

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 23, 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
REV, FR. MICHAEL IBRAHIM
DEACON NICHOLAS MAHSHIE
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'DISCIPLES FIRST CALLED THEMSELVES CHRISTIANS IN ANTIOCH.' ACTS 11:26

SUNDAY OF THE LAST JUDGMENT (MEAT FARE)

HIEROMARTYR POLYCARP, BISHOP OF SMYRNA;
VENERABLE GORGONIA, SISTER OF GREGORY THE
THEOLOGIAN

TONE 2/ EOTHINON 2

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 ليطرده الأسقام ويظهر البرص، لذلك يُغِيض الأشفية بمكرمه 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

- **The Holy Bread of Oblations today is being offered by Habeeb and Yara Alamir,** for the spiritual and physical wellbeing of Habeeb, Yara, Sam and Lana, Sameer, Nadi-ma Alamir, and Mousa and Fala Salim. **Also being offered in loving memory of** the departed members of the St. Elias. **May their memories be eternal**
- **Today is the churching of baby Lana Alamir.**
- **Please pray for all the sick** and suffering, hospitalized and shut-ins of our communi-ty, especially Janet Saba, Salwa Makhlof, Elias Shamieh, Nada and Rima Tadros, Eve-lyn Gabriel, Evon DeRoberts.
- **Please pray for all those** who have suffered and lost loved ones in Palestine and the Middle East.

Saint Leo, Bishop of Catania in Sicily

Commemorated on February 20

Saint Leo was born in Ravenna, Italy, of pious and noble parents. He was famed for his benevolence and charity, as well as his Christian love for the poor and wanderers. After completing his studies, he was ordained as a priest at Ravenna, and later, because of his purity and his most spiritual life, he was consecrated as Bishop of Catania in Sicily. He became the protector of orphans and widows, teaching and shepherding his flock.

The Saint was also distinguished for his struggles against heretics, whom he defeated and shamed, not only by his words, but also through his writings. The Lord honored him with the charisms of healing people from various diseases, and of working miracles.

During Saint Leo's episcopate, there was a sorcerer named Heliódoros who lived in Catania and deceived people with his fraudulent miracles. He was once a Christian, but then he denied the Savior and became a servant of the devil. Saint Leo urged Heliódoros to refrain from his evil deeds and return to God, but all in vain.

One day Heliódoros audaciously entered the church where the bishop was performing the Divine Services, and tried to create a disturbance, sowing confusion and temptation with his sorcery.

Seeing the people beset by demons under the sorcerer's spell, Saint Leo knew that the time for meek exhortation had passed. He came out of the altar and tied his omophorion around the sorcerer's neck, leading him out of the church and into the city square. There he forced Heliódoros to confess all his wicked deeds. Then he commanded that a fire be lit, and jumped into the flames with the sorcerer. There they stood until Heliódoros was consumed by the fire. Saint Leo, by God's grace, remained unharmed. This miracle brought the Hierarch great renown during his lifetime, therefore, the Saint was invited to visit Constantinople by Emperors Leo IV (775 - 780) and Constantine VI (780 - 798), where he received many honors. Saint Leo reposed peacefully in 785.

After his death, a woman with an issue of blood received healing at his grave. The Saint's body was placed in the church of the holy Martyr Lucy (December 13), which he himself had built. Later on, his relics were transferred to the church of Saint Martin, the Bishop of Tours (November 11) in Rome.



THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)

On February 23 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Hieromartyr Polycarp, bishop of Smyrna; and Venerable Gorgonia, sister of Gregory the Theologian.

Today, we commemorate the Second and impartial Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It is the Sunday of the Last Judgment—known also as Meat Fare Sunday—the lesson of which occurs in today's Holy Gospel. Jesus illustrates to us God's ineffable goodness and His great love for mankind. And so lest some who are lazy should loiter and spend the time appropriate to their salvation in the pursuit of sin, and be suddenly overtaken by death, the divine Fathers decree that on this day the remembrance of the Second Appearance of Christ may be celebrated. The intention is to remind them that, as God is good and loving to mankind, He is also a very righteous Judge Who recompenses each according to his deeds. Our Lord teaches us that when we minister to our brother or sister, we really minister to Him. This brings us righteousness and life eternal.

By Thine ineffable love for mankind, O Christ God, make us worthy of Thy devoted voice, number us among Thy righteous ones and have mercy on us. Amen.

THE EPISTLE

Priest: Let us attend.

**Reader: *The Lord is my strength and my song.
With chastisement hath the Lord chastened me.***

Reader: The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (8:8-9:2)

Brethren, food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. Only take care, lest this liberty of yours somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if any one sees you—a man of knowledge—at table in an idol's temple, might he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? And so by your knowledge this weak man is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. Thus, sinning against your brethren and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of my brother's falling, I will never eat meat, lest I cause my brother to fall. Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are not you my workmanship in the Lord? If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

قَوْتِي وَتَسْبِيحَتِي الرَّبِّ. أَدْبَاباً أَدَّبَنِي الرَّبُّ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِّيسِ بُولُسَ الرَّسُولِ الْأُولَى إِلَى أَهْلِ كورِنْثُوسِ. (2:9-8:8)

يَا إِخْوَتِي، إِنَّ الطَّعَامَ لَا يَفْرِّقُنَا إِلَى اللَّهِ، لِأَنَّنا إِن أكلْنَا لَا نَزِيدُ وَإِنْ لَمْ نَأْكُلْ لَا نَنْقُصُ. وَلَكِنْ انظُرُوا أَنْ لَا يَكُونَ سُلْطَانُكُمْ هَذَا مَعْتَرَةً لِلضَّعَفَاءِ. لِأَنَّهُ إِنْ رَأَى أَحَدٌ يَأْكُلُ مِنْ لَه الْعِلْمِ مُنْكَرًا فِي بَيْتِ الْأَوْثَانِ، أَفَلَا يَتَقَوَّى ضَمِيرُهُ، وَهُوَ ضَعِيفٌ، عَلَى أَكْلِ ذَبَائِحِ الْأَوْثَانِ، فَيَهْلِكُ بِسَبَبِ عِلْمِكَ الْأَخِ الضَّعِيفِ الَّذِي مَاتَ الْمَسِيحُ لِأَجْلِهِ؟ وَهَكَذَا إِذْ تُحْطِنُونَ إِلَى الْإِخْوَةِ وَتَجْرَحُونَ ضَمَائِرَهُمْ، وَهِيَ ضَعِيفَةٌ، إِنَّمَا تُحْطِنُونَ إِلَى الْمَسِيحِ.

فَلِذَلِكَ إِنْ كَانَ الطَّعَامُ يُشَكِّكَ أَخِي، فَلَا أَكُلْ لِحَمَاءٍ إِلَى الْأَبَدِ لئَلَّا أَشَكِّكَ أَخِي. أَلَسْتُ أَنَا رَسُولًا؟ أَلَسْتُ أَنَا حُرًّا؟ أَمَا رَأَيْتُ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحَ رَبَّنَا؟ أَلَسْتُمْ أَنْتُمْ عَمَلِي فِي الرَّبِّ؟ وَإِنْ لَمْ أَكُنْ رَسُولًا إِلَى آخَرِينَ، فَإِنِّي رَسُولٌ

أَنْتُمْ لَمْ تَفْعَلُوا ذَلِكَ بِأَحَدٍ هَوْلَاءِ الصَّغَارِ، فَبِي لَمْ تَفْعَلُوهُ. فَيَذْهَبُ هَوْلَاءِ إِلَى الْعَذَابِ الْأَبَدِيِّ، وَالصَّادِقُونَ إِلَى الْحَيَاةِ الْأَبَدِيَّةِ.

إِلَيْكُمْ. لِأَنَّ خَاتَمَ رِسَالَتِي هُوَ أَنْتُمْ فِي الرَّبِّ.

GOSPEL

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (25:31-46)

The Lord said, "When the Son of man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. Before Him will be gathered all the nations, and He will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and He will place the sheep at His right hand, but the goats at the left. Then the King will say to those at His right hand, 'Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed Me, I was naked and you clothed Me, I was sick and you visited Me, I was in prison and you came to Me.' Then the righteous will answer Him, 'Lord, when did we see Thee hungry and feed Thee, or thirsty and give Thee drink? And when did we see Thee a stranger and welcome Thee, or naked and clothe Thee? And when did we see Thee sick or in prison and visit Thee?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.' Then He will say to those at his left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave Me no food, I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome Me, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see Thee hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to Thee?' Then He will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to Me.' And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

فَضْلٌ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ مَتَّى الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّمْلِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ. (25:31-46)

قَالَ الرَّبُّ: مَتَى جَاءَ ابْنُ الْبَشَرِ فِي مَجْدِهِ وَجَمِيعُ الْمَلَائِكَةِ الْقَدِيسِينَ مَعَهُ، فَحِينَئِذٍ يَجْلِسُ عَلَى عَرْشِ مَجْدِهِ. وَتُجْمَعُ إِلَيْهِ كُلُّ الْأُمَمِ، فَيَمَيِّزُ بَعْضَهُمْ مِنْ بَعْضٍ، كَمَا يُمَيِّزُ الرَّاعِي الْخِرَافَ مِنَ الْجِدَاءِ. وَيُقِيمُ الْخِرَافَ عَنْ يَمِينِهِ وَالْجِدَاءَ عَنْ يَسَارِهِ. حِينَئِذٍ يَقُولُ الْمَلِكُ لِلَّذِينَ عَنْ يَمِينِهِ: تَعَالَوْا يَا مُبَارَكِي أَبِي رَثُوا الْمَلِكَ الْمُعَدَّ لَكُمْ مُنْذُ إِنْشَاءِ الْعَالَمِ، لِأَنِّي جُعْتُ فَأَطْعَمْتُمُونِي، وَعَطِشْتُ فَسَقَيْتُمُونِي، وَكُنْتُ غَرِيباً فَأَوْثَيْتُمُونِي، وَعُرْيَاناً فَكَسَوْتُمُونِي، وَمَرِيضاً فَعُدْتُمُونِي، وَمَحْبُوساً فَأَتَيْتُمُ إِلَيَّ. حِينَئِذٍ يُجِيبُهُ الصَّادِقُونَ قَائِلِينَ: يَا رَبُّ مَتَى رَأَيْنَاكَ جَائِعاً فَأَطْعَمْنَاكَ، أَوْ عَطِشَاناً فَسَقَيْتْنَاكَ؟ وَمَتَى رَأَيْنَاكَ غَرِيباً فَأَوْثَيْنَاكَ، أَوْ عُرْيَاناً فَكَسَوْنَاكَ؟ وَمَتَى رَأَيْنَاكَ مَرِيضاً أَوْ مَحْبُوساً فَأَتَيْنَا إِلَيْكَ؟ فَيُجِيبُ الْمَلِكُ وَيَقُولُ لَهُمْ: الْحَقُّ أَقُولُ لَكُمْ، بِمَا أَنْتُمْ فَعَلْتُمْ ذَلِكَ بِأَحَدٍ إِخْوَتِي هَوْلَاءِ الصَّغَارِ فَبِي فَعَلْتُمُوهُ. حِينَئِذٍ يَقُولُ أَيْضاً لِلَّذِينَ عَنْ يَسَارِهِ: إِذْهَبُوا عَنِّي يَا مَلَاعِينُ إِلَى النَّارِ الْأَبَدِيَّةِ الْمُعَدَّةِ لِإِبْلِيسَ وَمَلَائِكَتِهِ. لِأَنِّي جُعْتُ فَلَمْ تُطْعِمُونِي، وَعَطِشْتُ فَلَمْ تَسْقُونِي، وَكُنْتُ غَرِيباً فَلَمْ تُؤْوُونِي، وَعُرْيَاناً فَلَمْ تَكْسُونِي، وَمَرِيضاً وَمَحْبُوساً فَلَمْ تَزُورُونِي. حِينَئِذٍ يُجِيبُونَهُ هُمْ أَيْضاً قَائِلِينَ: يَا رَبُّ، مَتَى رَأَيْنَاكَ جَائِعاً أَوْ عَطِشَاناً أَوْ غَرِيباً أَوْ عُرْيَاناً أَوْ مَرِيضاً أَوْ مَحْبُوساً وَلَمْ نَخْدِمَكَ؟ حِينَئِذٍ يُجِيبُهُمْ قَائِلِاً: الْحَقُّ أَقُولُ لَكُمْ، بِمَا

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 لِلَّابِ وَالْإِبْنِ وَالرُّوحِ الْقُدْسِ.

إِفْتَحْ لِي أَبْوَابَ التَّوْبَةِ يَا وَاهِبَ الْحَيَاةِ، لِأَنَّ رُوحِي تَبْتَكِرُ إِلَى هَيْكَلِ قُدْسِكَ، آتِياً بِهَيْكَلِ جَسَدِي مُدْتَسِئاً بِجُمْلَتِهِ. لَكِنْ، بِمَا أَنَّكَ مُتَعَطِّفٌ، نَقِّنِي بِتَحَنُّنِ مَرَاحِمِكَ.

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.

الْآنَ وَكُلَّ أَوَانٍ وَإِلَى دَهْرِ الدَّاهِرِينَ. آمِينَ.

سَهِّلِي لِي مَنَاهِجَ الْخَلَاصِ يَا وَالِدَةَ الْإِلَهِ، فَإِنِّي قَدْ دَنَسْتُ نَفْسِي بِخَطَايَا سَمِجَةٍ، وَأَفْنَيْتُ 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.

إِيذِيَوْمَالُونَ بِاللَّحْنِ السَّادِسِ

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

إِذَا تَصَوَّرْتُ كَثْرَةَ أَفْعَالِي الرَّدِيئَةِ أَنَا الشَّقِيَّ، فَإِنِّي أَرْتَعِدُ مِنْ يَوْمِ الدِّينُونَةِ الرَّهيبِ. لَكِنِّي إِذْ أَنَا وَاثِقٌ بِتَحَنُّنِكَ، أَهْتَفُ إِلَيْكَ مِثْلَ دَاوُدَ: اِرْحَمْنِي يَا اللَّهُ، بِحَسَبِ عَظِيمِ رَحْمَتِكَ.