

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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Feast of Saints Cosmas and Damien, Martyrs in Rome and the Fifth Sunday of Luke

Theodota, the Unmercenaries' mother; Venerable-martyr James and his disciples
James the deacon and Dionysios of Prodromou Skete on Athos;
Venerable David of Evia in Greece

Sunday, November 1, 2020

Tone 4; Eothinon 10

Apolytikion for 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 Saints Comas and Damien (Tone 8)

O ye silver-hating, wonder-working saints, Cosmas and Damian, visit our sicknesses. Freely ye received, freely give unto us.

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 Saints Cosmas and Damien)

*In the saints that are in His earth hath the Lord been wondrous.
I beheld the Lord ever before me, for He is a my right hand,*

that I might not be shaken.

**The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians
(12:27 – 13:8)**

Brethren, you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the Church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, then healers, helpers, administrators, speakers in various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? But earnestly desire the higher gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way. If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.

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 one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ But he said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.’

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.

Synaxarion – Saints Cosmas and Damien – November 1

On July 1 in the Holy Orthodox Church we commemorate the holy and wonder-working Unmercenaries Cosmas and Damian, who were perfected in martyrdom in Rome.

Verses

*The stones with their blows could not sunder the brethren,
Who like a single stone were both joined together.
On the first the Unmercenaries strove in stoning.*

These brothers worked without pay as physicians and miracle-workers. Cosmas and Damian possessed abundant grace from God to heal men and livestock from every disease and suffering, usually by the laying on of hands. They only required of the infirm to believe in Christ the Lord. Inheriting a large estate, they charitably distributed it to the needy and to those in want. At that time, Emperor Galerius of Rome persecuted Christianity; he summoned these two holy brothers, shackled in chains, before him. After a prolonged interrogation the emperor ordered them to deny Christ and to offer sacrifices to the idols. Cosmas and Damian did not heed the emperor but also counseled him to abandon the dead idols and to recognize the One True God. They said, “Our God is not created but He is the Creator of all, but your gods are the imaginations of man and the work of the hands of artists. If you did not have artists to make

your gods, you would have no one to worship.” Then Cosmas and Damian miraculously cured the emperor from a grave infirmity; he proclaimed his faith in Christ and released the holy brothers in peace. Later, a certain doctor, envious of their glory, who at one time was their teacher, and with the pretext to gather healing herbs, led Cosmas and Damian into the mountain and stoned them to death. They suffered honorably for the Faith of Christ in the year 284.

On this day, we also commemorate New-martyr Constantine of Cyprus; and the translation of the relics of Venerable John of Rila. By their intercessions, O God, have mercy on us. Amen.

OFFERINGS

Holy Bread is being offered this morning by Laila Dawud and family in loving memory of the newly-departed servant of God, George Abualezzam (+24 October 2020). Memory eternal.

Holy Bread is also being offered by Charmaine Darmour, Tanya & Fred Milkie and family, in beloved memory of Archimandrite John Namie, (+5 November, 2001) of blessed memory and eternal repose; much loved first Director of the Antiochian Village Camp in Pennsylvania by Charmaine Darmour, Tanya & Fred Milkie & family.

Holy Bread and wheat is being offered by Mushir Khleif and family in memory of his newly-departed brother, Basheer Khleif (+28 October, 2020) of Ajloun, Jordan. Memory eternal.

Holy Bread and wheat is being offered in loving memory of Nour Ayoub (+1 November, 2006), and for the newly-departed servant of God, Sad’a Saad Alrabadi (+3 September, 2020) by Mrs. Fada Ayoub and her daughter and son-in-law, Ilham & Fares Rabadi. Memory eternal.

Holy Bread is also being offered by Suzan Haddad and family in loving memory of the newly-departed servant of God, Issa Nichola Zoukhi (+28 October, 2020), beloved father and grandfather of Suzan Haddad and family. Memory eternal.

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

by Ned Toomey for the continued health and recovery of Ramez Hage

for the repose of the servant of God, Esma Khoury (+31 October, 2017)
by Riad & Diana Nasser. Memory eternal.

by Linda Mitchell for the healing of her husband Peter Mitchell,
and grandson, Christian.

for a peaceful national election this week. May St. Michael protect our
citizens from all threats of civil violence and unrest as we approach the
end of this calendar year. May God comfort the afflicted, aid the
homeless, provide needed help for the unemployed, sustain our first
responders and health care professionals, and bring comfort to the
grieving during these turbulent days of our nation; speaking wisdom to
our elected civil authorities who bear the responsibility of keeping us
united and protected as we are pledged to remain: "one nation, under
God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

for Elaine Srour on the occasion of her birthday (October 31), by the
Srour and Cruz families. May God grant her many years!

by Fred, Tanya, Dominick, Alek and Elisa Milkie for the good health and
happiness of Charmaine and Ramona Darmour. God bless them always.

*Included in our prayers throughout the month of November are those
celebrating their birthday: Claire Mike Azzam (11/1), Laila Dawud (11/2),
Michael Mitchell (11/2), Leilah Sadd (11/2), Nabeel Abughazaleh (11/3),
Cooper Hage (11/3), Pamela Kushida (11/3), Deacon Andrew Monsue
(11/3), Adriana Azzam (11/4), Jack Nasser (11/4), Sandi Gorup (11/5),
Sadie Heidi Blair (11/6), Diana Dunphy (11/6), Sean O'Dea (11/6), Emile
F. Skaff, Sr. (11/6), Laila Abughazaleh (11/7), Denise Akoury (11/7),
Michael Mansur (11/8), Henry John Phipps (11/8), Randy Ababseh (11/9),
Stephen Nassief (11/10), Steven Srour (11/10), Judith Aboud (11/11),
Elias Nabeel Abughazaleh (11/11), Richard Chala (11/11), Anne Marie
Botezatu (11/12), Emily Dawud (11/12), Marilea Grundler (11/12), Rima
Hage (11/13), Dennis Haggard (11/13), Gloria Kabbash (11/13), Charlotte
Lechlak (11/14), V. Rev. Constantine Nasr (11/14), Steve Ababseh
(11/16), Stephen Riad Dunphy (11/16), Eugenia Wall (11/16), Joe Sweis
(11/17), Sam Yanni (11/19), Geri Thabit (11/20), James Alexander Wei
(11/21), Natalie Roser (11/24), Marcia Murr Terry (11/24), Justina Sarah
Wassef (11/24), Alice Andrews (11/26), William Joshua Nassir (11/26),*

Elias Adeeb Abughazaleh (11/27), Samer Abughazaleh (11/27), Neveen Dawud (11/27), Nahil Dawud (11/27), William Fichtner (11/27), Orit Srour (11/27), Sharon Katerelos (11/28), Justina Wassef (11/28), Keira Katherine Placeres (11/29), Thomas Akoury (11/30), and those celebrating their wedding anniversary: Daniel & Katherine Foyle (11/3), Jeffery & Danielle Thomas (11/4), Elie & Natacha Yazbek (11/21). May God grant them all many years!

Included in our prayers for the departed for the month of November are:

<i>Jamele Koekaz, +16 Nov. 1961</i>	<i>Alexandra Khoury, +25 Nov. 2003</i>
<i>Daniela Draghiciu, +4 Nov. 1963</i>	<i>Mary Hart, +3 Nov., 2005</i>
<i>Arthur Grob, +7 Nov. 1978</i>	<i>Wadih Latif, +28 Nov. 2005</i>
<i>Adla Gallade, +17 Nov. 1982</i>	<i>Nour Iskander Ayoub, +1 Nov., 2006</i>
<i>Joseph Khamis, +Nov. 1988</i>	<i>John Peters, +15 Nov. 2006</i>
<i>Najib Spiridon, +5 Nov. 1989</i>	<i>Donald Andrew Nassir, +28 Nov. 06</i>
<i>Joey Bicker, +20 Nov. 1990</i>	<i>Sumaya Khoury, +30 Nov. 2006</i>
<i>Genevieve Akoury, +23 Nov. 1990</i>	<i>David Habeeb, +2 Nov. 2007</i>
<i>Earle J. Thompson, +25 Nov. 1990</i>	<i>Anton Karam, +19 Nov. 2007</i>
<i>Cleo Saliba, +3 Nov. 1993</i>	<i>Lucille Deeb, +24 Nov. 2007</i>
<i>Adele Nicholas, +20 Nov. 1993</i>	<i>Samy Srour, +31 Nov. 2007</i>
<i>George Musalam, +4 Nov. 1994</i>	<i>Evelyn Haddad, +27 Nov. 2009</i>
<i>Olga Handal, +7 Nov. 1994</i>	<i>Laila Kabbash, +17 Nov. 2010</i>
<i>Stephen Stelmack, +14 Nov. 1994</i>	<i>George Komashko, +24 Nov. 2010</i>
<i>Watfa Berry, +21 Nov. 1988</i>	<i>Genevieve Antoniewicz, +25 Nov. 2010</i>
<i>Elia Baida, +6 Nov. 1995</i>	<i>Lorana Sweet, +10 Nov. 2011</i>
<i>Katherine Monsue, +18 Nov. 1996</i>	<i>Azenagash Woldemichael, +26 Nov. 12</i>
<i>Elena Farah, +15 Nov. 1997</i>	<i>Helen Zaki, +16 Nov. 2013</i>
<i>Carim J. Rihbany, +2 Nov. 1973</i>	<i>Jose Noel Barba, +20 Nov. 2013</i>
<i>Robert Nassief, +9 Nov. 1998</i>	<i>Savinita Abdenmour, +20 Nov. 2013</i>
<i>Toufic Sweis, +10 Nov. 1998</i>	<i>Nour Iskander Ayoub, +1 Nov. 2014</i>
<i>Vida Hapip, +14 Nov. 1998</i>	<i>Charles Stockstill, +2 Nov. 2015</i>
<i>George Weisfuss, +17 Nov. 1998</i>	<i>David L. Obenhaus, Sr., +5 Nov. 2015</i>
<i>Helen Rihbany, +6 Nov. 1999</i>	<i>Dr. Mitchel Thabit, +30 Nov. 2015</i>
<i>Jamileh Sawalha, +2 Nov. 1999</i>	<i>Emil Ayoub, +14 Nov., 2016</i>
<i>Odeh Kassis, +11 Nov. 2000</i>	<i>John Bidwell, +25 Nov., 2016</i>

Saide Simon, +13 Nov. 2000
Saide Mbarake, +27 Nov. 2001
Marie Nasser, +20 Nov. 2001
Luana Draghiciu, +03 Nov. 2002
Don Coury, +29 Nov. 2002
Nisrin Sayegh, +29 Nov. 2002
Joseph Mmona, +14 Nov. 2003
Louis Edwards, +17 Nov. 2003

Sid Kraker, +27 Nov, 2016
Thomas Tongate, +9 Nov., 2017
Bassem Azzam, +30 Nov., 2018
Dorothy Nelson, +16 Nov., 2018
Robert Toomey, +12 November, 2019
Sally Rihbany, +13 Nov., 2019
Richard Simon, +17 Nov., 2019

Memory Eternal!

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

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

The Feast of our Patron, Michael the Holy Archangel - November 8

Great Vespers, Saturday, November 7, 5 p.m.

Sunday, November 8 - Orthros, 8:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

Church Attendance

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. Questions will also be answered by Father Timothy by e-mail at: frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org The Sacrament(s) are also available on weekdays by appointment.

Pre-ordered Hamburgers for Patio Lunch Next Sunday

Join us next Sunday, November 8, for our Feast Day patio hamburger lunch (including chips and beverages) for a flat rate of \$10/person. You must have your order placed in the coming week. Watch for a special e-mail to place your order. All orders are final and will require full payment.

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.

Zoom Meeting Bible Study

Bible Study with Father Timothy — Tuesday, November 3rd at 7 p.m. **Use the link and security password provided in the weekly parish e-mail.**

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).

Adult Zoom Meeting: “The Relationship Project”

Join Father Timothy next Thursday, November 5th at 6:30 p.m. in weekly one-hour Zoom meetings on “The Relationship Project” produced by *Faithtree Resources*. Discover the struggles of young people and how we can best relate to their anxieties and challenges. The three-part program aims to build the primary relationships of a young person: with parents, priest, people of faith and friends. This curriculum was written by a team of Orthodox theologians, pastor-teachers, therapists, and youth workers, blessed by His Eminence, Metropolitan JOSEPH. You can participate by logging on to the weekly Zoom links provided in the weekly parish e-mail.

Join in our Parish Bible Study Zoom Meetings

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. This week's "Virtual Bible Study Zoom Meeting" will take place on Tuesday evening, November 3rd, at 7 p.m. Each study is limited to one hour. **This week's topic is the fourth of a series on The Book of Revelation: It's Understanding and Use in the Orthodox Church.** For recorded sessions or study guides, e-mail Father Timothy at: <frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org>.

Parish Council Nominations

On Sunday, November 15, 2020 we will be holding a brief Virtual 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, 2020 to December, 2022). 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 Joe Ayoub [ending his first (1st) term; able to be nominated]; Adam Lamar [ending his first (1st) term; able to be nominated]; and Deacon Andrew Monsue [completing his first (1st) term; able to be nominated]. Our one-year appointed members whose terms are expiring are: Julie Bitar [second year appointed], and Michael Mitchell [first year appointed]. The Parish Council election will be held on two (2) consecutive Sundays: November 22 and 29. Council members whose terms are unexpired are: Connie Abdun-Nur Barilla, Regan Hines, John Khouri, Subdeacon Richard Ajalat, Dan Raju, and Kris Thabit. Charmaine Darmour is also completing her tenth (10th) 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

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>](mailto:ronaldzraick@gmail.com) or Father Timothy at: [<frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org>](mailto:frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org).

Upcoming Events

Special Virtual Meeting of the Voting Membership, Sunday, November 15

The 57th "Sweetheart Ball" - Universal Hilton
(postponed to: **March 6, 2021**)

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

Holy Bread Offering List

Nov 08 - the Mitchells
Nov 15 - open
Nov 22 - open
Nov 29 - 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.

Personal Tours of our New Church Sanctuary

Personal tours 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



**ORTHODOX
MASKS
\$15 EACH**

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of LA & the West

Sales to benefit our ongoing support of Mission
Priests, Seminarians, Widowed Khouria, Adopted
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Youth of our Diocese



to order email:
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**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 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 22nd and Sunday December 20th. 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

Pastoral Sermon

By V. Rev. Timothy Baclig

November 1 – Ss. Cosmas and Damien, the Unmercenary Healers

Today's Epistle is from St. Paul's first epistle to the Corinthians and was chosen because of the commemoration of Saints Cosmas and Damien: The scripture addresses three manifestations of love in Greek: *agape* (ἀγάπη), or unconditional love as demonstrated by God's love for us; *philia* (φιλία), which is brotherly or affectionate friendship between two equals that governs our love for humankind in general; and *eros* (ἔρως), which is human desire or sensual love. The famous passage of today's epistle described by St. Paul addresses the first aspect of love (ἀγάπη - *agape*). He defines it not abstractly, but in term of its operation: love is patient, kind, and forgiving. This reminds us of the astonishment of people observing the early Christians: "See these Christians, how they love one another!" It also enables us to understand an important Christian concept: forbearance. St. Paul would not have needed to mention patience, kindness, unselfishness, long-suffering, and forgiveness if these virtues had not been put to the test. The truth, however, is that the church at Corinth was a microcosm of the Church at large, both then and now. It was troubled by moral problems, it was torn by dissensions, composed of a diverse population, and it was very much in need of the healing prescription suggested by St. Paul.

It is relatively easy to love when everything is going our way, but much more challenging when we are being thwarted and tested. It is not too difficult to love any human being in the abstract – as an integral part of God's creation, but quite difficult to love the person who may not only frustrate our plans, but who may also reject our best efforts to express love for him or her.

Prayer

Almighty God, our help, our consolation and our strength, assist us we pray Thee, and grant us your peace amidst the many challenges of each and every day. Keep us under the shelter of Thy wings and guard us with your Word that we may be found faithful and diligent servants of Thy will, for blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, and unto Thee do we ascribe glory, 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.

UNMERCENARIES COSMAS AND DAMIAN, MARTYRS IN ROME FIFTH SUNDAY OF LUKE

THEODOTA, THE UNMERCENARIES' MOTHER; VENERABLE-MARTYR JAMES AND HIS DISCIPLES
JAMES THE DEACON AND DIONYSIOS OF PRODROMOU SKETE ON ATHOS;
VENERABLE DAVID OF EVIA IN GREECE

طروبارية القيامة على اللحن الرابع

إِنَّ تَلْمِذَاتِ الرَّبِّ تَعَلَّمْنَ مِنَ الْمَلَائِكَةِ الْكَرَزَ بِالْقِيَامَةِ الْبَهْجِ، وَطَرَحْنَ الْقَضَاءَ الْجَدِّيَّ،
وَخَاطَبْنَ الرَّسُلَ مُفْتَخِرَاتٍ وَقَائِلَاتٍ: سُبِّحِ الْمَوْتُ وَقَامَ الْمَسِيحُ الْإِلَهُ، وَمَنْحَ الْعَالَمَ
الرَّحْمَةَ الْعُظْمَى.

طروبارية للقديسين قزما ودميان على اللحن الثامن

أَيُّهَا الْقَدِيسَانِ الْمَاقَتَا الْفَضَّةَ، وَالصَّانِعَا الْعَجَائِبِ قَزْمَا وَدَمِيَانِ، افْتَقِدَا أَمْرَاضَنَا،
مَجَانًا أَخَذْتُمَا، مَجَانًا أَعْطَيْتُمَا.

طروبارية رؤساء الملائكة بالحن الرابع

أَيُّهَا الْمُتَقَدِّمُونَ عَلَى الْأَجْنَادِ السَّمَاوِيِّينَ، نَتَوَسَّلُ إِلَيْكُمْ نَحْنُ غَيْرِ الْمُسْتَحَقِّينَ، حَتَّى أَنْكُم
بَطْلِبَاتِكُمْ تَكْتَنُفُونَنَا بِظُلِّ أَجْنَحَةِ مَجْدِكُمْ غَيْرِ الْهَيُولِيِّ، حَافِظِينَ إِيَّانَا نَحْنُ الْجَائِينَ
وَالصَّارِخِينَ بِغَيْرِ فِتُورٍ، أَنْقِذُونَا مِنَ الشَّدَائِدِ، بِمَا أَنْكُم رُؤَسَاءُ مَرَاتِبِ الْقَوَاتِ الْعُلُويَّةِ.

قنذاق السيدة على اللحن الثاني

يَا شَفِيعَةَ الْمَسِيحِيِّينَ غَيْرِ الْمَخْذُولَةِ، الْمُتَوَسِّطَةَ لَدَى الْخَالِقِ غَيْرِ الْمَرْدُودَةِ، لَا تَعْرِضِي
عَنْ أَصْوَاتِ طَلِبَاتِنَا نَحْنُ الْخَطَاةَ، بَلْ تَدَارِكِينَا بِالْمَعُونَةِ بِمَا أَنَّكَ صَالِحَةٌ نَحْنُ الصَّارِخِينَ
إِلَيْكَ بِإِيمَانٍ: بَادِرِي إِلَى الشَّفَاعَةِ وَأَسْرِعِي فِي الطَّلِبَةِ، يَا وَالِدَةَ الْإِلَهِ الْمُتَشَفِّعَةِ دَائِمًا فِي
مَكْرَمَتِكَ.

الرسالة

الرَّبُّ يَصْنَعُ الْعَجَائِبَ لِلْقَدِيسِينَ فِي أَرْضِهِ، لَقَدْ أَبْصَرْتُ الرَّبَّ أَمَامِي فِي كُلِّ حِينٍ
فَصَلُّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولُسِ الرَّسُولِ الْأُولَى إِلَى أَهْلِ كُورِنْثُسَ.

يا. اخوة، أنتم جسدُ المسيح، وأعضاؤه أفراداً. والله أقام في الكنيسة الرسل. أولاً والأنبياء ثانياً والمعلمين ثالثاً، ثم منح آخرين موهبة المعجزات والقدرة على الشفاء، والإسعاف وحسن الإدارة والتكلم بلغات مختلفة. أَلْعَلَّ الجميع رسلٌ، أَلْعَلَّ الجميع أنبياء، أَلْعَلَّ الجميع معلّمون، أَلْعَلَّ الجميع صانعوا المعجزات، أَلْعَلَّ للجميع موهبة الشفاء، أَلْعَلَّ الجميع يتكلمون بلغات، أَلْعَلَّ الجميع يترجمون. فارغبوا في المواهب الحُسنَى، وأنا أريكم أفضل الطرق. لو تكلمت بلغات البشر والملائكة ولم تكن في المحبة، فإنما أنا نحاسٌ يطن أو صنجٌ يرنُّ. ولو كانت لي النبوة وكنت أعلم كلَّ سرٍّ وكلَّ علمٍ ولي الإيمان كله حتى أنقلَ الجبال، ولم تكن في المحبة، فما أنا بشيء، وإنَّ فرقتُ أموالِي لأطعم الفقراء وسلّمتُ جسدي للحرق، ولم تكن في المحبة، فلا أنتفعُ شيئاً. المحبة تُصبرُ وترفق، المحبة لا تحسدُ المحبة لا تتفاخرُ ولا تتكبر. المحبة لا تُسيءُ التصرف، ولا تطلبُ منفعتها، ولا تحنّ ولا تظنُّ السوء. ولا تفرحُ بالظلم، بل تفرحُ بالحق. المحبة تحتملُ كلَّ شيءٍ، وتُصدّقُ كلَّ شيءٍ، وترجو كلَّ شيءٍ، وتصبرُ على كلَّ شيءٍ، المحبة لا تزول أبداً.

الإنجيل

***فصل شريفٌ من بشارة القديس متى الإنجيليّ البشير والتلميذ الطاهر(28:8-34; 9:1) ***

في ذلك الزمان لما أتى يسوعُ إلى كورة الجرجسيين، استقبله مجنونان خارجان من القبور، شرسان جداً، حتى إنه لم يكن أحدٌ يقدرُ أن يجتازَ من تلك الطريق * فصاحا قائلين: ما لنا ولك يا يسوعُ ابن الله؟ أحيّت إلى ههنا قبل الزمان لتُعذِّبنا؟ * وكان بعيداً منهم قطعُ خنازير كثيرة ترعى * فأخذ الشياطين يطلبون إليه قائلين: إن كنت تُخرِّجنا، فأذن لنا أن نذهبَ إلى قطع الخنازير * فقال لهم: اذهبوا. فخرَّجوا وذهبوا إلى قطع الخنازير. فإذا بالقطع كله قد وثبَ عن الجرفِ إلى البحرِ ومات في المياه * أمّا الرعاةُ فهربوا ومضوا إلى المدينة، وأخبروا بكل شيء وبأمر المجنونين * فخرَّجت المدينة كلها للقاء يسوع. ولما رآوه طلبوا إليه أن يتحوّلَ عن تخومهم * فدخل السفينة واجتازَ وأتى إلى مدينته.

ملاحظة بخصوص تناول القربان المقدس

إن مفهومنا لتناول القربان يعنى عمومية المشاركة فيه لذوى العقيدة الواحدة، الا إن المشاركة في سر القربان المقدس هنا تقتصر فقط على أعضاء الكنائس الارثوذكسية والذين يحضرون أنفسهم بالصلاة والصوم والاعتراف منذ فترة قريبة (وعلى كل حال، فإننا ندعو الجميع للمشاركة في الخبز المقدس الذى يوزع عند إنتهاء مراسيم القداس). رجاء مراجعة الكاهن. إذا رغبت أن تصبح عضواً فى الكنيسة الارثوذكسية