, to invalidate the work of God.

Archim. A. A.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2022 1ST SUNDAY OF LUKE ,**  
*Euphrosyne of Alexandria , Paphnoutios the Martyr & his 546  
Companions in Egypt, Synaxis of the Most Holy Theotokos of  
Evangelistria, Mochos. Our Righteous Father Sergius of Radonezh,  
Finbar the Confessor, First Bishop of Cork.*

**EPISTLE READING:** *St. Paul's 2nd Letter to the Corinthians 4:6-15*

**GOSPEL READING:** *Luke 5:1-11*

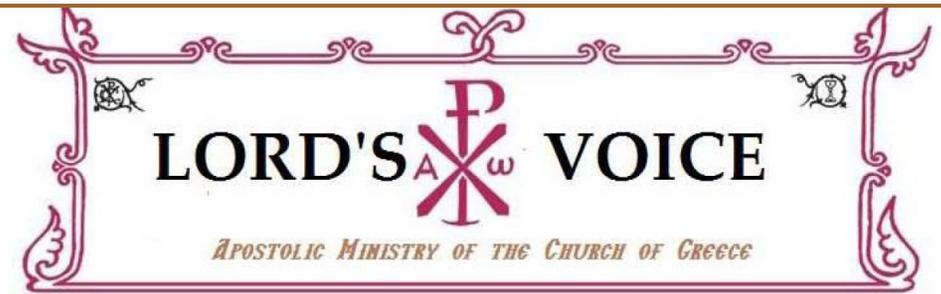
**TONE OF THE WEEK** : *Plagal Second Tone*

**EOTHINON** : *Fourth Eothinon*

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2022 2ND SUNDAY OF LUKE ,** *The  
Holy Hieromartyr Cyprian and the Virgin Martyr  
Justina ,Theophilus the Confessor*

**EPISTLE READING:** *St. Paul's 2nd Letter to the Corinthians 6:1-10*

**GOSPEL READING:** *Luke 6:31-36*



70<sup>TH</sup> YEAR September 25 2022 PAMPHLET # 39 (3617)

## A SPIRITUAL TASTE

The grace of the merciful God has granted us, as we have almost completed our course in the spiritually fragrant month of September, to celebrate the feast of the universal Elevation of the precious and life-giving Cross, which is identified with Him and characterizes Him. We chanted its pre-festal and post festal hymns, and we have already enjoyed the reading and teaching of two Sunday Gospel passages dedicated to the height and depth of the theology of the Cross; we have tasted the joy "for the salvation which it provides to the world".

## Acquaintance with the Evangelist Luke

Today, then, is the first Sunday after the leavetaking of the Elevation of the precious Cross, and the wisdom of the holy Fathers of our Church gives us the joy to enjoy, from now until the beginning of the Triodion, the sacred teachings that the holy glorious apostle and Evangelist Luke, which he delivers through his divinely inspired Gospel.

### **THE SUNDAY GOSPEL READING: LUKE 5:1-11**

At that time, as Jesus was standing by the lake of Gennesaret, he saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. And when he had ceased speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets." And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking, they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." For he was astonished, and all who were with him, at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men." And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.

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So, on this occasion, let's see a few facts about his life and work. The Evangelist Luke was not of Jewish, but of a gentile origin, and according to Tradition, he hailed from Antioch of Syria. He was one of the closest and most beloved associates of the Apostle Paul. He observed the Apostle of the Gentiles in some of his journeys, and in particular, he accompanied him, both during the second apostolic journey from Troas to Philippi, and during the third

journey from Philippi to Jerusalem, and from Caesarea to Rome. He faithfully accompanied the Apostle Paul, both during his first imprisonment, as well as during the second one, during which, in fact, as can be seen from his 2nd Epistle to Timothy, he "alone" remained with Paul. He possessed medical science, offering free of charge, aside from preaching, his medical services also to his fellow disciples and to the people.

The Evangelist Luke did not only write the third Gospel, but also the famous book of the Acts of the Apostles. Obedient to the timeless "be ye going out..." of Christ, he preached in Dalmatia and in France, according to the report of Saint Gregory the Theologian, he also came to Achaia, where he wrote his holy Gospel. The divinely inspired author addressed the sacred text to the "most excellent Theophilus". Regarding the time of its writing, some argue that it is placed before Paul's first imprisonment, others again, that it was written after the destruction of Jerusalem. The most likely thing, however, is that the Gospel of Luke was written before 70 AD.

### **The invitation of Christ**

So today, we observe Christ in front of Peter and his brothers, but also in front of the gathered crowd of the people, who were by the lake of Gennesaret, working miracles with the unexpected and incomprehensible harvest of crowds of fish, capable of satisfying the eyes and hunger of many. The greatest miracle, Peter and the rest of the Apostles, but also all those present, are called to live, in their hearts. The Sermon of Christ, that He is doing inside the boat, calls