

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

ST. ELIAS
ANTIOCHIAN CHRISTIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
NOVEMBER 3, 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

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
& FIFTH SUNDAY OF LUKE

MARTYRS AKEPSIMAS, JOSEPH AND AEITHALAS OF PERSIA;
DEDICATION OF ST. GEORGE CHURCH IN LYDDA OF PALESTINE;
HIEROMARTYR GEORGE OF NEAPOLIS; THEODORE THE CONFES-
SOR, BISHOP OF ANCYRA

TONE 2/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 ليطرد الأسقام ويظهر البرص، لذلك يُفيض الأشفية بمكرميته دائماً"

travels to countless cities, villages, isolated farms and ranches in the United States, Canada and Mexico.

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **The Holy Bread of Oblations is being offered by the Antiochian Women of St. Elias,** for the continued health and well being of the members of the Antiochian Women of St. Elias. **Also being offered in loving memory of the departed** members of the Antiochian Women of St. Elias. **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.

St. Raphael was born on or near the Synaxis of the Archangels, November 8, 1860, to pious Orthodox Damascenes, Michael and Mariam Hawaweeny. Due to the violent persecution of the Christians of Damascus in July, 1860, which saw the martyrdom of the Hawaweeny family's parish priest, the New- Hieromartyr Joseph of Damascus, and hundreds of their neighbors (all are commemorated on July 10), Michael and his pregnant wife Mariam fled from Damascus to Beirut. It was in that city that the future saint first saw the light of day. Indeed, as the child's life unfolded, it was evident that he would have no continuing city in this world, but would seek the city which is to come (Hebrews 13:14).

St. Raphael received his primary and secondary education in the parochial schools of Damascus, and his first theological training at the Oecumenical Patriarchate's Theological School at Halki in the Princes Islands [near Istanbul]. He later studied at the Kiev Theological Academy in Imperial Russia. During this time, the Syro-Arab community in the United States was growing at an increasing rate. A Syrian Orthodox Benevolent Society was organized in New York City and the president, Dr. Ibrahim Arbeely, contacted St. Raphael, then a priest, about coming to the United States. St. Raphael met with Bishop Nicholas in St. Petersburg and in 1895 returned with him to the United States to serve the Syro-Arab community. St. Raphael was placed in charge of the entire Syrian Orthodox Mission. He was assigned to New York City and organized the parish which later became St. Nicholas Cathedral in Brooklyn. He supervised the development of other immigrant communities, traveling widely through the United States in 1896 to organize parishes. By 1898, St. Raphael published an Arabic language translation of the Great Euchologion for use in his churches. Later in the same year, he was to be the ranking representative of the American Mission to greet St. Tikhon (Bellavin), the new diocesan bishop. At the Liturgy on December 15, 1898, he spoke of St. Tikhon's mission in his sermon. "He has been sent to tend the flock of Christ — Russians, Slavs, Syro-Arabs, and Greeks — which is scattered across the entire North American continent."

St. Tikhon recognized his qualities and wanted St. Raphael to be one of his vicar-bishops in the reorganized diocese. In 1903, St. Tikhon went to Russia and asked the Holy Synod to approve his plan for the election of St. Raphael as his vicar-bishop. They approved St. Raphael's election and also consecrated Bishop Innocent (Pustynsky) as St. Tikhon's vicar-bishop for Alaska. On March 12, 1904, the solemn rite of the election of St. Raphael as Bishop of Brooklyn was performed by St. Tikhon and Bishop Innocent at the Russian St. Nicholas Cathedral in Manhattan after the Vigil. The consecration took place the next day at St. Nicholas Church in Brooklyn, with St. Raphael making his Confession of Faith both in Slavonic and Arabic.

Following his consecration, St. Raphael continued his work among the Syrian Orthodox and also helped St. Tikhon and his successors to administer the North American Mission. St. Raphael presided at the Clergy Conference held in Old Forge, Pennsylvania, on August 2, 1905, in the absence of St. Tikhon. He also consecrated the grounds of St. Tikhon's Monastery in South Canaan, Pennsylvania, the first Orthodox monastery in the New World. He founded The Word Magazine in 1905. After twenty years of service in North America, St. Raphael fell asleep in Christ at his residence next to his cathedral on Pacific Street in Brooklyn on February 27, 1915. At the time of his repose, he administered thirty congregations with 25,000 faithful.

While St. Raphael is remembered by historians as a learned theologian, gifted missionary, prolific translator and writer, and the first to be consecrated to the sacred episcopacy in the New World, in popular piety and devotion his memory is cherished as an icon of the good shepherd who collects a scattered flock, leads his lambs to a safe and verdant pasture and ultimately lays down his life for them. Tales abound about St. Raphael's tireless ministry as a mediator and peacemaker, a support for the infirm and aged, an encouragement to the young and disheartened, a protector of widows and orphans, a defender of the dispossessed and the poor. The scope of his self-sacrificing pastoral ministry is preserved and revealed in his own meticulously kept handwritten missionary journals, which detail his transcontinental

THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)

On November 3 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the holy Martyrs Akepsimas the bishop, Joseph the priest and Aeithalas the deacon of Persia.

A child prophesied that 80-year-old Bishop Akepsimas would suffer for Christ. He told a member of his household that he would not return home, but instead go to his "home on high." King Sapor raised a bitter persecution of Christians throughout Persia, and Akepsimas was apprehended and thrown into prison. The following day Joseph, a 70-year-old priest, and Aeithalas, a deacon, were also imprisoned. After three years of imprisonment and many tortures, Akepsimas was beheaded. Joseph and Aeithalas were buried up to their waists in the ground and stoned to death. That night, by God's providence, Joseph's body disappeared, and a myrtle tree grew over Aeithalas' body that healed all diseases and pain. This tree stood for five years before the wicked pagans cut it down. These soldiers of Christ suffered in Persia in the fourth century.

On this day, we also commemorate the Consecration of the Temple of the holy Great-Martyr George in Lydda in Palestine, as well as the deposition of his holy body therein. George's relics came from Nicomedia, where he suffered at the time of Emperor Diocletian. Anticipating his martyrdom, George begged his servant to take his relics to Palestine, where his mother had been born, and where he had distributed his large estate to the poor. The servant did so. During the reign of Emperor Constantine, pious Christians built the beautiful church to house the miracle-working relics of the Great Martyr.

On this day, we also commemorate the Hieromartyr George of Neapolis; and Venerable Theodore the Confessor, bishop of Ancyra. By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

THE EPISTLE

Priest: Let us attend.

Reader: *The Lord is my strength and my song.*

The Lord has chastened me severely.

Reader: The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (11:31-12:9)

Brethren, the God and Father of the Lord Jesus Christ, the One who is blessed for evermore, knows that I do not lie. In Damascus, the governor under Arétas the king guarded the city of the Damascenes, willing to seize me, and through a window I was let down in a basket by the wall, and escaped his hands. I must boast, though it is not expedient; but I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord. I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—whether in the body, I do not know, or whether out of the body, I do not know; God knows—who was caught up to the third heaven. And I know that this man—whether in the body or out of the body, I do not know; God knows—was caught up into Paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which no person is allowed to utter. On behalf of this one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my infirmities. For if I would desire to boast, I shall not be foolish, for I shall speak the truth. But I refrain from it, lest anyone should think of me above that which he sees me to be, or hears from me. And to keep me from being exalted above measure through the abundance of revelations, I was given a thorn in the flesh, an angel of Satan to buffet me, to keep me from being exalted above measure. For this thing I beseeched the Lord three times, that it might depart from me. And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for thee, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Most gladly therefore will I rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

قُوْتِي وَتَسْبِيْحَتِي الرَّبِّ. أَدْبَاباً أَدْبَنِي الرَّبِّ.

فصلٌ من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول الثانية إلى أهل كورنثوس.

يا إخوة، قد علم الله أبو ربنا يسوع المسيح، المبارك إلى الأبد أنني لا أكذب. كان بدمشق الحاكم تحت إمرة الملك الحارث، يخرس مدينة اليمشقيين ليقبض عليّ. فدلّيت من كوة في زنبيل من السور، ونجوت من يديه. إنه لا يوافقني أن أفنجر، فأتي إلى رؤى الرب وإعلاناته. إني أعرف إنساناً في المسيح منذ أربع عشرة سنة (أفي الجسد، لست أعلم، أم خارج الجسد لست أعلم، الله يعلم) اختطف إلى السماء الثالثة. وأعرف أن هذا الإنسان (أفي الجسد أم خارج الجسد لست أعلم، الله يعلم) اختطف إلى الفردوس، وسمع كلمات سرية لا يحلّ لإنسان أن ينطق بها. فمن جهة هذا أفنجر، وأما من جهة نفسي فلا أفنجر إلا بأوهاني. فإني لو أزدت الإفتخار، لم أكن جاهلاً لأني أقول الحق، لكني أتحاشى لئلا يظن بي أحد فوق ما يراني عليه أو يسمعه مني. ولئلا أستكبر بفرط الإعلانات، أعطيت شوكة في الجسد، ملاك الشيطان ليلطمني لئلا أستكبر. ولهذا طلبت إلى الرب ثلاث مرات أن تفارقني. فقال لي "تكفيك نعمتي، لأن قوتي في الضعف تكمل". فبكل سرور أفنجر بالحري بأوهاني، لئلا تنقر في قوة المسيح.

GOSPEL

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (16:19-31)

The Lord said, "There was a rich man, who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, full of sores, who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table; moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried; and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes, and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus in his bosom. And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy upon me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in anguish in this flame.' But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that you who in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.' And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.' But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.' And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.'"

فصلٌ شريفٌ من بشارة القديس لوقا الإنجيلي البشير.

قال الرب: كان إنسانٌ غنيٌ يلبس الأرجوان والبر، ويتنعم كل يوم تنعماً فاخراً. وكان مسكيناً اسمه لعازر مطروحاً عند بابهِ مُصاباً بالقرح. وكان يشتهي أن يشبع من القنات الذي يسقط من مائدة الغني.

بل كانت الكلاب تأتي وتلحس فروجه. ثم مات المسكين، فنقلته الملائكة إلى حضن إبراهيم. ومات الغني أيضاً، فدفن فرقع عينيه في الجحيم وهو في العذاب، فرأى إبراهيم من بعيدٍ ولعازر في حضنه. فنادى قائلاً: "يا أبت إبراهيم ارحمني وأرسل لعازر ليغمس طرف أصبعه في الماء ويبرد لساني، لأني معدّب في هذا اللهب." فقال إبراهيم: "تذكّر يا ابني أنك نلت خيرتك في حياتك، ولعازر كذلك بلاياه. والآن فهو يتعزى وأنت تتعذب. وعلاوة على هذا كله، فبيننا وبينكم هوة عظيمة قد أثبتت، حتى إن الذين يريدون أن يجتازوا من هنا إليكم لا يستطيعون، ولا الذين هناك أن يعبروا إلينا." فقال: "أسألك إذن يا أبت أن ترسله إلى بيت أبي. فإن لي خمسة إخوة، حتى يشهد لهم لكي لا يأتوا هم أيضاً إلى موضع العذاب هذا." فقال له إبراهيم: "إن عندهم موسى والأنبياء، فليسمعوا منهم." قال: "لا يا أبت إبراهيم، بل إذا مضى إليهم واحدٌ من الأموات يتوبون." فقال له: "إن لم يسمعوا من موسى والأنبياء، فإنهم، ولا إن قام واحدٌ من الأموات، يصدّقونه."

Saint Raphael (Hawaweeny) Bishop of Brooklyn

Our Father among the Saints, Raphael (Hawaweeny), Bishop of Brooklyn, was the first Orthodox Christian bishop consecrated on American soil. His feast day is celebrated in the Antiochian Archdiocese on the first Saturday of November, near the date of his birth, and on Feb. 27, the date of his repose. A man of angelic name and apostolic fervor, he was influenced by many cultures. St. Raphael was born and raised in the Middle East, educated by Greeks at Halki and by Russians at Kiev, and spent the last nineteen years of his life as a missionary in North America.

Traveling throughout the continent in the first years of the 20th century, he founded thirty parishes in North America. While St. Raphael is remembered by historians as a learned theologian, gifted missionary, prolific translator and writer, and the first to be consecrated to the sacred episcopacy in the New World, in popular piety and devotion his memory is cherished as an icon of the good shepherd who collects a scattered flock, leads his lambs to a safe and verdant pasture and ultimately lays down his life for them. Holy St. Raphael, pray to God for your North American sheep!

Rejoice, O Father Raphael, adornment of the holy Church! Thou art champion of the True Faith, seeker of the lost, consolation of the oppressed, father to orphans and friend of the poor, peacemaker and good shepherd, joy of all the Orthodox, son of Antioch, boast of America. Intercede with Christ God for us and for all who honor thee.

