

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

His Grace, Bishop ANTHONY, Auxiliary to the Metropolitan

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 ktthabit66@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 Martyr and Healer Panteleimon and the Seventh Sunday of Matthew

The Martyred blind man healed by Panteleimon

Sunday, July 27, 2025

Tone 6; Eothinon 7

Apolytikion of the Resurrection (Tone 6)

When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb; and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Apolytikion of St. Panteleimon the Unmercenary Healer (Tone 7)

O holy prizewinner and healer Panteleimon, intercede with the merciful God that He grant unto our souls forgiveness of offenses.

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 Holy Transfiguration (Tone 7)

[in anticipation of the Feast of the Holy Transfiguration on 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 St. Panteleimon)

The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord. O God, hear my prayer.

**The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to Timothy
(2:1-10)**

Timothy, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus; and what you have heard from me before many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier on service gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to satisfy the one who enlisted him. An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. Think over what I say, for the Lord will grant you understanding in everything. Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descended from David, as preached in my gospel, the gospel for which I am suffering and wearing fetters like a criminal. But the word of God is not fettered. Therefore, I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain salvation in Christ Jesus with its eternal glory.

THE GOSPEL (for the Seventh Sunday of Matthew)

The Reading of the Holy Gospel is according to St. Matthew (9:27-35)

At that time, as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed him, crying aloud: "Have mercy on us, Son of David." When He entered the house, the blind men came to Him; and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to Him, "Yes, Lord." Then He touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly charged them, "See that no one knows it." But they went away and spread His fame through all that district. As they were going away, behold, a dumb demoniac was brought to Him. And when the demon had been cast out, the dumb man spoke; and the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel." But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons." And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity.

The Synaxarion

On July 27 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the holy and glorious Great-Martyr and Healer Panteleimon, and the martyred blind man whom Panteleimon healed.

Verses

The blood of thy head was mingled with milk, O Martyr,
For whose sake Christ once shed His Blood mingled with water.
The blade was Panteleimon's lot on the twenty-seventh.

Panteleimon means “all merciful” in Greek. He was born in third-century Nicomedia of a Christian mother, Eubula, and a pagan father, Eustorgius. As a young man he studied medicine. The priest, Hermolaus, invited Panteleimon to be with him and taught him the Faith of Christ and baptized him. Panteleimon miraculously cured a blind man by the power of Christ whom the other doctors treated in vain. The blind man was later martyred and we also commemorate him today. Out of envy the doctors accused Panteleimon of being a Christian and he went before the Emperor Maximian to stand trial. Before the emperor, he freely declared that he was a Christian and he also healed a long-time paralytic. This miracle drew many pagans to the Faith of Christ. Sentenced to death, Panteleimon knelt for prayer. At that moment the executioner struck him on the neck with a sword, and it broke. The executioner was unable to execute him until the saint completed his prayer and until Panteleimon told him to behead him, which he then did. His relics possessed the ability to heal. Panteleimon is invoked in prayers at the time of the “Blessing of Waters” and in the blessing of the holy oils used in the “The Sacrament of Holy Unction,” together with Hermolaus and the other unmercenary saints and wonder-workers.

By the intercessions of Thy saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us.
Amen.

OFFERINGS

Holy Bread is being offered this morning by Beverly Ansara in loving memory of her precious husband, Michael Ansara (+31 July, 2013), her precious son, Matthew Ansara (+25 June, 2001), her mother-in-law, Syria Ansara (+16 August, 1991), her cousin, Dr. Sakae Kawata (+26 August, 2017); also in memory of her friends: Julie Meyer, Sophie Holodnik, Michael Baca, Laura Olsen and Carol Ries. Memory eternal.

Holy Bread is also being offered by Marcia O’Dea with prayers for her brother, Sal’s recent birthday (July 28th), beloved uncle. May God keep him in His care and grant him blessings. Prayers are also offered in memory of her beloved mother and sister, Malvina, by the O’Dea family. Memory eternal.

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

for the repose of the newly-departed priest, Father Minas Sarchizian
(+22 July, 2025), beloved husband, father and concelebrant at
St. Michael Church. Memory eternal.

[the Funeral Service of Father Minas is on Thursday morning, July 31, 2025 at 10 a.m. (St. Michael Church; Van Nuys) followed by the interment at St. Nicholas Memorial Gardens (Valhalla Cemetery in No. Hollywood) and a meal of mercy will follow at the St. Michael Assembly Hall ballroom.]

by Mae Tortolano for her caregiving daughter, Cristina's wellness; also for the forty-day memorial of her beloved newly-departed grandson, Ryan Tortolano (+13 June, 2025). Memory eternal.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost and the Eighth Sunday of Matthew

Great Vespers – Saturday, August 2nd, 5 p.m.

Orthros – Sunday, August 3rd, 8:45 a.m., Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.

Fast of the Holy Dormition - August 1-14; and **Feast - August 15**

[we observe the traditional fasting discipline (no meal, poultry, fish, milk, cheese, eggs, wine and olive oil) Monday-Friday and the eve of the Feast, Thursday, 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)]

Paraklesis (Intercessory Prayer Service) – Tuesday, August 5th and 12th at 6:30 p.m.

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 Tuesday evenings, August 5th and 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Parish Bible Study Zoom Meeting — Tuesday, July 29th

Our next Bible Study is Tuesday evening, July 29th, at 7 p.m. This will be the third of a series on the epistle of St. James (chapter 4 and 5) that includes the Biblical text of the Sacrament of Healing (Holy Unction). Sessions are recorded for those unable to attend who may also request the link to the study. Attendance is required for all catechumens.



Metropolitan SABA’s Weekly Teaching (in English and Arabic)

You can view a recap of the pilgrimage of His Eminence, seminarians and recent seminary graduates and clergy by viewing the [daily blog](#), [photos](#) and videos on the Archdiocese website and [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages (you don’t need accounts to access them). His Eminence, Metropolitan SABA introduces the “[2025 Prophet Elias Church of Damascus, Syria Relief Fund](#)” in his latest pastoral letter. Also, a review of the events of the Archdiocese Convention in Chicago is provided on the Archdiocese website at: www.antiochian.org

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

Holy Bread Offering List

Coffee Hour Hosts Calendar

Aug 03 - open

Aug 06 (Feast of the Holy Transfiguration)

Aug 10 - open

Aug 15 (Feast of the Holy Dormition)

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

Raies-Murr Educational Trust Scholarship

Only members, in good standing of St. Michael Antiochian Orthodox Church (Van Nuys) or St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Cathedral (Los Angeles) and who have been accepted to or are currently enrolled in a **publicly supported** (not private) institution of higher learning, including eligible **publicly supported** vocational, technical and trade schools, are eligible to apply for a Raies-Murr Scholarship. Applications can be obtained by e-mailing Mallory Murr or Vanessa Obenhaus at: raiesmurrscholarship@gmail.com The applications must be returned by August 4, 2025.

Upcoming Events

[Note: You may now access our Google Parish Calendar to your personal calendar. Here is the link: <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/1?cid=YWRtaW5Ac3RtaWNoYWVsdmFubnV5cy5vcmc>]

Pan-Orthodox Summer Music Festival

Saturday, August 23, 2025; 3 p.m., Reception 5 p.m.

St. Steven's Serbian Orthodox Cathedral

[1621 West Garvey Ave. Alhambra, CA 91803]

Beginning of the Ecclesiastical New Year - September 1st

Fall Gathering — October 10-12

hosted by St. Peter and Paul Church (Ben Lomond, California)

**THE GREAT-MARTYR AND HEALER PANTELEIMON
AND THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW**

The Martyred blind man healed by Panteleimon

طروبارية القيامة على اللحن السادس

إنَّ القَوَاتِ الملائكية ظهرت عند قبرك الموقر، فالحرأسُ صاروا كالأموات، ومريم وقفت عند القبر طالبةً جسدك الطاهر، فسبيتَ الجحيمَ ولم تُجربَ منها، وصادفتَ البتولَ مانحاً الحياة، فيا من قام من بين الأموات، يا ربَّ المجدِّ لك.

أبوليتيكيون للقديس بندلايمون باللحن الثالث

أيُّها القديسُ اللابسُ الجهاد، والطبيبُ الشافي بندلايمون، تشفعْ إلى الإلهِ الرَّحيمِ، أَنْ يُنعمَ بغفرانِ الزَّلَّاتِ لنفوسِنَا.

طروبارية رؤساء الملائكة باللحن الرابع

أيُّها المتقدمون على الأجناد السماويين، نتوسَّلُ إليكم نحن غيرَ المستحقِّين، حتَّى أنكم بطلباتكم تكتفوننا بظلِّ أجنحةِ مجدكم غيرِ الهولي، حافظينَ إِيَّانا نحنُ الجائينَ والصارخينَ بغيرِ فتور، أنقذونا من الشدائد، بما أنكم رؤساءُ مراتبِ القَوَاتِ العلوية.

القنداق لتجلي ربنا يسوع المسيح باللحن السابع

تجلَّيتَ أيُّها المسيحُ الإلهُ على الجبلِ، وحسبَما وَسِعَ تلاميذكُ شاهَدوا مَجْدَكَ، حتَّى عِنْدَمَا يعاينوكَ مَصْلُوباً، يَفْطنوا أَنَّ ألامَكَ طَوْعاً باختيارِكَ، ويكرِّزوا لِلْعَالَمِ أَنَّكَ أَنْتَ بِالْحَقِيقَةِ شَعاعُ الآبِ.

الرسالة

يَفْرَحُ الصِّدِّيقُ بِالرَّبِّ. اسْتَمِعْ يَا اللَّهُ لِصَوْتِي.

فَصْلٌ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولِسِ الرَّسُولِ الثَّانِيَةِ إِلَى تِيموثَاوَسَ.

(10-1:2)

يَا وَلَدِي تِيموثَاوَسَ، تَقَوَّ فِي النِّعْمَةِ الَّتِي فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ. وَمَا سَمِعْتَهُ مِنِّي لَدِي شَهُودٍ كَثِيرِينَ، اسْتَوْدِعْهُ أَنَساً أَمْنَاءَ أَكْفَاءَ لِأَنْ يَعْلَمُوا آخَرِينَ أَيْضاً. اِحْتَمِلِ الْمَشَقَّاتِ كَجُنْدِيٍّ صَالِحٍ لِيَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ. لَيْسَ أَحَدٌ يَتَجَنَّدُ فِيرْتَبِكُ بِهِمُومَ

الحياة، وذلك ليرُضِيَ الذي حنَّه. وأيضاً، إن كان أحد يُجاهد، فلا ينال الإكليل ما لم يُجاهد جهاداً شرعياً. ويجب أن الحارث الذي يتعب أن يشترك في الأثمار أولاً. إفهم ما أقول. فليؤتِكَ الرَّبُّ فهماً في كل شيء. أذكر أن يسوع المسيح، الذي من نسل داود، قد قام من بين الأموات علي حسب إنجيلي. الذي أحتمل فيه المشقات حتى القيود كمجرم، إلا أن كلمة الله لا تقيد. فلذلك أنا أصبر على كل شيء من أجل المختارين، لكي يحصلوا هم أيضاً على الخلاص الذي في المسيح يسوع، مع المجد الأبدي.

الإنجيل

فصل شريف من بشارة القديس متى الإنجيلي البشير والتلميذ الطاهر (35-9:27)

في ذلك الزمان فيما يسوع مجتاز تبعه أعميان يصيحان ويقولان ارحمنا يا ابن داود * فلما دخل البيت دنا إليه الأعميان فقال لهما يسوع هل تؤمنان أنني أقدر أن افعل ذلك. فقالا له نعم يارب * حينئذ لمس أعينهما قائلاً كإيمانكما فليكن لكما فانفتحت أعينهما ، فانتهرهما يسوع قائلاً انظرا لا يعلم أحد * فلما خرجا شهراه في تلك الأرض كلها * وبعد خروجهما قدموا إليه اخرس به شيطان * فلما أخرج الشيطان تكلم الأخرس، فتعجب الجموع قائلين لم يظهر قط مثل هذا في إسرائيل * أما الفريسيون فقالوا إنه برئيس الشياطين يخرج الشياطين * وكان يسوع يطوف المدن كلها والقرى يعلم في مجامعهم ويكرز ببشارة الملكوت ويشفي كل مريض وكل ضعيف في الشعب.

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 الارثوذكسية والذين يحضرون أنفسهم بالصلاة والصوم والاعتراف منذ فترة قريبة (وعلى 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