The Epistle Reading – Sunday, February 3, 2019

The Lord will give strength to his people,

*Bring to the Lord, O sons of God, bring to the Lord honor and glory.*

The reading is from St. Paul’s Second Letter to the Corinthians 6:1-10

BRETHREN, working together with him, then, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, ‘At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation.’ Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in any one’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Πρὸς Κορινθίους β’ 6:1-10

Αδελφοί, συνεργοῦντες δὲ καὶ παρακαλοῦμεν μὴ εἰς κενὸν τὴν χάριν τοῦ θεοῦ δέξασθαι ὑμᾶς - λέγει γὰρ, Καὶ ὁ δεσπότης ἐπήκουσά σου, καὶ ἐν ἡμέρᾳ σωτηρίας ἔβοηθησά σοι ἰδοὺ, νῦν καιρὸς εὐφροσύνης, ἰδοὺ, νῦν ἡμέρα σωτηρίας - μηδεμίαν ἐν μηδενὶ διδόντες προσκοπῆν, ἵνα μὴ μοιμηθῇ ἡ δικαιοσύνη ἀλλ’ ἐν παντὶ συνιστώντες ἀστυνομείς ὡς θεοῦ διάκονοι, ἐν ὑπομονῇ πολλῇ, ἐν θλίψει, ἐν ἀνάγκαις, ἐν στενοχωρίαις, ἐν πληγαίς, ἐν φυλακαίς, ἐν ἀκαταστασίαις, ἐν κόποις, ἐν ἀγχοπλασίαις, ἐν νικηφορίας, ἐν ἀγνόητητι, ἐν γνώσει, ἐν μακροθυμίᾳ, ἐν χριστιανότητι, ἐν πνεύματι ἁγίῳ, ἐν ἀγάπῃ ἀνυποκρίτῳ, ἐν λόγῳ ἀληθείᾳ, ἐν δυνάμει θεοῦ, διὰ τῶν ὑπόλοιπον τῆς δικαιοσύνης τῶν δεξιῶν καὶ ἀριστερῶν, διὰ δόξης καὶ ἀτιμίας, διὰ δυσφημίας καὶ εὐφημίας- ὡς πλάνοι καὶ ἀληθείς- ὡς ἀγνοοῦμενοι, καὶ ἐπιγνωσκόμενοι- ὡς ἀποθανόμενοι, καὶ ἰδοὺ, ἔως ἡμέραν τῆς συναγωγῆς τῶν θεοῦ, καὶ μὴ θεατροῦμενοι- ὡς λυποῦμενοι, ἀεὶ δὲ χαίροντες- ὡς πτωχοὶ, πολλοὶ δὲ πλουτῶντες- ὡς μηδὲν ἔχοντες, καὶ πάντα κατέχοντες.
The Gospel Lesson – Sunday, February 3, 2019

16th Sunday of Matthew / The Gospel of Matthew 25:14-30

The Lord said this parable: "A man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them; and he made five talents more. So also, he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.' And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.' He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and gather where I have not winnowed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth." As he said these things he cried out: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"