

OUR CHANGLESS FAITH

We live in a time of tremendous change and that will certainly continue. Technological social, political and economic change has been the hallmark of our age.

But in all this world of change, today we are reminded of something that does not change. Our faith in Christ, the Son of the Living God, has not changed: our Orthodox Faith is substantially the same as it was a hundred and a thousand years ago. On this First Sunday of Lent, called the “Sunday of Orthodoxy,” we proclaim to this world of change the changeless Christian faith of our Church.

This is one of our main tasks as inheritors of this priceless heritage – to witness to the world our faith in the Lord. Jesus Himself said: “Men do not light a candle and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it give light to all in the house.” So we set forth our Faith this day for all to see.

America is a land of religious pluralism, a land of many religious and faiths. Obviously, we have a tremendous impact to make on the religious life of our land. This is especially true in our times, when the winds of the ecumenical spirit blow over the country, altering old antagonisms and fears, bringing fresh opportunities to reach out to brothers and let the light of this ancient lamp disperse the darkness of our age.

As we bring forth our icons this day, testifying to the triumph of the Church over those who would destroy these elements that portray the truth of the Incarnation, let us rededicate ourselves to Christ. Let us be careful not only to glory in the past, but to look forward to the challenge of our times and to make certain that the generations to come will confess the Faith of our Fathers.