

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

FEBRUARY 16, 2025

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

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'DISCIPLES FIRST CALLED THEMSELVES CHRISTIANS IN ANTIOCH.' ACTS 11:26

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

*MARTYR PAMPHILOS, PRIEST OF CAESAREA IN PALESTINE
AND HIS COMPANIONS;
VENERABLE FLAVIAN THE HERMIT*

TONE 1 / EOTHINON 1

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 يُغِيض 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 زوّارنا الذين يصلّون معنا اليوم ونحرص على مشاركتكم في كنوزنا الروحية، وندعوكم للانضمام إلينا لتناول القهوة معنا في قاعة الكنيسة بعد القدّاس الإلهي. إذا كانت هذه أوّل زيارة لكم، يرجى أخذ القليل من الوقت لتوقيع سجلّ الزوّار واستكمال بطاقة معلومات الزوّار البيضاء والتي توجد في صحن الكنيسة، وإعادتها إلى أحد مرشدي الكنيسة. وكتذكير وديّ، يُسمح فقط للمسيحيين الأرثوذكس الذين أعدّوا أنفسهم بشكل صحيح من خلال الصوم والصلاة واعتراف من زمن قريب بالاقتراب من الكأس المقدسة لتناول القربان المقدس. ولكن يُسمح للجميع الاقتراب في نهاية القدّاس 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

- **Please pray for all the sick** and suffering, hospitalized and shut-ins of our community, especially Janet Saba, Salwa Makhlof, Elias Shamieh, Nada and Rima Tadros, Evelyn Gabriel, Evon DeRoberts.
- **Please pray for all those** who have suffered and lost loved ones in Palestine and the Middle East.

Saint Leo the Great, Pope of Rome

Commemorated on February 18

Saint Leo I the Great, Pope of Rome (440-461), received a fine and diverse education, which opened for him the possibility of an excellent worldly career. He yearned for the spiritual life, however, and so he chose the path of becoming an archdeacon under holy Pope Sixtus III (432-440), after whose death Saint Leo was chosen as Bishop of Rome in September 440.

These were difficult times for the Church, when heretics assaulted Orthodoxy with their false teachings. Saint Leo combined pastoral solicitude and goodness with an unshakable firmness in the confession of the Faith. He was in particular one of the basic defenders of Orthodoxy against the heresies of Eutyches and Dioscorus, who taught that there was only one nature in the Lord Jesus Christ. He was also a defender against the heresy of Nestorius.

He exerted all his influence to put an end to the unrest by the heretics in the Church, and by his letters to the holy emperors Theodosius II (408-450) and Marcian (450-457), he actively promoted the convening of the Fourth Ecumenical Council, at Chalcedon in 451, to condemn the heresy of the Monophysites.

At the Council at Chalcedon, at which 630 bishops were present, a letter of Saint Leo to the deceased Saint Flavian, Patriarch of Constantinople (447-449) was read. Saint Flavian had suffered for Orthodoxy under the "Robber Council" of Ephesus in the year 449. In the letter of Saint Leo the Orthodox teaching about the two natures [the divine and the human] in the Lord Jesus Christ was set forth. All the bishops present at the Council were in agreement with this teaching, and so the heretics Eutyches and Dioscorus were excommunicated from the Church.

Saint Leo was also a defender of his country against the incursions of barbarians. In 452, by the persuasive power of his words, he stopped Attila the Hun from pillaging Italy. Again in the year 455, when the leader of the Vandals [a Germanic tribe], Henserich, turned towards Rome, he persuaded him not to pillage the city, burn buildings, nor to spill blood.

He knew the time of his death beforehand, and he prepared himself, with forty days of fasting and prayer, to pass from this world into eternity.

He died in the year 461 and was buried at Rome. His literary and theological legacy is comprised of 96 sermons and 143 letters, of which the best known is his Epistle to Saint Flavian.



THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)

On February 16 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Martyr Pamphilos, priest of Caesarea in Palestine and his companions; and Venerable Flavian the hermit.

On this day, we make remembrance of the Parable of the Prodigal Son, which occurs in the noble Gospel and which our deified Fathers reinstated in the Triodion.

In the parable our Savior tells, Jesus illustrates three things: the condition of the sinner, the canon of repentance and the knowledge of God's compassion. For in the person of the prodigal son, we view the wretched condition that sin creates for us, distant from God and His Sacraments. However, we become aware of ourselves and awaken, hastening with hope to return to Him through repentance. Our Savior wants to call back to His mansions all those who have been overtaken by despair, lacking hope of forgiveness for their grave sins. The Father encourages all of his lost children to remove the desperation from their hearts, and revive their energies for virtuous deeds.

Through Thine ineffable love for mankind, O Christ our God, have mercy upon us.
Amen.

THE EPISTLE

Priest: Let us attend.

**Reader: Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us.
Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.**

Reader: The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (6:12-20)

Brethren, all things are lawful for me, but not all things are helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be enslaved by anything. Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food; but God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two shall become one flesh." But he who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with Him. Shun immorality. Every other sin which a man commits is outside the body; but the immoral man sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

لَتَكُنْ يَا رَبُّ رَحْمَتَكَ عَلَيْنَا.

اِبْتَهَجُوا أَيُّهَا الصَّادِقُونَ بِالرَّبِّ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولْسِ الرِّسُولِ الْأُولَى إِلَى أَهْلِ كورِنْثُوسِ. (6:12-20)

يا إِخْوَةُ، كُلُّ شَيْءٍ مُبَاحٌ لِي وَلَكِنْ لَيْسَ كُلُّ شَيْءٍ يُوَافِقُ، كُلُّ شَيْءٍ مُبَاحٌ لِي وَلَكِنْ لَا يَتَسَلَّطُ عَلَيَّ شَيْءٌ. إِنَّ الْأَطْعِمَةَ لِلْجَوْفِ وَالْجَوْفَ لِلْأَطْعِمَةِ، وَسَيَبِيدُ اللَّهُ هَذِهِ وَذَلِكَ. أَمَّا الْجَسَدُ فَلَيْسَ لِلزَّانِي بَلْ لِلرَّبِّ وَالرَّبُّ لِلْجَسَدِ، وَاللَّهُ الَّذِي أَقَامَ الرَّبَّ سَيَقِيمُنَا نَحْنُ أَيْضًا بِقُوَّتِهِ. أَمَا تَعْلَمُونَ أَنَّ أَجْسَادَكُمْ هِيَ أَعْضَاءُ الْمَسِيحِ؟ أَفَأَخَذُ أَعْضَاءَ الْمَسِيحِ وَأَجْعَلُ مِنْهَا أَعْضَاءَ زَنَى؟ حَاشَى. أَمَا تَعْلَمُونَ أَنَّ مَنْ اقْتَرَنَ بِزَانِيَةٍ صَارَ وَإِيَّاهَا " أَمَا الَّذِي يَقْتَرِنُ بِالرَّبِّ فَيَكُونُ مَعَهُ رُوحًا وَاحِدًا. جَسَدًا وَاحِدًا؟ لِأَنَّهُ قَدْ قِيلَ: "يَصِيرُ كِلَاهُمَا جَسَدًا وَاحِدًا أَهْرَبُوا مِنَ الزَّانِي. فَإِنَّ كُلَّ خَطِيئَةٍ يَفْعَلُهَا الْإِنْسَانُ هِيَ فِي خَارِجِ الْجَسَدِ، أَمَا الزَّانِي فَإِنَّهُ يَخْطَأُ إِلَى جَسَدِهِ.

أَبَتِ، قَدْ أَخْطَأْتُ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ وَأَمَامَكَ وَلَسْتُ مُسْتَحِقًّا بَعْدُ أَنْ أُدْعَى لَكَ ابْنًا. " فَقَالَ أَبُو لَعَبِيدِهِ: "هَاتُوا الْخُلَّةَ الْأُولَى وَالْبُسُوهَ، وَاجْعَلُوا خَاتَمًا فِي يَدِهِ، وَجِذَاءً فِي رِجْلَيْهِ، وَأَتُوا بِالْعَجَلِ الْمُسَمَّنِ وَادْبُحُوهُ، فَتَأْكُلُ وَتَفْرَحُ، لِأَنَّ ابْنِي هَذَا كَانَ مَيِّتًا فَعَاشَ، وَكَانَ ضَالًّا فَوُجِدَ. " فَطَفِقُوا يَفْرَحُونَ. وَكَانَ ابْنُهُ الْأَكْبَرُ فِي الْحَقْلِ. فَلَمَّا أَتَى وَقَرَّبَ مِنَ الْبَيْتِ، سَمِعَ أَصْوَاتَ الْغِنَاءِ وَالرَّقْصِ. فَدَعَا أَحَدَ الْعُلَمَانَ وَسَأَلَهُ مَا هَذَا. فَقَالَ لَهُ: "قَدْ قَدِمَ أَخُوكَ، فَذَبَحَ أَبُوكَ الْعَجَلَ الْمُسَمَّنَ لِأَنَّهُ لَقِيَهُ سَالِمًا. " فَغَضِبَ وَلَمْ يَرِدْ أَنْ يَدْخُلَ. فَخَرَجَ أَبُوهُ وَطَفِقَ يَتَوَسَّلُ إِلَيْهِ، فَأَجَابَ وَقَالَ لِأَبِيهِ: "كَمْ لِي مِنَ السِّنِينَ أَخْدِمُكَ، وَلَمْ أَتَعَدَّ لَكَ وَصِيَّةً قَطُّ، وَأَنْتَ لَمْ تُعْطِنِي قَطُّ جَدِيًّا لِأَفْرَحَ مَعَ أَصْدِقَائِي. وَلَمَّا جَاءَ ابْنُكَ هَذَا الَّذِي أَكَلَ مَعِيشَتَكَ مَعَ الزَّوَانِي، ذَبَحْتَ لَهُ الْعَجَلَ الْمُسَمَّنَ. فَقَالَ لَهُ: "يا ابْنِي، أَنْتَ مَعِيَ فِي كُلِّ حِينٍ، وَكُلُّ مَا هُوَ لِي فَهُوَ لَكَ. وَلَكِنْ كَانَ يَنْبَغِي أَنْ تَفْرَحَ وَسُرَّرَ، لِأَنَّ أَخَاكَ هَذَا كَانَ مَيِّتًا فَعَاشَ، وَكَانَ ضَالًّا فَوُجِدَ. "

LENTEN TROPARIA

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

Open to me the doors of repentance, O Life-giver; for my soul goeth early to the temple of Thy holiness, coming in the temple of my body, wholly polluted. But because Thou art compassionate, purify me by the compassion of Thy mercies.

طَرُوبَارِيَاتِ الصَّوْمِ، بِاللَّحْنِ الثَّامِنِ

الْمَجْدُ لِلآبِ وَالْإِبْنِ وَالرُّوحِ الْقُدْسِ.

إِفْتَحْ لِي أَبْوَابَ التَّوْبَةِ يَا وَاهِبَ الْحَيَاةِ، لِأَنَّ رُوحِي تَبْتَكِرُ إِلَى هَيْكَلِ قُدْسِكَ، آتِيًّا بِهِيْكَالِ جَسَدِي مُدْنَسًا بِجُمْلَتِهِ. لَكِنْ، بِمَا أَنَّكَ مُتَعَطِّفٌ، نَقِّنِي بِتَحَنُّنِ مَرَامِكَ.

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

Prepare for me the way of salvation, O Theotokos; for I have profaned myself with coarse sins, and consumed my whole life with procrastination. But by thine intercessions purify thou me from all abomination.

الآنَ وَكُلَّ أَوَانٍ وَإِلَى دَهْرِ الدَّاهِرِينَ. آمِينَ.

سَهِّلِي لِي مَنَاهِجَ الْخَلَاصِ يَا وَالِدَةَ الْإِلَهِ، فَإِنِّي قَدْ دَنَسْتُ نَفْسِي بِخَطَايَا سَمِجَةٍ، وَأَفْتِنْتُ عُمْرِي كُلَّهُ بِالتَّوَانِي.

لَكِنْ بِشَفَاعَاتِكَ، نَقِّنِي مِنْ كُلِّ رَجَاسَةٍ.

(TONE SIX) Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Thy lovingkindness; according to the multitude of Thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.

If I think upon the multitude of my evil deeds, wretch that I am, I tremble for the terrible Day of Judgment. But, trusting the compassion of Thy mercy, I shout to Thee like David, Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Thy Great Mercy.

إِيذِيوْمَالُونِ بِاللَّحْنِ السَّادِسِ

يَا رَحِيمٌ، ارْحَمْنِي يَا اللَّهُ كَعَظِيمِ رَحْمَتِكَ، وَكَمِثْلِ كَثْرَةِ رَأْفَاتِكَ امْحُ مَاثِمِي.

إِذَا تَصَوَّرْتُ كَثْرَةَ أَعْمَالِي الرَّدِيئَةِ أَنَا الشَّقِيءُ، فَإِنِّي ارْتَعِدُ مِنْ يَوْمِ الدَّيْنُونَةِ الرَّهيبِ. لَكِنِّي إِذْ أَنَا وَاثِقٌ بِتَحَنُّنِكَ،

أَهْتَفُ إِلَيْكَ مِثْلَ دَاوُدَ: ارْحَمْنِي يَا اللَّهُ، بِحَسَبِ عَظِيمِ رَحْمَتِكَ.

أَمَا تَعْلَمُونَ أَنَّ جَسَدَكُمْ هُوَ هَيْكَلُ الرُّوحِ الْقُدْسِ الَّذِي فِيكُمْ الَّذِي نَلْتَمُوهُ مِنَ اللَّهِ وَأَنْتُمْ لَسْتُمْ لِأَنْفُسِكُمْ؟ لِأَنَّكُمْ قَدْ اشْتَرَيْتُمْ بِتَمَنٍّ فَمَجَّدُوا اللَّهَ فِي أَجْسَادِكُمْ وَفِي أَرْوَاحِكُمْ الَّتِي هِيَ لِلَّهِ.

GOSPEL

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (15:11-32)

The Lord spoke this parable: "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have fed on the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants.'" And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry. Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقُدَيْسِ لُوقَا الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ، التِّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ. (15:11-32)

قَالَ الرَّبُّ هَذَا الْمَثَلُ: "إِنْسَانٌ كَانَ لَهُ ابْنَانِ، فَقَالَ أَصْغَرُهُمَا لِأَبِيهِ: يَا أَبَتِ، أَعْطِنِي النَّصِيبَ الَّذِي يَخُصُّنِي

مِنَ الْمَالِ. فَفَسَمَّ بَيْنَهُمَا مَعِيشَتَهُ. وَبَعْدَ أَيَّامٍ غَيْرِ كَثِيرَةٍ، جَمَعَ الْإِبْنُ الْأَصْغَرُ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ لَهُ، وَسَافَرَ إِلَى بَلَدٍ بَعِيدٍ، وَبَدَّرَ مَالَهُ هُنَاكَ عَائِشًا فِي الْخَلَاعَةِ. فَلَمَّا أَنْفَقَ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ لَهُ، حَدَّثَتْ فِي ذَلِكَ الْبَلَدِ مَجَاعَةٌ شَدِيدَةٌ،

فَأَخَذَ فِي الْعَوَزِ. فَذَهَبَ وَأَنْصَوَى إِلَى وَاحِدٍ مِنْ أَهْلِ ذَلِكَ الْبَلَدِ، فَأَرْسَلَهُ إِلَى حُقُولِهِ يَرْعَى خَنَازِيرَ. وَكَانَ

يَسْتَهِي أَنْ يَمْلَأَ بَطْنَهُ مِنَ الْخَزْنُونِ الَّذِي كَانَتْ الْخَنَازِيرُ تَأْكُلُهُ، فَلَمْ يُعْطِهِ أَحَدٌ. فَرَجَعَ إِلَى نَفْسِهِ وَقَالَ "كَمْ

لِأَبِي مِنْ أَجْرَاءَ يَفْضُلُ عَنْهُمْ الْخُبْزُ، وَأَنَا أَهْلُكَ جَوْعًا. أَقُومُ وَأَمْضِي إِلَى أَبِي وَأَقُولُ لَهُ: "يَا أَبَتِ، قَدْ أَخْطَأْتُ

إِلَى السَّمَاءِ وَأَمَامَكَ، وَلَسْتُ مُسْتَحِقًّا بَعْدُ أَنْ أُدْعَى لَكَ ابْنًا، فَاجْعَلْنِي كَأَحَدِ أَجْرَائِكَ. " فَقَامَ وَجَاءَ إِلَى أَبِيهِ.

وَفِيمَا هُوَ بَعْدُ غَيْرِ بَعِيدٍ، رَأَى أَبُوهُ، فَتَحَنَّنَ عَلَيْهِ وَأَسْرَعَ وَأَلْقَى بِنَفْسِهِ عَلَى عُنُقِهِ وَقَبَّلَهُ. فَقَالَ لَهُ الْإِبْنُ: "يَا