



ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE

GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AUSTRALIA

Ιερα Αρχιεπισκοπή Αυστραλίας

242 CLEVELAND STREET REDFERN, NSW 2016 (P.O.Box 186, STRAWBERRY HILLS, NSW 2012) AUSTRALIA
PHONE: (02) 9690 6100 - FAX: (02) 9698 5368 - WWW.GREEKORTHODOX.ORG.AU

To the Reverend Clergy
and the honourable Administrative Committees
of the Parish-Communities
of our Greek Orthodox Archdiocese

ENCYCLICAL

Dearly beloved,

You are all aware of the sacred endeavours of our Archdiocese towards the maintenance of our Theological College of St Andrew which has been functioning now for 30 years.

Unfortunately, however, the number of students enrolling to prepare for the priesthood is not satisfactory. Thus, we need to remind all the faithful on today's Great Feast of Pentecost, that there is no ambition more sacred for every Christian family than to prepare and to guide children from a young age who might wish later in life to study Theology at our College, which all of you have been supporting with your contributions up till this day.

Consequently, the Parish Priest is requested to remind parents on the occasion of Pentecost, as we kneel to beseech the descent of the Holy Spirit, that the **inclination towards the Priesthood** should be supported in every family.

This year, further to this Encyclical, we hasten to highlight one of the Hymns for the Feast of Pentecost, referring especially to the Holy Spirit, as follows:

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QUEENSLAND - NEW GUINEA

36 Browning Street

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WEST AUSTRALIA

390 Charles Street

North Perth, W.A. 6006

Phone: (08) 9242 3466 - Fax: (08) 9201 9644

*The Holy Spirit supplies all things;
He pours out prophecies, He perfects priests;
He taught wisdom to the unlettered,
He showed fishermen to be theologians;
He welds together the whole institution of the Church.
O Comforter, You who share the
same essence and throne with the Father
and the Son, glory to You!*

Indeed, given that during this period we find ourselves in the atmosphere of the Great and Holy Council which has been in preparation for a long time, this most sacred text of Orthodox Hymnology, is even more timely.

Accordingly, not just the Clergy, but the Laity as well, Men and Women of all ages, are requested to turn their hearts with devoutness in offering a special prayer for the successful deliberations of the Great and Holy Council, entreating the Holy Spirit to seal this historic Synaxis for the glory of God and the salvation of His pious People.

In Sydney, 10th June 2016
With fervent prayers and deep paternal love



Archbishop STYLIANOS
Primate of the Greek Orthodox Church of Australia

Note:

*This Encyclical is to be read in our Churches during the Divine Liturgy
of the Sunday of PENTECOST (19TH June 2016)*



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Πρός

Τούς εὐλαβεστάτους Ἱ. Προϊσταμένους

Καί τά ἔντιμα Διοικητικά Συμβούλια

Τῶν Ἐνοριῶν/Κοινοτήτων

Τῆς καθ' ἡμᾶς Ἱεραῦς Ἀρχιεπισκοπῆς

ΕΓΚΥΚΛΙΟΣ

Αγαπητοί μου,

Ὅλοι σας γνωρίζετε τόν ἱερόν ἀγῶνα πού διεξάγει ἡ Ἱερά Ἀρχιεπισκοπή μας, διά νά συντηρηθεῖ ἡ ἐπί 30 ἔτη λειτουργοῦσα Θεολογική μας Σχολή τοῦ Ἀπ. Ἀνδρέου.

Ἀτυχῶς, ὅμως, ὁ ἀριθμός φοιτητῶν πού σπουδάζουν μέ προορισμό νά χειροτονηθοῦν δέν εἶναι ἱκανοποιητικός, καί πρέπει, κατά τήν σημερινήν μεγάλην ἡμέραν τῆς Πεντηκοστῆς, νά ὑπενθυμίσωμεν εἰς ὅλους τούς πιστούς ὅτι δέν ὑπάρχει ἱερωτέρα φιλοδοξία γιά κάθε χριστιανική οἰκογένεια, ἀπό τοῦ νά προσπαθήσει νά στείλει καί νά καθοδηγήσει ἀπό τήν παιδικήν ἡλικίαν παιδιά πού θά θελήσουν ἀργότερα νά σπουδάσουν Θεολογία εἰς τήν Σχολήν, τήν ὁποίαν ὅλοι ἐσεῖς μέ τόν ὀβολόν σας στηρίζετε μέχρι σήμερα.

Παρακαλεῖται, λοιπόν, ὁ Ἱερατ. Προϊστάμενος νά ὑπενθυμίσει εἰς τούς Γονεῖς, μέ τήν εὐκαιρίαν τῆς Πεντηκοστῆς, ὅπου γονυκλινῶς ἐπικαλούμεθα τήν ἔκχυσιν τοῦ Ἁγίου Πνεύματος, ὅτι θά πρέπει σέ κάθε οἰκογένεια νά ὑποστηριχθεῖ ἡ **κλίσις πρὸς τήν Ἱερωσύνην**.

Ἐφέτος, ἀντί τῆς τοιαύτης Ἐγκυκλίου, σπεύδομεν νά προβάλλωμεν ἀπό τά Κεκραγάρια τῆς Ἑορτῆς τῆς Πεντηκοστῆς, τό εἰδικῶς εἰς τό Πανάγιον Πνεῦμα ἀναφερόμενον Ἰδιόμελον, ἔχον ὡς ἀκολουθῶς:

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*Πάντα χορηγῆ τὸ Πνεῦμα τὸ ἅγιον·
βρῦει προφητείας, ἱερέας τελειοῖ,
ἀγραμμάτους σοφίαν ἐδίδαξεν,
ἀλιεῖς θεολόγους ἀνέδειξεν.
Ὅλον συγκροτεῖ τὸν θεσμόν τῆς Ἐκκλησίας.
Ὁμοούσιε καὶ ὁμόθρονε, τῷ Πατρὶ καὶ τῷ Υἱῷ,
Παράκλητε, δόξα σοι.*

Δοθέντος, μάλιστα, ὅτι κατ' αὐτάς εὐρισκόμεθα εἰς τὴν ἀτμόσφαιραν τῆς ἀπὸ μακροῦ διὰ πολλῶν μόχθων προετοιμασθείσης Ἁγίας καὶ Μεγάλης Συνόδου, τὸ ἱερώτατον τοῦτο μελῶδημα τῆς παραδοσιακῆς Ὁρθοδόξου Ὑμνωδίας καθίσταται ἀκόμη περισσότερο ἐπίκαιρον.

Ὡς ἐκ τούτου, παρακαλοῦνται ὄχι μόνον οἱ Κληρικοί, ἀλλὰ καὶ οἱ Λαϊκοί, Ἄνδρες καὶ Γυναῖκες πάσης ἡλικίας, νά στρέψουν ἐν κατανύξει τὰς καρδίας των εἰς εἰδικὴν προσευχὴν, διὰ τὴν αἰσίαν ἐκβασιν τῆς Ἁγίας καὶ Μεγάλης Συνόδου, καθικετεύοντες τὸ Παράκλητον Πνεῦμα νά σφραγίσῃ τὴν ἱστορικὴν ταύτην Σύναξιν, εἰς δόξαν Θεοῦ καὶ σωτηρίαν τοῦ εὐσεβοῦς λαοῦ Του.

Ἐν Σύδνεϋ τῇ 10ῃ Ἰουνίου 2016

Μετὰ θερμῶν εὐχῶν

καὶ βαθείας πατρικῆς ἀγάπης


Ὁ Αὐστραλίας ΣΤΥΛΙΑΝΟΣ

Σημείωσις:

Νά ἀναγνωσθῆ ἡ παροῦσα ἐπ' Ἐκκλησιαίς, κατὰ τὴν θ. Λειτουργίαν τῆς Κυριακῆς τῆς ΠΕΝΤΗΚΟΣΤΗΣ (19ῃ Ἰουνίου 2016).