

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost and the Fifth Sunday of Luke

Apostles Stachios, Apellos, Amplias, Urban, Aristoboulos and Narcissos of the Seventy; Martyr Epimachos of Alexandria; New-martyr Nicholas of Chios

Sunday, October 31, 2021

Tone 2; Eothinon 8

Apolytikion for the Resurrection (Tone 2)

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

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 for the Theotokos (Tone 2)

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

Daily Readings

THE EPISTLE (for the Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost)

The Lord is my strength and my song. The Lord has chastened me severely.

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians (11:31 - 12:9)

Brethren, the God and Father of the Lord Jesus Christ, the One who is blessed for evermore, knows that I do not lie. In Damascus, the governor under Arétas the king guarded the city of the Damascenes,

willing to seize me, and through a window I was let down in a basket by the wall, and escaped his hands. I must boast, though it is not expedient; but I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord. I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—whether in the body, I do not know, or whether out of the body, I do not know; God knows—who was caught up to the third heaven. And I know that this man—whether in the body or out of the body, I do not know; God knows—was caught up into Paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which no person is allowed to utter. On behalf of this one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my infirmities. For if I would desire to boast, I shall not be foolish, for I shall speak the truth. But I refrain from it, lest anyone should think of me above that which he sees me to be, or hears from me. And to keep me from being exalted above measure through the abundance of revelations, I was given a thorn in the flesh, an angel of Satan to buffet me, to keep me from being exalted above measure. For this thing I beseeched the Lord three times, that it might depart from me. And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for thee, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Most gladly therefore will I rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

THE GOSPEL (for the Fifth Sunday of Luke)

The Reading of the Holy Gospel is according to St. Luke (16:19-31)

The Lord said, “There was a rich man, who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, full of sores, who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man’s table; moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s bosom. The rich man also died and was buried; and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes, and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus in his bosom. And he called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy upon me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in anguish in this flame.’ But Abraham said, ‘Son, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to

you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.’ And he said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.’ But Abraham said, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.’ And he said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ He said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.’”

The Synaxarion

On October 31 in the Holy Orthodox Church we commemorate the holy Apostles Stachios, Apellos, Amplias, Urban, Aristoboulos and Narcissos of the Seventy.

Verses

The Apostles, having caught souls in their discourse,
Cometh to God with the catch and craveth the wages.
On the thirty-first, six Apostles found their end.

Stachios was a helper of Andrew the First-Called, who made him bishop of Byzantium. He built a church in Argyropolis, and governed his flock with faithfulness and zeal. After sixteen years as bishop, he entered peacefully into rest in the Lord. Amplias and Urban were also fellow-workers with St. Andrew, and were made bishops by him: Amplias in Lydda and Urban in Macedonia. They both died as martyrs for Christ the Lord. Narcissos was made Bishop of Athens by the Apostle Philip, and holy Apellos was Bishop of Heraklion in Trachis. Aristobulus, the brother of the Apostle Barnabas, preached the Christian faith in Britain and died peacefully there.

On this day, we also commemorate the Martyr Epimachos of Alexandria; and New-martyr Nicholas of Chios. By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

OFFERINGS

Holy Bread is being offered in loving memory of Sophie Yanni (+28 October, 1995), dear mother and grandmother; by Rami, Yuriko, Sarah Leilah, and Sam Yanni. Memory eternal.

Holy Bread is being offered in loving memory of our sweet Esma Khoury (+31 October, 2017) by Riad & Diana Nasser. Memory eternal.

Holy Bread is being offered by Mrs. Fada Ayoub in memory of her late husband, Mr. Nour Ayoub (+1 November, 2006); also in memory of her mother and father, Saad & Niaemha; her brothers, Father Jeries, Jamail, Najeeb; sisters, Jamila, Se'da and Yasmin, and all the departed of the Rabadi family. Memory eternal. Coffee and donuts are being provided in the kitchen by the family following the Liturgy.

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

for the speedy recovery and continued health of our dear friend,
Michelle Buchner Spitz, by Denise Cruz

for the repose of the newly-departed Linda Jordan (+11 August, 2021),
beloved mother of Kelly Meena. Memory eternal.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Feast of St. Raphael of Brooklyn – Saturday November 6th

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost and the 7th Sunday of Luke

Saturday, November 6th, Great Vespers, 5 p.m.

Sunday, October 7th, Orthros, 8:45 a.m., Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.

[St. Michael Feast Day Family Luncheon to follow Liturgy]

Feast of our Patron, the Holy Archangel Michael – November 8th

Divine Liturgy, Monday, November 8th, 10:00 a.m.

Beginning of the Nativity Fast – Monday, November 15th

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

His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan JOSEPH



Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of
All North America

**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA**

TO BE READ FROM THE PULPIT

October, 2021

Beloved Clergy and Faithful of our Archdiocese:

Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! When our Savior sent out His twelve disciples to preach His Kingdom and minister His healing grace, He encouraged them with these words: “Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore, be wise as serpents and harmless as doves” (Matt. 10:16). This exhortation also applies to every generation of priests sent out by Christ to minister in His Church—all the more so today, as we face so many challenges to our faith. As our culture grows hostile and resistant to divine truth, we must balance shrewdness with innocence, uprightness with openness, and speaking the truth with listening in love.

Praise God that we have the expert help of our seminaries and theological institutions in preparing new priests for this challenge. These sacred schools bring together bright academic minds and deep pastoral experience to form new ministers capable of bringing the gospel faithfully and compassionately to every corner of our land. In addition to priests, they also prepare youth workers, church musicians, and Christian-education leaders. These men and women will then offer decades of service in our parishes, enlightening our minds, enriching our worship, and binding up our brokenness.

Each October, as part of “Youth Month and Seminary Month” in our Archdiocese, we ask for donations in support of our seminaries and theological institutions. We are grateful for the generosity shown by our faithful over so many years, and we ask you again to please give generously. Finally, please encourage our young people to pursue vocations in service of the Church, and especially our young men to follow callings to priestly service. May the Lord bless our efforts to train future clergy and church workers.

Your Father in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Metropolitan Joseph". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

+JOSEPH

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

“The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch” (Acts 11: 26)

St. Michael Orthodox Church School

The following classes are held every Sunday after Communion.

Fr. Timothy will call up all Teachers and Students to come up for Communion first then will go directly to their class

We offer classes from Grade Pre-K – High School
All classes are held on the first floor
except for High School is held upstairs

Class Breakdown & Teachers

Pre-K – 1st Grade - Charlotte Murr

2nd – 3rd Grade – Monica Junaga

4th – 6th Grade – David and Neveen Dawud

Jr. High – 7th & 8th grade – Michelle Moujaes & Shereen Manning

High School – 9th – 12th grade – Cooper Rowe



If you have any questions, please feel free to come into Church School Office or contact Lila Coudsy, Church School Director

818.257.2030 / lcoudsy@aol.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

October is “Youth Month” in the Antiochian Archdiocese

Teen SOYO Raffle

Tickets for our Annual Teen SOYO Raffle were mailed out last week and additional tickets will be available each Sunday until the date of the drawing, Sunday, December 12, 2021. Thank you for your support.

Church Offering Options

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 check to the church will save our church a 3% service charge. Other options for your contributions include: a) automatic bill pay; b) recurring automatic withdrawal, both of which may be arranged with your bank. You may contact us for assistance with any of these options; especially when information of our bank routing and account numbers are needed.

Church Attendance

We request that everyone attending our church services wear face coverings due to the City policy. Church School in-person class sessions begin following Holy Communion. Care has been taken to ensure that our classrooms are safe for our children. Questions will also be answered by Father Timothy by e-mail at: frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org

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

Holy Bread Offering List

Nov 07 - Charmaine Darmour and
Tanya & Fred Milkie and family
Nov 14 - open

Beginning of the Nativity Fast - November 15

Nov 21 - open (Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple)

Coffee Hour Hosts Calendar

Feast Day Family Patio Lunch

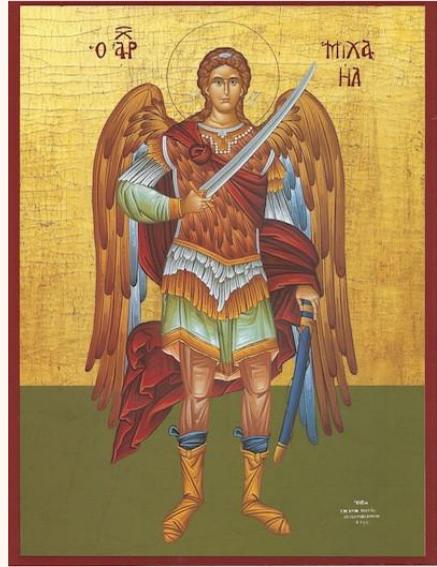
Please contact Fr. Timothy (818/219-3761; frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org) to sign-up to offer Holy Bread.

ST MICHAEL FEAST DAY

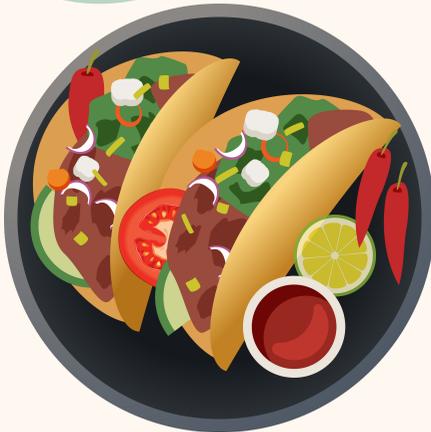
FAMILY FRIENDLY

TACO LUNCHEON

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 7TH
AFTER DIVINE LITURGY
OUTSIDE ON THE PATIO



**BLESSED
FEAST!!**



\$8 adults

\$5 kids

11 & under

**Family of 4
or more**

\$25

**CHICKEN, BEEF & SPICY PORK TACOS
RICE, BEANS GUACAMOLE, & ALL THE FIXINGS
CHIPS & SALSA -- BEVERAGES & DESSERT**

Weekly Bible Study to Resume this Tuesday, November 2nd

Our next Bible Study will be held on Tuesday evening, November 2nd, at 7 p.m. We have concluded a nine week study of I Corinthians and will resume our next study of II Corinthians. Plan to join us.

Parish Council Nominations

On Sunday, November 21, 2021 we will be holding a brief virtual and in-person Special Meeting of the Voting Membership solely for the purpose of receiving and accepting nominations for Parish Council members to be elected for there (3), three-year terms (January, 2021 to December, 2023). At this meeting the Nominations Committee will present their report and additional nominations will be open from the floor.

It is important that persons being considered be able to fulfill the commitment to serve. Therefore it is necessary that all nominees first be personally asked if they would accept nomination, and second be approved by the Pastor as someone who is qualified. The Parish Constitution prescribes that all nominees must be at least twenty-five years of age or older, have been a pledging members of the parish for at least one year and have fulfilled the canonical requirements of the Faith [Article VI, Sec. 2]. The nominees must also be committed in attending monthly Parish Council meetings held on the third (3rd) Sunday of each month.

We sincerely thank Regan Hines [ending his first (1st) term; able to be nominated]; Subdeacon Richard Ajalat [ending his first (1st) term; able to be nominated]; and Kris Thabit [completing his first (1st) term; able to be nominated]. Our one-year appointed members whose terms are expiring are: Adam Lamar [completing his first year appointed and a three-year term], and Michael Mitchell [completing a maximum of eight consecutive elected and appointed years].

The Parish Council election will be held on two (2) consecutive Sundays: November 28 and December 5. Council members whose terms are unexpired are: Joe Ayoub, Connie Abdun-Nur Barilla, Julie Bitar, John

Khouri, Deacon Andrew Monsue and Dan Raju. Charmaine Darmour is also completing her eleventh (11th) consecutive year as President of the Antiochian Women. All interested in serving on the Parish Council should contact: Connie Barilla, Nominations Chair at: cmatthews46@yahoo.com or speak with Father Timothy.

**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

Dear Parishioners & Friends of St. Michael,

St. Michael continues to support Loaves & Fishes, a local pantry serving the impoverished areas in Van Nuys and throughout the San Fernando Valley areas. Please phone 818-345-4363 (after October 23rd) should you be able to participate in our Thanksgiving and/or Christmas food collection. There are a few ways in participating:

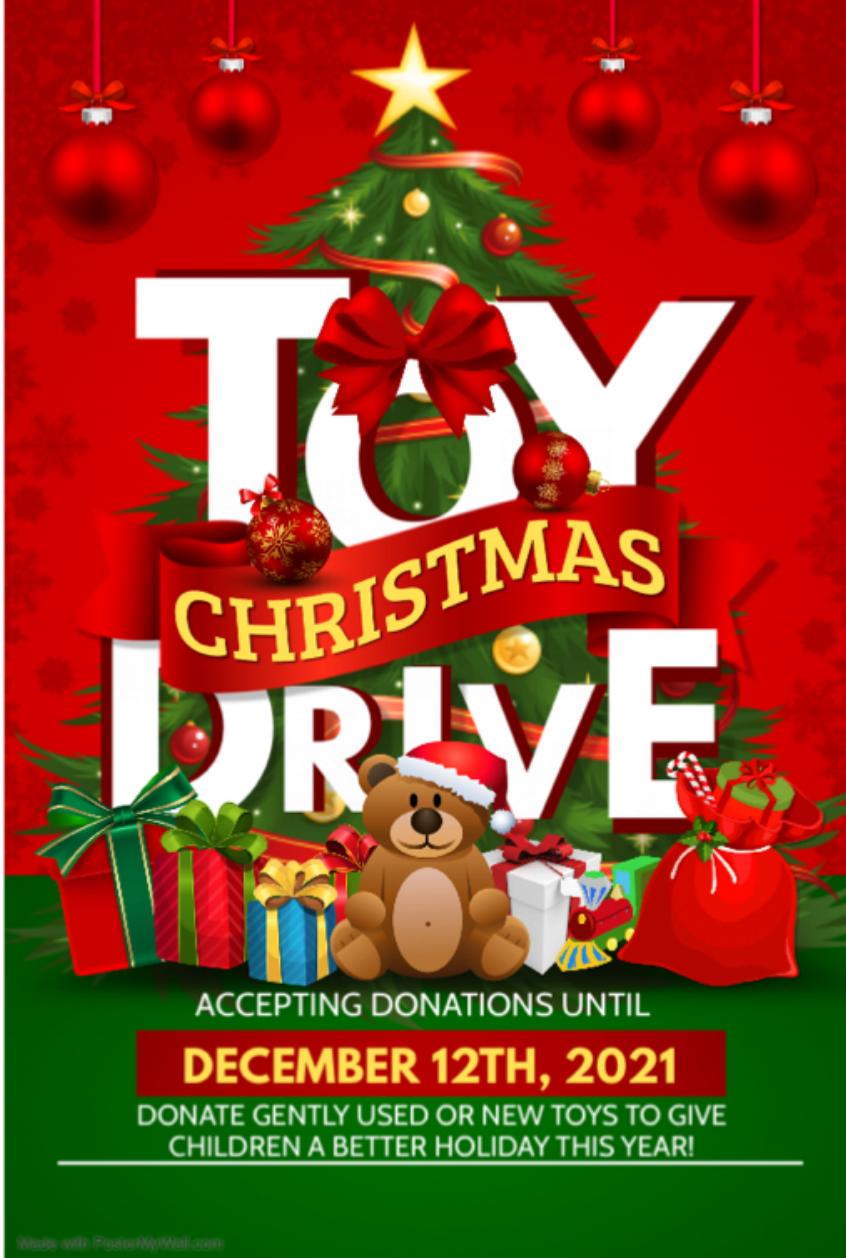
1. If you would like me to shop for you, just write a check made out to "St. Michael Church," earmarked "Holiday Food Collection" (a tax incentive).
2. If you are doing your own shopping at Ralph's or Food-4-Less stores, don't forget to use your Ralphs Reward Card to help St. Michael Church to benefit.
3. Loaves and Fishes is also in need of the following: Personal care items including, deodorant, soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, sanitary napkins and disposable razors; baby items such as diapers, 5T Pull-Ups or larger, and baby formula; bottled water, canned food items (preferably with pull-up tabs), i.e., tuna, chicken, baked beans, fruit, vegetables, chili, soups, pasta/ravioli, peanut butter, Ensure, Carnation Instant Breakfast, coffee, tea; also any store gift cards in \$5 and \$10; clothing and household items.

All food items must be delivered to our Community Center Narthex by Sunday, November 21st and Sunday December 19th. A cart marked Food Collection will be placed in the Narthex for your donations.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours in Christ,

Cindy Tamoush



The toys will be donated to the Watts Empowerment Center. They will be hosting a toy give away on December 18th. If you are interested in volunteering to help, please contact Brittney at: 818-434-3558.



YOUNG ADULT EVENT

November 21, 2021

Decorating the Christmas tree: after a church lunch

Upcoming Events

St. Nicholas Cathedral Ladies Society Sweetheart Ball - Saturday, November 27, 2021; Universal Hilton Hotel, Universal City; Social Hour, 6th p.m., Presentation, 7 p.m., \$195/person tickets: Lauren Malouf: 818-687-0406; lmalouf@hchc.edu

St. Michael 30th Golf Classic: Monday, May 23, 2022 at Wood Ranch Golf Club (Simi Valley)



ISN's Annual Interfaith
Thanksgiving Service



BUILDING PEACE

A Zoom Event
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21
from 4:00 to 5:00 pm

Join us to celebrate how our respective faiths 'raise us up' to live our lives beyond conflict and to build peace and foster reconciliation among us.

Full details & RSVP at
www.interfaithsolidaritynetwork.org
We will send you the Zoom link with confirmation of your RSVP.



These 7 faiths present:

Islamic Society of West Valley
Our Lady of Grace
Shir Ami
St. Michael Antiochan
Valley Outreach Synagogue
Radha Govind Dham Hindu Meditation Center
LA Bahai

Shaykh Suhail Mulla
Father Marinello Saguin
Rabbi David Vorspan
Father Timothy Baclig
Rabbi Sara Abrams
Sailesh Ranchod
Randy Dobbs

Plus: Mylene Marie, Bethel Lutheran, ISN and Tiffany Shine, ISN, The Reverend Daniel Tamm, ISN Chair & All Saints Parish, Beverly Hills, Rabbi Jim Kaufman Temple Beth Hillel, ISN

Bookstore Orders Available on Parish Website

You may place an order through our parish website or e-mail Bobbi Monsue (Manager) for special orders at: bobbi_monsue@att.net. Your credit card will also be accepted for payment. Please come in and browse through our expanding selection of new books, icons and special Christmas gift ideas. Special orders may also be made by request.

PASTORAL SERMON
The Fifth Sunday of Luke
By V. Rev. Timothy Baclig
October 31, 2021

The lesson of the Fifth Sunday of Luke is among the lessons that introduce us to the season of Advent, preparing us for the Feast which celebrates the birth of our Lord. It focuses our attention upon the practice of good deeds reminding us of God's love and personal sacrifice by sending His Son into the world.

In our time there is a great deal of attention being given to the subject of wealth and poverty. St. John Chrysostom spoke at length on the subject. His writing is available in English, published by St. Vladimir's Press, entitled: On Wealth and Poverty.

People whose lives are either shaped by wealth or poverty manifest certain attitudes and behavior. Those attitudes and behavior can also be evident among those whose lives move from poverty to wealth and from wealth to poverty. Very often whether or not someone worked to earn his or her wealth, or simply inherited wealth is very telling. For Christian believers, the main virtue in the case of both – and something that is the true test of one's sincerity is humility. Humility as a virtue is the foundation Christian love. It is the basis of a "good confession" and the true motive of love. Its opposite is: arrogance, selfishness, greed and hatred – all of which we are warned about by our Tradition, beginning with Christ, the Apostles, and the Holy Father's. That warning comes with pointing to consequences.

We also hear in the Gospel our Lord's own warning: "To whom much has been given – much will be required." Money will not buy you everything. Sadly, there are many who are misguided in thinking otherwise.

The parable of *The Rich Man and Lazarus* of today's Gospel lesson is in two parts: 1) the life of the rich man and Lazarus on earth, and 2) their life after death.

The two are contrasted to make the following points: First that there is an eternal perspective to life. That eternal perspective gives us a sobriety with an

understanding that in this life there is a spiritual quality of life that is acquired whether a person is wealthy or in poverty

In commenting on the parable St. Gregory the Great speaks of the affects of poverty and riches to the rich man and Lazarus: *The fire of poverty cleansed Lazarus of his **evil deeds**, and the happiness of this passing life rewarded the **good deeds** of the rich man. Poverty afflicted [Lazarus] and wiped him clean; wealth rewarded the [rich man] and deprived him of everything else.*

In a commentary by St. Ambrose we hear: *Lazarus was a pauper [one of extreme poverty and lived by charity] in this world, but [was] a rich man before God . . . Yet not all poverty is holy nor is wealth sinful, but as excess dishonors riches, so sanctity commends poverty.*

One's eternal destiny, therefore, is something that begins in this life, and our stewardship of material things – whether with abundance or poverty has a direct affect on our spiritual life. The message at the beginning of Great Lent is very similar: *What doth it profit a man if he were to gain the whole world and loose his own soul?* Just as we were reminded before the Great Lent that insofar as we are merciful to others, so will our Father in heaven be merciful to us; and that doing good to the needy is the same as having done a good deed to the Lord, so at the start of the Fast of the coming season, and at a time of the year when we are commemorate our nations many blessings at Thanksgiving, we are again reminded that merciful kindness, Christian charity, and love are among the spiritual virtues that save us from needless agony and eternal torment.

Prayer

O Lord, our God of love and great mercies, we thank Thee for your goodness in providing for all of our needs. Purify our hearts and minds from all forms of selfishness, neglect, and arrogance. Grant us the vision to see and to understand the meaning of your Gospel message as we gather about your table and anticipate dining in your heavenly kingdom. Forgive us our sins of omission and renew in us the desire to serve others as serving Thee. For Thou art He who came to serve and not to be served, and unto Thee do we ascribe thanksgiving and worship, together with Thy Father who is from everlasting and Thine all-Holy good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. A-men.

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AND THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LUKE

APOSTLES STACHIOS, APellos, AMPLIAS, URBAN, ARISTOBOULOS AND NARCISSOS
OF THE SEVENTY; MARTYR EPIMACHOS OF ALEXANDRIA;
NEW-MARTYR NICHOLAS OF CHIOS

طروبارية القيامة باللحن الثاني

عندما انحدرت إلى الموت، أيها الحياة الذي لا يموت، حينئذ أمتّ الجحيم ببرق لاهوتك،
وعندما أقتت الأموات من تحت الثرى، صرخ نحوك جميع القوات السماويين: أيها
المسيح الإله المعطي الحياة، المجد لك.

طروبارية رؤساء الملائكة باللحن الرابع

أيها المتقدمون على الأجناد السماويين، نتوسل إليك 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.

قنداق السيدة على اللحن الثاني

يا شفيعة المسيحيين غير المخذولة، المتوسطة لدى الخالق غير المردودة، لا تعرضي عن أصوات
طلباتنا نحن الخطاة، بل تداركينا بالمعونة بما أنك صالحة نحن الصارخين إليك بإيمان: بادري إلى
الشفاعة وأسرعني في الطلبة، يا والدة الإله المتشفعة دانماً في مكرميك

الرسالة

قُوَّتِي وَتَسْبِحَتِي الرَّبُّ. أَدْبَا أَدْبَنِي الرَّبُّ.

فصل من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول الثانية إلى أهل كورنتوس.

يا إخوة، قد علم الله أبو ربنا يسوع المسيح، المبارك إلى الأبد أنني لا أكذب. كان بدمشق الحاكم
تحت إمرة الملك الحارث، يحرس مدينة الدمشقيين ليقبض علي. فدليت من كوة في زنبيل من
السور، ونجوت من يديه. إنه لا يوافقني أن أفتخر، فأتي إلى رؤى الرب وإعلاناته. إنني أعرف
إنساناً في المسيح منذ أربع عشرة سنة (أفي الجسد، لست أعلم، أم خارج الجسد لست أعلم،
الله يعلم) اختطف إلى السماء الثالثة. وأعرف أن هذا الإنسان (أفي الجسد أم خارج الجسد

لَسْتُ أَعْلَمُ، اللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ). اخْتَطَفَ إِلَى الْفِرْدَوْسِ، وَسَمِعَ كَلِمَاتٍ سَرِيَّةٍ لَا يَحِلُّ لِإِنْسَانٍ أَنْ يَنْطِقَ بِهَا. فَمِنْ جِهَةٍ هَذَا أَفْتَحِرُ، وَأَمَّا مِنْ جِهَةٍ نَفْسِي فَلَا أَفْتَحِرُ إِلَّا بِأَوْهَانِي. فَإِنِّي لَوْ أَرَدْتُ الْإِفْتِحَارَ، لَمْ أَكُنْ جَاهِلًا لِأَنِّي أَقُولُ الْحَقَّ، لَكِنِّي أَتَحَاشَى لِئَلَّا يَظُنَّ بِي أَحَدٌ فَوْقَ مَا يَرَانِي عَلَيْهِ أَوْ يَسْمَعُهُ مِنِّي. وَلِئَلَّا أَسْتَكْبِرُ بِفَرْطِ الْإِعْلَانَاتِ، أُعْطِيتُ شَوْكَةً فِي الْجَسَدِ، مَلَكَ الشَّيْطَانِ لِيَلْطَمَنِي لِئَلَّا أَسْتَكْبِرُ. وَلِهَذَا طَلَبْتُ إِلَى الرَّبِّ ثَلَاثَ مَرَّاتٍ أَنْ تُفَارِقَنِي. فَقَالَ لِي "تَكْفِيكَ نِعْمَتِي، لِأَنَّ قُوَّتِي فِي الضَّعْفِ تَكْمُلُ." فَبِكُلِّ سُرُورٍ أَفْتَحِرُ بِالْحَرِيِّ بِأَوْهَانِي، لِتَسْتَقِرَّ فِي قُوَّةِ الْمَسِيحِ.

الإنجيل

فصل شريف من بشارة القديس لوقا الانجيلي البشير والتلميذ الطاهر.

قال الرب كان رجلٌ غني يلبس الأرجوان والثياب الفاخرة و يقيم الولائم كل يوم. وكان رجلٌ فقيرٌ اسمه لعازر مطروحا عند بابهِ، مُصابا بالقروح، وكان يشتهي أن يشبع من فضلات مائدة الغني، وكانت الكلاب تجيء وتلحس قروحه. ومات الفقير فنقلته الملائكة إلى حضن إبراهيم، ومات الغني ودُفن. فرفع الغني عينيه إلى السماء وهو في الجحيم يقاسي العذاب، فرأى إبراهيم عن بعدٍ ولعازر في حضنه، فنادى: رُحماك، يا أبي إبراهيم، أرسل لعازر ليبلِّ طرفَ إصبعه في الماءِ ويبردَ لساني، لأنني أتعذب كثيرا في هذا اللهب. فقال له إبراهيم تذكر يا ابني، انك نلت خيراتك في حياتك، ونال لعازر البلبا. وها هو الآن يتعزى وأنت تتعذب. وفوق كل هذا فبيننا وبينكم أقيمت هوة عميقة لا يقدر أحدٌ أن يجتازها من عندنا إليكم، ولا من عندكم إلينا. فقال الغني: أسألك، يا أبي إبراهيم، أن ترسل لعازر إلى بيت أبي لينذر أخوتي الخمسة هناك، لئلا يصيروا إلى هذا الجحيم. فقال له إبراهيم: عندهم موسى والأنبياء، فليستمعوا إليهم. فأجابه الغني: لا يا أبي إبراهيم، ولكن إن قام واحدٌ من الأموات وذهب إليهم يتوبون. فقال إبراهيم: إن لم يستمعوا إلى موسى والأنبياء، فهم لن يفتنعوا ولو قام واحدٌ من الأنبياء.

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 مراسم القداس). رجاء مراجعة الكاهن. إذا رغبت أن تصبح عضوا. فى الكنيسة الارثوذكسية