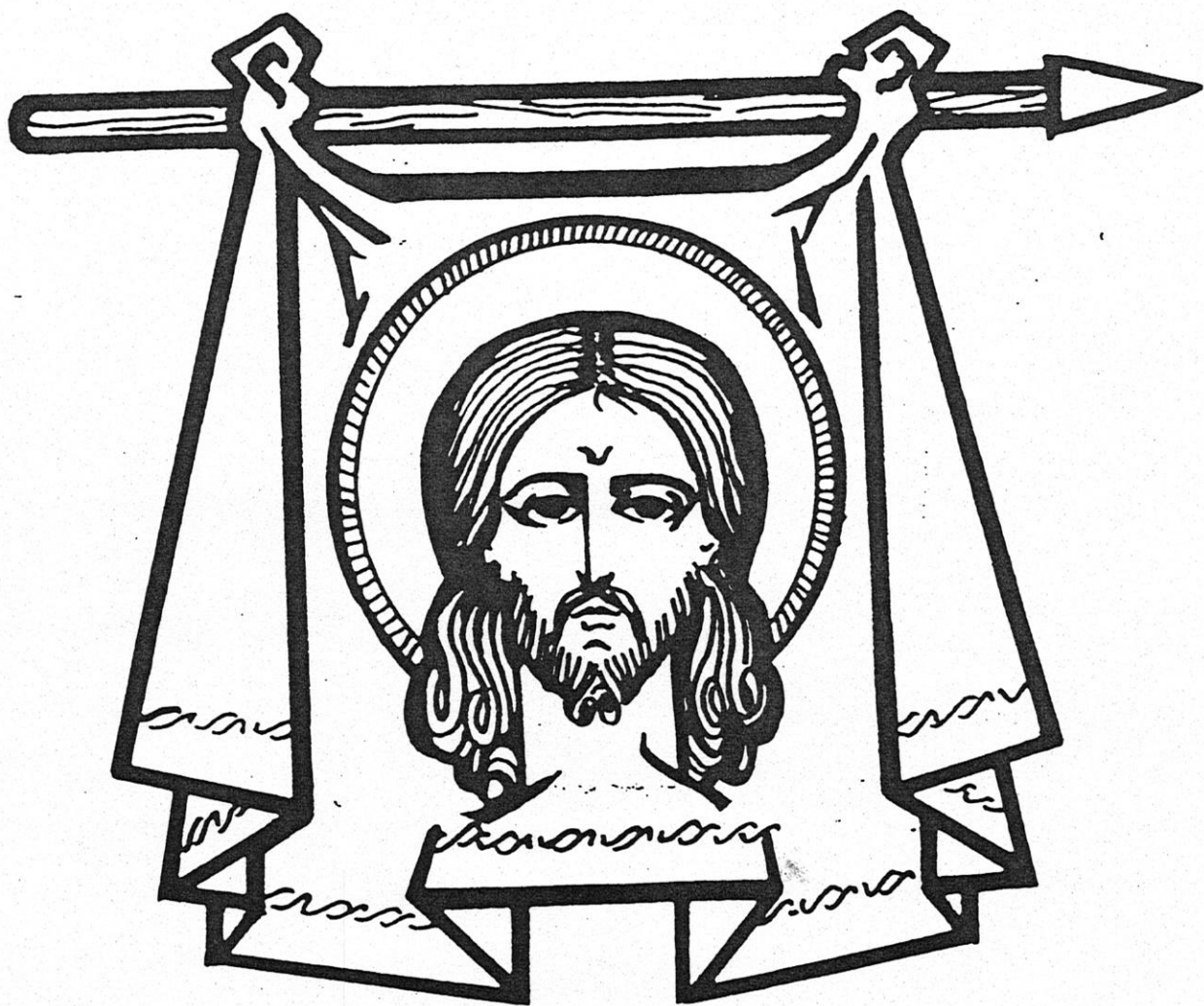
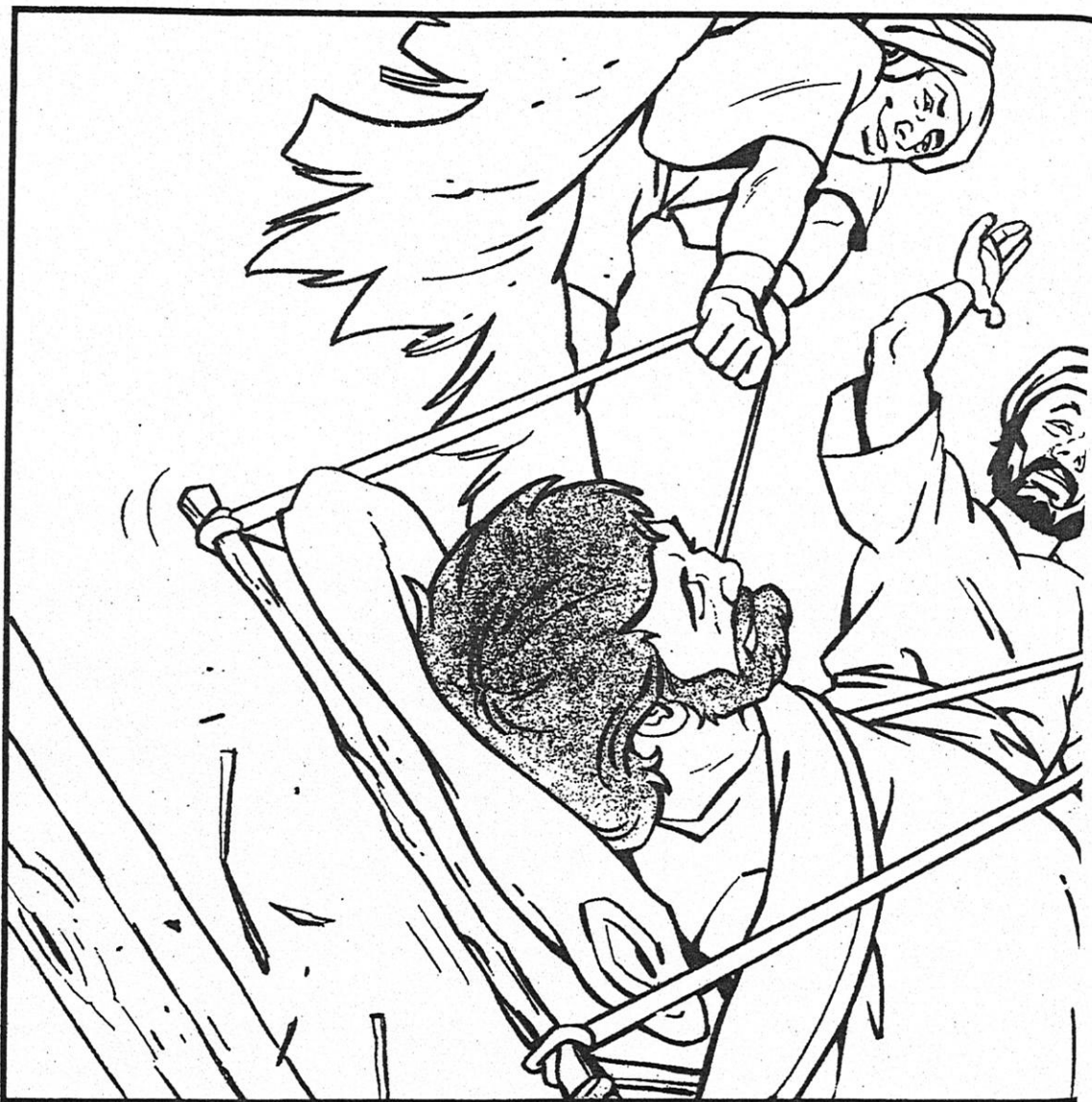




YOU must LOVE
the LORD your GOD
with all
your heart & with
all your soul and
with all your
mind you must love &
your neighbor
just as you love
YOURSELF





Jesus liked to spend time in Capernaum. It was a fishing village, hometown to some of the disciples. But whenever he set foot in Capernaum, people crowded around him. Everyone brought sick friends and relatives to be healed.

Four men whose friend couldn't walk decided to take the man to Jesus. When they got to the house where Jesus was teaching, the crowds were spilling into the street.



The men couldn't get near the door. But they weren't about to give up.

They carried the man up to the roof, then dug through the twigs and dried mud until they had a good-sized hole. Then they lowered their friend right in front of Jesus.



The people who had the best seats were probably upset. Dried mud had been raining down on them as the men dug the hole, and the noise made it hard to hear Jesus. They could hardly believe it when Jesus looked at the man who couldn't walk and said, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

You could hear the gasp. Only God could forgive sins!



"Okay, I'll put it this way," Jesus said. "Stand up, grab your bedroll, and walk."

Immediately the lame man got on his feet. The crowd parted to let him through.

That day people learned that Jesus could cure both sick bodies and souls that are sick with sin.



Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas Mark 2:1-12