

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
MARCH 17, 2024
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

SUNDAY OF FORGIVENESS (CHEESE FARE)

VENERABLE ALEXIOS THE 'MAN OF GOD;' PATRICK, BISHOP OF
 ARMAGH AND ENLIGHTENER OF IRELAND

TONE 8/ EOTHINON 8

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 ليطرده الأسقام ويظهر البرص، لذلك يُغيب الأشفية بمكرميته 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 today is being offered by Jeurje & Suha Alamir,** for the spiritual and physical wellbeing of Faisal, Nahla, Habib, Millia, Yara, Naya, Andre, Zeina, Faisal, Hala, Hanin, Jeurie, Suha, Andre, Grace, Zouhir, Mary, Emad, Sally, Maria, Mahfoud, Fatin, George and the whole Alamir and Amra families. **Also being offered in loving memory of Lana Alamir. May her memory be eternal.**
- **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 Makhlof, Kawthar Shomar, Elias Shamieh, Nada Tadros, Evelyn Gabriel.
- **Please pray for all those** who have suffered and lost loved ones in Palestine and the Middle East.

Although Saint Patrick achieved remarkable results in spreading the Gospel, he was not the first or only missionary in Ireland. He arrived around 432 (though this date is disputed), about a year after Saint Palladius began his mission to Ireland. There were also other missionaries who were active on the southeast coast, but it was Saint Patrick who had the greatest influence and success in preaching the Gospel of Christ. Therefore, he is known as "The Enlightener of Ireland."

His autobiographical Confession tells of the many trials and disappointments he endured. Patrick had once confided to a friend that he was troubled by a certain sin he had committed before he was fifteen years old. The friend assured him of God's mercy, and even supported Patrick's nomination as bishop. Later, he turned against him and revealed what Patrick had told him in an attempt to prevent his consecration. Many years later, Patrick still grieved for his dear friend who had publicly shamed him.

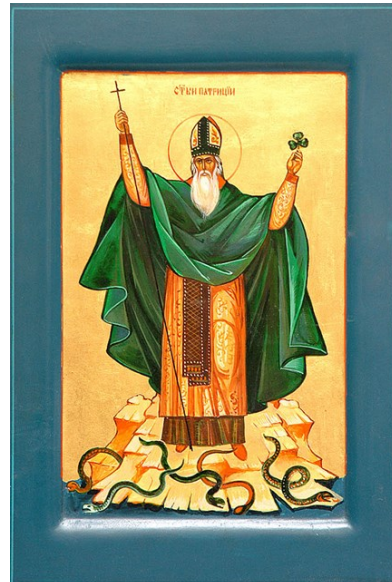
Saint Patrick founded many churches and monasteries across Ireland, but the conversion of the Irish people was no easy task. There was much hostility, and he was assaulted several times. He faced danger, and insults, and he was reproached for being a foreigner and a former slave. There was also a very real possibility that the pagans would try to kill him. Despite many obstacles, he remained faithful to his calling, and he baptized many people into Christ.

The saint's Epistle to Coroticus is also an authentic work. In it he denounces the attack of Coroticus' men on one of his congregations. The Breastplate (Lorica) is also attributed to Saint Patrick. In his writings, we can see Saint Patrick's awareness that he had been called by God, as well as his determination and modesty in undertaking his missionary work. He refers to himself as "a sinner," "the most ignorant and of least account," and as someone who was "despised by many." He ascribes his success to God, rather than to his own talents: "I owe it to God's grace that through me so many people should be born again to Him."

By the time he established his episcopal See in Armagh in 444, Saint Patrick had other bishops to assist him, many native priests and deacons, and he encouraged the growth of monasticism.

Saint Patrick is often depicted holding a shamrock, or with snakes fleeing from him. He used the shamrock to illustrate the doctrine of the Holy Trinity. Its three leaves growing out of a single stem helped him to explain the concept of one God in three Persons. Many people now regard the story of Saint Patrick driving all the snakes out of Ireland as having no historical basis.

Saint Patrick died on March 17, 461 (some say 492). There are various accounts of his last days, but they are mostly legendary. Muirchu says that no one knows the place where Saint Patrick is buried. Saint Columba of Iona (June 9) says that the Holy Spirit revealed to him that Patrick was buried at Saul, the site of his first church. A granite slab was placed at his traditional grave site in Downpatrick in 1899.



THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)

On March 17 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate Venerable Alexios the 'Man of God;' and Patrick, bishop of Armagh and enlightener of Ireland.

On this day, we make remembrance of the exile of the first-fashioned, Adam, from the Paradise of delight.

It is the Sunday of Forgiveness, known also as Cheese Fare Sunday. Today's lesson from the Holy Gospel teaches us about forgiveness and fasting, and how both are crucial to our own return to Paradise. The divine Fathers also set the anniversary of the exile of Adam from the Paradise of bliss on this day, at the entrance of Great Lent, to show us by deed as well as word how great is the benefit that accrues to man from fasting and repenting; and, on the contrary, how great the harm that comes from destructive gluttony and from disobedience to the divine commandments. The sin of gluttony resulted in Adam and Eve's banishment from Paradise, because they disobeyed God by eating from the tree which He had forbidden them. The Church reminds us of this event to encourage us to return to that ancient glory and primeval happiness by means of fasting and obedience to God and His commandments.

By Thine ineffable compassion, O Christ our God, make us worthy of the delight of Paradise and have mercy on us, as Thou art alone the Lover of mankind. Amen.

THE EPISTLE

Priest: Let us attend.

Reader: Make your vows unto the Lord and perform them. God is known in Judah; His name is great in Israel.

Reader: The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans. (13:11-14:4)

Brethren, now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk becomingly, as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in chambering and licentiousness, not in strife and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh to fulfill its lusts. But as for the one who is weak in faith, receive him, but not for disputes over opinions. For one believes he may eat anything; but the weak person eats herbs. Let not him who eats despise him who does not eat, and let not him who does not eat judge him who eats; for God has received him. Who are you to be the judge over the servant of a stranger? To his own master he either stands or falls; but he will be made to stand; for God is able to make him stand.

صَلُّوا وَأَوْفُوا الرَّبَّ إِلَهَنَا.

اللَّهُ مَعْرُوفٌ فِي أَرْضِ يَهُودَا. إِسْمُهُ عَظِيمٌ فِي إِسْرَائِيلَ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولُسَ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى أَهْلِ رُومِيَّةِ.

يَا إِخْوَةُ، إِنَّ خَلَاصَنَا الْآنَ أَقْرَبُ مِمَّا كَانَ حِينَ آمَنَّا. قَدْ تَنَاهَى اللَّيْلُ وَأَقْتَرَبَ النَّهَارُ، فَلْتَدَعْ عَنَّا أَعْمَالَ الظُّلْمَةِ وَتَلْبَسْ أَسْلِحَةَ النُّورِ. لِنَسْلُكَنَّ سُلُوكًا لَائِقًا كَمَا فِي النَّهَارِ، لَا بِالْقُصُوفِ وَالسُّكْرِ، وَلَا بِالْمَضَاجِعِ وَالْعَهْرِ، وَلَا بِالْخِصَامِ وَالْحَسَدِ، بَلِ الْبَسُوا الرَّبَّ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحَ وَلَا تَهَنَّمُوا بِأَجْسَادِكُمْ لِقَضَاءِ شَهَوَاتِهَا. مَنْ كَانَ ضَعِيفًا فِي الْإِيمَانِ فَاتَّخِذُوهُ بِغَيْرِ مُبَاحَثَةٍ فِي الْآرَاءِ. مِنَ النَّاسِ مَنْ يَعْتَقِدُ أَنَّ لَهُ أَنْ يَأْكُلَ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ،

مَنْظُورَةٌ. فِيا رَبِّ، أَهْلُنَا بِهَا أَنْ نَسْجُدَ لِأَلَامِكِ، وَقِيَامَتِكَ الْمَقْدِسَةِ، بِمَا أَنْتَ مُحِبُّ لِلْبَشَرِ.

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 الدهرين. آمين.

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

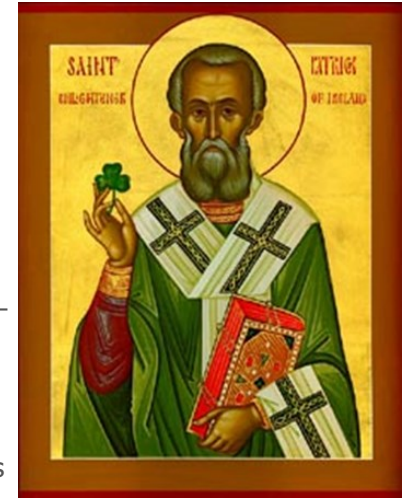
وَأَدَمَ دُعِيَ ثَانِيَةً، وَاللَّعْنَةُ بَادَتْ، وَحَوَاءَ انْعَتَقْتَ، وَالْمَوْتَ أُمِيتَ، وَنَحْنُ قَدْ حَيِينَا. فَلِذَلِكَ نُسَبِّحُ هَاتِيئِينَ:

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

Saint Patrick, Bishop of Armagh, Enlightener of Ireland

Commemorated on [March 17](#)

Saint Patrick, the Enlightener of Ireland was born around 385, the son of Calpornius, a Roman decurion (an official responsible for collecting taxes). He lived in the village of Bannavem Taberniae, which may have been located at the mouth of the Severn River in Wales. The district was raided by pirates when Patrick was sixteen, and he was one of those taken captive. He was brought to Ireland and sold as a slave, and was put to work as a herder of swine on a mountain identified with Slemish in Co. Antrim. During his period of slavery, Patrick acquired a proficiency in the Irish language which was very useful to him in his later mission.



He prayed during his solitude on the mountain, and lived this way for six years. He had two visions. The first told him he would return to his home. The second told him his ship was ready. Setting off on foot, Patrick walked two hundred miles to the coast. There he succeeded in boarding a ship, and returned to his parents in Britain.

Some time later, he went to Gaul and studied for the priesthood at Auxerre under Saint Germanus (July 31). Eventually, he was consecrated as a bishop, and was entrusted with the mission to Ireland, succeeding Saint Palladius (July 7). Saint Palladius did not achieve much success in Ireland. After about a year he went to Scotland, where he died in 432.

Patrick had a dream in which an angel came to him bearing many letters. Selecting one inscribed "The Voice of the Irish," he heard the Irish entreating him to come back to them.

أَمَّا الصَّعِيفُ فَيَأْكُلُ بُقُولًا. فَلَا يَزِدِرِ الَّذِي يَأْكُلُ مَنْ لَا يَأْكُلُ وَلَا يَدِينُ الَّذِي لَا يَأْكُلُ مَنْ يَأْكُلُ، فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ قَدْ اتَّخَذَهُ. مَنْ أَنْتِ يَا مَنْ تَدِينُ عَبْدًا أَجْنَبِيًّا؟ إِنَّهُ لِمَوْلَاهُ يَنْبُتُ أَوْ يَسْقُطُ. لَكِنَّهُ سَيَنْبُتُ لِأَنَّ اللَّهَ قَادِرٌ عَلَى أَنْ يُنْبِتَهُ.

GOSPEL

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (6:14-21)

The Lord said to His Disciples: If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father Who is in secret; and your Father Who sees in secret will reward you. Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ مَتَى الْإِنْجِيلِيّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّمْذِيذِ الطَّاهِرِ.

قَالَ الرَّبُّ: إِنْ عَفَرْتُمْ لِلنَّاسِ زَلَّاتِهِمْ، يَغْفِرُ لَكُمْ أَبُوكُمْ السَّمَاوِيِّ أَيْضًا. وَإِنْ لَمْ تَغْفِرُوا لِلنَّاسِ زَلَّاتِهِمْ،

فَأَبُوكُمْ أَيْضًا لَا يَغْفِرُ لَكُمْ زَلَّاتِكُمْ. وَمَتَى صُمْنُمْ، فَلَا تَكُونُوا مُعَبِّسِينَ كَالْمُرَائِينَ. فَإِنَّهُمْ يُنْكِرُونَ وَجُوهَهُمْ

لِيُظْهِرُوا لِلنَّاسِ صَائِمِينَ. الْحَقُّ أَقُولُ لَكُمْ، إِنَّهُمْ قَدْ أَخَذُوا أَجْرَهُمْ. أَمَّا أَنْتِ إِذَا صُمْتِ، فَادْهَنْ رَأْسَكَ وَاغْسِلِ وَجْهَكَ لِيَلَّا تَظْهَرَ لِلنَّاسِ صَائِمًا، بَلْ لِأَبِيكَ الَّذِي فِي الْخَفِيَّةِ، وَأَبُوكَ الَّذِي يَرَى فِي الْخَفِيَّةِ يُجَازِيكَ عِلَانِيَةً.

لَا تَكْتُمُوا لَكُمْ كُنُوزًا عَلَى الْأَرْضِ، حَيْثُ يُفْسِدُ السُّوسُ وَالْآكِلَةُ وَيَنْقُبُ السَّارِقُونَ وَيَسْرِقُونَ. لَكِنْ اكْتُمُوا لَكُمْ

كُنُوزًا فِي السَّمَاءِ حَيْثُ لَا يُفْسِدُ سَوْسٌ وَلَا آكِلَةٌ وَلَا يَنْقُبُ السَّارِقُونَ وَلَا يَسْرِقُونَ. لِأَنَّهُ حَيْثُ تَكُونُ كُنُوزُكُمْ،

هُنَاكَ تَكُونُ قُلُوبُكُمْ.

THE DOXASTICON FOR SUNDAY OF FORGIVENESS IN TONE SIX

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

The time cometh for us to begin our spiritual contests and triumph over the demons. Let us put on the complete armor of abstinence which is the beauty of the angels and the confidence before God; for thereby Moses spoke with the Creator, and he heard the voice of the Invisible One. Thereby, O Lord, make us worthy to worship Thy Passion and holy Resurrection, since Thou art the Lover of mankind.

الْمَجْدُ لِلآبِ وَالْإِبْنِ وَالرُّوحِ الْقَدَسِ.

قَدْ وَافَى الزَّمَانُ، الَّذِي هُوَ بَدَأَ الْجِهَادَاتِ الرُّوحِيَّةِ، وَالْفَوْزَ عَلَى الشَّيَاطِينِ، وَالسِّلَاحَ الْكَامِلُ لِلْإِمْسَاكِ، جَمَالُ

الْمَلَائِكَةِ، وَالذَّالَّةُ لَدَى اللَّهِ. لِأَنَّ بِهِ صَارَ مُوسَى مُنَاجِيًا الْخَالِقِ، وَقَبِلَ فِي مَسْمَعِهِ صَوْتًا، بِحَالٍ غَيْرِ