

Sts. Peter and Paul Albanian Orthodox Church

First-enthroned of the apostles, teachers of the universe: Entreat the Master of all to grant peace to the world, and to our souls great mercy!

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September 19, 2021

13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:

AFTERFEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS

MARTYRS TROPHIMUS, SABBATIUS, AND DORYMEDON OF SYNNA

Today 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Wed. 22 7:15pm Bible Study with
GoogleMeet
Sun. 26 10:00am Divine Liturgy

One must be baptized and chrismated an Orthodox Christian to receive Holy Communion. Guests are invited to receive a blessing at the chalice and partake of the post-Communion bread (Antidoron).

Fast Days: Wednesday and Friday (fasting from meat, fish, eggs, dairy, wine and oil as you are able. Wine and oil are allowed on Friday.)

Troparion – Tone 4
(Ressurrection)

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles: "Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy!"

Kontakion – Tone 4
(Martyrs)

As the foundation of athletes and the confirmation of piety, the Church honors and glorifies thy brilliant suffering, wise and glorious Trophimus, ever-praised and blessed athlete. Together with thy fellow sufferers, ask cleansing for those who hymn thee, for thou art invincible.

Prayers for those in our Sts. Peter and Paul community (parishioners, family, friends) can be listed for remembrance in our litanies during the Liturgy. Feel free to give names to Fr. Nicholas - please indicate how each person listed is connected to us (parishioner, family, friend, etc.), as well as why we are praying for them (health, memory, travel, etc.).

Confessions can be heard by appointment. If you need, I will come to you during the week. Please do not hesitate to call for a time to drop by the church or to have me visit you.

Remembrances for both the living and the dead during the prayers of preparation of the Eucharistic Lamb and during the Augmented Litany should be given the week before the desired remembrance so that the names can be put into the bulletin and given to the Deacons for the prayers. Any names of the living that are not marked as sick or traveling will be listed under general prayers.

SCRIPTURE THIS WEEK

Church Lectionary

Today

Galatians 2:16-20
Mark 8:34-9:1
1 Corinthians 16:13-24
Matthew 21:33-42

Monday

2 Corinthians 12:10-19
Luke 3:19-22

Tuesday

2 Corinthians 12:20-13:2
Luke 3:23-4:1

Wednesday

2 Corinthians 13:3-14
Luke 4:1-15

Thursday

Galatians 4:22-31
Luke 1:5-25
Galatians 1:1-10, 20-2:5
Luke 4:16-22

Friday

Romans 8:28-39
Luke 21:12-19
Galatians 2:6-10
Luke 4:22-30

Saturday

1 Corinthians 4:1-5
Luke 4:31-36

Reading the Bible in a Year

Sept 19: Ep Jer; Sus; Hymn 3 Men; Bel
Sept 20: 1 Macc 1-4
Sept 21: 1 Macc 5-8
Sept 22: 1 Macc 9-12
Sept 23: 1 Macc 13-16
Sept 24: 2 Macc 1-4
Sept 25: 2 Macc 5-8

Children learn love of God by the example of their parents

Every Orthodox parent wants their children to grow up attending Sunday Liturgies and staying active in the life of the Church throughout their lives. Yet many parents don't demonstrate the importance of having a personal relationship with God in front of their children. If you do not make God important, neither will your child.

Children observe their parents. They see hypocrisy and know when you are not following through with the teachings of the Church during the week. They hear when you take the Lord's name in vain. They notice when you reserve prayer to weekend service. They notice you only speaking of God on a Sunday morning.

Making the sign of the cross, lighting candles and burning incense only on Sundays teaches your children to compartmentalize their own faith, and leaves them defenseless in a world filled with temptations and distractions from things that are of a spiritual nature. If you do not demonstrate the importance of prayer before your children, you will leave them defenseless in a world that hates Christ. Your children need to pray with you, read the scriptures with you, be taught the faith by you.

If you do not make your home a domestic church, your children will be lost to Christ, and Orthodoxy will not be lived out beyond your own grave. If they do not see you living a committed life in Christ, they will turn from the faith, and Orthodoxy will not survive into the next generation.

Love in Christ,
Abbot Tryphon

Martyrs Trophimus, Sabbatius, and Dorymedon of Synnada

Commemorated on September 19

The Holy Martyrs Trophimus, Sabbatius and Dorymedon suffered for Christ during the reign of the Roman emperor Probus (276-282). A pagan festival was being celebrated in the city of Antioch. Sacrificial offerings were brought, the wine was poured, and vile acts were performed. The Christians Trophimus and Sabbatius arrived in the city just as the festival was taking place, and were saddened by this loud and indecent spectacle. They prayed that the Lord would guide the errant on the way of salvation. As they said this, the idolaters noticed their presence. Seeing that the strangers did not worship the idols, they arrested them and took them to the governor. At their interrogation, the saints firmly confessed their faith. When they were told to renounce Christ, they resolutely refused to do so. Saint Sabbatius died under the fierce torment. Saint Trophimus was sent to the city of Synnada in Phrygia for even more terrible tortures.

For three days Saint Trophimus walked shod in iron sandals with sharp nails, driven on by a cavalry guard. The governor of Frigius, Dionysius, infamous as a torturer and executioner, used all manner of tortures to break the will of the brave Christian. Saint Trophimus merely repeated the words of Scripture: "many afflictions has the righteous one, but from them all will the Lord deliver him" (Ps 33/34:20).

The senator Dorymedon, a secret Christian, visited Saint Trophimus in prison, washing and binding his wounds. When the pagans learned that the senator would not participate in the festival of Castor and Pollux, they asked the reason for his refusal. He said that he was a Christian, and would not attend a festival in honor of the demons. He and Saint Trophimus were thrown to the wild beasts to be eaten by them, but the martyrs remained unharmed. Then they were beheaded with the sword.

A Prayer for the Week

Dear Lord, Help me embrace all the implications of having You as the firm foundation of my life. Help me to understand that the mystery of You as the foundation of my life means I'm not building my life on ideas as much as I'm building my life on my relationship with You. Growing in my love for You and my following You makes the foundation of my life strong, wise, and durable in the face of the chaos of a society that has abandoned You as their foundation. Please give me the strength and the wisdom to pass on this foundation to my children and my congregation and all my friends. Amen

Galatians 2:16-20

knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified. But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is Christ therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not! For if I build again those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

1 Corinthians 16:13-24

Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong. Let all that you do be done with love. I urge you, brethren – you know the household of Stephanas, that it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and that they have devoted themselves to the ministry of the saints – that you also submit to such, and to everyone who works and labors with us. I am glad about the coming of Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus, for what was lacking on your part they supplied. For they refreshed my spirit and yours. Therefore acknowledge such men. The churches of Asia greet you. Aquila and Priscilla greet you heartily in the Lord, with the church that is in their house. All the brethren greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. The salutation with my own hand – Paul’s. If anyone does not love the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be accursed. O Lord, come! The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Mark 8:34-9:1

When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them, “Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel’s will save it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.” And He said to them, “Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God present with power.”

Matthew 21:33-42

Hear another parable: There was a certain landowner who planted a vineyard and set a hedge around it, dug a winepress in it and built a tower. And he leased it to vinedressers and went into a far country. Now when vintage-time drew near, he sent his servants to the vinedressers, that they might receive its fruit. And the vinedressers took his servants, beat one, killed one, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first, and they did likewise to them. Then last of all he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the vinedressers saw the son, they said among themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and seize his inheritance.’ So they took him and cast him out of the vineyard and killed him. Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those vinedressers?” They said to Him, “He will destroy those wicked men miserably, and lease his vineyard to other vinedressers who will render to him the fruits in their seasons.” Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: ‘The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone. This was the LORD’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes’?”

What Is The Foundation of Your Life?

September 13, 2021 · Fr. Barnabas Powell

We were talking in Bible study recently about “First Principles.” It seems this is something we so rarely consider, but if we miss fundamental truths, we always end up in places we never intended to go.

For instance, if you don’t build your life on the fundamental truth that when you say “God” you mean the Holy Trinity, you mean the Father, and you mean the UNCREATED, you will wind up with a basic view of the world impoverished by having a god that is too small! And when your god is too small, your life will be too small too! First principles are absolutely necessary to have a strong foundation for your life.

That sounds like fairly significant work, wouldn’t you say?

Look at our lesson today in Matthew 16:13-19:

At that time, Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do men say that the Son of man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar Jona! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”

Our Lord wants to drive a significant message deep into His disciples’ hearts, so He asks them a foundational question: “Who do men say that the Son of Man is?” And, of course, the disciples give a variety of answers about the popular beliefs of the people of the day. Then the Lord asks the “money question: “But who do you say that I am?” That’s when our precious Simon Peter shines! “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” The Lord names Peter “rock” and promises that the foundation of the Church, the community of believers throughout the ages, will be built on that identity of the Lord as “Son of the Living God!”

You see, first principles are necessary if we are ever going to measure and navigate our lives based on more than just the immediate stimuli of our immediate surroundings. No matter how much easier an “unexamined life” may feel, the truth is the “unexamined” and purposeless life will always be less than it could have been.

And the first principle of the Lord’s true identity and the implications that true identity has on all of humanity makes an eternal difference! If Jesus really is the “Son of the Living God” then His promise that the Church will never be hindered by even the “gates of hell” and His authority given to the Church to “bind” and “loose” (go to confession and listen to the prayers prayed over you at the end of confession to understand these words) are true and solid! And they matter to my everyday life because I will base my priorities, my choices, my values, my character, on this identity of Jesus Christ and His solid, trustworthy, Body! You can build a real-life on this solid foundation!

That’s why the fight through the centuries has been about the Lord’s identity. The enemy has always tried to water down His identity (He was a good man, a good Prophet, a wise teacher, etc) or even deny He ever existed. Because, if the Lord is Who He says He is, then the Church is WHAT He says She IS! And if that’s true then my life, my choices, my theology must be in harmony with this eternal reality. To the extent my life is in harmony with this wisdom, I am who I am meant to be. To the extent my life is in disharmony with this reality, I am deluded and confused!

Today, are you pressing out this significant “first principle” in your life? Are you willing to unpack the significant wisdom of the identity of the Lord and His Church and just what that means to you? If you are, if you are willing to wrestle with this revelation, this first principle, you can watch as amazing formation begins to occur in your own life. You will become Orthodox on Purpose!



***This is the great work of
a man: always to take
the blame for his own
sins before God, and to
expect temptation to his
last breath.***

-St. Anthony the Great



2021 BACK TO SCHOOL BACKPACK PROGRAM

The Need

Imagine missing school because you don't have a backpack or even a pair of shoes. For many children experiencing homelessness and poverty in America, they don't need to imagine. They are forced to skip school, unable to participate in sports and playground activities, and face health risks because of inadequate shoes, food, or school supplies. The problem is especially great in Philadelphia, which has the highest poverty rate of any of the 10 largest cities in the U.S., as well as in surrounding communities. Due to COVID, the need is year round and greater than ever.

How Can You Help?

Please consider a donation to the FOCUS (Fellowship of Orthodox Christians United to Serve) Back to School Backpack Program. We hope to assist students in the School District of Philadelphia by providing them with new backpacks filled with school supplies. A donation of \$25 will cover the cost of 1 backpack filled with supplies, while \$600 will provide backpacks for a classroom of 24 students. Click on this link to go to our fundraising web page to donate and help us reach our goal of providing backpacks for needy children:

<https://interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/weblink.aspx?name=E334599&id=179&cfid=13>

Or, you may donate by check made out to "FOCUS North America", with "2021 Backpack Program" written on the memo line, or cash, either of which may be given to Tina Murianka, cmurianka@verizon.net or 267-319-4770, or to Tina Tsiadis, kmarlos@me.com or 330-933-6987. Donations will be accepted until September 12, 2021. The video below shares the story of this program, and can be found at <https://focusnorthamerica.org/b2s/>. God bless you all for your generosity!

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER EVENTS

September

19 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy
22 – 7:15pm Bible Study with GoogleMeet
26 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy
29 – 7:15pm Bible Study with GoogleMeet

October

2 – 6:00pm Vespers
3 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy
6 – 7:15pm Bible Study with GoogleMeet
9 – 6:00pm Vespers
10 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy
13 – 7:15pm Bible Study with GoogleMeet
16 – 6:00pm Vespers

Coffee Hour

This Week:

Next Week:

If anyone who is currently unable to attend our Sunday Liturgy and supply coffee hour would like to donate to host a coffee hour, please contact Fr. Nicholas 860-861-7468

Flower Donation

This week's flowers were donated by:
Tina Murianka

Children's Word

Deny yourself!

Have you ever tried to read the Bible, all by yourself? Sometimes, in the Bible, we hear some things that don't make sense. Maybe we don't understand something. Sometimes that happens for grown ups too! In today's Gospel reading, Jesus tells us, "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."

What does that mean—to deny yourself? Well, when you deny yourself something, you keep yourself from having it. Maybe you want an ice cream sundae, but it's Lent, and you know you should keep the fast. Maybe you got some money for your birthday, and you want to spend it for yourself, but you know you should remember to help the poor. Maybe you want to say something mean to somebody, but you know you shouldn't, so you keep quiet. All these things are denying yourself. You are keeping yourself from doing them.

Whenever we deny ourselves to really help another person, we are doing what our Lord tells us today. And if we really wish to come after Jesus, we have to deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow Him! Can you think of some things you can do to deny yourself? Let's follow Christ!

XANTHIPPE AND POLYXENIA SISTER SAINTS IN SPAIN

Have you ever heard somebody say, "brothers and sisters in Christ"? What does that mean? Another Christian might not be your brother or your sister you live with, but you might call him or her your "brother in Christ" or "sister in Christ." That's because we are all part of one Christian family!

This week, we celebrate two saints who were sisters in Christ and also sisters in their family. Saint Xanthippe and Saint Polyxenia lived in Spain, just a few years after our Lord Jesus Christ lived on earth! They had the great blessing of hearing the good news of Christ from Saint Paul himself.

We know that it wasn't a very easy thing to be a Christian during Saint Paul's time. The emperors persecuted many Christians because they would not worship the false idols. But Xanthippe and Polyxenia were not killed as martyrs. They lived and told people about the Lord during their lives, and died when they were old.

Saint Xanthippe was the wife of an important official. Saint Polyxenia never got married. Both of them served the Lord though, and they were sisters and sisters in Christ!

We celebrate these saints on Thursday, Sept. 23th

Ss. Peter and Paul Diaper Drive

Our church will be holding a three-week diaper drive in September to honor the Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos, and in order to help those in need in our community.

Infant diapers and adult incontinence supplies are necessities for many who already cannot afford them, and the cost of both is rising. These are items that are not covered by either food stamps or Medicare. We are asking parishioners to purchase packages of diapers and/or incontinence supplies and bring them to church anytime from Tuesday, September 8, through Sunday, September 26.

Diapers and incontinence supplies can be found in most grocery stores and pharmacies. Any size is fine, and you are welcome to donate as many packages as you wish. Cases of diapers are also welcome.

Once the diaper drive is over, all the supplies will be donated to the Greater Philadelphia Diaper Bank, who will then distribute them to shelters, social services, and individual families in need. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact:

Matushka Katie (adellermann@gmail.com)

or Fr. Nicholas. (860-861-7468)

"Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God." ~ Hebrews 13:16

К Галатам 2:16-20

однако же, узнав, что человек оправдывается не делами закона, а только верою в Иисуса Христа, и мы уверовали во Христа Иисуса, чтобы оправдаться верою во Христа, а не делами закона; ибо делами закона не оправдается никакая плоть. Если же, ища оправдания во Христе, мы и сами оказались грешниками, то неужели Христос есть слугитель греха? Никак. Ибо если я снова созидаю, что разрушил, то сам себя делаю преступником. Законом я умер для закона, чтобы жить для Бога. Я сораспялся Христу, и уже не я живу, но живет во мне Христос. А что ныне живу во плоти, то живу верою в Сына Божия, возлюбившего меня и предавшего Себя за меня.

1-е Коринфянам 16:13-24

Бодрствуйте, стойте в вере, будьте мужественны, тверды. Все у вас да будет с любовью. Прошу вас, братия (вы знаете семейство Стефаново, что оно есть начаток Ахаии и что они посвятили себя на служение святым), будьте и вы почтительны к таковым и ко всякому содействующему и трудящемуся. Я рад прибытию Стефана, Фортуната и Ахаика: они восполнили для меня отсутствие ваше, ибо они мой и ваш дух успокоили. Почитайте таковых. Приветствуют вас церкви Асийские; приветствуют вас усердно в Господе Акила и Прискилла с домашнею их церковью. Приветствуют вас все братия. Приветствуйте друг друга святым целованием. Мое, Павлово, приветствие собственноручно. Кто не любит Господа Иисуса Христа, анафема, маран-афа. Благодать Господа нашего Иисуса Христа с вами, и любовь моя со всеми вами во Христе Иисусе. Аминь.

От Марка 8:34-9:1

И, подзвав народ с учениками Своими, сказал им: кто хочет идти за Мною, отвергнись себя, и возьми крест свой, и следуй за Мною. Ибо кто хочет душу свою сберечь, тот потеряет ее, а кто потеряет душу свою ради Меня и Евангелия, тот сбережет ее. Ибо какая польза человеку, если он приобретет весь мир, а душе своей повредит? Или какой выкуп даст человек за душу свою? Ибо кто постыдится Меня и Моих слов в роде сем прелюбодейном и грешном, того постыдится и Сын Человеческий, когда приидет в славе Отца Своего со святыми Ангелами. И сказал им: истинно говорю вам: есть некоторые из стоящих здесь, которые не вкусят смерти, как уже увидят Царствие Божие, пришедшее в силе.

От Матфея 21:33-42

Выслушайте другую притчу: был некоторый хозяин дома, который насадил виноградник, обнес его оградю, выкопал в нем точило, построил башню и, отдав его виноградарям, отлучился. Когда же приблизилось время плодов, он послал своих слуг к виноградарям взять свои плоды; виноградари, схватив слуг его, иного прибили, иного убили, а иного побили камнями. Опять послал он других слуг, больше прежнего; и с ними поступили так же. Наконец, послал он к ним своего сына, говоря: постыдятся сына моего. Но виноградари, увидев сына, сказали друг другу: это наследник; пойдем, убьем его и завладеем наследством его. И, схватив его, вывели вон из виноградника и убили. Итак, когда придет хозяин виноградника, что сделает он с этими виноградарями? Говорят Ему: злодеев сих предаст злой смерти, а виноградник отдаст другим виноградарям, которые будут отдавать ему плоды во времена свои. Иисус говорит им: неужели вы никогда не читали в Писании: камень, который отвергли строители, тот самый сделался главою угла? Это от Господа, и есть дивно в очах наших?

Galatasve 2:16-20

duke ditur se njeriu nuk shfajësohet me anë të veprave të ligjit, por me anë të besimit në Jezu Krishtin, besuam edhe ne në Jezu Krishtin, që të shfajësoheshim me anë të besimit në Krishtin dhe jo me anë të veprave të ligjit, sepse asnjë mish nuk do të shfajësohet me anë të veprave të ligjit. Dhe, në qoftë se duke kërkuar të shfajësohemi në Krishtin, u gjetëm edhe ne mëkatarë, mos vallë Krishti qënka shërbenjës i mëkatit. Kurrresi jo! Sepse, në qoftë se unë ndërtoj përsëri ato gjërat që prisha, unë bëhem vetë shkelës, sepse përmes ligjit, vdiqa për ligjin, që unë të rroj për Perëndinë. Unë u kryqëzova bashkë me Krishtin dhe nuk rroj më unë, po Krishti rron në mua; dhe ajo jetë që tani jetoj në mish, e jetoj në besimin e Birit të Perëndisë, që më deshi dhe dha veten për mua.

1 e Korintasve 16:13-24

Rrini zgjuar, qëndroni të palëkundshëm në besim, silluni si burrat, jini të fortë. Dhe çdo gjë që bëni, ta bëni me dashuri! Tani, o vëllezër (ju e njihni familjen e Stefanas që është fryti i parë i Akaisë dhe që i janë kushtuar shërbesës së shenjtorëve), ju bëj thirrje që t'u nënshtroheni edhe ju atyreve dhe kujt do që punon dhe mundohet në punën tonë të përbashkët. Edhe gëzohem për ardhjen e Stefanas, të Fortunatit dhe të Akaikut, sepse ata e plotësuan mungesën tuaj, sepse e freskuan frymën tim dhe tuajin; prandaj nderoni njerëz të tillë. Kishat e Azisë ju përshëndesin; Akuila dhe Prishila, bashkë me kishën që është në shtëpi të tyre, ju përshëndesin shumë në Zotin. Të gjithë vëllezërit ju përshëndesin; përshëndetni njëri-tjetrin me një puthje të shenjtë. Të fala me shëndet me dorën time, të Palit. Nëse ndokush nuk e do Zotin Jezu Krisht, qoftë mallkuar! Maranatha a. Hiri i Zotit Jezu Krisht qoftë me ju. Dashuria ime qoftë me ju të gjithë në Krishtin Jezu. Amen.

Marku 8:34-9:1

Pastaj e thirri pranë vetes turmën me dishepujt e vet dhe iu tha: "Kushdo që don të vijë pas meje, të mohojë vetveten, të marrë kryqin e vet dhe të më ndjekë, sepse ai që don të shpëtojë jetën e vet, do ta humbasë; por ai që do të humbasë jetën e vet për hirin tim e për ungjillin, do të shpëtojë. Ç'dobi do të ketë njeriu të fitojë gjithë botën, nëse më pas do të humbë shpirtin e vet? Ose çfarë mund të japë njeriu në shkëmbim të shpirtit të vet? Sepse kujt do që do t'i vijë turp për mua dhe për fjalët e mia në mes të këtij brezi kurorëshkelës dhe mëkatar, për atë do t'i vijë turp edhe Birit të njeriut, kur të arrijë në lavdinë e Atit të vet, me engjëjt e shenjtë." Pastaj u tha atyre: "Në të vërtetë ju them se midis jush që jeni këtu ka disa që nuk do ta shijojnë vdekjen para se të shohin të vijë me fuqi mbretëria e Perëndisë."

Mateu 21:33-42

"Dëgjoni një shëmbëlltysë tjetër: Ishte një pronar shtëpie, i cili mbolli një vresht, e rrethoi me gardh, gërmoi një vend ku të shtrydhte rrushin, ndërtoi një kullë dhe, mbasi ua besoi disa vreshtarëve, u nis në një vend të huaj. Dhe kur erdhi koha e të vjelave, ai dërgoi shërbëtorët e vet te vreshtarët, për të marrë frutat e tij, por vreshtarët i kapën shërbëtorët e tij, njërin e rrahën, një tjetër e vranë dhe një tjetër e vranë me gurë. Përsëri, ai dërgoi shërbëtorët të tjerë, më shumë se të parët, dhe këta vreshtarët i trajtuan në të njëjtën mënyrë. Më në fund ai i dërgoi atyre birin e vet duke thënë: "Për djalin tim do të kenë respekt!". Por vreshtarët, kur e panë të birin, i thanë njeri tjetrit: "Ky është trashëgimtar; ejani, ta vrasim dhe marrim si pronë trashëgiminë e tij". Dhe e kapën, e nxorën jashtë nga vreshti dhe e vranë. Tani, kur të vijë i zoti i vreshtit, çfarë do t'u bëjë këtyre vreshtarëve?" Ata i thanë: "Ai do t'i vrasë keqas ata faqezinj dhe do t'ua besojë vreshtin vreshtarëve të tjerë, të cilët do t'i japin prodhimet në kohën e vet." Jezusi u tha atyre: "A nuk keni lexuar kurrë në Shkrimet: "Guri, që ndërtesit e nxorën të papërdorshëm, u bë guri i qoshes. Kjo është vepër e Zotit, dhe është e mrekullueshme në sytë tonë"?"