

ΣΥΝΑΞΑΡΙΟΝ

Ἡ Αγία Ἀγάθη 5 Ἰαν

Ἡ Αγία Ἀγάθη ἦταν ἀπὸ τὸ Παλέρμο τῆς Συκελίας καὶ ἔζησε στὰ χρόνια τοῦ βασιλιᾶ Δεκίου (251). Ἡ οικογένειά της εἶχε μεγάλη κινητὴ καὶ ἀκίνητη περιουσία. Σὲ ἡλικία 15 χρονῶν μένει ὀρφανή. Ἡ μεγάλη περιουσία ποὺ κληρονόμησε καὶ ἡ ὁμορφιά τοῦ σώματος ποὺ εἶχε τῆς βάζουν τὸ ἐρώτημα: κόσμος ἢ θρησκεία; ἢ συμβιβασμός; Δηλαδή, κόσμος καὶ θρησκεία; Στὴ σκέψη της, ὅμως, βάρυνε ὁ θεόπνευστος λόγος τοῦ ἀδελφοθέου Ἰακώβου: «Θρησκεία καθαρά καὶ ἀμίαντος παρὰ τῷ Θεῷ καὶ πατρὶ αὐτῆ ἐστίν, ἐπισκέπτεσθαι ὀρφανούς καὶ χήρας ἐν τῇ θλίψει αὐτῶν, ἄσπιλον ἑαυτὸν τηρεῖν ἀπὸ τοῦ κόσμου». Δηλαδή, θρησκεία καθαρὴ καὶ ἀμόλυντη μπροστὰ στὸ Θεὸ καὶ Πατέρα εἶναι αὐτῆ: νὰ ἐπισκέπτεται κανεὶς ὀρφανὰ καὶ χήρες τὸν καιρὸ ποὺ πάσχουν καὶ νὰ διατηρεῖ τὸν ἑαυτὸ τοῦ ἀμόλυντο ἀπὸ τὸν κόσμο. Ἔτσι ἔκανε καὶ ἡ Ἀγάθη. Ἀφοῦ «κλώτσησε» τίς κολακεῖες καὶ τίς ἐπιτιήδειες εἰσηγήσεις ἀνθρώπων τοῦ κόσμου, ὀργάνωσε ὀλόκληρη φιλανθρωπικὴ κίνηση καὶ μὲ τὸ ἐπιτελεῖο της περιέθαλπε τοὺς δυστυχισμένους τοῦ τόπου της. Ὁ Θεός, ὅμως, θέλησε ἡ Ἀγάθη νὰ δοκιμαστῆ ἀκόμα περισσότερο. Κάποιος ἔπαρχος, ὁ Κυντιανός, θέλοντας νὰ ἀπολαύσει τὰ κάλλη της, προσπάθησε νὰ τὴν ἐπηρεάσει νὰ γίνῃ γυναῖκα του. Ἡ Ἀγάθη ἔμεινε ἀνεπηρέαστη. Προτίμησε νὰ καεῖ καὶ νὰ πάρει ἔτσι τὸ στεφάνι τοῦ μαρτυρίου.

SYNAXARION

St Agatha of Palermo Sicily 5 Jan

She is one of the best loved and most venerated Martyrs of the West. She was born to a noble family in Catania or Palermo in Sicily. At an early age she consecrated herself to the Lord and, though very beautiful, sought only to adorn herself with the virtues. During the persecution under Decius (251), she was arrested as a Christian; at this time she was about fifteen years old. Quintinian, the Governor of Sicily, was taken by her beauty and offered to marry her, thinking in that way not only to possess her body but her riches as well. When she spurned his advances, and continued to mock the idols, he grew angry and decided to have her tortured. She was gruesomely tormented and cast bleeding into a dungeon to die; but in the night her Guardian Angel brought the Apostle Peter to her, and he healed her wounds. The following day, the Governor ordered that she be subjected to further torments, but at his words the city was shaken by an earthquake and part of the palace collapsed. The terrified people stormed the palace and demanded that Agatha be released, lest they be subject to the wrath of her God. The Saint was returned to her prison cell, where in response to her prayers she was allowed to give up her soul to God.

At Agatha's burial, attended by many, her Guardian Angel appeared and placed a marble slab on her tomb, inscribed with the words 'A righteous mind, self-determining, honor from God, the deliverance of her fatherland.' Quintinian died soon thereafter, thrown from his chariot.



Ἱερά Ἀρχιεπισκοπὴ Αὐστραλίας
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia

Ἱερός Ναός Ἁγίας Ἄννας, Χρυσή Ἀκτὴ

Church of St Anna Gold Coast

31a Crombie Ave Bundall, QLD. (07) 5574 0777 or (07) 5574 0434

5η Φεβρουαρίου 2012

ΙΣΤ' ΛΟΥΚΑ (Τελώνου καὶ Φαρισαίου).

Ἦχος α' - Ἐωθινόν Α'

Ἀναστάσιμο Ἀπολυτίκιον

Ἦχος α'

Τοῦ λίθου σφραγισθέντος ὑπὸ τῶν Ἰουδαίων καὶ στρατιωτῶν φυλασσόντων τὸ ἄχραντόν σου Σῶμα, ἀνέστης τριήμερος, Σωτήρ, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὴν ζωὴν· διὰ τοῦτο αἱ δυνάμεις τῶν οὐρανῶν ἐβόων σοί, Ζωοδότα· Δόξα τῇ Ἀναστάσει σου, Χριστέ, δόξα τῇ βασιλείᾳ σου, δόξα τῇ οἰκονομίᾳ σου, μόνε φιλάνθρωπε.

Ἀπολυτίκιον τῆς Ὑπαπαντῆς

Ἦχος α'

Χαῖρε, κεχαριτωμένη Θεοτόκε Παρθένε· ἐκ σοῦ γὰρ ἀνέτειλεν ὁ ἥλιος τῆς δικαιοσύνης, Χριστὸς ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, φωτίζων τοὺς ἐν σκότει. Εὐφραίνου καὶ σύ, πρεσβυτά δίκαιε, δεξάμενος ἐν ἀγκάλαις τὸν ἐλευθερωτὴν τῶν ψυχῶν ἡμῶν χαριζόμενον ἡμῖν καὶ τὴν ἀνάστασιν.

Ἀπολυτίκιον τῆς Ἁγίας Ἄννας

Ἦχος δ'

Ζωὴν τὴν κυήσασαν, ἐκουφόρησας, ἀγνὴν Θεομήτορα, θεόφρον Ἄννα, διὸ πρὸς λήξιν οὐράνιον, ἐνθα εὐφραϊνομένων, κατοικία ἐν δόξῃ, χαίρουσα νῦν μετέστης, τοῖς τιμώσι σε πόθῳ, παισιμάτων αἰτουμένη, ἱλασμόν ἀειμακάριστε.

Κοντάκιον τῆς Ὑπαπαντῆς

Ἦχος α'

Ὁ μήτραν παρθενικὴν ἀγίας τῷ τόκῳ σου, καὶ χεῖρας τοῦ Συμεῶν εὐλογήσας ὡς ἔπρεπε, προφθάσας καὶ νῦν ἔσωσας ἡμᾶς Χριστέ ὁ Θεός. Ἄλλ' εἰρήνευσον ἐν πολέμοις τὸ πολίτευμα, καὶ κραταιώσον Βασιλεῖς οὖς ἠγάπησας, ὁ μόνος φιλάνθρωπος.

5th February 2012

16th Sun Luke (Publ. & Pharisee)

Tone 1 - 1st Morning Gospel

Resurrection Apolytikion

Tone 1

The stone had been sealed by the Jews, and soldiers were guarding your pure Body; but on the third day, Saviour, you arose and gave life to the world. Wherefore the heavenly Powers cried out to you, Giver of life: Glory to your resurrection, Christ, glory to your kingdom, glory to your divine plan, you who alone love human kind.

Apolytikion of the Presentation

Tone 1

Lady full of grace, rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, for Christ our God, the Sun of righteousness has risen from you and He illumined those in darkness.

And you, righteous Elder, be glad in heart, receiving in your embraces the One who liberates our souls and bestows on us the resurrection.

Apolytikion of St Anna

Tone 4

You gave birth to God's pure Mother who conceived Him who is our life, O Godly-minded Anna. You have now passed with joy to your heavenly rest, the home of those who rejoice with glory; you ask for forgiveness of sins for those who honour you with love, O ever-blessed one.

Kontakion of the Entrance

Tone 1

You who sanctified the Virgin's womb by Your birth, & blessed the hands of Symeon as it was right, has saved us even now by anticipation O Christ God. But grant peace to your commonwealth amidst wars and strengthen the leaders whom You have loved, lover of humanity.

Fasting / Νηστεία

No Fasting this week / Κατάλυσις εἰς πάντα

Ο ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ

Β' Τιμ. γ' 10-15

Εὐξασθε καὶ ἀπόδοτε Κυρίῳ τῷ
Θεῷ ἡμῶν.

Γνωστὸς ἐν τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ ὁ Θεός

Πρὸς Τιμόθεον Β' Ἐπιστολῆς
Παύλου τό ἀνάγνωσμα

Τέκνον Τιμόθεε,
παρηκολούθηκάς μου τῇ
διδασκαλίᾳ, τῇ ἀγωγῇ, τῇ
προθέσει, τῇ πίστει, τῇ
μακροθυμίᾳ, τῇ ἀγάπῃ, τῇ
ὑπομονῇ, τοῖς διωγμοῖς, τοῖς
παθήμασιν, οἷά μοι ἐγένοντο ἐν
Ἄντιοχείᾳ, ἐν Ἰκονίῳ, ἐν
Λύστροις. Οἴους διωγμοὺς
ὑπήνεγκα! Καὶ ἐκ πάντων με
ἐρρύσατο ὁ Κύριος. Καὶ πάντες δὲ
οἱ θέλοντες εὐσεβῶς ζῆν ἐν
Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ, διωχθήσονται·
πονηροὶ δὲ ἄνθρωποι καὶ γόητες
προκόψουσιν ἐπὶ τὸ χειρὸν,
πλανῶντες καὶ πλανώμενοι. Σὺ
δὲ μένε ἐν οἷς ἔμαθες καὶ
ἐπιστώθης, εἰδὼς παρὰ τίνος
ἔμαθες, καὶ ὅτι ἀπὸ βρέφους τὰ
ἱερὰ γράμματα οἶδας, τὰ
δυνάμενά σε σοφίσαι εἰς
σωτηρίαν διὰ πίστεως τῆς ἐν

Ἀπόστολο ἐρχομένης Κυριακῆς
Α' Κορινθίους στ' 12-20

THE EPISTLE

2 Timothy 3:10-15

*Pray to the Lord our God and offer him
thanks*

*V. God is known in Judea, his name is
great in Israel.*

The reading is from Paul's second
Letter to the Timothy

TIMOTHY, my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, my sufferings, what befell me at Antioch, at Iconion, and at Lystra, what persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

Next week's epistle reading:
1 Corinthians 6:12-20

ΤΟ ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΟΝ

Λουκάν ιη' 10-14

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος τὴν παραβολὴν ταύτην· Ἄνθρωποι δύο ἀνέβησαν εἰς τὸ ἱερόν προσεύξασθαι· ὁ εἷς Φαρισαῖος, καὶ ὁ ἕτερος Τελώνης. Ὁ Φαρισαῖος σταθεὶς πρὸς ἑαυτὸν ταῦτα προσήχετο· Ὁ Θεός εὐχαριστῶ σοι, ὅτι οὐκ εἰμι ὡσπεροὶ λοιποὶ τῶν ἀνθρώπων, ἄρπαγες, ἄδικοι, μοιχοί, ἢ καὶ ὡς οὗτος ὁ Τελώνης. Νηστεύω δις τοῦ Σαββάτου, ἀποδεκατῶ πάντα ὅσα κτῶμαι. Καὶ ὁ Τελώνης μακρόθεν ἔστῳς, οὐκ ἤθελεν οὐδὲ τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν ἐπάραι, ἀλλ' ἔτυπεν εἰς τὸ στήθος αὐτοῦ λέγων· Ὁ Θεός, ἰλάσθητί μοι τῷ ἁμαρτωλῷ. Λέγω ὑμῖν, κατέβη οὗτος δεδικαιωμένος εἰς τὸν οἶκον αὐτοῦ, ἢ ἐκεῖνος. Ὅτι πᾶς ὁ ὑψῶν ἑαυτὸν ταπεινωθήσεται· ὁ δὲ ταπεινῶν ἑαυτὸν, ὑψωθήσεται.

Εὐαγγέλιον ἐρχομένης Κυριακῆς
Λουκάν ιε' 11-32

THE GOSPEL

Luke 18:10-14

The Lord said this parable, "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

Next week's gospel reading
Luke 15:11-32