

*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](http://www.sainteliasny.com)**

**ST. ELIAS**

**ANTIOCHIAN CHRISTIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

**AUGUST 31, 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**  
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'DISCIPLES FIRST CALLED THEMSELVES CHRISTIANS IN ANTIOCH.' ACTS 11:26

## **PLACING OF THE SASH OF THE THEOTOKOS IN HALKOPRATEIA & TWELFTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW**

*GENNADIUS, PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE; HIEROMARTYR CYPRIAN, BISHOP OF CARTHAGE*

**TONE 3/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 يُفيض الأشفية بمكرميهِ 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 مُرشدي 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 المُبارك. 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 A-Men,** for the spiritual and physical wellbeing of the members of A-MEN and their families. **Also being offered in loving memory of** the departed members of A-MEN. **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.

my name down also, for I am a Christian and I die gladly for Christ God.”

The scribes reported this to the emperor, who summoned Saint Adrian and asked: “Really, have you gone mad, that you want to die? Come, cross out your name from the lists and offer sacrifice to the gods, asking their forgiveness.”

Saint Adrian answered: “I have not lost my mind, but rather have I found it.” Maximian then ordered Adrian to be thrown into prison. His wife, Saint Natalia, knowing that her husband was to suffer for Christ, rejoiced, since she herself was secretly a Christian.

She hastened to the prison and encouraged her husband saying: “You are blessed, my lord, because you have believed in Christ. You have obtained a great treasure. Do not regret anything earthly, neither beauty, nor youth (Adrian was then 28 years of age), nor riches. Everything worldly is dust and ashes. Only faith and good deeds are pleasing to God.”

On the pledge of the other martyrs, they released Saint Adrian from prison to tell his wife about the day of his execution. At first Saint Natalia thought that he had renounced Christ and thus had been set free, and she did not want to let him into the house. The saint persuaded his wife that he had not fled from martyrdom, but rather had come to give her the news of the day of his execution.

They tortured Saint Adrian cruelly. The emperor advised the saint to have pity on himself and call on the gods, but the martyr answered: “Let your gods say what blessings they promise me, and then I shall worship them, but if they cannot do this, then why should I worship them?” Saint Natalia did not cease to encourage her husband. She asked him also to pray to God for her, that they would not force her into marriage with a pagan after his death.

The executioner ordered the hands and the legs of the saints to be broken on the anvil. Saint Natalia, fearing that her husband would hesitate on seeing the sufferings of the other martyrs, asked the executioner to begin with him, and permit her to put his hands and legs on the anvil herself.

They wanted to burn the bodies of the saints, but a storm arose and the fire went out. Many of the executioners were even struck by lightning. Saint Natalia took the hand of her husband and kept it at home. Soon an army commander asked the emperor’s approval to wed Saint Natalia, who was both young and rich. But she hid herself away in Byzantium. Saint Adrian appeared to her in a dream and said that she would soon be at rest in the Lord. The martyr, worn out by her former sufferings, in fact soon fell asleep in the Lord.

Saints Adrian and Natalia are the patrons of married couples, as are Saints Timothy and Maura (May 3). The Kykkos Monastery on Cyprus has a portion of Saint Natalia’s relics.

**THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)**

On August 31 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Placing of the Sash of our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos in Constantinople’s Halkoprateia district during the reign of the emperor Theodosius the Younger.

At her Dormition, the Most Holy Mother of God left her Sash to the Apostle Thomas. This Sash was later taken to Constantinople and kept there in a sealed casket in the church of the Mother of God at Blachernae. This casket was never opened until the time of the Emperor Leo the Wise (886-912). Leo’s wife, the Empress Zoë, was taken sick in soul and, as the result of a mysterious vision, desired that the Sash of the holy Theotokos be placed upon her. The Emperor asked the Patriarch, who opened the casket and found the Sash completely whole and undamaged by time. The Sash was taken out and placed upon the sick Empress, who immediately recovered. They sang hymns of thanksgiving to the Most Holy Theotokos, and then returned the venerable Sash back into the casket and resealed it.

On this day, we also commemorate our fathers among the saints Gennadius, Patriarch of Constantinople; and Hieromartyr Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage. By the intercessions of Thy saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

**THE EPISTLE**

**Priest: Let us attend.**

**Reader: *My soul doth magnify the Lord,  
and my spirit doth rejoice in God my Savior.  
For He hath regarded the lowliness of His servant.***

**Reader: The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (9:1-7)**  
Brethren, even the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly sanctuary. For a tent was prepared, the outer one, in which were the lampstand and the table and the bread of the Presence; it is called the Holy Place. Behind the second curtain stood a tent called the Holy of Holies, having the golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, which contained a golden urn holding the manna, and Aaron’s rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant; above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail. These preparations having thus been made, the priests go continually into the outer tent, performing their ritual duties; but into the second only the high priest goes, and he but once a year, and not without taking blood which he offers for himself and for the errors of the people.

تُعَظِّمُ نَفْسِي الرَّبَّ، وَتَبْتَهِجُ رُوحِي بِاللَّهِ مُخَلِّصِي،  
لَأَنَّهُ نَظَرَ إِلَى تَوَاضَعِ أُمَّتِهِ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولُسِ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى الْعِبْرَانِيِّينَ. (7-1:9)

القارئ: يا إخوة، إِنَّ الْعَهْدَ الْأَوَّلَ كَانَتْ لَهُ أَيْضاً قَرَائِصُ الْعِبَادَةِ وَالْقُدُسُ الْعَالَمِيُّ. لَأَنَّهُ نُصِبَ الْمَسْكَنُ الْأَوَّلُ الَّذِي يُقَالُ لَهُ الْقُدُسُ، وَكَانَتْ فِيهِ الْمَنَارَةُ وَالْمَائِدَةُ وَخُبْزُ النِّقْدِمَةِ. وَكَانَ وَرَاءَ الْحِجَابِ الثَّانِي، الْمَسْكَنُ الَّذِي يُقَالُ لَهُ قُدُسُ الْأَقْدَاسِ. وَفِيهِ مُسْتَوَقَّدُ الْبُخُورِ مِنَ الذَّهَبِ وَتَابُوتُ الْعَهْدِ الْمُغَشَّى بِالذَّهَبِ مِنْ كُلِّ جِهَةٍ، فِيهِ قِسْطُ الْمَنِّ مِنَ الذَّهَبِ، وَعَصَا هَارُونَ الَّتِي أَفْرَخَتْ وَلَوْحَا الْعَهْدِ. وَمِنْ فَوْقِهِ كَارُوبَا الْمَجْدِ الْمُظَلَّلَانِ الْغِطَاءَ. وَلَيْسَ هُنَا مَقَامُ الْكَلَامِ فِي ذَلِكَ تَفْصِيلاً. وَحَيْثُ كَانَ ذَلِكَ مُهَيَّأً هَكَذَا، فَالْكَهَنَةُ يَدْخُلُونَ إِلَى الْمَسْكَنِ الْأَوَّلِ كُلِّ حِينٍ فَيَتِمُّونَ الْخِدْمَةَ. وَأَمَّا الثَّانِي، فَإِنَّمَا يَدْخُلُهُ رَئِيسُ الْكَهَنَةِ وَحْدَهُ مَرَّةً فِي السَّنَةِ،

## ذوكسا الإيوثينا الأولى باللحن الأول

المَجْدُ لِلآبِ وَالِابْنِ وَالرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ.

إِنَّ الرَّبَّ قَدْ حَصَرَ إِلَى التَّلَامِيذِ الذَّاهِبِينَ إِلَى الْجَبَلِ، لِلارْتِفَاعِ عَنِ الْأَرْضِيَّاتِ، فَسَجَدُوا لَهُ، وَتَلَقَّفُوا السُّلْطَانَ الْمُعْطَى لَهُ فِي كُلِّ مَكَانٍ. وَأُرْسِلُوا إِلَى مَا تَحْتَ السَّمَاءِ، لِيَكْرَزُوا بِالْقِيَامَةِ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ، وَبِالنَّقْلَةِ إِلَى السَّمَاوَاتِ، الَّذِينَ قَدْ وَعَدَهُمْ، وَهُوَ غَيْرُ كَاذِبٍ، بِأَنْ يَكُونَ مَعَهُمْ إِلَى الْأَبَدِ، الْمَسِيحُ الْإِلَهُ، وَمَخْلَصُ نَفُوسِنَا.

### THEOTOKION IN TONE ONE

**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.

## والديّة باللحن الأول

الآن وكلّ أولٍ وإلى دهرٍ الداهرين. آمين.

أَنْتِ هِيَ الْفَائِزَةُ عَلَى كُلِّ الْبَرَكَاتِ، يَا وَالِدَةُ الْإِلَهِ الْعَذْرَاءُ، لِأَنَّ الْجَحِيمَ قَدْ سُبِّيتَ بِوَاسِطَةِ الْمُتَجَسِّدِ مِنْكَ، وَأَدَمَ دُعِيَ ثَانِيَةً، وَاللَّعْنَةُ بَادَتْ، وَحَوَاءَ انْعَتَقَتْ، وَالْمَوْتُ أُمِيتَ، وَنَحْنُ قَدْ حَيِينَا. فَلِذَلِكَ نُسَبِّحُ هَاتِفِينَ: مُبَارَكٌ أَنْتَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ إِلَهُنَا، يَا مَنْ هَكَذَا سُرَّ، الْمَجْدُ لَكَ.

## Martyrs Adrian and Natalia and 23 companions, of Nicomedia

Commemorated on August 26

The Martyrs Adrian and Natalia were married in their youth for one year prior to their martyrdom, and lived in Nicomedia during the time of the emperor Maximian (305-311). The emperor promised a reward to whomever would inform on Christians to bring them to trial. Then the denunciations began, and twenty-three Christians were captured in a cave near Nicomedia.

They were tortured, urged to worship idols, and then brought before the Praetor, in order to record their names and responses. Adrian, the head of the praetorium, watched as these people suffered with such courage for their faith. Seeing how firmly and fearlessly they confessed Christ, he asked: "What rewards do you expect from your God for your suffering?" The martyrs replied: "Such rewards as we are not able to describe, nor can your mind comprehend." Saint Adrian told the scribes, "Write



ليسَ بِلاَ دَمٍ يُقَرَّبُهُ عَنْ نَفْسِهِ وَعَنْ جَهَالَاتِ الشَّعْبِ.

### GOSPEL

**Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (19:16-26)**

At that time, a young man came up to Jesus, kneeling and saying, "Good Teacher, what good deed must I do, to have eternal life?" And He said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. If you would enter life, keep the commandments." He said to Him, "Which?" And Jesus said, "You shall not kill, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not bear false witness, honor your father and mother, and you shall love your neighbor as yourself." The young man said to Him, "All these I have observed; what do I still lack?" Jesus said to him, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." When the young man heard this, he went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions. And Jesus said to his disciples, "Truly, I say to you, it will be hard for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." When the disciples heard this they were greatly astonished, saying, "Who then can be saved?" But Jesus looked at them and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقُدِّيسِ مَتَّى الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتِّلْمِيذِ الطَّاهِرِ. (26-16:19)

فِي ذَلِكَ الزَّمَانِ، دَنَا إِلَى يَسُوعَ شَابٌّ وَجَثَا لَهُ قَائِلًا: أَيُّهَا الْمُعَلِّمُ الصَّالِحُ، مَاذَا أَعْمَلُ مِنَ الصَّلَاحِ لِيَكُونَ لِي الْحَيَاةُ الْأَبَدِيَّةُ؟ فَقَالَ لَهُ: لِمَاذَا تَدْعُونِي صَالِحًا؟ وَمَا صَالِحٌ إِلَّا وَاحِدٌ وَهُوَ اللَّهُ. وَلَكِنْ إِنْ كُنْتَ تُرِيدُ أَنْ تَدْخُلَ الْحَيَاةَ، فَاحْفَظِ الْوَصَايَا. فَقَالَ لَهُ: أَيُّهُ وَصَايَا؟ قَالَ يَسُوعُ: لَا تَقْتُلْ، لَا تَزْنِ، لَا تَسْرِقْ، لَا تَشْهَدْ بِالزُّورِ. أَكْرِمِ أَبَاكَ وَأُمَّكَ، أَحْبِبْ قَرِيبَكَ كَنَفْسِكَ. قَالَ لَهُ الشَّابُّ: كُلُّ هَذَا قَدْ حَفِظْتُهُ مُنْذُ صِبَايَ، فَمَاذَا يَنْقُصُنِي بَعْدُ؟ قَالَ لَهُ يَسُوعُ: إِنْ كُنْتَ تُرِيدُ أَنْ تَكُونَ كَامِلًا، فَادْهَبْ وَبِعْ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ لَكَ وَأَعْطِهِ لِلْمَسَاكِينِ، فَيَكُونَ لَكَ كَنْزٌ فِي السَّمَاءِ. وَتَعَالَ انْتَبِعْنِي. فَلَمَّا سَمِعَ الشَّابُّ هَذَا الْكَلَامَ، مَضَى حَزِينًا لِأَنَّهُ كَانَ ذَا مَالٍ كَثِيرٍ. فَقَالَ يَسُوعُ لِتِلَامِيذِهِ: الْحَقُّ أَقُولُ لَكُمْ إِنَّهُ يَعْسُرُ عَلَى الْغَنِيِّ أَنْ يَدْخُلَ مَلَكُوتَ السَّمَاوَاتِ. وَأَيْضًا أَقُولُ لَكُمْ، إِنْ مُرَرَ الْجَمَلُ مِنْ تَحْتِ الْإِبْرَةِ لِأَسْهَلُ مِنْ دُخُولِ غَنِيِّ مَلَكُوتِ السَّمَاوَاتِ. فَلَمَّا سَمِعَ تِلَامِيذُهُ بُهْتُوا جِدًّا وَقَالُوا "مَنْ يَسْتَطِيعُ إِذَنْ أَنْ يَخْلُصَ؟" فَنَظَرَ يَسُوعُ إِلَيْهِمْ وَقَالَ لَهُمْ: أَمَّا عِنْدَ النَّاسِ فَلَا يُسْتَطَاعُ هَذَا، وَأَمَّا عِنْدَ اللَّهِ فَكُلُّ شَيْءٍ مُسْتَطَاعٌ.

### THE FIRST EOTHINON DOXASTICON IN TONE ONE

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

As the disciples were hastening to the mountain, the Lord came to them that He might raise them from things earthly; and they worshipped Him and learned of the power given to Him in every place. They were sent forth to every land under heaven to preach the Resurrection from the dead and the restoration to the Heavens. He that cannot lie promised also that He would be with them forever, even Christ God, the Savior of our souls.