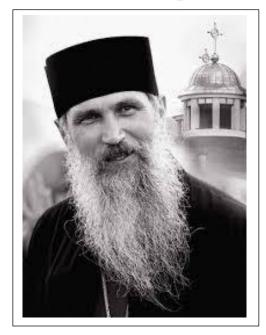
6th Sunday after Pentecost Romans 12:6-14; Matthew 9: 1-8

"We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us"



Today's reading from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans:

6 We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; 7 ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; 8 the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.
9 Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; 10 love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. 11 Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord.[a] 12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. 13 Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

Reflection of his Grace Bishop Benedict (Aleksiychuk), Eparch of Chicago:

In our universe there are millions of people, yet we can never find two who are exactly the same. Even identical twins differ in their character, likes, and abilities. This fact of our differences shows that God values and loves every person so much that He gives each individual a unique mix of characteristics and abilities.

We, as a rule, don't notice this giftedness in ourselves; rather that knowing our talents and using them to serve our neighbour, we envy others or complain about what they have and we don't. Let us be attentive, let us use the gifts our Lord has given us and let us not forget to give thanks!

THIS WEEK: Thursday, the 24th @ 10 a.m. Divine Liturgy (blessed princess Ol'ha)

Best birthday wishes to: Myroslaw Teplicki and Chantal Potoczny (19th), Mary Shantz (22nd), John (Robert) Slipec and Eva Kocan (23rd), Halyna Vasyukhnik, Sean Theal/Didyk and Myroslava Tataryn (24th), and Catherine Bandura (25th).

Mnohaya Lita!