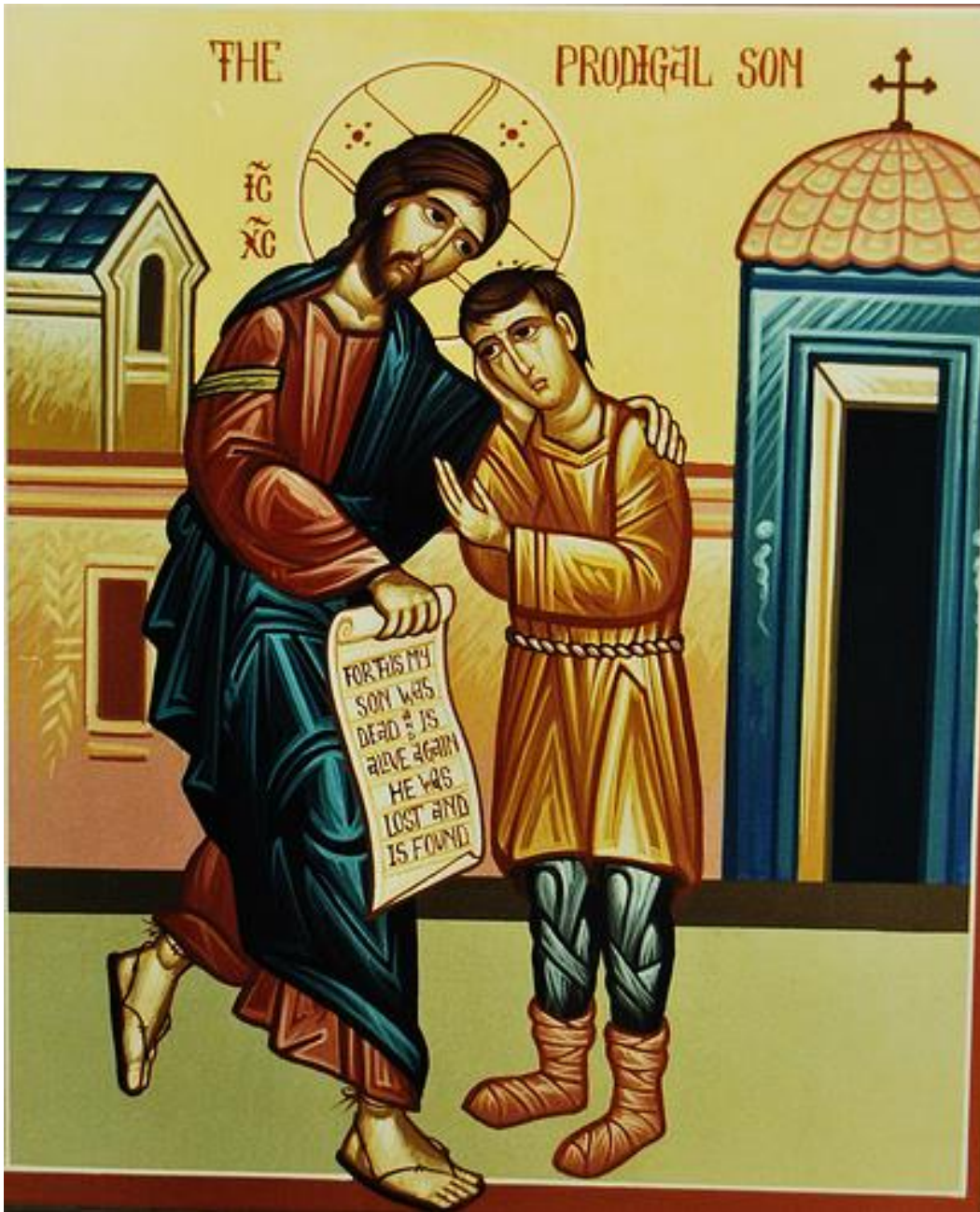


# SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE



The Prodigal Son

FEBRUARY 20, 2022

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church  
250 Gallows Hill Road, Westfield, New Jersey 07090  
908.233.8533 [www.holytrinitywestfield.org](http://www.holytrinitywestfield.org)

Rev. Fr. Peter Delvizi, Presiding Priest  
[Live streaming of services](#)

CHRIST IS IN OUR MIDST! HE IS AND EVER SHALL BE!  
Ο ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΕΝ ΤΩ ΜΕΣΩ ΗΜΩΝ! ΚΑΙ ΗΝ ΚΑΙ ΕΣΤΙ ΚΑΙ ΕΣΤΑΙ!

Sunday of the Prodigal Son  
Our Righteous Father St. Leo, Bishop of Catania the Wonderworker;  
St. Sadok the Hieromartyr and the 128 with him

Second Tone Ηχος β'

*Click links for Scripture Readings*

Morning Gospel:	<a href="#">St. Mark 16:1-8</a>	<a href="#">Ελληνικά</a>
Epistle Reading:	<a href="#">1 Corinthians 6:12-20</a>	<a href="#">Ελληνικά</a>
Gospel Reading:	<a href="#">St. Luke 15:11-32</a>	<a href="#">Ελληνικά</a>

**Apolytikion of the Resurrection:** “When you descended to the realm of death, You as life immortal, rendered to Hades a mortal blow by Your all radiant divinity. And when You from internal depths and the darkness below did raise the dead all the hosts of heaven’s powers did proclaim and cry out O life-giving Christ and our God we give glory.”

**Apolytikion of the Church:** “Blessed are You, O Christ our Lord and God, You who made all wise the fishermen Your Apostles, sending down upon them Your Spirit, which is Holy and through their work drawing the world into Your net, glory to You Who loves mankind.”

**Kontakion:** “Foolishly, I sprang away\* from Thy great fatherly glory,\* and dispersed in wicked deeds\* the riches that Thou didst give me.\* With the Prodigal I therefore\* cry unto Thee now:\* I have sinned against Thee, O compassionate Father.\* But receive me in repentance;\* make me as one of\* Thy hired servants, O Lord.”

### Altar Donations

**Altar Candles** February 18 in memory of Elena Micu†, 9 days

**Altar Candles:** in memory of Polemnia Andrews†

**Vigil Light:** in memory of Christine Kyreakakis†

**Large Candles:** in memory of Christine Kyreakakis† from Clem and Angela Thomas



## *Sacraments and Rites*



### *Liturgical Schedule*

Saturday, February 26, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of Souls, Α΄ Ψυχοσάββατον Divine Liturgy and Memorial Service, 9:00 AM

Sunday, February 27, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Saturday, March 5, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of Souls, Β΄ Ψυχοσάββατον Divine Liturgy and Memorial Service, 8:00 AM

### **Memorial**

Your prayers are requested this morning at the memorial service for Christine Kyreakakis✝, 40 days. Eternal be her memory.

### **The Parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32)**

The Parable of the Prodigal Son is given by St. Luke only and is preceded by two short parables of the lost sheep (15:1-7) and the lost drachma (15:8-10). The pharisees and scribes condemned the Lord Jesus Christ because He welcomed sinners and ate with them. For this reason, the Lord told this parable to illustrate the joy in heaven when a sinner repents.

A certain man had two sons. The man is a symbol of God. The younger son evidently of age but lacking in experience and wisdom, asks his father for his portion of inheritance – 1/3 according to the law (Deut. 21). After receiving it, he decided to live independently, according to his own whims and left to a far-off country where he wasted his inheritance in a profligate life. Soon after, a severe famine struck the land. He was in desperate need and even ate pig fodder.

Then the young son “came to his senses”. The heavy consequences of sin, together with external calamities, force him finally to wake up, and his sober reason returned to him. Seeing and understanding the hopelessness of his situation, he looks for a way out. “I will arise and go to my father” – this is the decision of the sinner to leave his sin and repent. “I have sinned against heaven, and before you” – that is disdaining his loving father. “I am no longer worthy to be called your son.” This is an expression of profound humility and a confession of his unworthiness, both of which always accompany true repentance in a sinner. “Make me like one of your hired servants” is an expression of

deep love for the house and the hearth of the father and agreement to submit to the heaviest conditions for reception into the father's house.

The remainder of the parable is meant to illustrate the limitless love of God to a repentant sinner, His forgiveness of all, and that joy which, according to Christ, is heard in heaven at the repentance of even one sinner. The father seeing his son returning from



a distance, and not even knowing what his inner disposition is, runs to meet him, embrace him, and kisses him, not even allowing him to finish his words that he has already contemplated saying. Instead, he orders him to be dressed in the best clothes and prepare a feast in honor of his return. All these are symbols taken from everyday life that illustrate how God, with love for every repentant sinner, mercifully accepts his repentance and gives him new spiritual goods and gifts, instead of those he wasted through sin. For the sinner “was dead and is alive again.”

The elder brother, angry at his father for his mercy is a vivid image of the scribes and Pharisees, proud in their exact and strict fulfillment of the Law, but cold and heartless in their soul when it comes to loving their brothers; praising themselves in doing the will of God, but not desiring to have any communication with the repentant publicans and sinners. Just as he “was angry and would not go in,” so the meticulous fulfillers of the Law were angry at the Lord Jesus Christ for His close association with repentant sinners. Instead of rejoicing with the father and the younger brother, the elder beings to announce his own merits, not even desiring to call his younger sibling “brother”; instead, disdainfully calling him “this son of yours.”

“You are always with me, and all that I have is yours.” With these words, the Lord indicates that the Pharisees, in whose hands the Law is kept, always had free access to God and His spiritual benefits, but they cannot receive the good will of the Heavenly Father when they have such a twisted and cruel spiritual and moral disposition.

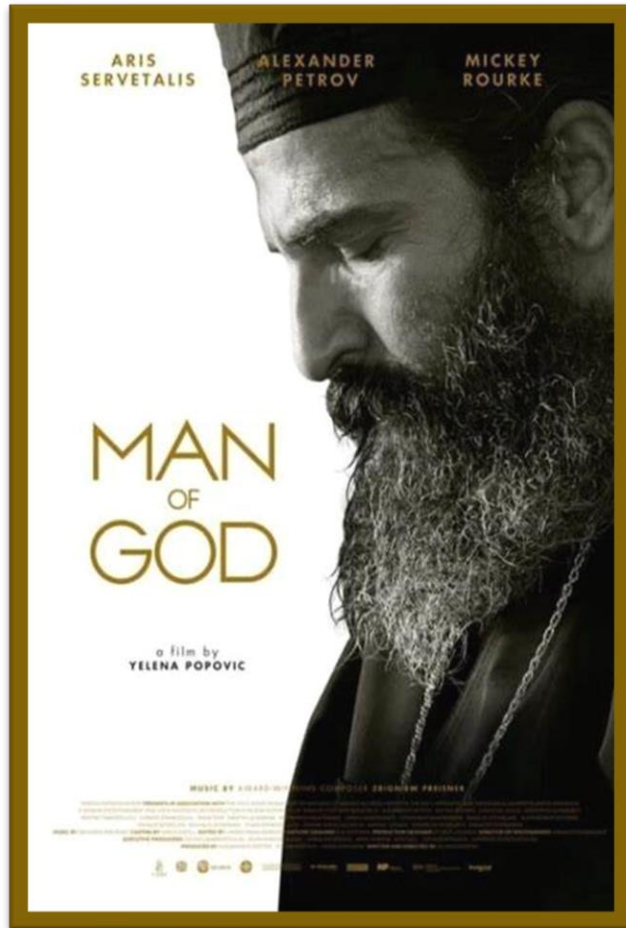


Praying for someone else is known as an intercessory prayer. It calls upon God’s goodness and mercy to bless the body and the soul of another person. In these prayers we ask for inspiration and instruction, as well as for healing and salvation.

To understand intercessory prayer, one must remember the eternal providence of God. It is difficult for the human to grasp but it is nevertheless true that the Almighty God knows all things eternally and takes into consideration each act of man in His overall plan. With this perspective one can then see that even before the creation of the world, God has heard, or rather, more accurately, eternally hears, the cries of His people. He considers man’s prayers in all that He does in His dealings with men. Thus, it is the case that God does not wait to see what we do or how we will pray. He considers our actions and prayers from the perspective of eternity. And in the light of our desires and deeds He sees that “all things work together for good for those who love God” (Rom 8.28). God knows all of man’s life in one divine act of all-embracing vision and knowledge. Thus, all of our prayers, even for those who are dead, are heard and considered by God before we even offer them. Therefore, we have to “pray for one another” and our prayer will have “great power in its effects” through the eternal and providential action of God.

Holy Trinity presents  
“Man of God”

the 2021 critically acclaimed movie about the life of  
St. Nektarios of Aegina



**Holy Trinity Private Viewing  
Sunday, March 27, 2:00 PM  
Cinemark in Watchung**

**Seating is limited for this private event. Please contact the church office for ticket information. Admission is a free-will offering to help fund the Holy Trinity Capital Campaign.**

Exiled unjustly, convicted without trial, slandered without cause. Man of God depicts the trials and tribulations of Saint Nektarios of Aegina, as he bears the unjust hatred of his enemies while preaching the Word of God.

Watch trailer here: [Man of God \(Trailer\) - YouTube](#)

The life of St. Nektarios: [A Wellspring of Humility - Saint Nektarios of Aegina - YouTube](#)



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**Souper Bowl Sunday!**

With your generous donation, the parish raised \$1,000 for International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) in its annual Souper Bowl of Caring. IOCC continues its mission of spreading the Gospel message in the world. For more info please visit:

[ioc.org/souperbowl22](http://ioc.org/souperbowl22)

## **Women Go Red – Help Make America Go Red and Save Women's Lives**

Today we draw attention to Go Red for Women, raising awareness for heart disease and ask for your support. All proceeds will be sent to the Cleveland Clinic in Ohio, one of the top clinics in the U.S. for Cardiovascular Research. Checks may be made payable to The Ladies Philoptochos of HTGOC. Thank you for your generosity!

### **Philoptochos**

Save-the-date for a Spring Fling - "BLOOM!" Tuesday, May 17, 2022. Brooklake Country Club, Florham Park, NJ. 6:00 PM Cocktails & Raffles; 7:00 PM Dinner & Fashion Show by Emily's Boutique, Staten Island, NY



### **Trinity Circle**

Tuesday, March 1 luncheon/meeting 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM - donated by Kassandra Romas, Penny, Elaine Anast & Maria Grafas in memory of their loved ones. Membership dues \$15.00 per person.



The February 2022 edition of

# The Promise

[Is now available online](#)  
[click here to view](#)

### Sights and Sounds – March 5

Holy Trinity is hosting the 50th year of Sights and Sounds on Saturday, March 5, at which approximately 400 Greek Orthodox Youth from across NJ participate in this unique visual, literary and performing arts competition. About 100 volunteers are needed. Volunteers also gain access to view performances of our talented youth! Please consider donating your time as a door monitor, morning and afternoon time slots are available. We will follow all NJ Covid guidelines. Please contact Roula Ioannou (908)451-3005 or Christine Skalkotos (847)830-1530. The email address is: [sightsandsoundsvolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:sightsandsoundsvolunteers@gmail.com) if interested or for further information.

Sights and Sounds is looking for qualified judges. Do you have colleagues, friends, relatives who are art or music teachers, professional artists, musicians? (Cannot be parishioners of Holy Trinity.) Please contact the following individuals: Sounds- Yiana Leichtling at [sightsandsoundsjudges@yahoo.com](mailto:sightsandsoundsjudges@yahoo.com) or 908/413-6213; Sights- Ellen Manos-Athenson at [ebmanos@yahoo.com](mailto:ebmanos@yahoo.com) or 908/337-0775. Please contact us ASAP.

## St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival - Sunday, March 20




Holy Trinity will host its annual St. John Chrysostom Parish Oratorical Festival on Sunday, March 20, directly after Church. All are invited to attend and support our youth and celebrate afterward with a luncheon.

Religious Education students are encouraged to participate within the three divisions that make up the festival, Elementary Division (Grades 4-6), Junior Division (Grades 7-9), Senior Division (Grades 10-12). This event, which gives our young people an opportunity to speak about their faith in a loving and friendly environment, has proven a very rewarding experience for participants through the years.

Participants will need to register online as well as access this year's topics, guides, and tips on the Archdiocese website ([www.goarch.org/en/oratorical](http://www.goarch.org/en/oratorical)), or by contacting our Parish Chairperson, Peter Tarhanidis at [ptarhanidis@gmail.com](mailto:ptarhanidis@gmail.com).

**Join thousands of teens across the nation & #shareorthodoxy!**  
**2022 ORATORICAL FESTIVAL**



**EXPLORE** a deeper knowledge of your Orthodox faith  
**THINK** critically about current issues  
**SPEAK** to a gentle and loving audience

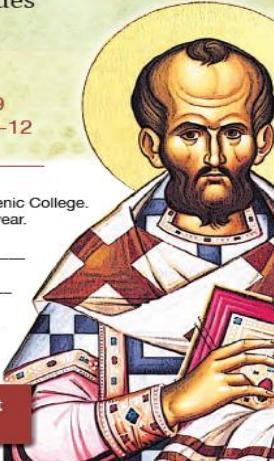
**Share Your FAITH** Junior Division for Grades 7-9  
Senior Division for Grades 10-12

**AWARDS** - The Chrysostom Scholarship for Hellenic College  
The 2022 finalists are eligible to receive a Chrysostom Scholarship to Hellenic College. This scholarship provides awards ranging from \$2,500 up to \$30,000 per year.

Parish Festival Date March 27, 2022  
Parish Chairperson Peter Tarhanidis  
Contact Information ptarhanidis@gmail.com

The St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival is a Ministry of the Department of Religious Education from the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese.

Find the topics, rules, guidelines, and prize information at [www.goarch.org/oratorical](http://www.goarch.org/oratorical)



# SAVE 1 FEED 1

We're banking  
on you!

Donate in March and we'll donate  
to your local food bank.



## BLOOD DRIVE

Wednesday, March 16, 2022

2pm – 8pm

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church  
250 Gallows Hill Road, Westfield, NJ

To schedule an appointment visit:

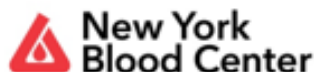
[nybc.org/njdrive](https://nybc.org/njdrive)

Sponsor code: 16058

Or call/text Despina 917-244-8849 for an appointment.

Register online so we can donate on your behalf!

Go to [nybc.org/save1feed1](https://nybc.org/save1feed1)



800.933.BLOOD • [nybc.org](https://nybc.org)     #nybloodcenter



**HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

250 Gallows Hill Road, Westfield, NJ 07090 · Telephone (908) 233-8533, website [www.HolyTrinityWestfield.org](http://www.HolyTrinityWestfield.org)

*“Every person shall give as they are able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God gave you.”  
Deuteronomy 16:17*

***\$750K MAJOR MAINTENANCE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN***

Dear Parishioner:

As we close calendar year 2021, we want to provide an early opportunity to participate in our \$750K Capital Campaign. The campaign, which was voted and approved at the Parish Assembly meeting on November 21, will formally launch in January 2022. The last time Holy Trinity conducted a capital campaign to fund major maintenance was over 20 years ago.

The Parish Council has diligently considered the reliability, energy efficiency and risk to our church of key assets such as the church dome, heating and cooling systems, and parking lot. We are in the process of finalizing the details of these capital needs and will provide these details at our formal launch in 2022. The first and most urgent of these needs relates to the Church dome, which we intend to execute in early 2022. Our due diligence is complete and it was presented at the Parish Assembly meeting on November 21. Details are below.

This early launch of the \$750K Capital Campaign to fund the church dome allows Holy Trinity donors to accelerate their charitable donations in 2021 calendar year. One tax efficient donation tool to consider is planned giving, which allows donors to contribute today’s value of invested stock shares and avoid paying taxes on realized gains on those shares while allowing the existing value to be realized as a tax deductible donation. For more details on planned giving please contact the church office.

**The Christmas Season reminds us about the importance of giving. The Parish of Holy Trinity requires the good will of many donors to operate. We ask for your help as this important Capital Campaign begins. Through you the spiritual home of many can be properly maintained for us and for future generations.**

**2022 Church Dome Project Background - \$220,000**

The church dome was originally erected in 1974 and last refurbished in 1999. The warranty for the dome expired in 2020. A continuation of the warranty requires that the dome be refurbished. Maintaining the church dome is critical to the protection of the church, its sanctuary, and the contents, including valuable iconography, religious relics, and furnishings. This level of refurbishment, absent extraordinary circumstances, is required every 20 – 30 years, depending on various conditions. The church dome refurbishment will consist of applying a customized waterproof polymer membrane onto the dome, re-caulking all seams, and replacing expansion joints. This process requires skilled labor, scaffolding, and heavy machinery. The Parish Council has interviewed three reputable contractors and conducted a competitive bidding process, selecting the contractor and technology that provides the most appropriate and cost-efficient solution, all with the ability to provide an acceptable warranty.

**As always, we thank you for your support and generosity.**

To help maintain and refurbish the church dome, I/we pledge to contribute a total amount of:

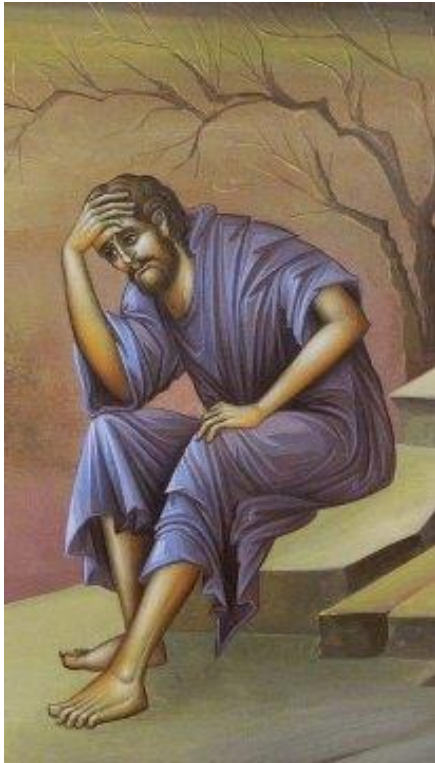
- \$10,000    \$5,000    \$2,000    \$1,000    \$500    Other \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like additional information regarding the church dome refurbishment or have other questions, please contact a Father Peter or a Parish Council member at the church office (908) 233-8533.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Home # \_\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail or email your Capital Raise Commitment Card to Holy Trinity @  
Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church  
250 Gallows Hill Rd.  
Westfield, NJ 07090  
[Holytrinity@htgocnj.org](mailto:Holytrinity@htgocnj.org)

## Ο Ταπεινός Ανθρωπος



Ο ταπεινός ασχολείται με τον εαυτόν του.  
Ο υπερήφανος ασχολείται με τους άλλους.  
Ο ταπεινός γνωρίζει τον εαυτόν του.  
Ο υπερήφανος δεν γνωρίζει τον εαυτόν του.  
Ο ταπεινός δέχεται με υπομονή ό,τι δεν μπορεί ν' αλλάξει και περιμένει.  
Ο υπερήφανος θέλει να γίνονται όλα όπως τα θέλει και όταν τα θέλει.  
Ο ταπεινός αναπαύεται και αναπαύει.  
Ο υπερήφανος αναστατώνεται και αναστατώνει.  
Ο ταπεινός παίρνει όλα τα σφάλματα πάνω του. Ο υπερήφανος τα μεταβιβάζει στους άλλους.  
Ο ταπεινός δοξάζει και ευγνωμονεί το Θεό για όλα! Ο υπερήφανος δεν είναι ποτέ ευχαριστημένος και όλα τον ενοχλούν...  
Ο ταπεινός θα υψωθεί από τον Θεό.  
Ο υπερήφανος θα ταπεινωθεί από τον Θεό.

Αν αγαπήσεις την ταπεινοφροσύνη, θα γίνεις μερίδα του Χριστού.

Αν αγαπήσεις την υπερηφάνεια, θα γίνεις μερίδα των δαιμόνων.

Η ταπείνωση κάνει τον άνθρωπο θεό.

Η υπερηφάνεια έκανε τους αγγέλους δαίμονες.

Η ταπείνωση θα σου ανοίξει τις πόρτες του Ουρανού, ενώ η υπερηφάνεια θα τις κλείσει». - Γέροντας Ευμένιος Σαριδάκης



**GLORY BE TO GOD**



**FOR ALL THINGS**

**✠ AMEN ✠**