

UKRAINIAN RESOURCES FOR THE DOMESTIC CHURCH THIRTY-FOURTH 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. Amen.

RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION - TONE 7

By Your cross You destroyed death;
You opened Paradise to the thief;
You changed the lamentation of the myrrh-bearers to joy,
and charged the Apostles to proclaim that You are risen,
O Christ, our God, offering great mercy to the world.

EPISTLE: 1 TIMOTHY 1:15 - 17

Brethren, the saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

GOSPEL: LUKE 18:35 - 43

Now as he approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. When he heard a crowd going by, he asked what was happening. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by."

Then he shouted, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Those who were in front sternly ordered him to be quiet; but he shouted even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"

Jesus stood still and ordered the man to be brought to him; and when he came near, he asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?"

He said, "Lord, let me see again."

Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has saved you." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, praised God.

CATECHETICAL SUMMARY

The blind man in today's Gospel offers us a powerful example of "holy boldness." He did not hesitate to cry out loudly to the Lord for mercy, despite being told by others to be quiet. His faith in Christ, and his awareness of his need for mercy would not allow him to be quiet. He knew that Christ had the authority to heal him, and believed that He would want him to be healed of his blindness, He did not let how he was perceived in the eyes of men to prevent Him from turning to the Lord and asking for his mercy.

The world wants us to think that our faith is best kept quiet, that is what is "respectable." We can believe what we want, as long as we "keep it to ourselves." We must not keep our faith to ourselves, however! Our faith in Christ is the greatest gift we have and we must not be afraid to share it with others. Let us not be ashamed to proclaim ourselves

Christians, and to proclaim the gift of mercy that God has given us.

Notice in the Gospel that the very people that had told the blind man to be quiet, however, were moved after the Lord healed him, and they also praised God. When are willing to praise God publicly, we often remind others of the importance of thanking God, and embolden them to do so with us.

Challenge Questions:

1. Do I pray in public, such as before a meal in a restaurant or the school cafeteria, or when having a friend over for dinner at my home? If I do not, why is that?
2. What is something that God has done for me that I want to thank him for?
3. Do my friends know that I am a Christian? If they do not, what is a small thing that I can do to share the gift of my faith with them?