

*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

**Check out our website @ [www.sainteliasny.com](http://www.sainteliasny.com)**

**ST. ELIAS**  
**ANTIOCHIAN CHRISTIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
**OCTOBER 13, 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**  
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 'DISCIPLES FIRST CALLED THEMSELVES CHRISTIANS IN ANTIOCH.' ACTS 11:26

**SUNDAY OF HOLY FATHERS OF SEVENTH**  
**ECUMENICAL COUNCIL**  
**& FOURTH SUNDAY OF LUKE**  
**HIEROMARTYR JACOB OF HAMATOURA**

MARTYRS KARPOS, POPYLOS, AGATHODOROS & AGATHONIKA AT PERGAMOS

**TONE 7/EOTHINON 5**

**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 يُفيض 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 الياس. يرجى توجيه الأسئلة إلى الأب مايكل مباشرة.

**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 being offered by George El-Amir and family,** for the continued health and well being of George Elamir, Sawsan and Samir Haddad and family, Nabeel and Abeer Elamir and family, Andre and Sanaa Elamir and family, Layla and Majd Elias and family. **Also being offered in loving memory of** Mary Elamir, Mary Kiswani, Shafika and Habib Alamir, Adnan Alamir, Lana Alamir, Issa Alamir, Antoine Alamir, Ibrahim Alamir, Seham Alamir. **May their memories be eternal.**
- **Please pray for all the sick** and suffering, hospitalized and shut-ins of our community, especially Simon Abboud, Janet Saba, Salwa Makhlof, Kawthar Shomar, Elias Shamieh, Nada and Rima Tadros, Evelyn Gabriel.
- **Please pray for all those** who have suffered and lost loved ones in Palestine and the Middle East.

## Virgin Martyr Pelagia of Antioch

Commemorated on October 8

The Holy Virgin Martyr Pelagia (Πελαγία) came from Antioch in Syria and was descended from a prominent family during the reign of Emperor Numerian (282- 284). When the ruler of Antioch discovered that Pelagia was a Christian, he sent soldiers to rape her. They had surrounded her house and were about to seize her.

When the Saint learned of this, she asked the soldiers to let her go and change her clothes. Lifting her hands and her eyes to heaven, she prayed fervently to God not to allow the soldiers to rape her, but that she might depart this life as a pure virgin. Then she opened a window and jumped out, sustaining fatal injuries. Thus, she delivered her pure soul to God, in order to preserve herself from being defiled by the boorish soldiers. She was just fifteen years old.

Saint John Chrysostom has written a famous encomium for this Saint, in which he suggests that when Saint Pelagia threw herself out of the window, she was probably hoping to escape

## Apostle Philip of the Seventy, One of the Seven Deacons

Commemorated on October 11

Holy Apostle Philip of the Seventy, one of the 7 Deacons is not to be confused with Saint Philip one of the Twelve Apostles (November 14). This Philip was born in Palestine, was married and had children.

After the Descent of the Holy Spirit, the Twelve Apostles made Philip a deacon in the Church of Jerusalem. Along with the other six deacons, they appointed him to deal with the offerings of the faithful and attend to the concerns of the widowed, the orphaned and the needy. The eldest among the seven deacons was the holy Archdeacon Stephen. When the persecution of Christians began, the Jews stoned the Protomartyr Stephen. The Apostle Philip left Jerusalem and settled in Samaria. There he successfully preached Christianity. Among the disciple's converts was the noted magician Simon, who "after being baptized, continued with Philip." (Acts 8:9-13)

At the command of an angel of the Lord, Saint Philip set out upon the road connecting Jerusalem with Gaza. There he met an official of the empress of Ethiopia, whom also he converted to Christianity (Acts 8:26-39). The holy disciple Philip tirelessly preached the Word of God in many of the lands of the Near East adjoining Palestine. At Jerusalem the Apostles made him a bishop and sent him to Tralles in Asia Minor, where he also baptized many. Saint Philip died in old age.



## THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)

On October 13 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Martyrs Karpos, Papylos, Agathodoros and Agathonika at Pergamos.

On this day, we commemorate the Venerable Hieromartyr Jacob of Hamatoura. This saint struggled in asceticism at the Monastery of the Dormition of the Most-holy Theotokos of Hamatoura in Lebanon's sacred Qadisha Valley at the time of the Mameluke occupation. His heroic spiritual labors and renown soon brought him to the attention of the Mameluke authorities who, being jealous of his fame, determined to convert him from his faith in Jesus Christ to Islam. St. Jacob adamantly refused. Eventually, they dragged him with a number of monks and laymen to Tripoli, Lebanon where St. Jacob endured harsh tortures for a year, before he was beheaded and burned on October 13, 1450. This saint was almost forgotten in the course of history, due to the severe sufferings of the Church under various Moslem sultanates that both weakened Christian spiritual life and reduced Christian literacy. However, recorded encounters by the Hamatoura Monastery's pilgrims upon seeing visions of St. Jacob affirmed and authenticated his sainthood. In recent times, a forensic team determined one of the skeletal remains buried under the altar at Hamatoura Monastery to be that of St. Jacob.

On this day, we commemorate the holy and blessed Fathers who came together for the second time in Nicaea, during the reign of the pious and Christ-loving Sovereigns Constantine and Irene, against those who impiously, ignorantly and foolishly asserted that the Church of God worshippeth idols, and rejected the august and holy icons.

The Council met in 787 to refute the Iconoclast heresy, whose camp believed that all depictions of Christ, His Mother and the saints should be destroyed. The iconophiles believed that icons served to preserve the doctrinal teachings of the Church; and they considered icons to be man's dynamic way of expressing the divine through art and beauty. The council decreed that the veneration of icons was not idolatry (Exodus 20:4-5), because the honor shown to them is not directed to the wood or paint, but passes to the prototype, or the person depicted. It also upheld the possibility of depicting Christ, Who became man and took flesh at His Incarnation. The Father, on the other hand, cannot be represented in His eternal nature, because "no man has seen God at any time" (John 1:18).

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

## THE EPISTLE

**Priest: Let us attend.**

**Reader: Blessed are Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.**

**For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done to us.**

**Reader: The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to St. Titus. (3:8-15)**

Titus, my son, faithful is the saying, and concerning these things I desire you to affirm confidently, that those who have believed in God may be thoughtful of how to preside in honorable occupations. These things are good and profitable to men. But avoid foolish disputes, and genealogies, and contentions, and controversies about the Law; for they are unprofitable and vain. A man who is a heretic after the first and second admonition reject, knowing that such a one is subverted, and sins, being self-condemned. When I send Artemas to you, or Tychicós, give diligence to come to me to Nicopolis; for I have determined to winter there. Set forward Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their journey diligently, that they may be lacking in nothing. And let our people also learn how to preside in honorable occupations, so as to help in cases of urgent need, that they should not be unfruitful. All who are with me salute you. Salute those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

مُبَارَكٌ أَنْتَ يَا رَبُّ إِلَهَ آبَائِنَا.

لَأَنَّكَ عَدَلٌ فِي كُلِّ مَا صَنَعْتَ بِنَا.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولْسِ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى تَيْطُسِ.

يا ولدي تيطس، صَادِقَةٌ هِيَ الْكَلِمَةُ وَإِيَّاهَا أُرِيدُ أَنْ تُقَرَّرَ حَتَّى يَهْتَمَّ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا بِاللَّهِ فِي الْقِيَامِ بِالْأَعْمَالِ الْحَسَنَةِ، فَهَذِهِ هِيَ الْأَعْمَالُ الْحَسَنَةُ وَالنَّافِعَةُ. أَمَّا الْمُبَاحَثَاتُ الْهَيْدَانِيَّةُ وَالْأَنْسَابُ وَالْخُصُومَاتُ وَالْمُمَاحَاكَاتُ النَّامُوسِيَّةُ فَاجْتَنِبْهَا، فَإِنَّهَا غَيْرُ نَافِعَةٍ وَبَاطِلَةٌ. وَرَجُلٌ الْبِدْعَةَ بَعْدَ الْإِنْذَارِ مَرَّةً وَأُخْرَى أَعْرَضَ عَنْهُ. عَالِمًا أَنَّ مَنْ هُوَ كَذَلِكَ قَدْ اعْتَسَفَ، وَهُوَ فِي الْخَطِيئَةِ يُقْضَى بِنَفْسِهِ عَلَى نَفْسِهِ. وَمَتَى أُرْسِلْتُ إِلَيْكَ أَرْتِيمَاسَ أَوْ تِيخِيكْسَ، فَبَادِرْ أَنْ تَأْتِيَنِي إِلَى نِيكُوبُولِسَ لِأَنِّي قَدْ عَزَمْتُ أَنْ أُسْتَبِيَّ هُنَاكَ. أَمَّا زِينَا سَ مُعَلِّمُ النَّامُوسِ وَأَبْلُوسُ، فَاجْتَهِدْ أَنْ تُشَيِّعَهُمَا مُتَأَهِّبِينَ لِئَلَّا يُعْوزَهُمَا شَيْءٌ. وَلِيَتَعَلَّمْ دُونَا أَنْ يَقُومُوا بِالْأَعْمَالِ الصَّالِحَةِ لِلْحَاجَاتِ الصَّرُورِيَّةِ حَتَّى لَا يَكُونُوا غَيْرَ مُثْمِرِينَ. يُسَلِّمُ عَلَيْكَ جَمِيعُ الَّذِينَ مَعِي، سَلِّمِ عَلَى الَّذِينَ يُحِبُّونَنَا فِي الْإِيمَانِ، النَّعْمَةُ مَعَكُمْ أَجْمَعِينَ. آمِينَ.

### GOSPEL

**Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (8:5-15)**

The Lord spoke this parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold." And when His Disciples asked Him what this parable meant, Jesus said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way, they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience." As Jesus said this, He called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ لُوقَا الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ.

قَالَ الرَّبُّ هَذَا الْمَثَلُ: خَرَجَ الزَّارِعُ لِيَزْرَعَ زَرْعَهُ. وَفِيمَا هُوَ يَزْرَعُ، سَقَطَ بَعْضُ عَلَى الطَّرِيقِ، فَوُطِئَ وَأَكَلَتْهُ طُيُورُ السَّمَاءِ. وَبَعْضُ سَقَطَ عَلَى الصَّخْرِ، فَلَمَّا نَبَتَ بَيَسَ لِأَنَّهُ لَمْ تَكُنْ لَهُ رُطُوبَةٌ. وَبَعْضُ سَقَطَ بَيْنَ الشُّوكِ، فَانْبَتَ الشُّوكُ مَعَهُ فَخَنَّقَهُ. وَبَعْضُ سَقَطَ فِي الْأَرْضِ الصَّالِحَةِ، فَلَمَّا نَبَتَ أَثْمَرَ مِائَةَ ضِعْفٍ. فَسَأَلَهُ

تَلَامِيذُهُ مَا عَسَى أَنْ يَكُونَ هَذَا الْمَثَلُ. فَقَالَ: لَكُمْ قَدْ أُعْطِيَ أَنْ تَعْرِفُوا أَسْرَارَ مَلَكُوتِ اللَّهِ، وَأَمَّا الْبَاقُونَ فَبِأَمْثَالٍ، لِكَيْ لَا يَنْظُرُوا وَهُمْ نَاطِرُونَ، وَلَا يَفْهَمُوا وَهُمْ سَامِعُونَ. وَهَذَا هُوَ الْمَثَلُ: الزَّرْعُ هُوَ كَلِمَةُ اللَّهِ. وَالَّذِينَ عَلَى الطَّرِيقِ هُمُ الَّذِينَ يَسْمَعُونَ، ثُمَّ يَأْتِي إبْلِيسُ وَيَنْزِعُ الْكَلِمَةَ مِنْ قُلُوبِهِمْ لِئَلَّا يُؤْمِنُوا فَيَخْلُصُوا. وَالَّذِينَ عَلَى الصَّخْرِ هُمُ الَّذِينَ يَسْمَعُونَ الْكَلِمَةَ وَيَقْبَلُونَهَا بِفَرَحٍ، وَلَكِنْ لَيْسَ لَهُمْ أَصْلٌ، وَإِنَّمَا يُؤْمِنُونَ إِلَى حِينٍ، وَفِي وَقْتِ التَّجْرِبَةِ يَزْتَدُونَ. وَالَّذِي سَقَطَ فِي الشُّوكِ، هُمُ الَّذِينَ يَسْمَعُونَ ثُمَّ يَذْهَبُونَ فَيَخْتَبِقُونَ بِهُمُومِ هَذِهِ الْحَيَاةِ وَغِنَاهَا وَمَلَذَاتِهَا، فَلَا يَأْتُونَ بِثَمَرٍ. وَأَمَّا الَّذِي سَقَطَ فِي الْأَرْضِ الْجَيِّدَةِ، فَهُمُ الَّذِينَ يَسْمَعُونَ الْكَلِمَةَ فَيَحْفَظُونَهَا فِي قَلْبٍ جَيِّدٍ صَالِحٍ، وَيُثْمِرُونَ بِالصَّبْرِ. وَلَمَّا قَالَ هَذَا نَادَى: مَنْ لَهُ أُذُنَانِ لِلسَّمْعِ فَلْيَسْمَعْ.

### Martyrs Sergius and Bacchus in Syria

Commemorated on October 7

The Martyrs Sergius and Bacchus in Syria were appointed to high positions in the army by the emperor Maximian (284-305), who did not know that they were Christians. Envious people informed Maximian that his two trusted counsellors did not honor the pagan gods. This was considered to be a crime against the state.

The emperor, wanting to convince himself of the truth of the accusation, ordered Sergius and Bacchus to offer sacrifice to the idols, but they replied that they honored the One God and worshiped only Him.



Maximian commanded that the martyrs be stripped of the insignia of military rank (their belts, gold pendants, and rings), and then dressed them in feminine clothing. They were led through the city with an iron chains around their necks, and the people mocked them. Then he summoned Sergius and Bacchus to him again and in a friendly manner advised them not to be swayed by Christian fables, but to return to the Roman gods. The saints refuted the emperor's words, and demonstrated the folly of worshiping the pagan gods.

The emperor commanded that they be sent to the governor of the eastern part of Syria, Antiochus, a fierce hater of Christians. Antiochus had received his position with the help of Sergius and Bacchus. "My fathers and benefactors!" he said. "Have pity on yourselves, and also on me. I do not want to condemn my benefactors to cruel tortures." The holy martyrs replied, "For us life is Christ, and to die is gain." The enraged Antiochus ordered Bacchus to be mercilessly beaten, and the holy martyr surrendered his soul to the Lord. They shod Sergius with iron sandals with nails in their soles and sent him to another city, where he was beheaded with the sword.