

In all these instances *Kyrie eleison* was not a prayer that people recited unthinkingly and mechanically, but a cry of sincere faith that came from their hearts, a cry of desperate need and dependence on Jesus. Such a prayer God will not despise.

<http://www.goarch.org/ourfaith/ourfaith7124>

SEPT 30 - ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prayer List: POWER OF PRAYER (PoP): Our church has a prayer list. If you, a member of your family or a friend would like to be included on our prayer chain, please call either Father Royer (313-565-9863).

Please remember the following in your daily prayers:

Henry (Pepper) Rehn, Boris Christoff, Georgia Runyon, Ken Starling, Ray Winowiecki, Kevin Chrzan, Mary Howard, Diane, Shaunda, Joel, Kennedy, Adam, Steve, Sophia

Also all caregivers who provide physical and emotional support for those in need.

SEPT. 23 DONATIONS:

FOR HEALTH OF (FHO): FAMILY – LAZAR FAMILY

FHO: CHERYL TRAVIS on her birthday – SANDRA ARNAUT

FHO: FAMILY – ANGIE PANZOFF

IN MEMORY OF (IMO): my mother **DONNA PANDOFF – COLLEEN PANDOFF**

UPCOMING EVENTS:

OCT. 7 – Ladies Guild meeting

14 – Work Sunday – Wear work clothes to church– Since we only are asking for 1 hour, a list of tasks is on board in vestibule Please sign for the task YOU would like to do during this hour after Divine Liturgy. Following our 1 hour of work, a Mexican Buffet luncheon will be served (This buffet will also be a pot luck – a list of items for the buffet is posted- please sign for the item you will be donating) This luncheon is free – our way of saying thank you for beautifying our church.

50th Anniversary Committee meeting

21 – ODO Dinner at Sts. Peter & Paul

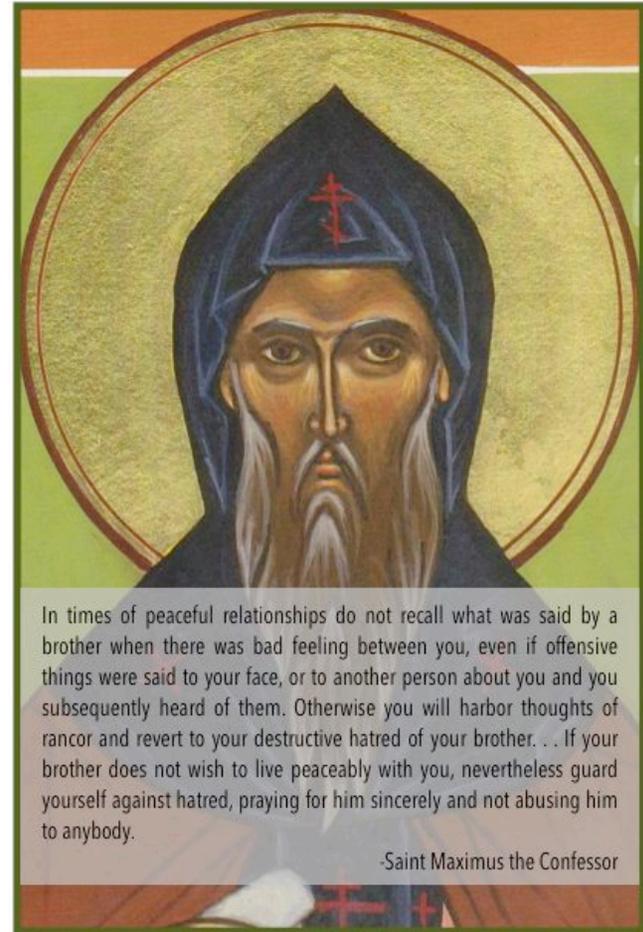
Parish Council Meeting

28 – Halloween “Celebration”

SAINT PAUL ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

Rector: Rev. Fr. Robert J. Royer Email-robertjroyer@gmail.com
(810) 919-9485 Website: stpaulorthodoxcathedral.org

Sunday, September 30th 2018 18TH Sunday after Pentecost



**TODAY WE WILL CELEBRATE THE DIVINE LITURGY OF
ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM**

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Epistle – 2 Corinthians 9:6-11

Brothers and sisters, the point is this: 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.

Gospel – Luke 6:31-36

Jesus said to them: as you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

THE MEANING OF KYRIE ELEISON ["Lord, have mercy"]

St. Symeon of Thessaloniki writes about the Kyrie Eleison prayer: " 'Have mercy upon us, O God, according to your great mercy, we beseech you ... ' This expression is appropriate, since we should not ask for anything except for mercy, as we have neither boldness nor access to offer anything as our own ...So as sinners and condemned through sin we cannot, nor dare not, say anything to our Loving Master except 'have mercy.' "

The excellent book "Orthodox Worship" describes the meaning of the word mercy as follows:

"The word mercy in English is the translation of the Greek word eleos. This word has the same ultimate root as the old Greek word for oil, or more precisely, olive oil; a substance which was used extensively

*as a soothing agent for bruises and minor wounds. The oil was poured onto the wound and gently massaged in, thus soothing, comforting and making whole the injured part. The Hebrew word which is also translated as eleos and mercy is hesed, and means steadfast love. The Greek words for 'Lord, have mercy,' are 'Kyrie, eleison' that is to say, 'Lord, soothe me, comfort me, take away my pain, show me your steadfast love.' Thus mercy does not refer so much to justice or acquittal a very Western interpretation but to the infinite loving-kindness of God, and his compassion for his suffering children! It is in this sense that we pray 'Lord, have mercy,' with great frequency throughout the Divine Liturgy."**

From the Liturgy

I share with you the following prayer from the liturgy because it reminds us that God's awesomeness, His majesty and His power are exceeded only by His mercy:

O Lord our God, your power is beyond telling, and your glory beyond reach, your mercy is beyond measure, and your love for man beyond speech! In your kindness, master, look down on us and on this holy house. Show us, and these who pray with us your rich mercies and your compassionate help. For to you belong all glory, honor, and worship, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

From the Scriptures

Think of the people who approached Jesus with this simple prayer, "Kyrie eleison", "Lord, have mercy":

- The Canaanite woman whose daughter was tormented by a devil. She persisted in her plea for mercy until her daughter was healed.
- The man whose son was possessed by an evil spirit that threw him into the fire. He came to Jesus with the plea *Kyrie eleison*. The prayer was answered and his son was healed.
- The two blind men sitting by the road outside Jericho who cried out to Jesus, *Kyrie eleison*. That cry was heard by Jesus who healed both of them.
- A final example. Jesus is left alone with the adulteress. Misery is left alone face to face with mercy. And she hears from the mouth of Jesus the words, "Neither do I condemn thee. Go and sin no more." That is God's mercy!

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