KANONA ΠΙΣΤΕΩΣ - MODEL OF FAITH

GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AUSTRALIA PARISH OF SAINT NICHOLAS MARRICKVILLE

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Κυριακή Ζ΄ Λουκᾶ Μνήμη τοῦ Ἁγίου Νεκταρίου Πενταπόλεως Ἀπολυτίκιον Ἁναστάσιμον Ἦχος πλ. α΄.

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Τὸν συνάναρχον Λόγον Πατρὶ καὶ Πνεύματι, τὸν ἐκ Παρθένου τεχθέντα εἰςσωτηρίαν ἡμῶν, ἀνυμνήσωμεν πιστοὶκαὶ προσκυνήσωμεν, ὅτι ηὐδόκησε σαρκί, ἀνελθεῖν ἐν τῷ Σταυρῷ, καὶ θάνατον ὑπομεῖναι, καὶ ἐγεῖραι τοὺς τεθνεῶτας, ἐντῆ ἐνδόξω Ἁναστάσει αὐτοῦ.

Τοῦ Άγίου.

Σηλυβρίας τὸν γόνον καὶ Αἰγίνης τὸν ἔφορον, τὸν ἑσχάτοις χρόνοις φανέντα, ἀρετῆς φίλον γνήσιον, Νεκτάριον τιμήσωμεν πιστοί, ὡς ἔνθεον θεράποντα Χριστοῦ· ἀναβλύζει γὰρ ἰάσεις παντοδαπάς, τοῖς εὐλαβῶς κραυγάζουσι· δόξα τῷ σὲ δοξάσαντι Χριστῷ, δόξα τῷ σὲ θαυμαστώσαντι, δόξα τῷ ἐνεργοῦντι διὰ σοῦ, πᾶσιν ἰάματα.

Άπολυτίκιον Τοῦ Άγίου 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.

Άπολυτίκιον Τοῦ Άγίου Παΐσιου Τόν συνάναρχον Λόγον

Αύστραλίας προστάτην, φρουρόν τε ἄγρυπνον, καί τοῦ Ἅθωνος ὄρους στύλον ἀείφωτον, ἀνυμνήσωμεν πιστοί, θεῖον Παΐσιον, ἐξαιτούμενοι αὐτοῦ τάς πρεσβείας πρός Θεόν, κραυγάζοντες ὁμοφρόνως: ῥύου ὧ πάτερ παντοίων, τῶν τοξευμάτων τοῦ ἀλάστορος.

Memory of St. Nektarios of Pentapolis Resurrectional Apolytikion

The Word eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation, let us believers praise and worship; for he was pleased to go up on the Cross in his flesh, to endure death and raise the dead, by his glorious resurrection.

For the Saint

That son of Silybria and guardian of Aegina was an ardent lover of virtue and a saint of the modern age, that God-inspired servant of Christ, Nektarios. So let us honor him. He pours out all kinds of healing to those who pray with faith and cry out reverently, "Glory to Christ who glorified you; glory to Him for your miracles; glory to Him who through you gives cures and healing to all."

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.

Ό καθαρώτατος ναὸς τοῦ Σωτῆρος, ἡ πολυτίμητος παστὰς καὶ Παρθένος, τὸ ἱερὸν θησαύρισμα τῆς δόξης τοῦ Θεοῦ, σήμερον εἰσάγεται, ἐν τῷ οἴκῳ Κυρίου, τὴν χάριν συνεισάγουσα, τὴν ἐν Πνεύματι Θείῳ· ἢν ἀνυμνοῦσιν Ἅγγελοι Θεοῦ· Αὕτη ὑπάρχει σκηνὴ ἐπουράνιος.

ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ Πρὸς Ἐφεσίους Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου (ε΄, 8-19)

Αδελφοί, ώς τέκνα φωτὸς περιπατεῖτε·
— ὁ γὰρ καρπὸς τοῦ Πνεύματος ἐν πάση ἀγαθωσύνη καὶ δικαιοσύνη καὶ ἀληθεία·
— δοκιμάζοντες τί ἐστιν εὐάρεστον τῷ Κυρίῳ. καὶ μὴ συγκοινωνεῖτε τοῖς ἔργοις τοῖς ἀκάρποις τοῦ σκότους, μᾶλλον δὲ καὶ ἐλέγχετε· τὰ γὰρ κρυφῆ γινόμενα ὑπ αὐτῶν αἰσχρόν ἐστι καὶ λέγειν· τὰ δὲ πάντα ἐλεγχόμενα ὑπὸ τοῦ φωτὸς φανεροῦται· πᾶν γὰρ τὸ φανερούμενον φῶς ἐστι. διὸ λέγει· ἔγειρε ὁ καθεύδων καὶ ἀνάστα ἐκ τῶν νεκρῶν, καὶ ἐπιφαύσει σοι ὁ Χριστός. Βλέπετε οὖν πῶς ἀκριβῶς περιπατεῖτε, μὴ ὡς ἄσοφοι,

ἀλλ' ὡς σοφοί, ἐξαγοραζόμενοι τὸν καιρόν, ὅτι αὶ ἡμέραι πονηραί εἰσι. διὰ τοῦτο μὴ γίνεσθε ἄφρονες, ἀλλὰ συνιέντες τί τὸ θέλημα τοῦ Κυρίου. καὶ μὴ μεθύσκεσθε οἴνῳ, ἐν ῷ ἐστιν ἀσωτία, ἀλλὰ πληροῦσθε ἐν Πνεύματι, λαλοῦντες ἐαυτοῖς ψαλμοῖς καὶ ὕμνοις καὶ ψόαῖς πνευματικαῖς, ἄδοντες καὶ ψάλλοντες ἐν τῆ καρδία ὑμῶν τῷ Κυρίῳ.

Kontakion

The Savior's most pure and immaculate temple, the very precious bridal chamber and Virgin, who is the sacred treasure of the glory of God, on this day is introduced into the House of the Lord, and with herself she brings the grace in the divine Spirit. She is extolled by the Angels of God. A heavenly tabernacle is she.

EPISTLE Paul's Letter to the Ephesians (5: 8-19)

Brethren, walk as children of light (for the fruit of the Spirit is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it is said, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light." Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart.

Έκ τοῦ κατὰ Λουκᾶν ἁγίου Εὐαγγελίου (η' , 41-56)

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἄνθρωπός τις προσῆλθε τῷ Ίησοῦ ὧ ὄνομα Ἰάειρος, καὶ αὐτὸς ἄρχων τῆς συναγωγῆς ὑπῆρχε· καὶ πεσὼν παρὰ τοὺς πόδας τοῦ Ἰησοῦ παρεκάλει αὐτὸν εἰσελθεῖν εἰς τὸν οἶκον αὐτοῦ, ὅτι θυγάτηρ μονογενὴς ἦν αὐτῷ ὡς έτῶν δώδεκα, καὶ αὕτη ἀπέθνησκεν. Ἐν δὲ τῷ ὑπάγειν αὐτὸν οἱ ὄχλοι συνέπνιγον αὐτόν. καὶ γυνή οὖσα ἐν ῥύσει αἵματος ἀπὸ ἐτῶν δώδεκα, ήτις ίατροῖς προσαναλώσασα ὅλον τὸν βίον οὐκ ζοχυσεν ὑπ' οὐδενὸς θεραπευθῆναι, προσελθοῦσα ὅπισθεν ἡψατο τοῦ κρασπέδου τοῦ ἱματίου αὐτοῦ, καὶ παραχρῆμα ἔστη ἡ ῥύσις τοῦ αἵματος αὐτῆς. καὶ εἶπεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς· τίς ὁ άψάμενός μου; άρνουμένων δὲ πάντων εἶπεν ὁ Πέτρος καὶ οἱ σὺν αὐτῷ· ἐπιστάτα, οἱ ὄχλοι συνέχουσί σε καὶ ἀποθλίβουσι, καὶ λένεις τίς ὁ ὰψάμενός μου; ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν· ἤψατό μού τις· έγὼ γὰρ ἔγνων δύναμιν έξελθοῦσαν ἀπ' έμοῦ. ἰδοῦσα δὲ ἡ γυνὴ ὅτι οὐκ ἔλαθε, τρέμουσα ήλθε καὶ προσπεσοῦσα αὐτῷ δι' ἣν αἰτίαν ήψατο αὐτοῦ ἀπήγγειλεν αὐτῷ ἐνώπιον παντὸς τοῦ λαοῦ, καὶ ὡς ἰάθη παραχρῆμα. ὁ δὲ εἶπεν αὐτῆ· θάρσει, θύγατερ, ἡ πίστις σου σέσωκέ σε· πορεύου είς είρήνην. Έτι αὐτοῦ λαλοῦντος ἔρχεταί τις παρὰ τοῦ ἀρχισυναγώγου λέγων αὐτῷ ὅτι τέθνηκεν ἡ θυγάτηρ σου· μὴ σκύλλε τὸν διδάσκαλον. ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς ἀκούσας ἀπεκρίθη αὐτῷ λέγων· μὴ φοβοῦ· μόνον πίστευε, καὶ σωθήσεται. έλθὼν δὲ εἰς τὴν οἰκίαν οὐκ ἀφῆκεν είσελθεῖν οὐδένα εί μὴ Πέτρον καὶ Ἰωάννην καὶ Ίάκωβον καὶ τὸν πατέρα τῆς παιδὸς καὶ τὴν μητέρα. ἔκλαιον δὲ πάντες καὶ ἐκόπτοντο αὐτήν. ο δὲ εἶπε· μὴ κλαίετε· οὐκ ἀπέθανεν, ἀλλὰ καθεύδει. καὶ κατεγέλων αὐτοῦ, εἰδότες ὅτι ἀπέθανεν. αὐτὸς δὲ ἐκβαλὼν ἔξω πάντας καὶ κρατήσας τῆς χειρὸς αὐτῆς ἐφώνησε λέγων· ἡ παῖς, ἐγείρου. καὶ ἐπέστρεψε τὸ πνεῦμα αὐτῆς, καὶ ἀνέστη παραχρῆμα, καὶ διέταξεν αὐτῆ δοθῆναι φαγεῖν. καὶ ἐξέστησαν οἱ γονεῖς αὐτοῖς. ο δὲ παρήγγειλεν αὐτοῖς μηδενὶ εἰπεῖν τὸ γεγονός.

Holy Gospel according to St Luke (8:41-56)

At that time, there came to Jesus a man named Jairus, who was a ruler of the synagogue; and falling at Jesus' feet he besought him to come to his house, for he had an only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she was dying. As he went, the people pressed round him. And a woman who had had a flow of blood for twelve years and had spent all her living upon physicians and could not be healed by anyone, came up behind him, and touched the fringe of his garment; and immediately her flow of blood ceased. And Jesus said, "Who was it that touched me?" When all denied it, Peter and those who were with him said, "Master, the multitudes surround you and press upon you!" But Jesus said, "Some one touched me; for I perceive that power has gone forth from me." And when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling, and falling down before him declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been immediately healed. And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace." While he was still speaking, a man from the ruler's house came and said, "Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the Teacher any more." But Jesus on hearing this answered him, "Do not fear; only believe, and she shall be well." And when he came to the house, he permitted no one to enter with him. except Peter and John and James, and the father and mother of the child. And all were weeping and bewailing her; but he said, "Do not weep; for she is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. But taking her by the hand he called, saying, "Child, arise." And her spirit returned, and she got up at once; and he directed that something should be given her to eat. And her parents were amazed; but he charged them to tell no one what had happened.

Ευαγγελικό μήνυμα

Αναπητοί αδελφοί,

Σήμερα η Εκκλησία μας προβάλλει δύο θαυμαστά γεγονότα, που αποκαλύπτουν τη δύναμη της πίστεως και την άπειρη αγάπη του Κυρίου προς τον άνθρωπο. Ο Ιησούς πηγαίνει να βοηθήσει τον Ιάειρο, του οποίου η μονάκριβη κόρη πεθαίνει. Στον δρόμο, μία γυναίκα πονεμένη, εξαντλημένη από δώδεκα χρόνια αιμορραγίας, πλησιάζει κρυφά και αγγίζει το άκρο του ιματίου Του. Και αμέσως θεραπεύεται.

Τι ήταν αυτό που την έσωσε; Ο Χριστός το λέει ξεκάθαρα: «Ἡ πίστις σου σέσωκέ σε». Όχι η εξωτερική πράξη, όχι το άγγιγμα από μόνο του, αλλά η καρδιά της, που εμπιστεύτηκε ολοκληρωτικά τον Θεό. Αυτή η γυναίκα δεν πήγε με αμφιβολία, αλλά με βεβαιότητα ότι αρκεί και μια μόνο επαφή με τον Κύριο για να αλλάξει η ζωή της.

Την ίδια στιγμή, ο Ιάειρος πληροφορείται ότι το παιδί του πέθανε. Η απόγνωση τον συντρίβει. Μα ο Χριστός του λέει: «Μὴ φοβοῦ· μόνον πίστευε». Και η κόρη ανασταίνεται. Εκεί όπου ο άνθρωπος βλέπει τέλος, ο Θεός ανοίγει αρχή. Εκεί που βλέπουμε σκοτάδι, ο Χριστός φέρνει φως.

Αδελφοί μου, πολλές φορές η ζωή μας μοιάζει με την ασθένεια της γυναίκας ή τον πόνο του Ιαείρου. Υπάρχουν πληγές χρόνιες, απογοητεύσεις, φόβοι, απώλειες. Και τότε, ο λόγος του Χριστού απευθύνεται και σε μας: Μη φοβάσαι. Μόνο πίστευε.

Πίστη δεν σημαίνει απλά να πιστεύουμε ότι ο Θεός υπάρχει· σημαίνει να του εμπιστευόμαστε την καρδιά μας, τον πόνο μας, τη ζωή μας. Να απλώνουμε το χέρι μας προς Εκείνον με ταπείνωση και αγάπη. Ας Τον αφήσουμε, λοιπόν, να μας αγγίξει. Και τότε θα δούμε ότι πραγματικά «ή πίστις σώζει», ανασταίνει, θεραπεύει και φέρνει ειρήνη στις ψυχές μας. Αμήν.

Gospel message

Dear Brother and sisters in Christ.

Today's Gospel miracles hinged upon one thing, unwavering faith resulting in new life - the faith that saved a woman with the flow of blood, restoring her to life, and the faith of Jairus that raised his daughter from death to life is precisely this faith whose *substance* is Christ Himself, the hope of glory, the hope of resurrection to life eternal. Two miraculous events that reveal the power of faith and the infinite love of the Lord for all humans. Jesus goes to help Jairus, whose only daughter is dying. On the way, a woman in pain, exhausted by twelve years of bleeding, secretly approaches and touches the hem of His garment. And she is immediately healed.

What was it that saved her? Christ says it clearly: "Your faith has saved you." Not the external act, not the touch itself, but her heart, which trusted completely in God. This woman did not go with doubt, but with the certainty that even a single contact with the Lord is enough to change her life. At the same time, Jairus is informed that his child has died. Despair crushes him. But Christ says to him: "Do not be afraid; only believe." And the girl is resurrected. Where humans see an end, God opens a beginning. Where we see darkness, Christ brings light.

Many times our lives resemble the woman's illness or the pain of Jairus. There are chronic wounds, disappointments, fears, losses. And then, the word of Christ is addressed to us too: Do not be afraid. Only believe.

Faith does not simply mean believing that God exists; it means entrusting our heart, our pain, our life to Him. To reach out to Him with humility and love.

Dear friends, both miracles show us that faith overcomes fear and despair. Like Jairus and the woman, we are called to reach out in faith, trusting that Christ will touch us with His grace and lead us to new life in Him. Amen