

birth to the miracle, both for the beloved servant, and for the beloved master, but also for all those who with a good disposition are informed and partake in their joy.

To all of us, my brethren, our good God has granted us not one word, but an ocean of words, works and teachings, with the gift of the Old and the New Testament, with the preaching and the teaching of the God-bearing Fathers of the Church, with the experience and the examples of the holy Martyrs and Monastic Saints of our faith. Let us turn the ears of our hearts and bodies, listening to these words, the authentic and saving truth, and let us cease giving ground for the activity, by deifying miracle-workers “false christ’s and false prophets,” who, let us note, may deceive, even the elect.

Archim. A. A.

**SUNDAY JULY 10 2022 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF MATTHEW 45**

*Holy Martyrs of Nikopolis, Armenia, Our Holy Father Gregory, Bishop of Assa, Parthenios and Eumenios of Koudoumas , 10,000 Fathers martyred in Egypt , Apollonios the Martyr , Deposition of the Precious Robe of Our Lord Jesus Christ in Moscow , Righteous Father Anthony of the Kiev Caves*

**TONE OF THE WEEK** : Third Tone

**EOTHINON** : Fourth Eothinon

**EPISTLE READING** : St. Paul’s Letter to Romans 6:18-23

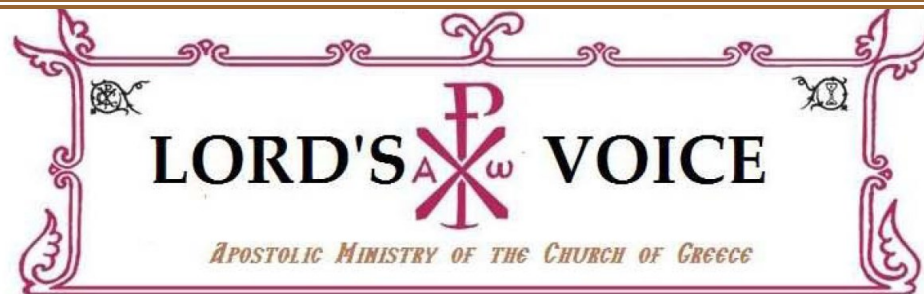
**GOSPEL READING** : Matthew 8: 5 - 13

**SUNDAY JULY 17 2022 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF MATTHEW**

Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the 4th Ecumenical Council. he Holy Great Martyr Marina (Margaret), Veronika & Speratos the Martyrs, Holy Royal Martyrs of Russia , Kenelm, Prince of Mercia.

**EPISTLE READING** : St. Paul’s Letter to Titus 3: 8-15

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



70<sup>TH</sup> YEAR JULY 10 2022

PAMPHLET # 28

(3606)

## THE YOUNG PERSON

Today we are evangelically observing the agony of a ruler of the Jewish community for the restoration of the health of his very beloved servant, who was being tortured by a very painful illness. The centurion, an officer, socially, materially and financially, had authority over a multitude of people, he could impose his desires in various ways. Now however, he sees how finite his powers and capabilities are. Now he realizes that he is small, very slight before the illness and its consequences.

### Great with the grace of God

From the discussion with Jesus, we conclude that the centurion, sunk in the furnace of trials, is benefited in soul, he is humbled, and before the doctor of souls and bodies, he admits his weakness. He fervently longs for the healing of his “child” and recognizes that only Jesus is able to grant him this gift. He confesses his unworthiness and declares himself miniscule for the great visitor to visit him, begging him, with one word, to give healing to his very beloved servant.

## THE SUNDAY GOSPEL MATTHEW 8:5-13

At that time, as Jesus entered Capernaum, a centurion came forward to him, beseeching him and saying, "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, in terrible distress." And he said to him, "I will come and heal him." But the centurion answered him, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and he does it." When Jesus heard him, he marveled, and said to those who followed him, "Truly, I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such faith. I tell you, many will come from east and west and sit at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth." And to the centurion Jesus said, "Go; be it done for you as you have believed." And the servant was healed at that very moment.

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"While Jesus wondered", as we heard today. He admired his faith, and we simultaneously admire all these gifts of God. Gifts that adorn the person who humbles himself and forebears, and they instantaneously make him - with the power of the gift-giving Christ-, a fiery preacher of his godhead, a witness of his wonders, a true theologian, who teaches all of us, through his attitude, which is handed down to us today in the gospel.

## A saving change

It is very possible, that a little while before, the centurion, due to the haughtiness which positions give birth to, like the one that he possessed, that he considered not himself, but most of his fellow human beings – and furthermore, those lesser ones socially - unworthy not just to enter into his home, but even for them to approach it, and to even address him in a word. Pain, however, acts, as we see, therapeutically in his heart, it chases away that little worm of egotism, and smooths man down in soul. Then he begins to prepare for his meeting with Jesus, who knows the appropriate circumstance, in order to knock on the door of the life of each one personally, granting the cure, not only to the poor sick servant, but also to his master, inaugurating from here on, a distinct view of life, and offering a therapeutic medicine for all the human hypostasis.

However, the theological preaching of the centurion, continues edifying also, through his phrase: "Say one word and my "child" will be healed." A sermon that is a balsam and antidote to the apostacy of our age. We are living at a time when many people who imagine themselves pious and believers, seek miracles and signs, foretellings and prophecies, supposed big words and signs, in order for us to believe, for us to supposedly spread the majesty of our faith. Unfortunately, we forget that this precisely is a sign of the times, that, in other words, we forgot and expelled the simplicity from our life, in which the majesty of real faith in the true God is hidden. "wherever there is the mystery of the cry, there is the stillness of God", the godbearer Ignatius proclaims. "Say one word, my Christ", and this will give