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 Archpriest Timothy Baclig, Pastor frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org Rev. Fr. Minas Sarchizian, Assisting Priest fatherminas@gmail.com Rev. Deacon Andrew Monsue armcopper@gmail.com Subdeacon Richard Tamoush Tamoush.Richard@gmail.com Subdeacon Magued Wassef wassefm@msn.com Subdeacon Richard Ajalat, Pastoral Assistant rajalat@stmichaelvannuys.com Parish Council Chair - Kris Thabit kthabit66@hotmail.com Council Vice-Chair - Connie Abdun-Nur Barilla cmatthews46@yahoo.com Council Secretary - John Khouri johngkhouri@gmail.com Council Treasurer - Julie Bitar jbitar027@gmail.com

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The Glorious and Brilliant Feast of the Entrance of our Lord Jesus Christ into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday) Sunday, April 12, 2020

Apolytikion of Lazarus (Tone 1)

O Christ our God, by raising Lazarus from the dead before Thy Passion Thou didst confirm the universal resurrection. Wherefore, we like children, carry the banner of triumph and victory, cry to Thee, O Conquerer of death: Hosanna in the highest; blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

Apolytikion of Palm Sunday (Tone 4)

O Christ God, when we were buried with Thee in Baptism, we became deserving of Thy Resurrection to immortal life. Wherefore we praise Thee crying, Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord!

Kontakion of Palm Sunday (Tone 4)

Upborne upon the heavenly throne, and seated upon the earthly foal, O Christ our God, receive the praises of angels and the hymns of men, exclaiming before Thee, Blessed is He that cometh to restore Adam.

Daily Readings

THE EPISTLE (for Palm Sunday)

Blessed is He Who cometh in the Name of the Lord. O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endures forever.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Philippians (4:4-9)

Brethren, rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let all men know your forbearance. The Lord is at hand. Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely,

whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, these do; and the God of peace will be with you.

THE GOSPEL (for Palm Sunday)

The Reading of the Holy Gospel is according to St. John (12:1-18)

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus who had died was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. There they made Him a supper; Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at table with Him. Mary took a pound of costly ointment of pure nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped His feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment. But Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, one of His Disciples (he who was to betray Jesus), said, "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" This he said, not because he cared for the poor but because he was a thief, and as he had the money box he used to take what was put into it. Jesus said, "Let her alone, let her keep it for the day of My burial. The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have Me." When the great crowd of the Jews learned that He was there, they came, not only on account of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Lazarus also to death, because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus. The next day a great crowd who had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying, "Hosanna! Blessed is He Who cometh in the Name of the Lord, the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat upon it; as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" His Disciples did not understand this at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that this had been written of Him and had been done to Him. The crowd that had been with Jesus when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead bore witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet Jesus was that they heard He had done this sign.

The Synaxarion

Today in the Holy Orthodox Church we celebrate Palm Sunday, the glorious and brilliant entrance of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ into Jerusalem. Jesus came to Bethany on the Sunday falling before the six days of the Mosaic Passover. On the following day He sent two of His Disciples, who brought Him a donkey on which He sat to enter the city. And when the great multitude heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, they immediately took palm branches in their hands and went out to meet Him. All cried, "Hosanna! Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord, King of Israel!" The branches of palm trees were a symbol of Christ's victory over Satan and death. And the meaning of "Hosanna" is, "We pray Thee, save." The donkey's colt, which was still an untamed animal, and impure according to the law, as well as Christ's sitting thereon, symbolize the former savagery and impurity of the Gentiles; and their subsequent taming and obedience to the holy law of the Gospel. To our Lord Jesus Christ, the vanguisher of sin and death, be glory, honor and worship, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. 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 John & Katrina Tambouras in loving memory of Jamilie Habib +13 April, 1995 and their son, Matthew Tambouras (+23 April, 2016). Memory eternal.

Holy Bread is also being offered by Marcia O'Dea with thanksgiving and asking our Lord to bless and protect, on the occasion of their birthdays: Robin (April 14), Keira (April 22) and Brian (April 18); with prayers for the O'Dea and Chala families; also in loving memory of or beloved mother and sete, Melvina (+6 April, 2000). Memory eternal.

Holy Bread is being offered by Emile Skaff and family for the newly-departed Dr. George Deeb (+3 April, 2020) of Tucson, Arizona. Memory eternal.

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

for the repose of the newly-departed servant of God, Willem Tensen (+5 April, 2020). Memory eternal.

for the repose of the newly departed servant of God, Edward Kassab (+3 April, 2020) by Constantine Nasr, Jr. and family. Memory eternal

in memory of Nazeria and Carim Rihbany and Yvonne Rihbany Haddad by the Srour and Cruz families. Memory eternal.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

[Note: Friday, April 10th is the end of the Great Fast. Monday, April 13th begins the Fast of Great and Holy Week.*]

Lazarus Saturday – April 11th

The Preparation of Gifts (Proskomedia), 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.

Palm Sunday**

[Note: There are no memorials held on Palm Sunday] Sunday, April 12th – <u>Orthros</u>, 8:30 a.m. <u>The Procession of Palms and The Divine Liturgy</u>, 10 a.m.

Complete texts of church services are available on-line at: https://antiochian.org/liturgicday

- * For more information on fasting or questions, speak with Father Timothy.
 - ** Fish, wine and oil are permitted on Palm Sunday, April 12th. Holy Pascha (Easter) is celebrated on Sunday, April 19th.

THE SERVICES OF GREAT AND HOLY WEEK

NOTE: Confessions will be heard by appointment during the week. It would be most appropriate for confessions to be completed by Holy Wednesday (April 15th) and prior to the Sacrament of Holy Unction and the Holy Thursday morning Liturgy. **Due to our current attendance restrictions**, all services will be available by livestreaming and recorded via FaceBook and YouTube. The easiest access is through our parish website homepage links at: www.stmichaelvannuys.org

THE SERVICES OF GREAT AND HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday Evening - April 12th

Bridegroom Orthros and Procession, 6:30 p.m.

Great and Holy Monday – April 13th

Bridegroom Orthros and Confessions, 6:30 p.m.

Great and Holy Tuesday - April 14th

Bridegroom Orthros and Confessions, 6:30 p.m.

Great and Holy Wednesday – April 15th

The Orthros of Great and Holy Thursday, 6:30 p.m.

Great and Holy Thursday – April 16th

Vesperal Liturgy of St. Basil, 10 a.m.

Orthros of the Twelve Passion Gospels, 6:30 p.m.

Great and Holy Friday – April 17th

Great Vespers of the Descent from the Cross, 3:30 p.m.

Orthros of the Lamentations, 6:30 p.m.

Great and Holy Saturday - April 18h

Vesperal Lituray of St. Basil the Great, 9 a.m.

SERVICES OF THE GLORIOUS RESURRECTION - HOLY PASCHA (April 18)

The "Rush Procession" Orthros, 11:30 p.m.

The Divine Liturgy

Holy Pascha – April 19th The Paschal Vespers of Love (Agape) 10 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Zoom Meetings Scheduled [Please note the "security password"]

Children's Message with Father Timothy (Pre-K to 4th Graders) — Friday, April 10, and 17, 2020 following the Vespers of "The Taking Down from the Cross" at 3:30 p.m. Log on to: https://zoom.us/j/605785524? pwd=TnV\$SjBvQUxzdE5pVU9SaFpxeVh4QT09 and use the security password: children (NOTE: A new link will be provided for April 17)

Teens — Sunday, April 12, 2020 at 11:45 a.m. Log on to: https://zoom.us/j/787832462?pwd=M0dNblNDL0Q2K3lvRXBqQSsrbGQwQT09 and use the security password: teens

Young Adults — Sunday, April 12, 2020 at 2 p.m. Log on to: https://zoom.us/j/517215615?pwd=ZTI4QTIhcTITbXkzdFZZTTVTWW1YZz09 and use the security password: adults

Prayer Requests and Questions for Father Timothy — Monday, April 13, 2020 at 12 noon. Log on to: https://zoom.us/j/915729886? pwd=Y1d0NlVMMUtuVFEyeHJ0N2xmUHd5dz09 and use the security password: prayers

5th and 6th Graders — Monday, April 13, 2020 at 3:30 p.m. Log on to: h t t p s : / / z o o m . u s / j / 7 2 7 6 5 0 1 2 9 ?pwd=MDVndmNyaS9qTjMzMSttZ1ltMXpCdz09 and use the security password: juniors

Note: Father Timothy would welcome scheduling a Zoom Meeting with you and your family at any time by appointment.

Live-streaming Sunday Orthros and Liturgy

Plan to view the services of Orthros and the Divine Liturgy on-line via FaceBook on Lazarus Saturday, April 11th, and Palm Sunday, April 12th, 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. The church remains open for prayer by appointment.

Lenten Study: "Building a Worshipping Community"

All of Father Timothy's presentations: "Building a Worshipping Community" are now available on-line. Visit our parish website homepage <stmichaelvannuys.org> and click onto link of the presentations on the slider: Part 1 - "Children in Church;" Part II - "Church Hymnography; Antiphonal Singing and Chanting;" Part III - "Iconography in the Church; Their Order and Placement;" Part IV - "The Iconostasis, Its Purpose and Function." Part V, soon to be available will focus on "The 'Assembly of the Faithful' in the Nave and Its Furniture."

All Holy Week offerings for prayers should be turned in together with your prayer list for our services by Wednesday, April 15

Attention Parents:

Learn the meaning of our offerings and prayers at the Liturgy: Father Timothy will be teaching the children (and any adult interested in having an "up-close" lesson) about the preparation of the Holy Bread offering just before the Lazarus Saturday Liturgy on Saturday, April 11, 2020, beginning at 9:30 a.m. by live-streaming on FaceBook, and YouTube. The prayers for the preparation of the offering at the "table of the offering," called the Prothesis [pro-THEE-sus] table, will take place just prior to the beginning of the Divine Liturgy at 10 a.m. for all to see, with explanations of the prayers and actions by the priest. It will be a beautiful way to begin Holy Week as we celebrate Christ's entrance into the Holy City of Jerusalem.

Holy Friday Teen Vigil - April 26

Our teens will again be participating in our Annual Vigil that will take place on Holy Friday, April 17, following the Holy Friday Lamentations service in a special Zoom Meeting on-line with Father Timothy and Cooper Rowe, our Youth Director. A link will be provided with a passcode. For more information please contact Cooper at: crowe31@amail.com

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

Holy Bread Offering List Coffee Hour Hosts Calendar

Apr 16 - (Great and Holy Thursday Liturgy) Apr 18 - (Great and Holy Saturday Liturgies)

Apr 19 - Holy Pascha

Paschal Breakfast (Cancelled)

Church School Easter egg Hunt (Cancelled)

Apr 26 - (Thomas Sunday) open Apr 26 - (Cancelled) May 03 - open May 03 - (Cancelled)

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.

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

St. Michael Ladies Annunciation Tea - **Postponed to August 15**Speaker: Mother Paraskeva of St. Barbara Monastery
Topic: "Sow to the Spirit: Preparing Now for the World to Come"

Antiochian Women's Annual Lenten Retreat - April 3-5, 2020 (Cancelled)

Holy Friday Teen Vigil - Friday, April 17, 8:30 p.m. (via live-streaming)

The 57th "Sweetheart Ball" - Saturday, April 25th at the Universal Hilton Hotel (**Postponed to November 7, 2020**)

Parish Life Conference - July 1-5, 2020 (Cancelled)

St. Nicholas Summer Camp - July 12 to August 1, 2020 (Cancelled)

Antiochian Clergy Symposium - July 20-24, 2020 (Cancelled)

29th Annual St. Michael Annual Golf Classic - Monday, May 18 (Postponed to Monday, November 2, 2020)

Save the Date for our St. Michael Golf Classic

Monday, November 2, 2020 is the new postponed date for our 29th Annual Golf Classic. The Committee includes: Emile Skaff (Golf Hole Sponsorships), Robert & DeAnne Abraham (Golf Ball Raffle), Sean & Robyn O'Dea (Gift Basket Raffles). Your contributions of gift cards for our raffles are appreciated. Golf Hole Sponsorships are \$250 (an additional \$50 will provide for your company logo). Your tax deductible check should be made out to: "St. Michael Church," earmarked: "golf hole. Credit card payment are also accepted.

Food for the Hungry People Drive

You may have received the Food for the Hungry People mailing from Robin Nicholas. Your contribution may be made through our parish by writing your check to "St. Michael Church", earmarked: "FFHP" and our parish collection will be sent in at the end of Great Lent. If you have a coin box, you may either mail a check for the total amount to the parish or should you turn in your box be sure to put your name on the box when you turn it in. Thank you for your support of our annual Lenten charity campaign.

St. Michael Orthodox Church Project Manager's Report March 31, 2020

In our efforts to keep you up to date, we have summarized most of our new church construction activities during the past three months of this year. Although our Church construction site is deemed an "essential" operating business by the L.A. Department of Building and Safety, we do have to comply with all city mandated COVID-19 requirements. Unfortunately, the combination of some sub-contractor's personnel not willing to return to work with the COVID-19 pandemic and bad rain that has repeated itself in the weather forecast has slowed our abilities to complete tasks and obtain timely City building inspections. I have been on site pushing the project ahead and authorized our Construction Manager, Harris Valle, to be the COVID-19 Supervisor. His additional duties will be to schedule and monitor the workmen who have agreed to be present on site at a minimum distance of six feet apart, and we have assembled and maintained a hand washing station. Further, we are writing a St. Michael COVID-19 Instruction Manual that incorporates L.A. City Building Department requirements to be reviewed with each sub-contractor and his employees on a periodic basis.

Our building activities have recently focused on exterior parameter wall framing, altar apse framing and dome. The two front towers and sheathing of the all exterior walls has been completed with a product called dens-glass sure-board and offers us a large amount of sheer wall earthquake strength and fire protection. Our structural engineer and LADBS building inspections have signed off (approved) all our exterior framing. We have sheeted (with plywood) the entire roof diaphragm, dome and apes and stacked our roof tiles. In addition, we have framed a double facial board near the roof line and wrapped it in densglass. Further we added a ribbon band under the windows as a wainscoting stop for the exterior three-foot plaster to the ground defining a special architectural design feature.

Unfortunately, our roof contractor is waiting for us to complete the exterior wall plastering process prior to placing the roof tiles in their respective final locations. This issue occurs because we have exterior plastered high walls above some of our roofing tile areas. The bad weather has prevented our sheet metal and roofing contractors off of the roof for safety reasons. Our roof drains, heating gas lines, rough copper water supply plumbing lines and waste water

drain lines are completed throughout the building. We are now waiting for City plumbing inspections and approvals.

During March, we were able to complete the fire proofing of our structural steel columns and beams throughout the building with a sprayed-on fire cement monokote product. We are currently placing sheet metal in our windowsills for added weather protection, prior to installing the windows. The month of March has also been a difficult time in our design of the heating and air-conditioning systems. The large amount of open space within the main church (nave) that is under the planned barrel and arched ceilings represents very special HVAC challenges. We have very limited space to accommodate the large air handling duct work that is squeezed between the limited height of the building and the inside barrel and arched ceilings that is required to get to the five roof mounted HVAC units.

Moving forward, in the second quarter (April, May, June) our plan is to complete the installation of the windows, door frames, sheet metal activities, exterior wrapping and plastering of the dens-glass walls and complete the roofing. Once the building becomes "water tight" we will be able to complete the insulation process and interior ceiling double drywall activities. This sequence is important because if insulation within the high ceiling or drywall is wet from rain, it would have to be replaced. When this job is completed, we will be able to begin the process of framing for constructing the interior walls, barrel, and arched ceilings. Once that is accomplished we will be able to work on the electrical, lighting, and all multiple low voltage systems. We have made much progress over the past two years since our construction commence of April 9, 2018, but we need your continued prayers and support as we are facing today's challenges.

Michael Malouf
Project Manager

St. Michael Antiochian Orthodox Church of the San Fernando Valley

16643 Vanowen Street, Van Nuys, California 91406-4622

Dear Fellow Parishioners of St. Michael Church,

As we approach our celebration of the Feast of Feasts and prepare in making our offerings to the church, allow me to begin by reminding us of a priority list we are asked to consider:

- 1. Making an Annual Pledge or annual contribution to our parish to help us meet our monthly operating expenses. This first and most important commitment will help us to sustain our General Fund. With the recent restrictions to our being able to assemble as a parish community, we have begun to cut back on all non-essential expenses at this time. All initial contributions should include an Annual Fair Share offering that is paid by St. Michael Church to the Archdiocese (\$50/adult and \$35/child, per household). Thankfully, our parish continues to operate with no property debt or loan.
- 2. Second, considering a Pledge or one-time donation to our Building Fund needed to complete the Project. The City requirement for occupancy will include some exterior capital expenditures: a) the Vanowen Street sidewalk, b) completion of our east property wall, c) meeting all requirements for disabled persons' access, d) proper gates and fencing. Pledge Forms are provided at the Project display and will be made available upon request. By the grace of God, our Building Project continues in full compliance with the City's policy of safe distancing during the health crisis.

We sincerely thank everyone for their faithful support of our parish and all who have contributed to our Building Fund. We are also very aware of some of us who are facing financial challenges at this time. However, any additional offerings we receive would be appreciated to meet our essential expenses this year. St. Michael Church will provide you with a Year-end Financial Contribution Statement for income tax purposes.

For your convenience, contributions may also be made on our parish website on-line at: www.stmichaelvannuys.org/donate/

May God bless you and your families with continued good health during these trying days, grant you the spiritual rewards of this Lenten season, and a joyous Feast of Christ's Holy Resurrection!

In Christ,

Subdeacon Richard Tamoush

Stewardship Chair

Pastoral Message V. Rev. Timothy Baclig, Pastor Palm Sunday - April 19, 2020

Beloved in Christ,

Our celebration on Palm Sunday actually begins with the miracle of Christ raising of Lazarus from the dead commemorating this coming Saturday, April 11. The Gospel lesson of "Lazarus Saturday" prepares us for the glorious entry of Christ into the City of Jerusalem on Palm Sunday (April 12).

Similarly, our celebration of Easter begins with Great and Holy Friday. However, the service that is often well attended on Holy Friday is not "the end of the story." Just as the joy of Palm Sunday begins with the raising of Lazarus from the dead, so it is with Christ's Holy Resurrection. We begin on Great and Holy Friday with the sadness of what seems a great tragedy, but our worship concludes with the triumphant victory of Christ's glorious Resurrection. There is no joy without suffering. And there is no resurrection without death.

During Great and Holy Week, the Divine Grace of God and His merciful forgiveness is showered upon us on Holy Wednesday with the Sacrament of Holy Unction for the healing of soul and body. And while the circumstances of this year's health crisis begs for our need for being anointed with the Holy Oil, we are unable to anoint everyone this year and will do so at a later date.

Moreover, the twelve Gospel lessons of Holy Week on Thursday, begins with the Lord demonstrating for us what being a servant means with His washing the feet of the disciples. This occurs just before He offers Himself to us as the bread and wine at The Last Supper, when He said, "His Body ... and this is my Blood..., for the forgiveness of sins" (Matthew 26:26-28). Thus, we see how each of our services of Holy Week are a part of a whole and complete message.

All who gathered between the little town of Bethany, the home of Lazarus, and began crowding the streets as Jesus made His way to the City of Jerusalem; all who brought boughs of palms and branches of olives were shouted "Hosanna!" while waving them. It is a word that means; "Save us, I pray, save now!" There was a desperation in the cry from their hearts on that day; perhaps as some today cry out in desperation. They were in great need for a deliverer; a Savior. This exclamation is like the petition we often hear within our Liturgy over and over again: *Help us! Save us! Have mercy on us! And keep us, O God, by Thy grace!*

The shouts of "Hosanna" from the people in Jesus' day continued with the phrase: "Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord, the King of Israel!" They were anticipating the coming of the Messiah (The "Anointed One"). They had a great expectation in finding Him. However, the full context of the prophesies of the Covenant (Old Testament) were not yet fully realized: *This all took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet [Zechariah 9:9]: "Say to the daughter of Zion, 'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.*" And who would think of a King arriving on a donkey? Who ever thought that this King would've been born in a cave amidst animals? Who would've imagined this King washing the feet of His Disciples?

"Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord!" It is also your and my exclamation. It begins with "Hosanna" (a cry for help, to be saved - you and me

today!), but it continues with the acknowledgment that He has come, that He is present, and that He is to come! We can be certain of His love. We can be certain of His presence. It is a steadfast and unconditional love - unlike any other. He promised to never leave or forsake us (Hebrews 3:5). So for you and I who have been baptized and illumined, we shout for joy: "Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" (Matthew 21:1-9).

Our parents, grandparents, and even our godparents have paved the way with great sacrifices. We are who we are, because of who they were. Their prayers for us continue! Our salvation is just as important as it was to them. It is most important to God! Be sure that it is also important to you and your children. There is no better time to be connected than during Holy Week when we together revisit: the full and complete message of the Gospel. Holy Week is only beginning... it's not too late! Plan time to be present with us (though "virtually") for our live-streaming services of Holy Week beginning this Saturday.

God wants us to be connected. He so desired a connection to us that He was born of human flesh! He desired to be so connected to us that He not only became one of us, He accepted becoming a mockery, bearing all of our sins, in order to save us. He accepted becoming a curse; was even spat upon. Why? Because no one else could turn the tables on evil. It is only He Who Is The Author of life: He who is Truth; He who is also the Way (John 14:6). It was only He that could bring us the peace we yearn to have; to fill us with the joy we long to feel; to heal the pain and uncertainty.

You and I must find our connection with God! You and I must also remain connected to Him! If the life of your family is important; if the survival of your relationships are valuable; if they are needing to be meaningful, then being connected to the Church (The Body of Christ) is being in the right place, especially on Holy Week. We are united with Him and each other because there was someone who prayed for you; and who may still be praying for you!

May the journey we make together to the Cross that ends at the empty tomb bring us unspeakable joy in the full knowledge of all that God has done for us through Christ Jesus, our Lord and King! May His Light so shine on us in the end, not only as a symbol, but with the full reality that He has granted us the forgiveness of sins and has reconciled us with Himself and with each other.

ENTRANCE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHIRST INTO JERUSALEM (PALM SUNDAY)

دخول ربنا يسوع المسيح المجيد إلى اورشليم (أحد الشعانين)

طروبارية لعازر على اللحن الأول

أيها المسيحُ الإلهُ لما أقمتَ لعازر من بين الأموات قبلَ الامك حقَّقتَ القيامةَ العامة لذلك ونحن كالأطفال نحملُ علاماتِ الغلبة والظفر وصارخين إليك يا غالبَ الموت وأوصنا في الأعالى مبارك الآتى باسم الرب

طروبارية الشعانين على اللحن الرابع أيها المسيحُ إلهُنا, لقد دُفنا معكَ في المعمودية, فاستحققنا بقيامتك الحياة الخالدة. أوصنا في الأعالي, مبارك الآتي باسم الرب

قنداق أحد الشعانين على اللحن السادس

أيها المسيخ الإلهُ, المستوي على عرش في السماء, والراكبُ عفواً على الأرض, لقد قبلت تسبيحَ الملائكة ونشيدَ الفتيان الهاتفين إليك: مبارك أنت الآتي لتحي آدم

الرسالة

مبارك الآتي باسم الرب. احمدوا الرب فإنه صالح, وإن إلى الأبد رحمته فصل من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول إلى أهل فيليبي

يا إخوة إفرحوا دائماً في الرب وأقول أيضا: افرحوا. وليظهر لطفكم لجميع البشر. فإن الرب قريب لا تقلقوا أبدا, بل ارفعوا طلبتكم إلى الله بالصلاة والتضرع والحمد. وسلام الله الذي يفوق كل إدراك يحفظ قلوبكم وعقولكم في المسيح يسوع. وبعد أيها الاخوة فافتكروا فيما هو حق وشريف وعادل وطاهر ومستحب وحسن السمعة وما كان

فضيلةً وأهلاً للمديح, واظبوا على عملِ ما تعلمتموه وتسلمتموه وسمعتموه ورأيتموه في وضيلةً وأهلاً للمديح, واظبوا على عملِ ما تعلمتموه وتسلمتموه وسمعتموه ورأيتموه في

الإنجيل

فصلٌ شريفٌ من بشارة القديس يوحنا

وقبلَ الفِصح بِسِتَّةِ أَيَّامِ جاءَ يسوعُ إلى بَيتَ عَنْياً، حَيثُ كانَ لَعازِرُ الَّذي أِقامَه مِن بَينِ الأُمِواتِ. فأَقَيمَ له عَشاءٌ هُناك، وكَانَت مَرْتا تَخدُم، وكانَ لَعازَرُ في جُملَةِ الَّذينَ معَه على الطِّعام. فتَناولَت مَريَمُ حُقَّةَ طِيبٍ مِنَ النَّارَدينِ الخالِصِ الغالي الثَّمَن، ودهَنَت قَدَمَي يسوع ثُمَّ مَسَحَتْهما بشَعر ها. فعَبقَ البَيتُ بالطَّيبِ. فقالَ يهوذَا الإسخَريوطيُّ أحَدُ تَلاميذِه، وهوَ الَّذِي أُوشَكَ أَن يُسلِّمَهِ: " لَماذا لم يُبَعْ هذا الطِّيبُ بِتَلاثِمِانَّةِ دينار، فتُّعْطى لِلفُقَراء؟" ولم يَقُلْ هذا الاهتِمامِه بِالفُقَراء، بل الأنَّه كانَ سارِقاً وكَانَ صُندوقُ الدَّراهِمِ عِندَه، فَيختلِسُ ما يُلْقى فيه. فقالَ يسوع: " دَعْها، فإنَّها حَفِظَت هذا الطِّيبَ لِيَومِ دَفْني. إِنَّ الفُقَراء هم عِندكم دائِماً أَبَداً، وأَمَّا أَنا فَلستُ عِندكم دائِماً أَبداً". وعَلِمَ جَمْعٌ كثيرٌ مِنَ اليَهودِ أن يسوعَ هُناك فجاؤوا، لا مِن أُجلِ يسوعَ فقط، بل لِيَرَوا أَيضاً لَعازَرَ الَّذي أَقامَهُ مِنَ بَينِ الأُمواتُ. فعَزَمَ عُظَماءُ الكَهَنَةِ على أَن يَقْتُلوا لَعازَرَ أيضاً، لأَنَّ كَثيراً مِنَ الِيَهودِ كَانوا يَنصَر فونَ عنهُمْ بسَبَبهِ ويُؤمِنونَ بيسوع. ولمَّا كانَ الغَد سَمِعَ الجَمْعُ الكَثْيرُ الَّذينَ أَتُوا لِلعيدِ أَنَّ يسوعَ قادِمٌ إلى أورَشَليم فحَمَلُوا سَعَفَ النَّخْلُ وخَرَجُوا الستقباله وهُم يَهتفون: " هُوشَعْنا! تَبارَكَ الآتي باسم الرَّبِّ مَلْكُ إسر ائيل ! '' فوَجَدَ يسوغُ جَحْشاً فرَكِبَه، كما وَرَدَ في الكتاب: '' لا تَخافى يا بنتَ صِهْيون هُوَذا مَلِكُكِ آتِ راكِباً على جَحْش ابن أتان ". هذهِ الأشياءُ لم يَفْهَمْها ۚ تَلامَيذُه أَوَّلَ الأَمْرِ، وَلَكِنَّهُم تَذُكَّرُوا ۗ، بَعدَما مُجِّدَ يسوِّع، أَنَّها فيهِ كُتِبَتَ، وأنَّها هي نَفسُها لَه صُنِعَت. وكانَ الجَمْعُ الَّذي صَحِبَه، حينَ دَعِا لَعازَرَ مِنَ القَبْر وأقامَهُ مِن بَينِ الأموات، يَشْهَدُ له بذلك. وما خَرَجَ الجَمْعُ لاسِتقبالِه إلاَّ وقَد سَمِعَ أنَّه أتى بتلكَ الآية.

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 (و على كل حال، فإننا ندعو الجميع للمشاركة في الخبز المقدس الذي يوزع عند إنتهاء مراسيم القداس.) رجاء مراجعة الكاهن إذا رغبت أن تصبح عضوا في الكنيسة الارثوذكسية