KANONA ΠΙΣΤΕΩΣ - MODEL OF FAITH

GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AUSTRALIA PARISH OF SAINT NICHOLAS MARRICKVILLE

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Κυριακή 7 Σεπτεμβρίου 2025 Προεόρτια τῆς Γεννήσεως τῆς Ύπεραγίας Θεοτόκου

Άπολυτίκιον Άναστάσιμον ήχος δ'

Τὸ φαιδρὸν τῆς Ἀναστάσεως κήρυγμα, ἐκ τοῦ Ἁγγέλου μαθοῦσαι αὶ τοῦ Κυρίου Μαθήτριαι, καὶ τὴν προγονικὴν ἀπόφασιν ἀπορρίψασαι, τοῖς Ἀποστόλοις καυχώμεναι ἔλεγον· Ἐσκύλευται ὁ θάνατος, ἡγέρθη Χριστὸς ὁ Θεός, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Προεόρτιον.

Έκ τῆς ῥίζης Ἰεσσαί, καὶ ἐξ ὀσφύος τοῦ Δαυῗδ, ἡ θεόπαις Μαριάμ, τίκτεται σήμερον ἡμῖν· διὸ καὶ χαίρει ἡ σύμπασα καὶ καινουργεῖται· συγχαίρει τε ὁμοῦ, ὁ οὐρανὸς καὶ ἡ γῆ. Αἰνέσατε αὐτήν, αἱ πατριαὶ τῶν ἐθνῶν. Ἰωακεὶμ εὐφραίνεται, καὶ Ἄννα πανηγυρίζει κραυγάζουσα· Ἡ στεῖρα τίκτει, τὴν Θεοτόκον, καὶ τροφόν τῆς ζωῆς 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 Νικόλαε· πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Άπολυτίκιον. Κοσμά και Δαμιανού

Άγιοι Ανάργυροι καί θαυματουργοί, επισκέψασθε τάς ασθενείας ημών, δωρεάν ελάβετε, δωρεάν δότε ημίν.

Sunday 7 September 2025
Forefeast of the Nativity of the Most
Holy Theotokos

Resurrectional Apolytikion

The joyful message of the resurrection the women Disciples learnt from the Angel, and casting off the ancestral sentence, to the Apostles they announced in exultation: Death has been despoiled and Christ our God has risen, granting to the world his great mercy.

For the Forefeast.

Unto us is born today Mary the child of God, as the branch from Jesse's root, and as the fruit of David's loins, and all creation is re-created and deified. O heaven and the earth, rejoice in unison. Sing praises unto her, O all you Gentile clans. Joachim is exultant, and Anna is keeping festival, crying out: "The barren woman bears the Theotokos, the nourisher of our Life."

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.

Άπολυτίκιον Τοῦ Άγίου Παΐσιου Τόν συνάναρχον Λόγον

Αὐστραλίας προστάτην, φρουρόν τε ἄγρυπ-νον, καί τοῦ Ἄθωνος ὅρους στύλον ἀείφωτον, ἀνυμνήσωμεν πιστοί, θεῖον Παΐσιον, ἐξαιτούμενοι αὐτοῦ τάς πρεσβείας πρός Θεόν, κραυγάζοντες ὁμοφρόνως ἡύου ὧ πάτερ παντοίων, τῶν τοξευμάτων τοῦ ἀλάστορος.

Κοντάκιον.

Ή Παρθένος σήμερον, καὶ Θεοτόκος Μαρία, ἡ παστὰς ἡ ἄλυτος, τοῦ οὐρανίου Νυμφίου, τίκτεται, ἀπὸ τῆς στείρας θεοβουλήτως, ὄχημα, τοῦ Θεοῦ Λόγου εὐτρεπισθῆναι· εἰς τοῦτο γὰρ καὶ προωρίσθη, ἡ θεία πύλη, καὶ Μήτηρ τῆς ὄντως ζωῆς.

ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ Πρὸς Γαλάτας Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου (στ΄, 11-18)

Αδελφοί, ἴδετε πηλίκοις ὑμῖν γράμμασιν ἔγραψα τῆ ἐμῆ χειρί. Ὅσοι θέλουσιν εὐπροσωπῆσαι ἐν σαρκί, οὖτοι ἀναγκάζουσιν ὑμᾶς περιτέμνεσθαι, μόνον ἴνα μὴ τῷ σταυρῷ τοῦ Χριστοῦ διώκωνται. Οὐδὲ γὰρ οἱ περιτετμημένοι αὐτοὶ νόμον φυλάσσουσιν, ἀλλὰ θέλουσιν ὑμᾶς περιτέμνεσθαι, ἴνα ἐν τῆ ὑμετέρα σαρκὶ καυχήσωνται. Ἐμοὶ δὲ μὴ γένοιτο καυχᾶσθαι εἰ μὴ ἐν τῷ σταυρῷ τοῦ κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ· δι' οὖ ἐμοὶ κόσμος ἐσταύρωται, κἀγὼ τῷ κόσμῳ.

Έν γὰρ Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ οὔτε περιτομή τι ἰσχύει, οὔτε ἀκροβυστία, ἀλλὰ καινὴ κτίσις. Καὶ ὅσοι τῷ κανόνι τούτῳ στοιχήσουσιν, εἰρήνη ἐπ' αὐτούς, καὶ ἔλεος, καὶ ἐπὶ τὸν Ἰσραὴλ τοῦ θεοῦ. Τοῦ λοιποῦ, κόπους μοι μηδεὶς παρεχέτω· ἐγὼ γὰρ τὰ στίγματα τοῦ κυρίου Ἰησοῦ ἐν τῷ σώματί μου βαστάζω. Ἡ χάρις τοῦ κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ μετὰ τοῦ πνεύματος ὑμῶν, ἀδελφοί. Ἀμήν.

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.

Kontakion

On this day the virgin Maid, Mary the true Theotokos, the inviolate bridal room of the heavenly Bridegroom, by the will of God is born of a barren woman, to prepare to be the carriage of God the Logos, as for this she had been destined, to be the gateway of God and Mother of Life.

EPISTLE Paul's 1st Letter to Galatians (6:11-18)

Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

Έκ τοῦ κατὰ Ἰωάννην ἁγίου Εὐαγγελίου $(\sqrt[4]{}, 13\text{-}17)$

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος· καὶ οὐδεὶς ἀναβέβηκεν εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν εἰ μὴ ὁ ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ καταβάς, ὁ υἰὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ὁ ἄν ἐν τῷ οὐρανῷ. καὶ καθὼς Μωϋσῆς ὕψωσε τὸν ὄφιν ἐν τῆ ἐρήμῳ, οὕτως ὑψωθῆναι δεῖ τὸν υἰὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου, ἴνα πᾶς ὁ πιστεύων εἰς αὐτὸν μὴ ἀπόληται ἀλλ' ἔχη ζωὴν αἰώνιον.

Οὕτω γὰρ ἠγάπησεν ὁ Θεὸς τὸν κόσμον, ὥστε τὸν υἰὸν αὐτοῦ τὸν μονογενῆ ἔδωκεν, ἵνα πᾶς ὁ πιστεύων εἰς αὐτὸν μὴ ἀπόληται ἀλλ' ἔχῃ ζωὴν αἰώνιον. οὐ γὰρ ἀπέστειλεν ὁ Θεὸς τὸν υἰὸν αὐτοῦ εἰς τὸν κόσμον ἵνα κρίνῃ τὸν κόσμον, ἀλλ' ἵνα σωθῆ ὁ κόσμος δι' αὐτοῦ.

Holy Gospel according to St John (3:13-17)

The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him."

Ευαγγελικό μήνυμα

Το σημερινό Ευαγγέλιο μάς προετοιμάζει για την «Ύψωση του Τιμίου Σταυρού» την επόμενη Κυριακή.

«Οὕτω γὰρ ἠγάπησεν ὁ Θεὸς τὸν κόσμον, ὥστε τὸν υἱὸν αὐτοῦ τὸν μονογενῆ ἔδωκεν, ἵνα πᾶς ὁ πιστεύων εἰς αὐτὸν μὴ ἀπόληται ἀλλ' ἔχη ζωὴν αἰώνιον.»

Αυτό το ένα εδάφιο συνοψίζει το ευαγγέλιο της σωτηρίας και από αυτό αντλούμε δύο πολύ βασικά μηνύματα που βρίσκονται στον πυρήνα της πίστης μας:

1. Ο Θεός είναι αγάπη!

Η ύψιστη αποκάλυψη του βάθους της απέραντης αγάπης του Θεού είναι ο Σταυρός του Ιησού Χριστού. Ο Θεός μας αγαπά τόσο πολύ ώστε έστειλε τον Υιό Του, τον Ιησού Χριστό στον κόσμο· και Εκείνος ήρθε στον κόσμο με αποστολή!

Ο θάνατος του Χριστού πάνω στον Σταυρό δεν είναι αποτυχία. Είναι η θύρα προς την Ανάσταση, ένας νικηφόρος «ζωοποιός θάνατος». Και μέσω του θανάτου Του, ο Θεός προσφέρει σε όλους μας την αιώνια ζωή, αλλά πρέπει να την αποδεχθούμε!

- 2. Αιώνια ζωή για όλους όσοι πιστεύουν. Το να πιστεύουμε σημαίνει ότι πρέπει να έχουμε προσωπική σχέση με τον Κύριό και Σωτήρα μας Ιησού Χριστό. Και γι' αυτόν τον λόγο ο Χριστός ίδρυσε την Εκκλησία, ώστε να μπορούμε να έχουμε μια προσωπική σχέση μαζί Του.
- Ο Άγιος Κυπριανός μας λέει:
 «Εκείνος που δεν έχει την Εκκλησία για μητέρα,
 δεν έχει τον Θεό για Πατέρα.» Αμήν

Gospel message

Today's Gospel prepares us for the "Exaltation of the Cross" next Sunday.

"For **God so loved** the world, that He gave His only Son, so that **whoever believes** in Him, should not perish, but have **eternal life**."

This one verse summarises the gospel of salvation and from it we obtain two very fundamental messages which are at the essence of our faith:

1. God is love!

The ultimate revelation of the depth of God's limitless love is the Cross of Jesus Christ. God loves us so much that He sent His Son, Jesus Christ into the world and He came into the world with a mission!

Christ's death on the Cross is not failure. It is the door to the Resurrection, a victorious 'Life creating death.' And through His death, God offers each and every one of us eternal life, but we must accept it!

2. Eternal life for all who believe. To believe means that we must have a personal relationship with Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. And it was for this reason that Christ established the Church, so that we can have a personal relationship with Him.

St Cyprian tells us:

"He who does not have the Church as his mother,

does not have God as his Father." Amen