

St. Elias Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church

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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

OCTOBER 5, 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

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

& SECOND SUNDAY OF LUKE

HOLY MARTYR CHARITINA OF AMISOS; JOHN, BISHOP OF EUCHAÏTA;
EUDOKIMOS OF VATOPEDI MONASTERY ON ATHOS

TONE 8 / 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 ليطررد الأسقام ويظهر البرص، لذلك يُفيض الأشفية بمكرميه 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 المقدّس 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 Teen SOYO,** for the spiritual and physical wellbeing of the members of Teen SOYO. **Also being offered in loving memory of** the departed members of Teen SOYO. **May their memories be eternal**
 - **Please pray for all the sick** and suffering, hospitalized and shut-ins of our community, especially Danny Khammar, 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.

the demons was destroyed, and everyone was healed of their illnesses and afflictions.

People began to praise Christ, and to mock Cyprian and his sorcery. Convinced that the devil was powerless against the Sign of the Cross, and trembled at the name of Christ, Cyprian came to his senses and realized that he had been corrupted by becoming a sorcerer, and participating in every sort of wickedness, doing harm to others and deceiving them. He killed many with his spells and potions, and he murdered many men and women as sacrificial offerings to the demons. He was already a partaker of the portion of the demons, and if he had died at that moment, he would have been cast into the depths of Hell. The Lord, however, in His infinite compassion, saved him from the abyss.

Saint Cyprian saw that the devil whom he served was afraid of Christ. The Evil One admitted that he was unable to conquer the maiden because he was afraid of "a certain sign" upon her.

"If you take fright at even the mere shadow of the Cross and if the mere name of Christ makes you tremble," said Cyprian, "then what will you do when Christ Himself stands before you?"

The devil then threw himself upon the pagan priest and attempted to beat and strangle him. For the first time, Saint Cyprian tested the power of the Sign of the Cross and the name of Christ, guarding himself from the fury of the Enemy. Afterward, he went to the local bishop Anthimos in profound repentance, and threw all of his books into the flames. The very next day, he went into the church, and did not want to leave it, even though he had not yet been baptized.

By his efforts to follow after righteousness, Saint Cyprian understood the great power of faith in Christ, making up for more than thirty years of service to Satan. Seven days after his Baptism he was tonsured as a reader, on the twelfth day, subdeacon, on the thirtieth, deacon. After a year, he was ordained as a priest. Shortly after this, Saint Cyprian was elevated to the rank of bishop.

Saint Cyprian converted so many pagans to Christ that in his diocese no one was left to offer sacrifice to idols, and the pagan temples fell into disuse. Saint Justina withdrew to a monastery and was chosen as its Superior.

During the persecution against Christians under Emperor Diocletian, Bishop Cyprian and Saint Justina were arrested and brought to Nicomedia, where after horrible tortures they were beheaded with the sword. Saint Cyprian, fearful that the holy virgin's courage might falter if she saw him put to death, asked for time to pray. Saint Justina inclined her neck and was beheaded first.

After seeing the torments of Saint Justina, a soldier named Theoktistos fell at Cyprian's feet and declared himself a Christian, and he was beheaded with them.

The Hieromartyr Cyprian, the Virgin Martyr Justina, and the Martyr Theoktistos suffered for Christ at Nicomedia in the year 304.

The relics of Saints Cyprian and Justina are to be found in various places around the world. One of Saint Cyprian's feet is at Iviron Monastery on Mount Athos. A piece of Saint Cyprian's skull is in the church named for these Saints at Menikos Nicosia. A small piece of Saint Justina's skull is there as well. Fragments of the Holy Relics of Saints Cyprian and Justina are in the Monastery which is dedicated to them at Phyl[□], Attica. The head of Saint Justina is located in the Monastery of Panagia Panachrantou (the All-Holy Theotokos) on the Greek island of Andros. Part of the hand of Saint Cyprian is located in the Zlătari church (Calea Victoriei 14, Bucharest Romania).

THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)

On October 5 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Martyr Charitina of Amisos.

Orphaned young, Charitina was adopted by an eminent Christian man called Claudius, who brought her up as his own daughter. Charitina studied the law of God, day and night, and vowed to live in perpetual virginity as a true bride of Christ. The governor Dometius wanted to kill Charitina because she led many to the Lord. A judge ordered that her hair be cut off and live coals put on her head, but the maiden was preserved by God's power. She was bound to a wheel which began to turn, but an angel of God stopped the wheel and Charitina remained unharmed. Then the wicked judge sent some dissolute youths to take her virginity. Fearing this attack, Charitina knelt in prayer to God to receive her soul before that could happen. At that moment, her soul soared to the immortal Kingdom of Christ in 290.

On this day, we also commemorate Venerable John, bishop of Euchaita; and Venerable Eudokimos of Vatopedi monastery on Athos. By the intercessions of Thy saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

THE EPISTLE

Priest: Let us attend.

Reader: *Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them. God is known in Judah; His Name is great in Israel.*

Reader: The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (6:16-7:1)

Brethren, we are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will live in them and move among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. Therefore come out from them, and be separate from them," says the Lord, "and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you, and I will be a father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty." Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, and make holiness perfect in the fear of God.

صَلُّوا وَلَوْقُوا الرَّبَّ إِلَهَنَا.
اللهُ معروفٌ في أرضِ يهوذا. إِسْمُهُ عَظِيمٌ في إِسْرَائِيلَ.
فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِّيسِ بُولُسَ الرِّسُولِ الثَّانِيَةِ إِلَى أَهْلِ كُورِنْثُوسَ. (1:7-16:6)
يَا إِخْوَةُ، أَنْتُمْ هَيْكَلُ اللَّهِ الْحَيِّ، كَمَا قَالَ اللَّهُ، "إِنِّي سَأَسْكُنُ فِيهِمْ، وَأَسِيرُ فِيهِمْ، وَأَكُونُ لَهُمْ إِلَهًا وَهُمْ يَكُونُونَ لِي شَعْبًا. فَلِذَلِكَ اخْرُجُوا مِنْ بَيْنِهِمْ وَاعْتَزِّلُوا"، يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ "وَلَا تَمَسُّوا نَجِسًا. فَأَقْبَلَكُمْ وَأَكُونَ لَكُمْ أَبًا وَتَكُونُوا أَنْتُمْ لِي بَنِينَ وَبَنَاتٍ، يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ الْقَدِيرُ." وَإِذْ لَنَا هَذِهِ الْمَوَاعِدُ، أَيُّهَا الْأَحِبَّاءُ، فَلْنُطَهِّرْ أَنْفُسَنَا مِنْ كُلِّ أَدْنَسِ الْجَسَدِ وَالرُّوحِ، وَنُكَمِّلِ الْقَدَاسَةَ بِمَخَافَةِ اللَّهِ.

GOSPEL

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (6:31-36)

The Lord said: "As you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive,

what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.”

فَصْلٌ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ لَوْقَا الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ. (36-31:6)

قَالَ الرَّبُّ: كَمَا تُرِيدُونَ أَنْ يَفْعَلَ النَّاسُ بِكُمْ، كَذَلِكَ افْعَلُوا أَنْتُمْ بِهِمْ. فَإِنَّكُمْ إِنْ أَحْبَبْتُمْ الَّذِينَ يُحِبُّونَكُمْ، فَأَيَّةُ مِنَّةٍ لَكُمْ؟ فَإِنَّ الْخَطَاةَ أَيْضاً يُحِبُّونَ الَّذِينَ يُحِبُّونَهُمْ. وَإِذَا أَحْسَنْتُمْ إِلَى الَّذِينَ يُحْسِنُونَ إِلَيْكُمْ، فَأَيَّةُ مِنَّةٍ لَكُمْ؟ فَإِنَّ الْخَطَاةَ أَيْضاً هَكَذَا يَصْنَعُونَ. وَإِنْ أَقْرَضْتُمْ الَّذِينَ تَرْجُونَ أَنْ تَسْتَوْفُوا مِنْهُمْ، فَأَيَّةُ مِنَّةٍ لَكُمْ؟ فَإِنَّ الْخَطَاةَ أَيْضاً يَقْرَضُونَ الْخَطَاةَ لِكَيْ يَسْتَوْفُوا مِنْهُمْ الْمِثْلَ. وَلَكِنْ، أَحِبُّوا أَعْدَاءَكُمْ، وَأَحْسِنُوا وَأَقْرِضُوا غَيْرَ مُؤَمِّلِينَ شَيْئاً، فَيَكُونَ أَجْرُكُمْ كَثِيراً، وَتَكُونُوا بَنِي الْعَلِيِّ. فَإِنَّهُ مُنْعِمٌ عَلَى غَيْرِ الشَّاكِرِينَ وَالْأَشْرَارِ. فَكُونُوا رَحَمَاءَ كَمَا أَنَّ أَبَاكُمْ هُوَ رَحِيمٌ.

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 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.

ذوكصا الإيوثينا السادسة باللحن السادس

المَجْدُ لِلآبِ وَالْإِبْنِ وَالرُّوحِ الْقُدَّسِ.

أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ، بِمَا أَنَّكَ سَلَامٌ لِلَّهِ الْحَقِيقِيِّ لِلنَّاسِ، مَنَحْتَ تَلَامِيذَكَ سَلَامَكَ مِنْ بَعْدِ قِيَامَتِكَ، وَأَظْهَرْتَهُمْ قَرَعِينَ، لَمَّا ظَنُّوا أَنَّهُمْ يَرَوْنَ رُوحاً. إِلَّا أَنَّكَ أَرَلْتَ انْزِعَاجَ نُفُوسِهِمْ لَمَّا أَرَيْتَهُمْ يَدَيْكَ وَرِجْلَيْكَ. وَمَعَ ذَلِكَ لَبِثُوا مُرْتَابِينَ. لَكِنْ لَمَّا تَتَاوَلْتَ مَعَهُمْ طَعَاماً، وَذَكَّرْتَهُمْ بِوَعْظِكَ، فَتَحْتَ أَذْهَانَهُمْ لِيَفْهَمُوا الْكُتُبَ، وَوَعَدْتَهُمْ بِالْمَوْعِدِ 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.

وَالِدِيَّةُ بِاللْحَنِ السَّادِسِ

الْآنَ وَكُلَّ أَوَانٍ وَإِلَى دَهْرِ الدَّاهِرِينَ. آمِينَ.

أَنْتِ هِيَ الْفَائِزَةُ عَلَى كُلِّ الْبَرَكَاتِ، يَا وَالِدَةُ الْإِلَهِ الْعَذْرَاءُ، لِأَنَّ الْجَحِيمَ قَدْ سُبِّتَ بِوَاسِطَةِ الْمُتَجَبِّدِ مِنْكَ، وَادَمَ دُعَايَ ثَانِيَّةً، وَاللَّعْنَةُ بَادَتْ، وَحَوَاءَ انْعَتَقَتْ، وَالْمَوْتُ أُمِيتَ، وَنَحْنُ قَدْ حَيِينَا. فَلِذَلِكَ نُسَبِّحُ هَاتِفِينَ: مُبَارَكٌ أَنْتَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ إِلَهُنَا، يَا مَنْ هَكَذَا سُرَّ، الْمَجْدُ لَكَ.

Hieromartyr Cyprian, Virgin Martyr Justina, and Martyr Theoctistus, of Nicomedia

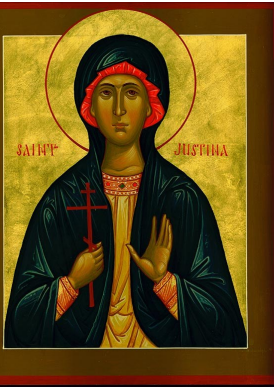
Commemorated on October 2

Saint Cyprian was a pagan and a native of Antioch. From his early childhood his misguided parents dedicated him to the service of the pagan gods. From the age seven until he was thirty, Cyprian studied at the leading centers of paganism: on Mount Olympus; in the cities of Argos and Tauropolis; in the Egyptian city of Memphis; and at Babylon. Once he attained eminent wisdom in pagan philosophy and the sorcerer's craft, he was initiated into the pagan priesthood on Mount Olympus. Having discovered great power by summoning unclean spirits, he beheld the Prince of Darkness himself, speaking with him and receiving from him a host of demons to serve him.



After returning to Antioch, Cyprian was revered by the pagans as a prominent pagan priest, amazing people with his ability to cast spells, to summon pestilence and plagues, and to conjure up the dead. He brought many people to ruin, teaching them to serve the demons, and how to cast magic spells.

The holy virgin Justina lived in Antioch. After turning her own father and mother away from the error of paganism and leading them to faith in Christ, she dedicated herself to the Heavenly Bridegroom and spent her time in fasting and prayer. When the young man Aglaidas (Αγλαϊδας or Αγλαϊός) proposed marriage to her, the saint refused, for she wished to remain a virgin. Aglaidas sought Cyprian's help. He said that he would arrange for Justina's heart to become filled with lust for the young man. No matter what Cyprian tried, he accomplished nothing, since the Saint overcame all the wiles of the devil by prayer and fasting.



Cyprian sent an unclean spirit to attack the holy virgin, and to arouse carnal passions in her, but she overcame them by the power of the Sign of the Cross, and by fervent prayer to the Lord.

Even though one of the demons, and Cyprian himself, assumed various guises by the power of sorcery, they were unable to influence Saint Justina, who was guarded by her firm faith in Christ. All the spells were dissipated, and the demons fled at the mention of Justina's name.

Cyprian, in his rage, sent down pestilence and plague upon Justina's family and upon the entire city, but this was thwarted by her prayer. The sorcerer brought tribulation not only upon Justina and her family, but upon the entire city as well. Rumors spread that the city was being punished because Justina would not wed Aglaia. Several people went to her and demanded that she marry Aglaia so that Cyprian would not punish them with more afflictions. Justina calmed them and assured them that soon the misfortunes which Cyprian caused with the help of the demons would end. Saint Justina prayed to God, the power of