

saints, if we honestly turn to the inner person, and then, we will discover many of our faults and failures. The preaching and the experience of our saints, their life and teaching, their work and sacred heritage, is a treasure that is abundantly and generously offered to us. It is time for us to hasten to be enriched with their own wealth.

Archim. A. A.

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 30 2022 SYNAXIS OF THE THREE**

**HIERARCHS:** *Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, & John Chrysostom, Hippolytos, Pope of Rome, Athanasia the Martyr & her 3 daughters*

**TONE OF THE WEEK** : *Grave Tone*

**EOTHINON** : *Tenth Eothinon*

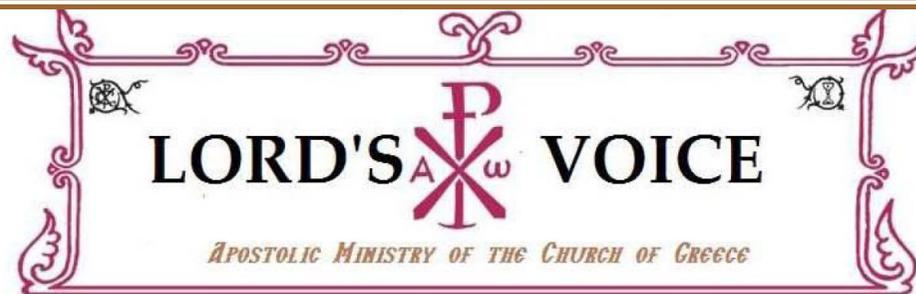
**EPISTLE READING** : *St. Paul's letter to Hebrews 13:7-16*

**GOSPEL READING** : *Matthew 5:14-19*

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6 2022 SUNDAY OF CANAANITE,** *Photius the Great Patriarch of Constantinople, Bucolus Bishop of Smyrna, Barsanuphios the Great and John of Gaza, Afterfast of the Presentaion of our Lord and Saver in the Temple, Ilyan of Homs.*

**EPISTLE READING** : *St. Paul's letter to Hebrews 7:26-28 8:1-2*

**GOSPEL READING** : *Matthew 15:21-28.*



70<sup>TH</sup> YEAR JANUARY 30 2022 PAMPHLET # 05 (3583)

## THE THREE GREAT LUMINARIES

The memory today of the three great ecumenical teachers and hierarchs, Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom, and with the opportunity, "furthermore, of our eucharistic gathering on Sunday, the series of passages of the divinely preaching Luke are interrupted, and a gospel passage is selected from the wisdom of our holy fathers, for the memory of the great hierarchs of our Church.

The teacher Christ characterizes His disciples as salt of the earth, but also through them, His friends and close people, the workers of the vineyard of the Church throughout the ages. Salt makes the food tasty and completes what the housewife prepares with love. Spiritual and moral salt is also the presence of the conscientious and struggling people of the Church, clergymen and lay people, who with the Church's blessing, they are always called to perform a missionary work. These three great personalities of the Church, of course, did this, to an unimaginable, inimitable and extremely great degree. They sought and cultivated very high and important gifts, primarily spiritual ones. They proved to be people of prayer

## **GOSPEL READING : MATTHEW 5:14-19**

The Lord said to his disciples, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

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fasting, asceticism and study of the divine Scriptures, already from a very young age. They acquired almost all the academic knowledge of their age, studying theology, philosophy, rhetoric, astronomy and medicine, next to famous teachers.

### **The illumination of people**

Just like the lights that the sacred Gospel speaks to us about today, thus the Three Hierarchs shone, despite the humble-mindedness and the cultivation of their virtues, and the working of their very many good works and good deeds "in secret". Thus, God revealed them for people to be benefited, and for His name to be glorified. They became eminent not only in the historical time

that they lived, but throughout time, just like that city that is built on a hill, as the Gospel today informs us, and people see it and admire it, and everyone desires to visit it to be enriched spiritually and be greatly benefited from this visit of theirs.

### **Faith and academics**

Many times also, in the past and in our days, a lot of conversation takes place about to what degree academics can proceed along with faith in God, about, if the one abolishes or completes the other. "The honey-flowing rivers of wisdom", the three academician hierarchs Basil, Gregory and John, but also a multitude of other ancient and more recent worldly educated saints of our Church, give the answer. And the answer is that faith and academics not only don't abolish one another, but on the contrary, before one studies, he needs to fertilize the field of his heart with his faith in God, and then to sow it with his academic knowledge. Faith in God means love for His image in the world, his fellow man, true love and guileless, like that which the hierarch and doctor Saint Basil had, when daily he would visit the Basilad in order to serve the sick and to wash the feet of the lepers.

The statures of the Three Hierarchs resemble shade giving plane trees, in whose thick shade it would be truly beneficial for us to all hasten. Teachers and pedagogues of all schools and degrees, academicians of every specialty of study, fleshly and spiritual parents, clergymen and monastics. In many things we all have, without exception, to be benefited by the example of the