

*St. Elias Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church*

*V. Rev. Fr. Elias Nasr*

*Deacon Nicholas Mahshie*

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**For Liturgy Names & Coffee Hour** email the above

**Saturday:** Vespers at 4:30 PM followed by confession

**Sunday:** Orthros at 9:30 AM & Divine Liturgy at 10:30 AM

**Check out our website @ [www.sainteliasny.com](http://www.sainteliasny.com)**

**ST. ELIAS**  
**ANTIOCHIAN CHRISTIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

**FEBRUARY 2, 2020**

**HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN JOSEPH, ARCHBISHOP OF NEW YORK AND  
METROPOLITAN OF ALL NORTH AMERICA**

**HIS GRACE BISHOP ALEXANDER, AUXILIARY BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF  
OTTAWA , UPSTATE NEY YORK AND EASTERN CANADA**

**V. REV. FR. ELIAS NASR, PASTOR  
DEACON NICHOLAS MAHSHIE**

**CHURCH: (315) 488-0388**

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**'DISCIPLES FIRST CALLED THEMSELVES CHRISTIANS N ANTIOCH.' ACTS 11:26**

**TONE 8/ EOTHINON 1 1  
WELCOME!**

We welcome all of our visitors who are praying with us today. We are eager to share with you our spiritual treasures, and invite you to join us for coffee-hour in the Fellowship Hall following the Divine Liturgy. If you are a first-time visitor, please take a few minutes to sign our Guest Registry book and complete the white VISITORS INFORMATION CARD which may be found in the Narthex, and return it to an usher. As a friendly reminder, **only Orthodox Christians who have properly prepared themselves through fasting, prayer and recent Confession may approach the Holy Chalice to receive Holy Communion. However all may come forward at end of Liturgy and receive blessed Holy Bread.** We look forward to meeting you and welcoming you personally to St. Elias. If you have any questions, please see Fr. Elias.

أهلاً بكم!

نرحب بجميع زوارنا الذين يصلون معنا اليوم ونحرص على مشاركتكم في كنوزنا الروحية، وندعوكم للانضمام إلينا لتناول القهوة معنا في قاعة الكنيسة بعد القداس الإلهي. إذا كانت هذه أول زيارة لكم، يرجى أخذ القليل من الوقت لتوقيع سجل الزوار واستكمال بطاقة معلومات الزوار البيضاء والتي توجد في صحن الكنيسة، وإعادتها إلى أحد مرشدي الكنيسة. وكتذكير ودي، يُسمح فقط للمسيحيين الأرثوذكس الذين أعدوا أنفسهم بشكل صحيح من خلال الصوم والصلاة واعتراف من زمن قريب بالاقتراب من كأس المقدسة لتناول القربان المقدس. ولكن يُسمح للجميع الاقتراب في نهاية القداس لاستلام الخبز المقدس المبارك. ونحن نتطلع للقائكم والترحيب بكم شخصياً في كنيسة مار الياس. يرجى توجيه الأسئلة إلى الأب الياس مباشرة.

**WORSHIPPING THE ALL-HOLY GOD  
Isaiah 57:15**

For thus says the high and lofty One who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite."

**PRAYER ON ENTERING THE CHURCH**

I WILL COME INTO THY HOUSE IN THE MULTITUDE OF THY MERCY: AND IN THY FEAR

of the Feast she holds a scroll which reads: "This Child has established Heaven and earth."

Before Christ was born, righteous men and women lived by faith in the promised Messiah, and awaited His coming. The Righteous Simeon and the Prophetess Anna, the last righteous people of the Old Testament, were deemed worthy to meet the Savior in the Temple.

The Feast of the Meeting of the Lord is among the most ancient feasts of the Christian Church. We have sermons on the Feast by the holy bishops Methodius of Patara (+ 312), Cyril of Jerusalem (+ 360), Gregory the Theologian (+ 389), Amphilocius of Iconium (+ 394), Gregory of Nyssa (+ 400), and John Chrysostom (+ 407). Despite its early origin, this Feast was not celebrated so splendidly until the sixth century.

In 528, during the reign of Justinian, an earthquake killed many people in Antioch. Other misfortunes followed this one. In 541 a terrible plague broke out in Constantinople, carrying off several thousand people each day. During this time of widespread suffering, a solemn prayer service (Litania) for deliverance from evils was celebrated on the Feast of the Meeting of the Lord, and the plague ceased. In thanksgiving to God, the Church established a more solemn celebration of this Feast.

Church hymnographers have adorned this Feast with their hymns: Saint Andrew of Crete in the seventh century; Saint Cosmas Bishop of Maium, Saint John of Damascus, and Saint Germanus Patriarch of Constantinople in the eighth century; and Saint Joseph, Archbishop of Thessalonica in the ninth century.

On this day we also commemorate the icon of the Most Holy Theotokos known as "the Softening of Evil Hearts" or "Simeon's Prophecy." The Mother of God is depicted without Her Child, with seven swords piercing her breast: three from the left side, three from the right, and one from below.

A similar icon, "Of the Seven Swords" (August 13) shows three swords on the left side and four from the right.

The icon "Simeon's Prophecy" symbolizes the fulfillment of the prophecy of the righteous Elder Simeon: "a sword shall pierce through your own soul" (Luke 2:35).

# The Meeting of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in the Temple

Commemorated on [February 2](#)

Today the Church commemorates an important event in the earthly life of our Lord Jesus Christ (Luke 2:22-40). Forty days after His birth the God-Infant was taken to the Jerusalem Temple, the center of the nation's religious life. According to the Law of Moses (Lev. 12:2-8), a woman who gave birth to a male child was forbidden to enter the Temple of God for forty days. At the end of this time the mother came to the Temple with the child, to offer a young lamb or pigeon to the Lord as a purification sacrifice. The Most Holy Virgin, the Mother of God, had no need of purification, since she had given birth to the Source of purity and sanctity without defilement. However, she humbly fulfilled the requirements of the Law.

At this time the righteous Elder Simeon (February 3) was living in Jerusalem. It had been revealed to him that he would not die until he should behold the promised Messiah. By inspiration from above, Saint Simeon went to the Temple at the very moment when the Most Holy Theotokos and Saint Joseph had brought the Infant Jesus to fulfill the Law.

The God-Receiver Simeon took the divine Child in his arms, and giving thanks to God, he spoke the words repeated by the Church each evening at Vespers: "Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to enlighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel" (Luke 2:29-32). Saint Simeon said to the Most Holy Virgin: "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel, and for a sign which shall be spoken against. Yea, a sword shall pierce through your own soul also, that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed" (Luke 2:34-35).

At the Temple was the 84-year-old widow Anna the Prophetess, daughter of Phanuel (February 3), "who did not leave the temple, but served God with fasting and prayers night and day. She arrived just when Saint Simeon met the divine Child. She also gave thanks to the Lord and spoke of Him to all those who were looking for redemption in Jerusalem" (Luke 2:37-38). In the icon



I WILL WORSHIP TOWARD THY HOLY TEMPLE. Lead me, O Lord, in thy righteousness because of mine enemies; make thy way straight before me, that with a clear mind I may glorify thee forever, One Divine Power worshipped in three Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

## PRAYER ON LEAVING THE CHURCH

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: for mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people: a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.

## CHURCH ETIQUETTE

**O Lord, sanctify those who love the beauty of your house.**

When you enter the church, please remember that the church is a place of worship. Please do not disturb others as they worship God. **PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES.**

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# PRESENTATION (MEETING) OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

## THE FIRST ANTIPHON

My heart hath poured forth a good word; I speak of my works to the king. My tongue is the pen of a swiftly writing scribe.

فَاضَ قَلْبِي كَلِمَةً صَالِحَةً. أَقُولُ أَنَا أَعْمَالِي لِلْمَلِكِ. لِسَانِي قَلَمٌ كَاتِبٌ سَرِيعَ الْكِتَابَةِ.

**Refrain:** Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

اللازمة: بِشَفَاعَاتِ وَالِدَةِ الْإِلَهِي، يَا مُخَلِّصُ خَلِّصْنَا.

Grace is poured into thy lips: therefore, God hath blessed thee forever. (**Refrain**)

انْسَكَبَتِ النُّعْمَةُ عَلَى شَفَتَيْكَ، لِذَلِكَ بَارَكَكَ اللَّهُ إِلَى الْأَبَدِ. (اللازمة)

Glory... Both now... (**Refrain**)

المَجْدُ لِلآبِ وَالْإِبْنِ وَالرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ. الْآنَ وَكُلَّ أَوَانٍ وَإِلَى دَهْرِ الدَّاهِرِينَ، آمِينَ. (اللازمة)

## THE SECOND ANTIPHON

Gird Thy sword upon Thy thigh, O mighty One, in Thy comeliness and Thy beauty. Bend Thy bow, and proceed prosperously, and be king.

تَقَلَّدْ سَيْفَكَ عَلَى فَخْذِكَ، أَيُّهَا الْقَدِيرُ، بِحُسْنِكَ وَجَمَالِكَ. تَشَدَّدْ وَانْجَحْ وَامْلِكْ.

**Refrain:** Save us, O Son of God, Who wast borne in the arms of righteous Simeon; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

اللازمة: خَلِّصْنَا يَا ابْنَ اللَّهِ، يَا مَنْ حُمِلَ عَلَى ذِرَاعَيْ سَمْعَانَ الصَّادِقِ، لِتُرْتَلَّ لَكَ. هَلْلُوِيَا.

Thine arrows are sharp, O mighty One, in the heart of the king's enemies; whereby the peoples fall under Thee. (**Refrain**)

نِبَالُكَ مَسْنُونَةٌ، أَيُّهَا الْقَدِيرُ، فِي قُلُوبِ أَعْدَاءِ الْمَلِكِ. وَالشُّعُوبُ تَحْتَكَ يَسْقُطُونَ. (اللازمة)

A scepter of uprightness is the scepter of Thy kingdom. (**Refrain**)

عصا مُلْكِكَ عَصَا اسْتِقَامَةٍ. (اللازمة)

Glory... Both now... O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

المَجْدُ لِلآبِ وَالإِبْنِ وَالرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ. الآنَ وَكُلَّ أَوَانٍ وَإِلَى دَهْرِ الدَاهِرِينَ، آمِينَ. (يا كَلِمَةَ اللَّهِ الإِبْنَ الوَحِيدِ...)

### **THE THIRD ANTIPHON**

Hearken, O daughter, and consider, and incline thine ear; forget also thine own people, and thy father's house. Even the rich among the people shall entreat thy countenance. I shall commemorate thy name in every generation.

إِسْمَعِي، يَا بِنْتُ، وَأَنْظُرِي، وَأَمِيلِي أُذُنَكَ، وَأَنْسِي شَعْبِكَ وَبَيْتَ أَبِيكَ. لَوْجُوهِكَ يَتَضَرَّعُ أَغْنِيَاءُ الشَّعْبِ. سَأَذْكُرُ اسْمَكَ فِي كُلِّ جِيلٍ وَجِيلٍ.

### **THE EISODIKON (ENTRANCE HYMN)**

The Lord hath made known His salvation; He hath revealed His justice in the sight of the Gentiles. Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

عَرَفَ الرَّبُّ خَلَاصَهُ، وَأَمَامَ جَمِيعِ الأُمَمِ كَشَفَ عَدْلَهُ.

خَلَّصْنَا يَا ابْنَ اللَّهِ، يَا مَنْ قَامَ مِنَ بَيْنِ الأَمْوَاتِ، لِنُرْتَلَّ لَكَ. هَلَلُوِيَا.

### **APOLYTIKION OF THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN TONE ONE**

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, full of grace, for from thee arose the Sun of justice, Christ our God, lighting those who are in darkness. Rejoice and be glad, O righteous elder, carrying in thine arms the Deliverer of our souls, Who granteth us Resurrection.

### **After the Little Entrance:**

### **RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE EIGHT**

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

انْحَدَرْتَ مِنَ العُلُوِّ يَا مُتَحَنِّنٌ، وَقَبِلْتَ الدُّفْنَ ذَا الثَّلَاثَةِ الأَيَّامِ، لِكَيْ تُعْفِنَنَا مِنَ الأَلَامِ، فَيَا حَيَاتِنَا وَقِيَامَتَنَا، يَا رَبَّ المَجْدُ لَكَ.

### **APOLYTIKION OF THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN TONE ONE**

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, full of grace, for from thee arose the Sun of justice, Christ our God, lighting those who are in darkness. Rejoice and be glad, O righteous elder, carrying in thine arms the Deliverer of our souls, Who granteth us Resurrection.

إِفْرَحِي يَا وَالِدَةَ الإِلَهِ العَذْرَاءَ، المُمْتَلِئَةَ نِعْمَةً، لِأَنَّ مِنْكَ أَسْرَقَ شَمْسُ العَدْلِ المَسِيحُ إِلَيْنَا، مُنِيرًا لِلذِّينِ فِي الظُّلَامِ. سُرٌّ وَابْتِهَاجٌ أَنْتَ أَيُّهَا الشَّيْخُ الصِّدِّيقُ، حَامِلًا عَلَى ذِرَاعَيْكَ المُعْتَقَ نَفْسِنَا، وَالْمَانِحَ لَنَا القِيَامَةَ.

### **KONTAKION OF THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN TONE ONE**

Thou, O Christ God, Who by Thy Birth, didst sanctify the Virgin's womb, and, as is meet, didst bless Simeon's arms, and didst also come to save us; preserve Thy fold in wars, and confirm them whom Thou didst love, for Thou alone art the Lover of mankind.

أَيُّهَا المَسِيحُ الإِلَهِ، يَا مَنْ بِمَوْلِدِهِ قُدْسَ المُسْتَوْدَعِ البَتُولِيِّ، وَبَارَكَ يَدَيَّ سَمْعَانَ كَمَا لاقَ، وَأَذْرَكَ نَا

### **Join the Order of St. Ignatius**

When His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH visits our parish, he will be inducting new members into the order of St. Ignatius on Sunday February 23rd. We encourage you to join this order that serves as the very strong charitable arm of our Archdiocese.

Among many other causes, the order supports: Camp Ministry, Refugee relief, the IOCC, Seminarians and seminaries, Retired clergy, widowed clergy wives, missions and evangelism, youth ministry, Special Olympics, college conference.

For more information please contact Father Elias or Nabil Jabaji



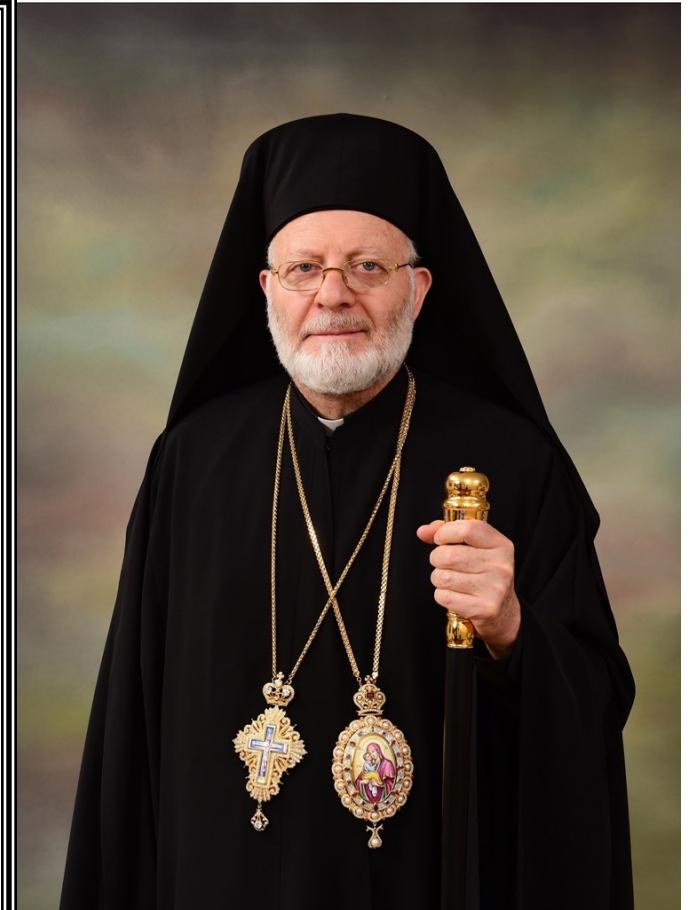
### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

Metropolitan JOSEPH, Archpastoral visit to our community on February 22-23, 2020.

On February 22nd, in Geneva, along with various clergy presiding over vesper service to be followed by dinner. Cost is \$25 each. Great Vespers will begin at 5:00pm. The dinner is in the church hall immediately following. The dinner menu consists of prime rib or seafood; with assorted fresh, hand-made Syrian dishes on the side; wine on the tables; desserts galore! Reservations need to be made by February 14th. Seating is limited. Please call 315-789-3060

On February 23rd., His Eminence will be presiding over our Divine Liturgy at our church, followed by an elegant luncheon for all. Details to follow.



- **THE COFFEE SPONSOR CHART FOR 2020** is posted in the Narthex. Please take the time to check the dates and sign up for a Sunday.
- **For Announcements, Oblations and Trisagions for the Bulletin**, the deadline is Tuesday evening. Please send your emails to church: [steliasny@aol.com](mailto:steliasny@aol.com) and to Sheila: [sahmaz@twcny.rr.com](mailto:sahmaz@twcny.rr.com)
- **Please keep your church pledges up-to-date.** We thank all those who have increased their offering. May God reward you with abundance.
- **Young Adult Ministry** will be having an interest meeting Sunday February the 16th immediately following liturgy service.

### **SCHEDULE/DATES TO REMEMBER**

Sunday	2/9	Festival Meeting following Liturgy/Coffee hour
Sunday	2/16	Young Adult Ministry Meeting following liturgy
Sat-Sun	2/22-2/23	Archpastoral Visit- Metropolitan JOSEPH

*We are grateful to Dona Savage and the committee who are arranging for the Blessing of Homes. Please cooperate with them so we can get the blessing of your homes before Lent.*

### **BLESSINGS OF HOMES:**

One of our greatest and most inspiring traditions is blessings of homes, immediately after the Great Blessing of water on the day of the Baptism of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We, orthodox Christians, are the guardians of the true faith; we hold that faith with fear and love, and we are given the opportunity to live this holy faith and reflect on it in our lives, in our homes, and in every corner of our material and physical world. The holy Church keeps the faith alive by keeping this tradition, provided that we do it with utmost faithfulness and devotion; otherwise, blessing homes with holy water becomes an empty ritual, a meaningless worldly event.

**Upon Fr. Elias arrival to bless your home, please do the following:**

1. Turn off TV, & Radio
2. Have a table with a family Icon, Candle, and a small bowl of water
3. If you have pets, put them in a room so as not to distract prayers
4. Have a paper with names of living and departed you would like mentioned in the prayer.
5. Please do not answer the phone during prayers.

وَحَلَّصْنَا؛ إِحْفَظْ رَعِيَّتَكَ بِسَلَامٍ فِي الْحُرُوبِ، وَأَيِّدِ الْمُلُوكَ الَّذِينَ أَحَبَبْتَهُمْ، بِمَا أَنْتَ وَحَدَاكَ مُجِيبٌ لِلْبَشَرِ.

**Today's Reader : Milia Alamir**

**Priest: Let us attend.**

**Reader: My soul doth magnify the Lord,  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.  
For He hath regarded the humility of His servant.**

**Priest: Wisdom**

**Reader: The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (7:7-17)**

**Priest: Let us attend.**

**Reader:** Brethren, it is beyond dispute that the inferior is blessed by the superior. Here tithes are received by mortal men; there, by one of whom it is testified that he lives. One might even say that Levi himself, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, for he was still in the loins of his ancestor when Melchizedek met him. Now if perfection had been attainable through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need would there have been for another priest to arise after the order of Melchizedek, rather than one named after the order of Aaron? For when there is a change in the priesthood, there is necessarily a change in the law as well. For the one of whom these things are spoken belonged to another tribe, from which no one has ever served at the altar. For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, and in connection with that tribe Moses said nothing about priests. This becomes even more evident when another priest arises in the likeness of Melchizedek, who has become a priest, not according to a legal requirement concerning bodily descent but by the power of an indestructible life. For it is witnessed of him, "Thou art a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek."

تُعْظَمُ نَفْسِي الرَّبِّ وَتَبْتَهِجُ رُوحِي بِاللَّهِ مُخْلِصِي.

لَأَنَّهُ نَظَرَ إِلَى تَوَاضُعِ أُمَّتِهِ.

**فصلٌ من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول الأولى إلى العبرانيين.**

يَا إِخْوَةَ، إِنَّهُ مِمَّا لَا خِلَافَ فِيهِ إِنَّ الْأَصْغَرَ يَأْخُذُ الْبَرَكَاتِ مِنَ الْأَكْبَرِ شَأْنًا وَهَهُنَا إِنَّمَا يَأْخُذُ الْعُشُورَ أَنْتَاسُ يَمُوتُونَ. فَأَمَّا هُنَاكَ فَالْمَشْهُودُ لَهُ بِأَنَّهُ حَيٌّ فَيَسُوعُ أَنْ يُقَالَ إِنَّ لَآوِي نَفْسُهُ الَّذِي يَأْخُذُ الْعُشُورَ قَدْ أَدَّى الْعُشُورَ بِإِبْرَاهِيمَ لِأَنَّهُ كَانَ فِي صَلْبِ أَبِيهِ حِينَ النِّقَاحِ مَلِكِيصَادَقَ وَلَوْ كَانَ بِالْكَهَنُوتِ اللَّآوِيِّ كَمَالًا (فَإِنَّ الشَّعْبَ عَلَيْهِ قَدْ أَخَذَ النَّامُوسَ) إِذَنْ أَيْتُهُ حَاجَةٌ كَانَتْ بَعْدَ أَنْ يَقُومَ كَاهِنٌ آخَرٌ عَلَى رُتْبَةِ مَلِكِيصَادَقَ، وَلَمْ يَقُلْ عَلَى رُتْبَةِ هَارُونَ؟ لِأَنَّهُ مَتَى تَحَوَّلَ الْكَهَنُوتُ، فَلَا بُدَّ مِنْ تَحَوُّلِ النَّامُوسِ أَيْضًا وَالْحَالُ إِنَّ الَّذِي يُقَالُ هَذَا فِيهِ، إِنَّمَا كَانَ مُشْتَرِكًا فِي سِبْطِ آخَرَ، لَمْ يَلْزِمَ أَحَدٌ مِنْهُ الْمَذْبَحَ لِأَنَّهُ مِنَ الْوَاضِحِ أَنَّ رَبَّنَا طَلَعَ مِنْ يَهُودَا، مِنَ السَّبْطِ الَّذِي لَمْ يَتَكَلَّمْ عَنْهُ مُوسَى بِشَيْءٍ مِنْ جِهَةِ الْكَهَنُوتِ وَمِمَّا يَزِيدُ الْأَمْرَ وَضُوحًا، إِنَّهُ يَقُومُ عَلَى مِثَالِ مَلِكِيصَادَقَ كَاهِنٌ آخَرٌ، غَيْرٌ مَنصُوبٍ حَسَبَ نَامُوسِ وَصِيَّةِ جَسَدِيَّةِ، بَلْ حَسَبَ قُوَّةِ حَيَاةٍ لَا تَزُولُ لِأَنَّهُ يَشْهَدُ "أَنْ أَنْتَ كَاهِنٌ إِلَى الْأَبَدِ عَلَى رُتْبَةِ مَلِكِيصَادَقَ".

**Priest: Peace be to you Reader.**

**PLEASE STAND!**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Next Sunday's Reader: Mai Makhlouf**

**Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (2:22-40)**

In those days, the parents of Jesus brought Him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male that opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord"), and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And inspired by the Spirit he came into the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the law, he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said, "Lord, now lettest thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to Thy people Israel." And His father and his mother marveled at what was said about Him; and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that thoughts out of many hearts may be revealed." And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher; she was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years from her virginity, and as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she gave thanks to God, and spoke of Him to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. And when they had performed everything according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon Him.

**فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ لَوْقَا الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّمْلِيذِ الطَّاهِرِ (22:2-40)**

في ذلك الزمان، صعدَ بالطفلِ يسوعَ أبواه إلى أورشليمَ ليقدماهُ للربِّ (على حسب ما هو مكتوب في ناموس الربِّ "أنَّ كُلَّ ذَكَرٍ فَاتِحَةٍ رَحِمٍ يُدْعَى قُدُوساً للربِّ"). وليُقرباً ذبيحةً على حسب ما قيل في ناموس الربِّ، "زوج يمامٍ أو فرخي حمامٍ" وكان إنسانٌ في أورشليمَ اسمه سيمعان، وكان هذا الإنسانُ باراً وتقياً، ينتظرُ تعزيةَ إسرائيل، والروحُ القدسُ كانَ عليه وكان قد أُوحِيَ إليه من الروح القدس أنه لا يرى الموتَ قبل أن يُعاینَ مسيحَ الربِّ فأقبلَ بالروح إلى الهيكل. وعندما دخلَ بالطفلِ يسوعَ أبواه ليصنعا له بحسب عادةِ الناموس، أفتبله هو على ذراعيه، وبارك الله، وقال: "الآن تطلقُ عبدك أيها السيدُ على حسب قولك بسلام، فإن عيني قد أبصرتنا خلاصك الذي أعددتَه أمامَ وجوه جميع الشعوب، نور إعلانٍ للأممِ ومجداً لشعبك إسرائيل" وكان يوسفُ وأمه يتعجبان مما يُقال فيه وباركهما سيمعان وقال لمريمَ أمه: "ها إن هذا قد جعل لسقوطٍ وقيام

كثيرين في إسرائيل، وهدفاً للمخالفة (وأنتِ سيجوزُ سيفٌ في نفسك) لكي تُكشَفَ أفكارٌ عن قلوبٍ كثيرة" وكانت أيضاً حنة النبية ابنة فنوئيل من سبط أشير هذه كانت قد تقدمت في الأيام كثيراً، وكانت قد عاشت مع رجلها سبع سنين بعد بكونيتها. ولها أرملة نحو أربع وثمانين سنة، لا تفارق الهيكل، مُعبدَةً بالأصوام والطلبات ليلاً نهاراً فهذه قد حصرت في تلك الساعة تشكرُ الربِّ، وتحدثُ عنه كل من كان ينتظرُ فداءً في أورشليم ولما أتموا كل شيءٍ على حسب ناموس الربِّ، رجعوا إلى الجليل إلى مدينتهم الناصرة وكان الصبي ينمو ويتقوى، مُتملياً حكمةً، وكانت نعمة الله عليه.

### **MEGALYNARION OF THE PRESENTATION IN TONE THREE**

*O Theotokos, \* thou hope of all Christians; \* keep and shelter and preserve \* them that set their hope in thee.*

In the shadow and letter of the Law, let us the faithful contemplate a prefiguring: Every male child that openeth the womb is holy unto God. Therefore, do we magnify the first-born Word, the Son of the Father Who is without beginning, the first-born Child of a Mother who hath not known wedlock.

*احفظي أم الإله، يا رجاء المؤمنين، من أذى هذي الحياة، طليبيك الواثقين.*

*لنعظم أيها المؤمنون، الابن البكر كلمة الآب الأزلي، المولود بكرًا لأم لم تعرف رجلاً، إذ قد شاهدنا في ظلِّ الناموس والكتاب رسماً، وهو أن كل ذكر يفتح مستودعاً، يدعى قدوساً لله.*

### **KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN) OF THE FEAST IN TONE EIGHT**

I will receive the cup of salvation, and call upon the Name of the Lord. Alleluia.

كأس الخلاصِ أقبُل، وباسمِ الربِّ أدعو. هلوليبا.

*Post-Communion Hymn: "We have seen the true light."*

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **The Holy Bread of Oblations today is being offered by the Abboud Family** for spiritual and physical well being of Simon and Lily Abboud, Anna, Shibel, Andrew and Marc Jabaji, Elias, Anna and Lyla Abboud, Tony Abboud, Michael, Jackie, Thomas and Clara Jabaji, George Abyad, Rebecca Husen and their families. **Also being offered in loving memory of** Alice Harrison, Colette Abboud, Najeeb and Enshirah Abboud, Nasrallah and Nahi Abyad, Tony, Johnny, Elias, Amira and Maha Abyad, Eveline Abdo, Salim Abboud, Marie Kanazeh, Nayla Nahal, Jesse Harrison, Elias Ayoub, Violette and Fahd Jabaji, Luverne Husen and all the deceased of the Abboud and Abyad families. May their memories be eternal.
- **Please pray for all the sick** and suffering, hospitalized and shut-ins of our community, especially, Mimi Daniel, Fahed Jiries, James Khammar, Violette Humsi, Salwa Makhlouf, Joseph Jacobs, Evelyn Gabriel, Nabeeha Mahshie.
- **SUNDAY HOLY BREAD SPONSORS:** Feb. 9th Festival Committee; Feb. 16th Jewel Gabriel 3 year memorial service for Charles Gabriel; Feb. 23rd Metropolitan Joseph Visit; Mar. 1st OPEN