

The Proto-martyr Stephen the Archdeacon and the Sunday after the Nativity of Christ

Commemoration of Joseph the Betrothed, David the Prophet and King, and James the Brother of the Lord

Sunday, December 27, 2020

Tone 4; Eothinon 7

Apolytikion of the Resurrection (Tone 4)

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation. And proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying: Death hath been spoiled; Christ God is risen, granting the world Great Mercy.

Apolytikion of the Nativity (Tone 4)

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, hath given rise to the light of knowledge in the world; for they that worshipped the stars did learn there from to worship Thee, O Sun of justice, and to know that from the east of the Highest Thou didst come. O Lord, glory to Thee.

Apolytikion of the Sunday after the Nativity (Tone 2)

Proclaim, O Joseph, to David, the grandparent of God, the amazing wonders; for thou hast seen a Virgin great with child; for with the shepherds thou didst give glory, with the Magi thou didst worship, and by the angel it was revealed to thee. Wherefore, plead thou with Christ God to save our souls.

Apolytikion of 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 Nativity of Christ (Tone 3)

On this day the Virgin beareth the Transcendent in Essence; to the Unapproachable, the earth doth offer a small cave; Angels join in choir with shepherds in giving glory; with a star the Magi travel upon their journey; for our sakes is born a young Child, He Who existed before the ages as God.

Daily Readings

THE EPISTLE (for St. Stephen)

His voice has gone into all the earth. The heavens declare the glory of God.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Acts of the Apostles (6:8 - 7:5; 47-60)

In those days, Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, arose and disputed with Stephen. But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke. Then they secretly instigated men, who said, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." And they stirred up the people and the elders and the scribes, and they came upon him and seized him and brought him before the council, and set up false witnesses who said, "This man never ceases to speak words against this holy place and the law; for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place, and will change the customs which Moses delivered to us." And gazing at him, all who sat in the council saw that his face was like the face of an angel. The high priest said, "Is this so?" And Stephen said: "Brethren and fathers, hear me. The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham, when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran, and said to him, 'Depart from your land and from your kindred and go into the land which I will show you.' Then he departed from the land of the Chaldeans, and lived in Haran. And after his father died, God removed him from there into this land in which you are now living; yet he gave him no inheritance in it, not even a foot's length, but promised to give it to him in possession and to his posterity after him, though he had no child. But it was Solomon who built a house for Him. Yet the Most High does not dwell in houses made with hands; as the prophet says, 'Heaven is My throne, and earth My footstool. What house will you build for Me', says the Lord, 'or what is the place of My rest? Did not My hand make all these things?' You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, Whom you have now

betrayed and murdered, you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.” Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they grinded their teeth against him. But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God; and he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing at the right hand of God.” But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together upon him. Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him; and the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. And as they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” And he knelt down and cried with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

THE GOSPEL (Sunday after the Nativity of Christ)

The Reading of the Holy Gospel is according to St. Matthew (2:13-23)

When the wise men had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the Child and His mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the Child, to destroy Him.” And he rose and took the Child and His mother by night, and departed to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt have I called My Son.” Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, was in a furious rage, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region, who were two years old or under, according to the time which he had ascertained from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: “A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they were no more.” But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, “Rise, take the Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the Child’s life are dead.” And he rose and took the Child and His mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus reigned over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he

withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, “He shall be called a Nazarene.”

The Synaxarion

On December 27 in the Holy Orthodox Church, the second day of the After-feast of the Nativity of Christ, we commemorate the Venerable-confessor Theodore the Branded; and the holy Apostle, First Martyr and Archdeacon Stephen, one of the Seven Deacons.

Verses

With crowns of words, as it were with stones most precious,
I now crown Stephen, whom the stones crowned before time.

On the twenty-seventh a stony destiny took Stephen away.

Stephen was the first and archdeacon of the seven deacons whom the holy apostles ordained and appointed to the service of assisting the poor in Jerusalem. Among the Proto-martyr’s persecutors was his kinsman Saul, who became the Apostle Paul. At that time, the Most-holy Theotokos, standing at a distance with John the Theologian, witnessed the martyrdom of this first martyr for the truth of her Son and God. Gamaliel, a prince of the Jews and a secret Christian, clandestinely took Stephen’s body and buried it on his own estate.

On the Sunday after the Nativity of Christ, we commemorate the holy and just Ancestors of God: Joseph the Betrothed of the Holy Virgin, our Lady the Theotokos; James the Brother of the Lord and the First Bishop of Jerusalem; and David the Prophet and King.

Verses

*I honor Joseph, the Betrothed of the Virgin,
who to be her protector was alone chosen.*

*Thou art a carpenter’s son, but also the brother of the Lord
that built all with a word, O blest James.*

*What shall I say, seeing that the Lord testifieth,
as a man after Mine own heart, I have found David.*

David committed adultery and murder, yet God forgave him and glorified him above all the kings of Israel. He gave him the great grace to compose the most beautiful penitential prayers (the Psalms) and to prophesy the coming of Christ. Thus, God was not ashamed to take upon Himself flesh

from David's seed. God designated Joseph to protect the Most-holy Virgin, and imparted to him great honor in the plan of the salvation of mankind. Although Joseph was of the royal lineage of David, he was a humble carpenter in Nazareth. At the age of 80, Joseph took the Most-holy Virgin from the Temple in Jerusalem and into his home. He entered into rest at the age of 110. The Apostle James is called the "Brother of the Lord" because he was the son of the righteous Joseph the Betrothed. James greatly loved Jesus and, according to tradition, he traveled to Egypt with the Most-holy Virgin and Joseph, when Herod sought to slay the newborn King.

By their holy intercessions, O God, have mercy upon us and save 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

Holy Bread is being offered by Isabella Cruz for the health of her entire family and for her Godfather, Steve's Feast Day.

Holy Bread is also being offered for Jimmy, Suzanne and Denise George on the passing of their mother, Odette George (+16 December, 2020). We will miss her so much! Memory eternal. Love, the Deeb family.

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

for Stephen Srour, celebrating his Feast Day.

May God grant him and his family good health and continued prosperity.

for the continued health of the Draguichiu, Pavlovici and Fratila families.

in memory of Wydia Haddad (+26 December, 1999), Amean Haddad, Minnie Abdun-Nur (+23 December, 2004). Memory eternal.

for the newborn child, Christopher Pioguinto, born on Novmber 9,
2020 to Lana-Khoury & Chris Pioquinto, recently churched.
May God grant them a long life and good health.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

December is “St. Ignatius Month” in the Antiochian Archdiocese

Reading the epistle this morning is: . For more information on The Order of St. Ignatius of Antioch speak with Father Timothy or visit their website: www.orderofstignatius.org.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

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

Thursday, December 31st (New Year’s Eve) – Great Vespers, 5 p.m.
with prayers for the New Year [Live-streamed]

Friday, January 1st (New Year’s Day) – Orthros, 8:45 a.m.,
Divine Liturgy,* 10 a.m. with prayers for the New Year [Live-streamed]

The Sunday before the Forefeast and the Sunday before The Holy Theophany of Christ

Saturday, January 2nd – Great Vespers, 5 p.m. [Live-streamed]
Sunday, January 3rd – Orthros, 9 a.m., Divine Liturgy,* 10 a.m. [Live-streamed]

THE GREAT FEAST OF HOLY THEOPHANY (EPIPHANY)

Tuesday, January 5th – The Eve of Theophany (*Paramon*) [observed as a strict fast day]
Prayers of The Royal Hours: 6 a.m., 9 a.m., noon, 3 p.m. [Live-streamed]
Vesperal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great,* 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 6th – Festal Orthros, 8:30 a.m. immediately followed by
The Great Blessing of the Waters and The Festal Divine Liturgy,* 10 a.m.
[Live-streamed]

*

*Services with Holy Communion**

Church School Recess

Church School is currently in a Christmas recess. Classes will resume on January 10, 2021; the Pre-Feast of Holy Theophany. To view our Church School Staff Christmas Video click onto this link:



Live-streaming Sunday Orthros and Liturgy

Plan to view all of our scheduled church services on-line by logging on to: either **FaceBook** or **YouTube** via our parish website: <www.stmichaelvannuys.org> Your church offering may be made on-line via our website "Donation" tab or by mailing your check to the church at: 16643 Vanowen Street; Van Nuys, California; 91406. Mailing your offering will save a 3% on-line service charge.

Annual Parish Meeting, Report Booklet

The Annual Meeting of the Voting Membership will be held on Sunday, January 31, 2021, immediately following the Divine Liturgy. In the best interest of time, a Report Booklet is being prepared for distribution to our membership prior to the Annual Meeting. All Council officers, Standing Committees and Subsidiary Organizations should turn in their single page reports to the Church Office no later than Sunday, January 3, 2021 in order to be printed on time for distribution on January 24.

Church Attendance and Guidance for COVID-19 Testing

We are currently limiting attendance at our church services due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Parishioners must sign-up by informing Father Timothy to attend our services. If you have been in contact with someone who is diagnosed with the COVID virus you should be tested and self-quarantine at home for seven (7) to ten (10) days, especially if you have no symptoms. Should your results show that you are “negative” but develop symptoms during your quarantine, you should be retested. Questions will be answered by Father Timothy by e-mail at: [<frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org>](mailto:frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org)

Parish Christmas Card

Our 2020 Parish Christmas card was mailed this past week. The purpose of the card is to provide the convenience of having Christmas greetings extended to our hierarchs and parishioners by means of a group card. It also provides the schedule of services for the festal season. The Project is a service that helps to St. Michael to receive donations from parishioners and friends of our community who are listed on the card. The order those listed is not alphabetical, but in a sequence based upon the date the request is received. We thank all who have supported our project this year and continue to support our parish in Christian stewardship.

Church School Virtual Classrooms

Are your children enrolled in our Sunday Church School classes? Please contact our Director, **Lila Coudsy** at lcoudsy@aol.com to be enrolled and

to receive our weekly links for each age group. The classroom Zoom links are provided each week via our parish e-mail. However, there are no Zoom sessions on Sunday, December 27 and January 3.

Zoom Meeting Virtual Bible Study

Bible Study with Father Timothy — will resume on Tuesday, January 12th at 7 p.m. A Zoom link and security password provided in the weekly parish e-mail. Each study is limited to one hour. An “Orthodox Bible Study” provides a broad and complete study of the full context of Holy Scripture (Old and New Testament) It is a comprehensive approach to understanding God’s Word from Holy Tradition that includes: The Apostolic writings, Church Councils, the Canonical Texts, Patristic Sources, Liturgical Texts of Services and the experience of saints who have given testimony through their life as witnesses of the faith through the centuries.

Note: Father Timothy would also welcome scheduling a Zoom Meeting with you and your family at any time by appointment. Simply e-mail him at <frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org>.

Bookstore Christmas Gifts

Contact our Bookstore Manager, Bobbie Monsue at: bobbi_monsue@att.net or phone her at: 805-522-1463 with your questions for suggestions or requests for Christmas gifts. Shipping or pick-up is available.

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

Holy Bread Offering List

Jan 01 - Phyllis Grates
Jan 03 - Ron & Kathy Zraick
Jan 05-06 - (Theophany) open
Jan 10 - open

Coffee Hour Hosts Calendar

Note: There are no Coffee
Hours scheduled

Please contact Fr. Timothy (818/219-3761; pastor@stmichaelvannuys.org) to sign-up to offer Holy Bread.

Notice:

All checks dated December 31, 2020 must be received at the Church Office by Monday, January 4, 2021 to be included in the report of your Year-end Financial Statement for income tax purposes. This will enable us to close the books for 2020 for our Annual Financial Report Statements. Thank you for your cooperation. May you and your family enjoy a healthy and prosperous New Year!

Ancient Faith Radio

Consider spending your time during the fast hearing the educational podcasts of Ancient Faith Radio. Simply go to: www.ancientfaith.com

Personal Tours of Our New Church Sanctuary

Personal tours or Zoom meetings are being scheduled by appointment for all who are interested in designated "sponsorships" or "dedications" of various parts of the new church sanctuary that are available. The tour will also provide answers to questions. Please contact Father Timothy for more information at: frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org

St. Michael Antiochian Orthodox Church of the San Fernando Valley

16643 Vanowen Street, Van Nuys, California 91406-4622

Metropolitan JOSEPH, Archbishop of New York and all North America

V. Rev. Timothy Baclig, Pastor
frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.com

Church Telephone: 818/994-2313
www.stmichaelvannuys.com

*And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things,
at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.*

(II Corinthians 9:8)

Dear Members of St. Michael,

We are soon approaching the end of the calendar year and our Parish Council is preparing to provide us with our 2021 Annual Budget. A parish cannot solely rely upon the income of Sacramental offerings because we would not be able to meet our month-to-month expenses based upon anticipating baptisms, weddings, or funerals that takes

place each year. Nor can we adequately pay for our ongoing property maintenance without the shared responsibility and the help of volunteers of our membership. Our parish is able to provide its clergy and facilities, the prayer services of the church and its Sacraments because of our faithful parishioners who help to financially support the salaries and the operational costs of our church property.

We are again asking everyone to prayerfully consider making a reasonable annual financial pledge to our parish for the New Year. We look forward, by God's grace, for continued growth in the future. We are also very grateful for the commitments of those who have provided us with contributions to complete the construction of our new church sanctuary. We encourage others who have not done so to prayerfully consider doing the same. One of our goals is to remain debt free. We are anticipating the completion of the church in the New Year. Additional information will be provided at our Annual Parish Meeting at the end of January.

May you and your family enjoy a blessed Thanksgiving holiday with God's continued blessings as we prepare to celebrate the Feast of our Lord's birth.

In Christ,

Subdeacon Richard Tamoush

Stewardship Chair

Frequently Asked Questions When Completing a Pledge Form

What is the reason for completing an annual parish Pledge Form?

Each year planning for budgeted receipts and expenditures are an important part of being responsible stewards of Christ's church. Some of our month-to-month expenses include: priest and staff salaries, utility and maintenance expenses, the payment of taxes on all investment (income) property (yes, churches do pay property taxes), and insurance. Moreover, it is not uncommon for these expenses increase each year. It is a goal of our Parish Council to meet these expenses with the contributions of our members. The Pastor does not receive stipends (monetary gifts) for house blessings, baptisms, weddings and funerals if a family is not enrolled as a regular contributor of the parish. The Pastor's living expenses and allowances are included the Annual Budget of the parish that will be presented at our Annual Meeting on January 31st.

What is an annual “Fair Share Commitment?”

Each parish of the Antiochian Archdiocese pays 10% of its parish income to assist with the expenses of our bishops, Archdiocesan and Diocesan departments and programs. Over one-fourth of the Archdiocese budget is dedicated to youth programs. You can see two charts that provide the financial highlights of Archdiocese receipts and expenditures provided in our Annual Report booklet. The annual payment to the Archdiocese from St. Michael Church is currently: \$25,190 or 10% of our parish income (excluding contributions received for the Building Fund, charity collections, special Archdiocese collections, and memorial gifts). This money is collected from our parishioners from their first contribution to the church: \$50 for each adult and \$35 for each child (17 years of age or under) in a household. All additional funds pledged by our parishioners assist with the month-to-month expenses of the parish.

Our 2021 Pledge Form is provided in our church narthex and available on our parish website at: <https://www.stmichaelvannuys.org/donate/>

The form may be completed and returned to the Church Office at: 16643 Vanowen Street; Van Nuys; California; 91406; or turned in on Sunday to Mary Ann Coury, Comptroller.

Building Fund Update

We are still unable to have a clear date for the completion of our Church Building Project for a very important reason: A certified occupancy will be granted by the City of Los Angeles when the Department of Building and Safety verifies that we have complied with the peripheral requirements of our site plan. This means we cannot and may not be able to complete the project without a line of credit (loan) with a lending institution or a parishioner loan program. Some additional LA City requirements may be expected to be completed as a prerequisite for our occupancy.

At the current time we have invested 2.7 million dollars to reach our goal of having a watertight building. As of August 31st we have 1.2 million dollars within our construction Building Fund Account of which one-half of

the amount is already committed under contract with third party contractors currently working on the site. By January of 2021 we will have contractually obligated the remainder one-half of the account funds for additional new construction work. Without additional funding it will greatly impede our ongoing progress as we will be unable to contract for any additional work to be done on the project. As has been expressed in the past we estimate our shortfall will be approximately five-hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) to complete the project.

Your urgent financial help is needed between now and the end of 2020. We ask that you prayerfully consider making a donation between now and the end of the year to take advantage of any Tax Benefits that would be available to you. It is worth noting that under the CARES ACT (for 2020 ONLY), if you itemize your tax return (without taking the standard deduction: \$24,000 for couples and \$12,400 for most single tax filers) your contribution is 100% deductible instead of 60% as has been the case for years. For more information on a pledge commitment or sponsorship, please contact Ron Zraick at <ronaldzraick@gmail.com> or Father Timothy at: <frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org>.

Upcoming Events

20th Annual Youth Directors Virtual Conference
January 28-29, 2021

St. Michael Annual Virtual Meeting of the Voting Membership
Sunday, January 31, 2021

Antiochian Clergy Diocesan Virtual Seminar
Monday, February 8, 2021

The 57th "Sweetheart Ball" - Universal Hilton
(tentatively scheduled on: **March 6, 2021**)

2021 Diocesan Parish Life Conference - **July 1-4, 2021 (TBD)**
Host: Ss. Mark and Barnabas Church (Orange County)

**THE PROTO-MARTYR STEPHEN THE ARCHDEACON
AND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST
THE COMMEMORATION OF JOSEPH THE BETROTHED,
DAVID THE PROPHET AND KING, AND JAMES THE BROTHER OF THE LORD**

طروبارية القيامة على اللحن الرابع

إن تلميذات الرب تعلمن من الملاك الكرز بالقيامة البهجة، وطرحن القضاء الجدي،
وخاطبن الرسل مفتخرات وقائلات: سبي الموت وقام المسيح الإله، مانحاً العالم الرحمة
العظمى

طروبارية الميلاد باللحن الرابع

ميلادك أيها المسيح إلهنا، قد أطلع نور المعرفة في العالم، لأن الساجدين للكواكب، به
تعلموا من الكوكب السجود لك يا شمس العدل، وان يعرفوا أنك المشرق الذي من العلاء،
يا ربُّ المجد لك

طروبارية الأحد بعد الميلاد على اللحن الثاني

يا يوسف بشر داود جد الإله بالعجائب الباهرة. لأنك قد رأيت البتول حاملاً، فمع
الرعاة مجدت، ومع المجوس سجدت، وبالملاك أوحى إليك. فابتهل إلى المسيح الإله أن
يخلص نفوسنا

طروبارية رؤساء الملائكة باللحن الرابع

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

قنداق الميلاد على اللحن الثالث

اليوم العذراء تلد الفائق الجوهر، والأرض تقرب المغارة لمن لا يُدنى منه. الملائكة مع
الرعاة يمجدون، والمجوس مع الكوكب في الطريق يسرون، لأنه قد وُلد من أجلنا صبي
جدي، وهو الإله قبل الدهور

الرسالة

**عجيب هو الله في مقادسه, في المجامع باركوا الله
فصل من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول إلى أهل غلاطية**

يا اخوة, أعلمكم أن البشارة التي بشرتكم بها ليست على سنة البشر. فأنا لم أتسلمها أو تعلمتها من بشر, بل بإعلان يسوع المسيح. فإنكم سمعتم بسيرتي الماضية في ملة اليهود, وكيف كنت أضطهد كنيسة الله غاية الاضطهاد وأحاول تدميرها وأفوق أتراي من بني قومي في ملة اليهود حمية على تقاليد آبائي. ولكن لما ارتضى الله الذي دعاني بنعمته وأنا في بطن أمي إلى خدمته, أن يعلن ابنه في لأبشر به بين الأمم, لم استشر لحما ودما ولا صعدت إلى اورشليم لأرى الذين كانوا رسلا قبلي, بل ذهبت على الفور إلى بلاد العرب, وبعد ذلك رجعت إلى اورشليم. ثم أني بعد ثلاث سنوات صعدت إلى اورشليم لأرى بطرس, فأقمت عنده خمسة عشر يوما, ولم أر غيره من الرسل سوى يعقوب أخي الرب.

الإنجيل

فصل شريف من بشارة القديس متى

ولما انصرف المجوس, ظهر ملاك الرب ليوسف في الحلم قائلا: "قم, خذ الصبي وأمه واهرب إلى مصر وأقم فيها, حتى أعلمك, لأن هيرودس سيبحث عن الصبي ليهلكه. فقام وأخذ الصبي وأمه ليلا وانصرف إلى مصر. فأقام فيها إلى أن مات هيرودس, ليتم ما قال الرب على لسان النبي: "من مصر دعوت ابني." فلما رأى هيرودس أن المجوس استهزأوا به, غضب جدا وأمر بقتل كل صبيان بيت لحم وجميع تخومها, من ابن سنتين فما دون ذلك, حسب الزمان الذي تحققه من المجوس. فتم ما قال أرميه النبي: صراخ سمع في الرامة, نوح وبكاء ونحيب كثير, راحيل تبكي على أولادها وقد أبت أن تتعزى, لأنهم ليسوا على قيد الحياة." ولما مات هيرودس ظهر ملاك الرب ليوسف في الحلم في مصر قائلا: "قم, خذ الصبي وأمه وارجع إلى أرض اسرائيل, فقد مات من كان يريد قتل الصبي." فقام وأخذ الصبي وإمه وجاء إلى أرض اسرائيل. ولما سمع أن أرخيلوس يملك على اليهودية خلفا لابيه هيرودس, خاف أن يذهب إليها. فأوحى إليه في

الحلم, فانصرف إلى نواحي الجليل. وجاء مدينة اسمها الناصرة فسكن فيها, ليتم ما قيل
"على لسان الأنبياء: "إنه يدعى ناصريا

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