

St. Elias Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church

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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

SEPTEMBER 10, 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
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'DISCIPLES FIRST CALLED THEMSELVES CHRISTIANS IN ANTIOCH.' ACTS 11:26

SUNDAY BEFORE THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

AFTER-FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS

MARTYRS MENODORA, METRODORA AND NYMPHODORA OF
BITHYNIA; EMPRESS PULCHERIA; PETER, BISHOP OF
NICAEA

TONE 5/ EOTHINON 3

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.

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 الأسقام ويظهر البرص، لذلك يُفِيض الأشفية بمكرميهِ دائماً"

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 إلياس. 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **The Holy Bread of Oblations is not being offered by anyone today.**
- **Please pray for all the sick** and suffering, hospitalized and shut-ins of our community, especially Rana, Shadi, Simon Abboud, Janet Saba, Siham Ayoub, Salwa Mahloul, Kawthar Shomar, Elias Shamieh, Nada Tadros, Evelyn Gabriel, Eva Phillips.

was without child, since Anna was barren. Having reached old age, Joachim and Anna had strong faith that everything was possible with God. Joachim and Anna vowed to dedicate the child which the Lord might give them to the service of God in the Temple. Childlessness was considered as a Divine punishment for sin, and Joachim and Anna had to endure abuse from their own countrymen. On one of the feast days at the Temple, the elderly Joachim brought his sacrifice to offer to God, but the High Priest would not accept it, considering him to be unworthy since he was childless.

In deep grief, Joachim went into the wilderness, and there he prayed with tears to the Lord for a child. Anna wept bitterly when she learned what had happened at the Temple. Never once did she complain against the Lord, but rather she prayed to ask God's mercy on her family. The Lord fulfilled her petitions when the pious couple had attained extreme old age and prepared themselves by virtuous life for a sublime calling to be the parents of the Most Holy Virgin Mary, the future Mother of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Archangel Gabriel brought Joachim and Anna the joyous message that their prayers were heard by God, and of them would be born a most blessed daughter, Mary, through Whom would come the Salvation of all the World. The Most Holy Virgin Mary surpassed in purity and virtue not only all mankind, but also the angels. She was manifest as the living Temple of God, so the Church sings in its festal hymns: "the East Gate... bringing Christ into the world for the salvation of our souls" (2nd Stikhera on "Lord, I Have Cried", Tone 6).

The Nativity of the Theotokos marks the change when the great promises of God for salvation from slavery to the devil were about to be fulfilled. This event brought to earth the grace of the Kingdom of God, a Kingdom of Truth, piety, virtue and everlasting life. The Theotokos is revealed to all of us by grace as a merciful Intercessor and Mother, to Whom we have recourse with filial devotion.

Troparion (Tone 4)

Your Nativity, O Virgin,
Has proclaimed joy to the whole universe!
The Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God,
Has shone from You, O Theotokos!
By annulling the curse,
He bestowed a blessing.
By destroying death, He has granted us eternal Life.

Kontakion (Tone 4)

By Your Nativity, O Most Pure Virgin,
Joachim and Anna are freed from barrenness;
Adam and Eve, from the corruption of death.
And we, your people, freed from the guilt of sin, celebrate and sing to you:
The barren woman gives birth to the Theotokos, the nourisher of our life!

THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)

On September 10 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we continue to celebrate the Nativity of the Theotokos; and we commemorate the Martyrs Menodora, Metrodora and Nymphodora of Bithynia.

These sisters grew up in the Faith in Asian Bithynia. They withdrew to the wilderness and dedicated themselves to great labor, fasting and prayer. God adorned them with the gift of miracle-working. A certain governor, Fronton, called for them. Although they were great fasters and their bodies were withered, their faces were radiant, illumined by inward peace and the grace of God. He ordered that Menodora be tortured first. Fronton called out to Menodora, who was wounded and bloody: "Offer sacrifice to the gods!" To this the holy martyr replied: "Do you not see that I am offering my entire self as a sacrifice to my God?" When Menodora gave up her spirit, the governor brought out her two sisters, and stood them by the body of Menodora, where he counseled them to deny Christ. Since they remained steadfast, he slew them by harsh tortures. Just then, a thunderbolt struck from heaven, and killed the soulless Fronton and his servants. The sisters suffered in the fourth century and found rest in the Kingdom of Christ.

On this day, we also commemorate the Empress Pulcheria; and Peter, bishop of Nicaea. By the intercessions of Thy saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

THE EPISTLE

Today's Reader: Yara Alamir (English) Milia Alamir (Arabic)

Priest: Let us attend.

**Reader: O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.
To Thee, O Lord, I have cried, O my God.**

Reader: The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians. (6:11-18)

Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the Law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all, who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

خَلِّصْ يَا رَبُّ شَعْبَكَ وَبَارِكْ مِيرَاثَكَ.

إِلَيْكَ يَا رَبُّ أَصْرُخُ الْهَي.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِّيسِ بُولْسِ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى أَهْلِ غَلَاطِيَّةِ.

يَا إِخْوَةَ، انظُرُوا مَا أَعْظَمَ الْكِتَابَاتِ الَّتِي كَتَبْتُهَا إِلَيْكُمْ بِيَدِي. إِنَّ كُلَّ الَّذِينَ يُرِيدُونَ أَنْ يُرْضُوا

بِحَسَبِ الْجَسَدِ يُلْزِمُونَكُمْ أَنْ تَخْتَبِتُوا، وَإِنَّمَا ذَلِكَ لِئَلَّا يُضْطَهَدُوا مِنْ أَجْلِ صَلِيبِ الْمَسِيحِ. لِأَنَّ الَّذِينَ يَخْتَبِتُونَ

هُمْ أَنْفُسُهُمْ لَا يَحْفَظُونَ النَّامُوسَ بَلْ إِنَّمَا يُرِيدُونَ أَنْ تَخْتَبِتُوا لِيَقْتَحِرُوا بِأَجْسَادِكُمْ. أَمَّا أَنَا، فَحَاشَى لِي أَنْ

أَفْتَحِرْ إِلَّا بِصَلِيبِ رَبَّنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ، الَّذِي بِهِ صُلبَ الْعَالَمُ لِي وَأَنَا صُلبْتُ لِلْعَالَمِ. لِأَنَّهُ فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ
لَيْسَ الْخِتَانُ بِشَيْءٍ وَلَا الْقَلْفُ بِلِ الْخَلِيقَةِ الْجَدِيدَةِ. وَكُلُّ الَّذِينَ يَسْلُكُونَ بِحَسَبِ هَذَا الْقَانُونِ، فَعَلَيْهِمْ سَلَامٌ
وَرَحْمَةٌ وَعَلَى إِسْرَائِيلِ اللَّهِ. فَلَا يَجْلِبُ عَلَيَّ أَحَدٌ أَنْعَابًا فِيمَا بَعْدُ، فَإِنِّي حَامِلٌ فِي جَسَدِي سِمَاتِ الرَّبِّ يَسُوعَ.
نِعْمَةٌ رَبَّنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ مَعَ رُوحِكُمْ أَيُّهَا الْإِخْوَةُ. آمِينَ.

THE GOSPEL

PLEASE STAND!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (3:13-17)

The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but He who descended from heaven, the Son of man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent His Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him."

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفًا مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ يُوْحَنَّا الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ.

قَالَ الرَّبُّ: لَمْ يَصْعَدْ أَحَدٌ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ إِلَّا الَّذِي نَزَلَ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ، ابْنُ الْبَشَرِ الَّذِي هُوَ فِي السَّمَاءِ.

وَكَمَا رَفَعَ مُوسَى الْحَيَّةَ فِي الْبَرِّيَّةِ، هَكَذَا يَنْبَغِي أَنْ يُرْفَعَ ابْنُ الْبَشَرِ. لِكَيْ لَا يَهْلِكَ كُلُّ مَنْ يُؤْمِنُ بِهِ، بَلْ

تَكُونُ لَهُ الْحَيَاةُ الْأَبَدِيَّةُ. لِأَنَّهُ هَكَذَا أَحَبَّ اللَّهُ الْعَالَمَ حَتَّى بَدَّلَ ابْنَهُ الْوَحِيدَ لِكَيْ لَا يَهْلِكَ كُلُّ مَنْ يُؤْمِنُ بِهِ بَلْ

تَكُونُ لَهُ الْحَيَاةُ الْأَبَدِيَّةُ. فَإِنَّهُ لَمْ يُرْسِلِ اللَّهُ ابْنَهُ الْوَحِيدَ إِلَى الْعَالَمِ لِيَدِينِ الْعَالَمَ، بَلْ لِيُخَلِّصَ بِهِ الْعَالَمَ.

THE THIRD EOTHINON DOXASTICON IN TONE THREE

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

Verily, the Disciples were taunted for the hardness of their hearts because they doubted when Mary Magdalene proclaimed to them the fact of the Resurrection of the Savior and His appearance to her. But, when they were armed with miracles and wonders, they were sent out to warn. As for Thee, O Lord, Thou didst ascend to Thy Father, the Element of all light; and they preached in every place verifying their words with wonders and miracles. Wherefore, we who were enlightened by them glorify Thy Resurrection from the dead, O Lover of mankind.

الْمَجْدُ لِلآبِ وَالْإِبْنِ وَالرُّوحِ الْقَدَسِ.

إِنَّ التَّلَامِيذَ عَيَّرُوا بِسَاوَةِ قُلُوبِهِمْ، إِذْ شَكَّوْا لَمَّا بَشَّرْتَهُمْ مَرِيَمُ الْمَجْدَلِيَّةُ بِقِيَامَةِ الْمُخَلِّصِ وَظُهُورِهِ لَهَا. إِلَّا أَنَّهُمْ

لَمَّا تَسَلَّحُوا بِالْآيَاتِ وَالْعَجَائِبِ، أُرْسِلُوا إِلَى الْكُرْزِ. أَمَا أَنْتَ يَا رَبُّ، فَصَعَدْتَ إِلَى أَبِيكَ عُنْصُرِ الْأَنْوَارِ، وَهُمْ

فَكَرَّرُوا فِي كُلِّ مَكَانٍ مُحَقِّقِينَ كَلَامَهُمْ بِالْآيَاتِ وَالْمُعْجِزَاتِ. فَلِذَلِكَ، نَحْنُ الَّذِينَ اسْتَنْرْنَا بِهِمْ، نُمَجِّدُ قِيَامَتَكَ مِنْ

بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ، أَيُّهَا الرَّبُّ، الْمُحِبُّ الْبَشَرَ.

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 دهرٍ الداهرين. آمين.

أَنْتِ هِيَ الْفَائِزَةُ عَلَى كُلِّ الْبَرَكَاتِ، يَا وَالِدَةَ الْإِلَهِ الْعِذْرَاءِ، لِأَنَّ الْجَحِيمَ قَدْ سُبِّبَتْ بِوَأَسْطَةِ الْمُتَجَسِّدِ مِنْكَ،

وَأَدَمَ دُعِيَ ثَانِيَةً، وَاللَّعْنَةُ بَادَتْ، وَحَوَاءَ انْعَتَقَتْ، وَالْمَوْتُ أُمِيتَ، وَنَحْنُ قَدْ حَيِينَا. فَلِذَلِكَ نُسَبِّحُ هَاتِعِينَ:

مُبَارَكٌ أَنْتِ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ إِلَهُنَا، يَا مَنْ هَكَذَا سُرَّ، الْمَجْدُ لَكَ.



Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary + September 8

The Nativity of Our Most Holy Virgin Mary is celebrated by the Church as a day of universal joy. Within the context of the Old and the New Testaments, the Most Blessed Virgin Mary was born on this radiant day, having been chosen before the ages by Divine Providence to bring about the Mystery of the Incarnation of the Word of God. She is revealed as the Mother of the Savior of the World, Our Lord Jesus Christ.

She was born in the city of Galilee, Nazareth. Her parents were Joachim of the tribe of the Prophet-King David, and Anna from the tribe of the First Priest Aaron. The couple