

ANNOUNCEMENTS – ОГОЛОШЕННЯ

OCTOBER 27: \$1,207; Building Fund: \$20 Coffee: \$38

OCTOBER: General: **\$3,990**; Building Fund: **\$1,455**; Coffee: **\$260**

NOVEMBER 3: \$637; Building Fund: \$200 Coffee: N/A

BUILDING FUND: An anonymous donor (and non-parishioner) is donating **\$15,000** to our building fund this week to help us finalize our application to the City of Santee for a Conditional Use Permit. While we wait for our loan to clear the application process with Providence Association, we can still submit the last round of documents. We need an extra \$5,000 or to submit. Who can step up and help us cover this amount? We need **YOU!**

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR BUILDING: Olga M. & Myra H. will have icons and other religious items available for sale in December in time for Christmas. ALL proceeds will go towards our building fund!

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS: Our parish will once again host a Christmas Eve Supper (Свят Вечір). Save the Date! December 24th!

Наші стосунки з ближніми цілковито будуються на наших стосунках з Богом. Коли ми вірні Богові, маємо глибокі стосунки з Богом, то так само маємо вірні, правильні, глибокі стосунки з нашими ближніми.

Коли ми не маємо щирих стосунків з Господом, то ми ніколи не будемо щирих стосунків з людьми. Можемо лише намагатися будувати, вдавати такі стосунки, але в будь-яких непередбачуваних ситуаціях вони можуть дуже похитнутись. Саме це наше життя, буття з Богом дає нам бачення і спроможність правильно будувати наше життя-буття з ближніми.

Тому намагаймося вкоренитися в Господі. Тільки так зможемо змінюватися, та змінювати свої стосунки з іншими і світ довкола себе.

Владика Венедикт (Алексійчук)

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ST. JOHN THE BAPTIZER

Українська Католицька Церква

Weekly Bulletin

Nov. 10, 2019 • 22nd Sunday after Pentecost • 22-ра Неділя по Зісланні Св. Духа



Divine Liturgy:

Every Sunday at 10:30 AM

Temporary Physical Address:

3266 Nutmeg St.
San Diego, CA 92104

Temporary Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 3116
La Mesa, CA 91941

Confessions:

30 minutes before or immediately after
Divine Liturgy, or by appointment

Parish Administrator:

Fr. Yuri Sas - о. Юрій Сас

Cell: (917) 224-0904

Websites:

www.stjohnthebaptizer.org

www.buildyourchurch.org

Future Church Address:

9308 Carlton Oaks Dr.
Santee, CA 92071

Upcoming Services - Розклад Богослужень

November 17th: Divine Liturgy - Божественна Літургія – 10:30 am

November 24th: Divine Liturgy - Божественна Літургія – 10:30 am

Thanksgiving: Thursday, November 28th

O God from before the ages, send down on us from the heights of heaven Your Holy Wisdom. Enlighten our minds through Her. May God's Wisdom lead us along the paths of truth; may She keep us from falsehood and deceit.

A Prayer of Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky for Divine Wisdom
Молитва Митрополита Андрея Шептицького за Божу Мудрість

Предвічний Боже, зішли на нас з високого неба Твою Святу Мудрість. Просвіти нею наші уми. Нехай Божа Мудрість поведе нас дорогами правди. Нехай стереже нас від ложі й обману.

Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus

In the Gospel reading of “the rich man and Lazarus” we hear a parable describing an unnamed rich man living a very lavish lifestyle. A lifestyle so lavish, it consisted of having the finest clothing, the finest food and the finest materialistic possessions one could have during those times. It almost seems the rich man was living the dream many of us dream of today, especially if we end up winning the lottery. Basically, the rich man was living a care free life only caring for himself and no one else. On the other hand, the parable begins to describe a man completely opposite of the rich man. This man being Lazarus lies poor and diseased before the entry gate of the rich man’s dwelling, so poor that he desires “to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man’s table” (Luke 19:21). In the end both men faced what each and every one of us will have to face one day and that is death.

According to the parable when both men died they both ended up in very different places. But why? In the preceding few verses before this parable in Luke 16: 1-13, Christ goes into great detail in teaching His disciples about the stewardship of wealth. First we learn that we are not masters of our own money, for we have nothing that is our own. We are merely stewards of things that belong to another, namely, our divine Master, who entrusted those things into our hands so that we might use them well and as He directs. For it is the will of the Master that we use what has been given to us for the needs of our fellow servants and not for our own pleasures.

Therefore, being entrusted by God with wealth, the rich man used his riches not according to God’s will which would have gone toward helping poor Lazarus, but instead he used it to fulfill his own desires and pleasures. By doing so the rich man ends up in hades tormented and in pain, but Lazarus who was tormented in pain in this physical world is now comforted in the “bosom of Abraham.” The rich man in this parable represents each and every one of us today. Many of us of course don’t live the lifestyle or have the wealth that the rich man had, but in reality compared to other countries around the world such as Ethiopia, Uganda and Bangladesh we cannot say that we are poor either.

Today we have surrounded and spoiled ourselves not only through monetary wealth, but through technological wealth as well. So many of us, especially our youth are obsessed with social media, such as; facebook, twitter, cell-phones, laptops, hi-def televisions, etc...

In the end, monetary wealth or technological has led many to lose their focus on their spiritual formation and relationship with Christ. As a result, our hearts and minds end up cold like the rich man and we begin to become indifferent to those who are in need. At the same time this parable should not be focused on only those who possess material wealth, but it exemplifies how each of us either rich or poor should have human compassion to those who are in need. How many of us have encountered a homeless person on the street? What is the first reaction or thought that comes to our mind? Usually we pre-judge, we tell ourselves mentally: “That person doesn’t need any money. He looks healthy. He’s probably an alcoholic or on drugs.”

This might sound familiar to many of us and usually in the end we try as much as possible to avoid that person all together. Unfortunately, every time we freely choose to ignore someone if it’s on a sidewalk or someone who needs our financial assistance, we are in reality ignoring Lazarus before the gate of the rich man and Jesus Christ himself.

For in the end of days Christ will say to some of us “Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me...” “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’ (Mt. 25:34-40).

In the end, Abraham is telling the rich man “you had your chance, you had the chance during your earthly life to follow God’s commandments and instructions given to Moses and the prophets, but you decided to ignore them and as a result you must now suffer the consequences.” For the rich man it is too late, he has squandered and misused his wealth not according to God’s will but to his own will. But for his brothers they still have a chance, they have a chance to turn to God, to learn from their mistakes and to help those who are in need. The same can be said about us today. Today we have more than Moses and the prophets; we have the teachings of Jesus Christ, His New Testament and the teachings of his disciples. Do we choose to truly listen, exemplify and follow the teachings and commandments of our Lord? Do we choose spiritual wealth over material and technological wealth? The choice is ours. What will you choose? - *Fr. Victor Wronskyj*