

So let us realize, brethren, the responsibility of the great gift and the spiritual value of the kingdom that the Church opens up before us, longing for her beauties and adornments, being peaceful “in love” with our brethren, partaking in the sacred mysteries, studying and, much more so, implementing the holy will of our good God, which is, already from the present life, the foretaste of Paradise.

Archim. A. A.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9 2022 SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY ,

Polyeuctus the Martyr of Melitene in Armenia , Eustratios the Wonderworker , Peter, Bishop of Sebaste, brother of Basil the Great and Gregory of Nyssa , Afterfeast of the Theophany of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ ,Philip, Metropolitan of Moscow

TONE OF THE WEEK : *Fourth Tone*

EOTHINON : *Seventh Eothinon*

EPISTLE READING : *St. Paul's letter to Ephesians 4:7-13*

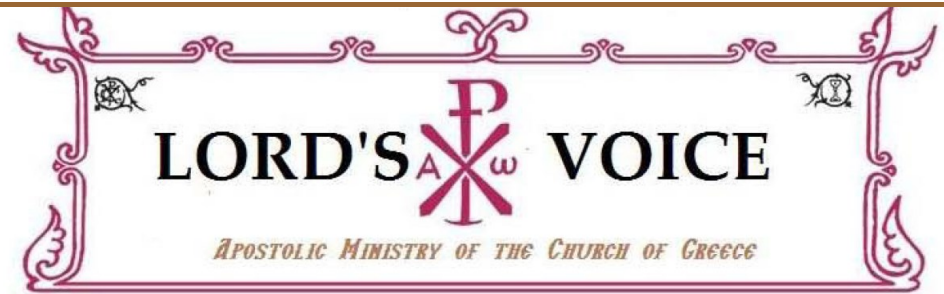
GOSPEL READING : *Matthew 4:12-17 .*

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16 2022 12TH SUNDAY OF LUKE,

Veneration of Apostle Peter's Precious Chains , Righteous Hierodeacon Makarios of Kalogeras , Romilo the Monk of Mount Athos , Nicholas the New-Martyr of Mytilene , Peusippos, Elasiippos, and Mesippos the siblings, and their grandmother Neonilla

EPISTLE READING : *St. Paul's letter to Colossians 3:4-11*

GOSPEL READING : *Luke 17:12-19*



70TH YEAR JANUARY 9 2022 PAMPHLET # 02 (3580)

THE EVANGELIZATION OF THE NATIONS

Sunday after the feast of holy Theophany today. Of a feast whose grace is, we would say, both spiritual, like the love of God for sinful man, as well as practical, like the flow over river in a downhill valley. The river Jordan, furthermore, protagonises in various ways and didactically in the matter, the theology and the iconography of this specific feast and period.

Spiritual light

So, we heard during today's post feast Sunday, the gospel passage, which with wisdom has been selected, and we were informed by the divinely inspired pen of the Evangelist Matthew, the fulfillment of the prophecies, and furthermore, of those of the great Prophet Isaiah, the loudest of the Prophets, of the fifth of the sacred Evangelists, as the holy fathers characterize him. We heard that in the land of the tribe of Zebulun, and in the land of the tribe of Naphthali, which extends near the sea and beyond the Jordan, to the eastern parts of it, to Galilee where many gentiles dwelt, this people who were sitting, bound and immovable in the darkness of the idol worshipping delusion and

GOSPEL READING : _MATTHEW 4:12-17 .

At that time, when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee; and leaving Nazareth he went and dwelt in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, toward the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles, the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

impiety, saw a great spiritual light. For the people who were dwelling in that land, which was previously shadowed by the thick darkness of sin and of death, a heavenly light shone.

The opening of the paternal embrace

Christ's preaching was worldwide, above tribal, national linguistic or other distinctions which people pose and posed to strengthen their egotism, will and passions, persistently rejecting to meet, to forgive each other, to love each other, to reconcile. The disposition however, of the loving caring father and generous house master of the kingdom does not know exceptions, but his good paternal heart "wants all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth».

A few days ago, "the coeternal Word by the Father and Spirit" received a beginning and "for us men and our salvation of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary: became man. The sinless one

received baptism. The Master and King of creation bowed his neck to his creature, in order to open the road of cleansing, of sanctification, of theosis by grace, of deliverance from the bonds of Hades, of victory against death, which brought "the great wound" to man.

The divine calling

Christ, after the amazing events of his Theophany in the Jordan, passes to His just about three year public activity, preaching, miracle-working, censuring sin, interpreting the Scriptures, which will peak, with His Transfiguration on Tabor, the handing down of the dreadful mysteries in the upper room on Holy Thursday, the Cross, the Burial, the Resurrection and his Ascension, and furthermore with the breath of the Holy Spirit during Pentecost, which from then on "comprises the entire institution of the Church", pouring out the streams of salvation to the entire world.

The Church is the holy body of Christ extended to the ages, whose body all we people, without exception, are freely able to become "members in part", when believing and being baptized, we enter into it, longing for salvation. In the holy cup of the New Testament, the body and blood of Christ fit, the most holy Theotokos, the ranks of the angels and of the saints of the Old and the New Testament, the souls of the dead from the ages, and of all the living, rich and poor, uneducated and unlettered ones, Jews and Greeks, sinners changed through repentance. We're all invited to the great supper of the kingdom, all destined to taste of this world, the inexhaustible wealth of the goodness of the Lord.