

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 JOSEPH, Archbishop of New York

and Metropolitan of all North America

www.antiochian.org

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The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost and the Sixteenth Sunday of Matthew

The Synaxis of the Holy and Righteous Simeon the God-receiver and
Anna The Prophetess

Sunday, February 3, 2019

Tone 3; Eothinon 3

Apolytikion for the Resurrection (Tone 3)

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and become the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

Apolytikion of the Presentation of Christ (Tone 1)

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, full of grace, for from thee arose the Sun of justice, Christ our God, lighting those who are in darkness. Rejoice and be glad, O righteous elder, carrying in thine arms the Deliverer of our souls, Who granteth us Resurrection.

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

By choosing the Apostles' way of life, thou hast succeeded to their throne. Inspired by God, thou didst find the way to divine contemplation through the practice of virtue. After teaching the Word of Truth without error, thou didst defend the Faith to the very shedding of thy blood, O Hieromartyr Cyprian. Entreat the Lord our God to save our souls.

Kontakion for the Theotokos (Tone 2)

Thou, O Christ God, Who by Thy Birth, didst sanctify the Virgin's womb, and, as is meet, didst bless Simeon's arms, and didst also come to save us; preserve Thy fold in wars, and confirm them whom Thou didst love, for Thou alone art the Lover of mankind.

Daily Readings

THE EPISTLE (The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost)

The Lord will give strength to His people.

Ascribe to the Lord, O sons of God, ascribe to the Lord honor and glory.

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians (6:1-10)

Brethren, working together with Him, then, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For He says, "At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation." Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

THE GOSPEL (The Sixteenth Sunday of Matthew)

The Reading of the Holy Gospel is according to St. Matthew (25:14-30)

The Lord spoke this parable: A man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them; and he made five talents more. So also, he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying: "Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master." And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying: "Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more." His master said to him,

“Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.” He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying: “Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.” But his master answered him, “You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and gather where I have not winnowed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.” As Jesus said these things He cried out: “He who has ears to hear, let him hear!”

The Synaxarion

On February 3 in the Holy Orthodox Church we continue to celebrate the Presentation (Meeting) of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple. On this day, we celebrate the Synaxis (gathering) for the Holy and Righteous Simeon the God-receiver and Anna the Prophetess.

Verses

The Elder proclaimed to the dead that God the Word
Would reach even them, since He appeared as man.
No departure from earth for Phanuel's daughter,
until she beheld on the earth God as an infant.

On the third, Simeon was loosed from the bond of life.

Simeon had the task of translating the Bible from the Hebrew language into the Greek language (The Septuagint). As he conscientiously translated the book of the Prophet Isaiah, he came upon the prophecy: “Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and will give birth to a son” (Isaiah 7:14). Simeon became confused and took a knife to remove the word “virgin” and to replace it with the words, “young woman.” At that moment, an angel of God appeared to Simeon and restrained him, explaining that the prophecy is correct. The messenger of God also said that Simeon would be convinced of it personally for, according to the Will of God, he will not die until he sees the Messiah born of the Virgin. At the Presentation

(Meeting) of the Lord in the temple, the grateful Simeon quickly recognized both the Virgin and the Child Jesus. The joyful Simeon took Christ into his hands and prayed to God his famous words: "Lord, now lettest thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation." Simeon died shortly thereafter, and is considered the Protector of young children. Anna the Prophetess, the educated and pious daughter of Phanuel, lived in the temple as a widow. At age 84, she also recognized the Messiah and proclaimed Him to the people (Luke 2).

On this day, we also commemorate the New-martyrs Nicholas, Stamatios and John of Spetson; Anschar, enlightener of Denmark and Sweden; Nicholas, equal-to-the-Apostles, bishop and evangelizer of Japan; and James, archbishop of Serbia.

On the Sunday which falls during the After-feast of the Presentation (Meeting) of our Lord, we commemorate the Holy and Righteous Mothers of the Three Hierarchs: Emmelia (Basil the Great), Nona (Gregory the Theologian) and Anthousa (John Chrysostom). By their intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

NOTE

At the end of the Liturgy during the veneration of the cross, please refrain from speaking loudly and keep in order that the prayers read after Holy Communion may be heard by everyone in the church. Thank you.

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

Holy Bread is being offered this morning in loving memory of Dr. John Abdun-Nur (+31 January, 2008), by his wife, Margaret, his children: Denise, Cathy, Loretta, David, Connie and their families. Memory eternal.

Included in our prayers throughout the month of February are those celebrating their birthday: Mark Daftari (2/2), Liam Alexander Ajalat (2/5), Gregory Meena (2/5), Mark Nasser (2/5), Sawsan-Barakat Rafidi (2/5), Samantha Marie Tamoush (2/5), Tanya Worotko (2/5), Ghenet Woldemichael (2/5), Sasha Yazbek (2/5), Michael Mallouk (2/6), Donald Meena (2/6), Ryan Tamoush (2/7), Minnie Lush (2/7), Kaden Segovia (2/8), Andrew Wassef (2/8), Maureen Haddad (2/9), Christian Stephen Ablahad (2/10), Ben Mike Azzam (2/10), Nicole Khoury (2/10), Katrina Tambouras (2/10), Claire Bassem Azzam (2/11), Carson George Hage (2/11), Katie Nassief (2/11), Richard Namay (2/12), Fuad George Salamy (2/12), Nicholas Elias Azzam (2/13), Julia Theodora Botezatu (2/13), Anne Maria Bitar (2/13), Michael Saade (2/13), James Bishop (2/14), Laila Anne-Marie Nasr (2/14), Frieda Kabbash (2/15), Violet Kavan (2/15), Colt Coury Resch (2/15), Andrew Wassef (2/15), Lisa Mittry (2/16), Ethan Michael Coury (2/17), Dana-Nasser Papp (2/17), Justin Henry (2/18), Fred Yazbek (2/18), Lora Aftimos (2/19), Andrew Makhoul (2/19), Katherine-Slatko Foyle (1/19), Dimitri Shadi Moujaes (2/19), Lacey Ortega (2/20), Danielle Contes (2/21), Julia Ann Zraick (2/22), Andrew Hallak (2/24), Danice-Deeb Najjar (2/22), Bassam Kneizeh (2/23), Phil Nassief (2/24), Amanda Monsue (2/26), Sophia Malouf (2/27), Joey Rafidi (2/27), Sana Sayegh (2/27), Kevin Barney (2/28), Richard Ajalat (2/27), Christina Tortolano (2/28); and celebrating their wedding anniversary: Tony & Ghada Mansur (2/14), Joy & Jamie Farr (2/16), Stephen & Maureen Haddad (2/19), Tanya & Fred Milkie, Jr. (2/19), Andy & Bobbi Monsue (2/26), and Elias & Rana Azzam (2/27). May God grant them all many years!

Included in our prayers for the departed during the month of February are:

George John Nichols +8 Feb. 1960
 George Issam +7 Feb. 1969
 Raymond Barghash +14 Feb. 1972
 George N. Obresley +22 Feb. 1997
 Samuel M. Nader +10 Feb. 1980
 Therese Cecile Wassef +20 Feb. 1982
 Serge Markarian +27 Feb. 1984
 Laurice N. Hallak +5 Feb. 1984
 Jamele Haick +10 Feb. 1984
 Love N. Elias +24 Feb. 1987
 Denise A. Razook +16 Feb. 1990
 Naheeel Sadd +14 Feb. 1992

Jessie Kence +19 Feb. 2003
 Fakhira Esber +4 Feb. 2004
 Elizabeth Agamalian +6 Feb. 2004
 Lorana Johnson +22 Feb. 2005
 Elizabeth Skaff +6 Feb. 2006
 Isabel Toomey +30 Feb. 2006
 Nicholas Barakat +23 Feb. 2007
 Eddie Fadel +25 Feb. 2007
 Miriam M. Haddad +14 Feb. 2008
 Maxie Elsner +15 Feb. 2008
 John Cushner +17 Feb. 2008
 George R. Kalil +9 Feb. 2009

Ralph McCarron +4 Feb. 1993
Katherine Kneizeh +11 Feb. 1996
Frances Cole +1 Feb. 1997
Youseff Hasshem +2 Feb. 1977
Kenny Soffa + Feb. 1998
Rasmieh Thabet +22 Feb. 1998
Nelly Thabit +6 Feb. 1999
Louis Aboud +10 Feb. 1999
Joseph Nasser +25 Feb. 1999
John Forrester +26 Feb. 2000
Stanley Kaady +29 Feb. 2000

Paul Kouri +22 Feb. 2012
Michael Bullard +28 Feb. 2012
Ruth Leal +2 Feb. 2013
Nawaf Yazbek +2 Feb. 2013
Aziz Mebarkah +22 Feb. 2013
Elsie Safady +1 February, 2015
Libby Deeb Jacob +4 February, 2015
Emile Abughazaleh +2 Feb., 2016
Adel Haddad +12 February 2017
Jeannette Abughazaleh Tannous
+6 February, 2018
Rose Browers +8 February, 2018

Memory Eternal!

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

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

[Note: Wednesdays and Fridays are observed as days of fasting]

The Hieromartyr Charalampos, Bishop of Magnesia,
and the Seventeenth Sunday of Matthew

The "Sunday of the Canaanite Woman"

Saturday, February 9th - Great Vespers, 5 p.m.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you!

We thank our Co-Chairs, all Committee members, and all who assisted with our worship services of our 50th Anniversary weekend for the many hours of work that resulted in a successful celebration. May God continue to bless us by His continued mercies.

Neighborhood Open Houses

As we celebrate our parish's Fiftieth Year, it is our hope that you will get to know your fellow parishioners in your neighborhood. We have formed a listing of our members in each area of the Los Angeles metropolitan area and are looking for volunteers to host a neighborhood gathering sometime this year. Please contact Carolyn Sadd, who is being assisted by George Khouri in providing you with a list of parishioners in your area, should you be interested in being a host. The gatherings are to be informal and to allow for socializing; maximum two (2) hours, i.e., 7-9 p.m. Deserts or refreshments may be considered. Potlucks may also be planned. Hosts will be responsible in contacting parishioners in their neighborhood. We are asking our hosts not to include dates between March 11 to April 28 (Great Lent to Pascha); and to also note the church calendar dates of fasting. Should you have any questions, please speak with Father Timothy: 818-219-3761 <pastor@stmichaelvannuys.org>

Summer Camp Scholarships Available

Thanks to the funding of The Order of St. Ignatius of Antioch, Summer Camp scholarships are available to any young person active in our parish and who may benefit from some help. Please speak with Father Timothy for more information. The registration deadline is March 1, 2019.

House Blessings

To request a House Blessing, please phone Father Timothy at: (818/219-3761) or e-mail him at: <pastor@stmichaelvannuys.org> should you have a preference of a day or time. Father Minas may also be contacted at: 818-376-0049 <fatherminas@gmail.com>. If possible, it is best to plan a time when everyone in your household is at home. Father's visit is primarily for the purpose of prayer and to answer any questions you may have regarding our Faith and practice. Priority is being provided for our members in new homes and the new members of our parish. Also, please understand that Father would like to visit as many homes in your area on the same day as time would allow. While visits to your home and house blessings may almost occur at any day of the year, Father will be scheduling many blessings of homes up until the time for Great Lent and will be unavailable on February 11-14 (Clergy Seminar).

Upcoming Events (see the foyer bulletin board for more information)

Faithtree Women: “Building Life Changing Relationships”

Speaker: Michelle Moujaes, Faithtree Resources Executive Director;
St. Athanasius Church (300 Sumida Gardens Lane; Santa Barbara;
93111), Saturday, February 9, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., \$20/adults, \$10/
under 18 [includes light breakfast and lunch]

So. California Deanery Winter Camp (for Grades 7-12)
February 15-18, 2019; there's room for boys, however, girls will be on a
“waiting list.” Contact Luke Pettygrove at: office@campstnicholas.com

Church School 50th Anniversary Pancake Breakfast
Sunday, February 24, 2019

Young Adult Retreat: May 3-5, 2019 (Boston)
“Forming Authentic Relationships in a Fallen World;”
\$135/person (by April 5); \$150/person (April 6-30)
Hotel: \$159/night (Homewood Suites; Worcester, MA)

50th Anniversary St. Michael Golf Classic - Monday, May 13, 2019

IOCC “Share the Love” Valentine Dinner, Sunday, May 19, 2019
St. Luke Church (Garden Grove) at 5 p.m., \$50/person
Go to: iocc.org/sharethelove

Church School Pancake Breakfast - Sunday, February 24

The Skaff and Apostolou families are hosting our 50th Anniversary Pancake
Breakfast in memory of Carrie Deeb Skaff with proceeds going to the
Church School. Plan to attend.

February Parish Council Meeting
Monday, February 18, 2019 at 7 p.m., Conference Room

67th Annual Diocesan Parish Life Conference
Host: St. Anthony Church; San Diego, California, July 3-7, 2019

Go to: antiochianevents.com/la.html to register for your hotel room (\$169/
night) at the Sheraton Harbor Island and Marina.

Antiochian Archdiocese Convention - July 21-28, 2019

Host: St. Nicholas Church; Grand Rapids, Michigan

Go to: AC2019gr.org to register for your hotel room, view the Convention schedule and download forms for the ad book and registration. There are two (2) Convention hotels: 1) the Amway Grand Plaza (\$149/night) with free self-parking and WiFi; 2) the JW Marriott (\$184/night), adjacent to the Convention hotel.

Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Report Booklet

Due to our 50th Anniversary Celebration weekend, the Annual Meeting of the Voting Membership will be held on Sunday, February 24, 2019. In the best interest of time, a Report Booklet will be prepared for distribution prior to the Annual Meeting. Single page Annual Reports of Council officers, Standing Committees and Subsidiary Organizations are now due.

Antiochian House of Studies Begins Class Enrollment

[1020 Base Line Rd., La Verne, CA, 91750]

The following classes are scheduled for all interested: 1) Sacred Church Music with V. Rev. Anna Hakimeh (Arabic and English); to be held every other Saturday for 2.5 hours, beginning on March 2, 2019 at 10 a.m., \$600 [for further information contact Fr. Anania at: fatherananas@gmail.com] 2) Sacred Art of Iconography with Khouirye Randa Al Khoury Azar; seven classes planned for Saturdays (10 a.m. to 5 p.m.), and Sundays (1-6 p.m.); March 30-31, April 06-07, 13-15, and on May 18 (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.), \$600, plus \$150 for course materials [for further information contact Khouirye Randa at: randa.Azar@gmail.com]. For registration contact: Anna Naser at 714-971-2244 or annasgi@yahoo.com for an application form.

On-line Orthodox Prayers for Parents

Parents: add a useful App to your iPhone! Simply go to: <http://orthodoxtoolbox.com>. You will also be able to create your own Prayer Rule that can be easily updated; set notification reminders; customize your prayer list with photos of your loved ones, and much, much more!

A New Sign-up Board for Coffee Hour Hosts is Now Available

Please see or contact Cindy Tamoush to host an open date for the upcoming Coffee Hours. However, should you be planning a memorial service and host a reception, please be sure to speak with Father Timothy before scheduling a coffee hour.

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

Holy Bread Offering List

Feb 10 - open

Feb 17 - open

Feb 24 - Emile F. Skaff

Mar 03 - The Habib family

Mar 10 - open

Mar 17 - The Abughazaleh Family

Coffee Hour Hosts Calendar

Feb 10 - Nicole & Robert Webster

Feb 17 - open

Feb 24 - Church School Pancake Breakfast

Mar 03 - Chili Cook-off (Meat Fare)

Mar 10 - open (Cheese Fare)

Mar 17 - The Abughazaleh Family

Please contact Fr. Timothy (818/219-3761; pastor@stmichaelvannuys.org) to sign-up to offer Holy Bread and Cindy Tamoush at: (818-345-4363; famtam5@socal.rr.com) to sign-up for the Coffee Hour.

Attention: Bible Bowl and Oratorical Presentation Participants

Please sign-up with Lila Coudsy, our Church School Director, to participate in this year's Bible Bowl and/or Oratorical Presentation. All participating must plan to attend this year's Parish Life Conference hosted by St. Anthony Church in San Diego, California (July 3-7, 2019). This year's Bible Bowl texts are: St. Paul's letters to the Ephesians, Philippians and Colossians. There may be four (4) teams from each parish: a) Pre-teen (ages 10-12), b) Teen (ages 13-19), and c) Adult (ages 20 and above). This year's Orations will address the annual theme: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13). Instructions will be provided to assist all participants in an oration, and coaches will assist with those forming teams for the Bible Bowl. Additional information on this year's Parish Life Conference in San Diego is provided with this bulletin. The Conference will take place at the Sheraton Island and Marina (\$169/night) and the schedule of Conference activities may be found on the Conference website.

Church School Festival Workshop: **Sunday, Feb. 10th, 17th and 24th**

from 11:15 to 12 noon in the Church School Classrooms.

**It is our hope to have an entry by each of our children
at this year's Parish Life Conference in the:**

Creative Writing, Poetry,

+



Photography and Creative Arts Festivals



NOTE: Late entries CANNOT be accepted. Sorry.

For further information, please speak with our Church School teachers or visit the Archdiocese website at: < <http://www.antiochian.org/festivals>>.



ASSEMBLY OF CANONICAL ORTHODOX BISHOPS

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Statement on the Sanctity of Life

Thursday, January 31, 2019

The Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America affirms the sanctity of life based on the firm conviction that life begins at the moment of conception. The Assembly remains steadfast in its conviction that any interference in the development of life is a serious issue, and therefore it regularly participates in a variety of relevant events and also releases pertinent statements on the topic.

While recognizing that there are rare but serious medical instances where mother and child may require extraordinary actions, the Assembly of Bishops is deeply concerned that the taking of innocent life through abortion has become an acceptable cultural norm. This phenomenon – increasingly prevalent throughout contemporary societies – was exacerbated by a recent law of the New York State Senate (Bill S.240). The Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America categorically denounces these adverse developments that allow for abortion, under certain unjustifiable circumstances, even within the third trimester of existence.

The Assembly of Bishops further reminds the faithful that Christ is a beacon of hope in this challenging world. Accordingly, the Church is always prepared and willing to support women who are considering abortion to find alternative avenues to alleviate any burden, physical and spiritual. The Church is ever a mother – loving, understanding, nurturing, praying, and protecting all human life.

**THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST
AND THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW**
SYNAXIS OF HOLY AND RIGHTEOUS SIMEON THE GOD-RECEIVER
& ANNA THE PROPHETESS

طروبارية القيامة على اللحن الثالث

لتفرح السماويات وتبتهج الارضيات، لآن الرب صنع عزاً بساعده، ووطئ الموت بالموت، وصار بكر الاموات، وأنقذنا من جوف الجحيم، ومنح العالم الرحمة العظمى

إفرحي يا والدة الإله العذراء، الممتلئة نعمة، لأن منك أشرق شمس العدل المسيح إلها، منيراً للذين في الظلام. سرّ وابتهج أنت أيها الشيخ الصديق، حاملاً على ذراعيك المعتق نفوسنا، والمانح لنا القيامة.

طروبارية رؤساء الملائكة بالحن الرابع

أيها المتقدمون على الأجناد السماويين، نتوسل إليكم نحن غير المستحقين، حتى أنكم بطلباتكم تكتنوفوننا بظل أجنحة مجدكم غير الهولي، حافظين إيانا نحن الجاثين والصارخين بغير فتور، أنقذونا من الشدائد، بما أنكم رؤساء مراتب القوات العلوية.

أيها المسيح الإله، يا من بمولده قدس المستودع البتولي، وبارك يدي سمعان كما لاق، وأدركننا الآن وخلصنا. إحفظ رعتك بسلام في الحروب، وأيد الملوك الذين أحببناهم، بما أنك وحدك محب للبشر.

الرسالة

عجيب هو الله في قديسيه.

قَدِّمُوا لِلرَّبِّ يَا أَبْنَاءَ اللَّهِ. قَدِّمُوا لِلرَّبِّ مَجْداً وَكَرَامَةً.

فَصَلُّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِّيسِ بُولْسِ الرِّسُولِ الثَّانِيَةِ

إلى أهل كورنثوس (10-6:1)

يَا إِخْوَةُ، فَإِذْ نَحْنُ عَامِلُونَ مَعَهُ نَطْلُبُ أَنْ لَا تَقْبَلُوا نِعْمَةَ اللَّهِ بَاطِلًا. لِأَنَّهُ يَقُولُ: "فِي وَقْتُ مَقْبُولٍ سَمِعْتُكَ، وَفِي يَوْمٍ خَلَاصٍ أَعْنْتُكَ." هُوَذَا الْآنَ وَقْتُ مَقْبُولٍ. هُوَذَا الْآنَ يَوْمُ خَلَاصٍ. وَلَسْنَا نَجْعَلُ عَثْرَةً فِي شَيْءٍ لِئَلَّا تُلَامَ الْخِدْمَةُ. بَلْ فِي كُلِّ شَيْءٍ نُنْظِرُ أَنْفُسَنَا كَخْدَامِ اللَّهِ: فِي صَبْرٍ كَثِيرٍ، فِي شِدَائِدٍ، فِي ضَرُورَاتٍ، فِي ضِيقَاتٍ، فِي ضَرْبَاتٍ، فِي سُجُونٍ، فِي اضْطِرَابَاتٍ، فِي أَتْعَابٍ، فِي أَسْهَارٍ، فِي أَصْوَامٍ، فِي طَهَارَةٍ، فِي عِلْمٍ، فِي أَنَاةٍ، فِي لُطْفٍ، فِي الرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ، فِي مَحَبَّةٍ بِلا رِيَاءٍ، فِي كَلَامِ الْحَقِّ، فِي قُوَّةِ اللَّهِ بِسِلَاحِ الْبِرِّ لِلْيَمِينِ وَالْيَسَارِ. بِمَجْدٍ وَهَوَانٍ، بِصِيتٍ رَدِيٍّ وَصِيتٍ حَسَنٍ. كَمُضْلِينَ وَنَحْنُ صَادِقُونَ، كَمَجْهُولِينَ وَنَحْنُ مَعْرُوفُونَ، كَمَايْتِينَ وَهَآ نَحْنُ نَحْيَا، كَمُؤَدِّبِينَ وَنَحْنُ غَيْرُ مَقْتُولِينَ، كَحَرَائِي وَنَحْنُ دَائِمًا فَرِحُونَ، كَفُقَرَاءَ وَنَحْنُ نَغْنِي كَثِيرِينَ، كَأَنَّ لَا شَيْءَ لَنَا وَنَحْنُ نَمْلِكُ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ.

الإنجيل

فصلٌ شريفٌ من بشارَةِ القديسِ لوقا الانجيلي البشير والتلميذ الطاهر.

في ذلك الزمان، اجتاز يسوع في أريحا، وكان فيها رجل غني من كبار جباة الضرائب اسمه زكا، وكان يلتمس ليرى من هو يسوع. لكنه كان قصيرا، فلم يستطع أن يراه لكثرة الجمع. فأسرع إلى جميزة وصعدا ليراه، لأن يسوع كان مزمعا أن يمر بها. فلما وصل يسوع الى هناك، رفع نظره إليه وقال: "إنزل سريعا يا زكا لأنني سأقيم في بيتك." فنزل مسرعا واستقبله فرحا. فلما رأى الجميع ذلك قالوا متذمرين: إنه دخل ليقم عند رجل خاطئ. "فوقف زكا وقال ليسوع: "هاأنذا يا رب أعطي الفقراء نصف أموالي، وإذا ظلمت أحدا في شيء، أرده أربعة أضعاف." فقال له يسوع: "اليوم حصل الخلاص لهذا البيت، لأنه هو أيضا من أبناء إبراهيم. فابن البشر جاء ليجث عن الهالكين ويخلصهم.

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 فى الخبز المقدس الذى يوزع عند إنتهاء مراسيم القداس). رجاء مراجعة الكاهن. إذا رغبت أن تصبح عضوا فى الكنيسة الارثوذكسية