KANONA ΠΙΣΤΕΩΣ - MODEL OF FAITH

GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AUSTRALIA PARISH OF SAINT NICHOLAS MARRICKVILLE

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Άπολυτίκιον Άναστάσιμον Ήχος βαρύς Κατέλυσας τῷ Σταυρῷ σου τὸν θάνατον, ἠνέῳξας τῷ Ληστῆ τὸν Παράδεισον, τῶν Μυροφόρων τὸν θρῆνον μετέβαλες, καὶ τοῖς σοῖς Άποστόλοις κηρύττειν ἐπέταξας· ὅτι ἀνέστης Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, παρέχων τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Τοῦ Ὁσίου.

Ταῖς τῶν δακρύων σου ῥοαῖς, τῆς ἐρήμου τὸ ἄγονον ἐγεώργησας, καὶ τοῖς ἐκβάθους στεναγμοῖς, εἰς ἐκατὸν τοὺς πόνους ἐκαρποφόρησας, καὶ γέγονας φωστὴρ τῆ οἰκουμένη, λάμπων τοῖς θαύμασιν, Ἰωάννη Πατὴρ ἡμῶν ὄσιε, πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν..

Άπολυτίκιον. Τοῦ Ἁγίου Νικολάου. Κανόνα πίστεως καὶ εἰκόνα πραότητος, έγκρατείας διδάσκαλον, ἀνέδειξέ σε τῆ ποίμνη σου, ἡ τῶν πραγμάτων ἀλήθεια· διὰ τοῦτο ἐκτήσω τῆ ταπεινώσει τὰ ὑψηλά, τῆ πτωχεία τὰ πλούσια, Πάτερ ἰεράρχα Νικόλαεπρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Άπολυτίκιον. Κοσμά και Δαμιανού Άγιοι Ανάργυροι καί θαυματουργοί, επισκέψασθε τάς ασθενείας ημών, δωρεάν ελάβετε, δωρεάν δότε ημίν.

Άπολυτίκιον Τοῦ Ἁγίου Παΐσιου Τόν συνάναρχον Λόγον

Αὐστραλίας προστάτην, φρουρόν τε ἄγρυπνον, καί τοῦ Ἅθωνος ὄρους στύλον ἀείφωτον, ἀνυμνήσωμεν πιστοί, θεῖον Παΐσιον, ἐξαιτούμενοι αὐτοῦ τάς πρεσβείας πρός Θεόν, κραυγάζοντες ὁμοφρόνως ἡύου ὧ πάτερ παντοίων, τῶν τοξευμάτων τοῦ ἀλάστορος.

Sunday 30 March 2025 4th Sunday of Lent St John Climacus

Resurrectional Apolytikion

You destroyed death by your Cross, you opened Paradise to the Thief, the Myrrhbearers' lament you transformed, and ordered your Apostles to proclaim, that you had risen, Christ our God, granting to the world your great mercy.

For the Devout Father

With the rivers of your tears you made the barren desert bloom; and with your sighs from deep within, you made your labors bear their fruits a hundredfold; and you became a star, illuminating the world by your miracles, O John, our devout father. Intercede with Christ our God, for the salvation of our souls.

St Nicholas Hymn

A model of faith and the image of gentleness, the example of your life has shown you forth to your sheep-fold to be a master of temperance. You obtained thus through being lowly, gifts from on high, and riches through poverty, **Nicholas**, our father and priest of priests, intercede with Christ our God that He may save our soul.

Sts Cosmas & Damianos

Sainted Unmercenaries and Wonder Workers, regard our infirmities; freely you have received, freely share with us.

St Paisios Hymn The Word Eternal

O Protector of Australia, vigilant guardian and resplendent pillar of Mount Athos, we the faithful let us praise the holy **Paisios**, and beseeching his intercessions before God, crying out with one voice, deliver us, O father of all, from the arrows of the vengeful one.

Κοντάκιον.

Τῆ ὑπερμάχῳ στρατηγῷ τὰ νικητήρια, Ὁς λυτρωθεῖσα τῶν δεινῶν εὑχαριστήρια, Ἀναγράφω σοι ἡ Πόλις σου Θεοτόκε. Αλλ' ὡς ἔχουσα τὸ κράτος ἀπροσμάχητον, Ἐκ παντοίων με κινδύνων ἐλευθέρωσον, Ἰνα κράζω σοι· Χαῖρε νύμφη ἀνύμφευτε.

ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ Πρὸς Ἑβραίους Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου (στ΄, 13-20)

Άδελφοί, τῶ Άβραὰμ ἐπαγγειλάμενος ὁ θεός, ἐπεὶ κατ' οὐδενὸς εἶχεν μείζονος όμόσαι, ὤμοσεν καθ' ἑαυτοῦ, λέγων, Ἡ μὴν εὐλονῶν εὐλογήσω σε, καὶ πληθύνων πληθυνῶ σε. Καὶ οὕτως μακροθυμήσας ἐπέτυχεν τῆς έπαγγελίας. Άνθρωποι μὲν γὰρ κατὰ τοῦ μείζονος ὀμνύουσιν, καὶ πάσης αὐτοῖς ἀντιλογίας πέρας εἰς βεβαίωσιν ο όρκος. Έν ὧ περισσότερον βουλόμενος ὁ θεὸς ἐπιδεῖξαι τοῖς κληρονόμοις τῆς ἐπαγγελίας τὸ άμετάθετον τῆς βουλῆς αὐτοῦ, έμεσίτευσεν ὅρκω, ἵνα διὰ δύο πραγμάτων άμεταθέτων, έν οἷς άδύνατον ψεύσασθαι θεόν, ἰσχυρὰν παράκλησιν ἔχωμεν οἱ καταφυγόντες κρατῆσαι τῆς προκειμένης ἐλπίδος· ἣν ώς ἄγκυραν ἔχομεν τῆς ψυχῆς ἀσφαλῆ τε καὶ βεβαίαν, καὶ εἰσερχομένην εἰς τὸ έσώτερον τοῦ καταπετάσματος· ὅπου πρόδρομος ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν εἰσῆλθεν Ίησοῦς, κατὰ τὴν τάξιν Μελχισεδὲκ άρχιερεὺς γενόμενος εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα.

Kontakion

To you, my Champion and Commander, I your City, saved from disasters, dedicate, hymns of victory and thanksgiving, O Theotokos.

But as you have might unassailable, from every kind of danger deliver me, that I may cry out to you:
Hail, O bride unwedded!

EPISTLE St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews (6: 13-20)

BRETHREN, when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore to himself, saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Men indeed swear by a greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he interposed with an oath, so that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God should prove false, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

Έκ τοῦ κατὰ Μαρκον ἁγίου Εὐαγγελίου (θ΄, 17-31)

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἄνθρωπός τις προσῆλθε τῷ Ίησοῦ λέγων, διδάσκαλε, ἤνεγκα τὸν υἱόν μου πρός σε, ἔχοντα πνεῦμα ἄλαλον. καὶ ὅπου ἀν αὐτὸν καταλάβη, ῥήσσει αὐτόν, καὶ ἀφρίζει καὶ τρίζει τοὺς ὀδόντας αὐτοῦ, καὶ ξηραίνεται· καὶ εἶπον τοῖς μαθηταῖς σου ἵνα αὐτὸ ἐκβάλωσι, καὶ ούκ ἴσχυσαν. ὁ δὲ ἀποκριθεὶς αὐτῷ λέγει· ὧ γενεὰ ἄπιστος, ἕως πότε πρὸς ὑμᾶς ἔσομαι; ἕως πότε ἀνέξομαι ὑμῶν; φέρετε αὐτὸν πρός με. καὶ ηνενκαν αὐτὸν πρὸς αὐτόν, καὶ ἰδών αὐτὸν εὐθέως τὸ πνεῦμα ἐσπάραξεν αὐτόν, καὶ πεσὼν έπὶ τῆς γῆς ἐκυλίετο ἀφρίζων. καὶ ἐπηρώτησε τὸν πατέρα αὐτοῦ· πόσος χρόνος ἐστὶν ὡς τοῦτο γέγονεν αὐτῶ; ὁ δὲ εἶπε· παιδιόθεν. καὶ πολλάκις αὐτὸν καὶ είς πῦρ ἔβαλε καὶ είς ὕδατα, ἵνα ἀπολέση αὐτόν· ἀλλ' εἴ τι δύνασαι, βοήθησον ἡμῖν σπλαγχνισθεὶς ἐφ' ἡμᾶς. ὁ δὲ Ιησοῦς εἶπεν αὐτῷ τὸ εἰ δύνασαι πιστεῦσαι, πάντα δυνατὰ τῷ πιστεύοντι. καὶ εὐθέως κράξας ο πατήρ τοῦ παιδίου μετὰ δακρύων ἔλεγε· πιστεύω, κύριε· βοήθει μου τῆ ἀπιστία. ἰδὼν δὲ ο Ἰησοῦς ὅτι ἐπισυντρέχει ὄχλος, ἐπετίμησε τῷ πνεύματι τῷ ἀκαθάρτῳ λέγων αὐτῷ· τὸ πνεῦμα τὸ ἄλαλον καὶ κωφόν, ἐγώ σοι ἐπιτάσσω, ἔξελθε έξ αὐτοῦ καὶ μηκέτι εἰσέλθης εἰς αὐτόν. καὶ κράξαν καὶ πολλὰ σπαράξαν αὐτὸν ἐξῆλθε, καὶ έγένετο ώσεὶ νεκρός, ὥστε πολλοὺς λέγειν ὅτι ἀπέθανεν. ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς κρατήσας αὐτὸν τῆς χειρὸς ἤγειρεν αὐτόν, καὶ ἀνέστη. Καὶ είσελθόντα αὐτὸν εἰς οἶκον οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ έπηρώτων αὐτὸν κατ' ἰδίαν, ὅτι ἡμεῖς οὐκ ήδυνήθημεν έκβαλεῖν αὐτό. καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· τοῦτο τὸ γένος ἐν οὐδενὶ δύναται ἐξελθεῖν εἰ μὴ έν προσευχῆ καὶ νηστεία. Καὶ ἐκεῖθεν ἐξελθόντες παρεπορεύοντο διὰ τῆς Γαλιλαίας, καὶ οὐκ ἤθελεν ἵνα τις γνῷ∙ ἐδίδασκε γὰρ τοὺς μαθητὰς αύτοῦ καὶ ἔλεγεν αὐτοῖς ὅτι ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ άνθρώπου παραδίδοται είς χεῖρας άνθρώπων, καὶ ἀποκτενοῦσιν αὐτόν, καὶ ἀποκτανθεὶς τῆ τρίτη ἡμέρα ἀναστήσεται.

Holy Gospel according to St Mark (9:17-31)

At that time, a man came to Jesus kneeling and saying: "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit; and wherever it seizes him it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." And they brought the boy to him; and when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you can do anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting." They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he would not have any one know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and when he is killed, after three days he will rise."

Κυριακὴ Δ' τῶν Νηστειῶν τοῦ Ἁγίου Τοῦ Ὀσίου Ἰωάννου τῆς Κλίμακος

Τοῦ Τριωδίου.

Τῆ αὐτῆ ἡμέρα, Κυριακῆ τετάρτη τῶν Νηστειῶν, μνήμην ποιοῦμεν τοῦ Ὀσίου Πατρὸς ἡμῶν Ἰωάννου, τοῦ Συγγραφέως τῆς Κλίμακος.

Στίχοι

Ό σάρκα καὶ ζῶν νεκρὸς ὢν Ἰωάννης, Αἰωνίως ζῇ, καὶ νεκρὸς φανεὶς ἄπνους. Σύγγραμμα λιπὼν Κλίμακα τῇ ἀνόδῳ, Δείκνυσιν αὐτοῦ πορείαν τῆς ἀνόδου.

Ταῖς αὐτοῦ πρεσβείαις, ὁ Θεός, ἐλέησον, καὶ σῶσον ἡμᾶς. Ἀμήν.

On this day, **the fourth Sunday of Lent,** we commemorate our devout Father John, author of The Ladder.

Verses

John, who was dead in the flesh while living, Ever lives, while appearing to be dead and not breathing.
He left us his book, the Ladder for ascending, And shows us the way of his ascent to heaven.

By his intercessions, O God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.

St John Climacus' name stems from his spiritual book, "The Ladder of Divine Ascent", which is a sure guide to the ascetic life, written by a great man of prayer experienced in all forms of the monastic polity; it teaches the seekers after salvation how to lay a sound foundation for thier struggles, how to detect and war against each of the passions, how to avoid the snares laid by the demons, and how to rise from the rudimental virtues to the heights of Godlike love and humility.

It is held in such high esteem that it is universally read in its entirety in monasteries during the Great Fast.