

THE CHURCH MONTHLY BULLETIN.

THE XXVI-TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST.

DUMINICA A XXVI-A DUPA RUSALII.
(Pilda bogatului caruia i-a rodit tarina)

Pilda bogatului caruia i-a rodit tarina ne-o spune Domnul Iisus Hristos spre intelegerea bogatilor, si pentru a-i invata pe oameni sa nu doreasca a avea multe bogatii. Morala ei este aceea ca, cel ce nu se imbogateste in Dumnezeu, va pati ca bogatul. Acesta, in loc sa faca milostenie din prisosul roadelor lui, se gandea numai la el si era stapinit de dorinta de a trai o viata de belsug, mai presus de trebuinta, de a-si mari hambarele si de a aduna numai pentru el. Iata de ce Domnul Iisus Hristos l-a numit nebun. Omul acela din pilda, stapinea o mosie. Din mosia lui avea intotdeauna recolte. Intr-un an insa, recolta se prevedea ca va fi mult mai mare decat de obicei si omul a intrat la griji. Ingrijorarea aceasta l-a dus la gandul ca ar fi bine sa darame magaziiile care le avea si sa le faca mai mari, si acolo sa adune tot ce a rodit tarina. Era un gand de viitor, doar un gand, era un gand prezent pentru viitor. Un gand pe care, de fapt, nici n-a ajuns sa si-l implineasca. Era ceva ce privea viitorul. Toate acestea erau de fapt spuse numai in gand, erau niste ganduri ale unui om pe care Dumnezeu l-a numit nebun.

Bogatul a fost numit nebun de insusi Dumnezeu. Omeneste vorbind, am putea zice ca omul acesta era un om intept. Si totusi, Dumnezeu l-a numit nebun. De ce? Pentru ca era egoist, se gandea numai la el, nu se gandea la Dumnezeu, Care i-a dat mai multe bogatii, nu se gandea la oamenii care puteau fi ajutati din prisosul lui. Nu se gandea ca s-ar putea sa treaca din viata aceasta. A fost numit nebun pentru niste ganduri neimplinite.

Trebuie sa stim si altceva, si anume ca daca prin ganduri omul poate sa cada, tot prin ganduri omul poate sa se ridice. Mai intai trebuie cercetat gandul care ne vine in minte. Cum se face cercetarea gandurilor? Sfantul Antonie cel Mare a fost ontreat ce anume trebuie sa faca un om ca sa-i placa lui Dumnezeu? Si el a raspuns : « Oriunde vei merge sa ai in fata ochilor tai pe Dumnezeu; in orice vei face sa ai marturie din dumnezeiestile scripturi si sa nu te muti degraba din locul tau »

Mai intai de toate, sa nu uitam ca gandurile au insemnatate, ca pot fi ganduri bune si pot fi ganduri rele; ca gandurile rele duc la rau, iar gandurile bune duc la bine. Ori de cate ori avem ganduri rele in sufletul nostru, suntem intinati, si atunci avem datoria sa ne curatim mintea prin rugaciunea de toata vremea. Sa fim incredintati ca Dumnezeu ne ajuta si ne miluieste pe toti. Amin!

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Let us take a closer look at this parable. Jesus begins by saying: "The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully". Sometimes a fatal accident happens in grain elevators. A worker gets buried under a mountain of wheat. Something of the sort happened to this rich farmer. His real life was

buried under a huge avalanche of crops. The rich farmer continues his conversation: "Soul, you have ample goods..." His "ample goods" gave him a false sense of security. He did not need God. He did not need prayer, for he had so much else. He felt his riches to be his bulwark against all evil.

But God insists that this man was a fool. He was a fool because he was preoccupied with lesser things. Lesser things? Us making a living a lesser thing? Yes, lesser than finding a purpose. Is thinking about building bigger barns and increasing one's soul and the world around us lesser? The wealth that counts in God's eyes is accumulated by a soul that has learned to pray; by a conscience that is clear; by a life that is dedicated to Him, who owns the land on both sides of the river; by a soul that has sought and received God's forgiveness; by a person, who believes that all the barns he owns are really God's, given to him as a trust to be used not only for oneself, but also for others.

As St. Paul wrote to Timothy: "As for the rich in this world, charge them not to be haughty, not to set their hopes on uncertain riches, but on God who richly furnishes us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good deeds, liberal and generous, thus laying up for themselves a good foundation for the future so that they may take hold of the life which is life indeed". Amen!

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Nativity Fast - Postul Craciunului.

A Time to Repent: All faithful are encouraged to plan ahead how they are going to fast. Embarking on fasting as a physical and spiritual act, entails some degree to mental and logistic preparation. The best way to begin is to come to Confession. It is there that we discuss our difficulties and our prayer life with our Spiritual Father, recommit ourselves to God in his witness and receive objective guidance to renew our life in Christ. Let us not marginalize our preparation for Christ's Birth only to cleaning the externals of our life (such as house, clothing, gifts, Christmas tree, etc.), but first and foremost, our own souls.

Un Timp sa ne Pocaim: Toti enoriasii sunt indemnati sa isi faca planul cum vor posti. A te imbarca in actul postirii adevarate, atat fizic cat si duhovniceste necesita o anumita pregatire mentala si practica. Cel mai bun inceput este Spovedania. Acolo discutam cu Duhovnicul incercarile si viata noastra de rugaciune, ne re-daruim Domnului in fata acestuia, primind indrumari obiective despre felul cum de cuvine sa ne reinnoim viata in Hristos. Sa nu limitam pregatirea noastra pentru nasterea lui Hristos numai la lucrurile externe (curatenie, haine, daruri, etc.), ci sa ne ingrijim mai ales de sufletul nostru.

A Time to Pray : The Lord teaches us to « pray unceasingly ». During this Christmas Advent, let us rededicate ourselves not only to daily prayer and reading of the Bible, but also to an active contribution to the public services of the Church.

Un Timp sa ne Rugam: Domnul ne cere sa ne rugam « neincetat ». In timpul postului ce se apropie sa ne rededicam si noi rugaciunii, nu numai spunand zilnic rugaciunile sau citind Biblia, ci mai ales luand parte la rugaciunea Bisericii.

A Time to Turn Our Life Around : The Sunday Liturgy requires the presence and loving response of every member of the mystical Body of Christ. During this Christmas Advent, let us change any

poor habits of sin which mar our life, especially that of being absent, late or indifferent to Christ's invitation to attend the great Supper of the Church - The Divine Liturgy.

***Un Timp sa ne Schimbam Viata:** Liturghia de Duminica necesita participarea si raspunsul dragostei fiecarui membru al Trupului tainic al lui Hristos. In timpul acestui Post, sa ne schimbam si noi obiceiurile rele si pacatele ce ne umbresc, mai ales cel al absentei, al intirzierii sau indiferentei fata de chemarea lui Hristos de a lua parte la Cina cea de Taina sau Liturghia Bisericii.*

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**ENTRANCE INTO THE TEMPLE OF THE
MOST HOLY MOTHER OF GOD.
(November 21-st)**

Together with the entire Church, we celebrate today the Entrance into the Temple of the Mother of God. On this day, Joachim and Anna bring their daughter to the Temple. When the child is three years old, and able to live without her mother, the parents fulfill the vow that they had made at her birth: they consecrate Mary to God.

Mary remained and grew up in the Temple, dividing her time between work, study and contemplation of the Most High. At about the age of fifteen, she was betrothed to Joseph and left Jerusalem for Nazareth. It was there that she was visited by the angel bearing the "Good News".

The Church has chosen to place this Feast at the beginning of Advent, a time when we relive the expectation of the Messiah by the Jewish people. Mary represents all of Israel: in her person, she realizes the expectation and fulfills the promise. The image of Mary's surpassing all the angelic orders appears again in the sung during the Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom and repeated at every service: "It is truly meet to bless You, O Theotokos, ever blessed and most pure, and the Mother of our God..."

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SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS: - Our Sunday School coordinator, Mrs. **Carmen Ognean** is sending a heartfelt "Thank You" to all the Ladies of our Ladies Club under the direction of Mrs. **Mirela Colgiu** and to all Ladies who came and helped as day and night for our Annual **Bazaar** , - baking, cooking, washing, etc. – They had worked very hard, but their love had conquered all the obstacles, making this annual Bazaar a successful one. Thank you to all our angels! May God bless them always with good health and joy!

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COMING EVENTS: - Joi, 21 Nov. 2013: - *Intrarea in Biserica a Maicii Domnului - The Entrance into the Temple of the Holy Mother of God, (Dezlegare la peste). Divine Liturgy starts at 10:00 a.m. You are invited to attend.*

- Sat. Nov. 23-rd, 2013: - *Holy Confessions, at 5:00 p.m. – Dezlegare la peste.*
- Luni, 25 Nov. 2013: - *Sf. Mare Mc. Ecaterina, - dezlegare la peste -*
- Sat. Nov. 30-th, 2013: - *Sf. Ap. Andrei, cel intai chemat, Ocrotitorul Romaniei. Sf. slujbe incep la orele 9 :00 a.m.*
- Sun. Dec. 1-st, 2013 : - ***Ziua Nationala a Romaniei; program cultural in Auditpriul Catedralei, indata dupa Sf. slujbe. Sunteti invitati a lua parte.***
- Sun. Dec. 8-th, 2013 : - ***St. Nicholas Fish Dinner, in our Auditorium. Plan to join us!***
- Sun. Dec. 15-th, 2013: - ***Sunday School Christmas Concert. All are invited to attend. Bring our Sunday School students to meet Santa! A Luncheon will be served.***

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STEFAN HRUSCA, IN CONCERT IN OUR CATHEDRAL: - *Dorim sa anuntam ca marele interpret si rapsod popular, **Stefan Hrusca**, va fi present in mijlocul nostru pe **23 Decembrie 2013**. Concertul de colinde va avea loc in Catedrala noastra, la orele 7:30 p.m. Va invitam sa Va rezervati aceasta seara si sa luati parte la acest Concert. Mai multe detalii vor urma in legatura cu acest eveniment cultural si religios. Va multumim!*

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IMPORTANT NOTE : - *Getting near to the end of this year, we would like to remind you about fulfilling your financial duties toward our Cathedral. Please, see our Church office.*

- *Dprim sa Va reamintim acum spre sfirsit de an de datoria fiecaruia dintre noi de a ne achita obligatia financiara catre Catedrala noastra. Va multumim din inima pentru intelegerea si cooperarea in acest sens. Va rugam luati legatura cu Oficiul Parohial.*

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