

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

This Gospel reading is especially important in our time. The culture of death is becoming more and more of a problem in contemporary society. Abortions abound and are legal. People who oppose them are called evil. Euthanasia is gaining more and more acceptance. Life after death is mocked as a silly superstition. In view of this growing darkness, a correct understanding of the nature of death and what follows is something that we as Orthodox Christian need always to remember. This Gospel reading encourages us to do just that. [\(continue\)](#)