

ΚΑΝΟΝΑ ΠΙΣΤΕΩΣ - MODEL OF FAITH

GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AUSTRALIA PARISH OF SAINT NICHOLAS MARRICKVILLE

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Κυριακή 5 Ὀκτωβρίου 2025
Κυριακή Β' Λουκά

Ἀπολυτίκιον Ἀναστάσιμον Ἦχος πλ.δ'.

Ἐξ ὕψους κατήλθες ὁ εὐσπλαγχνος, ταφήν
κατεδέξω τριήμερον, ἵνα ἡμᾶς ἐλευθερώσῃς
τῶν παθῶν. Ἡ ζωὴ καὶ ἡ Ἀνάστασις ἡμῶν,
Κύριε δόξα σοι.

Ἀπολυτίκιον Τοῦ Ἁγίου Νικολάου.

Κανόνα πίστεως καὶ εἰκόνα πραότητος,
ἐγκρατείας διδάσκαλον, ἀνέδειξέ σε τῇ
ποιμνῇ σου, ἡ τῶν πραγμάτων ἀλήθεια·
διὰ τοῦτο ἐκτήσω τῇ ταπεινώσει τὰ ὑψηλά,
τῇ πτωχείᾳ τὰ πλούσια, Πάτερ ἱεράρχα
Νικόλαε· πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ,
σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Ἀπολυτίκιον. Κοσμά και Δαμιανού

Ἅγιοι Ανάργυροι καὶ θαυματουργοί,
επισκέψασθε τὰς ἀσθενείας ἡμῶν, δωρεὰν
ελάβετε, δωρεὰν δότε ἡμῖν.

Ἀπολυτίκιον Τοῦ Ἁγίου Παΐσιου Τόν συνάναρχον Λόγον

Αὐστραλίας προστάτην, φρουρόν τε
ἄγρυπνον, καὶ τοῦ Ἱεροῦ ὄρους σύλον
ἀείφωτον, ἀνυμνήσωμεν πιστοί, Θεῶν
Παΐσιον, ἐξαιτούμενοι αὐτοῦ τὰς πρεσβείας
πρὸς Θεόν, κραυγάζοντες ὁμοφρόνως· ῥύου
ὦ πάτερ παντοίων, τῶν τοξευμάτων τοῦ
ἀλάστορος.

Sunday 5 October 2025
2nd Sunday of Luke

Resurrectional Apolytikion

From on high you descended,
Compassionate One, you accepted three
days in the tomb, in order to free us
from our suffering. Our life and
resurrection, Lord, glory to you.

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

Προστασία τῶν Χριστιανῶν
ἀκαταίσχυντε, μεσιτεία, πρὸς τὸν
Ποιητὴν ἀμετάθετε, μὴ παρίδης,
ἀμαρτωλῶν δεήσεων φωνάς, ἀλλὰ
πρόφθασον, ὡς ἀγαθή, εἰς τὴν βοήθειαν
ἡμῶν, τῶν πιστῶς κραυγαζόντων σοι·
Τάχυνον εἰς πρεσβείαν, καὶ σπεῦσον εἰς
ἱκεσίαν, ἡ προστατεύουσα ἀεί, Θεοτόκε,
τῶν τιμώντων σε.

ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ

Πρὸς Κορινθίους Β' Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου (ζ', 16- ζ', 1)

Ἀδελφοί, ὑμεῖς ἐστε ναὸς Θεοῦ ζῶντος,
καθὼς εἶπεν ὁ θεὸς ὅτι Ἐνοικήσω ἐν
αὐτοῖς, καὶ ἐμπεριπατήσω· καὶ ἔσομαι
αὐτῶν θεός, καὶ αὐτοὶ ἔσονται μοι λαός.
Διὸ, Ἐξέλθετε ἐκ μέσου αὐτῶν καὶ
ἀφορίσθητε, λέγει κύριος, καὶ
ἀκαθάρτου μὴ ἄπτεσθε· κἀγὼ
εἰσδέξομαι ὑμᾶς, καὶ ἔσομαι ὑμῖν εἰς
πατέρα, καὶ ὑμεῖς ἔσεσθέ μοι εἰς υἱοὺς
καὶ θυγατέρας, λέγει κύριος
παντοκράτωρ. Ταῦτας οὖν ἔχοντες τὰς
ἐπαγγελίας, ἀγαπητοί, καθαρίσωμεν
ἐαυτοὺς ἀπὸ παντὸς μολυσμοῦ σαρκὸς
καὶ πνεύματος, ἐπιτελοῦντες ἁγιωσύνην
ἐν φόβῳ Θεοῦ.

Kontakion

Protector of Christians, champion
undefeated, mediator most sure with
our creator, disregard not the voice of
prayer of sinners, but come quickly in
your goodness, to help us who cry out
to you with faith: Be swift to intercede,
make haste to supplicate, O
Theotokos, protector always of those
who honor you.

EPISTLE

Paul's 2nd Letter to the Corinthians (6:16-7.1)

Brethren, you are the temple of the
living God; as God said, "I will live in
them and move among them, and I will
be their God, and they shall be my
people. Therefore come out from
them, and be separate from them, says
the Lord, and touch nothing unclean;
then I will welcome you, and I will be a
father to you, and you shall be my sons
and daughters, says the Lord
Almighty." Since we have these
promises, beloved, let us cleanse
ourselves from every defilement of
body and spirit, and make holiness
perfect in the fear of God.

**Ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Λουκᾶν ἁγίου Εὐαγγελίου
(ζ', 31-36)**

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος· καθὼς θέλετε ἵνα
ποιῶσιν ὑμῖν οἱ ἄνθρωποι, ποιεῖτε
αὐτοῖς ὁμοίως. καὶ εἰ ἀγαπᾶτε τοὺς
ἀγαπῶντας ὑμᾶς, ποία ὑμῖν χάρις
ἐστί; καὶ γὰρ οἱ ἁμαρτωλοὶ τοὺς
ἀγαπῶντας αὐτοὺς ἀγαπῶσι. καὶ
ἐὰν ἀγαθοποιῇτε τοὺς
ἀγαθοποιοῦντας ὑμᾶς, ποία ὑμῖν
χάρις ἐστί; καὶ γὰρ οἱ ἁμαρτωλοὶ τὸ
αὐτὸ ποιοῦσι. καὶ ἐὰν δανείζητε
παρ' ὧν ἐλπίζετε ἀπολαβεῖν, ποία
ὑμῖν χάρις ἐστί; καὶ γὰρ ἁμαρτωλοὶ
ἁμαρτωλοῖς δανείζουσιν ἵνα
ἀπολάβωσι τὰ ἴσα. πλὴν ἀγαπᾶτε
τοὺς ἐχθροὺς ὑμῶν καὶ
ἀγαθοποιεῖτε καὶ δανείζετε μηδὲν
ἀπελπίζοντες, καὶ ἔσται ὁ μισθὸς
ὑμῶν πολὺς, καὶ ἔσεσθε υἱοὶ
ὑψίστου, ὅτι αὐτὸς χρηστός ἐστιν
ἐπὶ τοὺς ἀχαρίστους καὶ πονηροὺς.
Γίνεσθε οὖν οἰκτίρμονες, καθὼς καὶ
ὁ πατὴρ ὑμῶν οἰκτίρμων ἐστί.

**Holy Gospel according to St Luke
(6:31-36)**

The Lord said, "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."

Ευαγγελικό μήνυμα

Αδελφοί μου αγαπητοί,

Το σημερινό ιερό ανάγνωσμα από τον Ευαγγελιστή Λουκά μάς υπενθυμίζει τον «χρυσό κανόνα»: «Καθώς θέλετε ἵνα ποιῶσιν ὑμῖν οἱ ἄνθρωποι, ποιεῖτε αὐτοῖς ὁμοίως». Ο Χριστός μας καλεῖ σε υπέρβαση της κοσμικής λογικής. Δεν είναι αρετή να αγαπῶ αὐτόν που με αγαπά, ἀλλά να αγαπῶ εκείνον που με εχθρεύεται· να δανείζω χωρίς να περιμένω ανταπόδοση· να ευεργετῶ χωρίς να ζητῶ ευχαριστίες. Τότε ἡ πράξη γίνεται χάρις και ὄχι ἀπλή συναλλαγὴ.

Οἱ Πατέρες τῆς Εκκλησίας μάς φωτίζουν το βαθύτερο νόημα. Ο ἅγιος Ἰωάννης ο Χρυσόστομος λέγει: «Οὐδὲν οὕτω μιμεῖται τὸν Θεὸν ὁ ἄνθρωπος ὡς τῷ ἐχθρῷ εὐεργετῆν». Δηλαδή, τίποτε δεν μας καθιστᾷ τόσο ὁμοίους με τὸν Θεό ὅσο το να κάνουμε καλὸ στον ἐχθρό μας. Καὶ ὁ Μέγας Βασίλειος μάς θυμίζει πως «ἡ ἀγάπη ἐστὶν ἡ ῥίζα καὶ ἡ πηγὴ τῶν ἀρετῶν». Χωρὶς ἀγάπη, ἀκόμη καὶ ἡ ἐλεημοσύνη καταντᾷ πράξη κενή.

Ὁ Θεός, λέγει ὁ Κύριος, εἶναι χρηστός καὶ πρὸς τοὺς ἀχάριστους καὶ πονηροὺς. Ἄν ὁ Πατέρας μας ἐλεεῖ τοὺς πάντες, πῶς εμεῖς μπορούμε να υψώνουμε τείχη κακίας καὶ ἐκδίκησης; Ὁ δρόμος τοῦ μαθητῆ τοῦ Χριστοῦ εἶναι δρόμος σταυροῦ, συγχωρήσεως καὶ ἀνεξάντλητης ἀγάπης.

Ἀς γίνουμε λοιπὸν οἰκτίρμονες, «καθὼς καὶ ὁ Πατὴρ ἡμῶν οἰκτίρμων ἐστίν». Τότε θα φανούμε ἀληθινὰ παιδιὰ Του, κληρονόμοι τῆς Βασιλείας, μαρτυρώντας με τὴ ζωὴ μας τὸ ἀνέσπερο φῶς τῆς θείας ἀγάπης.

Αμήν.

Gospel message

Brothers and sisters in Christ

Today's Gospel message is about love and here we mean **true brotherly love**. Jesus begins by telling us, "As you wish that men would do to you, do so to them" and ends, "Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful." That is to love just like God loves all of us.

Jesus is telling us, that we should treat other people **just as** we would want other people to treat us. And with this commandment, He gives us the deeper meaning of "love." To truly be a good Christian, He is telling us that our love **must be without limits**, extending as far as loving our enemies!

Abbess Eugenia from the Monastery of Sts Rafael, Nicholas and Irene in Mytiline sums it beautifully:

"love is a person's greatest strength - it gives life and support to the person. Love is the start and the end of our spiritual life", as she eloquently says:

"love is life ... and life is love."

The early Church Fathers taught that God does not expect us to love the sin and the evil that people do, but He expects us to **love the sinner**. They teach,

"to hate the sin, but to **love** the sinner."

So let us heed Our Lord's message today, remembering the words of St Paul, "faith, hope and love, abide these three; **but the greatest of these, is love.**"

Amen.