

**St. Michael Antiochian Orthodox Church of the San Fernando Valley**  
a Parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America  
16643 Vanowen Street; Van Nuys, California; 91406      [stmichaelvannuys.org](http://stmichaelvannuys.org)

His Eminence, Metropolitan SABA, of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America [www.antiochian.org](http://www.antiochian.org)

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# **The Twelfth Sunday of Luke Athanasius and Cyril, Patriarchs of Alexandria**

**Sunday, January 18, 2026**

**Tone 7; Eothinon 10**

## **Apolytikion of the Resurrection (Tone 7)**

Thou didst shatter death by Thy Cross, Thou didst open paradise to the thief; Thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment-bearing women into joy. And didst bid Thine Apostles proclaim a warning, that Thou hast risen O Christ, granting to the world the Great Mercy.

## **Apolytikion of Ss. Athanasius and Cyril (Tone 3)**

Shining forth with works of Orthodoxy, ye quenched every false belief and teaching and became trophy-bearers and conquerors. And since ye made all things rich with true piety, greatly adorning the Church with magnificence, Athanasius and wise Cyril, ye justly found Christ God, Who through your prayers doth grant Great Mercy unto all.

## **Apolytikion of our Patron, Michael the Archangel (Tone 2)**

O ye foremost of the heavenly hosts, we beseech thee, though we are unworthy, pray that we may be encompassed with a shadow of thine unearthly glory; preserving us who kneel and cry endlessly: Deliver us from oppression since ye are the prince of the highest powers.

## **Kontakion of the Presentation of Christ (Tone 1)**

Thou, O Christ God, Who by Thy Birth, didst sanctify the Virgin's womb, and, as is meet, didst bless Simeon's arms, and didst also come to save us; preserve Thy fold in wars, and confirm them whom Thou didst love, for Thou alone art the Lover of mankind.

## **Daily Readings**

**THE EPISTLE (for Ss. Athanasius and Cyril)**

*Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.  
For Thou are justified in all that Thou hast done for us.*

## **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews (13:7-16)**

Brethren, remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the Word of God; consider the outcome of their life, and imitate their faith.

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings; for it is well that the heart be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited their adherents. We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through His own blood. Therefore, let us go forth to Him outside the camp and bear the abuse He endured. For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city, which is to come. Through Him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge His Name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

## THE GOSPEL (The Twelfth Sunday of Luke)

### **The Reading of the Holy Gospel is according to St. Luke (17:12-19)**

At that time, as Jesus entered a village, He was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When He saw them He said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving Him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus said, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And He said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

### **The Synaxarion**

On January 18 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate our Fathers among the Saints Athanasius and Cyril, Patriarchs of Alexandria.

#### **VerSES**

Athanasius hath died, yet I call him living, for the righteous live,  
though by death they be taken.

Today the memorial of the exile of Cyril,  
but not his ever-memorable death, creation keepeth.

On the eighteenth buried they Athanasius' dead body.

These wise teachers of truth and defenders of Christ's Church share a joint Feast in recognition of their dogmatic writings which affirm the truth of the Orthodox Faith, correctly interpret the Holy Scripture, and censure the delusions of the heretics. Athanasius took part in the First Ecumenical Council when he was still a deacon. He surpassed everyone there in his zeal to uphold the teaching that Christ is consubstantial (*homoousios*) with the Father, and not merely a creature, as the Arians proclaimed. This radiant beacon of Orthodoxy spent most of his life in exile from his See, because of the plotting of his enemies. He returned to his flock as he was approaching the end of his life. Like an evening star, he illuminated the Orthodox faithful with his words for a little while, and then reposed in 373. Cyril was the nephew of Patriarch Theophilus of Alexandria, who educated him from his youth. He succeeded to his uncle's position in 412, but was deposed through the intrigues of the Nestorian heretics. He later resumed his See, however. Cyril presided at the Third Ecumenical Council in 431, which censured the Nestorian blasphemy against the Most Holy Theotokos. His wise words demonstrated the error of their false doctrine. Cyril departed to the Lord in 444.

On this day, we also commemorate the Martyr Theodoula of Anazarbus and her companions; and Maximos, the Serbian ruler. By the intercessions of Thy saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

## LITURGICAL CALENDAR

### **The Feast of St. Gregory the Theologian, Archbishop of Constantinople and the Fifteenth Sunday of Luke**

Saturday, January 24 — Great Vespers, 5 p.m.

Sunday, January 25 — Orthros, 8:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.

## OFFERINGS

Holy Bread is being offered by Deacon Andrew & Bobbi Monsue for the successful surgery of Kimberly Taweelel.

Holy Bread is also being offered by Marcia O'Dea for Nicholas Juganu and family, asking God's protection for them always.

A six-month memorial was offered on Saturday, January 17, 2026 by Presbytera Nicole and Mary Sarchizian in loving memory of Father Minas Sarchizian (+22 July, 2025). Memory eternal.

Special offerings and requests for prayer are being made . . .

by Michael Srour for the repose of the newly-departed servant of God, Erin Hanna (+11 January, 2026). Memory eternal.

by Mae Tortolano on the occasion of the Feast Day of St. Timothy (January 22nd), that his saintly blessedness will continue to illumine our beloved Fr. Timothy Baclig in his devoted service to God, also celebrating his 43rd year in the Holy Priesthood. May God grant him wisdom, wellness and safety in his travels.

by Mae Tortolano for dear Father George & Khouriye Kimberly Taweel, both diagnosed with Parkinson's disease and for her upcoming cancer surgery (January 21st). May God's infinite mercy grant them comfort from pain and complete recovery to wellness of body, mind and soul.

by Mae Tortolano in reverent memory of Norman Mamey, Jr. (+22 January, 2015), the gifted musician, mentor and beloved friend, who shared his talent in devoted service to God and this Orthodox community for many years. May Norman's memory be eternal.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### **Metropolitan SABA's Weekly Teaching (in English and Arabic)**

View the weekly teaching from Metropolitan SABA here, titled: "Bethany Houses For Our Time;" go to: <https://www.antiochian.org/regulararticle/2705>

### **Informative Archdiocese Links**

View the January-February Issue of The Word magazine (the official publication of the Antiochian Archdiocese). Go

to: <https://www.antiochian.org/regulararticle/2699> and read how to cast off distraction which is “the beginning of all evil” according to St. Ignatius Brianchaniov, finding strength in humble places; also the inspiring life of St. Nikiforos the Leper.

Registration is now open for the [\*\*Winter Sacred Music Institute\*\*](#) in Phoenix, Arizona from Feb. 5-8. Thanks be to God, music education in our Archdiocese is year-round. Please encourage your choirs, chanters and their directors to sign up.

### **Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Report Booklet**

The Annual Meeting of the Voting Membership will be held next Sunday, January 25, 2026. In the best interest of time, a Confidential Report will be prepared for distribution prior to the Annual Meeting. Single page reports are past due from all Council officers, Standing Committees and Subsidiary Organizations in order to be compile on time for distribution to the Voting Membership.

### **Frequently Asked Questions When Completing a Pledge Form**

#### **What is the reason for completing an annual parish Pledge Form?**

Each year planning for budgeted receipts and expenditures are an important part of being responsible stewards of Christ’s church. Some of our month-to-month expenses include: priest and staff salaries, utility and maintenance expenses, the payment of property taxes (yes, churches do pay property taxes), and insurance. It is not uncommon for these expenses increase each year. It is a goal of our Parish Council to meet these expenses with the contributions of our members. The Pastor does not receive stipends (monetary gifts) for house blessings, baptisms, weddings and funerals if a family is not enrolled with the parish and completed an annual pledge form. The Pastor’s living expenses and allowances are included the Annual Budget of the parish.

#### **What is the St. Michael annual “Archdiocese Parish Contribution”**

Each parish of the Antiochian Archdiocese pays 10% of its parish income to assist with the expenses of our bishops, Archdiocesan and Diocesan departments and programs. Over one-fourth of the Archdiocese budget is dedicated to youth programs. We project that our annual payment to the Archdiocese from St. Michael

Church to be \$36,000, or 10% of our income (excluding contributions received for the charity collections, special Archdiocese collections, and memorial gifts).

## **We Gratefully Acknowledge the Receiving 2026 Pledge Commitments Totaling \$97,089.84 From the Following Members:**

Adeeb & Nuha Abughazaleh  
Laila Abughazaleh  
Frances Allen  
Kevin Anthoney  
Sami & Omaima Azzam  
Fr. Timothy Baclig  
Kristy & Mike Chiaburu  
Deanna & Rami Jubran  
Nichola & Mimi Hallak  
Tom & Lynn Homsy  
Salim El-Darzi and Marwan  
Samia Habib  
Michael & Patricia Malouf  
Don Meena  
Fred & Tanya Milkie, Jr.  
Mary Ann & Michael Mitchell  
Michelle & Waleed Moujaes

Dn. Andrew & Barbara Monsue  
Charlotte Murr  
Antoine & Georgina Nader  
Riad Nasser  
Mandy & Constantine Nasr, Jr.  
Barbara & Fred Nicola  
Chrisa Sadd  
Haitham & Asma Sweis  
Richard & Cindy Tamoush  
Ronald & Georgia Tamoush  
Randa Tarbouche  
Daphne Thabet  
Geri Thabit  
Mae and Cristina Tortolano  
Nicole & Robert Webster  
Laila Zaki  
Ron & Kathy Zraick

**2026 Pledge Forms are now available on-line and hard copies may be found in the narthex.**

### **Orthodox “Movie Night” at St. Nicholas Cathedral Sunday, January 18 at 5:30 p.m. (see flier below)**

The double feature includes: 1) “American Orthodox” and 2) “Where Are You Adam?” The evening will include a question and answer session with the filmmaker from Kyiv, Ukraine. Entry and snack bar by freewill offering.

**Note to Coffee Hour hosts: coffee and paper goods will be provided each week.**

#### **Holy Bread Offering List**

Jan 25 - open  
Feb 01 - Margaret Abdun-Nur  
Feb 08 - open  
Feb 15 - Jeanette Hollow  
Feb 22 - open

#### **Coffee Hour Hosts Calendar**

Jeanette Hollow  
Cheese Fare Coffee Hour

**Please contact Father Timothy (818/219-3761; [frtimothy@stmichaevannuys.org](mailto:frtimothy@stmichaevannuys.org)) to sign-up to offer Holy Bread or to host the Coffee Hour.**



ST. NICHOLAS  
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX  
CATHEDRAL

2300 W. 3RD ST.  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90057

LOS ANGELES, CA  
18 JANUARY  
SUNDAY, 5:00 PM

# WHERE ARE YOU, ADAM?

FILM BY ALEXANDER ZAPOROSHCHENKO & ALEXANDER PLYSKA

# American Orthodox

A lost icon. A hidden faith.

ST. MICHAEL ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH PRESENTS:

BRING YOUR FAITH TO LIFE WITH

# THE LION'S DEN

A FOUR-WEEK SMALL GROUP STUDY

**WHEN**

**February 2, 9, 16, 23**

**WHERE:**

St. Michael Antiochian  
Orthodox Church | VAN NUYS, CA

**What We'll Cover:**

- ▶ Finding Authenticity in Christ
- ▶ Growing Intentional Discipleship
- ▶ Setting Faithful Priorities
- ▶ Pursuing God Together

**Who Should Attend:**

- ▶ Men Ages 18 and Older
- ▶ Parishioners, Inquirers, & Catechumens

**For More Info & RSVP**

**Nathan Afshin**

**818-825-6442 · [Nathanafshin@gmail.com](mailto:Nathanafshin@gmail.com)**

**BOLD.**  
 **BRAVE.**  
 **DETERMINED.**  
 **MANHOOD.**

**LIONHEART**  
SESSIONS

## **Upcoming Events**

[Note: You may now access our Google Parish Calendar to your personal calendar.

Simply go to: <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/1/?cid=YWRtaW5Ac3RtaWNoYWVsdmFubnV5cy5vcmc>

### **Annual Meeting of the Voting Membership**

Sunday, January 25, 2026

### **Young Adult 2026 Kick-off Social - Friday, January 30th**

Location TBD

### **Feast of the Presentation of Christ — February 2, 2026**

Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.

### **The Lion's Den - Four Week Group Study for Men**

February, 2, 9, 16, 23 [see flier with this bulletin]

### **Mid-Winter Choir Institute — February 5-8, 2026**

See flier with this bulletin (below)

### **Clergy Seminar - February 5-12, 2026**

Sacred Heart Retreat Center (Alhambra)

### **Parish Family Super Bowl Party - February 8, 2026**

[Note: The gathering is a potluck]

### **Young Adults - FOCUS Food and Clothing Distribution**

**February 28, 2026, 9 a.m.**

[St. Nicholas Cathedral; 2300 W. 3rd Street; Los Angeles]

### **Bookstore Receives New Stock Items**

Stop by the Bookstore and see the updated selection of icons and books that have arrived.

### **Forward Alliance Lake Balboa Park Project**

The plans by "Forward Alliance Los Angeles" is available by viewing the following link: <http://www.forwardalliance.org/> Linda Gravani, President of the Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council (LBNC) reported that the Council is in favor of the proposed project (shown on the link), however opposed to the proposed 250 affordable housing units by the City of Los

Angeles (shown as #17 on the site plan) that is not part of the FALA proposed plan. Federal Funds were used for the existing “Park and Ride” in the location of the proposed housing units. Public transportation is part of a long-range plan for the Sepulveda Pass to UCLA and the elimination of the parking at the corner of Victory and Balboa will be a disadvantage for commuters. The Van Nuys Airport is now providing weekly private flights to Maui. The Airtel Plaza is now closed after 40 years. The airport site plan posed difficulty for the hotel/restaurant/Conference Center. For more information go to: <https://lakebalboanc.org/2025/10/airtel-plaza-hotel-to-close-after-40-years/>

## Establishing a Prayer Discipline

Have you ever found praying to be difficult? Do you feel too busy to pray? Or perhaps you don’t know where to begin? Maybe you have found it hard to focus, or even experienced emptiness when you pray. If so, you’re not alone. For many Orthodox Christians, prayer can be misunderstood, or even frustrating. But prayer is how we build an intimate relationship with the living God! The reality is that cultivating that relationship takes time and effort. Our parish is partnering with Faithtree Resources in *The Encounter*, a prayer initiative that will help us grow closer to God, closer to each other, and to grow in our faith.

Made up of daily Orthodox prayers that you can utilize on a free app, or through a physical prayer book, *The Encounter* is a simple and easy way to begin to grow in your prayer life and do so with others in our community.

If you’d like more information about participating, sign up on the google doc here: [tinyurl.com/encounterfaithtree](https://tinyurl.com/encounterfaithtree)

**EOTHINON 10**

الإيوثينا 10

**TONE 7**

اللحن 7

**THE TWELFTH SUNDAY OF LUKE  
ATHANASIUS AND CYRIL, PATRIARCHS OF ALEXANDRIA**

Martyr Theodoula of Anazarbus and her companions; Maximos, Serbian Ruler

## أبوليتيكيون القيامة بالحن السابع

حَطَمْتَ بِحَصَلِيكَ الْمَوْتَ، وَفَتَحْتَ لِلصِّ الْفَرْدَوْسَ، وَحَوَّلْتَ نَوْحَ حَامِلَاتِ  
الْطِيبِ، وَأَمْرَتَ رُسُلَكَ أَنْ يَكْرِزُوا، بِأَنَّكَ قَدْ قَمْتَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ إِلَهَ، مَانِحًا  
الْعَالَمَ الرَّحْمَةَ الْعَظِيمِ.

## أبوليتيكيون القدّيسين أثنا سبعين وكيبلس بالحن الثالث\*\*) يولس الجديـد\*\*\*

تَلَلَّا تُمَا بِأَفْعَالِكُمَا فِي سَبِيلِ الْإِيمَانِ الْقَوِيمِ، وَدَحَضْتُمَا كُلَّ تَعْلِيمٍ فَاسِدٍ،  
فَغَدَوْتُمَا ظَافِرِينَ حَامِلِينَ الْغَنَائِمَ، وَأَغْنَيْتُمَا الْجَمِيعَ بِالْتَّقْوَى، وَزَيَّنْتُمَا  
الْكَنِيَّةَ زِينَةً عَظِيمَةً، فَأَهَلَّتُمَا أَنْ تَجِدَا الْمَسِيحَ إِلَهَ، الْوَاهِبَ الْجَمِيعَ عَظِيمَ  
الرَّحْمَةَ.

## طروبارية رؤساء الملائكة بالحن الرابع

أَيُّهَا الْمُتَقَدِّمُونَ عَلَى الْأَجْنَادِ السَّمَاوِيَّينِ، نَتَوَسَّلُ إِلَيْكُمْ نَحْنُ غَيْرُ الْمُسْتَحْقِقِينَ، حَتَّى أَنْكُمْ  
بِطَلَبَاتِكُمْ تَكْتُنُونَا بِظَلَّ أَجْنَحَةً مَجْدِكُمْ غَيْرُ الْهَيْوَلِيِّ، حَافِظُنَّ إِيَّانَا نَحْنُ الْجَاثِينَ  
وَالصَّارِخِينَ بِغَيْرِ فَتْوَرِ، أَنْقُذُنَا مِنَ الشَّدَائِدِ، بِمَا أَنْكُمْ رُؤُسَاءُ مَرَاتِبِ الْقَوَافِتِ الْعَلَوِيَّةِ.

## قنداق دخول السيد إلى الهيكل بالحن الأول

أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ إِلَهُ، يَا مَنْ بِمَوْلِدِهِ قَدَّسَ الْمُسْتَوْدَعَ الْبَتَوْلِيِّ، وَبِارَكَ يَدِيْ  
سَمْعَانَ كَمَا لَاقَ، وَأَدْرَكَنَا الْآنَ وَخَلَصَنَا؛ إِحْفَظْ رَعِيَّتَكَ بِسَلَامٍ فِي الْحُرُوبِ،  
وَأَيَّدِ الْمُلُوكَ الَّذِينَ أَحْبَبْتَهُمْ، بِمَا أَنَّكَ وَحْدَكَ مُحِبٌّ لِلْبَشَرِ.

## الرسالة

(للقدّيسين أثنا سبعين وكيبلس)

مُبَارَكَ أَنْتَ يَا رَبُّ إِلَهَ آبَائِنَا.

لَأَنَّكَ عَدْلٌ فِي كُلِّ مَا صَنَعْتَ بِنَا.

فَصُلُّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ يُولِسَ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى الْعِبْرَانِيِّينَ. (16:13-7)

يَا إِخْوَةُ، اذْكُرُوا مُدَبِّرِكُمُ الَّذِينَ كَلَمُوكُمْ بِكَلِمَةِ اللَّهِ. تَأَمَّلُوا فِي عَاقِبَةِ تَصْرِفِهِمْ وَاقْتَدُوا بِإِيمَانِهِمْ. إِنَّ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحَ هُوَ هُوَ، أَمْسِ الْيَوْمَ وَإِلَى مَدِي الدَّهْرِ. لَا تَتَقَادُوا لِتَعْالِيمَ مُتَنَوِّعَةٍ غَرِيبَةٍ. فَإِنَّهُ يَحْسُنُ أَنْ يُبَيِّنَ الْقَلْبُ بِالنِّعْمَةِ لَا بِالْأَطْعَمَةِ الَّتِي لَمْ يَنْتَفِعُ الَّذِينَ تَعَاطَوْهَا. إِنَّ لَنَا مَذْبَحًا، لَا سُلْطَانًا لِلَّذِينَ يَحْدُمُونَ الْمُسْكِنَ أَنْ يَأْكُلُوا مِنْهُ. لِأَنَّ الْحَيَّانَاتِ الَّتِي يُدْخِلُ بِدَمِهَا عَنِ الْخَطِيَّةِ إِلَى الْأَقْدَاسِ بِيَدِ رَبِّيِّسِ الْكَهْنَةِ، تَحْرُقُ أَجْسَامُهَا خَارِجَ الْمَحَلَّةِ. فَلِذَلِكَ يَسُوعُ أَيْضًا تَالَّمَ خَارِجَ الْبَابِ لِيُقْدِسَ الشَّعْبَ بِدَمِ نَفْسِهِ. فَلَنَخْرُجْ إِذْنَ إِلَيْهِ، إِلَى خَارِجِ الْمَحَلَّةِ، حَامِلِينَ عَارَةً. لَأَنَّهُ لَيْسَ لَنَا هَنْهَا مَدِيَّةٌ بَاقِيَّةٌ، بَلْ نَطَّلُ الْآتِيَّةِ. فَلَنُقْرِبَ بِهِ إِذْنَ ذَبِيَّحَةِ التَّسْبِيْحِ كُلَّ حِينٍ، وَهِيَ ثَمَرُ شِفَاهٍ مُعْتَرِفَةٍ لِاسْمِهِ. لَا تَنْسُوا الإِحْسَانَ وَالْمَوَاسِيَّةَ، فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ يَرَتْضِي مِثْلَ هَذِهِ الْذَّبَائِحِ.

## الإنجيل

(اللَّأْدِ الثَّانِي عَشَرُ مِنْ لَوْقَا)

فَصَلُّ شَرِيفُ مِنْ بِشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ لَوْقَا الْبَشِيرِ التَّلَمِيْدِ الطَّاهِرِ. (17:12-19)

فِي ذَلِكَ الزَّمَانِ، فِيمَا يَسُوعُ دَاخِلٌ إِلَى قَرِيَّةِ اسْتَقْبَلَهُ عَشَرَةُ رِجَالٍ بُرْصٍ وَوَقَفُوا مِنْ بَعِيدٍ، وَرَفَعُوا أَصْوَاتَهُمْ قَائِلِينَ: يَا يَسُوعَ الْمُعْلِمُ ارْحَمْنَا. فَلَمَّا رَأَاهُمْ قَالَ لَهُمْ امْضُوا وَأَرَوَا الْكَهْنَةَ أَنْفُسَكُمْ. وَقِيمَا هُمْ مُنْتَلِقُونَ طَهَرُوا. وَإِنَّ وَاحِدًا مِنْهُمْ، لَمَّا رَأَى أَنَّهُ قَدْ بَرَى، رَجَعَ يُمْجِدُ اللَّهَ بِصَوْتٍ عَظِيمٍ. وَخَرَّ عَلَى وَجْهِهِ عِنْدَ قَدَمَيْهِ شَاكِرًا لَهُ وَكَانَ سَامِرِيًّا، فَأَجَابَ يَسُوعُ وَقَالَ، أَلَيْسَ الْعَشَرَةُ قَدْ طَهَرُوا فَأَيْنَ التَّسْعَةُ؟ أَلَمْ يُوجَدْ مَنْ يَرْجِعُ لِيُمْجِدَ اللَّهَ إِلَّا هَذَا الْأَجْنَبِيُّ؟ وَقَالَ لَهُ، قُمْ وَامْضِ، إِيمَانُكَ قَدْ خَلَصَكَ.