

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-fifth Sunday after Pentecost and The Thirteenth Sunday of Luke

Martyr Paramonos and the 370 Martyrs in Bithynia; Martyr Philoumenos of Ancyra; Venerable Akakios of Sinai; Hieromartyr Dionysios, Bishop of Corinth; Urban, Bishop of Macedonia; Nicholas, Archbishop of Thessalonica

Sunday, November 29, 2020

Tone 8; Eothinon 3

Apolytikion for the Resurrection (Tone 8)

When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb; and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, 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 of the Entrance of the Theotokos (Tone 4)

The sacred treasury of God's holy glory, the greatly precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the Savior's most pure temple, free of stain and undefiled, into the House of the Lord on this day is brought forward and bringeth with herself the grace of the Most Divine Spirit; her do God's Angels hymn with songs of praise, for she is truly the heavenly tabernacle.

Daily Readings

THE EPISTLE (for the Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost)

*Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them.
God is known in Judah; His Name is great in Israel.*

**The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians
(4:1-7)**

Brethren, I, a prisoner for the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all lowliness and meekness, with patience, forbearing one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all, Who is above all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

THE GOSPEL (for the Thirteenth Sunday of Luke)

The Reading of the Holy Gospel is according to St. Luke (18:18-27)

At that time, a man came testing Jesus and asking, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery. Do not kill. Do not steal. Do not bear false witness. Honor your father and mother.'" And the man said, "All these I have observed from my youth." And when Jesus heard it, he said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." But when the man heard this he became sad, for he was very rich. Jesus, seeing him sad, said, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." Those who heard it said, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus said, "What is impossible with men is possible with God."

The Synaxarion

On November 29 in the Holy Orthodox Church we commemorate the contest of the holy Martyr Paramonos of Bithynia and his 370 fellow Martyrs.

Verses

For Thee, Paramonos is pierced with spears, O Christ Jesus;
Knowing Thee alone as God, for Thee alone he dieth.

Seven decades of men gave their heads to cutting, together with another
six ranks of fifty.

On the twenty-ninth they slew Paramonos with a long spear.

Paramonos contested for piety's sake during the reign of Decius, in the year 250. A ruler named Aquilinus, seeking relief from a bodily malady, visited a certain therapeutic hot spring. He brought with him captive 370 Christians from Nicomedia, and commanded them to offer sacrifice in the temple of Isis. When they refused, he had them all slaughtered. Paramonos, beholding their murder, boldly cried out against such an act of ungodliness. When Aquilinus heard this, he sent men to kill the Saint. Thus they all entered into the Eternal Kingdom.

On this day, we also commemorate Martyr Philoumenos of Ancyra; Venerable Akakios of Sinai; Hieromartyr Dionysios, Bishop of Corinth; Urban, bishop of Macedonia; and Nicholas, Archbishop of Thessalonica. By their holy intercessions, O God, have mercy upon 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 this morning by Father Timothy with prayers for his grandson, James Michael, celebrating his eleventh birthday. May God keep him in his protected care.

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

for the good health of Rainer Gerhardt Gruetzmacher by Bobbi Monsue

by Don Meena for the repose of the newly-departed servant of God, Billy Maykel (+22 November, 2020) of Auburn, Massachusetts; beloved brother of Khouriye Elaine Manneh. Memory eternal.

Prayers are also offered for the continued health of Father George & Khouriye, Elaine Manneh.

for the repose of the newly-departed Patriarch IRINEJ (+20 November, 2020), Archbishop of Pec and Metropolitan of Belgrade (Serbia) of thrice-blessed memory!

by Marcia O’Dea for the good health of her nephew, Richard;
the Chala, Neyman and Townsend families.

THE CHRISTMAS FAST – ADVENT

The Church ordains that this preparation begins on November 15. The Fast is forty days long and is sometimes known as Philip’s Fast because it begins the day after November 14, which is dedicated to St. Philip the Apostle.

The Fast has very ancient origins. Leo the Great, in the Fifth Century, made mention of it as an ancient, established Fast, which gave importance to the event of the Birth of Christ by the Church, even at that time. The Christians Church did not universally observe the Fast in length and method until the Council of Constantinople in 1166 AD. It was at that Council that the ancient regulations and various customs and traditions of the churches were studied and forty days was chosen to be most representative.

Many of us want the Feast without the penitential note that precedes it. We want Christmas without Advent. The result is that most of us only “observe” the day of Christmas and fail to “keep” the day holy. The Christmas fast gives us time to meditate upon the meaning of our Lord’s coming (God born as a man) – in the past, present, and future. Only to the extent that we prepare carefully for His Coming can we receive Him worthily. Hence, as Christmas approaches, we should be aware of the meaning of the Christmas fast (Advent) upon us and our souls. Consciences need examination; sins need to be forgiven. Above all, souls need refreshment with His Sacramental Presence when the Christmas Fast ends and Christ is born.

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. If you have been in contact with someone who is diagnosed with the COVID virus, please self-quarantine at home for fourteen days. Questions will be answered by Father Timothy by e-mail at: frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org The Sacrament(s) are also available on weekdays by appointment.

Church School Virtual Classrooms

Are your children enrolled in our Sunday Church School classes? Please contact our Director, **Lila Coudsy** at lcoudsy@aol.com to be enrolled and to receive our weekly links for each age group. The classroom Zoom links are provided each week via our parish e-mail. However, there are no Zoom sessions on Sunday, November 29.

Zoom Meeting Bible Study

Bible Study with Father Timothy — will resume on Tuesday, December 1st 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).

St. Michael Antiochian Orthodox Church of the San Fernando Valley

16643 Vanowen Street, Van Nuys, California 91406-4622

Dear Parishioners of St. Michael:

Our Election of Parish Council members is underway via Monkey Survey. You should've received an e-mail with a link for you to cast your vote for the three (3), three (3) year vacancies, that will begin on January 1, 2021. If you did not receive the e-mail and are a pledging or regular contributing member of our parish please inform Father Timothy immediately. Votes may be cast up until midnight on Sunday, November 29, 2020. You will only be able to vote for no more than and no less than three (3) candidates for your ballot to be valid in accordance with our Parish Constitution. Also, you will only be able to complete your vote from one computer, per person (i.e., husband and wife). Eligible voting members are "18 years of age or older, Baptized and Confirmed in the Orthodox Church and accept, profess, and practice it's faith and discipline, and

subscribe to the temporal maintenance of this Church through payment of annual pledges, tithes and contribution." [Article III, Section 1, A]

The Parish Council candidates include: **Joe Ayoub** (having completed his first three-year term); **Julie Bitar** (having completed her first appointed one-year term, also serving as Parish Treasurer); **Adam Lamar** (having completed his first three-year term); and **Deacon Andrew Monsue** (having completed his first three-year term). In addition three (3) persons will be appointed for a one-year term by the Pastor and 2021 Council Chair at the start of the New Year.

May God bless us with the spiritual rewards of the Advent season and grant us His continued mercies as we prepare for the coming year.

V. Rev. Timothy Baclig

Pastor

Christmas Parish Family Video Planned

As we look forward to Nativity of Christ's without being able to be all together, we encourage you to make a short video recording a family message on your phone. You might simply say "Christ is born! Glorify Him" or "Merry Christmas." Design a short family message to everyone in our parish community. Please send your video by noon on Tuesday, December 15th to Subdeacon Richard Ajalat's e-mail: rajalat@stmichaelvannuys.org May you all have a blessed Nativity!

Christmas Toy Collection

We will again be collecting new toys for the children of prisoners. The collection is being planned by Brittney Ajalat of our Young Parent's Ministry. The toys should not include guns or require batteries. We especially need sports items: soccer balls, basketballs, and games for the children. All financial contributions should be turned in no later than Sunday, December 6th, and all toys should be at the church, and placed under the Christmas tree by Sunday, December 13th. All toys and clothing will be distributed by the Archdiocese Prison Ministry with the assistance of our parish of the Holy Cross in Palmdale.

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. The next "Virtual Bible Study Zoom Meeting" will take place on Tuesday evening, December 1st, at 7 p.m. Each study is limited to one hour. **The topic of the eighth of a series on The Book of Revelation is: "Is 'Hell' an Eternal Existence?"** For recorded sessions or study guides, e-mail Father Timothy at: <frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org>.

St. Michael Antiochian Orthodox Church of the San Fernando Valley

16643 Vanowen Street, Van Nuys, California 91406-4622

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 Narthex by 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

Teen SOYO Raffle

Tickets for our Annual Teen SOYO Holiday Raffle were sent out by snail mail and additional tickets will be available until the date of the drawing on Sunday, December 20, 2020 when the drawing will take place following the morning Liturgy. Proceeds from the raffle will help Teen SOYO sponsor the Special Olympics at the Antiochian Village and our parish youth program. We thank everyone for their continued support of our youth program.

Parish Christmas Card

Sign-ups have begun for this year's Parish Christmas Card. The purpose of the card is to provide the convenience of having Christmas greetings extended to our hierarchs and parishioners by means of a group card. It also provides the schedule of services for the festal season. The Project is a service that helps to St. Michael to receive donations from parishioners and friends of our community who are listed on the card. The order those listed is not alphabetical, but in a sequence based upon the date the request is received. The form is bine provided on our parish website, by e-mail and upon request.

Building Fund Update

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

At the current time we have invested 2.7 million dollars to reach our goal of having a watertight building. As of August 31st we have 1.2 million dollars within our construction Building Fund Account of which one-half of the amount is already committed under contract with third party contractors currently working on the site. By January of 2021 we will have contractually obligated the remainder one-half of the account funds for additional new construction work. Without additional funding it will greatly impede our ongoing progress as we will be unable to contract for any additional work to be done on the project. As has been expressed in the past we estimate our shortfall will be approximately five-hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) to complete the project.

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

Upcoming Events

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

FELLOWSHIP OF
ANTIOCHIAN MEN

DIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES & THE WEST

With the blessing of His Eminence, Metropolitan Joseph

**THE CHRISTIAN MAN
& CHRISTIAN SUFFERING**

Dn. Vasily Hinkle

DEC 1, 2020
@6:30PM PST

FACEBOOK LIVE
[FACEBOOK.COM/DLAWANTIOCHIANMEN](https://www.facebook.com/dlawantiochianmen)

St. Michael Orthodox Church
Quarterly Building Report
November 21, 2020

Our new church building construction activities during the past several months of this year, 2020, have been a major challenge.

We have continued to keep moving forward despite dealing with issues of the L.A. Department of Building & Safety ongoing closures, all of the City mandated COVID-19 requirements, and a forced closure from Cal/OSHA regarding a non-compliance of safety regulations by our roofing sub-contractor. We did have one sub-contractor on-site, a sheet metal owner, Mr. Michael Kelly, who was tested positive with COVID-19, and was immediately hospitalized. Within a few hours everyone on the work site were tested and found to be negative. Unfortunately, the combination of some of the sub-contractor's personnel were not willing to return to work. Consequently, the COVID-19 pandemic threat slowed our abilities to complete tasks and obtain timely City building inspections. I have been on the job site pushing the Project ahead, and our Construction Manager, Harris Valle, has continued to be invaluable on a detailed level.

During the summer months, our construction activities have focused on the exterior parameter wall framing, altar apse framing and dome. The two front towers and all exterior walls were completed with a product called dens-glass sure-board, water proofing lath, plaster and stucco. Roofing tiles are almost complete as our exterior construction scaffolding will be removed in the next couple weeks to allow for the completion of the roofing tiles. The stone work and bricks have been applied around windows and doors with arches for accents. The front entryway brick and stone work is also complete.

We are glad to inform you that we have reached our initial goal of having a "water tight" building. In other words, we have a new church building that is lockable and is basically water tight with doors and windows. Currently, we are completing the framing of our intricate arched canopy and barrel ceiling design. In addition, we are working on the ceiling electrical lighting.

Much progress has been achieved over the past two and half years since our construction commenced on April 9, 2018. To date, we have expended approximately three million dollars of the Church's money, and we are still facing a few City LADBS hurdles but are optimistic about the future. However, without continued financial help,

we may need to acquire an additional \$500,000 commercial building loan on the Church property in order to complete the Project. Throughout this Thanksgiving and Christmas season we ask for your prayers.

Michael Malouf
Project Manager

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

Holy Bread Offering List

Nov 06 (St. Nicholas) - the Milkie family
the Hallak/Azzam and the Meena family

Dec 13 - open

Dec 20 - Ron & Kathy Zraick

Dec 24 (Christmas Eve) - open

Dec 25 (Christmas Day) - 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 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

Bookstore Christmas Gifts

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

Ancient Faith Radio

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

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

We are within the period of the Nativity Fast

[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.]

The Feast of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia and the 10th Sunday of Luke

Saturday, December 5th, Great Vespers, 5 p.m.

Sunday, December 6th, Orthros, 8:45 a.m., Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.

Feast of St. Barbara the Great Martyr and St. John of Damascus

Friday, December 4th

SCHEDULE OF FESTAL SERVICES

[The Sacrament of Confession with Absolution is available by appointment or up until 15 minutes prior to the services.]

The Sunday before The Holy Nativity

“The Sunday of the Genealogy”

Commemorating St. Ignatius of Antioch

Saturday, December 19th – Great Vespers, 5 p.m. [Live-streamed]

Sunday, December 20th – Orthros, 8:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy,* 10 a.m. [Live-streamed]

THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY IN THE FLESH OF OUR LORD, GOD, AND SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST

Thursday, December 24th (Christmas Eve and *Paramon*)

The Great (“Royal”) Hours and Typika, 6 a.m., 9 a.m., noon [Live-streamed]

The Ninth Royal Hour, 3 p.m. Vesperal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great* – 3:30 p.m.
[Live-streamed]

Friday, December 25th (Christmas Day)

Orthros and the Christmas Canon, 8:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy,* 10 a.m. [Live-streamed]

[There is **no** fasting from December 25th to January 4th]

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

Thursday, December 31st (New Year's Eve) – Great Vespers, 5 p.m. [Live-streamed]

with prayers for the New Year

Friday, January 1st (New Year's Day) – Orthros, 8:45 a.m.;

Divine Liturgy,* 10 a.m., with prayers for the New Year [Live-streamed]

**The Sunday after the Holy Nativity; Commemorating: Joseph the Betrothed,
David the Prophet and King, James, “The Brother of the Lord”
and the Protomartyr Stephen**

Saturday, December 26th – Great Vespers, 5 p.m. [Live-streamed]

Sunday, December 27 - Orthros, 8:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m. [Live-streamed]

THE GREAT FEAST OF HOLY THEOPHANY (EPIPHANY)

Tuesday, January 5th - The Eve (*Paramon*)

The Great and Royal Hours, 6 a.m., 9 a.m., noon, and 3 p.m. [Live-streamed]

The Ninth Royal Hour, 3 p.m. Vesperal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great* – 3:30 p.m.
[Live-streamed]

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

** Services with Holy Communion*

**St. Michael Antiochian Orthodox Church
of the San Fernando Valley**

16643 Vanowen Street, Van Nuys, California 91406-4622

Metropolitan JOSEPH, Archbishop of New York and all North America

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

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

And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things,

at all times, having all that you need, you will about in every good work.

(II Corinthians 9:8)

Dear Members of St. Michael,

We are soon approaching the end of the calendar year and our Parish Council is preparing to provide us with our 2021 Annual Budget. A parish cannot solely rely upon the income of Sacramental offerings because we would not be able to meet our month-to-month expenses based upon anticipating baptisms, weddings, or funerals that takes place each year. Nor can we adequately pay for our ongoing property maintenance without the shared responsibility and the help of volunteers of our membership. Our parish is able to provide its clergy and facilities, the prayer services of the church and its Sacraments because of our faithful parishioners who help to financially support the salaries and the operational costs of our church property.

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

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

In Christ,

Subdeacon Richard Tamoush

Stewardship Chair

Frequently Asked Questions When Completing a Pledge Form

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

Each year planning for budgeted receipts and expenditures are an important part of being responsible stewards of Christ's church. Some of our month-to-month expenses include: priest and staff salaries, utility and maintenance expenses, the payment of taxes on all investment (income) property (yes, churches do pay property taxes), and insurance. Moreover, it is not uncommon for these expenses

increase each year. It is a goal of our Parish Council to meet these expenses with the contributions of our members. The Pastor does not receive stipends (monetary gifts) for house blessings, baptisms, weddings and funerals if a family is not enrolled as a regular contributor of the parish. The Pastor's living expenses and allowances are included the Annual Budget of the parish that will be presented at our Annual Meeting on January 31st.

What is an annual "Fair Share Commitment?"

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

Our 2021 Pledge Form is provided in our church narthex and available on our parish website.

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

EOTHINON 3

الايوثينا 3

TONE 8

اللعن 8

**THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST AND THE THIRTEENTH AND
THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE**
MARTYR PARAMONOS AND THE 370 MARTYRS IN BITHYNIA; MARTYR PHILOUMENOS OF ANCYRA;
VENERABLE AKAKIOS OF SINAI; HIEROMARTYR DIONYSIOS, BISHOP OF CORINTH;

طروبارية القيامة على اللحن الثامن

انحدرت من العلوّ يا متحنن، وقبلتِ الدفنَ ذا الثلاثةِ الأيامِ، لكي نُعْتَقَنَا من الآلامِ. فيا حياتنا
وقيامتنا يا ربَّ المجدِّ لك.

طروبارية رؤساء الملائكة بالحن الرابع

أيها المتقدمون على الأجناد السماويين، نتوسلُّ إليكم نحن غير المستحقين، حتَّى أنكم
بطلباتكم تكتنوفوننا بظلاً أجنحة مجدكم غير الهيولي، حافظين إيانا نحن الجاثين
والصارخين بغير فتور، أنقذونا من الشدائد، بما أنكم رؤساء مراتب القواتِ العلوية.

اليومَ العذراء تآتِي إلى المغارة لتلدِ الكلمةَ الذي قَبَلَ الدُّهُورَ، ولادةً لا تُفسَّرُ ولا يُنطقُ بها،
فأفرجني أيُّها المسكونة إذا سمعتِ، ومجدي مع الملائكة والرعاة، الذي سيظهرُ بمشيئته
طفلاً جديداً وهو إلهنا الذي قَبَلَ الدُّهُورَ.

الرسالة

صَلُّوا وَأَوْفُوا الرَّبَّ إِلَهَنَا.

اللَّهُ مَعْرُوفٌ فِي أَرْضِ يَهُودَا؛ وَاسْمُهُ عَظِيمٌ فِي إِسْرَائِيلَ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولَسِ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى أَفَسَسِ.

يَا إِخْوَتِي، أَطْلُبُ إِلَيْكُمْ أَنَا الْأَسِيرُ فِي الرَّبِّ أَنْ تَسْلُكُوا كَمَا يَحِقُّ لِلدَّعْوَةِ الَّتِي دُعِيتُمْ
بِهَا * بِكُلِّ تَوَاضُعٍ وَوِدَاعَةٍ وَبِطُولِ أَنَاةٍ، مُحْتَمِلِينَ بَعْضُكُمْ بَعْضاً بِالْمَحَبَّةِ * وَمُجْتَهِدِينَ
فِي حِفْظِ وَحْدَةِ الرُّوحِ بِرِبَاطِ السَّلَامِ * فَإِنَّكُمْ جَسَدٌ وَاحِدٌ وَرُوحٌ وَاحِدٌ، كَمَا دُعِيتُمْ
إِلَى رَجَاءٍ دَعْوَتِكُمُ الْوَاحِدِ، * رَبِّ وَاحِدٍ، وَإِيمَانٍ وَاحِدٍ، وَمَعْمُودِيَّةٍ وَاحِدَةٍ، * وَإِلَهُ أَبٍ
لِلْجَمِيعِ وَاحِدٍ، هُوَ فَوْقَ الْجَمِيعِ وَبِالْجَمِيعِ وَفِي جَمِيعِكُمْ. * وَلِكُلِّ وَاحِدٍ مِنَّا أُعْطِيَتْ
النِّعْمَةُ عَلَى مِقْدَارِ مَوْهَبَةِ الْمَسِيحِ.

الإنجيل

فصل شريف من بشارة القديس لوقا

في ذلك الزمان، دنا من يسوع إنسانٌ ليجرّبهُ فقال: "أيّها المعلمُ الصالحُ، ماذا أعملُ لأرث الحياةَ الأبدية؟" فأجابه يسوع: "لماذا تدعوني صالحاً، وما صالحٌ إلا واحدٌ وهو الله. أنتَ تعرفُ الوصايا: لا تزن، لا تقتل، لا تسرق، لا تشهد بالزور، أكرم أباك وأمك. فقال: "كلّ هذه الوصايا حفظتها من أيام صباي." فلما سمع يسوع ذلك، قال له: "يعوزُكَ شيءٌ واحدٌ، بع كلّ شيء ووزّعه على الفقراء، فيكون لك كنزٌ في السماء، وتعال اتبعني." فحزن الرجل عندما سمع هذا الكلام، لأنّه كان غنياً جداً. ولما رآه يسوع أنّه حزن جداً قال له: "ما أيسرَ دخولَ ذوي الأموالِ إلى ملكوتِ الله، فدخلُ الجملِ في ثقبِ الإبرة أسهلُّ من دخولِ الغنيِّ إلى ملكوتِ الله." فقال السامعون: "من يستطيعُ أن يخلصَ، إذن؟" فأجاب يسوع: ما لا يُستطاعُ عند الناسِ مُستطاعٌ عند 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 عضواً فى الكنيسة الارثوذكسية.