

According to the Orthodox faith, purification from falsehood and sin is the way to the knowledge of God. If we open ourselves to divine grace and purify ourselves from all evils, then it is certain that we will be able to interpret the scriptures properly and come into living communion with the true and living God who has revealed Himself and continues to reveal Himself to those who love Him.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OCT. 9 ANNOUNCEMENTS: SPECIAL CHURCH GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING following Divine Liturgy

OCT. 2 DONATIONS:

For Health of (FHO): FHO BLAGOJA JOSIFOVSKI – BARBARA STOYEK

FHO: FAMILY –ANGIE PANZOFF;

FHO: FAMILY – JANN & PETE PETROFF;

FHO & BIRTHDAY KAREN REHN – DONALD & CHERYL TRAVIS

FHO & BIRTHDAY our niece **NICOLE-** DONALD & CHERYL TRAVIS

FHO: FAMILY – LAZAR FAMILY.

FHO: FAMILY- HELEN ARNAUT

FOR WELFARE OF ST. PAUL & NEW BEGINNINGS – HELEN ARNAUT

In Memory of (IMO): ANDREW TOROSIAN & ALEXANDER TSAKOFF – PETE & JANN PETROFF

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCT. 16 – Church Council Meeting

23 – PARISH BREAKFAST - \$10/person, children under 12 free

30- Ladies Guild meeting following Divine Liturgy

NOV. 6- PARISH THANKSGIVING DINNER – Price to be determined

13 – ODO Dinner

20 - GENERAL MEMBERSHIP ANNUAL MEETING

27 –

DEC. 10 – Church Bake Sale

SAINT PAUL ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

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

Sunday, - TONE 7
16th Sunday after Pentecost



The raising of the Widow of Nain's son

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

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle – 2 Corinthians 6:1-10

Brothers and sisters, working together with him, then, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation." Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in any one's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Gospel – Luke 7:11-16

At that time he went to a city called Na'in, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. As he drew near to the gate of the city, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow; and a large crowd from the city was with her. And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." And he came and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." And the dead man sat up, and began to speak. And he gave him to his mother. Fear seized them all; and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us!" and "God has visited his people!"

Fr. Thomas Hopko

THE ORTHODOX FAITH: Vol. 1: Doctrine and Scripture; Sources of Christian Doctrine; Revelation (cont...)

The early Church, we are told, "devoted themselves to the apostles' doctrine" (Acts 2.42). Doctrine as a word simply means teaching or instruction. The apostles' doctrine is the doctrine of Jesus and becomes the doctrine of the Christian Church. It is received by the disciples of every age and generation as the very doctrine of God. It is proclaimed everywhere and always as the doctrine of eternal life through which all men and the whole world are enlightened and saved.

At this point it must be mentioned that although God's self-revelation in history through the chosen people of Israel—the revelation which culminates in the coming of Christ the Messiah—is of primary importance, it is also the doctrine of the Christian Church that all genuine strivings of men after the truth are fulfilled in Christ. Every genuine insight into the meaning of life finds its perfection in the Christian Gospel. Thus, the holy fathers of the Church taught that the yearnings of pagan religions and the wisdom of many philosophers are also capable of serving to prepare men for the doctrines of Jesus and are indeed valid and genuine ways to the one Truth of God.

In this way Christians considered certain Greek philosophers to have been enlightened by God to serve the cause of Truth and to lead men to fullness of life in God since the Word and Wisdom of God is revealed to all men and is found in all men who in the purity of their minds and hearts have been inspired by the Divine Light, which enlightens every man who comes into this world. This Divine Light is the word of God, Jesus of Nazareth in human flesh, the perfection and fullness of God's self-revelation to the world.

It cannot be overstressed that divine revelation in the Old Testament, in the Church of the New Testament, in the lives of the saints, in the wisdom of the fathers, in the beauty of creation . . . and most fully and perfectly in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is the revelation of God Himself. God has spoken. God has acted. God has manifested Himself and continues to manifest Himself in the lives of His people.

If we want to hear God's voice and see God's actions of self-revelation in the world, we must purify our minds and hearts from everything that is wicked and false. We must strive to love the truth, to love one another, and to love everything in God's good creation.