

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

ST. ELIAS
ANTIOCHIAN CHRISTIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

FEBRUARY 14, 2021

**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

RECTORY: (315) 218-5529
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'DISCIPLES FIRST CALLED THEMSELVES CHRISTIANS N ANTIOCH.' ACTS 11:26

TONE 3/EOTHINON 3

VENERABLE AUXENTIOS THE PRIEST OF BITHYNIA; VENERABLE ABRAHAM AND MARON OF SYRIA; NEW-MARTYRS NICHOLAS OF CORINTH AND GEORGE THE TAILOR OF MITYLENE; VENERABLE CYRIL, EQUAL-TO-THE-APOSTLES AND ENLIGHTENER OF THE SLAVS

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

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 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

With this period of the pandemic all of us have witnessed the death of so many either directly or indirectly. However the church often reminds us of the importance of offering prayers for the departed loved ones, therefore we are sharing the following article in response to why we offer prayers for the departed.

Why do we offer prayers for the departed

The Orthodox Church defines death as "Falling asleep" in her prayers. Orthodoxy believes in the 'personal existence after death'. Our Prayers are offered during the Eucharist, asking that the Lord will establish our loved ones in God's mercy.

The question that comes to mind is this: "How do we justify our prayers for the departed ones in the hope of the resurrection?" of course the answer to this question does not mean that the effectiveness of prayers for the departed is subject to rational interpretation. It is an obligation that we should pray for one another (James 5:16). We offer our prayers so that we may be delivered from "all tribulation, wrath, danger, and necessity" see 2 Thes. 1:11-12; Eph. 6:18-19. On the other hand, death does not break the communion within the body of Christ (John 10:28-30, Rom. 8:38-39), for death has been destroyed in the crucifixion and resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ, which is mystically granted to the believers in the sacrament of Holy Baptism.

Love binds all the faithful believers, both the living and the dead. This is expressed in what Orthodoxy defines as "the communion of the Saints." We ask God to remember our departed loved ones because we love them and also because God is the God of living and the dead; for God is the "life, resurrection, and the repose of His servants" regardless whether they are alive and dead.

Prayers for the dead is an integral tenant of the Apostolic Tradition. In 2 Timothy 1:16-18 we read: "The Lord give mercy unto the house of Onesiphorus for he oft refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain... The Lord God grant unto him that he may find mercy of the Lord in that day..."

The holy fathers, St. John Chrysostom, St. Gregory the theologian, and St. Cyril of Jerusalem described life after death as a passage of purifying struggle, waiting for the fullness of the coming of the Second Resurrection. Our prayers that are offered for the repose of our departed ones, including the 3 day, 9 day, 40 day, and annual observances, should not be interpreted as if we are interfering in God's judgment. For we believe that in His eternal wisdom God will deal with us not by our merits, only by His love. Christianity is religion of love. As members of the body of Christ, death or anything else cannot destroy our membership in it. Prayers for the dead is the language of love which proves that love is mightier than death. It is only in the church that we declare that death has been destroyed and we look "for the resurrection of the dead", which we presently experience, "and the life of the world to come. Amen" "Let us love one another, (both the living and the dead), that with one accord we may confess: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; the Trinity, One in essence and undivided."

Today's reflection: I will love thee, O lord, and my strength: the Lord is my firm foundation, my refuge, and my deliverer.

SCHEDULE/DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday 2/17 Parish Council Meeting @ 7:00 pm

Dear Parishioners,

We would like to thank you for your great generosity. February will be the month of Spreading Love and Kindness, and your support helps further our mission. Especially, when winter feels a bit too long, taking care of each other, will make the wait for spring easier, and that is something God will reward. Our Heart to Heart and Hand in Hand drive continues, and we are in need of new or gently used coats all sizes ,for Men and Women. The donation box is at church, and if help needed, call us and we will be more than happy to pick it up.
Cheerfully in Christ
The Ladies



Happy Valentine's Day



Did you know that there are books that exist in Heaven that contain everything from details about your life to even tears that you have shed on Earth? I want to reveal to you five books that are in Heaven that are found in the Bible.

- 1- The Book of the Living
- 2- The Book of Tears
- 3- The Book of Remembrance
- 4- The Book of Works and Deeds
- 5- The Book of Life (Lamb's Book of Life)

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.

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST & SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

During the Little Entrance:

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE THREE

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and become the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

Entrance Hymn:

O come let us worship and fall down before Christ, O Son of God, who art risen from the dead, save us who sing unto thee: Alleluia

هَلِّمُوا لِنَسْجُدَ وَنَزْكَعَ لِلْمَسِيحِ، مَلِكِنَا وَإِلَهِنَا. حَلِّصْنَا يَا ابْنَ اللَّهِ، يَا مَنْ قَامَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ. لِنُرْتِّلَ لَكَ. هَلْلُوبِيَا.

After the Little Entrance:

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE THREE

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and become the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

لِنُفْرِحِ السَّمَاوِيَّاتِ وَلِنَتَبَهَّجِ الْأَرْضِيَّاتِ، لِأَنَّ الرَّبَّ صَنَعَ عِزًّا بِسَاعِدِهِ، وَوَطِئَ الْمَوْتَ بِالْمَوْتِ، وَصَارَ بِكَرِّ الْأَمْوَاتِ، وَأَنْقَذَنَا مِنْ جَوْفِ الْجَحِيمِ، وَمَنَحَ الْعَالَمَ الرَّحْمَةَ الْعُظْمَى.

TROPARION OF THE PATRON SAINT OF THE CHURCH TONE 4:

O Angelic of body the founder and corner stone of the prophets, the second forerunner of the advent of Christ, O Elias, venerable and glorious, thou didst send grace from heaven to thy disciple Elisha to dispel diseases and to purify lepers wherefore he abounds with healing to all those who honor him.

أيها الملاك بالجسم قاعدة الأنبياء وركنهم، السابق الثاني لحضور المسيح، إلياس المجيد الموقر، لقد أرسلت النعمة من العلى لأليشع ليطرد الأَسْقَامَ ويطهر البرص، لذلك يُفِيضُ الأَسْفِيَةَ بمكرميه دائما"

KONTAKION FOR ORDINARY SUNDAYS IN TONE TWO

O Undisputed intercessor of Christians, the mediatrix unrejected by the Creator, turn not away from the voice of our petitions, though we be sinners. Come to us in time, who cry to thee in faith, with assistance; for thou art good. Hasten to us with intercessions, O

Theotokos, who dost ever intercede for those who honor thee.

الفتداق بالحن الثاني

يا شفيعة المسيحيين غير الخازية، الوسيطة لدى الخالق غير المردودة، لا تعرضي عن أصوات طلباتنا نحن الخطاة، بل تداركينا بالمعونة بما أنك صالحة، نحن الصارخين إليك بإيمان: بادري إلى الشفاعة وأسرعني في الطلبة يا والدة الإله المتشفعة دائماً بمكرّميك.

Today's Reader : TBA

Priest: Let us attend.

Reader: Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them.

God is known in Judah; His Name is great in Israel.

Reader: The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians.

(6:16-7:1)

(For the Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost)

Brethren, you are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will live in them and move among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. Therefore, come out from them, and be separate from them," says the Lord, "and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you, and I will be a father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters," says the Lord Almighty. Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, and make holiness perfect in the fear of God.

صَلُّوا وَأَوْفُوا الرَّبَّ إِلَهَنَا.

الله معروف في أرض يهوذا. اسْمُهُ عَظِيمٌ فِي إِسْرَائِيل.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولَسَ الرِّسُولِ الثَّانِيَةِ إِلَى أَهْلِ كورنثوس.

يا إخوة، أنتم هيكل الله الحي، كما قال الله "إني سأسكن فيهم، وأسير فيما بينهم، وأكون لهم إلهاً وهم يكونون لي شعباً فلذلك أخرجوا من بينهم واعتزلوا"، يقول الرب، "ولا تمسوا جسداً، فأقبلكم، وأكون لكم أباً، وتكونون أنتم لي بنين وبنات"، يقول الرب القدير. وإذ لنا هذه المواعيد، أيها الأجباء، فلنظهر أنفسنا من كل أدناس الجسد والروح، ونكمل القداسة بمخافة الله.

PLEASE STAND!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Next Sunday's Reader: TBA

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (15:21-28)

(For the Seventeenth Sunday of Matthew)

At that time, Jesus went to the district of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and cried, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely possessed by a demon." But He did not answer her one word. And His disciples came and begged Him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before Him, saying, "Lord, help me." And He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table." Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ مَتَّى الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ

والتلميذ الطاهر (28-15:21)

في ذلك الزمان، خرج يسوع إلى نواحي صور وصيدا. وإذا بإمرأة كنعانية قد خرجت من تلك النجوم وصرخت إليه قائلة: "إرحمني يارب! يا ابن داود، فإن ابنتي بها شيطان يُعذبها جداً." فلم يجبها بكلمة. فدنا تلاميذه وسألوه قائلين: "إصرفها فإنها تصيح في إثرنا." فأجاب وقال لهم: "لم أرسل إلا إلى الخراف الضالة من بيت إسرائيل." فأنت وسجدت له قائلة: "أعطني يارب." فأجاب قائلاً: "ليس حسناً أن يؤخذ خبز البنين ويلقى للكلاب." فقالت: "نعم يا رب، فإن الكلاب أيضاً تأكل من الفتات الذي يسقط من موائد أربابها." حينئذ أجاب يسوع وقال لها: "يا امرأة، عظيم إيمانك، فليكن لك كما أردت." فسويت أبنؤها من تلك الساعة.

MEGALYNARION:

It is truly meet ...

Koinonikon (Communion Hymn)

Praise ye the Lord from the Heavens; praise ye Him in the highest. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **The Holy Bread of Oblations today is being offered by the Mahfouz and Lina Abu-Manneh** for the spiritual and physical well being of Mahfouz, Lina, Fayez and Salma. As well as Fayez and Nadia, Georgina, Rami and their children, Tamara and her children and for Elias & Gloria Shamieh, Rula, Wadie and their children. **Also being offered in loving memory** of our grandparents, Mahfouz and Maggie Abu-Manneh, Shukri and Milia Dayeh, Fahed and Surayya Shamieh, and Jad and Fayzeh Dayeh and Zaid Atallah. May their memories be eternal.
- **Please pray for all the sick** and suffering, hospitalized and shut-ins of our community, especially, Violette Humsi, Salwa Makhlof, Evelyn Gabriel.
- **Father Elias and the Parishioners of St. Elias Church** extend their condolences to the Gabriel family, his children, Ralph, James, William and Kimberly, brothers, Phil and Evelyn, Fr. Anthony and Lyn and sister, Sharon and Richard Rossy from Montreal, Canada and sister-in-law Jewell Gabriel on the falling asleep in the Lord of Abraham "Gabe" Gabriel on Friday, February 5, 2021 from complications due to COVID. May his memory be eternal. Long life to the family.
- **SUNDAY HOLY BREAD:** Feb. 21st Charles & Cecilia Shahin; Feb. 28th Essi family.
- **THE COFFEE SPONSOR CHART FOR 2021** is posted by the coat rack. If you would like to sponsor the Holy Bread during this COVID-19 period, please call the office to check for the date and sign up.
- **For Announcements, Oblations and Trisagions for the Bulletin**, the deadline is Tuesday evening. Please send your emails to church: steliasny@aol.com and to Sheila: 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. **Reminder**— you are able to make your church contributions on our website via PayPal.
- **Please remember to make a reservation** for attending church services by going to the church website www.sainteliasny.com
- **Upon entering church** please remember to wear a mask, use hand sanitizer and get your temperature taken. Remember to social distance.
- **The PLC this year for 2021 has been canceled.**