

St. Elias Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church

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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

and fasting so that the Lord will find us ready when He comes," she said. She was on her way to church with her nuns one stormy Saturday night when the wind extinguished her lantern. The nuns could not find their way without a light, since it was dark and stormy, and the road was rough and muddy. Saint Genevieve made the Sign of the Cross over the lantern, and the candle within burned with a bright flame. In this manner they were able to make their way to the church for the service.

There is a tradition that the church which Saint Genevieve suggested King Clovis should build in honor of Saints Peter and Paul, would become her own resting place when she fell asleep in the Lord around 512 at the age of eighty-nine. Her holy relics were later transferred to the church of Saint-Étienne-du-Mont in Paris. Most of her relics, and those of other saints, were destroyed at the time of the French Revolution.

During the Middle Ages, Saint Genevieve was regarded as the patron Saint of wine makers.

Holy Prophet Malachi

Commemorated on January 3

The Holy Prophet Malachi lived 400 years before the Birth of Christ, at the time of the return of the Jews from the Babylonian Captivity. Malachi was the last of the Old Testament prophets, therefore the holy Fathers call him "the seal of the prophets."

Manifesting himself an image of spiritual goodness and piety, he astounded the nation and was called Malachi, i.e., an angel. His prophetic book is included in the Canon of the Old Testament. In it he upbraids the Jews, foretelling the coming of Jesus Christ and His Forerunner, and also the Last Judgment (Mal 3:1-5; 4:1-6).



THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)

On January 6 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we celebrate the Holy Theophany, or Epiphany, of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ.

When our Lord reached thirty years from His physical birth, He began His teaching and saving work. He Himself signified this "beginning of the beginning" by His baptism in the River Jordan. St. Cyril of Jerusalem says, "The beginning of the world: water; the beginning of the Good News: Jordan." At the time of the baptism of the Lord in water, the Father was revealed to the sense of hearing; the Spirit was revealed to the sense of sight, and in addition to these, the Son was revealed to the sense of touch. The Father uttered His witness about the Son, the Son was baptized in the water, and the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove hovered above the water. John the Baptist witnessed and said about Christ, "Behold, the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the world." When John immersed and baptized the Lord in the Jordan, the mission of Christ in the world and the path of our salvation were shown. That is to say: The Lord took upon Himself the sins of mankind and died under them (immersion) and became alive again (the coming out of the water); and we must die as the old sinful man and become alive again as cleansed, renewed and regenerated. This is the Savior and this is the path of salvation. The Feast of the Epiphany (Theophany in Greek) is also called the Feast of Illumination. For us, the event in the River Jordan illuminates, by manifesting to us God as Trinity, consubstantial and undivided. Also, every one of us through baptism in water is illumined by this, that we become adopted by the Father of Lights through the merits of the Son and the power of the Holy Spirit.

Unto Christ be glory and dominion unto ages of ages. Amen.

THE EPISTLE

Priest: Let us attend.

**Reader: Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.
O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good;
for His mercy endureth forever.**

Reader: The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to Titus. (2:11-14; 3:4-7)

My son Titus, the grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all men, training us to renounce irreligion and worldly passions, and to live sober, upright, and godly lives in this world; awaiting our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, Who gave Himself for us to redeem us from all iniquity and to purify for Himself a people of His own who are zealous for good deeds. When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of deeds done by us in righteousness, but in virtue of His own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal in the Holy Spirit, which He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that we might be justified by His grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life.

مُبَارَكٌ الْآتِي بِاسْمِ الرَّبِّ. اعْتَرِفُوا لِلرَّبِّ فَإِنَّهُ صَالِحٌ، وَإِنَّ إِلَى الْأَبَدِ رَحْمَتَهُ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِّيسِ بُولُسِ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى تَيْطُسَ. (7-4:3; 14-11:2)

يَا وَدِّي تَيْطُسَ، لَقَدْ ظَهَرَتْ نِعْمَةُ اللَّهِ الْمُخْلِصَةِ لِجَمِيعِ النَّاسِ. وَهِيَ تُؤَدِّبُنَا لِنُنْكِرَ النِّفَاقَ وَالشَّهَوَاتِ

الْعَالَمِيَّةَ، فَنَحْيَا فِي الدَّهْرِ الْحَاضِرِ عَلَى مُقْتَضَى النِّعْمَلِ وَالْعَدْلِ وَالنَّقْوَى، مُنْتَظِرِينَ الرَّجَاءَ السَّعِيدَ وَظُهُورَ

مَجْدِ إِلَهِنَا الْعَظِيمِ وَمُخْلِصِنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ الَّذِي بَدَّلَ نَفْسَهُ لِأَجْلِنَا لِيَقْتَدِينَا مِنْ كُلِّ إِثْمٍ، وَيُطَهِّرَ لِنَفْسِهِ شَعْبًا

الآن وكلّ أوامٍ وإلى دهرِ الدهريين. آمين.

اليوم المسيح قد وافى إلى الأزدن ليصطبع. اليوم يوحنا يلامس هامة السيد. قواث السماوات اندهشت لمشاهدتها السرّ المستغرب. البحر رأى فهرب، والأزدن لما عاين انكفاً راجعاً. أما نحن الذين قد استنرتنا فنهتف قائلين: المجد لله الذي ظهر معتلناً على الأرض وأنار العالم.

خاصاً، غيراً على الأعمال الصالحة. فلما ظهر أطف الله مخلصنا ومحبته للناس، خلصنا هو لا لأعمال في البر عملناها نحن، بل على مقتضى رحمته، بغسل الميلاد الثاني وتجديد الروح القدس الذي أفاضه علينا بسخاء يسوع المسيح مخلصنا، حتى إذا تبررنا بنعمته نصير ورثة على حسب رجاء الحياة الأبدية.

GOSPEL

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

At that time, Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by Thee, and Thou dost come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus was baptized, He went up immediately from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and alighting on Him; and lo, a voice from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, with Whom I am well pleased."

فصل شريف من بشارة القديس متى الإنجيلي البشير، والتلميذ الطاهر. (17-13:3)

في ذلك الزمان، أقبل يسوع من الجليل إلى الأزدن إلى يوحنا ليغتمد منه. فكان يوحنا يمانعه قائلاً: أنا محتاج أن أعتمد منك، أو أنت تأتي إلي؟ فأجابه يسوع قائلاً: دع الآن، فهكذا ينبغي لنا أن نبتم كل بر. حينئذ تركه. فلما اعتمد يسوع، صعد للوقت من الماء، وإذا السماوات قد انفتحت له، فرأى روح الله نازلاً مثل حمامة وحالاً عليه. وإذا صوت من السماء قائلاً: هذا هو ابني الحبيب، الذي به سررت.

THE DOXASTICA FOR THE THEOPHANY OF CHRIST

In Tone Six

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

Our Savior, Who putteth on light like a robe, Thou hast put on the waters of the Jordan, bowing Thy head to the Forerunner, O Thou Who measurest the heaven with a span, that Thou mayest restore the world from error and save our souls.

باللحن السادس

المجد للآب والابن والروح القدس.

أيها المخلص المتردي النور مثل الثوب، لقد تسربلت بمياه الأزدن، وحنيت هامتك لسابق، يا من يقدر السماء بالشبر، لكي ترد العالم من الضلالة، وتخلص نفوسنا.

In Tone Two

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Today Christ is come to be baptized in the Jordan; today John toucheth the head of the Master. The powers of Heaven are amazed, looking upon the marvelous mystery. The sea beheld and fled; Jordan saw and turned back; and we who have been enlightened cry out: Glory to God Who hath appeared, and hath been seen upon earth, and hath enlightened the world.

باللحن الثاني

Venerable Genevieve of Paris Commemorated on January 3

Saint Genevieve (Geneviève) was born of wealthy parents in Gaul (modern France) in the village of Nanterre, near Paris, around 422. Her father's name was Severus, and her mother was called Gerontia. According to the custom of the time, she often tended her father's sheep on Mount Valerien.

When the child was about seven years old, [Saint Germanus of Auxerre](#) (July 31) noticed her as he was passing through Nanterre. During the Service that night the Bishop placed his hand on her head and told her parents that she would become great in the sight of God, and would lead many to salvation. When Genevieve told him that she wished to dedicate herself to Christ, he gave her a brass medal with the image of the Cross to wear around her neck. Saint Germanus told her never to wear bracelets, or necklaces made with pearls, gold, or silver, and to avoid wearing any other ornaments around her neck, or on her fingers.

When she was fifteen, Genevieve was taken to Paris to enter the monastic life. Through fasting, vigil and prayer, she progressed in monasticism, and received from God the gifts of clairvoyance and of working miracles. Gradually, the people of Paris and the surrounding area regarded Genevieve as a holy vessel (2 Timothy 2:21).

Years later, Saint Genevieve was told that Attila the Hun was approaching Paris, Genevieve and the other nuns prayed and fasted, entreating God to spare the city. Suddenly, the barbarians turned away from Paris and went off in another direction.

Saint Genevieve considered the Saturday night Vigil service to be very important, since it symbolizes how our entire life should be. "We must keep vigil in prayer

