

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

His Eminence, Metropolitan SABA, of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian
Archdiocese of North America www.antiochian.org

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The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost; and the Ninth Sunday of Matthew

Relics Translation of Proto-martyr Stephen the Archdeacon
Venerable Photeini the wonderworker of Carpasia in Cyprus

Sunday, August 2, 2026

Tone 8; Eothinon 9

Apolytikion for the Resurrection (Tone 8)

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Apolytikion for St. Stephen the Archdeacon (Tone 4)

The crown of the Kingdom hath adorned the brow of thy head because of the contests that thou hast endured for Christ God, thou first of the martyred Saints; for when thou hadst censured the Jews' madness, thou sawest Christ thy Savior standing at the right hand of the Father. O Stephen, ever pray Him for us, that He would save our souls.

Apolytikion for our Patron, Michael the Archangel (Tone 2)

Showing a diligence befitting thy calling, O namesake of preparedness, thou hast gained, as thy dwelling, a faith worthy of thy name, O prize-winning Paraskeva. Hence, thou pourest forth healings and intercedest for our souls.

Kontakion for the Transfiguration (Tone 7)

[In anticipation of the Feast of the Holy Transfiguration - August 6th]

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.

Daily Readings

THE EPISTLE (for the Ninth Sunday after Pentecost)

*Make your vows and pay them to the Lord our God.
God is known in Judaea; His Name is great in Israel.*

The Reading from St. Paul's First Epistle 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.

THE GOSPEL (for the Ninth Sunday of Matthew)

The Reading of the Holy Gospel is 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 worshiped Him, saying, "Truly, Thou art the Son of God." And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Fast of the Holy Dormition: August 1-14

We observe a traditional fast (no meat, poultry, fish, milk, cheese, eggs, wine and oil) Monday-Friday and the eve of the Feast, Friday, August 14, with provision for wine and olive oil on Saturday and Sunday; fish, wine and oil on the Feast of the Holy Transfiguration (August 6th)

Service of the Paraklesis (Intercessory Prayer)

Monday, August 3rd, 6:30 p.m.

The Feast of the Holy Transfiguration

Divine Liturgy, Thursday, August 6th, 10 a.m.

The Tenth Sunday of Matthew

Great Vespers - Saturday, August 8th, 5 p.m.

Orthros - Sunday, August 9th, 8:45 a.m., Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.

The Synaxarion

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

Verses

A great many strange and divine things hast thou, O Zion:
So give Constantine's city the dead body of Stephen.
On the second Stephen's corpse was removed.

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 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 DISCIPLINE OF FASTING AND PRAYER

The Dormition Fast (August 1-14) is one of the four major fasting periods in the discipline of the Orthodox church (the others being: Great Lent, the Christmas Fast and the Apostles' Fast). The August Dormition Fast precedes the memorial of the Holy Dormition of the All-Holy virgin Mother of God (August 15).

It is beneficial for us to make an effort to observe this fast (to the degree that it is not detrimental to our health). Jesus Himself fasted and taught His disciples about fasting (see St. Matthew's Gospel 6:16-18). The purpose of fasting is to be strengthened spiritually, allowing our spiritual desires to dominate our physical or carnal appetites. This is a means of becoming liberated from being dependent upon the things of this world; focusing our attention upon the spiritual virtues and things of the eternal Kingdom of God. The discipline of fasting provides power to the soul (when accompanied with prayer) in order that it might not yield to temptation and sin. According to St. Seraphim of Sarov, fasting is an "indispensable means" of gaining the fruit of the Holy Spirit in one's life (see Galatians 5:22-23), and Jesus Himself taught that some forms of evil cannot be conquered without it. (see Matthew 17-21 and Mark 9:29).

A special prayer service called the Paraklesis [Παράκλησις] (*pah-RAH-kle-sis*), which means "supplicatory canon," is done each evening of the Dormition Fast, however the service will take place on Monday evening, August 3rd and Wednesday, August 12th, beginning at 6:30 p.m., and may be attended in person or viewed via live-streaming. The prayer service for the living is especially dedicated on behalf of those who are in need of all forms of help and healing. Names of persons may be turned in to Father Timothy.

The Orthodox Church has always understood the discipline of fasting to be accompanied with prayer and good works as mentioned in St. Matthew's Gospel (7:21). It is also important to remember that the Paraklesis Service is not limited to taking place during the Dormition Fast. It is a prayer service that may be said for anyone at any time, in a home or at a bedside, by personal request.

OFFERINGS

Holy Bread is being offered by Marcia O'Dea, the O'Dea and Chala families with prayers for Sal Chala, celebrating his birthday (July 28); brother, and great uncle. Also in loving memory of their priceless mother and sete, Malvina Chala (+6 April, 2000). Memory eternal.

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

for the repose of the newly-departed Khouriye, Christina Tassos (+30 July, 2026), beloved husband of Father Michael Tassos, Pastor of St. Luke Church (Garden Grove) and family. Memory eternal

[Funeral Service for Christina is scheduled for Saturday, August 8, at St. Luke Church (12 noon). The interment will take place on Monday, August 10th at Fairhaven Memorial Park in Santa Ana.]

for the repose of Deacon Barsoum Barsoum (+31 July, 2026) of St. Matthew Orthodox Church (Torrance), the husband of Shamassa Theresa and family. Memory eternal.

by Ron & Kathy Zraick for Michael & Pat Malouf, on the occasion of their wedding anniversary. May God grant them many years!

for the repose of Mikolai Stasiulewicz (+30 July, 2026), age 27; the beloved son of Carole (Steele) Sanders. Memory eternal.

for Margaret Abdun-Nur, celebrating her 95th birthday today.
May God grant her continued health and many years!

by Rachel & William Grundler for the newly departed, Mike Zwaaf
(+31 July, 2026. Memory eternal.

Included in our prayers throughout the month of August are those celebrating their birthday: Fuad Rafidi (8/1), Jonathan Kenneth Contes (8/2), Margaret Abdun-Nur (8/2), Ava Rose Hage (8/2), Gabrielle Camacho (8/3), Dr. George Kudmani (8/3), Sabine Moujaes (8/3), Linda Andrews (8/4), Elisa Milkie (8/4), Marcelle Rowihab (8/4), Patricia Malouf (8/5), Blake Zoe Murr (8/6), Charlotte Murr (8/6), Nicholas Andrews (8/9), Juliana Aparicio (8/9), Nichola Hallak (8/9), Joseph Mallouk (8/9), Penelope Diamantidis (8/9), Billy Gross (8/10), Samir Boutari (8/10), Amal Makhoul (8/10), Sophia Minassian (8/10), Magued Wassef (8/10), Paige Nicola (8/11), Diane Saba (8/11), Audrey Waldman (8/11), Michael Horaney (8/12), Lucas John Abughazaleh (8/13), Ruta McLinn (8/13), Aristides Katerelos (8/14), Albert Bitar, Jr. (8/15), Emmett Nicola (8/15), Basima Sayegh (8/15), Michael A. Haddad (8/18), Elias Ababseh (8/18), Gloria Mitrtry (8/19), Chad Blair (8/20), Diana Nasser (8/18), Madelyn Palmer (8/20), Adhanet Woldemichael (8/21), Praneet Panga (8/22), Karoleen Ababseh (8/23), Emily Apostolou (8/23), Robert Camacho (8/23), Molly Anne McCarron (8/23), Armenak Artashesyan (8/25), Katherine Leilani Baclig (8/25), Celine Marie Srour (8/26), Raquel Randy Ababseh (8/27), Gerald Aboud (8/27), Rami Abughazaleh (8/28), Sonia Karam (8/30), George Mallouk (8/30), Megan Monsue (8/30); and

those celebrating their wedding anniversary: Hanna & Rima Sweis (8/8) Tiffany & Tom Akoury (8/12), Phil & Katie Nassief (8/16), Walter & Christina Rygiol (8/16), Marilee & Charles Ajalat (8/17), Riad & Diana Nasser (8/18), Kelly & Kenneth Malouf (8/19); Michael & Kelly Meena (8/22), Sean & Robin O'Dea (8/22), Nathan Afshin (8/23), Johny & Edlin Sweis (8/25), Randy & Genevieve Ababseh (8/27), Nickie & Chuck Malouf (8/27), Richard & Cindy Tamoush (8/27), Sylvana & Daniel Barney (8/28), John & Carrie Khouri (8/28), Joseph & Erica Kneizeh (8/28), Rose Ann & Frank E. Skaff (8/28), Sandi & Jeff Gorup (8/29), Vanessa & David Obenhaus (8/31). May God grant them many years!

Michael T. Saliba, +31 Aug., 1953
 Martha Solomon, +27 Aug., 1960
 Salama Yanni, +13 Aug., 1961
 Elmer S. Miller, +14 Aug., 1961
 Angelina Diab, +28 Aug., 1961
 Hazel Boyer, Aug., 1965
 George A. Barkett, +13 Aug., 1969
 Michelle Hogue, +2 Aug., 1972
 Edward J. Andrews, +9 Aug., 1974
 Shikri Massabni, +26 Aug., 1977
 Edna Zraick, +20 Aug., 1979
 Elizabeth Pitkart, +22 Aug., 1980
 Labiba Filipous +Aug., 1984
 Nancy Leo Courey, +15 Aug., 1985
 Michel Razook, Sr., +16 Aug., 1985
 Jad Salem Dabbour, +5 Aug., 1988
 John T. Black, Sr., +25 Aug., 1988
 Ernest Kaleel, +2 Aug., 1989
 Wadih Mattar, +28 Aug., 1989
 Robert Soffa, +11 Aug., 1991
 Sarah Ansara, +16 Aug., 1992
 Donna Rae Hallak, +22 Aug., 1992
 Stephanie H. Siano, +18 Aug., 1993
 Afton Bailey, +15 Aug., 1995
 Issa Saadeh, +21 Aug., 1995
 Richard Kayaleh, +18 Aug., 1996
 Carolyn Cates, +8 Aug., 1998
 Henry Antoniewicz, +14 Aug., 1998
 Diab Makhoul, +25 Aug., 1999
 Helen Hatem, +6 Aug., 2000

Carmile Adeeb, +17 Aug., 2002
 Lenore Baba, +24 Aug., 2002
 Rose Deeb, +31 Aug., 2002
 Linda Koudsi, +31 Aug., 2004
 Joyce Skaff, +1 Aug., 2004
 Margaret Satel, +25 Aug., 2005
 Evelyn Barghash, +22 Aug., 2006
 Lena Nassief, +16 Aug., 2007
 Chris Reisch, +24 Aug., 2007
 Mary Zaki, +26 Aug., 2008
 Donna Cruzan, +11 Aug., 2009
 Carmen Satel, +13 Aug., 2009
 Carolee Khalil, +24 Aug., 2010
 Dr. Martha Barba, +13 Aug., 2011
 Miladeh Saadeh, +25 Aug., 2011
 Eula Martha Cates, +25 Aug., 2011
 Alex Akoury, +27 Aug., 2011
 Adeeb G. Sadd, +31 Aug., 2011
 Sabin Nassif, +27 Aug., 2011
 Eli Shaheen, +02 Aug., 2013
 Joseph David, +04 Aug., 2013
 Albert "Al" Coury, Sr., +08 Aug., 2013
 Cheryl Cambridge, +01 Aug., 2015
 Rose Jones, +01 Aug., 2015
 Elizabeth Lamar, +18 Aug., 2017
 Dr. Sakae Kawata, +26 Aug., 2017
 Floyd Farha, +12 Aug., 2018
 Jamilie Rabadi, +29 Aug., 2018
 Mary (Berry) Evans, +02 Aug., 2020
 George Butros, +17 Aug., 2020

Marvin Adams, +17, Aug., 2000
Mary Klimowych, +12 Aug., 2001
Rev. Fr. Cosmo Ansara, +17 Aug.
Sadie Skaff, +19 Aug., 2001
Mary Kiley, +3 Aug., 2002
Frank Hallak, +11 Aug., 2002

Rainer Gruetzmacher, +07 Aug., 2021
Emile F. Skaff, +24 Aug., 2021
Khouriye Helen Ashie, +25 Aug., 2021
Ibrahim Wassef, +04 Aug., 2022
Armand Berberi, +25 Aug., 2022
Margaret Soffa, +11 Aug., 2025

Memory Eternal!

Please phone the Church Office if there are any omissions or corrections to the above listing. Bear in mind that some have chosen not to be included in our announcement. Please pardon any errors.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Weekly Bible Study - Tuesday, August 4

Our weekly Bible Study will meet on Tuesday, August 4. For links to the past recorded links, contact Father Timothy at: frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org The recent Bible Studies were on of the scriptural passages that is the basis of the practice of *nepsis* ("vigilance"); in acquiring the grace of the Holy Spirit. We have begun reading volume two of Bishop EMILIANOS' book, Walking on the Waves, an Everyday Guide to Nepsis. Volumes 1-3 is on sale in our bookstore.

Support Our Parish Every Time You Shop

If you shop at **Ralphs** or **Food 4 Less**, you can support **St. Michael Church** at **no extra cost** by enrolling in the **Community Rewards Program**.

Together, we earned \$689.00 in 2025. Let's see how much more we can raise this year—just by doing our regular grocery shopping!

Already enrolled? Please take a moment to make sure **St. Michael Orthodox Church** is still selected as your Community Rewards organization.

Please read through the next page that provides you with instructions.

Questions or need help enrolling? Please see Cindy Tamoush, 818-917-4847 or cindy.tamoush@gmail.com. Thank you for supporting our parish!



Also available at
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(A Kroger Affiliate)

♥ SUPPORT ♥
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ORTHODOX CHURCH**



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Makes a Difference!

Link your Ralphs or Food 4 Less Rewards Card
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TOGETHER, WE EARNED

\$689.00



IN 2025 FOR ST. MICHAEL ORTHODOX CHURCH!

*Let's see how much more we can raise this year—
just by doing our regular grocery shopping!*



IT'S AS EASY AS 1, 2, 3!



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icon.

Select
Payments &
Rewards.

Choose
Community
Rewards.

Verify **St. Michael Orthodox Church**
is selected, or change your
organization.

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and get started!



You're all set!

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at no extra cost to you!**

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ST. MICHAEL
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

SAVE THE DATE

ST. MICHAEL FALL

MULTI-CULTURAL FESTIVAL



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2026



CELEBRATING
THE FEAST DAY OF
ST. MICHAEL
THE ARCHANGEL



16643 VANOWEN ST
VAN NUYS, CA 91406



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ST. MICHAEL ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

1ST ANNUAL

Multicultural Festival

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PARTNER WITH US IN MAKING OUR FIRST ANNUAL
FESTIVAL A SUCCESS FOR OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

HELP NEEDED

DONATIONS TO BE RAFFLED, SPONSORSHIP
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(FOOD, CRAFTS, MERCHANDISE, AND MORE)

WITH YOUR HELP, THIS YEAR'S FESTIVAL
WILL BE THE BEST ONE YET!

INTERESTED IN HELPING? PLEASE CONTACT FESTIVAL
COORDINATOR: (818)-383-9557 OR RMADAIN@HOTMAIL.COM

• GEORGE KHOURI
(818) 521-0154

• MIMI HALLAK
(661) 400-5592



ST. BARBARA 4TH ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

LEBANON RELIEF FUND

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“SACRED PLACES, LIVING FAITH: OUR PILGRIMAGE TO LEBANON”



FR. THOMAS MILLER



RICHARD AYOUB

5:00 PM VESPERS | 6:00PM COCKTAIL HOUR | 7:00 PM DINNER

FAITH IN ACTION • HOPE FOR LEBANON • COMPASSION FOR THOSE IN NEED

MAIL-IN REGISTRATION



EVENT TICKET : \$100

INCLUDES MEZA, DINNER, SOFT
DRINK, ALCOHOL , AND
ENTERTAINMENT

RSVP BY AUGUST 17TH

ONLINE REGISTRATION



FOR QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT : 661-433-9561

STBARBARALEBANONRELIEF@GMAIL.COM

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

Holy Bread Offering List

Coffee Hour Hosts Calendar

Aug 06 (Feast of the Transfiguration) - open

no coffee hour

Aug 09 - open

Aug 16 - open

Reserved

Aug 23 - open

Reserved

Aug 30 - open

Reserved

Please contact Father Timothy (818/219-3761; frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org) to sign-up to offer Holy Bread and David Rodriguez (drodpena@gmail.com) host the Coffee Hour.

Participate in Hosting the Sunday Coffee Hours

After participating in Divine Liturgy and partaking of the Eucharist, we break our morning fast with a light meal to refresh our bodies and fellowship with our church community. A light meal is sufficient to sustain us, keeping the focus on fellowship rather than extravagance. Coffee Hours are not intended to provide a full lunch, except when hosts choose to celebrate special events.

Please note that depending on the time of year, we observe specific fasting periods (Great Lent, Apostles Fast, Dormition Fast, and Nativity Fast) when we abstain from certain foods while practicing almsgiving and prayer. Guidelines will be posted ahead of each fasting cycle. Conversely, feast days are times of great cheer, and we encourage a larger spread with more options available.

For more information and to sign-up, please contact David Rodriguez at: drodpena@gmail.com

NOTE: The Coffee Hours is not a fundraiser. Hosts provide hospitality to encourage fellowship following the Liturgy. Anyone may offer to support our expenses by logging on to: <https://www.stmichaelvannuys.org/donate> and earmarking your contribution towards the Pastoral Account.

**THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AND THE EIGHTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW**

Relics Translation of Proto-martyr Stephen the Archdeacon
Venerable Photeini the wonderworker of Carpasia in Cyprus

أبوليتيكيون القيامة باللحن الثامن

أَحْدَرْتَ مِنَ الْعُلُوبِ مُتَحَنِّنٌ، وَقَبِلْتَ الدَّفْنَ ذَا الثَّلَاثَةِ أَيَّامٍ، لِكَيْ تُعْتَقَنَا مِنَ الْآلَامِ، فَيَا حَيَاتَنَا
وَقِيَامَتَنَا، يَا رَبُّ الْمَجْدُ لَكَ

أبوليتيكيون القديس استفانوس باللحن الرابع

(سريعاً أدركنا**)**

بِمَا أَنَّكَ جَعَلْتَ اهْتِمَامَكَ مَلَأَةً لِتَسْمِيَتِكَ. أَحْزَرْتَ الْإِيمَانَ الْقَوِيمَ مَسْكِنًا. يَا لِبِسَةِ الْجِهَادِ.
بِرَاسْكِيفِي الْمَطَابَقَةَ لِاسْمِهَا. فَلِذَا تُفِيضِينَ الْأَشْفِيَةَ وَتَشْفَعِينَ لِأَجْلِ نَفُوسِنَا.

طروبارية رؤساء الملائكة باللحن الرابع

أَيُّهَا الْمُتَقَدِّمُونَ عَلَى الْأَجْنَادِ السَّمَاوِيِّينَ، نَتَوَسَّلُ إِلَيْكُمْ نَحْنُ غَيْرَ الْمُسْتَحَقِّينَ، حَتَّى أَنْكُمْ بِطُلُبَاتِكُمْ
تَكْتَنُفُونَنَا بِظُلٍّ أَجْنَحَةٍ مُجْدِكُمْ غَيْرِ الْهَيُولِيِّ، حَافِظِينَ إِيَّانَا نَحْنُ الْجَائِثِينَ وَالصَّارِخِينَ بِغَيْرِ فُتُورٍ،
أَنْقُذُونَا مِنَ الشَّدَائِدِ، بِمَا أَنْكُمْ رُؤَسَاءُ مَرَاتِبِ الْقَوَاتِ الْعُلُوبَةِ.

قنداق تجلّي ربنا يسوع المسيح باللحن السابع

تَجَلَّيْتَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ إِلَهُ عَلَى الْجَبَلِ، وَحَسَبْنَا وَسِعَ تَلَامِيذُكَ شَاهَدُوا مَجْدَكَ. حَتَّى عِنْدَمَا
يُعَايِنُوكَ مَصْلُوبًا، يَفْطَنُوا أَنَّ أَلَمَكَ طَوْعًا بِاخْتِيَارِكَ، وَيَكْرِزُوا لِلْعَالَمِ، أَنَّكَ أَنْتَ بِالْحَقِيقَةِ شُعَاعُ
الْآبِ.

الرسالة

(لِلأحد التاسع بعد العنصرة)

صَلُّوا وَأَوْفُوا الرَّبَّ إِلَهَنَا،

اللَّهُ مَعْرُوفٌ فِي أَرْضِ يَهُوذَا. إِسْمُهُ عَظِيمٌ فِي إِسْرَائِيلَ.

فَصَلُّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِّيسِ بُولُسِ الرِّسُولِ الْأُولَى إِلَى أَهْلِ كُورِنْثُوسِ. (9: 17-3)

يَا إِخْوَةُ، إِنَّا نَحْنُ عَامِلُونَ مَعَ اللَّهِ، وَأَنْتُمْ حَرَثُ اللَّهِ وَبِنَاءُ اللَّهِ. أَنَا بِحَسَبِ نِعْمَةِ اللَّهِ الْمُعْطَاةِ لِي، كِتَابًا حَكِيمًا وَضَعْتُ الْأَسَاسَ وَآخَرُ يَبْنِي عَلَيْهِ. فَلْيَنْظُرْ كُلُّ وَاحِدٍ كَيْفَ يَبْنِي عَلَيْهِ. إِذْ لَا يَسْتَطِيعُ أَحَدٌ أَنْ يَضَعَ أَسَاسًا 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 عَمَلَهُ كُلَّ وَاحِدٍ سَيَكُونُ بَيِّنًا، لِأَنَّ يَوْمَ الرَّبِّ سَيُظْهِرُهُ لِأَنَّهُ يُعْلَنُ بِالنَّارِ، وَسَتَمْتَحَنُ النَّارُ عَمَلَهُ كُلَّ وَاحِدٍ مَا هُوَ. فَمَنْ بَقِيَ عَمَلُهُ الَّذِي بَنَاهُ عَلَى الْأَسَاسِ، فَسَيَنَالُ أَجْرَهُ. وَمَنْ احْتَرَقَ عَمَلُهُ، فَسَيُخَسِرُ، وَسَيُخَلَّصُ هُوَ وَلَكِنْ كَمَنْ يَمُرُّ فِي النَّارِ. أَمَا تَعْلَمُونَ أَنَّكُمْ هَيْكَلُ اللَّهِ وَأَنَّ رُوحَ اللَّهِ سَاكِنٌ فِيكُمْ؟ مَنْ يُفْسِدُ هَيْكَلَ اللَّهِ يُفْسِدُهُ اللَّهُ لِأَنَّ هَيْكَلَ اللَّهِ مُقَدَّسٌ، وَهُوَ أَنْتُمْ.

الإنجيل

(لِلأحد التاسع من متى)

فصل شريف من بشارَةِ القديسِ متى الإنجيليِّ البشيرِ والتلميذِ الطاهر.
(34-14:22)

فِي ذَلِكَ الزَّمَانِ، اضْطَرَّ يَسُوعُ تَلَامِيذَهُ أَنْ يَدْخُلُوا السَّفِينَةَ وَيَسْقِفُوهُ إِلَى الْعَبْرِ حَتَّى يَصْرِفَ الْجُمُوعَ. وَلَمَّا صَرَفَ الْجُمُوعَ، صَعِدَ وَجَدَهُ إِلَى الْجَبَلِ لِيُصَلِّيَ. وَلَمَّا كَانَ الْمَسَاءُ، كَانَ هُنَاكَ وَجَدَهُ. وَكَانَتِ السَّفِينَةُ فِي وَسْطِ الْبَحْرِ تَكْدُهَا الْأَمْوَاجُ، لِأَنَّ الرِّيحَ كَانَتْ مُضَادَّةً لَهَا. وَعِنْدَ الْهَجْعَةِ الرَّابِعَةِ مِنَ اللَّيْلِ، مَضَى إِلَيْهِمْ مَاشِيًا عَلَى الْبَحْرِ. فَلَمَّا رَأَى التَّلَامِيذُ مَاشِيًا عَلَى الْبَحْرِ، اضْطَرَبُوا وَقَالُوا: "إِنَّهُ خَيَالٌ"، وَمِنْ الْخَوْفِ صَرَخُوا. فَلِلْوَقْتِ كَلَّمَهُمْ يَسُوعُ قَائِلًا: "ثِقُوا، أَنَا هُوَ، لَا تَخَافُوا." فَأَجَابَهُ بُطْرُسُ قَائِلًا: "يَا رَبُّ، إِنْ كُنْتَ أَنْتَ هُوَ، فَمُرْنِي أَنْ آتِيَ إِلَيْكَ عَلَى الْمِيَاهِ." فَقَالَ: "تَعَالَ." فَنَزَلَ بُطْرُسُ مِنَ السَّفِينَةِ، وَمَشَى عَلَى الْمِيَاهِ آتِيًا إِلَى يَسُوعَ. فَلَمَّا رَأَى شِدَّةَ الرِّيحِ، خَافَ، وَإِذْ بَدَأَ يَغْرُقُ، صَاحَ قَائِلًا: "يَا رَبُّ نَجِّنِي!" وَلِلْوَقْتِ مَدَّ يَسُوعُ يَدَهُ وَأَمْسَكَ بِهِ، وَقَالَ لَهُ: "يَا قَلِيلَ الْإِيمَانِ، لِمَاذَا شَكَّكْتَ؟" وَلَمَّا دَخَلَ السَّفِينَةَ، سَكَنَتِ الرِّيحُ. فَجَاءَ الَّذِينَ كَانُوا فِي السَّفِينَةِ وَسَجَدُوا لَهُ قَائِلِينَ: "بِالْحَقِيقَةِ أَنْتَ ابْنُ اللَّهِ." وَلَمَّا عَبَرُوا، جَاءُوا إِلَى أَرْضِ جَنَيْسَارَتِ.

ملاحظة بخصوص تناول القربان المقدس

إن مفهومنا لتناول القربان يعنى عمومية المشاركة فيه لذوى العقيدة الواحدة، الا إن المشاركة في سر القربان المقدس هنا تقتصر فقط على أعضاء الكنائس الارثوذكسية والذين يحضرون أنفسهم بالصلاة والصوم والاعتراف منذ فترة قريبة (و على كل حال، فإننا ندعو الجميع للمشاركة في الخبز المقدس الذى يوزع عند إنتهاء مراسيم القداس.) رجاء مراجعة الكاهن. إذا رغبت أن تصبح عضواً فى الكنيسة الارثوذكسية

