

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 wrgrundler@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

The Great and Glorious Resurrection of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ (Holy Pascha)

Sunday, April 20, 2025

Paschal Apolytikion (Tone 5)

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

Hapakoe of Pascha (Tone 4)

They who were with Mary came before the dawn, found the stone rolled away from the sepulcher, and heard the angels say unto them: Why seek ye Him as man with the dead, Who dwells in light eternal? Behold the grave wrappings; make haste and declare to the world that the Lord is risen, and hath caused death to die; for He is the Son of God, the Savior of mankind.

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.

Daily Readings

THE EPISTLE (for Pascha)

*This is the day which the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad therein!
O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; His mercy endureth forever.*

The Reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles (1:1-8)

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when He was taken up, after He had given commandment through the Holy Spirit to the Apostles whom He had chosen. To them He presented Himself alive after His passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the kingdom of God. And while staying with them He charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which,

He said, "You heard from Me; for John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit." So when they had come together, they asked Him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has fixed by His own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth."

THE GOSPEL (for Pascha)

**The Reading of the Holy Gospel is according to St. John
(1:1-17)**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light. The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world knew Him not. He came to His own home, and His own people received Him not. But to all who received Him, who believed in His Name, He gave power to become children of God; who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. (John bore witness to Him, and cried, "This was He of Whom I said, 'He Who comes after me ranks before me, for He was before me.'") And from His fullness have we all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Next Sunday is **Thomas Sunday**

Saturday, April 26th, Great Vespers, 5 p.m.

Sunday, April 27th, Orthros, 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), or the second part of the Divine Liturgy when the bread and wine are placed on the altar for consecration. It is a cloth signed 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!

Leaves on the floor?

At the morning service of Holy Saturday, the triumphant announcement of Christ’s victory over death is heard with the fanfare, “Arise, O God, and judge the earth...” followed by the Great Prokeimenon: “Who is so great a god as our God! Thou art the God who doest wonders!” Bay leaves are scattered throughout the church during a procession with verses sung that speak of all of creation being renewed. The throwing of the leaves throughout the church is a sign of the entrance of the King (as was done in the early Roman world when the King returned from a victorious battle). The colors of the church are changed from dark to light, and the doors of the altar in tonight’s service remain open as a sign of the empty tomb. They will remain open throughout all of the next week, called: “Bright Week,” and closed at sundown on “Bright Saturday,” the eve of Thomas Sunday.

“Renewal Week”

The week following Easter in the Orthodox Church is a full celebration of Christ’s Resurrection. The entire week is known as “Bright Week” or “Renewal Week” because the entire creation is renewed in Christ. During the coming week and for the next forty days there is no fasting at all. From the period of Easter to the Feast of the Ascension (Thursday May 29th), Orthodox Christians greet each other with “Christ is Risen!” and the response: “Truly, He is risen!” During this period we also do not kneel in private or congregational prayer. Traditionally, a Divine Liturgy is held with a Paschal procession every day during Bright Week. The unique character of the season is heard in all services: funerals, baptisms, weddings, etc.

HOLY WEEK and PASCHAL OFFERINGS

Holy Bread was offered on Palm Sunday and Holy Week festal flowers by Leila Dawud in memory of her beloved husband, Assad, and her daughter, Dema; also for the good health of her family: Nadeem, David, Nahil, Neveen, Natalie, Assad, Assad, Dema, Emily and Andrew.

Holy Bread was offered on Palm Sunday by George, Milad, Basima Sayegh with prayers for the Sayegh and Almarji families and in memory of: Issa, Salina, Eada, Esshak, Nissrin and Talina. Christ is risen!

Roses for the tomb of Christ were offered by the Deeb, Najjar and Kouri families in loving memory of their departed loved ones: Edward & Marion Deeb, Caren Deeb Kouri, Rose & Eli Deeb, Sam & Amelia Nader, Carl & Alice Andrews, John Davis, George Deeb, Georgette Deeb Hapip & Gene Hapip; Carrie Deeb Skaff & Emile Skaff, Libby Deeb Jacob and Derek Jacob; Assaad & Gladys Najjar, Roula Najjar, Jeannette & Louis Aboud, Lou Aboud, Jr.; Velma Anthony, Sharon Rowihab, Jimmy & Odette George, Paul Kouri, Joe Farrage, Elaine Srour, Bobbi Kouri and Chris Nassif. May they rest in peace. Memory Eternal.

Holy Bread for the Feast of Holy Pascha and Bay Leaves were offered by Marcia O'Dea, the O'Dea and Chala family, with prayers for God's blessings for Robin O'Dea, Brian O'Dea and Kiera O'Dea, celebrating their birthdays; also in memory of our beloved parents, Abdulla & Melvina Chala. Memory eternal.

Holy Bread is offered by Mushir & Abeer Khleif with prayers for her family's continued health and success and in and memory of their departed loved ones.

Holy Bread for Holy Pascha was offered by Fred & Tanya Milkie Jr. and family with prayers for the continued health of Leila Milkie, Raymond & Georgianna Rishwain, Archpriest Joseph Abud, and Robert Andrews, Elaine Gabriel, Khouriye Mary Jane Ofiesh; also in memory of Nassima & Fred Milkie, Hieromonk Dorotheus, Katie Nassief, Al Mamary, Adrienne Andrews, Nick & Helen Nicola, Carl & Emma Milkie, Afifi & Nahkle Chammas, Rose & Joe Rishwain. Memory eternal.

Special offerings and requests for prayer were offered by...

Don Meena and family in loving memory of his beloved wife, Lillian Meena. Memory eternal.

Ramez & Rima Hage for their good health and of their children: Teddy & April and their family; Steven & Erin and their family.

T. Mae Tortolano for the continued recovery from surgery and good health of: Ryan Tortolano, Daphne Thabet and Carolyn Sadd; with gratitude for God's healing hands and the caregivers who give aid and hope with compassionate empathy; and for the friendship of Frieda Kabbash and Patricia Malouf, beseeching God's abundant blessings.

Antoine Nader and family in memory of Aref Kaiser and Nuha Nader; Joseph & Labibe Habak.

Richard & Cindy Tamoush for the Tamoush and Kaady families

for their continued health of Ron & Kathy Zraick, Ron Jr., Thomas & Julia Zraick, Jill, Martin, Henry and Colin Phipps, Tom & Jennie Zraick; Kim, John, Jenna, Sophie and Gavin Scott; and in loving memory of Lucas Scott, Edna & Issac Zraick, Thomas & Camille Adeeb, Diana Haddad, Lorraine Ghiz, Louise Martin, Richard Zraick, Renee Kabbez, and Angelina Diab.

Oil for the for the Sacrament of Holy Unction was offered for the continued health of the Haitham Sweis family.

Eggs for the Feast of Holy Pascha were offered with prayers for the families of: Jamie & Joy Farr, Elian Sayegh, Tony Nader, Richard & Kayla Ajalat, George, Basma and Milad Sayegh, Adeeb & Nuha Abughazaleh, Charles & Marilee Ajalat, William & Rachel Grundler, and Daphne Thabit.

Special Prayer Requests are made...

for Michelle & Waleed Moujaes who recently celebrated their twenty-first wedding anniversary. May God grant them many years!

by Michael, Mary Ann and Andrew Mitchell for the birthdays of Hannah & Olivia Tamoush May God grant them many years!

for the newly-Baptized Ambrose (Adonis) McReynolds, his son Tre and wife, Hannah. May God grant them many years!

May the light of the Holy Spirit enfold and guide the Tortolano, Skaff, Namay, Ortega and Jurado family with wellness of body, clarity of mind, and the blessedness of soul.

by Joseph Price for his mother, Marilyn and in loving memory of his father, John Price.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

“Agape” / “Baouth” Vespers – Sunday, April 20th, 11 a.m.

[The Annual “Search for the Empty Egg” will take place following the Service. The child who finds the “empty egg” will receive a gift of the icon of the Holy Resurrection]

The Blessing of Easter Baskets

Father Timothy will be blessing personal Easter baskets and Easter eggs following the service, followed by our potluck Paschal Breakfast. Everyone is asked to be sure to take home their dishes and not leave any leftovers in the church kitchen following the breakfast. We sincerely thank the contributions that have been received for our Food for the Hungry People collection this year. Christ is risen!

Thanks to All!

We sincerely thank everyone who assisted with all that was needed to be done in preparing the church for our worship services throughout Great Lent and Holy Week. I especially thank Deacon Andrew Monsue, my Pastoral Assistant, Subdeacon Richard Ajalat, Subdeacon Richard Tamoush, our Choir Director, William Grundler; our Maintenance Director and Assistant, our altar servers, readers, chanters and singers (English and Arabic); our Church School Director and teachers; Youth Directors; the Antiochian Women, men, parents hosting our Easter Egg Hung, and our ushers. [Father Timothy]

APRIL
20



***St. Michael Antiochian Orthodox Church
Church School Presents:
The Annual Easter Egg Hunt***

Following the Agape Vespers at 11 a.m.

Please RSVP with the number of children that will be participating in the Easter Egg Hunt to Kristy Hanson at kristy.hanson16@gmail.com. I am also looking for volunteers to help hand out baskets to the children. If you or your teen are available please let me know.



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

View the Paschal message from Metropolitan SABA here, available in English and Arabic: <https://www.antiochian.org/regulararticle/2400>

Also, visit "Holy Pascha Resources;" a concise summary of the Feast available here: <https://www.antiochian.org/dashboard?name=Pascha,%20the%20Feast%20of%20Feasts>

St. Michael Antiochian Orthodox Church of the San Fernando Valley

16643 Vanowen Street, Van Nuys, California 91406-4622

April 20, 2025

Beloved in Christ,

With great joy we proclaim that Christ is risen! **المسيح قام! Χριστος ανέστη!**
Христос Воскресе! Cristo ha resucitado! Hristos a înviat! Ua ala hou 'o Kristo!
Truly, He is risen!

In the words of Saint John Chrysostom: "...the Savior's Death has set us free. He that was held prisoner of it, has annihilated it. By descending into Hell, He made Hell captive... It took a Body and it met God face to face. It took earth, and encountered Heaven. It took that which was seen, and fell upon the unseen..."

Celebrating comes with whole hearted preparation. The more the preparation, the greater the celebration. Our time together during Great Lent as parish community has again been glorious thanks to everyone's help and contribution to our services.

As Christ's agents of hope and reconciliation in the world, let us take seriously the Paschal message of forgiveness that we may be examples of overcoming all forms of division, hatred, and enmity. The Resurrection of Christ

reveals to the world that darkness, hatred and death does not have the final say. God's love is triumphant and provides healing from sin and human weaknesses.

I trust that this has been a meaningful season of illumination for you and your family. May the joy of the Paschal Feast fill your life with all that God truly desires for us: those imperishable gifts that are truly not of this world.

Christ is risen!

Father Timothy Baclig

Pastor

Zoom Meeting Virtual Bible Studies Will Resume in May

Our Weekly Bible Study will resume after Pascha on Tuesday, April 29. The link for the last recorded links and Study Guides on prayer in the Orthodox Church are available by request by contacting Father Timothy at: frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org

Food for the Hungry People Drive

You may have received the Food for the Hungry People mailing from Robin Nicholas. Your contribution may be made through our parish by writing your check to "St. Michael Church", earmarked: "FFHP" and our parish collection will be sent in at the end of Great Lent. If you have a coin box, you may mail a check for the total amount to the parish or should you turn in your box be sure to put your name on the box. Thank you for your support of our annual Lenten charity campaign.

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

Holy Bread Offering List

Apr 27 (Thomas Sunday) - open

May 04 - open

May 11 - Mother's Day

May 18 - open

Coffee Hour Hosts Calendar

Mother's Day Luncheon

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

The following dialogue is said between the priest and the faithful at the end of the Liturgy:

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 ressusitado! **Verdaderamente ressusitado!** (*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*)

Yeshu Christo Wierthayairnaytoo! **Sathamyeetoom Yeshu Christo wierthayairnaytoo!**
(*Malayalam*)

Mesiah jee utha hei! **Such mei jee mutha hei!** (*Indian*)

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

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



**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

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).

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



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/>

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

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



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

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/>

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. Please contact Bobbi Monsue at: bobbi_monsue@att.net

الإنجيل

فصلٌ شريفٌ من بشارَةِ القديس يوحنا الإنجيلي البشير

في البدء كان الكلمةُ، والكلمةُ كان عند الله، والهأ كان الكلمةُ. هذا كان في البدء عند الله. كلُّ به كان، وبغيره لم يكن شيءٌ مما كُن. به كانت الحياة، والحياة كانت نور الناس. والنور في الظلمة يُضيء، والظلمة لم تُدركه. كان إنسانٌ مرسلٌ من الله اسمه يوحنا. هذا جاء للشهادة ليُشهد للنور، لكي يؤمن الكلُّ بواسطته. لم يكن هو النور بل كان ليُشهد للنور. كان النور الحقيقي الذي يُنير كلَّ إنسانٍ أتيا إلى العالم. في العالم كان، والعالم به كُن، والعالم لم يعرفه. إلى خاصته أتى، وخاصته لم تقبله. أما كلُّ الذين قبلوه، فأعطاهم سلطاناً أن يكونوا أولاداً لله، الذين يؤمنون باسمه، الذين لا من دم، ولا من مشيئة لحم، ولا من مشيئة رجل، لكن من الله ولداً. والكلمة صارت جسداً وحلَّ فينا، وقد أبصرنا مجده، مجدٌ وحيدٌ من الأب مملوءاً نعمةً وحَقاً. ويوحنا شهد له، وصرخ قائلاً: "هذا هو الذي قلتُ عنه إن الذي يأتي بعدي صار قبلي لأنه مُتقدِّمي." ومن ملَّيه نخن كلُّنا أخذنا، ونعمة فوق نعمة. لأنَّ الناموس بموسى أُعطي، وأما النعمة والحَق فيسوع المسيح خَصلاً.

GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA

عيدُ الفصح العظيم المقدس

ابولتيكيون الفصح باللحن الخامس

المسيح قام من بين الأموات، ووطئ الموت بالموت، ووهب الحياة للذين في القبور.

الإياكوي باللحن الرابع

سُنِّت الصُبح الروائي كُن مع مريم، فوجدن الحجز مُخرجاً عن القبر. وسمعن الملاك قائلاً لهن: لم تطلبن مع الموتى كإسنان من هو في النور الأزلي؟ أنظرن لفائف الأكفان، واسرعن وأكرسن في العالم بأن الرب قد قام وأمات الموت، بما أنه ابنُ الله المُخلص جنس البشر.

القدادق لخدمة الفصح باللحن الثامن

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

الرسالة

هذا هو اليوم الذي صنَّعه الرب، فلنفرح ونتهلَّل به.

إعترفوا للرب، فإنه صالحٌ وإلى الأبد رحمته.

فصلٌ من أعمال الرسل القديسين الأطهار

الكلام الأول أنشأته يا ثاوفيلس، عن جميع ما ابتدأ يسوع يفعله ويُعلم به، إلى اليوم الذي ارتفع فيه، بعد ما أوصى بالروح القدس الرسل الذين اختارهم. الذين أراهم أيضاً أنفسهم حياً بزمواهم كثير، بعد ما تألم، وهو يظهر لهم أربعين يوماً، ويتكلَّم عن الأمور المُختصة بملكوت الله. وفيما هو مُجتمِع معهم أوصاهم أن لا يترخوا من أورشليم، بل ينتظروا «مؤعد الأب الذي سمعتموه مِنِّي، لأن يوحنا عَمَّد بالماء، وأما أنتم فستتعمدون بالروح القدس، ليس بعد هذه الأيام بكثير». أما هم المُجتمعون فسألوه قائلين: «يا رب، هل في هذا الوقت تُردُّ الملك إلى إسرائيل؟» فقال لهم: «ليس لكم أن تعرفوا الأزمنة والأوقات التي جعلها الأب في سلطانه، لكنكم ستنالون قوة متى حلَّ الروح القدس عليكم، وتكونون لي شهوداً في أورشليم وفي كلِّ اليهودية والسامرة وإلى أقصى الأرض.

ملاحظة بخصوص تناول القربان المقدس

إن مفهومنا لتناول القربان يعني عمومياً المشاركة فيه لذوي العقيدة الواحدة، إلا إن المشاركة في سر القربان المقدس هنا مقترنة على أعضاء الكنائس الأرثوذكسية والذين يحضرون انفسهم بالصلاة والصوم والاعتراف منذ فترة قريبة وعلى كل حال، فإننا ندعو الجميع للمشاركة في الخبز المقدس الذي يوزع عند انتهاء مراسيم القداس.

الرجاء مراجعة الكاهن إذا رغبت أن تصبح عضواً في الكنيسة الارثوذكسية.