EPISODE READING OF THE DAY: This morning’s Apostolic Reading is from Saint Paul’s Letter to the Colossians, Chapter 3, Verses 4-11. It is found in our books on page 129.

The Orthodox worldview. The Orthodox worldview is based on the belief that the Bible is the Word of God, and that it contains the full revelation of God’s will for humanity. The Orthodox Church teaches that the Bible is a living, dynamic book, and that its message is relevant to every generation. The Church encourages its members to read the Bible daily, and to study it in order to understand its meaning and its application to their lives. The Church also teaches that the Bible is a guide for living a moral and ethical life, and that it is a source of strength and comfort in times of need.

Today’s Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, Chapter 17, Verses 12-19. It is found in our books on pages 265-267.

The Orthodox Church believes in the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, who guides the Church in its interpretation of the Bible. The Church teaches that the Bible is a book of salvation, and that it contains the words of Jesus Christ, who is the Son of God and the Saviour of the world. The Church also teaches that the Bible is a book of love, and that it contains the words of the Church Fathers, who have passed on their understanding of the Bible to us. The Church believes that the Bible is a book of understanding, and that it contains the words of the Holy Spirit, who guides us in our lives. The Church encourages its members to read the Bible daily, and to study it in order to understand its meaning and its application to their lives. The Church also teaches that the Bible is a book of hope, and that it contains the words of the Church Fathers, who have passed on their understanding of the Bible to us. The Church believes that the Bible is a book of love, and that it contains the words of Jesus Christ, who is the Son of God and the Saviour of the world.
PARKING: At long last! Our Final Fire and Electrical Inspections took place Tuesday, December 3. We passed inspection! However, the holdup is in the Building Department. It needs to grant its approval so that we may take the final step—a hearing at our local Police Department. This will allow us to begin running our lot per our Conditional Use Permit agreement. The Building Department is insisting we get the final doors and gates installed and also sheet rock the other side of the upper lobby so as to satisfy the 1 hour fire rating requirement. We installed the sheet rock this past Tuesday. Now we are waiting for the gates and the doors to come in. It will be a great day when this is done and we finally get the ok for the parking, so that we can go on to address completion of the interior. As we go forward, let’s stay positive and focused. Consider what you have accomplished so far! As with Moses, 3200 years ago, in our own day we hear God speaking, telling us: “Build me a Sanctuary, and I will appear among you.” (from the Septuagint: Καὶ ποιήσεις µοι ἁγίασµα, καὶ ὀφθήσοµαι ἐν ὑµῖν). (Exodus 25:8). Building also takes vision, determination and faith. You have it all. Don’t sell yourselves short. You are accomplishing something extraordinary. For, you are building His sanctuary—a great sacred space, right the heart of one of the world’s premier cities. Here, our Orthodox Christian faith is poised to proclaim the Gospel message of salvation to a whole new generation of worshipers! May God remember you always, in His heavenly Kingdom. “The Church shall be a home for Orthodox Christians from every ethnic and national background. It shall be a house of prayer for all humankind, in which the Holy Name of our Triune God shall be extolled and all of creation sanctified.”