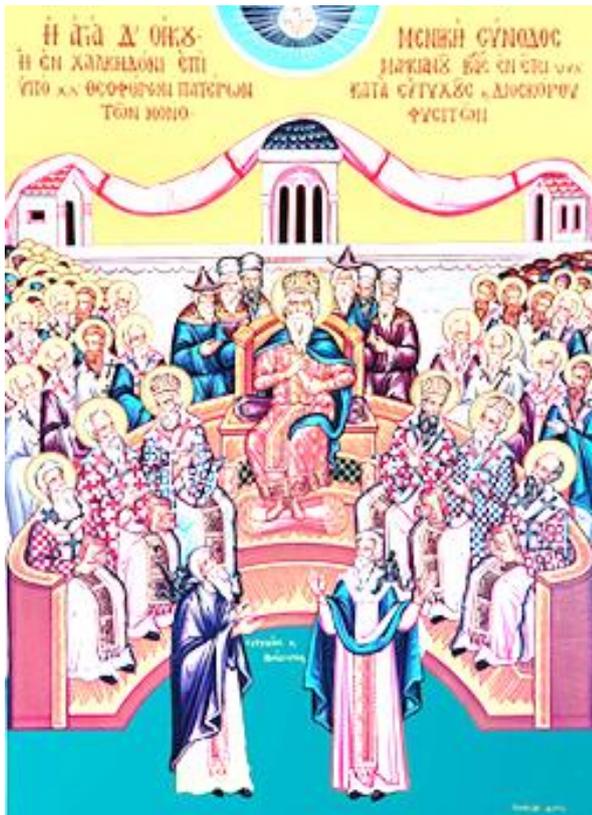




PARISH BULLETIN

HOLY ARCHANGHEL MICHAEL'S ROMANIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

No. 169/14 July 2019



Fourth Sunday after Pentecost; Holy Fathers of the Fourth Ecumenical Synod

Resurrectional Apolytikion. Mode 3.

Let the heavens rejoice, and let things on earth be glad, for the Lord hath wrought might with His arm; He hath trampled upon death by death; He hath become the first-born of the dead. From the bowels of Hades hath

He delivered us, and hath granted great mercy to the world.

Seasonal Kontakion. Mode 2.

O Protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant: O despise not the supplicant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

Prokeimenon. Mode Plagal 2. Psalm 31.11,1

Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, O righteous.
Verse: Blessed are they whose transgressions have been forgiven.

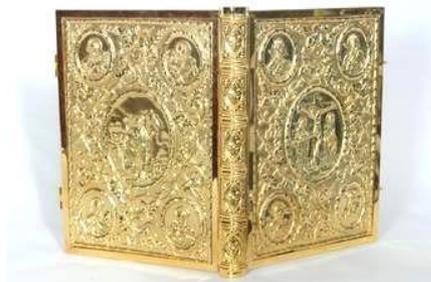
The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to Titus
3:8-15

Titus, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are

excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned.

When I send Artemas or Tychicos to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful.

All who are with me send greeting to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.



**The Gospel According to
The Holy Evangelist Matthew 8:5-13**
Now when Jesus had entered
Capernaum, a centurion came to
Him, pleading with Him,

⁶ saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented."

⁷ And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him."

⁸ The centurion answered and said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed.

⁹ "For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this *one*, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does *it*."

¹⁰ When Jesus heard *it*, He marveled, and said to those who followed, "Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!

¹¹ "And I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven.

¹² "But the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

¹³ Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go your way; and as you have believed, so let it be done for you." And his servant was healed that same hour.

(Mat 8:5-13 NKJ)



Word of the week – Reflection Glorious Prophet Elias (July 20th)

Speaking with brother Theoktistos from Epirus on 20 July 1972, he asked me if I heard of the wondrous miracle that occurred fifteen years ago in Ioannina to a soldier who was stationed to guard the barracks. I told him I had not heard it and asked him to tell me so that I could write it down to the glory of the Prophet Elias (Elijah) who celebrates today.

"Listen", he told me. "A soldier was stationed to guard a barrack and at around midnight he heard the footsteps of a person approaching him. The soldier thought it was an officer who, as is customary, went to go check to see if he was awake or sleeping, etc. The soldier yelled: 'Halt!' but again heard the steps approaching him. For a second time he yelled: 'Halt! Who's there?' Having his weapon in hand, he received no response. He was then forced to say: 'Halt or I'll shoot!'

"As soon as he said 'shoot', his weapon left his hands, and landed about fifty meters away. He then saw suddenly, instead of an officer, as he thought it would be, a priest with a lightning-like brightness of light! When he saw this, he was very much afraid. The priest told him: 'Do not be afraid, my child, do not be afraid, but tell me, why O blessed one do you blaspheme the divine? Christ, the Panagia and the Saints?'

"Feeling remorse, he began to tear up and asked forgiveness for his sin,

saying: 'Forgive me, holy Father, but it is because of my evil and many years of bad habits that I do this. Forgive me.'

"The Saint told him: 'You are to preach to everyone to repent, and to not blaspheme. Communicate this to the Metropolis and to everybody. Even the newspapers should publish this.'

"The soldier responded: 'They will not believe me, O Saint. But tell me, who are you?'

"I am the Prophet Elias. And so that the people will believe you more, you will tell them at that cliff (and he pointed to the area) they are to dig and they will find an old church of mine and on top of this they are to build a church.'

"He went and related this to the entire city and it was distributed in all the local newspapers. Many believed and changed their lives. The association of bakers, who honor the Prophet Elias as their patron, dug at the cliff which was indicated to them, and they uncovered an old church and built a new one to the glory and honor of the Prophet Elias.

"The soldier changed many lives and the bad habits of people, and lived the rest of his life as a role model of a good Christian."

Through the prayers of Thy Holy Prophet Elias, have mercy on us O Lord. Amen.- *Monk Lazarus of Dionysiou; translated by John Sanidopoulos*



Liturgical Schedule for this week

Wednesday <i>July 17</i>	6:00 pm	Paraklesis
Friday <i>July 19</i>	6:00 pm	Vespers & Lytia (Prophet Elijah)
Saturday <i>July 20</i>	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Divine Liturgy (Prophet Elijah) & Memorial Vespers
Sunday <i>July 21</i>	8:30 am 9:30 am	Matins Divine Liturgy



Announcements:

- **St. George's Greek Orthodox** Festival Today (55 North St, Southbridge) from 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm!
- **St. John the Baptist Romanian Orthodox Church Festival** at Woonsocket, RI (20th Saturday: 4:00pm-11pm & the 21st Sunday 12:30pm -7:00 pm).
- **Coffee hour** is sponsored Sam & Debbie Yanka.



16 Romanian Avenue, Southbridge, Massachusetts, 01550, P.O. Box 823 (508) 765-5276
www.stmichaelorthodox.com