

*St. Elias Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church*

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

**Saturday:** Vespers at 5:00 PM followed by confession

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

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The prophecy was fulfilled when the Philistines, having slain in battle 30,000 Israelites (among them Hophni and Phinees, the sons of Eli the High Priest), gained victory and captured the Ark of the Covenant. Hearing this, the High Priest Eli fell backwards from his seat at the gate, and breaking his back, he died. The wife of Phinees, upon hearing what had happened in this very hour, gave birth to a son (Ichabod) and died with the words: "The glory has departed from Israel, for the Ark of God is taken away" (1 Sam/1 Kgs 4: 22).

Upon the death of Eli, Samuel became the judge of the nation of Israel. The Ark of God was returned by the Philistines on their own initiative. After returning to God, the Israelites returned to all the cities that the Philistines had taken. In his old age, the Prophet Samuel made his sons Joel and Abiah judges over Israel, but they did not follow the integrity and righteous judgment of their father, since they were motivated by greed.

Then the elders of Israel, wanting the nation of God to be "like other nations" (1 Sam/1 Kgs 8: 20), demanded of the Prophet Samuel that they have a king. The Prophet Samuel anointed Saul as king, but saw in this a downfall of the people, whom God Himself had governed until this time, announcing His will through "judges," His chosen saints. Resigning the position of judge, the Prophet Samuel asked the people if they consented to his continued governance, but no one stepped forward for him.

After denouncing the first king, Saul, for his disobedience to God, the Prophet Samuel anointed David as king. He had offered David asylum, saving him from the pursuit of King Saul. The Prophet Samuel died in extreme old age. His life is recorded in the Bible (1 Sam/1 Kgs; Sirach 46:13-20).

In the year 406 A.D. the relics of the Prophet Samuel were transferred from Judea to Constantino-ple.

## Thaddeus of the Seventy

Commemorated on August 21

Saint Thaddeus, Apostle of the Seventy, was by descent a Hebrew, and he was born in the Syrian city of Edessa. The holy Apostle Thaddeus of the Seventy must be distinguished from Saint Jude, also called Thaddeus or Levi (June 19), who was one of the Twelve Apostles.

When he came to Jerusalem for a feastday, he heard the preaching of John the Forerunner. After being baptized by him in the Jordan, he remained in Palestine. He saw the Savior, and became His follower. He was chosen by the Lord to be one of the Seventy Disciples, whom He sent by twos to preach in the cities and places where He intended to visit (Luke. 10: 1).

After the Ascension of the Savior to Heaven, Saint Thaddeus preached the good news in Syria and Mesopotamia. He came preaching the Gospel to Edessa and he converted King Abgar, the people and the pagan priests to Christ. He backed up his preaching with many miracles (about which Abgar wrote to the Assyrian emperor Nerses). He established priests there and built up the Edessa Church.

Prince Abgar wanted to reward Saint Thaddeus with rich gifts, but he refused and went preaching to other cities, converting many pagans to the Christian Faith. He went to the city of Beirut to preach, and he founded a church there. It was in this city that he peacefully died in the year 44. (The place of his death is indicated as Beirut in the Slavonic MENAION, but according to other sources he died in Edessa. According to an ancient Armenian tradition, Saint Thaddeus, after various tortures, was beheaded by the sword on December 21 in the Artaz region in the year 50).



## THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)

On August 25 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the return of the holy relics of the holy glorious Apostle Bartholomew.

When Bartholomew was crucified in Albanopolis (Derbend) in Armenia, Christians removed his body and honorably buried it in a lead sarcophagus. When numerous miracles and healings occurred over the grave of the apostle—because of which the number of Christians increased—the pagans then took the sarcophagus containing the relics of Bartholomew and tossed it into the sea. They did the same to the sarcophagi of four other martyrs. However, by God's providence, none of them sank and the current carried them to separate but safe shores. Agathon, bishop of the island of Lipara, mystically learned of Bartholomew's approaching relics and, with the clergy and people, came to the shore to receive them with great joy. On that occasion, many healings of the sick occurred from the relics of the holy Bartholomew.

On this day, we commemorate the holy Apostle Titus of the Seventy, bishop of Gortynia in Crete. Titus was born in Crete and educated in Greek philosophy and poetry. Following a dream, he began reading the Prophet Isaiah and doubted all the wisdom of the Hellenes. Hearing about Christ the Lord, Titus traveled to Jerusalem with other Cre-tans and personally heard the words of the Savior and witnessed His mighty works. His young heart completely adhered to Christ. Later, he was baptized by the Apostle Paul whom he served as a son to a father in evangelization. Titus was present at the suffering and death of Paul in Rome and honorably buried his body. After that, Titus returned to Crete where, with great success, he baptized the pagans and prudently governed the Church of God until his repose at age 94.

By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

## THE EPISTLE

**Priest: Let us attend.**

**Reader: Make your vows and pay them to the Lord our God. God is known in Judaea; His Name is great in Israel.**

**Reader: The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (3:9-17)**

Brethren, we are God's fellow workers; you are God's husbandry, God's building. According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise architect I laid a foundation, and another builds upon it. Let each one take heed how he builds upon it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; everyone's work will become manifest; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire itself will test each one's work of what sort it is. If anyone's work which was built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, but he himself will be saved, yet so as by fire. Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone corrupts the temple of God, God will corrupt him. For the temple of God is holy, whose temple you are.

صَلُّوا وَأَوْفُوا الرَّبَّ إِلَهَنَا،

اللَّهُ مَعْرُوفٌ فِي أَرْضِ يَهُودَا.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولُسَ الرَّسُولِ الْأُولَى إِلَى أَهْلِ كورِنْثُوس.

يَا إِخْوَةَ، إِنَّا نَحْنُ عَامِلُونَ مَعَ اللَّهِ، وَأَنْتُمْ حَرَثُ اللَّهِ وَبِنَاءُ اللَّهِ. أَنَا بِحَسَبِ نِعْمَةِ اللَّهِ الْمُعْطَاةِ لِي،

كِبْتَاءِ حَكِيمٍ وَضَعْتُ الْأَسَاسَ وَآخَرُ يَبْنِي عَلَيْهِ. فَلْيَنْظُرْ كُلُّ وَاحِدٍ كَيْفَ يَبْنِي عَلَيْهِ. إِذْ لَا يَسْتَطِيعُ أَحَدٌ أَنْ

## THE NINTH EOTHINON DOXASTICON IN TONE FIVE

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

In the fullness of time, O Christ, thou didst appear among Thy beloved ones on the eve of the Sabbath, and didst confirm to them a wonder through a wonder, namely Thy Resurrection from the dead by Thine entrance while the doors were closed. But Thou didst fill the Disciples with joy, granting them the Holy Spirit, and didst bestow on them power to forgive sins. And as for Thomas, Thou didst not permit him to drown in the depths of faithlessness. Wherefore, grant us the knowledge of the truth, and forgiveness of sins, O compassionate Lord.

المَجْدُ لِلآبِ وَالإِبْنِ وَالرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ.

عِنْدَ تَمَامِ الأَزْمِنَةِ أَيُّهَا المَسِيحُ، وَقَفْتَ بأَجْبَانِكَ فِي عَشِيَّةِ السُّبُوتِ، وَحَقَّقْتَ لَهُمْ عَجَباً بَعْجَبٍ، أَي قِيَامَتَكَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الأَمْوَاتِ، بِدُخُولِكَ والأَبْوَابِ مُغْلَقَةً. لِكِنَّكَ مَلَأْتَ التَّلَامِيذَ فَرِحاً، وَمَتَحْتَهُمْ رُوحاً قُدُوساً، وَوَهَبْتَهُمْ سُلْطَانَ غُفْرَانِ الخَطَايَا. أَمَا تَوْماً فَلَمْ تُهْمَلْهُ أَنْ يَغْرُقَ فِي عاصِفِ عَدَمِ الإِيمَانِ. لِذَلِكَ هَبْنَا مَعْرِفَةً حَقَّةً، وَغُفْرَانَ الزَّلَّاتِ، أَيُّهَا الرَّبُّ المُنْحَنِّينَ.

### 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.

الآنَ وَكُلَّ أَوَانٍ وَإِلَى دَهْرِ الدَاهِرِينَ. آمِينَ.

أَنْتِ هِيَ الفَائِقَةُ عَلَى كُلِّ البَرَكَاتِ، يَا وَالدَةَ الإِلَهِ العَذْرَاءَ، لِأَنَّ الجَحِيمَ قَدْ سُبِّبَتْ بِوِاسِطَةِ المُنْتَجَبِ مِنْكَ، وَأَدَمَ دُعِيَ ثَانِيَةً، وَاللَّعْنَةُ بَادَتْ، وَحَوَاءَ انْعَتَقْتَ، وَالمَوْتَ أَمِيَتْ، وَنَحْنُ قَدْ حَيِينَا. لِذَلِكَ نُسَبِّحُ هَاتِقِينَ: مُبَارَكٌ أَنْتِ أَيُّهَا المَسِيحُ إِلهُنَا، يَا مَنْ هَكَذَا سُرَّ، المَجْدُ لَكَ.

## Prophet Samuel

Commemorated on August 20

The Prophet Samuel was the fifteenth and last of the Judges of Israel, living more than 1146 years before the Birth of Christ. He was descended from the Tribe of Levi, and was the son of Elkanah from Ramathaim-Zophim of Mount Ephraim. He was born, having been besought from the Lord through the prayers of his mother Hannah (therefore he received the name Samuel, which means "besought from God"). Even before birth, he was dedicated to God. Her song, "My heart exults in the Lord," is the third Old Testament ode of the Canon (1 Sam/1 Kings 2:1-10).

When the boy reached the age of three, his mother went with him to Shiloh and in accord with her vow dedicated him to the worship of God. She gave him into the care of the High Priest Eli, who at this time was a judge over Israel. The prophet grew in the fear of God, and at twelve years of age he had a revelation that God would punish the house of the High Priest Eli, because he did not restrain the impiety of his sons. Eli's whole family was wiped out in a single day.



يَصْعَ أساساً غَيْرَ المَوْضُوعِ، وَهُوَ يَسُوعُ المَسِيحِ. فَإِنْ كَانَ أَحَدٌ يَبْنِي عَلَى هَذَا الأَسَاسِ ذَهَباً أَوْ فِصَّةً أَوْ حِجَارَةً ثَمِينَةً أَوْ خَشَباً أَوْ حَشِيشاً أَوْ تَبْنًا. فَإِنَّ عَمَلَ كُلِّ وَاحِدٍ سَيَكُونُ بَيْنًا، لِأَنَّ يَوْمَ الرَّبِّ سَيُظْهِرُهُ لِأَنَّهُ يُعْلَنُ بِالنَّارِ، وَسَتَمْتَحِنُ النَّارُ عَمَلَ كُلِّ وَاحِدٍ مَا هُوَ. فَمَنْ بَقِيَ عَمَلُهُ الَّذِي بَنَاهُ عَلَى الأَسَاسِ، فَسَيَنَالُ أُجْرَةً. وَمَنْ اخْتَرَقَ عَمَلَهُ، فَسَيَخْسُرُ، وَسَيَخْلُصُ هُوَ وَلَكِنْ كَمَنْ يَمُرُّ فِي النَّارِ. أَمَا تَعْلَمُونَ أَنَّكُمْ هَيْكَلُ اللهِ وَأَنَّ رُوحَ اللهِ سَاكِنٌ فِيكُمْ؟ مَنْ يُفْسِدُ هَيْكَلَ اللهِ يُفْسِدُهُ اللهُ لِأَنَّ هَيْكَلَ اللهِ مُقَدَّسٌ، وَهُوَ أَنْتُمْ.

## GOSPEL

### Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (14:22-34)

At that time, Jesus made the Disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He dismissed the crowds. And after He had dismissed the crowds, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. When evening came, He was there alone, but the Disciples' boat by this time was many furlongs distant from the land, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea. But when the Disciples saw Jesus walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately He spoke to them, saying, "Take heart, it is I; have no fear." And Peter answered Him, "Lord, if it is Thee, bid me come to Thee on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out His hand and caught him, saying to him, "O man of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped Him, saying, "Truly, Thou art the Son of God." And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.

### فصلٌ شريفٌ من بشارَةِ القُدَيْسِ مَتَّى الإِنْجِيلِيّ البَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيذِ الطَّاهِرِ.

فِي ذَلِكَ الزَّمَانِ، اضْطَرَّ يَسُوعُ تَلَامِيذَهُ أَنْ يَدْخُلُوا السَّفِينَةَ وَيَسْبِقُوهُ إِلَى العَبْرِ حَتَّى يَصْرِفَ الجُمُوعِ. وَلَمَّا صَرَفَ الجُمُوعِ، صَعِدَ وَحْدَهُ إِلَى الجَبَلِ لِیُصَلِّيَ. وَلَمَّا كَانَ المَسَاءُ، كَانَ هُنَاكَ وَحْدَهُ. وَكَانَتِ السَّفِينَةُ فِي وَسْطِ البَحْرِ تَكْذُهَا الأمْوَاجُ، لِأَنَّ الرِّيحَ كَانَتْ مُضَادَّةً لَهَا. وَعِنْدَ الهَجْعَةِ الرَّابِعَةِ مِنَ اللَّيْلِ، مَضَى إِلَيْهِمْ مَاشِيًا عَلَى البَحْرِ. فَلَمَّا رَأَى التَّلَامِيذُ مَاشِيًا عَلَى البَحْرِ، اضْطَرَبُوا وَقَالُوا "إِنَّهُ خَيَالٌ"، وَمِنَ الخَوْفِ صَرَخُوا. فَلِلْوَقْتِ كَلَّمَهُمْ يَسُوعُ قَائِلًا: "يُتَّقُوا، أَنَا هُوَ، لَا تَخَافُوا." فَأَجَابَهُ بَطْرُسُ قَائِلًا: "يَا رَبُّ، إِنْ كُنْتُ أَنْتَ هُوَ، فَمُرْنِي أَنْ آتِيَ إِلَيْكَ عَلَى المِيَاهِ." فَقَالَ: "تَعَالَ." فَنَزَلَ بَطْرُسُ مِنَ السَّفِينَةِ، وَمَشَى عَلَى المِيَاهِ آتِيًا إِلَى يَسُوعِ. فَلَمَّا رَأَى شِدَّةَ الرِّيحِ، خَافَ، وَإِذْ بَدَأَ يَغْرُقُ، صَاحَ قَائِلًا: "يَا رَبُّ نَجِّنِي!" وَلِلْوَقْتِ مَدَّ يَسُوعُ يَدَهُ وَأَمْسَكَ بِهِ، وَقَالَ لَهُ: "يَا قَلِيلَ الإِيمَانِ، لِمَاذَا شَكَّكَتَ؟" وَلَمَّا دَخَلَ السَّفِينَةَ، سَكَنَتِ الرِّيحُ. فَجَاءَ الَّذِينَ كَانُوا فِي السَّفِينَةِ وَسَجَدُوا لَهُ قَائِلِينَ: "بِالحَقِيقَةِ أَنْتَ ابْنُ اللهِ." وَلَمَّا عَبَرُوا، جَاءُوا إِلَى أَرْضِ جَنْيسَارَتِ.