

The Priest and the Sermon. Current Implications

Fr. Lecturer PhD NICUȘOR BELDIMAN
University of Bucharest,
prnbeldiman@gmail.com

Abstract

The sermon or homily, which was completed by the catechesis, were and continue to be mandatory elements of the ceremonial of Holy Mass. It is not optional, nor the prerogative of certain more educated or talented priests, but a moment of the requisite ceremonial of Holy Mass. Both the sermon and the cult occupy a well-established and indispensable place in our Orthodox religious life. Preaching does not substitute the cult, cannot annul it, it is merely an integral part of it and its graceful fruit reaps particularly in the atmosphere of the cult. The Priest is, first and foremost, a servant of the word and not to preach would mean cancelling his own service; and where he does not preach, others will come to take astray from the path of the truth and of the church those who, longing for the truth, did not learn it from the priest, being deceived by those showing fervour in service of lies. Preaching the redeeming Christian teachings with strength and wisdom is undoubtedly a sign that the priest is vigilant and that the church is alive. Only in this way the priest will be able to be a servant in today's time. He must know that he was called upon and sent to preach, not to be served. The Christians are, more than ever, starving to hear sermons that answer the questions they are struggling with it. For this, for the sermon to attain its aim, it is necessary to reconsider the requisites that should be imposed on preaching and the preacher, and it is this that we shall attempt to discuss here.