

St. Elias Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church

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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

JULY 23, 2023

HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN SABA, 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

REV, FR. MICHAEL IBRAHIM
DEACON NICHOLAS MAHSHIE

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

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST & SEVENTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

HIEROMARTYR PHOCAS, BISHOP OF SINOPE; HIEROMAR-
TYRS APOLLINARIS AND VITALIS, BISHOPS OF RAVENNA;
MARTYR APOLLONIUS OF ROME; HOLY PROPHET EZEKIEL

TONE 6/ EOTHINON 7

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
may glorify thee forever, One Divine Power worshipped in three Persons: Father, Son
and Holy Spirit. Amen.

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.

hot coals. They expelled him from the city a second time, but the Lord again kept him alive. The saint did not cease preaching until he left the city. For a certain time Saint Apollinaris found himself elsewhere in Italy, where he continued to preach the Gospel as before. Returning to his flock in Ravenna, Saint Apollinaris went on trial yet again and was sentenced to banishment.

In heavy fetters, he was placed on a ship bound for Illyrica and the Danube River. Two soldiers were responsible for escorting him to his place of exile. Three of the clergy voluntarily followed their bishop into exile. Along the way the vessel was wrecked and everyone drowned, except for Saint Apollinaris, his clergy and the two soldiers. The soldiers, listening to Saint Apollinaris, believed in the Lord and were baptized. Not finding any shelter, the travelers came to Moisia in Thrace, where Saint Apollinaris healed a certain illustrious inhabitant from leprosy. Both he and his companions were given shelter at the man's home. In this land Saint Apollinaris preached tirelessly about Christ and he converted many of the pagans to Christianity, for which he was subjected to persecution by the unbelievers. They beat the saint mercilessly, then they sent him back to Italy aboard a ship.

After a three year absence, Saint Apollinaris returned to Ravenna and was joyfully received by his flock. The pagans, however, entered the church where the saint was serving the Divine Liturgy, scattered those at prayer, and dragged the saint before the idolatrous priests at the pagan temple of Apollo. The idol fell and shattered to pieces just as the saint was brought in. The pagan priests brought Saint Apollinaris to Taurus, the new governor of the district for trial. Apollinaris performed a new miracle, healing the son of the governor, who had been blind from birth. In gratitude for the healing of his son, Taurus tried to protect Saint Apollinaris from the angry crowd. He sent him to his own estate outside the city. Although Taurus's wife and son were baptized, he feared the anger of the emperor, and did not receive Baptism. However, he was filled with gratitude and love toward his benefactor.

Saint Apollinaris lived for five years at Taurus's estate and preached without hindrance. During this time pagan priests sent letters of denunciation to Emperor Vespasian requesting a sentence of death or exile for the Christian "sorcerer" Apollinaris. But the emperor told the pagan priests that the gods were sufficiently powerful to take revenge for themselves, if they felt insulted. All the wrath of the pagans fell upon Saint Apollinaris: they seized him and beat him fiercely as he was leaving the city for a nearby settlement. Christians found him barely alive and took him to the settlement, where he lived for seven days. During his final illness the saint did not cease to teach his flock. He predicted that after the persecutions ended, Christians would enter upon better times when they could openly and freely confess their faith. After bestowing his archpastoral blessing upon those present, the hieromartyr Apollinaris fell asleep in the Lord. Saint Apollinaris was Bishop of Ravenna for twenty-eight years, and he reposed in the year 75.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **The Holy Bread of Oblations today is being offered by Elias and Anna Abboud**, for the continued good health and well being of Elias, Anna, and Lyla Abboud, Simon and Lily Abboud, Rebecca Husen, Anna, Shibel, Michael, Jackie, Thomas, Clara, John, Andrew, and Marc Jabaji, Tony Abboud, and all their relatives. **Also being offered in loving memory of** Colette Abboud, Luverne Husen, Najeeb and Enshirah Abboud, Nasrallah and Nahi Abyad, Alfred and Katie Husen, John Frank and Una Lois McCoy, and all the deceased of the Abboud, Abyad, Husen and McCoy families. May their memory be eternal.
- **Please pray for all the sick** and suffering, hospitalized and shut-ins of our community, especially Simon Abboud, Janet Saba, Siham Ayoub, Salwa Makhlof, Kawthar Shomar, Elias Shamieh, Nada Tadros, Evelyn Gabriel, Eva Phillips.

Hieromartyr Apollinaris, Bishop of Ravenna

Saint Apollinaris was a disciple of the Apostle Peter, whom he followed from Antioch to Rome sometime during the reign of the Roman emperor Claudius (41-54). Saint Peter appointed Apollinaris as Bishop of Ravenna. Arriving in Ravenna as a stranger, Saint Apollinaris asked shelter of a local inhabitant, the soldier Irenaeus, and during their conversation he revealed the purpose for which he had come.

Irenaeus had a blind son, whom Saint Apollinaris healed, after he had prayed to the Lord. The soldier Irenaeus and his family were the first people in Ravenna to believe in Christ. The saint stayed at the house of Irenaeus and preached about Christ to everyone who wished to hear his words. One of the miracles that Saint Apollinaris performed was the healing of Thekla, the incurably sick wife of the tribune. Through the prayers of the saint, she got up from her bed completely healthy. Not only did she believe in Christ, but so did her husband the tribune. In their house Saint Apollinaris set up a small church, where he celebrated the Divine Liturgy. Saint Apollinaris ordained two presbyters, Aderetus and Calocyrus, and also two deacons for the newly-baptized people of Ravenna.

Saint Apollinaris labored with great zeal, preaching the Gospel at Ravenna for twelve years, and the number of Christians steadily increased. Pagan priests complained about the bishop to the governor Saturninus. The hierarch was brought to trial and subjected to grievous tortures. Thinking that he had died, the torturers took him out of the city to the seacoast and threw him into the water. The saint, however, was still alive. A certain pious Christian widow helped him and gave him shelter in her home. Saint Apollinaris stayed with her for six months, and secretly continued to preach about Christ. The saint's whereabouts became known when he restored the power of speech to an illustrious resident of the city named Boniface, whose wife had requested the saint to help her husband.

After this miracle many pagans were converted to Christ, and once again Saint Apollinaris was brought to trial and tortured. His bare feet were placed on red-

THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)

On July 23 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the recovery of the precious relics of the holy Hieromartyr Phocas, Bishop of Sinope.

Phocas exercised himself in all the Christian virtues from his youth. As bishop in his birthplace, the town of Sinope on the shores of the Black Sea, he strengthened the faith of the true believers by his example and divine words and converted many idol-worshippers to the true Faith. The hard-hearted pagans were filled with rage against holy Phocas. Through a vision granted him by the Lord, he foresaw his martyrdom for Christ: Phocas saw a white dove fly down from heaven carrying a beautiful wreath of flowers in its beak, and lowered the wreath onto his head. He was not afraid, but with gratitude toward God prepared himself for suffering. A certain prince, Africanus, took Phocas for interrogation, and subjected him to harsh tortures, and after a time of imprisonment threw him into boiling water, where this brave soldier of Christ ended his earthly life and settled in the joy of his Lord. Phocas suffered during the reign of Emperor Trajan in 102.

On this day, we also commemorate the Hieromartyrs Apollinaris and Vitalis, bishops of Ravenna; Martyr Apollonius of Rome; and the Holy Prophet Ezekiel. By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

THE EPISTLE

Today's Reader: Roy Nasr (English) Rima Nasr (Arabic)

Priest: Let us attend.

**Reader: O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.
Unto Thee, O Lord, will I cry, O my God!**

Reader: The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans. (15:1-7)
(For the Seventh Sunday after Pentecost)

Brethren, we who are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each one of us please his neighbor for that which is good for his edification. For Christ also did not please Himself; but, as it is written: "The reproaches of those who reproached Thee fell on Me." For whatever was written beforehand was written for our learning, that we might have hope, through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures. Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be of the same mind with one another, according to Christ Jesus, that with one accord and one mouth you may glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, receive one another, even as Christ has also received you, to the glory of God.

خَلِّصْ يَا رَبُّ شَعْبَكَ وَبَارِكْ مِيرَاتِكَ.

إِلَيْكَ يَا رَبُّ أَصْرُخُ إِلَهِي.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولُسَ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى أَهْلِ رُومِيَّةِ.

يَا إِخْوَةَ، يَجِبُ عَلَيْنَا نَحْنُ الْأَقْوِيَاءُ أَنْ نَحْتَمِلَ وَهَنْ الصُّعْفَاءِ وَلَا نُرْضِيَ أَنْفُسَنَا. فَلْيُرْضِ كُلُّ وَاحِدٍ مِمَّا قَرِيبَهُ لِلْخَيْرِ، لِأَجْلِ الْبُنْيَانِ. فَإِنَّ الْمَسِيحَ لَمْ يُرْضِ نَفْسَهُ، وَلَكِنْ كَمَا كُتِبَ "تَغْيِيرَاتُ مُعْتَرِكَ وَقَعَتْ عَلَيَّ." لِأَنَّ كُلَّ مَا كُتِبَ مِنْ قَبْلُ، إِنَّمَا كُتِبَ لِتَعْلِيمِنَا، لِيَكُونَ لَنَا الرَّجَاءُ بِالصَّبْرِ وَبِتَغْيِيرَةِ الْكُتُبِ. وَلْيُعْطِكُمْ إِلَهُ الصَّبْرِ وَالتَّغْيِيرَةِ أَنْ تَكُونُوا مُتَّفِقِي الْأَرَاءِ فِيمَا بَيْنَكُمْ، بِحَسَبِ الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ. حَتَّى إِنَّكُمْ بِنَفْسٍ وَاحِدَةٍ وَقَمٍ وَاحِدٍ تُمَجِّدُونَ اللَّهَ أَبَا رَبِّنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحَ. مِنْ أَجْلِ ذَلِكَ، فَلْيَتَّخِذْ بَعْضُكُمْ بَعْضًا كَمَا اتَّخَذَكُمُ الْمَسِيحُ لِمَجْدِ اللَّهِ.

THE GOSPEL

PLEASE STAND!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (9:27-35)
(For the Seventh Sunday of Matthew)

At that time, as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed him, crying aloud: "Have mercy on us, Son of David." When He entered the house, the blind men came to Him; and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to Him, "Yes, Lord." Then He touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly charged them, "See that no one knows it." But they went away and spread His fame through all that district. As they were going away, behold, a dumb demoniac was brought to Him. And when the demon had been cast out, the dumb man spoke; and the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel." But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons." And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity.

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ مَتَّى الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ. (9:27-35)

في ذلك الزمان، فيما يسوع مُجْتَازًا، تَبِعَهُ أَعْمِيَانِ يَصِيحَانِ وَيَقُولَانِ: اِرْحَمْنَا يَا ابْنَ دَاوُدَ. فَلَمَّا دَخَلَ الْبَيْتَ، دَنَا إِلَيْهِ الْأَعْمِيَانِ، فَقَالَ لَهُمَا يَسُوعُ: هَلْ تُؤْمِنَانِ أَنِّي أَقْدِرُ أَنْ أَفْعَلَ ذَلِكَ؟ فَقَالَا لَهُ: نَعَمْ، يَا رَبِّ. حَيْثُ لَمَسَ أَعْيُنَهُمَا قَائِلًا: كَأَيْمَانِكُمَا فَلْيَكُنْ لَكُمَا. فَانْفَتَحَتْ أَعْيُنُهُمَا. فَانْتَهَرَهُمَا يَسُوعُ قَائِلًا: انظُرَا، لَا يَعْلَمُ أَحَدٌ. فَلَمَّا خَرَجَا، شَهَرَاهُ فِي تِلْكَ الْأَرْضِ كُلِّهَا. وَبَعْدَ خُرُوجِهِمَا، قَدَّمَا إِلَيْهِ أَحْرَسَ بِهِ شَيْطَانٌ. فَلَمَّا أُخْرِجَ الشَّيْطَانُ، تَكَلَّمَ الْأَحْرَسُ. فَتَعَجَّبَتِ الْجُمُوعُ قَائِلِينَ: لَمْ يَظْهَرْ قَطُّ مِثْلُ هَذَا فِي إِسْرَائِيلَ. أَمَا الْفَرِيسِيُّونَ قَالُوا: إِنَّهُ بَرْنَيْسِ الشَّيَاطِينِ يُخْرِجُ الشَّيَاطِينِ. وَكَانَ يَسُوعُ يَطُوفُ الْمُدُنَ كُلَّهَا وَالْقُرَى، يُعَلِّمُ فِي مَجَامِعِهِمْ، وَيَكْرِزُ بِبَشَارَةِ الْمَلَكُوتِ، وَيَشْفِي كُلَّ مَرَضٍ وَكُلَّ ضَعْفٍ فِي الشَّعْبِ.

THE SEVENTH EOTHINON DOXASTICON IN TONE SEVEN

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Behold the dawn, and the rise of the day; why hast thou stood, O Mary, at the grave? And great darkness hath covered thy mind, and thou asked him: Where hath Jesus been placed? Yea, behold the Disciples, who hastened to the tomb, how they surmised His Resurrection from the coffin wrappings and the turban, and remembered what was said about Him in the books. Wherefore, we who believed through them, praise Thee with them, O Christ, Giver of life.

المَجْدُ لِلآبِ وَالْإِبْنِ وَالرُّوحِ الْقُدْسِ

هَا الْعَلَسُ وَالسَّحَرُ، فَلِمَاذَا وَقَفْتِ يَا مَرْيَمُ عِنْدَ الرَّمْسِ؟ وَقَدْ غَشِيَ عَقْلُكَ ظَلَامٌ كَثِيرٌ، وَمِنْهُ تَلْتَمِسِينَ أَيْنَ وَضَعَ يَسُوعُ؟ لَكِنْ انظُرِي إِلَى التَّلَامِيزِ الَّذِينَ أَسْرَعُوا إِلَى اللَّحْدِ، كَيْفَ اسْتَدَلُّوا عَلَى قِيَامَتِهِ مِنَ الْعِمَامَةِ وَالْأَكْفَانِ، وَذَكَرُوا مَا قِيلَ عَنْهُ فِي الْكُتُبِ. لِذَلِكَ نَحْنُ الَّذِينَ آمَنَّا بِوَسِطَتِهِمْ، نُسَبِّحُكَ مَعَهُمْ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ الْوَاهِبُ الْحَيَاةِ.

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Most blessed art thou, O Virgin Theotokos, for through Him that was incarnate of thee is Hades despoiled, Adam is recalled from the dead, the curse is made void, Eve is set free, death is slain, and we are endowed with life. Wherefore, in hymns of praise, we cry aloud: Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, Who is thus well pleased, glory to Thee.

الآن وكلّ أوانٍ وإلى دهرِ الداهرين. آمين

أَنْتِ هِيَ الْفَائِقَةُ عَلَى كُلِّ الْبَرَكَاتِ، يَا وَالِدَةُ الْإِلَهِ الْعَذْرَاءُ، لِأَنَّ الْجَحِيمَ قَدْ سُيِّبَتْ بِوَسِطَةِ الْمُتَجَسِّدِ مِنْكَ، وَأَدَمُ دُعِيَ ثَانِيَةً، وَاللَّعْنَةُ بَادَتْ، وَحَوَاءَ انْعَتَقَتْ، وَالْمَوْتُ أُمِيتَ، وَنَحْنُ قَدْ حَيِينَا. فَلِذَلِكَ نُسَبِّحُ هَاتِفِينَ: مُبَارَكٌ أَنْتِ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ إِلَهُنَا، يَا مَنْ هَكَذَا سُرَّ، الْمَجْدُ لَكَ.

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. Michael.

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 الكأس 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 مايكل مباشرةً.

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.