

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
Archpriest Timothy Baclig, Pastor frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org
Rev. Fr. Minas Sarchizian, Assisting Priest fatherminas@gmail.com
Rev. Deacon Andrew Monsue armcopper@gmail.com
Subdeacon Richard Tamoush Tamoush.Richard@gmail.com
Subdeacon Richard Ajalat, Pastoral Assistant rajalat@stmichaelvannuys.com
Parish Council Chair - Kris Thabit kthabit66@hotmail.com
Council Vice-Chair - Constantine Nasr , Jr. constantinenasr@icloud.com
Council Secretary - Michael Mitchell mgmitchell3@gmail.com
Council Treasurer - Praneet Panga praneet.panga@stepupconsultingco.com
Assistant Treasurer - Britton McLinn britton@stmichaelvannuys.org
Long-range Planning Chair - Michael Mitchell mgmitchell3@gmail.com
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Women of No. America (AOCWNA)
Chapter President - Charmaine Darmour cdarmour@sbcglobal.net
Choir Director - William Grundler wgrundler@gmail.com
Church School Director - Cooper Rowe superintendent@stmichaelvannuys.org
Youth Director - Cooper Rowe crowe31@gmail.com
Hospitality Ministry Coordinator - William Nehme nehmewilliam03@gmail.com
Men's Fellowship - Sam Azzam - mensministry@stmichaelvannuys.org
Faithtree Resources Exec. Director - Michelle Moujaes michelle@faithtree.org
Stewardship Chair - Constantine Nasr constantinenasr@icloud.com
Communications Chair - Michael Paraskevas michaelparaskevas13@gmail.com
Bookstore Manager - Bobbi Monsue bobbi_monsue@att.net
Golf Classic Co-Chairs
Don Meena donmeena@sbcglobal.net
Fred Milkie, Jr. milkief@aol.com
Website - Dan Raju and Joseph Wang jpw378@gmail.com
Charity Coordinator - Cindy Tamoush cindy.tamoush@gmail.com
Usher Emeritus - Ramez Hage jeddo.ramez@gmail.com

New Sunday (Anti-Pascha)

Commemoration of the Act of Thomas the Apostle, Called “The Twin,”

Commemorating Hieromartyr Simeon, Bishop of Jerusalem and the kinsman of the Lord; John the Confessor, Abbot of the Monastery of the Chaste

Sunday, April 27, 2025

Apolytikion for Thomas Sunday (Tone 7)

While the tomb was sealed, Thou didst shine forth from it, O Light. While the doors were closed, Thou didst come in to Thy Disciples, O Christ God, Resurrection of all, renewing in us through them an upright spirit, according to the greatness of Thy mercy.

Kontakion of Pascha (Tone 8)

O Immortal One, when Thou didst descend into the tomb, Thou didst destroy the power of Hades; and Thou didst rise victorious, O Christ God. Thou hast said to the ointmentbearing women: Rejoice! And Thou gavest peace to Thy Disciples, O Bestower of Resurrection to those Who had fallen.

Kontakion of Pascha (Tone 8)

O most radiant lamp, the Theotokos, the immeasurable honor, which is more exalted than all creatures, with praises do we magnify thee. Daily

Readings

THE EPISTLE (for St. Thomas Sunday)

*Great is our Lord, and great is His strength.
Praise ye the Lord, for the Lord is good.*

The Reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles (5:12-20)

In those days, many signs and wonders were done among the people by the hands of the apostles; and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch. None of the rest dared to join them, but the people magnified them. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and pallets, that as Peter

came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. The people also gathered from the cities around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed. But the chief priest rose up and all who were with him, that is, the sect of the Sadducees, and filled with jealousy they laid their hands on the apostles and put them in the common prison. But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out and said: "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life."

THE GOSPEL (for Thomas Sunday)

**The Reading of the Holy Gospel is according to St. John
(20:19-31)**

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the Disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the Disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other Disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in His side, I will not believe." Eight days later, His Disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said, "Peace be with you." Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing." Thomas answered Him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the Disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His Name.

The Synaxarion

On April 27 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Hieromartyr Simeon, Bishop of Jerusalem and the kinsman of the Lord; and John the Confessor, Abbot of the Monastery of the Chaste.

On this day, the second Sunday of Pascha, we inaugurate the celebration of Christ's Resurrection, and the occasion whereon the Holy Apostle Thomas touched the Savior's side.

Verses

If the seals of the Virgin's womb and of the grave did not hinder Thee,
How could the seals of the doors hinder Thy might, O Savior?

This day is called New Sunday, Thomas Sunday or Anti-Pascha. The last term means "in place of Pascha" because Thomas did not immediately hear of Christ's Resurrection and disbelieved it. Starting with this day, the Church dedicates Sunday to the celebration of the Resurrection.

As the Disciples were gathered on Pascha, Jesus entered and greeted them in His usual way, saying, "Peace be unto you." Then He showed them His hands, feet and side. Jesus ate with His Disciples and reassured them of His Resurrection. However, Thomas was not with them at that time, and insisted upon seeing the Savior's wounds—the print of the nails in His hands and feet, and the spear in His side—before he would believe that Jesus was risen. Eight days later, Christ appeared again to the Disciples, this time with Thomas present. The Master told Thomas to see and feel His wounds. Then Thomas immediately cried out, "My Lord and my God!" But Jesus tells His Disciples, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." This event also clearly illustrates the human and divine Natures of Christ.

*By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ our God, have mercy on us.
Amen.*

OFFERINGS

Holy Bread is being offered this morning with prayers by Ron & Kathy Zraick in memory of their grandson, Lucas Scott who entered eternal rest on April 13, 2007. The offering is also being made in memory of Ron's sister, Renee Kabbaz who passed on April 2, 1987. Memory eternal.

Holy Bread is also being offered by Katrina Tambouras in loving memory of her son, Matthew Tambouras (+23 April, 2016), and her mother, Jamilie Habib (+13 April, 1995). Memory eternal.

A special offerings and requests for prayer are being made . . .

for the speedy recovery and continued health of Brandon Terry.

for the continued health of Minnie Lush.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

*NOTE: There is **no** fasting for the forty-day period:
from Easter to the Feast of the Ascension (May 29th)*

**Commemoration of The Myrrh-Bearing Women,
The Pious Joseph of Arimathea and the Righteous Nicodemus**

Great Vespers – Saturday, May 3rd, 5 p.m.

Orthros – Sunday, May 4th, 8:45 a.m., Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.



The Epitaphios (*E-pee-TAH-fee-os*), which has been placed on the altar — representing the Tomb of Christ, will remain on the altar until the Feast of the Ascension (Thursday, May 29th). At that time, the image of Christ will be returned to the Cross. The image of the entombed Christ, however is a permanent part of the altar as the “tablecloth” (Antimension; *Anti-MEN-see-on*), resting under the Gospel Book. It is opened for the “anaphora” (time of the offering in the Liturgy), at the second part of the Divine Liturgy, when the bread and wine are placed on the altar for consecration. It is a cloth sign by the Metropolitan Archbishop and is the church’s credentials as a canonical Orthodox Church of Apostolic succession.

A WORD WE NEED TO KNOW: PASCHA (*PAAS-kah*)

Easter is the focal point of the church calendar when we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The word *Pascha* is the Aramaic derivation of the Hebrew word: *Pesach*, which means Passover. Jesus and most of the early Christians spoke Aramaic, and as the faith spread, the word was retained. We understand Christ to be our *passage* (or Passover) from death to life, our Pascha!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Food for the Hungry Collection - Last Call!

All Food for the Hungry collection boxes should now be turned in to the Church Office. Please write your name on your box or mail a check for the total amount to the Church Office, earmarked “FFHP” for credit on your Contribution Statement. One check from our parish will be sent to the Archdiocese for the collection. Thanking you in advance for your support.

New Items in our Bookstore

Our new service books (English and Arabic) are now available for sale in our Bookstore. Also, Arabic Bibles are now in stock

Weekly Bible Study to Continue This Tuesday, April 29th

Join us on Tuesday evenings, beginning this week, April 29th, at 7 p.m. for our weekly Bible Study. A link to the Zoom meeting will be sent out on Tuesday. The one hour study is recorded and available by request. Our Bible Study is required for all catechumens.

The following dialogue is exchanged by the priest and the people at the end of the service

Priest: Christ is risen!

People: Truly, He is risen! [repeated in various languages]

Al Maseeah qam! **Haq qan qam!** (*Arabic*)

Christos Anesti! **Alithos Anesti!** (*Greek*)

Kristos voskrese! **Voistinu voskrese!** (*Slavonic*)

Kristo esta resusitado! **Verdaderamente resusitado!** (*Spanish*)

Khristi ungal! **Vertet ungal!** (*Albanian*)

Le Christ est ressuscite! **En verite il est ressuscite** (*French*)

Kristos Inviat! **Adervaret inviat!** (*Romanian*)

Ua ala hou ‘o Kristo! **Ua ala ‘I ‘o no ‘oia!** (*Hawaiian*)

Christus is opgestaan! **Hij is waarlijk opgestaan!** (*Dutch*)

Kristus ist Auferstanden! **Sicherlich ist Auferstanden!** (*German*)

Khristus Zmartvikstau! **Zaiste Zmartvikstau!** (*Polish*)

Christos harjav i merelotz! **Orhniale harutjun Christosi!** (*Armenian*)

Kristos Tensiah! **Be-a-man Ten-si-a!** (*Tigrigna*)

Massih Miyayat! **Hatman Miyayat** (*Farsi*)

Kristo azukidde! **Kituufu azukidde** (*Luganda*)

Ha Mashiyach qam! **Ken hoo qam!** (*Hebrew*)

Christu uyirthezhunnettu! **Theerchayayum uyirthezhunnettu!** (*Indian/Malayalam*)

Kristo samawa, yomi gaimashta! **Hontoni yomi gaimashta!** (*Japanese*)

Priest: Glory to His holy, third-day Resurrection!

People: We adore His holy, third-day Resurrection!

Priest: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by Death, and upon those in the tombs... **People: Bestowing life!**



Article by Metropolitan SABA on Repentance (in English and Arabic)

View the message from Metropolitan SABA here, available in English and Arabic: "The Chalcedonian and Non-Chalcedonian Churches: An Objective Presentation." <https://www.antiochian.org/regulararticle/2407>

A graphic for a Mother's Day Brunch. It features a central white scalloped-edged frame containing text. Above the frame is a white dress on a hanger. The background is pink with floral line art and polka dots. At the bottom, there are two pink boxes with white text.

Join us for a
MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH
Honoring
ALL THE LADIES OF ST. MICHAEL

SUNDAY, MAY 11TH FOLLOWING LITURGY
ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE ARCHDIOCESE
WIDOWED CLERGY WIVES ENDOWMENT FUND

SPONSORED BY THE
MEN'S MINISTRY OF ST. MICHAEL
RSVP TO: mensministry@stmichaelvannuys.org for a reservation
Suggested Good-Will offering \$10/pp

RSVP to: mensministry@stmichaelvannuys.org for a reservation.

Suggested good will offering \$10/person.

All proceeds to benefit the Archdiocese widowed clergy wives endowment fund.

32nd Annual St. Michael Golf Classic

Mark your calendar for The 32nd Annual St. Michael Golf Classic: Monday June 2nd 2025 at Wood Ranch Golf Club, Simi Valley, CA. Please visit the [32nd Annual St. Michael Golf Classic](#) website to register. Join your St. Michael family for a day of fellowship and fun. For more information, don't hesitate to get in touch with Don Meena (661-623-0340, donmeena@sbcglobal.net) or Fred Milkie (818-535-4243, milkief@aol.com).

ST. MICHAEL GOLF CLASSIC

MONDAY

JUNE 2, 2025

WOOD RANCH GOLF CLUB

GOLF OR DINNER

REGISTER HERE →

<https://buytickets.at/stmichaelantiochianchurch/1570394>

Don Meena (661) 623-0340
Fred Milkie (818) 535-4243

Annual Parish Life Conference

Host: St. Nicholas Church; San Francisco, California, June 25-29 2025

Go to: <https://www.antiochianevents.com/los-angeles> to register for your hotel room (\$179/night) at the Hyatt Regency San Francisco Airport.



DIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES & THE WEST PARISH LIFE CONFERENCE

JUNE 25 - 29, 2025

HOSTED BY:

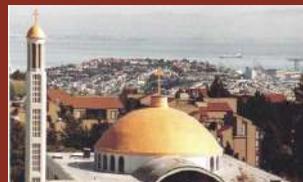
ST. NICHOLAS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH,
SAN FRANCISCO
WWW.LAPLC.ORG

HIGHLIGHTS:

- His Grace Bishop ANTHONY's first PLC as our Diocesan Bishop
- Morning & Afternoon Workshops
- Young Adult Dinner
- Taco Thursday Welcome Reception
- Organization Meetings
- Bible Bowl
- Ice Cream Social & Teen Dance
- Brunch with Bishop ANTHONY and Awards Presentation
- Oratorical & Choir Festival
- Middle Eastern Dinner and Dance (Hafli)

HOTEL:

- Hotel Group Rate: \$179/night plus local taxes/fees
- Group rate available 3 days before/after Conference
- Complimentary shuttle to & from San Francisco airport
- 10% discount at all hotel food outlets



CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE
BY USING THE QR CODE
BELOW OR VISITING
LAPLC.ORG



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

Holy Bread Offering List

May 4 - open
May 11 - open
May 18 - open
May 25 - open

Coffee Hour Hosts Calendar

Father Timothy Baclig
Mother's Day Brunch

Please contact Father Timothy (818/219-3761; frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org) to sign-up to offer Holy Bread or to host the Coffee Hour.

**57th Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese Convention in Chicago
Host: St. George Church; Cicero, Illinois; July 20-27, 2025**

Go to: <https://www.ac2025chicago.org/hotel/> to register for your hotel room (\$189/night) at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare Chicago. For a view of the Convention Schedule, click here: <https://www.ac2025chicago.org/schedule/>



**The Order of St. Ignatius of Antioch
Los Angeles Area Fellowship Dinner**

**Sunday, May 4, 2025
5:30 p.m.**

Middle Eastern Dinner

Welcoming

**Right Reverend Bishop ANTHONY
Diocese of Los Angeles and the West
Auxiliary to the Metropolitan**

**With special guest
Dennis Awad
Chairman of the Board
Project Mexico & St. Innocent Orphanage**

**Phoenicia Restaurant
343 N. Central Avenue
Glendale, CA 91203
(818) 956-7800
*Valet parking \$15***

Name _____ No. Attending _____ Total (@ \$80 pp) _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please make check payable to *Order of St. Ignatius* and mail by **April 25, 2025** to:
Mary Milkie-Andrews
8001 Corte Rey
Bakersfield, CA 93309
(661) 364-3898 or mandrewsmd@yahoo.com for any questions



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

KINDERGARTEN
THROUGH
5TH GRADE



June 9-13, 2025
9AM - 12PM each day

A five day, uniquely Orthodox program that helps children explore the path to holiness in a fun, engaging way!

St. Michael's Antiochian Orthodox Church

16643 Vanowen Street

Van Nuys, 91406

Hosted by St. Michael's Antiochian Orthodox Church and St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Cathedral



3RD ANNUAL

ST. BARBARA *Lebanon Relief Fund* FUNDRAISING EVENT

SATURDAY | MAY 3 | 2025

Vespers: 5:00 pm | | Cocktail : 6:00 pm | Event: 7:00 pm



STARRING...LIVE

ST. NICHOLAS CATHEDRAL HERITAGE BALLROOM

Registration Deadline : April 28

\$100 PER PERSON

SCAN ME
TO PURCHASE
YOUR TICKETS



SCAN ME
FOR MAIL -IN
REGISTRATION



For questions please contact Ramona : 661-433-9561
stbarbaralebanonrelief@gmail.com

Pastor's Sermon
Thomas Sunday
By V. Rev. Timothy Baclig
April 29, 2025

Christ is risen! Truly He is risen! المسيح قام! حقاً قام!

Today's Gospel, highlights the experience of Thomas. The many lessons that our Lord taught the disciples prior to His passion began to be brought back to their remembrance in His numerous appearances, which took place in the forty-day period following His Resurrection, prior to his Ascension.

The appearance of our Lord mentioned in today's Gospel is one of eleven Gospel readings heard in the early Orthros service each Sunday, called "The Eothinon" Gospels. Each Sunday, the Eothinon Gospel announces the Resurrection before the Divine Liturgy, similar to the Gospel read at the doors of the Church during the "Rush Procession" at the midnight service before the Liturgy.

The experience of the Apostle Thomas was unique. It is very possible that Thomas, more than any of the other Apostles was the one who actually *heard* what the Lord was saying before his death. It just sounded impossible that a Messiah, who was expected to restore the Kingdom of Israel, would face such a tragic death. Last night's Vespers service includes a section that helps us to understand what took place. In a section of the Apostika we hear: *"What a miraculous wonder, that a lack of faith became a conviction of faith..."* *"...the obstinate soul turned with fervor to true faith, 'My Lord, and my God.'"*

The transformation, which began taking place among the disciples, was significant; significant because once the disciples experienced a personal dawning and illumination they were ignited with faith and love to act with conviction. Until this happened nothing would have changed. The Lord who appeared in their midst imparted His Spirit to them (John 20:22). The content of the Gospel message that our Lord taught them had become their own message. It was the good news of the forgiveness of sins that is at the very heart of the Paschal message.

New Sunday or "Anti-Pascha"

THE COMMEMORATION OF THE ACT OF THOMAS THE APOSTLE, CALLED "THE TWIN;"

HIEROMARTYR SIMEON, BISHOP OF JERUSALEM AND THE KINSMAN OF THE LORD;
JOHN THE CONFESSOR, ABBOT OF THE MONASTERY OF THE CHASTE

قُدَّاسُ الْأَحَدِ الْجَدِيدِ، أَحَدِ الرُّسُولِ تَوْمًا الرُّسُولِ الَّذِي يُقَالُ لَهُ التَّوَامُ

المسيحُ قام من بين الأمواتِ، ووطئ الموتَ بالموتِ، ووهب الحياة للذين في القبور.

أبوليتيكيون أحد توما بالحن السابع قنفاق القيامة على الحن الثامن
إِذْ كَانَ الْقَبْرُ مَخْتُومًا، أَشْرَقَتْ مِنْهُ أَيُّهَا الْحَيَاةُ. وَلَمَّا كَانَتِ الْأَبْوَابُ مُغْلَقَةً، وَافَيْتِ
التَّلَامِيذَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ الْإِلَهُ، قِيَامَةً الْكُلِّ. وَجَدَدْتِ لَنَا بِهِمْ رُوحًا مُسْتَقِيمًا بِحَسَبِ
عَظِيمِ رَحْمَتِكَ.

القنفاق للفصح بالحن الثامن

وَلَيْنُ كُنْتَ نَزَلْتَ إِلَى قَبْرِ يَا مَنْ لَا يَمُوتُ، إِلَّا أَنْتَ دَرَسْتَ قُوَّةَ الْجَحِيمِ، وَقُمْتَ غَالِبًا أَيُّهَا
الْمَسِيحُ الْإِلَهُ، وَلِلنِّسْوَةِ حَامِلَاتِ الطَّيِّبِ قُلْتَ "أَفْرَحَنَّ"، وَوَهَبْتَ رُسُلَكَ السَّلَامَ، يَا مَانِحَ
الْوَاقِعِينَ الْقِيَامَ.

الرسالة

(الرسالة (لأحد توما)

عَظِيمٌ هُوَ رَبُّنَا وَعَظِيمَةٌ هِيَ قُوَّتُهُ.
سَبِّحُوا الرَّبَّ فَإِنَّهُ صَالِحٌ.
فَصَلُّ مِنْ أَعْمَالِ الرُّسُلِ الْقَدِيسِينَ الْأَطْهَارِ.

فِي تِلْكَ الْأَيَّامِ، جَرَتْ عَلَى أَيْدِي الرُّسُلِ آيَاتٌ وَعَجَائِبٌ كَثِيرَةٌ فِي الشَّعْبِ. وَكَانُوا كُلُّهُمْ بِنَفْسٍ وَاحِدَةٍ فِي رِوَاقِ سُلَيْمَانَ. وَلَمْ يَكُنْ أَحَدٌ مِنَ الْآخَرِينَ يَجْتَرِئُ أَنْ يُخَالِطَهُمْ، لَكِنْ كَانَ الشَّعْبُ يُعْظَمُهُمْ. وَكَانَ جَمَاعَاتٌ مِنْ رِجَالٍ وَنِسَاءٍ يَنْضَمُونَ بِكَثْرَةٍ مُؤْمِنِينَ بِالرَّبِّ. حَتَّى إِنَّ النَّاسَ كَانُوا يَخْرُجُونَ بِالْمَرْضَى إِلَى الشُّوَارِعِ، وَيَضَعُونَهُمْ عَلَى فُرُشٍ وَأَسِرَّةٍ، لِيَقَعَ وَلَوْ ظَلَّ بَطْرُسَ، عِنْدَ اجْتِيَازِهِ، عَلَى بَعْضِ مِنْهُمْ. وَكَانَ يَجْتَمِعُ أَيْضًا إِلَى أُورَشَلِيمَ جُمُوهُورُ الْمُدُنِ الَّتِي حَوْلَهَا، يَحْمِلُونَ مَرْضَى وَمُعَدَّبِينَ مِنْ أَرْوَاحِ نَجَسَةٍ، فَكَانُوا يُشْفَوْنَ جَمِيعُهُمْ. فَقَامَ رَئِيسُ الْكَهَنَةِ وَكُلُّ الَّذِينَ مَعَهُ، وَهُمْ مِنْ شِبَعَةِ الصَّدُوقِيِّينَ، وَامْتَلَأُوا غَيْرَةً. فَأَلْقَوْا أَيْدِيَهُمْ عَلَى الرُّسُلِ وَجَعَلُوهُمْ فِي الْحَبْسِ الْعَامِّ. فَفَتَحَ مَلَاكُ الرَّبِّ أَبْوَابَ السَّجْنِ لَيْلًا، وَأَخْرَجَهُمْ، وَقَالَ: أَمْضُوا وَقِفُوا فِي الْهَيْكَلِ، وَكَلِّمُوا الشَّعْبَ بِجَمِيعِ كَلِمَاتِ هَذِهِ الْحَيَاةِ.

الإنجيل

(لأحد توما)

فَصَلُّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ يُوْحَنَّا الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ
الطاهر. (31-19:20)

لَمَّا كَانَتْ عَشِيَّةُ ذَلِكَ الْيَوْمِ، وَهُوَ أَوَّلُ الْأُسْبُوعِ وَالْأَبْوَابُ مَغْلَقَةٌ حَيْثُ كَانَ التَّلَامِيزُ مُجْتَمِعِينَ خَوْفًا مِنَ الْيَهُودِ، جَاءَ يَسُوعُ وَوَقَّفَ فِي الْوَسْطِ وَقَالَ لَهُمْ: "السَّلَامُ لَكُمْ". فَلَمَّا قَالَ هَذَا أَرَاهُمْ يَدَيْهِ وَجَنْبَهُ، فَفَرِحَ التَّلَامِيزُ حِينَ أَبْصَرُوا الرَّبَّ. وَقَالَ لَهُمْ ثَانِيَةً: "السَّلَامُ لَكُمْ، كَمَا أَرْسَلَنِي الْآبُ كَذَلِكَ أَنَا أَرْسَلُكُمْ". وَلَمَّا قَالَ هَذَا نَفَخَ فِيهِمْ وَقَالَ لَهُمْ: "خَذُوا الرُّوحَ الْقُدُسَ. مَنْ غَفَرْتُمْ خَطَايَاهُمْ تُغْفَرْ لَهُمْ وَمَنْ أَمْسَكْتُمْ خَطَايَاهُمْ أُمْسِكْتُمْ". أَمَّا تَوْمًا أَحَدُ الْإِثْنَيْ عَشَرَ الَّذِي يُقَالُ لَهُ التَّوَامُ فَلَمْ يَكُنْ مَعَهُمْ حِينَ جَاءَ يَسُوعُ، فَقَالَ لَهُ التَّلَامِيزُ الْآخَرُونَ "إِنَّا قَدْ رَأَيْنَا الرَّبَّ"، فَقَالَ لَهُمْ: "إِنْ لَمْ أَعَايِنِ أَثَرَ الْمَسَامِيرِ فِي يَدَيْهِ، وَأَضَعُ إِصْبِعِي فِي أَثْرِ الْمَسَامِيرِ، وَأَضَعُ

يَدِي فِي جَنْبِهِ لَا أُؤْمِنُ". وَبَعْدَ ثَمَانِيَةِ أَيَّامٍ كَانَ تَلَامِيذُهُ أَيْضًا دَاخِلًا وَتُومَا مَعَهُمْ، فَآتَى يَسُوعُ وَالْأَبْوَابُ مُغْلَقَةً وَوَقَّفَ فِي الْوَسْطِ وَقَالَ لَهُمْ: "السَّلَامُ لَكُمْ"، ثُمَّ قَالَ لِتُومَا: "هَاتِ إِصْبَعَكَ إِلَى هَهُنَا وَعَايِنِ يَدَيَّ، وَهَاتِ يَدَكَ وَضَعَهَا فِي جَنْبِي، وَلَا تَكُنْ غَيْرَ مُؤْمِنٍ بَلْ مُؤْمِنًا". أَجَابَ تُومَا وَقَالَ لَهُ: "رَبِّي وَإِلَهِي". قَالَ لَهُ يَسُوعُ: "لَأَنَّكَ رَأَيْتَنِي يَا تُومَا أَمَنْتَ؟ طُوبَى لِلَّذِينَ لَمْ يَرَوْا وَآمَنُوا". وَأَيَّاتٍ أُخَرَ كَثِيرَةً صَنَعَ يَسُوعُ أَمَامَ تَلَامِيذِهِ لَمْ تُكْتَبْ فِي هَذَا الْكِتَابِ. وَأَمَّا هَذِهِ، فَقَدْ كُتِبَتْ لِتُؤْمِنُوا بِأَنَّ يَسُوعَ هُوَ الْمَسِيحُ ابْنُ اللَّهِ، وَلَكِي تَكُونَ لَكُمْ، إِذَا آمَنْتُمْ، حَيَاةً بِاسْمِهِ.