

*Love suffers long and is kind....
(1 Corinthians 13:4)*



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Orthodox Church
Syracuse, NY

2017 Theme Presentation
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The Centrality of LOVE

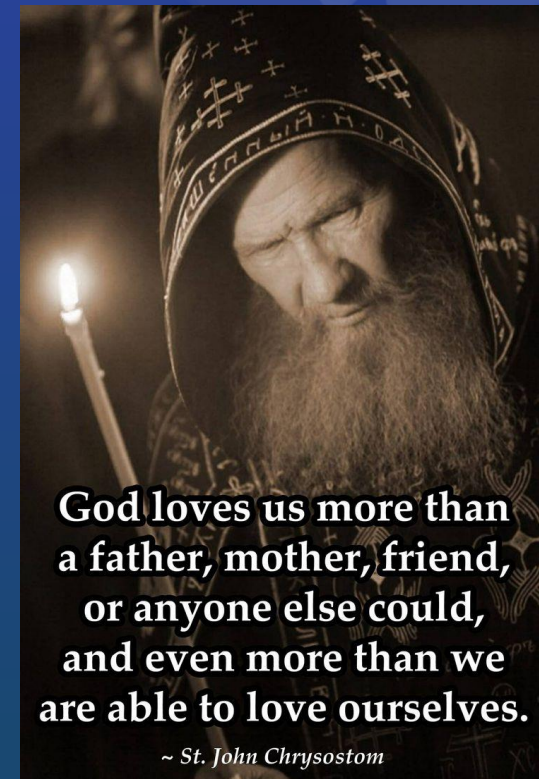
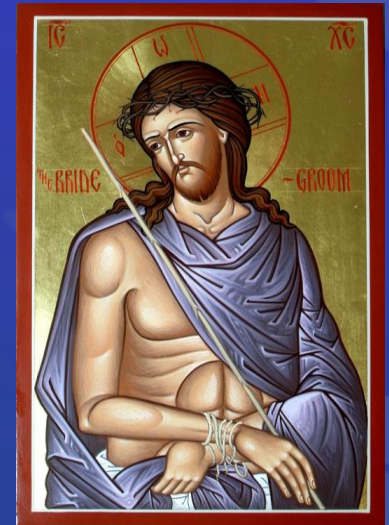
- When our Lord Jesus Christ was asked about which commandment was the greatest, He replied
 - 'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is *the* first and great commandment. And *the* second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.'



The Centrality of LOVE

● “He that loves not knows not God; for God is love.” (1 John 4:8)

● “And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.” (1 John 4:16)



**God loves us more than
a father, mother, friend,
or anyone else could,
and even more than we
are able to love ourselves.**

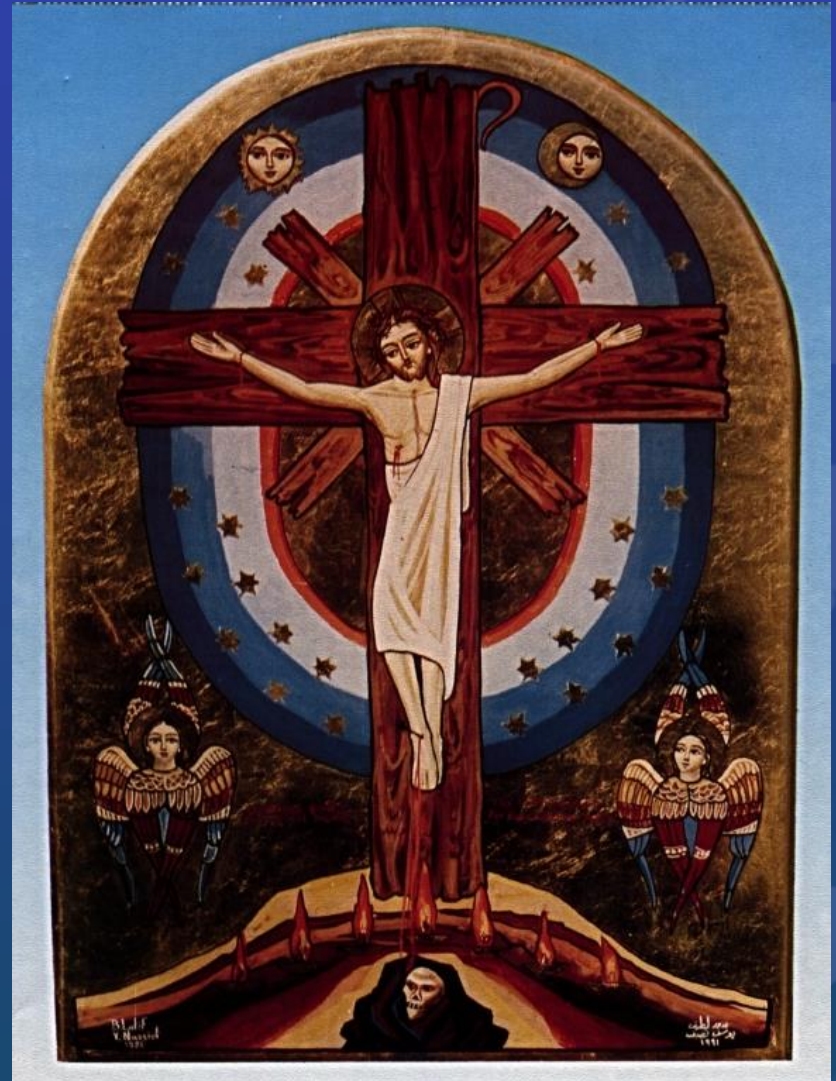
~ St. John Chrysostom

The Centrality of Love

● Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love or a clanging cymbal. ² And though I have *the gift of prophecy*, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. ³ And though I bestow all my goods to feed *the poor*, and though I give my body to be burned,^[a] but have not love, it profits me nothing.

The two dimensions of LOVE

- Love of God
- Love of Neighbor



Love toward the Neighbor

- LOVE SUFFERS LONG AND IS KIND
- LOVE IS PATIENT AND IS KIND



Applications

- Within the House
 - Husband and Wife
 - Parents and children
 - Brothers and Sisters
- At Church, School and Work
 - Friends
 - Colleagues or co-workers
 - Pleasant
 - Annoying
 - Enemies



New Year Resolution



- Grow in the love of God and Neighbor
- Love toward God
 - Know Him, Love Him, Serve Him
- Love toward Neighbor
 - Love suffers long and is kind
- Examine your conscience every day and progress toward your goal