

3rd Sunday of Luke

For the resurrection of the widow's son (**Luke 7:11-16**) serves as a pattern for the renewal of our mind. Our soul was widowed of the heavenly bridegroom on account of sin, and her mind was like her only son, who had been killed by the sting of sin, and lost true life. This child was being carried away by the passions that were presumably taking him even further away from God to hell and the depths of destruction. But when the Lord drew near and stood by us, He immediately renewed our mind and raised it up by His advent in the flesh. He did not, however, come to us in the beginning, but later, in the last times. The evangelist does not omit even this, saying, "The day after, Jesus went" – to raise up the dead son of the widow and to transform her mourning into joy. I beseech you, brethren, to pay heed to what is being said. For if each one of you is aware of the dead man within him and laments over his own sins, mourning and grieving over them in repentance, the Comforter will approach him too, bestowing eternal life and consolation. "Blessed", it says, "are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted" (Matt. 5:4). St. Gregory Palamas, Homily 46