

we also hear it, who seek the remission of sins with humility and self-censuring and we come to the sacrament of sacred Confession. If sin is spiritual death, repentance and forgiveness of sins is life and resurrection. If sin captures man and darkens the mind, the remission of sins is the event that makes us persons, since man is a person only when he is connected with the Person of the Triune God.

Let us be transformed, therefore, by practicing faith, and with it with all the other evangelical ascetes, of love, prayer, fasting, humility, godly piety, chastity, meekness, and temperance. Thus, we unceasingly increase "the increase of God" until we become godmen "by grace".

Archim. E. L

SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 2024 SUNDAY OF SAINT GREGORY

PALAMAS, *The Holy Hieromartyr Hypatius Bishop of Ganga, Theophilos the Martyr and those with him, Innocent, Enlighter of Siberia & Alaska, Akakios the Confessor.*

EPISTLE READING: *St. Paul's Letter to Hebrews 1:10-14; 2:1-3*

GOSPEL READING : *Mark 2:1-12*

-tone of the Week: *Second Tone*

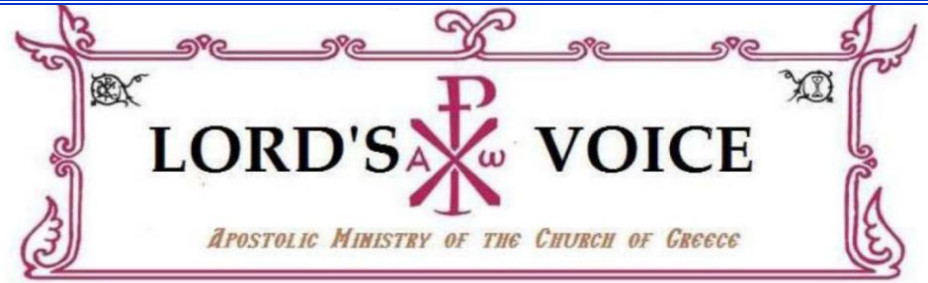
EOTHINON *Tenth Eothinon*

SUNDAY, APRIL 31, 2024 SUNDAY OF THE HOLY CROSS ,

Calliopos and Akylina the Martyrs ,George, Bishop of Mytilene , Gerasimos the God-Bearer of Byzantium, Righteous Father Savvas the New of Kalymnos, Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and Enlightener of North America.

EPISTLE READING: *St. Paul's Letter to Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:1-6*

GOSPEL READING : *Mark 8:34-38; 9:1*



72ST YEAR MARCH 31 2024 PAMPHLET # 13 (3696)

" LOVE OF GOD

The New Testament recapitulates all the work and teaching of Jesus, deeds, actions, miracles, parables in one meaning, where His deep social and spiritual presence is clearly seen in the world and in history: in the concept of love. The miracle of the healing of the paralytic proves this to us. At the same time, however, in the Gospel of the Second Sunday of Lent, the divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ clearly shows, Who offers not only health, but also forgiveness of sins to the paralytic. The paralytic asks for his cure and Jesus offers him the absolution from sin.

Failure in the use our freedom

Sin, which is the failure in the use of our freedom, cultivates an abyss between man and God, which is bridged only with God's mercy. Our sin is the casting

GOSPEL READING : *MARK 2:1-12*

At that time, Jesus entered Capernaum and it was reported that he was at home. And many were gathered together, so that there was no longer room for them, not even about the door; and he was preaching the word to them. And they came, bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. And when they could not get near him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and when they had made an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic lay. And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "My son, your sins are forgiven." Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, "Why does this man speak thus? It is a blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus questioned within themselves, said to them, "Why do you question thus in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your pallet and walk? But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins"-he said to the paralytic-"I say to you, rise, take up your pallet and go home." And he rose, and immediately took up the pallet and went out before them all; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

aside of God's love. The removal of sin and its consequences is the functioning of God's love in us anew.

In the Church we ceaselessly seek God's mercy. "Lord, have mercy". The tragedy of man lies in the fact that he does not recognize his spiritual disability, he admits his sinfulness not in its essence, but in its consequences (bad actions), and acts relying on his egotism with scandalous movements which nevertheless remove the Holy Spirit from his heart.

In these impasses we must know: a) when we drive away the All Holy Spirit with our egotism, yes, on the one hand, it withdraws from us, but it does not move away from us, b) the Holy Spirit lovingly and patiently awaits for the appropriate moment, which indeed it prepares, so that each of us can find peace in his heart, in order to come and settle in us, and c) the Holy Spirit immediately answers our heart's request, he comes and reveals the cheerful face of the Lord, for this reason he cleanses us from every stain.

The forgiveness of sins

The forgiveness of sins is offered in the Church through the Sacraments. The saving voice of the Lord, which the paralytic heard, "child, your sins are forgiven",