

KANONA ΠΙΣΤΕΩΣ - MODEL OF FAITH

GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AUSTRALIA PARISH OF SAINT NICHOLAS MARRICKVILLE

Priest: Very Rev Eirinaios Tralonakis 0418 883 107 | 9558 4453

www.stnicholas.com.au | FaceBook: Parish St Nicholas Marrickville



Κυριακή 14 Δεκεμβρίου 2025

Κυριακή ΙΑ' Λουκᾶ

Κυριακή τῶν Ἅγιων Προπατόρων

Ἀπολυτίκιον Ἀναστάσιμον Ἦχος β'

"Οτε κατῆλθες πρὸς τὸν θάνατον, ἡ Ζωὴ ἡ ἀθάνατος, τότε τὸν Ἀδηνὸν ἐνέκρωσας τῇ ἀστραπῇ τῆς Θεότητος, ὅτε δὲ καὶ τοὺς τεθνεῶτας ἐκ τῶν καταχθονίων ἀνέστησας, πᾶσαι αἱ Δυνάμεις τῶν ἐπουρανίων ἐκραύγαζον· Ζωοδότα Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός ἡμῶν δόξα σοι.

Τῶν Προπατόρων.

Ἐν πίστει τοὺς Προπάτορας ἐδικαίωσας, τὴν ἐξ Ἐθνῶν δι' αὐτῶν προμνηστευσάμενος
Ἐκκλησίαν. Καυχῶνται ἐν δόξῃ οἱ Ἅγιοι, ὅτι ἐκ σπέρματος αὐτῶν, ὑπάρχει καρπός εὐκλεής, ἡ ἀσπόρως τεκοῦσά σε. Ταῖς αὐτῶν ἱκεσίαις, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, σῶσον τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Ἀπολυτίκιον Τοῦ Ἅγίου Νικολάου.

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

Ἀπολυτίκιον. Κοσμά καὶ Δαμιανού

Ἄγιοι Ανάργυροι καὶ θαυματουργοί,
επισκέψασθε τάς ασθενείας ημών, δωρεάν
ελάβετε, δωρεάν δότε ημίν.

Sunday 14 December 2025

11th Sunday of Luke

Sunday of the Holy Forefathers

Resurrectional Apolytikion

When you descended to death, O immortal life, you struck Hades dead by the flash of your Divinity; when you raised the dead from under the earth, all the Powers of heaven cried out: Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to you.

For the Forefathers

By faith You justified the Forefathers, having through them betrothed to yourself the Church that came out of the nations. The saints are boasting in glory; for the glorious fruit, the Virgin who without seed gave birth to You, is from their progeny. At their entreaties, O Christ our God, save 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.

Άπολυτίκιον Τοῦ Ἅγίου Παΐσιου Τόν συνάναρχον Λόγον

Αύστραλίας προστάτην, φρουρόν τε ἄγρυπνον,
καὶ τοῦ Ἀθωνος ὄρους στύλον ἀείφωτον,
ἀνυμήσωμεν πιστοί, θεῖον **Παΐσιον**,
ἔξαιτούμενοι αὐτοῦ τάς πρεσβείας πρός Θεόν,
κραυγάζοντες ὄμοφρόνως ῥύου ὡς πάτερ
παντοίων, τῶν τοξευμάτων τοῦ ἀλάστορος.

Κοντάκιον.

Ἡ Παρθένος σήμερον, τὸν προαιώνιον
Λόγον, ἐν Σπηλαίῳ ἔρχεται, ἀποτεκεῖν
ἀπορρήτως. Χόρευε ἡ οἰκουμένη
ἀκουτισθεῖσα, δόξασον μετὰ Ἀγγέλων καὶ
τῶν Ποιμένων, βουληθέντα ἐποφθῆναι,
Παιδίον νέον, τὸν πρὸ αἰώνων Θεόν

ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ

Πρὸς Κολοσσαῖς Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου (γ', 4-11)

Ἄδελφοί, ὅταν ὁ Χριστὸς φανερωθῇ, ἡ
ζωὴ ἡμῶν, τότε καὶ ὑμεῖς σὺν αὐτῷ
φανερωθήσεσθε ἐν δόξῃ. Νεκρώσατε
οὖν τὰ μέλη ὑμῶν τὰ ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, πορ-
νείαν, ἀκαθαρσίαν, πάθος, ἐπιθυμίαν
κακήν, καὶ τὴν πλεονεξίαν, ἥτις ἔστιν
εἰδωλολατρεία, δ' ἡ ἔρχεται ἡ ὄργὴ τοῦ
Θεοῦ ἐπὶ τοὺς υἱοὺς τῆς ἀπειθείας· Ἐν οἷς
καὶ ὑμεῖς περιεπατήσατέ ποτε, ὅτε ἐζῆτε
ἐν αὐτοῖς. Νυνὶ δὲ ἀπάθεσθε καὶ ὑμεῖς τὰ
πάντα, ὄργήν, θυμόν, κακίαν, βλασφη-
μίαν, αἰσχρολογίαν ἐκ τοῦ στόματος
ὑμῶν· μὴ ψεύδεσθε εἰς ἀλλήλους,
ἀπεκδυσάμενοι τὸν παλαιὸν ἄνθρωπον
σὺν ταῖς πράξεισιν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐνδυσά-
μενοι τὸν νέον, τὸν ἀνακαινούμενον εἰς
ἐπίγνωσιν κατ' εἰκόνα τοῦ κτίσαντος
αὐτόν· ὅπου οὐκ ἔνι "Ἐλλην καὶ Ιουδαῖος,
περιτομὴ καὶ ἀκροβυστία, βάρβαρος,
Σκύθης, δοῦλος, ἐλεύθερος· ἀλλὰ τὰ
πάντα καὶ ἐν πᾶσιν Χριστός.

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 goes to the
grotto to give birth to the pre-eternal
Word in an ineffable manner. Dance for
joy, all the inhabited earth, on hearing.
Glorify along with Angels and with the
shepherds Him who willed that He appear
as a newborn Child, the pre-eternal God.

EPISTLE

Paul's Letter to the Colossians (3: 4-11)

Brethren, when Christ who is our life
appears, then you also will appear with
him in glory. Put to death therefore what
is earthly in you: fornication, impurity,
passion, evil desire, and covetousness,
which is idolatry. On account of these
the wrath of God is coming upon the
sons of disobedience. In these you once
walked, when you lived in them. But now
put them all away: anger, wrath, malice,
slander, and foul talk from your mouth.
Do not lie to one another, seeing that
you have put off the old nature with its
practices and have put on the new
nature, which is being renewed in
knowledge after the image of its creator.
Here there cannot be Greek and Jew,
circumcised and uncircumcised,
barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but
Christ is all, and in all.

Οἰδας τοῦτο, ὅτι ἀπεστράφησάν με πάντες οἱ ἐν τῇ Ασίᾳ, ὃν ἐστιν Φύγελος καὶ Ἐρμογένης. Δύη ἔλεος ὁ κύριος τῷ Ὀνησιφόρου οἴκῳ· ὅτι πολλάκις με ἀνέψυξεν, καὶ τὴν ἄλυσίν μου οὐκ ἐπαισχύνθη, ἀλλὰ γενόμενος ἐν Πόμῃ, σπουδαιότερον ἐζήτησέν με καὶ εὗρεν - δύη αὐτῷ ὁ κύριος εύρειν ἔλεος παρὰ κυρίου ἐν ἐκείνῃ τῇ ἡμέρᾳ - καὶ ὅσα ἐν Ἐφέσῳ διηκόνησεν, βέλτιον σὺ γινώσκεις.

**Ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Λουκᾶν ἀγίου Εὐαγγελίου
(ιδ', 16-24)**

Ἐπειν ὁ Κύριος τὴν παραβολὴν ταύτην· Ἀνθρωπός τις ἐποίησε δεῖπνον μέγα καὶ ἐκάλεσε πολλούς· καὶ ἀπέστειλε τὸν δοῦλον αὐτοῦ τῇ ὥρᾳ τοῦ δείπνου εἰπεῖν τοῖς κεκλημένοις· ἔρχεσθε, ὅτι ἡδη ἔτοιμα ἐστι πάντα· καὶ ἥρξαντο ἀπὸ μᾶς παραπεῖσθαι πάντες. ὁ πρῶτος εἶπεν αὐτῷ· ἀγρὸν ἡγόρασα, καὶ ἔχω ἀνάγκην ἔξελθεῖν καὶ ἰδεῖν αὐτὸν· ἐρωτῶ σε, ἔχε με παρητμένον. καὶ ἔτερος εἶπε· ζεύγη βοῶν ἡγόρασα πέντε, καὶ πορεύομαι δοκιμάσαι αὐτά· ἐρωτῶ σε, ἔχε με παρητμένον. καὶ ἔτερος εἶπε· γυναικα ἔγημα, καὶ διὰ τοῦτο οὐ δύναμαι ἐλθεῖν. καὶ παραγενόμενος ὁ δοῦλος ἐκεῖνος ἀπήγγειλε τῷ κυρίῳ αὐτοῦ ταῦτα. τότε ὄργισθεις ὁ οἰκοδεσπότης εἶπε τῷ δούλῳ αὐτοῦ· ἔξελθε ταχέως εἰς τὰς πλατείας καὶ ῥύμας τῆς πόλεως, καὶ τοὺς πτωχούς καὶ ἀναπήρους καὶ χωλούς καὶ τυφλούς εἰσάγαγε ὥδε. καὶ εἶπεν ὁ δοῦλος· κύριε, γέγονεν ὡς ἐπέταξας, καὶ ἔτι τόπος ἐστί. καὶ εἶπεν ὁ κύριος πρὸς τὸν δοῦλον· ἔξελθε εἰς τὰς ὁδούς καὶ φραγμούς καὶ ἀνάγκασον εἰσελθεῖν, ἵνα γεμισθῇ ὁ οἶκος μου. λέγω γάρ ὑμῖν ὅτι οὐδεὶς τῶν ἀνδρῶν ἐκείνων τῶν κεκλημένων γεύσεται μου τοῦ δείπνου. Πολλοί γάρ εἰσιν κλητοί, ὀλίγοι δέ ἐκλεκτοί.

You are aware that all who are in Asia turned away from me, and among them Phygelos and Hermogenes. May the Lord grant mercy to the household of Onesiphoros, for he often refreshed me; he was not ashamed of my chains, but when he arrived in Rome he searched for me eagerly and found me - may the Lord grant him to find mercy from the Lord on that Day and you well know all the service he rendered at Ephesos.

**Holy Gospel according to St Luke
(14:16-24)**

The Lord said this parable: "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time of the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I must go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and there is still room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet. For many are called, but few are chosen.'"

Ευαγγελικό μήνυμα

Αγαπητοί αδελφοί,

Σήμερα είναι ή Κυριακή τών Προπατόρων καὶ τιμοῦμε τοὺς Πατριάρχες τῆς Παλαιᾶς Διαθήκης, τοὺς Προφήτες, τὸν Ἀγιον Ἰωάννην τὸν Πρόδρομον, καὶ ὄλους ὅσοι προσδοκοῦσαν μὲν πίστη τὴν ἐλευση τοῦ Χριστοῦ.

Τὸ εἰδικὸν Ἀνάγνωσμα τοῦ Εὐαγγελίου παρουσιάζει τὴν παραβολὴ τοῦ «**Μεγάλου**» δεῖπνου· ἀλλὰ οἱ προσκεκλημένοι, γιὰ διάφορους λόγους, ἀρνοῦνται τὴν πρόσκλησην. Ἐν ἄλλοις λόγοις: «Ἄφθε με, εἶμαι πολυάσχολος». Ο φιλάνθρωπος οἰκοδεσπότης τότε προσκαλεῖ ἑκείνους γιὰ τοὺς ὅποιους δὲν ἔνδιαφερόταν κανεὶς· τοὺς φτωχούς, τοὺς χαλούς, τοὺς τυφλούς, τοὺς ἄστεγους καὶ ὄλους τοὺς λοιπούς.

Ἐρμηνεύοντας θεολογικὰ τὴν παραβολὴν, οἱ Πατέρες τῆς Εκκλησίας μᾶλλον γιὰ δύο δεῖπνα, τὸ **ἐπουράνιο** καὶ τὸ **ἐπίγειο**. Στὸ ἐπουράνιο δεῖπνο, ὁ οἰκοδεσπότης είναι ὁ Ἰδιος ὁ Θεός, καὶ ἡ παραβολὴ είναι εἰκόνα τοῦ Παραδείσου καὶ τῶν χαρῶν ποὺ περιμένουν ὄσους ἀποδεχθοῦν τὴν πρόσκλησην ἀνταποκρινόμενοι σ' Αὐτὸν. Ἀλλὰ ὁ Ἰησοῦς προειδοποιεῖ ὅτι ἑκεῖνοι ποὺ ἀρχικῶς προσεκλήθησαν καὶ δὲν ἦλθαν, δὲν θὰ μετάσχουν στὸ δεῖπνο, διότι «πολλοὶ γάρ εἰσιν κλητοὶ, ὀλίγοι δὲ ἔκλεκτοι».

Ο Θεός προσκαλεῖ ἀνεπιφύλακτα ὄλους τοὺς ἀνθρώπους νὰ εἰσελθοῦν στὴ Βασιλεία τῶν Οὐρανῶν, ἀλλὰ πρέπει καὶ ἐμεῖς νὰ ἀποδεχθοῦμε τὴν πρόσκλησην Του. Αὐτὸ γίνεται μὲν τὸ **ἐπίγειο** δεῖπνο, ποὺ είναι ἡ Θεία Εὐχαριστία—«τὸ δῶρον τοῦ Θεοῦ, ο Υἱὸς Του, πρὸς τὴν Ἑκκλησίαν, πραγματοποιούμενον ἐν τῷ Ἀγίῳ Πνεύματι».

«Οπως στὴν παραβολή, ἔτσι καὶ ἐμεῖς ἀκούμε τὸν Ἱερέα νὰ μᾶς προσκαλεῖ· «Μετὰ φόβου Θεοῦ, πίστεως καὶ ἀγάπης προσελθετε» γιὰ νὰ μεταλά-βουμε τὸ Ἀχραντὸ Σῶμα καὶ τίμια τοῦ Κυρίου καὶ Σωτῆρος ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ. Η παραβολὴ μᾶς ἐλέγχει προσωπικά· εἴμαστε ἄρα γε διαφορετικοὶ ἀπὸ ἑκείνους ποὺ ἀπεδέχθησαν τὴν πρόσκλησην;

Αδελφοί μου, τὰ Χριστούγεννα είναι κάτι πολὺ περισσότερο ἀπὸ τὸ νὰ ἀνοίγουμε δῶρα καὶ νὰ ἐπιδοθῶμεν σὲ ἐορτασμούς. Ας ἔλθουμε ὅλοι στὴν Ἑκκλησία πνευματικὰ πρετοιμασμένοι μὲ τὶς οἰκογένειές μας, καὶ ἀς ἀρχίσουμε τὴν ἡμέρα τῶν Χριστουγέννων μεταλαμβάνοντας τὸ Μέγιστο Δῶρο καὶ τὸ Μεγαλύτερο Δεῖπνο ποὺ προσφέρεται σὲ ὄλους τοὺς ἀνθρώπους· τὴ μετοχὴ στὸ Σῶμα καὶ Αἷμα τοῦ Κυρίου καὶ Σωτῆρος ἡμῶν, καὶ νὰ ἐνώσουμε τὸν ἔαυτό μας μὲ τὸν ἔδιο τὸν Χριστόν. Αμήν.

Gospel message

Brothers and sisters in Christ, Today is the **Sunday of the Forefather** and we honour the Old Testament Patriarchs, Prophets, John the Baptist, and all who looked forward in faith to the coming of Christ.

The special Gospel reading presents the parable of the '**Great**' banquet but those invited for one reason or another decline the invitation. In other words, "leave me alone, I'm too busy." The gracious host then invites those for whom no one else seemed to care; the poor, the lame, the blind, the homeless and so on.

Interpreting the parable theologically, the Fathers of Church talk of two banquets, the **heavenly** and the **earthly**.

In the **heavenly** banquet, the host **Is God Himself** and the parable is an **image** of Heaven and the joys that await those who accept the invitation by responding to Him. But Jesus warns that those who were originally invited and did not go **will not** share in the banquet for, "many will be called, but few are chosen."

God openly invites all people to enter the Kingdom of Heaven, but we must accept His invitation. We do that with the **earthly** banquet, which is the Holy Eucharist—'God's gift of His Son to the Church made possible in the Holy Spirit.'

Like the **parable**, our Priest invites us "With fear of God, with faith and love to draw near" to partake of the Pure Body and Precious Blood of Our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ." The **parable** challenges us personally: Are we any different from those who declined the invitation?

My friends, Christmas day is more than opening presents and feasting. Let us all come to Church **spiritually prepared** with our families, and start Christmas Day by partaking, of the **Greatest Gift**, the **Greatest Feast**, the **Greatest Banquet** available to all human beings; the partaking of the Body and Blood of Our Lord and Saviour, and unite ourselves with Christ Himself. Amen