

UKRAINIAN RESOURCES FOR THE DOMESTIC CHURCH THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

THE TRISAGION PRAYERS

Parents: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen. *(Three times)*

Response: Glory be to you, our God, glory be to You.

Parents: Heavenly King, Advocate, Spirit of Truth, Who are everywhere present and fill all things, Treasury of Blessings, Bestower of Life, come and dwell within us; cleanse us of all that defiles us, and O Good One, save our souls.

Children: Holy ✠ God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy on us. *(Three times)*

Glory be to the Father ✠ and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

Trinity most Holy, have mercy on us. Cleanse us of our sins, O Lord; Pardon our transgressions, O master; look upon our weaknesses and heal them, O Holy One; for the sake of Your name.

Lord, have mercy! *(Three times)*

Glory be to the Father ✠ and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION – TONE 1

Though the stone was sealed by the Jews and soldiers guarded Your most pure body,
You arose, O Savior, on the third day, and gave life to the world.
And so the heavenly powers cried out to You, O Giver of life:
Glory to Your resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Your kingdom!
Glory to Your saving plan, O only Lover of Mankind.

EPISTLE: 2 CORINTHIANS 6:1-10

The point is this: he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work. As it is written,

“He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor;
his righteousness endures for ever.”

He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your resources and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.¹

GOSPEL: LUKE 5:1 - 11

At that time it came to pass that Jesus went to a town called Naim; and his disciples and a large crowd went with him. And as he drew near the gate of the town, behold, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow; and a large gathering from the town was with her. And the Lord, seeing her, had compassion on her, and said to her, “Do not weep.” And he went up and touched the stretcher; and the bearers stood still. And he said, “Young man, I say to thee, arise.” And he who was dead, sat up, and began to speak. And he gave him to his mother. But fear seized upon all, and they began to glorify God, saying, “A great prophet has risen among us.” and “God has visited his people.”²

CATECHETICAL SUMMARY

Today the Church proclaims the inspirational story of the resurrection of the dead son, the only son, of the widow of Naim. It is one of Jesus' chief miracles. In the person of the widow we can see the most destitute, the most hopeless of people. In those days, a widow was left often times with no means of financial security – no means to provide the basic necessities of life. No means, that is, unless there is left to her a son who can look out for her and offer her protection.

Sadly, this widowed woman is the wife of a dead man and now the mother of a dead son – truly, she was bereft of hope. She was indeed in a hopeless state – a state of real need. And as Jesus comes to this woman to restore her dead son to life, the woman receives not

¹ Epistle Book, English (Apostolos): Bishop Joseph Raya, Alleluia Press, 1980

² Gospel Book, English: Bishop Joseph Raya, Alleluia Press, 1978

only her son but also the possibility of life for herself. It was for this reason, to restore life to a world in the stronghold of death, that Jesus was born of the Theotokos. It is for this reason, to give life back to mankind, that he was crucified, was buried and on the third day rose again.

The Church challenges us today to become a people formed in the image and likeness of Christ – a people whose sole identity is to give our life that others might live. Every aspect of our life, then, must be about giving of ourselves to those around us. And through giving of ourselves we proclaim in our actions the Good News of Jesus Christ.

PRACTICAL CHALLENGE QUESTIONS:

1. What are the different kinds of “needs” that people have?
2. Is there a way to be dead in our heart and yet alive in our body? If so, how can we become more like Jesus to those who are spiritually dead?
3. What are some practical ways in which we can help others who are in need?