

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 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 Religious Committee.** Please pray for the spiritual and physical well-being of all the members of the Religious Committee and their families. **Also being offered in loving memory of** all the departed family members of the Religious Committee. **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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Church Office e-mail: office@sainteliasny.com

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

Check out our website @ www.sainteliasny.com



*Welcome to St. Elias
Antiochian Orthodox Church*

ST. ELIAS

ANTIOCHIAN CHRISTIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

AUGUST 2, 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**

REV, FR. MICHAEL IBRAHIM

CHURCH: (315) 488-0388

FR. MICHAEL-973-641-8463

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

**NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
& NINTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW
RELICS TRANSLATION OF PROTO-MARTYR STEPHEN THE
ARCHDEACON**

*VENERABLE PHOTEINI THE WONDERWORKER OF CARPASIA IN
CYPRUS; BLESSED BASIL THE FOOL-FOR-CHRIST, WONDERWORKER
OF MOSCOW*
TONE 8/ EOTHINON 9

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"

THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)

On August 2 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the recovery of the sacred relics of the holy Proto-martyr and Archdeacon Stephen.

When the wicked Jews stoned Stephen to death, they left his body for the dogs to eat. After two nights Gamaliel, Paul's teacher and a secret follower of Christ, came and took his body to Caphargamala, and buried it in a cave. Eventually, Gamaliel's friend Nicodemus, his nephew Abibos and he were laid to rest in the same cave. The graves were forgotten, but in 415, in the time of Patriarch John of Jerusalem, Gamaliel appeared three times in a dream to the Priest Lucian, in Caphargamala, and told him the exact location of the burial place. With the Patriarch's blessing, Lucian and others dug up the graves. A strong and fragrant odor from the relics of these saints filled the cave. Stephen's relics were solemnly translated to Zion and there buried with ceremony, and the relics of the others were taken to a hill above the cave and laid to rest in a church there. Later, Stephen's healing relics were translated to Constantinople.

On this day, we also commemorate the Venerable Photeini the wonderworker of

By night the priest Justin buried all the martyrs at the place of execution. However, the body of Saint Concordia had been thrown into an unclean place at Rome. After a while two Christians, the Martyrs Irenaeus and Abundius, learned from a soldier where the body of the martyr had been thrown, and they buried her beside Saint Hippolytus. For this reason, they were drowned on August 26, just as the martyr had been. Christians took up the bodies of the martyrs by night and buried them near the relics of the holy Archdeacon Laurence.

Hieromartyr Marcellus, Bishop of Apamea

Commemorated on August 14

The Hieromartyr Marcellus, Bishop of Apamea, was born of illustrious parents on the island of Cyprus. Having received a fine education, he occupied a high civil office. Everyone marveled at his purity of life, mildness, kindness and eloquence. In the year 375, the saint left his wife and children, and devoted himself to a monastic life in Syria. The people of Apamea, having him come to the city on some practical matter, elected him as bishop.



From the account of Theodoret of Cyrrhus we learn that Saint Marcellus received permission from the emperor Saint Theodosius the Great (379-395) to destroy a strongly built temple of Jupiter at Apamea, but the saint didn't know how to accomplish this. A certain worker promised to help him. He undermined three of the huge columns, propping them up temporarily with olive wood. Then he tried to set them afire, but the wood would not burn. When Saint Marcellus learned of this, he performed the Lesser Blessing of Water, and he commanded that this water be faithfully sprinkled around the wood. After this, the wood burned quickly, the columns fell down and the whole pagan temple collapsed in upon itself.

When soldiers near Aulona in the Apamea district demolished another pagan temple, the saint, watching from a distance, was seized by pagans and thrown into a fire. The killers were found, and the saint's sons wanted to take revenge. A local Council forbade them to do this, decreeing that it would be wrong to avenge such a death as the saint had received. Instead, they ought to give thanks to God.

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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.

أهلاً بكم!

cave on the orders of the emperor Decius. Going into the cave and seeing the saints alive, everyone rejoiced and perceived that the Lord, by waking them from their long sleep, was demonstrating to the Church the mystery of the Resurrection of the Dead.

Soon the emperor himself arrived in Ephesus and spoke with the young men in the cave. Then the holy youths, in sight of everyone, lay their heads upon the ground and fell asleep again, this time until the General Resurrection.

The emperor wanted to place each of the youths into a jeweled coffin, but they appeared to him in a dream and said that their bodies were to be left upon the ground in the cave. In the twelfth century the Russian pilgrim Igumen Daniel saw the holy relics of the seven youths in the cave.

There is a second commemoration of the seven youths on October 22. According to one tradition, which entered into the Russian *Prologue* (of Saints’ Lives), the youths fell asleep for the second time on this day. The Greek *Menaion* of 1870 says that they first fell asleep on August 4, and woke up on October 22.

There is a prayer of the Seven Sleepers of Ephesus in the *Great Book of Needs* (Trebnik) for those who are ill and cannot sleep. The Seven Sleepers are also mentioned in the service for the Church New Year, September 1.

Martyr Hippolytus of Rome and those with him: Martyr Concordia, Irenaeus, and Abundius

Commemorated on August 13
The Martyr Hippolytus was a chief prison guard at Rome under the emperors Decius (249-251) and Valerian (253-259). He was converted to Christ by the Martyr Laurence (August 10), and he buried the martyr’s body.



They informed the emperor of this, and Saint Hippolytus was arrested. Valerian asked: “Are you then a sorcerer, to have stolen away the body of Laurence?” The saint confessed himself a Christian, and they beat him fiercely with rods. His only response was, “I am a Christian.”

The emperor gave orders to clothe Saint Hippolytus in his soldier’s garb, saying, “Be mindful of your calling and be our friend. Offer sacrifice to the gods together with us, just as before.” But the martyr answered, “I am a soldier of Christ, my Savior, and I desire to die for Him.”

They then confiscated all his property, and whipped his foster mother, the Martyr Concordia, with olive switches, and they beheaded all his household before his very eyes. The saint himself was tied to wild horses, which dragged him over the stones to his death. This occurred on August 13, 258, the third day after the martyr’s death of Archdeacon Laurence, just as he had foretold to Saint Hippolytus.

Carpasia in Cyprus; and Blessed Basil the fool-for-Christ, wonderworker of Moscow. By the intercessions of Thy saints, O Christ God, have mercy on us. Amen.

THE EPISTLE

Priest: Let us attend.
Reader: *Make your vows and pay them to the Lord our God. God is known in Judaea; His Name is great in Israel.*
Reader: The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (3:9-17)

Brethren, we are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s husbandry, God’s building. According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise architect I laid a foundation, and another builds upon it. Let each one take heed how he builds upon it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; everyone’s work will become manifest; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire itself will test each one’s work of what sort it is. If anyone’s work which was built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If anyone’s work is burned up, he will suffer loss, but he himself will be saved, yet so as by fire. Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone corrupts the temple of God, God will corrupt him. For the temple of God is holy, whose temple you are.

صَلُّوا وَأَوْفُوا الرَّبَّ إِلَهَنَا،

الله مَعْرُوفٌ فِي أَرْضِ يَهُودَا. إِسْمُهُ عَظِيمٌ فِي إِسْرَائِيلَ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولُسِ الرِّسُولِ الْأُولَى إِلَى أَهْلِ كُورِنْثُوسَ. (17-3:9)

يَا إِخْوَتِي، إِنَّا نَحْنُ عَامِلُونَ مَعَ اللَّهِ، وَأَنْتُمْ حَزَرْتُمْ اللَّهَ وَبَنَاءَ اللَّهِ. أَنَا بِحَسَبِ نِعْمَةِ اللَّهِ الْمُعْطَاةِ لِي، كَتَبْتُ حَكِيمٌ وَضَعْتُ الْأَسَاسَ وَآخَرُ بَيْنِي عَلَيْهِ. فَلْيَنْظُرْ كُلُّ وَاحِدٍ كَيْفَ يَبْنِي عَلَيْهِ. إِذْ لَا يَسْتَطِيعُ أَحَدٌ أَنْ يَضَعَ أُسَاسًا غَيْرَ الْمَوْضُوعِ، وَهُوَ يَسُوعُ الْمَسِيحُ. فَإِنْ كَانَ أَحَدٌ يَبْنِي عَلَى هَذَا الْأَسَاسِ ذَهَبًا أَوْ فِضَّةً أَوْ حِجَارَةً ثَمِينَةً أَوْ خَشَبًا أَوْ حَشِيشًا أَوْ تَبْنًا. فَإِنَّ عَمَلَ كُلِّ وَاحِدٍ سَيَكُونُ بَيِّنًا، لِأَنَّ يَوْمَ الرَّبِّ سَيُظْهِرُهُ لِأَنَّهُ يُعْلَنُ بِالنَّارِ، وَسَتَمْتَحَنُ النَّارُ عَمَلَ كُلِّ وَاحِدٍ مَا هُوَ. فَمَنْ بَقِيَ عَمَلُهُ الَّذِي بَنَاهُ عَلَى الْأَسَاسِ، فَسَيَنَالُ أَجْرَهُ. وَمَنْ اخْتَرَقَ عَمَلُهُ، فَسَيُخْسَرُ، وَسَيَخْلُصُ هُوَ وَلَكِنْ كَمَنْ يَمُرُّ فِي النَّارِ. أَمَا تَعْلَمُونَ أَنَّكُمْ هَيِّكَلُ اللَّهِ وَأَنَّ رُوحَ اللَّهِ سَاكِنٌ فِيكُمْ؟ مَنْ يُفْسِدُ هَيْكَلَ اللَّهِ يُفْسِدُهُ اللَّهُ لِأَنَّ هَيْكَلَ اللَّهِ مُقَدَّسٌ، وَهُوَ أَنْتُمْ.

GOSPEL

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (14:22-34)
At that time, Jesus made the Disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He dismissed the crowds. And after He had dismissed the crowds, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. When evening came, He was there alone, but the Disciples’ boat by this time was many furlongs distant from the land, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea. But when the Disciples saw Jesus walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out for fear. But immediately He spoke to them, saying, “Take heart, it is I; have no fear.” And Peter answered Him, “Lord, if it is Thee, bid me come to Thee on the water.” He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me!” Jesus immediately reached out His hand and caught him, saying to him, “O man of little faith, why did you doubt?” And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat wor-

shipped Him, saying, “Truly, Thou art the Son of God.” And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.

فصلٌ شريفٌ من بشارَةِ القديسِ مَتَّى الإنجيليِّ البشيرِ والتلميذِ الطاهرِ . (14:22-34)
في ذلكَ الزمانِ، اضطَرَّ يسوعُ تلاميذهُ أَنْ يَدْخُلُوا السفينَةَ وَيَسْبِقُوهُ إِلَى الْعَبْرِ حَتَّى يَصْرِفَ الْجُمُوعَ. وَلَمَّا صَرَفَ الْجُمُوعَ، صَعِدَ وَخَذَهُ إِلَى الْجَبَلِ لِیُصَلِّيَ. وَلَمَّا كَانَ الْمَسَاءُ، كَانَ هُنَاكَ وَخَذَهُ. وَكَانَتِ السفينَةُ فِي وَسْطِ الْبَحْرِ تَكْذُّهَا الْأَمْوَاجُ، لِأَنَّ الرِّيحَ كَانَتْ مُضَادَّةً لَهَا. وَعِنْدَ الْهَجْعَةِ الرَّابِعَةِ مِنَ اللَّيْلِ، مَضَى إِلَيْهِمْ مَاشِياً عَلَى الْبَحْرِ. فَلَمَّا رَأَاهُ التَّلَامِيذُ مَاشِياً عَلَى الْبَحْرِ، اضْطَرَبُوا وَقَالُوا: "إِنَّهُ خَيَالٌ"، وَمِنْ الْخَوْفِ صَرَحُوا. فَلِلْوَقْتِ كَلَّمَهُمْ يَسوعُ قَائِلاً: "يَقْوَا، أَنَا هُوَ، لَا تَخَافُوا." فَأَجَابَهُ بُطْرُسُ قَائِلاً: "يَا رَبِّ، إِنْ كُنْتَ أَنْتَ هُوَ، فَمُرْنِي أَنْ آتِيَ إِلَيْكَ عَلَى الْمِيَاهِ." فَقَالَ: "تَعَالِ." فَتَزَلَّ بُطْرُسُ مِنَ السفينَةِ، وَمَشَى عَلَى الْمِيَاهِ آتِياً إِلَى يَسوعَ. فَلَمَّا رَأَى شِدَّةَ الرِّيحِ، خَافَ، وَإِذْ بَدَأَ يَغْرُقُ، صَاحَ قَائِلاً: "يَا رَبِّ نَجِّنِي!" وَلِلْوَقْتِ مَدَّ يَسوعُ يَدَهُ وَأَمْسَكَ بِهِ، وَقَالَ لَهُ: "يَا قَلِيلَ الْإِيمَانِ، لِمَاذَا شَكَكْتَ؟" وَلَمَّا دَخَلَ السفينَةَ، سَكَنَتِ الرِّيحُ. فَجَاءَ الَّذِينَ كَانُوا فِي السفينَةِ وَسَجَدُوا لَهُ قَائِلِينَ: "بِالْحَقِيقَةِ أَنْتَ ابْنُ اللَّهِ." وَلَمَّا عَبَرُوا، جَاءُوا إِلَى أَرْضِ جَنِّيَسَارَتِ.

KONTAKION OF THE TRANSFIGURATION IN TONE SEVEN
Thou wast transfigured on the mount, and Thy Disciples, in so far as they were able, beheld Thy glory, O Christ our God; so that, when they should see Thee crucified, they would remember that all Thy suffering was voluntary, and could declare to all the world that Thou art truly the effulgent Splendor of the Father.

قنداق تَجَلِّي رَبِّنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ بِاللَّحْنِ السَّابِعِ
تَجَلَّيْتَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ إِلَهُهُ عَلَى الْجَبَلِ، وَحَسَبْنَا وَسِعَ تَلَامِيذُكَ شَاهِدُوا مَجْدَكَ. حَتَّى عِنْدَمَا يُعَايِنُوكَ مَضْلُوبًا، يَعْطِنُوا أَنَّ آلامَكَ طَوْعًا بِاخْتِيَارِكَ، وَيَكْرِزُوا لِلْعَالَمِ، أَنَّكَ أَنْتَ بِالْحَقِيقَةِ شُعَاعُ الْآبِ.

7 Holy Youths “Seven Sleepers” of Ephesus

Commemorated on August 4
The Seven Youths of Ephesus: Maximilian, Iamblicus, Martinian, John, Dionysius, Exacustodianus (Constantine) and Antoninus, lived in the third century. Saint Maximilian was the son of the Ephesus city administrator, and the other six youths were sons of illustrious citizens of Ephesus. The youths were friends from childhood, and all were in military service together.

When the emperor Decius (249-251) arrived in Ephesus, he commanded all the citizens to offer sacrifice to the pagan gods. Torture and death awaited anyone who disobeyed. The seven youths were denounced by informants, and were summoned to reply to the charges. Appearing before the emperor, the young men confessed their faith in Christ.



Their military belts and insignia were quickly taken from them. Decius permitted them to

go free, however, hoping that they would change their minds while he was off on a military campaign. The youths fled from the city and hid in a cave on Mount Ochlon, where they passed their time in prayer, preparing for martyrdom.

The youngest of them, Saint Iamblicus, dressed as a beggar and went into the city to buy bread. On one of his excursions into the city, he heard that the emperor had returned and was looking for them. Saint Maximilian urged his companions to come out of the cave and present themselves for trial.

Learning where the young men were hidden, the emperor ordered that the entrance of the cave be sealed with stones so that the saints would perish from hunger and thirst. Two of the dignitaries at the blocked entrance to the cave were secret Christians. Desiring to preserve the memory of the saints, they placed in the cave a sealed container containing two metal plaques. On them were inscribed the names of the seven youths and the details of their suffering and death.

The Lord placed the youths into a miraculous sleep lasting almost two centuries. In the meantime, the persecutions against Christians had ceased. During the reign of the holy emperor Theodosius the Younger (408-450) there were heretics who denied that there would be a general resurrection of the dead at the Second Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Some of them said, “How can there be a resurrection of the dead when there will be neither soul nor body, since they are disintegrated?” Others affirmed, “The souls alone will have a restoration, since it would be impossible for bodies to arise and live after a thousand years, when even their dust would not remain.” Therefore, the Lord revealed the mystery of the Resurrection of the Dead and of the future life through His seven saints.

The owner of the land on which Mount Ochlon was situated, discovered the stone construction, and his workers opened up the entrance to the cave. The Lord had kept the youths alive, and they awoke from their sleep, unaware that almost two hundred years had passed. Their bodies and clothing were completely undecayed.

Preparing to accept torture, the youths once again asked Saint Iamblicus to buy bread for them in the city. Going toward the city, the youth was astonished to see a cross on the gates. Hearing the name of Jesus Christ freely spoken, he began to doubt that he was approaching his own city.

When he paid for the bread, Iamblicus gave the merchant coins with the image of the emperor Decius on it. He was detained, as someone who might be concealing a horde of old money. They took Saint Iamblicus to the city administrator, who also happened to be the Bishop of Ephesus. Hearing the bewildering answers of the young man, the bishop perceived that God was revealing some sort of mystery through him, and went with other people to the cave.

At the entrance to the cave the bishop found the sealed container and opened it. He read upon the metal plaques the names of the seven youths and the details of the sealing of the