10/10/2024

Archbishop Elpidophoros Offers Prayer of Safety from Hurricanes and Severe Weather



On the afternoon of October 9th, His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America, together with clergymen of the Archdiocese, gathered in the Chapel of Saint Paul to offer prayers of supplication for the safety of those who continue to be impacted by severe weather in the Gulf Coast, especially Hurricane Milton, which is expected to make landfall the same evening.

The Archbishop knelt before the sacred relics of the saints and martyrs that reside in the Chapel of Saint Paul, including that of Saint Nicholas which was brought from the Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church and National Shrine, and offered the following prayer:

PRAYER DURING DISRUPTED WINDS AND THE TEMPEST OF THE SEAS
Master, Lord our God, You who with Your unoriginated Logos, and through Your life-giving and equally honored Spirit brought all things out of nothing into being; who set the sand as the boundary of the sea, and balanced the mountains and valleys; who measured the heavens by a span and holds the earth in Your palm; who has given to this visible and perceivable creation order, harmony, and the change of times and seasons, governing it with Your word in a way beyond understanding; who leads all creation towards tranquility and harmony: You, O all-good King, according to Your inherent goodness and abiding love for humankind, once again

look upon the works of Your hands, and do not turn away Your mercy and compassion from us. Do not disregard Your covenant, You who mysteriously created us in Your own image. You who gave Your only begotten Son as a ransom for us and granted us, through the ineffable communion of the Spirit, to be partakers of Your divine nature; forgive, we pray, the multitude of our sins through the great abundance of Your mercy.

You, who through the Cross and Blood of Your Son wiped away the sin of humanity, restore Your creation to its natural harmony and order, for it has been tragically led astray due to the disorder and chaos caused by our disobedient and evil conduct. Show us once again the usual calm of the great sea and command the impending storm – Hurricane Milton and the disturbance of the air to cease. Command the winds to blow in a prompt and fitting manner. Rebuke the storm of the sea and the unnatural movements of the winds, let the storm cease and replace it with calmness, so that those who go about into the sea in ships, doing work in the waters, may once again see Your marvelous works and great wonders.

You, whose only begotten Son and our Lord Jesus Christ – deigned to become man, in your goodness and synergy of Your Spirit, sailed with His holy disciples and apostles, and who rebuked the storm of the winds, commanding the waves of the sea to be still: Now You the same Lord, calm every contrary wind, pacify the waves, and stop the tempest. Bring forth favorable and suitable weather and winds, becoming the guide and helper to your servers everywhere, leading them to the harbor of salvation.

For those who know Your name alone and acknowledge no God other than You continually look to Your help; through the prayers and intercessions of our most-blessed Lady the Theotokos, the god-gazing angels, and all the saints. By the goodwill and kindness of Your only begotten Son, with whom You are blessed, together with Your all-holy and good and life-creating Spirit, now and forever and unto the ages of ages.

ΕΥΧΗ ΕΠΙ ΔΥΣΚΡΑΣΙΑΣ ΑΝΕΜΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΚΛΥΔΩΝΑ ΘΑΛΑΣΣΗΣ
Δέσποτα Κύριε ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ὁ τῷ ἐνυποστάτῳ καὶ ἀνάρχῳ σου Λόγω καὶ τῷ ζωοποιῷ καὶ ὁμοτίμῳ σου Πνεύματι ἐκ μὴ ὄντων εἰς τὸ εἶναι παραγαγὼν τὰ πάντα· ὁ θαλάσσης θέμενος ὅριον ψάμμον καὶ σταθμήσας ὄρη τε καὶ τὰς νάπας ζυγῷ· ὁ σπιθαμῇ μετρήσας οὐρανὸν καὶ δρακὶ συνέχων τὴν γῆν· ὁ μέτρα καὶ κανόνας καὶ ὅρους ἁρμονίας τε καὶ τάξεις τῇ ὁρωμένῃ καὶ αἰσθητῇ κτίσει ταύτῃ δοὺς καὶ

καιρῶν ἀλλαγὰς καὶ τροπὰς ἡλίου, κράσεσι στοιχείων νεύματί σου ταύτην συνέχων ἀρρήτως καὶ πρὸς τὸ ἀπαθές τε ταὶ ἄλυπον διακυβερνῶν· αὐτός, πανάγαθε βασιλεῦ, τῇ ἐμφύτῳ καὶ συνήθει σου φιλανθρωπίᾳ καὶ ἀγαθότητι πάλιν χρησάμενος πρὸς ἡμᾶς, ἐπίσκεψαι τὰ τῶν σῶν χειρῶν ἔργα καὶ μὴ ἀποστήσῃς ἀφ᾽ ἡμῶν τὰ ἐλέη σου καὶ τοὺς οἰκτιρμούς σου, μηδὲ διασκεδάσῃς τὴν διαθήκην σου, ὁ κατ᾽ εἰκόνα δημιουργήσας ἰδίαν ἀπορρήτως ἡμᾶς. Ὁ τὸν μονογενῆ σου Υἱὸν λύτρον ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν δοὺς καὶ Πνεύματος ἀπορρήτῳ κοινωνίᾳ τῆς οἰκείας Θεότητος μεταδούς, ἄφες τὸ τῶν ἁμαρτιῶν, δεόμεθα, πλῆθος τῷ ὑπερέχοντι πλήθει τῶν οἰκτίρμων σου.

Ὁ τῷ Σταυρῷ τοῦ σοῦ Υἱοῦ καὶ τῷ Αἵματι τὴν ἁμαρτίαν ἀπαλείψας τοῦ γένους ἡμῶν, ἐπανάγαγέ σου τὴν κτίσιν πρὸς τὴν φυσικὴν ἁρμονίαν καὶ τάξιν, εἰς τὸ παρὰ φύσιν ἐλεεινῶς ἐκτραπεῖσαν διὰ τὴν παρὰ φύσιν ἀταξίαν καὶ ἀκοσμίαν τῆς ἀθέσμου καὶ φαύλης πολιτείας ἡμῶν. Δεῖξον ἡμῖν τὴν συνήθη τοῦ μεγάλου τούτου γαλήνην πελάγους καὶ τὸν ἐπικείμενον κλύδωνα καὶ τὴν ταραχὴν τοῦ ἀέρος διακόψας, ἔντειλαι τοῖς ἀνέμοις καίριον καὶ κατάλληλον πνοὴν δοῦναι. Ἐπιτίμησον τῷ κλύδωνι τῆς θαλάσσης καὶ ταῖς παρὰ φύσιν τῶν ἀνέμων κινήσεσι, στήτω πνεῦμα καταιγίδος, καὶ πρὸς γαλήνην τὰ τῆς ζάλης μετατεθήτω, ἵνα τὰ σὰ ἔργα καὶ θαυμάσια πάλιν ἴδωσιν οἱ καταβαίνοντες εἰς θάλασσαν ἐν πλοίοις, ποιοῦντες ἐργασίαν ἐν ὕδασι πολλοῖς· παρασκεύασον αὐτήν, φιλάνθρωπε Δέσποτα, τῇ σῇ ἀνεικάστῳ φιλανθρωπίᾳ παύσασθαι τοῦ κλύδωνος.

Ὁ τὸν μονογενῆ σου Υἱὸν καὶ Κύριον ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦν Χριστὸν εὐδοκίᾳ σῇ καὶ συνεργείᾳ τοῦ ἁγίου σου Πνεύματος καταξίωσας γενέσθαι ἄνθρωπον καὶ συμπλεῦσαι τοῖς ἁγίοις αὐτοῦ μαθηταῖς καὶ ἀποστόλοις καὶ ἐπιτιμῆσαι τῇ λαίλαπι τῶν ἀνέμων καὶ τῆς θαλάσσης γαληνιᾶν τὰ κύματα κελεύσας· αὐτὸς καὶ νῦν πάντα ἐνάντιον ἄνεμον κοίμισον καὶ τὰ κύματα πράϋνον καὶ τὸν κλύδωνα κατάπαυσον καὶ διέγειρον τοὺς ἐπιτηδείους καὶ εὐθέτους καιροὺς καὶ ἀνέμους, κυβερνήτης καὶ βοηθὸς πανταχοῦ γινόμενος τοῖς δούλοις σου, ὁδηγῶν αὐτοὺς εἰς λιμένα σωτηρίας· οἱ γὰρ τὸ σὸν μόνον εἰδότες ὄνομα καὶ μὴ γινώσκοντες πλήν σου Θεὸν ἕτερον πρὸς τὴν σὴν βοήθειαν διαπαντὸς ἀποβλέπουσιν, εὐχαῖς καὶ πρεσβείαις τῆς ὑπερευλογημένης Θεοτόκου, τῶν θεοειδῶν ἀγγέλων καὶ πάντων τῶν ἁγίων. Εὐδοκίᾳ καὶ ἀγαθότητι τοῦ μονογενοῦς σου Υἱοῦ, μεθ᾽ οὗ εὐλογητὸς εἶ, σὺν τῷ παναγίῳ καὶ ἀγαθῷ καὶ ζωοποιῷ σου Πνεύματι, νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ καὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων.

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