

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
MARCH 30, 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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT
COMMEMORATION OF JOHN CLIMACUS, AUTHOR OF "THE
LADDER"

NEW HIEROMARTYR ZACHARIAH, METROPOLITAN OF CORINTH;
SOPHRONIOS, BISHOP OF IRKUTSK

DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT

tone 7 / EOTHINON 7

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 الأقسام ويظهر البرص، لذلك يُغيض الأشفية بمكرمه دائما"

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 يصلّون 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 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 القداس لاستلام الخبز المقدس المبارك. ونحن نتطلع للقائكم والترحيب بكم شخصياً في كنيسة مار إلياس. 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** The Makhlof family for the spiritual and physical wellbeing of : Fadi, Nujoud, Rajeh, Sami, Layel, Rajeh, Salwa, Souheil, Nuha, Mai, Ramzy, Samia, Manal, Suhad, Lorraine, Diana and families. Also being offered in loving memory of Nicola, Helenah, Shukri, Melia, Elias, Mamdouh, Shaun, Brahim, Asein, Qusta, Jalileh, Almaza, Fouzi, Hanna, Samira, Elia and Suad. **May their memories be eternal**
- **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.
- **Please pray for all those** who have suffered and lost loved ones in Palestine and the Middle East.

Martyr Matrona of Thessalonica

Commemorated on March 27

The Holy Martyr Matrona of Thessalonica suffered in the third or fourth century. She was a slave of the Jewish woman Pautila (or Pantilla), wife of one of the military commanders of Thessalonica. Pautila constantly mocked her slave for her faith in Christ, and tried to convert her to Judaism. Saint Matrona, who believed in Christ from her youth, still prayed to the Savior Christ, and secretly went to church unbeknownst to her vengeful mistress.

Pautila, learning that Saint Matrona had been to church, asked, "Why won't you come to our synagogue, instead of attending the Christian church?" Saint Matrona boldly answered, "Because God is present in the Christian church, but He has departed from the Jewish synagogue." Pautila went into a rage and mercilessly beat Saint Matrona, tied her up, and shut her in a dark closet. In the morning, Pautila discovered that Saint Matrona had been freed of her bonds by an unknown Power.

In a rage Pautila beat the martyr almost to death, then bound her even more tightly and locked her in the closet. The door was sealed so that no one could help the sufferer. The holy martyr remained there for four days without food or water, and when Pautila opened the door, she again found Saint Matrona free of her bonds, and standing at prayer.

Pautila flogged the holy martyr and left the skin hanging in strips from her body. The fierce woman locked her in the closet again, where Saint Matrona gave up her spirit to God.

Pautila had the holy martyr's body thrown from the roof of her house. Christians took up the much-suffered body of the holy martyr and buried it. Later, Bishop Alexander of Thessalonica built a church dedicated to the holy martyr. Her holy relics, glorified by many miracles, were placed in this church.

The judgment of God soon overtook the evil Pautila. Standing on the roof at that very place where the body of Saint Matrona had been thrown, she stumbled and fell to the pavement. Her body was smashed, and so she received her just reward for her sin.



THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)

On March 30 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the New Hieromartyr Zachariah, metropolitan of Corinth; and Sophronios, bishop of Irkutsk.

On this same day, the Fourth Sunday of Great Lent, we make remembrance of our godly father, John, the author of *The Ladder of Divine Ascent* (or Climacus).

The celebration of his feast on this day arose from the custom prevalent in the honorable monasteries of starting Great Lent with the reading of his lessons. John describes the method of elevating the soul to God as ascending a ladder. He teaches those who seek salvation how to lay a firm foundation for struggles, how to detect and fight every passion, how to avoid demonic snares, and how to rise from the rudimentary virtues to the heights of Godlike love and humility. John of the Ladder came to Mount Sinai at age 16 and remained there, first as a novice under obedience, then as a recluse, and finally as abbot until his eightieth year. One time, his disciple, Moses, fell asleep under the shade of a large stone. John, in prayer in his cell, saw that his disciple was in danger and prayed to God for him. Later, when Moses returned, he fell on his knees and gave thanks to his spiritual father for saving him from certain death. He related how, in a dream, he heard John calling him and he jumped up and, at that moment, the stone tumbled. Had he not jumped, the stone would have crushed him. John Climacus died on March 30, 606.

Through his intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

THE EPISTLE

Priest: Let us attend.

Reader: *The Lord will give strength to His people.
Ascribe to the Lord, O sons of God,
ascribe to the Lord glory and honor.*

Reader: **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (6:13-20)**

Brethren, when God made a promise to Abraham, since He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, saying, "Surely blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee." And thus, having patiently endured, he obtained the promise. For people indeed swear by what is greater, and in every dispute of theirs the oath is final for confirmation. So when God, being minded to show more abundantly to the heirs of the promise the immutability of His counsel, He interposed it with an oath, that by two immutable things—in which it is impossible for God to lie—we might have a strong consolation, we, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope that is set before us; a hope, which we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and entering into "that which is within the veil," where Jesus entered as a Forerunner on our behalf, having become a High Priest "forever according to the order of Melchizedek."

الرَّبُّ يُعْطِي قُوَّةً لِّشَعْبِهِ.

قَدِّمُوا لِلرَّبِّ يَا أَبْنَاءَ اللَّهِ. قَدِّمُوا لِلرَّبِّ مَجْدًا وَكَرَامَةً.

(20-13:6). فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولْسِ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى الْعِبْرَانِيِّينَ

يَا إِخْوَتِي، إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَمَّا وَعَدَ إِبْرَاهِيمَ، إِذْ لَمْ يُمْكِنَ أَنْ يُعْسِمَ بِمَا هُوَ أَعْظَمُ مِنْهُ، أَقْسَمَ بِنَفْسِهِ. قَائِلًا:

لَأُبَارِكَنَّكَ بَرَكَةً وَأَكْثِرَنَّكَ تَكْثِيرًا. وَذَلِكَ إِذْ تَأْتِي، نَالَ الْمَوْعِدِ. وَإِنَّمَا النَّاسُ يُعْسِمُونَ بِمَا هُوَ أَعْظَمُ مِنْهُمْ،

وَيَنْقُضِي كُلَّ مُشَاجَرَةٍ بَيْنَهُمْ بِالْقَسَمِ لِلتَّشْبِيهِ. فَلِذَلِكَ، لَمَّا شَاءَ اللَّهُ أَنْ يَزِيدَ وَرَثَةَ الْمَوْعِدِ بَيَانًا لِعَدَمِ تَحْوُلِ

فَصَارَ كَالْمَيِّتِ، حَتَّى قَالَ كَثِيرُونَ إِنَّهُ قَدْ مَاتَ. فَأَخَذَ يَسُوعُ بِيَدِهِ وَأَنْهَضَهُ، فَقَامَ. وَلَمَّا دَخَلَ بَيْتًا، سَأَلَهُ تَلَامِيذُهُ عَلَى انْفِرَادٍ: "لِمَاذَا لَمْ نَسْتَطِعْ نَحْنُ أَنْ نُخْرِجَهُ؟" فَقَالَ لَهُمْ: "إِنَّ هَذَا الْجِنْسَ لَا يُمَكِّنُ أَنْ يَخْرُجَ بِشَيْءٍ إِلَّا بِالصَّلَاةِ وَالصُّومِ." وَلَمَّا خَرَجُوا مِنْ هُنَاكَ، اجْتَازُوا فِي الْجَلِيلِ، وَلَمْ يَرِدْ أَنْ يَدْرِي أَحَدٌ. فَإِنَّهُ كَانَ يُعَلِّمُ تَلَامِيذَهُ وَيَقُولُ لَهُمْ: "إِنَّ ابْنَ الْبَشَرِ يُسَلَّمُ إِلَى أَيْدِي النَّاسِ، فَيَقْتُلُونَهُ، وَبَعْدَ أَنْ يُقْتَلَ، يَقُومُ فِي الْيَوْمِ الثَّالِثِ."

GOSPEL

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (9:17-31)

At that time, a man came to Jesus, kneeling down and saying unto him, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit. And wherever it seizes him, it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked Thy Disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And Jesus answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to Me." And they brought the boy to Him; and when the spirit saw Jesus, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if Thou canst do anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when Jesus had entered the house, His Disciples asked Him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And Jesus said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting." They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And Jesus would not have anyone know it; for He was teaching His Disciples, saying to them, "The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill Him; and after He is killed, He will rise on the third day."

(31-17:9). فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ مَرْفُوسِ الْإِنْجِيلِي الْبَشِيرِ

في ذلك الزمان، دنا إلى يسوع إنساناً وسجد له قائلاً: "يا معلّم، قد أتيتك بابني، به روح أبلّغ. وحيثما أخذه يصرعه، فيزيد ويصرف بأسنانه ويبيس، وقد سألت تلاميذك أن يخرجوه فلم يقدروا." فأجابته قائلاً: "أيها الجيل غير المؤمن، إلى متى أكون عندكم؟ حتى متى أحتلمكم؟ هلّم به إليّ." فأثوه به. فلما رآه للوقت صرعه الروح، فسقط على الأرض يتمرغ ويذب. فسأل أباه: "منذ كم من الزمان أصابه هذا؟" فقال: "منذ صباه. وكثيراً ما ألقاه في النار وفي المياه ليهلكه. لكن إن استطعت شيئاً، فتحنن علينا وأغثنا." فقال له يسوع: "إن استطعت أن تؤمن، فكل شيء مستطاع للمؤمن." فصاح أبو الصبي من ساعته بدموع وقال: "إني أؤمن يا سيّد، فأغث عدم إيماني." فلما رأى يسوع أن الجمع يتبادرون إليه، انتهر الروح النجس قائلاً له: "أيها الروح الأبلّغ الأصبم، أنا أمرك أن اخرج منه ولا تعدّ تدخل فيه." فصرخ وخبطه كثيراً وخرج منه،

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.

طُروبَارِيَاتِ الصُّومِ، بِاللَّحْنِ الثَّامِنِ

الْمَجْدُ لِلآبِ وَالْإِبْنِ وَالرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ.

إفْتَحْ لِي أَبْوَابَ التَّوْبَةِ يَا وَاهِبَ الْحَيَاةِ، لِأَنَّ رُوحِي تَبْتَكِرُ إِلَى هَيْكَلِ قُدْسِكَ، آتِيَا بِهِيْكَلِ جَسَدِي مُدَنِّسًا بِجُمْلَتِهِ. لَكِنْ، بِمَا أَتَكَ 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، 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.

إِيذِيوْمَالُونِ بِاللَّحْنِ السَّادِسِ

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

إِذَا تَصَوَّرْتُ كَثْرَةَ أَفْعَالِي الرَّدِيئَةِ أَنَا الشَّقِيّ، فَإِنِّي ارْتَعِدُ مِنْ يَوْمِ الدَّيْنُونَةِ الرَّهيبِ. لَكِنِّي إِذْ أَنَا وَاثِقٌ بِتَحَنُّنِكَ، أَهْتَفُ إِلَيْكَ مِثْلَ دَاوُدَ: ارْحَمْنِي يَا اللَّهُ، بِحَسَبِ عَظِيمِ رَحْمَتِكَ.