

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 Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost and the Fourteenth Sunday of Luke

Blessed Xenia of St. Petersburg, fool-for-Christ

Righteous Mother Xenia the Merciful of Rome; Hieromartyr Babylas of Sicily; Venerable Philotheos, Founder of Philotheou Monastery on Athos

Sunday, January 24, 2021

Tone 8; Eothinon 11

Apolytikion of the Resurrection (Tone 8)

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Apolytikion of St. Xenia of St. Petersburg (Tone 8)

In thee, O wandering stranger, Christ the Lord hath given us an ardent intercessor for our kind. For having received in thy life sufferings and grief and served God and men with love, thou didst acquire great boldness. Wherefore, we fervently hasten to thee in temptations and grief, crying out from the depths of our hearts: Put not our hope to shame, O Blessed Xenia.

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 Presentation of Christ (Tone 1)

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 (for the Thirty-first Sunday after Pentecost)

*O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance.
Unto Thee have I cried, O Lord, my God.*

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to Timothy (1:15-17)

Timothy, my son, the saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. And I am the foremost of sinners; but I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display His perfect patience for an example to those who were to believe in Him for eternal life. To the King of Ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory to the ages of ages. Amen.

THE GOSPEL (for the Fourteenth Sunday of Luke)

The Reading of the Holy Gospel is according to St. Luke (18:35-43)

At that time, when Jesus drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging; and hearing a multitude going by, he inquired what this meant. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." And he cried, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" And Jesus stopped, and commanded him to be brought to him; and when he came near, Jesus asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me receive my sight." And Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

The Synaxarion

On January 24 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate our Righteous Mother, Blessed Xenia, the Fool for Christ's sake and Wonderworker of Saint Petersburg.

Verses

They that are at a loss invoke Blessed Xenia,
Who having lost all things, won Christ as her Bridegroom.

On the twenty-fourth Xenia was in Heaven.

Xenia was married to a Colonel named Andrew; when she was 26 years old, her husband died suddenly. Left a childless widow, Xenia gave away

all that she had, and vanished from St. Petersburg for eight years to live in a hermitage, learning the spiritual life. When she returned to St. Petersburg, she wore her husband's military clothing, and would answer only to the name of her late husband Andrew. She took up the life of a homeless wanderer, and was abused by many as insane. She bore this with great patience, crucifying the carnal mind through the mockery she endured, and praying for her husband's soul. She was given great gifts of prayer and prophecy, and often foretold things to come. In 1796 she foretold the death of Empress Catherine II. Xenia reposed in peace at age 71 in about the year 1800. Her grave became such a source of miracles, and so many came to take soil from it as a blessing that it was often necessary to replace the soil. When a stone slab was placed over her grave, this too disappeared over time, piece by piece. Saint Xenia is especially invoked for help in finding employment, lodging, or a spouse.

On this day, we also commemorate our Righteous Mother Xenia the merciful of Rome; Hieromartyr Babylas of Sicily; and Venerable Philotheos, founder of Philotheou monastery on Athos. 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

The Holy Bread is being offered by the George family: Suzanne, Denise, Jimmy, Tessa and Luke for the forty-day memorial of the newly-departed servant of God, Odette George (+16 December, 2020), beloved mother and grandmother. Memory eternal.

Holy Bread is also being offered by Darlene Ortega and Alan Namay in cherished memory of their brother M. Richard Namay (+29 January, 2018), a humble man, devoted throughout his earthly life in faith, service to the Church, in love of sports, and in his commitment to youth. It was last year, as the Namay-Ortega, Skaff-Tortolano and Jurado family

offered the second annual memorial service for our beloved “Ricky” that we (and the world) were shocked and in disbelief by the untimely new of the tragic air crash that took the life of Kobe Bryant—admired by Ricky (and countless others) for his athleticism and human kindness. Now, north are joined by the recent passing of beloved Tommy Lasorda—all three sharing a life-long passion for humanity and the joy of sportsmanship. May they rest forevermore in the blessed tranquility of God’s heavenly Kingdom. Memory eternal. (T. Mae Tortolano)

Holy Bread is also being offered in loving memory of Gregory M. Habib (+18 January, 2019) by his wife, Samia, his children: Gabriel, Fr. Michael & Khouriye Maria, his grandchildren: Maximus, Maura, Matthias, and his nephew Nicholas and Irene Tambouras. Memory eternal.

The Holy Bread is being offered by Adeeb & Nuha Abughazaleh with prayers for the good health of their children and their families: Elias, Kim, Jessica, Samantha; Samer, Toni, Ameera, Averie, Abigail, Adalyn; Carole, George, Leila, Freddy, Danial; Hani, Katie, Lucas, Greyson and Rami. Prayers are also offered for the good health of the Abughazaleh, Azzam, Ababseh, Karam and Tannous families.

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

by the Milkie family for Alek Milkie, celebrating his birthday today.
May God grant him good health and many years!

for the upcoming surgery and speedy recovery of Cooper Rowe’s mother,
Dawn Benson Rowe.

for the speedy recovery of Peter Bernstein, son of Father James and
Khouriye Martha Bernstein.

by Anita Chala and family for the continued health of Paul Ajalat.

by Daphne Thabet for the fifth birthday of her grandson, Justin Henry
(January 18), and the fortieth birthday of her daughter, Leslie Thabet
(January 22). May God grant them many years!

for the twenty-year memorial of the servant of God, Samir Aftimos
(+24 January, 2001), beloved father of Riad Aftimos. Memory eternal.

for the continued health of the Archpriest Wayne Wilson.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

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

The Feast of St. Ephraim and Issac the Syrians – January 28

The Feast of the Three Hierarchs: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom – January 30

**The Fifteenth Sunday of Luke (“Sunday of Zacchaeus”)
Commemorating Ss. Cyrus and John the Unmercenary Healers**

Saturday, January 30th – Great Vespers, 5 p.m.

Sunday, January 31st – Orthros, 8:45 a.m., Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.

GLOSSARY: Apolytikion (ah-poh-lee-tee-key-on); *plural*, Apolytikia: A brief poem in accentual metre, expressing the theme of a feast. Kontakion (kon-tah-kee-on); *plural*, Kontakia: A special kind of Troparion that expresses the teaching of a Feast. It summarizes and applies the meaning of a feast of day. Orthros (*Or*-thros): The word literally means *early morning*. It is the name of the service, which by some has been called *Matins*, and still by others, *Lauds*, though it does not correspond exactly to either of the Western Services. Eothinon (ee-oh-thee-non): meaning – *pertaining to the dawn*. They are the eleven assigned readings of the Gospel during the Orthros Service, pertaining to the eleven appearances of our Lord to His Disciples after the Resurrection. Synaxis (see-nax-sees) “the gathering or coming together” as it pertains to a celebration of a commemoration or feast. Following a major Feast a “Synaxis” commemorates the “co-stars” of the Feast, i.e., following the Feast of the Presentation of Christ (Ss. Simeon and Anna), following the Feast of the Birth of Christ (the Holy Virgin Mary), following the Feast of Holy Theophany (St. John the Baptist), etc. Synaxarion (see-nax-sah-ree-on) the summary of a Feast, describing a historical significance and meaning of a commemoration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

House Blessings

Father Timothy has postponed the scheduling the blessing of homes. Visits to your home and house blessings may occur at **any day of the year**,

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).

Virtual Annual Parish Meeting, Report Booklet

The Virtual Annual Meeting of the Voting Membership will be held next Sunday, January 31, 2021, immediately following the Divine Liturgy. In the best interest of time, a Report Booklet is being prepared for distribution by a confidential e-mail to our voting membership prior to the Annual Meeting this week.

Zoom Meeting Virtual Bible Study

Bible Study with Father Timothy — will meet this Tuesday, January 26th at 7 p.m. A Zoom link and security password provided in a weekly parish e-mail. Each study is limited to one hour. We will continue our study of chapter 2-3 of the Book of Romans. 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>](mailto:frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org).

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

Holy Bread Offering List

Jan 31 - the Milkie Family

Feb 07 - Suzan Haddad

Feb 14 - open

Feb 21 - 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.

Holy Water Available for Distribution

Bottles have been purchased for Holy Water distribution and will be available at the front of the church at the end of the Liturgy. Please provide an offering should you want to take a bottle with you. Thank you.

Thank you!

My dear friends of St. Michael: Over the past year of darkness and despair a welcome light shone in the windows of Loaves and Fishes in Van Nuys. Because of your kindness generosity and much needed prayers we were able to supply many of our homeless and low income families with food toiletries and gift cards to local markets. The need was great! We consider you a partner, as you have been over several years, in helping those less fortunate than ourselves. A smile and a few words of welcome when coming into our pantry make people feel a bit better when faced with adversity. Once again my heart goes out to all of you for sharing our mission of helping those in our community! Warmest Regards To All of You In The Coming Year! Sincerely, Barbara Ausburn

Antiochian Women's Diocesan Monthly On-line Discussion

Beginning last May, each month our Diocese Antiochian Women host an online presentation "The Sowing Bee - Planting Seeds of Hope, Faith and Wisdom." This month's presentation will be held next Wednesday, January 27th - and will be a discussion titled "Coping During Challenging Times." There will be two speakers -- one of which is our very own, Tanya Rishwain Milkie. It will be accessible via the Diocese Antiochian Women facebook

page -- you do not need to have a personal facebook account. If you miss the "live" presentation, the recording will remain available as an archived video. A flyer is attached - hope you can tune in!

Antiochian Women DLAW

Sowing Bee Online Discussion

Planting Seeds of Faith, Hope & Wisdom

Coping During Challenging Times

Wednesday, January 27th at 7pm PST



Our Speakers:

Tanya Rishwain - Licensed Clinical Social Worker

Barbara Lane - MA, Marriage & Family Therapy Intern

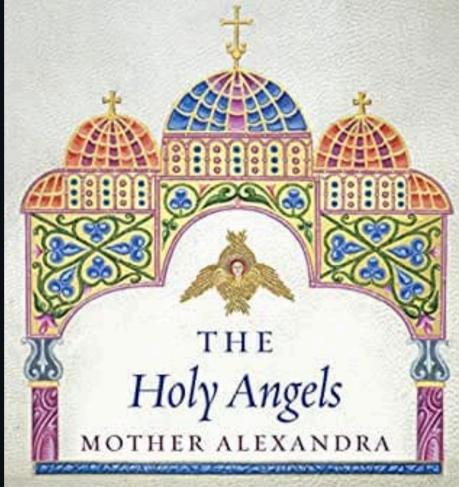
They will share therapeutic stress techniques
with a faith based perspective

**This presentation will view on our Antiochian Women
Diocese of Los Angeles & the West facebook page .**

You do not need a facebook account to view.

@AntiochianWomenDioceseOfLosAngelesandtheWest

Antiochian Women's Book Club Selection 2020-21



First published in 1981 and long out of print, *The Holy Angels* has yet to be surpassed as a comprehensive and comprehensible account of the nature of the angels and their role in our salvation. In layperson's terms, Mother Alexandra presents the essence of everything the Church has to teach us about the angels, beginning with the Old Testament, continuing through the New Testament, and concluding with the Tradition of the Church as expressed in her theology, hymnography & iconography. For those who long to become better acquainted with these holy servants of God and to understand their role in our lives, this book is a great place to start.

Available from St Vladimir's Seminary & Amazon

Antiochian Women's Book Club - February 3 at 6:45 p.m.

The book selected for AW across our Archdiocese is "The Holy Angels" by Mother Alexandra. Contact President Charmaine Darmour for more information and any questions you may have to participate in the Zoom meeting and to be provided with a link: cdarmour@sbcglobal.net.

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



JOIN US FOR

Winter Camp at Home

February 27th 2021
10 am - 2 pm PST

Opportunities for teens, college
students, young adults & parents will
be offered.

More details to come!

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

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

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

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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.org

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,

Our Parish Council is preparing to provide us with our 2021 Annual Budget at our upcoming Annual Meeting on January 31, 2021. 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 God's continued blessings throughout the New Year!

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 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.

PASTORAL SERMON
The Fourteenth Sunday of Luke
By V. Rev. Timothy Baclig
January 24, 2021

Today's Gospel lesson of the healing of blind Bartimaeus is a good example of what it means to earnestly, persistently, and eagerly seek God. Commenting on the healing of the blind beggar, St. John Chrysostom writes:

Therefore learn, my beloved, that though we {are very vile} may be an outcast, but yet approach God with earnestness, even by ourselves, we shall be able to bring about whatever we ask . . . Though God may delay the gift, though there may be many who seek to hold us back, let us not desist from asking. For in this way most of all we shall win God to our side. (Homily 66 on Matthew)

This may sound like a radical statement for a Father of the Church. It gives you the impression that we can, in fact, influence God. Most of us tend to think that our Christian response to whatever situation we find ourselves in is to be passive, and more accepting of whatever we face. But God never said, or desires that we should be miserable, unhappy, especially to the degree that we end up

becoming resentful, bitter, full of anger and malice. Other Church Fathers point out that although Bartimaeus was physically blind, the eyes of his soul were illumined by God's grace because he had believed what he had heard from others about Jesus. The saints also speak of blind Bartimaeus as an example of earnest and humble prayer. Every time we come to Christ in prayer, they say, we should come to Him as blind beggars and cry out to Him to receive new light day by day.

All too often, while we may know what we want for ourselves, we may not always know what is best for us. The Holy Apostle Paul spoke of this in his letter to the Corinthians when he said: *Everything is permissible for me but not everything is beneficial.* (I Corinthians 6:12). We make personal choices each and every day of our lives. We also teach our children the importance of making good choices, to have good judgment, and to be responsible for their decisions. However, as much as we try, some things are not easily learned except by experience and at times, by making mistakes. Yet some things can in fact be avoided, especially when one practices good common sense.

With this in mind: petitioning God and asking Him to grant us our request may mean that we might need to be prepared to receive what we may not even know we are asking for. From time to time, for example, people ask me to pray that they learn patience. Well then, I must ask, are you prepared to grow in learning patience? Do you realize what being patient requires you to do? Or better yet, how does having patience help you to know God better, or draw nearer to Him? It's almost as though we expect God to do it all while we remain uninvolved and without accepting any personal responsibility.

And so, petitioning and asking God to grant us our request may also mean that we may also need to be prepared to know what we must also **do**. Pray for peace, we say. However, praying for peace may also mean that we must be militarily strong. On the other hand, praying for peace may also mean, perhaps, being more aggressive in our commitment to negotiating.

When asking God for something or petitioning Him with a personal request it also helps to remember that we are called as God's children to respond to others as we expect God to hear and respond to us. This pattern was established by our

Lord Himself when He taught us to pray: *Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us...* (Matthew 6:13)

Do we consider those who offend and sin against us when we call upon God's forgiveness? Do we ever perceive how we might act in a way that we become a stumbling block for someone, and yet expect God to keep us free from all temptation? Are we active in ways to help others who face perils and misfortune, as we expect God to defend and protect us from all evil?

Prayer

O Christ, our God, Who in all times and places are worshipped and glorified, both in heaven and on earth, long-suffering, generous in mercy and rich in compassion, Who loves the righteous and is merciful to the sinner, Who calls all to repentance through the promise of blessings to come: Receive, O Lord, at this very hour our prayers and direct our lives according to Your commandments. Sanctify our souls, purify our bodies, set our minds aright, cleanse our thoughts, and deliver us from affliction and distress. Surround us with Your holy angels, so that guided and guarded by them, we may attain to the oneness of the Faith and to the knowledge of Your glory, O Thou Who art blessed unto ages of ages. A-men. [a prayer of Compline]

EOTHINON 11

الايوثينا 11

TONE 8

اللحن 8

**TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AND THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE**

BLESSED XENIA OF ST. PETERSBURG, FOOL-FOR-CHRIST

**RIGHTEOUS MOTHER XENIA THE MERCIFUL OF ROME; HIEROMARTYR BABYLAS OF SICILY;
VENERABLE PHILOTHEOS, FOUNDER OF PHILOTHEOU MONASTERY ON ATHOS**

طروبارية القيامة على اللحن الثامن

انحدرت من العلو يا متحنن, وقبلت الدفن ذا الثلاثة الأيام, لكي نُعتقنا من الآلام, فيا حياتنا
وقيامتنا يا رب المجد لك.

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

قنداق تقدمة الميلاد على اللحن الثالث

اليوم العذراء تأتي إلى المغارة لتلد الكلمة الذي قبل الدهور، ولادة لا تُفسر، ولا
يُتق بها، فافرحي أيتها المسكونة إذا سمعت، ومجدي مع الملائكة والرعاة، الظاهر
بمسيبته طفلاً جديداً، وهو الإله قبل الدهور.

الرسالة

خَلِّصْ يَا رَبُّ شَعْبَكَ وَبَارِكْ مِيراثَكَ.
إِلَيْكَ يَا رَبُّ أَصْرِحُ وَإِلَى إِلَهِي أَتَضَرَّعُ.
فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولْسِ الرَّسُولِ الْأُولَى إِلَى تِيْمُوثَاوْسِ.
(17-5:1)

يَا وَلَدِي تِيْمُوثَاوْسِ، صَادِقَةٌ هِيَ الْكَلِمَةُ وَمُسْتَحَقَّةٌ كُلُّ قَبُولٍ: أَنَّ الْمَسِيحَ يَسُوعَ جَاءَ
إِلَى الْعَالَمِ لِيُخَلِّصَ الْخُطَاةَ الَّذِينَ أَوْلَهُمْ أَنَا. لَكِنِّي لِهَذَا رُحِمْتُ: لِيُظْهَرَ يَسُوعَ
الْمَسِيحَ فِيَّ أَنَا أَوْلَا كُلِّ أَنَاةٍ، مِثْلًا لِلْعَتِيدِينَ أَنْ يُؤْمِنُوا بِهِ لِلْحَيَاةِ الْأَبَدِيَّةِ. وَمَلِكُ الدُّهُورِ
الَّذِي لَا يَفْنَى وَلَا يَرَى، الْإِلَهَ الْحَكِيمَ وَحْدَهُ، لَهُ الْكِرَامَةُ وَالْمَجْدُ إِلَى دَهْرِ الدُّهُورِ. آمِينَ.

الإنجيل

فصل شريف من بشارة القديس لوقا

في ذلك الزمان، واقترَبَ مِنْ أَرِيحَا، وَكَانَ رَجُلٌ أَعْمَى جَالِساً عَلَى جَانِبِ الطَّرِيقِ
يَسْتَعْطِي. فَلَمَّا سَمِعَ صَوْتَ جَمْعٍ يَمُرُّ بِالْمَكَانِ، اسْتَخْبَرَ عَنْ ذَلِكَ مَا عَسَى أَنْ يَكُونَ.
فَأخْبَرُوهُ أَنَّ يَسُوعَ النَّاصِرِيِّ مَارٌّ مِنْ هُنَاكَ. فَأَخَذَ يَصِيحُ فَيَقُولُ: "رُحْمَاكَ يَا يَسُوعَ ابْنَ
دَاوُدَ!" فَانْتَهَرَهُ الَّذِينَ يَسِيرُونَ فِي الْمُدَمَّةِ لَيْسَكْتَ. فَصَاحَ أَشَدَّ الصِّيَاحِ قَالاً: "رُحْمَاكَ يَا

ابن داود! " فوقف يسوع وأمر بأن يُوتى به. فلَمَّا دنا سأله: "ماذا تُريدُ أن أصنع لك؟" فقال: "يا رب، أن أُبصر." فقال له يسوع: "أبصر، إيمانك خلصك!" فأبصر من وقته وتبعه وهو يُمجِّدُ الله، ورأى الشعبُ بأجمعه ما جرى فسبَّحَ الله.

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.