

THE SERVANT OF ALL

Christ's words "Whoever wants to be first must be a servant of all" tells us that He practiced what HE preached. Perhaps the most dramatic example of this is depicted on today's Bulletin Cover, where our Lord is shown washing the feet of His Apostles prior to the Last Supper.

AS Christians, we are constantly reminded that we, too, must embrace a life of service. On this MEATFARE SUNDAY, the extent of our charitable works and the consequences for neglecting them are highlighted by the famous Parable of the Last Judgment.

Certain things are expected of all of us. As we see from this parable, Christ doesn't call upon us to perform insurmountable tasks, but rather, we are asked to do small things with GREAT LOVE! Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy! The seemingly insignificant kindness that we extend to our fellow man will be deemed monumental by our Heavenly Father.

And what will become of thoses who close their eyes to the needs of others? What will happened to those who choose NOT to be a 'servant to all?' They will hear the most painful words ever spoken by our Lord:

DEPART FROM ME, YOU CURSED ONES!

The Kondakion for Meatfare Sunday should serve to awaken us to the seriousness and finality of the Last Judgement: When you will come to glory, O God, and all things will tremble before You, the river of fire will flow before Your judgement seat, and the books will be opened and all hidden things revealed. Deliver me from the unquenchable fire and make me worthy to stand at Your right hand, O Righteous Judge.