



Welcome to St. Elias
Antiochian Orthodox Church

**ST. ELIAS
ANTIOCHIAN CHRISTIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

APRIL 26, 2026

**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**

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF PASCHA
SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN,
PIOUS JOSEPH OF ARIMATHAEA & RIGHTEOUS NICODEMUS

TONE 2 / EOTHINON 4

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 ويطهر البرص، لذلك يُفيض الأشفية بمكرميهِ دائماً"

THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)

On April 26 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Hieromartyr Basil, bishop of Amasea with Venerable Glaphyra; and Stephen, bishop of Perm.

On this day, the third Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate the feast of the holy Myrrh-bearing women. And we also commemorate Joseph of Arimathaea, the secret disciple, and Nicodemus, the disciple by night.

The women went to Christ's tomb on Holy Pascha to anoint His body, only to discover it empty. We know the names of only eight of these women: Mary the Theotokos, the "mother" of James and Joses, who were the sons of Joseph the Betrothed from his previous marriage (Matt. 27:56 and Mark 15:40); Mary Magdalene; Mary, the wife of Cleopas; Joanna the wife of Chuza; Salome the mother of the sons of Zebedee; Susanna; and Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus. Joseph was a rich and noble man, and a member of the Privy Council of Jerusalem. He dared to ask Pilate for the undefiled body of our Savior, which he took and buried in his own new tomb. Accompanying Joseph to the sepulcher was Nicodemus, a Jerusalemite who was one of the leaders of the Pharisees. Nicodemus brought 100 pounds of myrrh and aloes to scent and embalm the body of Christ.

By the intercessions of the holy Myrrh-bearers, Joseph of Arimathaea and Nicodemus, and all Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy on us. Amen.

أهلاً بكم!

نرحب بجميع زوارنا الذين يصلون 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 سجل الزوار واستكمال بطاقة معلومات الزوار البيضاء والتي توجد في صحن الكنيسة، وإعادتها إلى أحد مرشدي الكنيسة. وكتذكير ودي، يُسمح فقط للمسيحيين الأرثوذكس الذين أعدوا أنفسهم بشكل صحيح من خلال الصوم والصلاة واعتراف من زمن قريب بالاقتراب من الكأس المقدسة لتناول القربان المقدس. ولكن يُسمح للجميع بالاقتراب في نهاية القداس 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 Fayez & Nadia Abu-Manneh.** Please pray for the spiritual and physical well-being of Fayez and Nadia Abu-Manneh, Mahfouz, Lina and family, Rami, Georgina and family, Joe, Tamara and family **Also being offered in loving memory of** Mahfouz, Maggie, Shukri, Milia, and Zaid. **May their memory 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.

St. Elias Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church

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For Bulletin Announcements email at office@sainteliasny.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

THE EPISTLE

Priest: Let us attend.

Reader: *The Lord is my strength and my song.*

With chastisement has the Lord chastened me.

Reader: **The Reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles. (6:1-7)**

In those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily ministry. And the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said: "It is not right that we should forsake the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good report, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. And we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And the saying pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Próchoros, and Nikánor, and Tímon, and Parmenás, and Nikólaos a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them. And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem exceedingly, and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

فُوتِي وَتَسْبِحْتِي الرَّبُّ. أَدْباً أَدْبَتِي الرَّبُّ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ أَعْمَالِ الرُّسُلِ الْقَدِّيسِينَ الْأَطْهَارِ.

(7-1:6)

في تلك الأيام، لما تكاثرت التلاميذ، حدثت تدمر من اليونانيين على العبرانيين بأن أراملهم كُنْ يُهْمَلْنَ في الخدمة اليومية. فدعا الإثنا عشر جمهوراً وقالوا: "لا يحسن أن نتترك نحن كلمة الله ونخدم الموائد. فانتخبوا أيها الإخوة منكم سبعة رجال، مشهوداً لهم بالفضل، مُمْتَلئين من الروح القدس والحكمة، فنقيمهم على هذه الحاجة. ونواظب نحن على الصلاة وخدمة الكلمة." فحسن الكلام لدى جميع الجمهور. فأختاروا إستقائوس، رجلاً مُمْتَلئاً من الإيمان والروح القدس، وفليبي وبروخورس ونيكانور وتيمن وبرمناس ونيقولائوس دخيلاً أنطاكياً. وأقاموهم أمام الرسل. فصَلُّوا ووضَعُوا عليهم الأيدي. وكانت كلمة الله تنمو، وعداد التلاميذ يتكاثر في أورشليم جداً. وكان جمع كثير من الكهنة يُطيعون الإيمان.

GOSPEL

Priest: **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (15:43-16:8)**

At that time, Joseph of Arimathaea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the Kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if He were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether Jesus was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that He was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking Him down, wrapped Him in the linen shroud, and laid Him in a tomb, which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where He was laid. And when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome,

bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Jesus. And very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb at the rising of the sun. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back – it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a long white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, Who was crucified. He is risen; He is not here; see the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples and Peter that He is going before you to Galilee; there you will see Him, as He told you." And they went out quickly and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

فصل شريف من بشارة القديس مرقس الإنجيلي البشير والتلميذ الطاهر. (8:16-43:15)

في ذلك الزمان، جاء يوسف الذي من الرامة، مثير تقي، وكان هو أيضاً منتظراً ملكوت الله. فأجتراً ودخل على بيلاطس وطلب جسد يسوع. فاستغرب بيلاطس أنه قد مات هكذا سريعاً. واستدعى قائد المئة وسأله هل له زمان قد مات. ولما عرف من القائد، وهب الجسد ليوسف. فاشتري كتاناً، وأنزله، ولفه في الكتان، ووضعته في قبر كان منحوتاً في صخرة، ودخر حجراً على باب القبر. وكانت مريم المجدلية ومريم أم يوسف تظنران أين وضع. ولما انقضى السبت، اشتريت مريم المجدلية ومريم أم يعقوب وسالوته حنوطاً لياتين ويدهنه. وبكرن جداً في أول الأسبوع وأتيت القبر وقد طلعت الشمس. وكنت يقلن فيما بينهن، "من يدحرج لنا الحجر عن باب القبر؟" فنتلغن، فرأيت الحجر قد دحرج، لأنه كان عظيماً جداً. فلما دخلن القبر، رأيت شاباً جالساً عن اليمين، لايساً حلة بيضاء، فانذهلن. فقال لهن: "لا تندهلن. أنتن تطلبن يسوع الناصري المصلوب. قد قام، ليس هو ههنا. هوذا الموضع الذي وضعوه فيه. فاذهن وقلن لتلاميذه وليطرس إنه يسبقكم إلى الجليل، هناك ترونه كما قال لكم." فخرجن سريعاً وفررن من القبر وقد أخذن الرعدة والدهش. ولم يقلن لأحد شيئاً لأنهن كن خائفات.

THE KONTAKION OF PASCHA IN TONE EIGHT

Though Thou didst descend into the grave, O Immortal One, yet didst Thou destroy the power of Hades, and didst arise as victor, O Christ God, calling to the myrrh-bearing women, Rejoice, and giving peace unto Thine Apostles, O Thou Who dost grant resurrection to the fallen.

القنداق للفصح باللحن الثامن

ولئن كنت نزلت إلى قبر يا من لا يموت، إلا أنك درست قوة الجحيم، وقمت غالباً أيها المسيح الإله، وللنساء حاملات الطيب قلت "افرحن"، وهبت رسلك السلام، يا مانح الواقيعين القيام.

Martyr Savva Stratelates "the General" of Rome, and 70 soldiers with him

Commemorated on April 24

Saint Savva Stratelates came from a Gothic tribe. For his bravery he attained the high rank of military commander or "stratelates," and he served under the Roman emperor Aurelian (270-275).



From his youth, Savva was a Christian and he fervently followed the commands of Christ. He helped the needy, and visited Christians in prison. Because of his pure and virtuous life the saint received from the Lord the gift of wonderworking, healing the sick and casting out demons in the name of Christ.

When the emperor learned that Saint Savva was a Christian, he demanded that he apostasize. The martyr threw down his military belt and declared that he would not forsake his faith. They beat him, burned him with torches, and threw him into a cauldron with tar, but the martyr remained unharmed.

Looking on at his torments, seventy soldiers came to believe in Christ. They were beheaded by the sword. Saint Savva was thrown in prison. At midnight, while he was praying, Christ appeared to the martyr and shone on him the light of His Glory. The Savior bade him not to fear, but to stand firm. Encouraged, the Martyr Savva underwent new torture in the morning, and was drowned in a river in 272.

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### 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.

## New Martyr Argyra

Commemorated on April 30

The holy New Martyr Argyra lived in Proussa, Bithynia, and came from a pious family. She was a beautiful and virtuous woman. When she was eighteen, she married a pious Christian, and they moved into a neighborhood inhabited by many Moslems.

After only a few days, she was approached by a Turkish neighbor, the son of the Cadi (magistrate). He boldly declared his love for her, and tried to convert her to his religion. She rejected his advances, saying that she would rather die than be married to a Moslem. She did not tell her husband, fearing that he would go after the Turk and then be punished for it.

The Moslem brought her to trial and testified that she had assented to his advances, but then had laughed and said she was only joking. His lies were corroborated by false witnesses, and Argyra was sent to prison.

The saint's husband, hoping to get her a fair trial, appealed to Constantinople. There the accuser repeated his lies before the judge. Saint Argyra said that she was a Christian, and that she would never deny Christ. The judge ordered her to be flogged, then sentenced her to life in prison.

She was often taken from her cell, interrogated, beaten, then returned to prison. This continued for seventeen years. The saint was also insulted and tormented by the Moslem women who were incarcerated for their evil deeds. The Evil One incited them to annoy Saint Argyra with these torments and afflictions, but she endured all these things with great courage and patience.

According to the testimony of many Christian women who were in prison with her, she humbled her body through fasting. Her heart was filled with such love for Christ that she regarded her hardships as comforts.

A pious Christian named Manolis Kiourtzibasis sent her word that he would try to have her released, but Saint Argyra would not consent to this. She completed her earthly pilgrimage in the prison, receiving the crown of martyrdom on April 5, 1721.

After a few years her body was exhumed, and was found to be whole and incorrupt, emitting an ineffable fragrance. Pious priests and laymen took her body to the church of Saint Paraskeve on April 30, 1735 with the permission of Patriarch Paisius II.

Her relics remain there to this day, where they are venerated by Orthodox Christians from all walks of life, to the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Saint Argyra's name comes from the Greek word for silver (argyre). THE NEW MARTYR ARGYRA 1688-1721 by P. Philippidou (which also contains a Service to the saint) was published in Constantinople in 1912.

## Apostle James the Brother of Saint John the Theologian

Commemorated on April 30

The Holy Apostle James, the son of Zebedee, was the brother of Saint John the Theologian, and one of the Twelve Apostles. He and his brother, Saint John, were called to be Apostles by our Lord Jesus Christ, Who called them the "Sons of Thunder" (Mark 3:17). It was this James, with John and Peter, who witnessed the Raising of the Daughter of Jairus, the Lord's Transfiguration on Mount Tabor, and His agony in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Saint James, after the Descent of the Holy Spirit, preached in Spain and in other lands, and then he returned to Jerusalem. He openly and boldly preached Jesus Christ as the Savior of the world, and he denounced the Pharisees and the Scribes with the words of Holy Scripture, reproaching them for their malice of heart and unbelief.

The Jews could not prevail against Saint James, and so they hired the sorcerer Hermogenes to dispute with the apostle and refute his arguments that Christ was the promised Messiah Who had come into the world. The sorcerer sent to the apostle his pupil Philip, who was converted to belief in Christ. Then Hermogenes himself became persuaded of the power of God, he burned his books of magic, accepted holy Baptism and became a true follower of Christ.

The Jews persuaded Herod Agrippa (40-44) to arrest the Apostle James and sentence him to death (Acts 12:1-2). Eusebius provides some of the details of the saint's execution (CHURCH HISTORY II, 9). Saint James calmly heard the death sentence and continued to bear witness to Christ. One of the false witnesses, whose name was Josiah, was struck by the courage of Saint James. He came to believe in Jesus Christ as the Messiah. When they led the apostle forth to execution, Josiah fell at his feet, repenting of his sin and asking forgiveness. The apostle embraced him, gave him a kiss and said, "Peace and forgiveness to you." Then Josiah confessed his faith in Christ before everyone, and he was beheaded with Saint James in the year 44 at Jerusalem.

Saint James was the first of the Apostles to die as a martyr.

