

St. Elias Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church

Rev. Fr. Michael Ibrahim

Deacon Nicholas Mahshie

4988 Onondaga Road, Syracuse, NY 13215

Church: 488-0388 **Cell: 973-641-8463**

Church Office e-mail: office@sainteliasny.com

For Bulletin Announcements email at office@sainteliasny.com **and**

Sheila at sahmaz@twcny.rr.com

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

JULY 20, 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

CHURCH: (315) 488-0388

FR. MICHAEL-973-641-8463
DN. NICHOLAS 315-491-3990

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

PROPHET ELIAS (ELIJAH) THE THESBITE

& SIXTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

RIGHTEOUS ILIYA CHAVCHAVADZE OF GEORGIA

TONE 5/ EOTHINON 6

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 ETIQETTE

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 بمكرميه دائماً"

named Margarita (pearl) in Latin hagiography and it was given to her for beauty and nobility. At some point, the Saint began to be venerated in various parts of Europe under different names. Closer to the south and east she was known by her original name of Marina, but in the west and north as Margarita.

In Greek and Coptic icons of the Great Martyr Marina, there is either a dragon or a devil in the form of a dark-skinned man, a short man with horns. In the latter case, the Saint holds him with one hand by a horn, or a tuft of hair, and with the other hand she is about to strike him with a hammer.

¹ Theotimos is not mentioned in the Greek Life of Saint Marina, only in the Latin Life.

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. Eli-as. 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 مرشّدي الكنيسة. وكتكثير 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 the Parish Council,** for the spiritual and physical wellbeing of the Parishioners of St. Elias. **Also being offered in loving memory of** departed members of St. Elias. **May their memories be eternal**
 - **Please pray for all the sick** and suffering, hospitalized and shut-ins of our community, especially Janet Saba, Salwa Makhlouf, 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.

temptation to end pain at the cost of apostasy, the Martyr drew from prayers to the Lord. The Saint bravely endured cruel tortures: she was beaten with rods, her body was raked with tridents, they drove nails into her, and burned her with fire.

But even this, the second level of temptation did not exhaust the Saint's feat (podvig). The source of the third level of testing was Satan himself, whose onslaught was also threefold.

The first time the devil appeared to the Saint in prison, on the night after the first day of torture, when she prayed, as the Coptic Life clarifies, she folded her arms crosswise. In Russian hagiography, it is emphasized that Marina asked the Lord: "Let me see the Enemy of the human race fighting against me. Let him come face to face before me. You are the Judge and Ruler of the living and the dead, so judge between me and the devil. Deliver me from perdition. Help me to overcome him, send Satan to hell by Your invincible power."

Taking the form of a serpent (dragon), Satan devoured the captive. But Saint Marina was able to pray in his belly, and she made the Sign of the Cross, which tore the dragon apart. Once again on the floor of the dungeon, Marina saw Satan himself in the corner, who began a second physical onslaught on the Saint.

The peculiarity which distinguishes the Great Martyr Marina from other holy virgins, and even men, is that the girl made active physical resistance to Satan. After entering into single combat with him, Saint Marina continued to pray. Noticing a copper hammer lying in the corner of the dungeon, she grabbed it and began to beat Satan on the head with it, holding him by the horns, and stepping on his neck, Saint Marina said: "Depart from me, O lawless one."

After that, the heavens opened, and the Martyr's body was healed of her wounds from the previous day. A voice from above encouraged her, urging her not to be afraid of anything.

But the devil made a third onslaught on the girl. Under the guise of the frankness of the story of his atrocities, he tried to draw her into those sins to which the Saint was opposed. But Marina defeated the Father of lies, making the Sign of the Cross over him. The abyss swallowed up Satan, and the Saint spent the rest of the night in prayers of thanksgiving and joy until the day of her final contest began.

The eparch tried again to break the Holy Virgin's resistance by torture. The Martyr was suspended on a tree, scorched with fire, dunked in a barrel of water - and that became her Holy Baptism. Suddenly, as she was being submerged in the water, a light shone, and a snow-white dove descended upon the girl with a golden crown in its beak.

The astonished crowd began to praise God and declared themselves to be Christians. The governor ordered everyone to be executed. On that day, together with the fifteen-year-old bride of Christ Marina, 15,000 people were beheaded. This occurred in the year 304.

The tradition of Saint Marina's veneration was established by a witness to the Great Martyr's imprisonment and execution, and then by the hagiographer Theotimos (Theótimos).¹ After anointing the Saint's body with fragrances and incense, he first placed her in the house of the pious wife of a senator in Antioch. Subsequently, the relics were placed in a stone tomb in a specially built house of prayer (martyrium), where every year on the Saint's Feast Day the Divine Liturgy was served. The basis for the recognition of Marina as a Saint was the numerous miracles attributed to her relics.

Already in the IV century, the Virgin Martyr Marina was revered as a deliverer from misfortunes and troubles, from unrighteous judgment and lawless sentences. In the Athonite proskynitaria (descriptions of holy places) from 1701 it is said that her relics heal the afflicted, give "healing to the sick, consolation to mourners, correction and forgiveness to those who live in sins." The Holy Great Martyr Marina, who defeated the devil during her lifetime, protects us against the Enemy's slanders and defamations, she intercedes for those who are overwhelmed by the spirits of malice: the possessed and mentally ill, as well as for those who are on their deathbed, driving the demons away from them.

It has been suggested that at some stage in the history of Western Europe, Marina was re-

THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)

On July 20 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the fiery ascent as it were into the Heaven of the holy and glorious Elias (Elijah) the Thesbite.

Elias was born in the town of Tishba for which he was called the Thesbite. When Elias was born, his father Savah saw an angel of God hovering around the child, wrapping the child in fire and giving him a flame to eat. This foreshadowed Elias's fiery character and his God-given fiery power. Elias confronted the Israelite King Ahab and his evil wife Jezebel. They worshipped idols and were turning the people away from serving the One and Living God. Jezebel, a Syrian, persuaded her husband to erect a temple to the Syrian god Baal. Through great miracles Elias displayed the power and authority of God: he closed up the heavens, so that there was not any rain for three years and six months; he lowered a fire from heaven and burned the sacrifice to his God which the pagan priests of Baal were unable to do; he accurately prophesied to Ahab that the dogs will lick up his blood and to Jezebel that the dogs will consume her flesh. Before his death Elias took Elisseus (Elisha) and designated him as his successor in the prophetic calling. Elias was taken up into the heavens in a fiery chariot by flaming horses. He appeared on Mount Tabor to our Lord Jesus Christ with Moses on the Transfiguration. Before the end of the world Elias will appear again to put an end to the power of the anti-Christ (Revelation, Chapter 11).

THE EPISTLE

Priest: Let us attend.

Reader: Thou art a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek. The Lord said unto my Lord: Sit Thou on my right hand, until I make Thine enemies Thy footstool.

Reader: The Reading from the Epistle of St. James. (5:10-20)

Brethren, take as an example of suffering and patience the prophets who spoke in the Name of the Lord. Behold, we call those blessed who were steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful. But above all, my brethren, do not swear, either by Heaven or by earth or with any other oath; but let your yes be yes and your no be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation. Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is any cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man has great power in its effects. Elias was a man of like nature with ourselves and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again and the heavens gave rain, and the earth brought forth its fruit. My brethren, if any one among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

أَنْتَ الْكَاهِنُ إِلَى الدَّهْرِ عَلَى رُتَبَةِ مَلَكِيصَانَق.

قَالَ الرَّبُّ لِرَبِّي: اجْلِسْ عَنْ يَمِينِي، حَتَّى أَجْعَلَ أَعْدَاءَكَ مَوْطِنًا لِقَدَمَيْكَ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِّيسِ يَعْقُوبَ الرَّسُولِ الْجَامِعَةِ. (20-10:5)

يَا إِخْوَةُ، اتَّخِذُوا الْأَنْبِيَاءَ، الَّذِينَ تَكَلَّمُوا بِاسْمِ الرَّبِّ، قُدْوَةً فِي اخْتِمَالِ الْمَشَقَّاتِ وَفِي طَوْلِ الْأَنَاءِ، فَإِنَّا نَطُوبُ

teachings to remembrance, Thou didst open their understanding that they might understand the Scriptures. And after Thou hadst assured them of the Father's promise and hadst blessed them, Thou didst depart unto Heaven. Wherefore, together with them, we worship Thee; O Lord, glory be to Thee.

المَجْدُ لِلآبِ وَالِابْنِ وَالرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ.

أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ، بِمَا أَنَّكَ سَلَامُ اللَّهِ الْحَقِيقِيِّ لِلنَّاسِ، مَنَحْتَ تَلَامِيذَكَ سَلَامَكَ مِنْ بَعْدِ قِيَامَتِكَ، وَأَظْهَرْتَهُمْ فِرْعَيْنَ،

لَمَّا ظَنُّوا أَنَّهُمْ يَرَوْنَ رُوحاً. إِلَّا أَنَّكَ أَرَلْتَ انْزِعَاجَ نُفُوسِهِمْ لَمَّا أَرَيْتَهُمْ يَدَيْكَ وَرِجْلَيْكَ. وَمَعَ ذَلِكَ لَبِثُوا مُرْتَابِينَ.

لَكِنْ لَمَّا تَنَاولْتَ مَعَهُمْ طَعَاماً، وَذَكَرْتَهُمْ بِوَعْدِكَ، فَتَحْتَ أَذْهَانَهُمْ لِيَفْهَمُوا الْكُتُبَ، وَوَعَدْتَهُمْ بِالْمُوعِدِ الْأَبَوِيِّ،

وَبَارَكْتَهُمْ، وَارْتَقَيْتَ صَاعِداً إِلَى السَّمَاءِ. لِذَلِكَ مَعَهُمْ نَسْجُدُ لَكَ، يَا رَبُّ الْمَجْدُ لَكَ.

THEOTOKION IN TONE SIX

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

Most blessed art thou, O Virgin Theotokos, for through Him that was incarnate of thee is Hades despoiled, Adam is recalled from the dead, the curse is made void, Eve is set free, death is slain, and we are endowed with life. Wherefore, in hymns of praise, we cry aloud: Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, Who is thus well pleased, glory to Thee.

الآنَ وَكُلَّ أَوَانٍ وَإِلَى دَهْرِ الدَّاهِرِينَ. آمِينَ.

أَنْتِ هِيَ الْفَائِئِقَةُ عَلَى كُلِّ الْبَرَكَاتِ، يَا وَالِدَةُ الْإِلَهِ الْعَذْرَاءُ، لِأَنَّ الْجَحِيمَ قَدْ سُبِيتَ بِوَاسِطَةِ الْمُتَجَبِّدِ مِنْكَ، وَأَدَمَ

دُعِيَ ثَانِيَةً، وَاللَّعْنَةُ بَادَتْ، وَحَوَاءَ انْعَتَقْتَ، وَالْمَوْتُ أُمِيتَ، وَنَحْنُ قَدْ حَيِينَا. فَلِذَلِكَ نُسَبِّحُ هَاتِفِينَ: مُبَارَكٌ أَنْتَ

أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ إِلَهُنَا، يَا مَنْ هَكَذَا سُرَّ، الْمَجْدُ لَكَ.

Great Martyr Marina (Margaret) of Antioch

Commemorated on July 17

Saint Marina was born into the family of a pagan priest from the city of Antioch, in the center of the Roman Province of Pisidia in Asia Minor. She was raised by a wet nurse who lived on an estate owned by Marina's mother, who died when the Saint was still an infant. From the nurse or from an unnamed man of God from the wanderers Marina learned the basics of Christianity at the age of twelve.

After hearing the story of the conception and birth of Jesus Christ by the Most Holy Virgin, Marina's faith in the Christian God was strengthened, and it was her intention to renounce worldly temptations. She decided she would never marry and, despite the fact that she attracted the attention of men, she would become the bride of Christ. Some sources explicitly indicate on her willingness to "lay down her life for the Lord."

Olymbrios, the imperial governor of that region, was fascinated by Marina's beauty and wanted to marry her. The Saint did not hide the fact that she was a Christian. Then the ruler gave her into the care of a noble woman, hoping that she would persuade the girl to deny Christ. Then Olymbrios offered her his hand and heart publicly, in the center of the city, from the prefect's podium, but Saint Marina remained unwavering in her refusal.

The temptations of this life, which promised her fame and fortune, were immediately replaced by physical suffering. The forces that made it possible to overcome physical suffering and the



الصَّابِرِينَ. وَقَدْ سَمِعْتُمْ بِصَبْرِ أَيُّوبَ، وَرَأَيْتُمْ عَاقِبَةَ الرَّبِّ. لِأَنَّ الرَّبَّ مُتَحَنِّنٌ جِدًّا وَرَوْوْفٌ. وَقَبْلَ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ، يَا

إِخْوَتِي، لَا تَخْلِفُوا لَا بِالسَّمَاءِ وَلَا بِالْأَرْضِ وَلَا بِقَسَمٍ آخَرَ. وَلَكِنْ لِيَكُنْ كَلَامُكُمْ نَعَمَ نَعَمَ وَلَا لَا، لِنَلَّا تَقْعُوا فِي

الدِّينُونَةِ. هَلْ فِيكُمْ أَحَدٌ فِي مَشَقَّاتٍ؟ فليُصَلِّ؛ أَوْ فِي سُرُورٍ؟ فَلْيُرْتَلِّ. هَلْ فِيكُمْ مَرِيضٌ؟ فَلْيَدْعُ قُسُوسَ

الْكَنِيسَةِ وَلْيُصَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَيَذْهَبُوا بِرَيْتِ بِاسْمِ الرَّبِّ. فَإِنَّ صَلَاةَ الْإِيمَانِ تُخَلِّصُ الْمَرِيضَ، وَالرَّبُّ يُنْهَضُهُ. وَإِنْ

كَانَ قَدْ ارْتَكَبَ خَطَايَا، تُغْفَرُ لَهُ. إِعْتَرِفُوا بَعْضُكُمْ لِبَعْضٍ بِالزَّلَّاتِ، وَصَلُّوا بَعْضُكُمْ لِأَجْلِ بَعْضٍ لِكَيْ تُبْرَأُوا.

إِنَّ طَلِبَةَ الْبَارِ تَقْتَدِرُ كَثِيرًا فِي فِعْلِهَا. كَانَ إِبِلِيَّا إِنْسَانًا قَابِلَ الْآلَامِ مِثْلَنَا، وَقَدْ صَلَّى أَنْ لَا يَنْزِلَ الْمَطَرُ، فَلَمْ

يَنْزِلْ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ مُدَّةَ ثَلَاثِ سِنِينَ وَسِتَّةِ أَشْهُرٍ. ثُمَّ عَادَ وَصَلَّى فَأَمْطَرَتِ السَّمَاءُ وَأُخْرِجَتِ الْأَرْضُ ثَمَرَهَا.

أَيُّهَا الْإِخْوَةُ، إِنْ ضَلَّ أَحَدٌ بَيْنَكُمْ عَنِ الْحَقِّ فَرَدَّهُ أَحَدٌ، فَلْيَعْلَمْ أَنَّ الَّذِي رَدَّ خَاطِئًا عَنْ ضَلَالِ طَرِيقِهِ، قَدْ

خَلَّصَ نَفْسًا مِنَ الْمَوْتِ، وَسَتَرَ جَمًّا مِنَ الْخَطَايَا.

GOSPEL

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (9:1-8)

At that time, Jesus got into a boat, crossed over and came to His own city. And behold, they brought to Him a paralytic, lying on his bed; and when Jesus saw their faith He said to the paralytic, "Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven." And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man is blaspheming." But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—He then said to the paralytic—"Rise, take up your bed and go home." And he rose and went home. When the crowds saw it, they marveled, and they glorified God, Who had given such authority to men.

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقُدِّيسِ مَتَّى الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيذِ الطَّاهِرِ. (9:1-8)

فِي ذَلِكَ الزَّمَانِ، دَخَلَ يَسُوعُ السَّفِينَةَ وَاجْتَاَزَ وَجَاءَ إِلَى مَدِينَتِهِ. فَإِذَا بِمُخْلَعٍ مُلْقَى عَلَى سَرِيرٍ قَدَّمُوهُ

إِلَيْهِ. فَلَمَّا رَأَى يَسُوعُ إِيْمَانَهُمْ، قَالَ لِلْمُخْلَعِ: "ثِقْ يَا بُنَيَّ، مَغْفُورَةٌ لَكَ خَطَايَاكَ." فَقَالَ قَوْمٌ مِنَ الْكُتَّابَةِ فِي

أَنْفُسِهِمْ "هَذَا يُجَدِّفُ." فَعَلِمَ يَسُوعُ أَفْكَارَهُمْ، فَقَالَ: "لِمَاذَا تُفَكِّرُونَ بِالشَّرِّ فِي قُلُوبِكُمْ؟ مَا الْأَيْسَرُ أَنْ يُقَالَ،

مَغْفُورَةٌ لَكَ خَطَايَاكَ، أَمْ أَنْ يُقَالَ قُمْ فَامْشِ؟ وَلَكِنْ لِكَيْ تَعْلَمُوا أَنَّ ابْنَ الْبَشَرِ لَهُ سُلْطَانٌ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ أَنْ

يَغْفِرَ الْخَطَايَا. حِينِئِذٍ قَالَ لِلْمُخْلَعِ "قُمْ، احْمِلْ سَرِيرَكَ وَاهْجُبْ إِلَى بَيْتِكَ." فَقَامَ وَمَضَى إِلَى بَيْتِهِ. فَلَمَّا نَظَرَ

الْجُمُوعُ، تَعَجَّبُوا وَمَجَّدُوا اللَّهَ الَّذِي أَعْطَى النَّاسَ سُلْطَانًا كَهَذَا.

THE SIXTH EOTHINON DOXASTICON IN TONE SIX

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

Thou Who art the true peace to men of God, O Christ, while giving Thy peace to Thy disciples after Thy Resurrection, didst cause them to be affrighted, for they supposed they beheld a spirit. But Thou didst quiet the trouble in their souls by showing them Thy hands and feet, although they yet believed not. But in partaking of food and bringing Thy