# 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

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# The Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost and the Tenth Sunday of Luke

Ambrose, bishop of Milan; Martyr Athenodoros of Mesopotamia; Venerable Gregory, Founder of Gregoriou monastery on Athos

### Sunday, December 7, 2025

Tone 1; Eothinon 4

### Apolytikion for the Resurrection (Tone 1)

While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life. Glory to Thy Resurrection O Christ, glory to Thy kingdom, glory to Thy providence, O Thou Who alone art the lover of mankind.

### Apolytikion for 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 Preparation of Christ's Nativity (Tone 3)

On this day the Virgin cometh to the cave to give birth to God the Word ineffably, Who was before all the ages. Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing the gladsome tidings; with the Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him Who is willing to be gazed on \* as a young Child Who before the ages is God.

### **Daily Readings**

THE EPISTLE (The Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost)

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.

## The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians (5:8-19)

Brethren, walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it is said, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light." Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart.

THE GOSPEL (for the Tenth Sunday of Luke)

# The Reading of the Holy Gospel is according to St. Luke (13:10-17)

At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And there was a woman who had had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, He called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And He laid His hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrite! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his ass from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?" As Jesus said this, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by Him.

## The Synaxarion

On December 7 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate our father among the saints Ambrose, bishop of Milan.

#### Verses

Ambrose, having shed his corruptible body, hath fitly partaken of divine ambrosia. On the seventh Ambrose came upon immortal terrain. His father was the imperial governor of Gaul and Spain, and a pagan, while his mother was a Christian. On the death of his father, the Emperor made him governor of Liguria, of which province Milan was the chief city. When the bishop of Milan died, there was great dissention about the choice of a new bishop. Ambrose went into the church to keep order. Thereupon, a child at its mother's breast cried out: "Ambrose for bishop!" All the people took this to be the voice of God, and unanimously elected Ambrose as their bishop, although it was against his will. Ambrose was baptized, and passed through all the necessary ranks in one week. As bishop, he strengthened the faith of the Orthodox, restrained heretics, adorned churches, spread the Faith among the pagans, wrote many instructive books and was an example of a true Christian and a true shepherd. Ambrose died peacefully at daybreak on Pascha in 397.

On this day, we also commemorate the Martyr Athenodoros of Mesopotamia; and Venerable Gregory, founder of Gregoriou monastery on Athos. By the intercessions of Thy saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

#### A Note Regarding Holy Communion

Since we understand Communion to mean that we have all things in common, sharing an identical Faith, *only* those who are members of the Orthodox Church and who have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting and recent Confession may participate in Holy Communion. (We invite all, however, to partake of the blessed bread which is distributed at the dismissal.) Please see the Pastor for inquiries on how to become a member.

#### **OFFERINGS**

Memorial Wheat\* is being offered by the Mittry family and the coffee hour hosted with prayers for the forty-day memorial of the newly-departed servant of God, Gloria Mittry (+22 October, 2025), beloved mother, grandmother and Godmother. Memory eternal.

Holy Bread is being offered by the Meena family in loving memory of Lillian Meena (+6 December, 2017), beloved wife, mother, grandmother and Godmother. Memory eternal.

Holy Bread is being offered by Mimi & Nicola Hallak and family in loving memory of Claire Azzam (+12 December, 1017), beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, aunt, and Bassem Azzam (+30 November, 2018), beloved father, grandfather, brother and uncle. Memory eternal.

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

for George Khouri III, celebrating his birthday (December 8), offered by his family. May God grant him many years!

for Thomas Sanchez being Chrismated in Holy Orthodoxy today.

May God grant him many years!

Included in our prayers throughout the month of December are those celebrating their birthday: Bahman Afshin (12/1), James Michael Baclig (12/1), Nicholas John Malouf (12/1), Anne and Marina Coury (12/2), Thomas Anthony Zraick (12/03), Lisa Crawford (12/04), Alexander Worotko (12/4), Noah Michael Ajalat (12/5), Michael Mas (12/5), Marcia O'Dea (12/7), George John Khouri III (12/8), Stephanie Slatko (12/8), Jill Zraick Phipps (12/9), Amira Boutari (12/11), Ibrahim Wassef (12/11), Colin Michael Phipps (12/12), Natalia Artashesyan (12/13), Nicole Mansur (12/15), Katelyn Matarese (12/15), Odette George (12/16), Thomas Mulry (12/16), Yuriko Yanni (12/16), Daniel Barney (12/17), Jonas Farr (12/17), Afraa Bchara (12/18), Rana Azzam (12/18), Daphne Thabet (12/19), George Saade (12/20), John Tambouras(12/20), Peter Wang (12/21), Afath Khleif (12/22), Linda Khouri (12/22), Mark Nassief (12/23), Evelyn Hannah (12/23), Christine Nasr (12/23), James Thomas (12/23), Logan Gary David Obenhaus (12/24), Milad Sayegh (25), Teddy

<sup>\*</sup> The offering of wheat (amha) for memorial services is a practice that can be traced back to the middle of the fourth century. In earlier times, bread and wine with olives, cheese or rice were offered in charity, and those who partook of them would pray, "Blessed be his/her memory." The wheat is cooked sometimes with honey or sugar, mixed with figs, raisins, nuts and other sweets. The grain and fruit brought to the commemoration of the dead signifies that the dead will truly rise again from the grave, for both grain, which is sown in the earth, and fruit, which is laid on the earth, decays first and afterwards brings forth abundant ripe, whole fruit. The honey or sugar used with the wheat signifies that after the resurrection of the Orthodox and the righteous, there awaits a joyous and blessed life in the Heavenly Kingdom and not a bitter sorrowful one. The wheat prepared from grain expresses the faith of the living in the resurrection of the dead to a better life, just as that seed, having fallen upon the ground, although undergoing corruption yet grows to attain a better appearance. (See I Corinthians 15:35-57)

Hage (12/26), Ned Toomey (12/26), Hannah Heyam Madain (12/27), Layla Afshin (12/28), Hanna Harb (12/28), Michelle Ann Abdennour (12/30), Gabriella Lewin (12/31); also who celebrate their wedding anniversary: Ron & Kathy Zraick (12/17), Rami & Yuriko Yanni (12/28). May God grant them many years!

Included in our prayers for the departed in the month of December are: Elia Habib, +9 Dec. 1959 Yvonne Tibshraeny, +11 Dec. 2012 Francis Boyer, Dec., 1960 Angel Kheir, +12 Dec., 2012 Nicole Saadeh, +31 Dec. Issa Gazie Ababseh, +6 Dec. 2013 Antone Saadeh, +21 Dec. Alsace George, +22 Dec., 2013 Charles Malouf +20 Dec., 1973 Gloria Nassif, +04 Dec. 2014 Albert Elias Gillet, +6 Dec., 1978 Edward Chaffin Sr., +19 Dec. 2014 Mary Anne Mansur, +19 Dec., 1979 Fred Safady, +24 Dec. 2014 Woldemichael Kidane +12 Dec. 1982 Blanche Barghash, +29 Dec. 2014 Saliba Kassis, +30 Dec., 1987 Laila El-Darzi, +8 Dec., 2015 Michael G. Hayek, +2 Dec., 1990 Mike Glissen, +15 Dec., 2015 Katherine Zaki, +1 Dec., 1993 Mona Latif, +17 Dec., 2015 George S. Nasser, +24 Dec., 1993 Philip G. Deeb, Sr., +1 Dec. 2016 Faraj Azzam, +20 Dec., 1994 Tommy Schmidt, +15 Dec., 2016 Claudine Lakah +25 Dec., 2016 Marie Abdou, +10 Dec., 1995 Anton Abdelahad, +25 Dec., 1995 Mary Vogel +30 Dec., 2016 Grace Haggar, +30 Dec., 1995 William Christopher +31 Dec. 2016 Nicholas Satel, +28 Dec., 1997 Lillian B. Meena, +6 Dec. 2017 Alice Meena, +10 Dec., 1999 James T. Peck, +10 Dec. 2017 Wydea Haddad, +26 Dec., 1999 Claire Azzam, +12 Dec. 2017 John Black, +1 Dec., 1999 Gladys Najjar, +12 Dec. 2017 Fay Alberts, +21 Dec. 2017 Haradu Woldetatious, +2 Dec., 2002 Charles Homsy, +2 Dec. 2002 Eugene Ferns, +6 Dec. 2019 V. Rev. John Reinhold, +9 Dec. 2003 Emile Bitar, +19 Dec. 2019 Annette Mittry, +26 Dec. 2003 Adele Bahbah, +5 Dec. 2020 Minnie Abdun-Nur, +23 Dec. 2004 Eugene Ferns, +6 Dec. 2020 Mike Sarchizian, +6 Dec. 2006 Adele Turk, +7 Dec. 2020 Ileen M. Shaheen, +21 Dec. 2006 Vadni Beyrouti, +9 Dec. 2020 Elyas Alber, +13 Dec. 2020 Shehadeh Moujaes, +22 Dec., 2006 Hani Sweis, +26 Dec., 2006 Odette George, +16 Dec. 2020 Lila Awad, +27 Dec. 2020 Margaret Nassief, +1 Dec., 2007

Tamam Mitchell, +16 Dec., 2007 Bahat Bicker, +8 Dec. 2008 Bradley Abraham, +8 Dec. 2010 Yusra Rabadi, +19 Dec. 2010 Mary Wassef, +7 Dec., 2011 Rodney Khalil, +10 Dec. 2011 Nicholas Soffa, +9 Dec. 2012 Conner Owens +11 Dec., 2021

Nicholas Nassir, +28 Dec., 2020 Elena Radulescu, +21 Dec., 2021 Georgette Al-Adaas, +25 Dec. 2021 David Castro, +29 Dec., 2021 Millie Castro, +30 Dec., 2021 Archpriest Nicholas Neyman +13 Emily Apostolou +7 Dec., 2021 Saad Tarbouche +1 Dec., 2024 John Price +26 Dec., 2024

#### **Memory Eternal!**

Please phone the Church Office if there are any omissions or corrections to the above listing of names and dates. Please bear in mind that some have chosen not to be included in our announcement. Please pardon any errors. Thank you for your understanding.

#### LITURGICAL CALENDAR

#### We are within the period of the Nativity Fast

[Note: The **Fast of the Holy Nativity** is divided into two periods: 1) November 15 through December 19, the traditional fasting discipline is observed (no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, and wine), except on Tuesdays and Thursdays when wine is permitted, and on Saturdays and Sundays when fish, and wine are allowed. It should be noted that some allow for fish on all days except Wednesdays and Fridays from November 15 to December 18; 2) December 20 through 24, traditional fasting is observed on all days except on Saturday and Sunday when wine is permitted.]

The Feast of St. Spyridon the Wonderworker – December 12th

The Sunday of the Holy Forefathers (Ancestors) of Christ Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, Great Vespers, 5 p.m.

Sunday, December 14th, Orthros, 8:45 a.m., Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## December is "St. Ignatius Month" in the Antiochian Archdiocese

Members of the Order of St. Ignatius are assisting in the services this month. Reading the epistle this morning is: Denise Srour Cruz. The ushers are: Tanya Milkie and Mary Ann Mitchell. Learn more about The Order with the following link: <a href="https://content.delivra.com/etapcontent/AntiochianOrthodoxChristian/attachments/7.DEC.2025.pdf">https://content.delivra.com/etapcontent/AntiochianOrthodoxChristian/attachments/7.DEC.2025.pdf</a>

#### SCHEDULE OF FESTAL SERVICES

[The Sacrament of Confession with Absolution is available by appointment or up until 15 minutes prior to the services.]

## The Sunday before The Holy Nativity "The Sunday of the Genealogy"

Saturday, December 20th – <u>Great Vespers</u>, 5 p.m. Sunday, December 21st – <u>Orthros</u>, 8:45 a.m., <u>Divine Liturgy</u>,\* 10 a.m.

## THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY IN THE FLESH OF OUR LORD, GOD, AND SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST

Wednesday, December 24th (Christmas Eve and *Paramon*)

The First Royal Hour, 6 a.m., The Third Royal Hour, 9 a.m.,

The Sixth Royal Hour, 12 noon, The Ninth Royal Hour, 3 p.m.

Vesperal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great\* – 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 25<sup>th</sup> (Christmas Day)

Orthros and the Christmas Canon, 8:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy,\* 10 a.m.

[There is **no** fasting from December 25<sup>th</sup> to January 4<sup>th</sup>]

# The Circumcision of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ and the Feast of St. Basil the Great (New Year's Day)

Wednesday, December 31st (New Year's Eve) – <u>Great Vespers</u>, 5 p.m. with prayers for the New Year

Thursday, January 1st (New Year's Day) – <u>Orthros</u>, 8:45 a.m.;

Divine Liturgy,\* 10 a.m., with prayers for the New Year

#### THE GREAT FEAST OF HOLY THEOPHANY (EPIPHANY)

Monday, January 5th The Eve of Theophany (*Paramon*) – [observed as a strict fast day]

The First Royal Hour, 6 a.m., The Third Royal Hour, 9 a.m.,

The Sixth Royal Hour, 12 noon, The Ninth Royal Hour, 3 p.m. followed by

The Vesperal Divine Liturgy of the *Paramon* (Eve) of Theophany, 5 p.m.

Tuesday, January 6th — Festal Orthros, 8:30 a.m. followed by "The Great Sanctification"

of Water" immediately followed by The Festal Divine Liturgy



# Address to Patriarch JOHN X to Pope Pius XIV (in English and Arabic)

View the welcome address to Pope Pius XIV from Patriarch JOHN X. Go to: <a href="https://www.antiochian.org/regulararticle/2652">https://www.antiochian.org/regulararticle/2652</a>

View this week's teaching from Metropolitan SABA titled: "Male and Female He created Them Complimentarily;" Go to: <a href="https://www.antiochian.org/regulararticle/2653">https://www.antiochian.org/regulararticle/2653</a>

#### View the November/December Issue of The

Word Magazine by going to: <a href="https://www.antiochian.org/regulararticle/2617">https://www.antiochian.org/regulararticle/2617</a>

### Weekly Bible Study Tuesday (December 9)

Our next Bible Study will be held on Tuesday evening, December 9th, at 7 p.m. Sessions are recorded for those unable to attend who may also request the link to the study. Attendance is required for all catechumens.

### For Planning Ahead

This year the Feast of the Holy Nativity (Christmas) falls on a Thursday. The Divine Liturgy of St. Basil for the Pre-Feast will be served following the Ninth Royal Hour, beginning at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> (Christmas Eve). The Festal Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom will be celebrated on Christmas Day (Tuesday), December 25th at 10 a.m., preceded by Orthros and the Christmas canon at 8:30 a.m.

# We Gratefully Acknowledge the Receiving 2026 Pledge Commitments Totaling \$32,079.84 From the Following Members:

Adeeb & Nuha Abughazaleh Laila Abughazaleh Frances Allen Fr. Timothy Baclig Samia Habib Don Meena Fred & Tanya Milkie Riad Nasser Chrisa Sadd Richard & Cindy Tamoush Ronald & Georgia Tamoush Daphne Thabet Laila Zaki

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

## St. Michael Christmas Program

The Prince of Peace

Dec 14th, 2025 | 11:30AM Following Liturgy



# FOR PARENTS OF PARTICIPANTS

Rehearsal on Sat, Dec 13th, 2025

Contact Rachel Grundler for your child to participate superintendent@stmichaelvannuys.org



We are collecting toys for the children at Elizabeth House.

Please place unwrapped toys for children age 0-12 yrs. under the church Christmas tree by

**DECEMBER 14TH** 

St. Michael Church 16643 Vanowen St, Van Nuys, CA 91406

## **2025 Holiday Food Collection**

St Michael continues to support Loaves & Fishes, a local pantry serving the impoverished areas in Van Nuys and throughout the San Fernando Valley areas.

## Drop Off Deadline: Next Sunday December 14th

- \*\*A cart marked Food Collection is located in the Church kitchen

  \*\*Monetary Donations can be placed in the Church Offering Box

  earmarked Food Collection
  - Canned Soups (pull-up tabs) Pasta Meals & Canned Sauce
    - Canned Meat & Fish Canned Fruit & Vegetables
- Flour, Cornmeal, Rice, Dry Beans, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Crackers
  - Shelf Stable Milk, Cereals, Cooking Oils, Boxed Meals
  - Pancake & Muffin Mix that Only Require Water, Instant Foods
    - Baby Food, Juice Boxes, Apples Sauce & Granola Bars
      - Baby Clothes, Baby Diapers & Wipes
    - Blankets, Underwear, and Socks (Socks #1 requested item)
- Hand Soap, Shampoo, Body Wash, Deodorant, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Floss, Body Wipes, Mouthwash, Gloves, Razors, Shaving Cream, Feminine Hygiene Products, Lotion, Powder, Combs & Brushes

\* *Any store scripts* \$10, \$15

Contact Cindy Tamoush, 818-917-4847 or cindy.tamoush@gmail.com should you have any questions. Thank you for your continued support!

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

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

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

Dec 14 - Ron & Kathy Zraick Samia Habib Dec 21 - open Church School Lenten Lunch

Please contact Father Timothy (818/219-3761; <a href="mailto:frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org">frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org</a>) to sign-up to offer Holy Bread or to host the Coffee Hour.

# Pastor's Sermon The Tenth Sunday of Luke

By V. Rev. Timothy Baclig December 7, 2025

The setting of the miracle of the woman spoken of in today's Gospel reading is at a synagogue where the Lord was teaching. The love of God and His great mercy is central to the Gospel lesson. It is the good news of this season when we prepare to celebrate His birth.

The Lord repeatedly called the people to repentance from the practice of a religion that fails to practice mercy. Every Lenten season, our lessons point to the heart of what it means to be non-hypocritical. The Lord rebukes those who claim to know the Law as being ignorant of the very thing in which they should be more knowledgeable and better instructed than anyone.

"You hypocrites," He says, "Doesn't each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or donkey from the stall and lead it out to give it water? Then should not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has bound for eighteen long years, be set free on the Sabbath day from what bound her?"

The ruler of the synagogue condemned the Lord for healing on the Sabbath. For him religion consisted of the observance of laws that could not be set aside even for the sake of mercy. The ruler's reaction to the healing of the woman who "had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years" illustrates how radically misunderstood and misused the Law had become among those whom God had so favored and of whom he expected so much.

You may recall from one of the readings of the twelve Gospels (Matthew 23:13-39) on Great and Holy Thursday the words of our Lord: "Woe to you teachers of the Law, Sadducees, Pharisees hypocrites"... You brood of vipers..." ...[loving] the praise of men more than the praise from God..."

In today's lesson the Lord heals the woman by His word—"Woman, you are set free from your infirmity"—and then by His touch: "He put His hands on her; and immediately she was straightened up and praised God" (vv.12-13). The miracle is remarkable for two reasons: First, the woman was not seeking to be healed and no one spoke on her behalf. Second, the Lord demonstrates that He is the incarnate God by the simple declaration that she was healed.

The rejection of Christ as the incarnate God by the Jews is matched by the heretics who claim that the eternal God could not possibly humble Himself and condescend to take on our nature. In the case of the heretics, they can only understand Christ to be a created being. To this point, St. Gregory of Nazianzus says, "Do you conceive of Him as less... because he humbles Himself for the sake of the (woman) that is bent down to the ground, that He may exalt with Himself that which is bent double under the weight of sin?"

Our Lord was never threatened by anyone or any circumstance. Nor was he controlled by any person or any situation. He did not need to prove who He was; nor did He need to demonstrate anything to justify Lordship. This was not His aim or purpose in His coming. If we miss this point, that we will never know the depth of meaning which is revealed in the upcoming Feast of His incarnation (called: "The Great Dispensation") "I behold a mystery, great and most wonderful... For some of us: this way of being humble is something we learn by being crushed or by being broken. This was for our Lord something that He not only understood, but something He chose and demonstrated before His crucifixion by His every word and deed.

Every crisis in our life can do one of two things: It can lead us closer to God by way of the Cross, or it can alienate us from God and cause us to reject His call to holiness. The lesson therefore is clear: There are the more weighty matters of the Law that we cannot ignore. The practice of true religion is not neglecting what is obvious: namely, God's love, mercy and compassion which fulfill the Law.

Many of us, as creatures of habit, dislike disruptions to our routine or what we are familiar with or accustomed to. When you and I are most comfortable with things being done a certain way, change is very difficult. We loose our orientation, and being disoriented can be devastating to our pride. Meaning can be lost as we define what is meant by what we do with no thought to why we are doing it. Today's lesson forces us to recognize that we can be misguided and loose sight of what really matters—as far as God is concerned.

As we begin our countdown to Christmas, may we not loose sight of the reason for the season: God has come. We are preparing to celebrate His full revelation in the person of our Lord Jesus Christ. He takes on human flesh and assumes our entire nature, except for sin; but for the purpose of taking on the sin of the world. He renews and restores all that was lost with Adam. As the New Adam He fulfills the Law and is our righteousness.

 EOTHINON 4
 TONE 1

 4 الأحن 1
 الأحن 1

## THE TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST AND THE TENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE

AMBROSE, BISHOP OF MILAN; MARTYR ATHENODOROS OF MESOPOTAMIA; VENERABLE GREGORY, FOUNDER OF GREGORIOU MONASTERY ON ATHOS

## أبوليتيكيون القيامة باللحن الأوَّل

إِنَّ الحجَرِ لِمَّا خُتِمَ مِنَ اليَهود، وجسَدكَ الطاهِرَ حُفِظَ مِنَ الجُنْد، قُمْتَ في اليَوْمِ الثالِثِ أَيُّها المُخَلِّص، مانِحاً العالَمَ الحياة. لِذلِكَ قُوّاتُ السَّماوات، هتَفُوا إليكَ يا واهِبَ الحياة: المَجْدُ لِقِيامَتِكَ أَيُّها المَسيح، المَجْدُ لِلْكِكَ، المَجْدُ لِتَدْبيرِكَ، يا مُحبَّ البَشَرِ وَحْدَك.

طروبارية رؤساء الملائكة باللحن الرابع

أيها المتقدّمونَ على الأجنّادُ السّماويين، نتوسّلُ إليكم نحن غير المستحقّين، حتّى أنّكم بطلباتِكم تكتنوفوننا بظلّ أجنحة مجدِكم غير الهيولي، حافظينَ إيّانا نحنُ الجاثين والصارخينَ بغير فتور، أنقذونا منَ الشدائد، بما أنّكم رؤساءُ مراتبِ القوّاتِ العلوية.

## قِنداق تَقْدمَة الميلاد باللحن الثَالث \*\*)أصليةُ الوزن(\*\*

اليومَ العَذْراء تَأْتِي إلى المَغارَة، لِتَلِدَ الكَلِمَة الذي قَبْلَ الدُّهُورِ، وِلادَةً لا تُفَسَّرُ ولا يُنْطَقُ بِها، فَافْرَحِي أَيَّتُها المَسْكونَةُ إذا سَمِعْتِ، ومَجِّدي مَعَ المَلائِكَةِ والرُّعاة، الذي سَيَظْهَرُ بِمَشيئَتِهِ طِفْلاً جَديداً وهُو إلهُنا الذي قَبْلَ الدُّهُورِ.

## الرسالة

(للأَخَدِ السادس والعشرين بَعْدَ العَنصرة) لتكُنْ يا ربُّ رحمَتُكَ علينا، إبتَهجوا أيُّها الصدِّيقونَ بالربّ. فصل من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول إلى أهل أفسس. (8:5-19) يا إخوةُ، أُسلُكُوا كأولادٍ للنور (فإنَّ ثمرَ الروح هو في كلِّ صلاح وبرٍّ وحقٍّ) مُختَبِرينَ ما هُوَ مَرضِيُّ لدى الربِّ. ولا تشتَركوا في أعمالِ الظُلْمَةِ غيرِ المُثَمِرَةِ بل بالأحرى وبِّخوا عليها. فإنَّ الأفعالَ التي يفعلونَها سرِّاً يَقْبُحُ ذِكْرُها أيضاً. لكنَّ كلَّ ما يُوَيَّخُ عليهِ يُعلَنُ بالنور. فإنَّ كلَّ ما يُعلَنُ هو نورُ. ولذلك يقولُ: استيقظ أيُّها النائمُ وَقُمْ من بينِ الأمواتِ فيضييءَ لكَ المسيح. فانظُروا إذنْ أن تسلُكوا بِحَذَرِ لا كَجُهلاءَ بل كحُكماء، مُفْتَدينَ الوقتَ فإنَّ الأيامَ شريرةً. فلذلك لا تكونوا أغبياءَ يلِ أفهموا ما مشيئةُ الرب. ولا تَسكروا بالخمرِ التي فيها الدعارةُ بل امتلئوا بالروح، مُكلمينَ بعضُكم بعضاً بمزاميرَ وتسابيحَ وأغاني روحيةٍ مُرنَّمينَ ومرتلينَ في قلوبكم للربّ.

## الإنجيل

## فصل شريف من بشارة القديس لوقا

فصلُ شَريفٌ مِنْ بِشِارَةِ القِدِّيسِ لوقا الإِنْجيلِيِّ البَشيرِ والتلْميذِ الطاهِرِ. (17-10:13)

في ذلك الزمانِ كان يسوعُ يعلَّمُ في أحدِ المجامع في السبتِ وهناك امرأةٌ فيها روحُ مرضٍ من ثماني عشرة سنة وكانت منحنية الظهر لا تستطيعُ أنْ تنتصبَ فلما رآها يسوعُ دعاها وقال لها: "أنتِ معافاةٌ من مرضك. ووضع يديه عليها فانتصبت في الحالِ ومجدّتِ الله. فقالَ رئيسُ المجمع للحاضرين وهو مغتاظ لأنّ يسوعَ أبرا في السبت: "عندكم ستةُ أيامٍ ينبغي العملُ فيها ففيها تأتون وتستشفون لا في يوم السبت!" فأجابه الربّ: "يا مرائي! أما يحلّ كلّ واحدٍ منكم رباط ثوره أو حماره في السبتِ من المذودِ ويأخذه ليسقيه؟ وهذه ابنةُ إبراهيم ربطها الشيطانُ من ثماني عشرة سنة أما كان ينبغي أن تُحَلّ من رباطِها يومَ السبت؟" ولما قال هذا, خزي جميعُ معارضيه, وفرحَ الجمعُ بكلّ الأعمال المجيدة التي كان يعملُها

## ملاحظة بخصوص تناول القربان المقدس

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