

Sept. 6, 2015: The XIVth Sunday after Pentecost (The parable of the Wedding Feast)

Epistle: II Cor. 1:21-24; 2:1-4:

Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. Moreover I call God as witness against my soul, that to spare you I came no more to Corinth. Not that we have dominion over your faith, but are fellow workers for your joy; for by faith you stand. But I determined this within myself, that I would not come again to you in sorrow. For if I make you sorrowful, then who is he who makes me glad but the one who is made sorrowful by me? And I wrote this very thing to you, lest, when I came, I should have sorrow over those from whom I ought to have joy, having confidence in you all that my joy is the joy of you all. For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote to you, with many tears, not that you should be grieved, but that you might know the love which I have so abundantly for you.

Gospel: Matthew 22:2-14:



“The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son, and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come. Again, he sent out other servants, saying, ‘Tell those who are invited, ‘See, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle are killed, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding.’” But they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business. And the rest seized his servants, treated them spitefully, and killed them. But when the king heard about it, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. Therefore go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding.’¹ So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding hall was filled with guests. “But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment. So he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the servants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. “For many are called, but few are chosen.”

This is another parable in which our Lord Jesus Christ shows the universality of the Kingdom of God. Just as we've seen in the gospel reading of last Sunday, where the original vinedressers failed to live up to their responsibility and, as a result, the vineyard was taken away from them and was given to other vinedressers, here, too, those who had been initially invited to the marriage feast proved unworthy of their Master's trust.

Those from *the highways* represent the Gentiles who have embraced the message of the Gospel and, through Baptism, Chrismation, Holy Eucharist, repentance and good deeds (*wedding garment*), have been found worthy to partake in the Wedding Feast (the kingdom of God).

May our merciful and compassionate Lord deem us worthy of His eternal kingdom!

Fr. George Bazgan

Sunday Fellowship

This Sunday there will be no Fellowship:

THE NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL YEAR

On September 13, 2015, the New Sunday School year begins.

Following the Divine Liturgy, a special service of invocation will take place for the students and their teachers.

We are very blessed and thankful to have highly qualified teachers who are dedicated to provide the best religious education for our children.

The parents are warmly advised to bring their children on a regular basis to the Sunday School Program.

The Harvest Festival

**This year's Harvest Festival will be held
on September 26, 2015, at the Romanian Center.
This is a fundraising for the kitchen renovation.**

**We extend our invitation to all of our members
and supporters to participate in this event!**

Tickets are \$50.00/adults and \$15.00/children (7-14 years)

Please call Claudiu Nanu at 780-914 - 4723 for tickets!

Thank you for your support!

MEMBERSHIP

**The Board of Directors extends a warm appeal to all supporters of our parish,
asking them to pay their membership as soon as possible.**

**This way we can ensure that we have the necessary funds to fulfill our
financial obligations for the rest of the year.**

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!