

**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** [stmichaelvanuys.org](http://stmichaelvanuys.org)

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# **The Annunciation of the Most Holy Theotokos**

**Wednesday, March 25, 2021**

## **Apolytikion of the Annunciation (Tone 4)**

Today is the beginning of our salvation, and the manifestation of the mystery from the ages; for the Son of God becometh the Son of the Virgin, and Gabriel proclaimeth grace. Wherefore, do we shout with him to the Theotokos: Rejoice, O full of grace! The Lord is with thee.

## **Apolytikion of the Archangel Gabriel (Tone 4)**

O ye foremost of the heavenly hosts we beseech thee, though we are unworthy, pray that we may be encompassed with a shadow of Thy unearthly glory, preserving us who kneel and cry endlessly: deliver us from oppression since ye are the prince of the Highest Power.

## **Kontakion of the Annunciation (Tone 8)**

With mystic apprehension of the divine commandment, the bodiless angel quickly appeared in the dwelling-place of Joseph and said to the unwed Virgin: Lo, He Who in His Descent did bow the Heavens is housed unchanged and whole in thee; as I behold Him in thy womb taking on the form of a servant, I marvel and I cry unto thee: Hail, O Bride without bridegroom!

## **Kontakion of the Annunciation [and Great Lent] (Tone 8)**

To thee, the Champion Leader, do I offer thanks of victory, O Theotokos, thou who hast delivered me from terror; but as thou that hast that power invincible, O Theotokos, thou alone can set me free: from all forms of danger free me and deliver me, that I may cry unto thee: "Hail, O Bride without Bridegroom."

## **Festal Readings**

THE EPISTLE (for the Annunciation)

*Tell forth from day to day the glad tidings of the salvation of our God. Sing unto the Lord a new song; sing unto the Lord, all the earth.*

## **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews (2:11-18)**

Brethren, He Who sanctifies and those who are sanctified have all one origin. That is why He is not ashamed to call them brethren, saying, "I will proclaim Thy Name to my brethren, in the midst of the congregation I will praise Thee." And again, "I will put my trust in Him." And again, "Here am I, and the children God has given me." Since, therefore, the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise partook of the same nature, that through death He might destroy him who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong bondage. For surely it is not with angels that He is concerned but with the descendants of Abraham. Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in every respect, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make expiation for the sins of the people. For because He Himself has suffered and been tempted, He is able to help those who are tempted.

THE GOSPEL (for the Annunciation)

## **The Reading of the Holy Gospel is according to St. Luke (1:24-38)**

At that time, Elizabeth, the wife of Zachariah, conceived, and for five months she hid herself, saying, "Thus the Lord has done to me in the days when He looked on me, to take away my reproach among men." In the sixth month the archangel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the archangel came to her and said, "Rejoice, O favored one, the Lord is with thee! Blessed art thou among women!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and considered in her mind what sort of greeting this might be. And the archangel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for thou hast found favor with God. And behold, thou wilt conceive in thy womb and bear a son, and you shall call His Name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give to Him the throne of His father David, and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of His kingdom there will be no end." And Mary said to the archangel, "How shall this be, since I have known no man?" And the

archangel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon thee, and the power of the Most High will overshadow thee; therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, your kinswoman Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For with God nothing will be impossible.” And Mary said, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the archangel departed from her.

## **The Synaxarion – March 25<sup>th</sup>**

On March 25 in the Holy Orthodox Church we celebrate the Annunciation to our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary.

### ***Verses***

*The Angel announced as Son to the Virgin,  
the Great Angel of the Father’s great counsel.*

*On the twenty-fifth the Angel spake of joy unto Mary.*

When the All-Holy Virgin completed the fourteenth year after her birth and was entering her fifteenth year, after having spent eleven years of living and serving in the Temple of Jerusalem, the priests informed her that, according to the Law, she could not remain in the Temple but was required to be betrothed and enter into marriage. Mary surprised the priests when she told them that she had dedicated her life to God and that she desired to remain a virgin until death. Then, Zacharias, the high priest and father of the Forerunner, under the inspiration of God, and in agreement with the other priests, betrothed the Virgin Mary to Joseph of Nazareth to preserve her virginity and to care for her. When the fullness of time had come, as prophesied by Daniel the Prophet, and when God was pleased to fulfill His promise to the banished Adam and to the Prophets, the great Archangel Gabriel appeared in the chamber of the All-Holy Virgin and, as some priestly writers wrote, precisely at that same moment when she held open the book of the Prophet Isaiah and was contemplating his great prophecy: “Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a son! (7:13)” Gabriel appeared in all of his angelic brightness and saluted her: “Rejoice, highly favored one! The Lord is with thee,” and the rest in order as it is written in the Gospel of Luke. With this angelic annunciation and the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Virgin, leading

to the incarnation of our Lord, the salvation of mankind and restoration of all creation began.

*Through the intercessions of the Most Holy Theotokos and of all Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.*

## LITURGICAL CALENDAR

[Note: We are currently in the period of the Great Fast.\*]

### **Weekday Service**

Friday, March 26<sup>th</sup> – Akathist / Madeyeh  
(Service of Intercessory Prayer, 6:30 p.m.

### **The Second Sunday of Lent**

Commemorating St. Gregory Palamas  
Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup> – Great Vespers, 6:30 p.m.  
Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup> – Orthros, 8:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.

\*For more information on fasting or questions, speak with Father Timothy.  
Fish, wine and oil are permitted on Palm Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup> (Western Easter).  
The fast of Holy Week begins on Monday, April 26<sup>th</sup> and  
Holy Pascha (Easter) is celebrated on Saturday and Sunday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## OFFERINGS

An Holy Bread is also being offered by Emile Skaff and family in loving memory of Carrie D. Skaff (+25 March, 2009). Memory eternal.

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

by the Milkie family for the successful surgery of Alexandra Manolis

by Daphne Thabet for the continued health of Alison Bailey  
and Linda Simon

### **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.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Live-streaming of Services

Plan to view the services of the Akathist (Madeyeh), Great Vespers, Orthros and the Divine Liturgy on-line via FaceBook or YouTube this Friday, Saturday and Sunday, April 26-28. Your church offering may be made on-line via our website "Donation" tab.

## St. Michael Golf Classic Postponed

Our Annual St. Michael Golf Classic has been postponed to October.

## 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. Thank you for your support of our annual Lenten charity campaign.

## Collection for Seminarian Scholarships

Your special offering for our Archdiocese Seminarian scholarships are being received in response to Metropolitan JOSEPH's appeal on the Sunday of Orthodoxy, Sunday, March 21, 2021 . Please be sure that your check is earmarked "Seminarians." Thank you.

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

### **Holy Bread Offering List**

Mar 28 - open  
Apr 04 - (Mid-Lent) - Anne Farha Rowe  
Apr 11 - the Srou and Cruz families; the Zraick family  
Apr 18 - Suzan Haddad  
Apr 25 (Palm Sunday) - open

### **Coffee Hour Hosts Calendar**

Note: There are no Coffee  
Hours scheduled

Please contact Fr. Timothy (818/219-3761; [pastor@stmichaelvannuys.org](mailto:pastor@stmichaelvannuys.org)) to sign-up to offer Holy Bread.

**St. Michael Antiochian Orthodox Church**  
**16643 Vanowen Street, Van Nuys, CA 91406 Phone: 818-994-2313**  
**Website: www.stmichaelvannuys.org**

## 2021 CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT FORM

**1. All enrolled members must first fulfill a fair share contribution that is paid 100% by St. Michael Church to the Archdiocese annually (this does not include your family pledge obligation BELOW).**

Total number of baptized Orthodox persons (age 18 & above) in your household \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 each \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of baptized Orthodox persons (age 17 & under) in your household \_\_\_\_\_ \$35 each \_\_\_\_\_

(Please print all names with information in the section below)

**2. In gratitude of God's blessings, I / we pledge to contribute St. Michael Church expenses.**

A total annual amount of: \_\_\_\_\_ (see Treasure self-assessment chart)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ weekly   \$ \_\_\_\_\_ monthly   \$ \_\_\_\_\_ quarterly   \$ \_\_\_\_\_ semi-annually   \$ \_\_\_\_\_ annually

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**3. How do you wish to pay? We accept personal checks or credit card payments. (See below)**

- a. You may write a check to "St. Michael Church" and mail it to the Church Office.  
(see address above)
- b. You may process an "automatic bill pay" with your bank that will mail a recurring monthly hard-copy earmarked check to St. Michael Church.
- c. You may pay by credit card using our website donation page (a 3% processing fee will apply) at: <https://www.stmichaelvannuys.org/donate/> and we will be immediately notified.
- d. You may arrange for a recurring monthly automatic withdrawal from your bank account using our church bank routing number and bank account.

**Note: Each donation to St. Michael Church should be earmarked, i.e., "Building Fund," "Pledge," etc.**

Print names of baptized Orthodox persons in your household.

\_\_\_\_\_

Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Age

## **Our 2021 Pledge Form Provided with this Bulletin**

As a committed member of St. Michael Church, please complete a new 2021 form. An annual "Fair Share Contribution" is paid by St. Michael Church to the Archdiocese (\$50/adult; \$35/17 years of age or under). Everyone's financial situation is subject to changes from year to year. In the same way, our parish depends upon the financial pledge commitments of its members in order to meet its monthly expenses. Hard copies will be mailed to you by request. May God bless us all in practicing good Christian stewardship.

## **Bookstore Orders Available on Parish Website**

You may place an order through our parish website or e-mail Bobbi Monsue (Manager) for special orders at: [bobbi\\_monsue@att.net](mailto:bobbi_monsue@att.net). Now is the time to place your order for your Holy Week Service Book. Your credit card will also be accepted for payment. Now is the time to order your copy of our Holy Week Service Book.

## **Antiochian Women Lenten Baked Goods Sale**

Orders are being received for limited quantities of spinach pies (\$15/dozen) and pepper pies (\$12/dozen) for pick-up of wrapped and sealed packages at the church on Saturday or Sunday, April 3rd for 4th. Place your order with Charmaine Darmour at: [cdarmour@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cdarmour@sbcglobal.net)

## **Church School Zoom Meeting Classes Meet this Sunday, May 28**

The Zoom meeting links will be provided to parents and teachers on Friday, May 26.

## **Antiochian Women's Book Club - March 25th at 6:30 p.m.**

The book selected for AW across our Archdiocese is "The Holy Angels" by Mother Alexandra. The book study will again meet this Thursday and subsequent Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. for fellowship, and study at 6:45 p.m. for an hour. This week's Zoom meeting will include the ladies from St. Luke Church in Orange County. All interested should contact Charmaine Darmour by e-mail at: [cdarmour@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cdarmour@sbcglobal.net)

**WITH THE BLESSING OF HIS EMINENCE  
METROPOLITAN JOSEPH**



**THE ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN OF LOS ANGELES  
AND THE WEST PRESENT...**

# **AN ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN'S VIRTUAL LENTEN RETREAT!**

**COST: FREE** IN-KIND DONATIONS ACCEPTED IN  
SUPPORT OF THIS MINISTRY

**CHECK EMAIL FOR MORE INFO AND REGISTRATION**

**SATURDAY APRIL 17, 2021**

## **9AM – 1PM PST**

ZOOM MEETING WILL OPEN AT 8:30 A.M. FOR FELLOWSHIP



**FEATURED SPEAKER:  
KH. RANDA KHOURY AZAR  
ICONOGRAPHER**

**Ask  
Abouna  
Featuring:**



**V. Rev. Fr. David Hovik**  
St. Andrew Antiochian  
Church  
Arlington, WA



**V. Rev. Fr. Paul Baba**  
Holy Virgin Mary Antiochian  
Church  
West Sacramento, CA



**Rev. Fr. Mansour Azar**  
St. George Antiochian  
Church  
Upland, CA

**A SPECIAL SURPRISE YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS!**

Spiritual Advisor: V. Rev. Fr. David Hovik

Retreat Coordinator: Kh. Jean Baba / Cell: (916) 955-4736

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Dear St. Michael Church Family,

I pray that you are all well and hanging in there during this difficult time. I thought of a great way for us to spend some quality family time together and entertain each other during quarantine.

Do you have people in your family who are skilled bakers, talented musicians, or great artists? Maybe there's something fun and or silly that you know how to do and can teach others?...We'd like you to create how-to videos and we will share them on St. Michael's Facebook page so kids and others stuck at home can watch and learn from you.

Please send your videos to me at [blajalat@gmail.com](mailto:blajalat@gmail.com). My goal it to post a weekly how-to video. I would love it if each house hold at St. Michael's created a fun how-to video to help us all stay connected.

Blessings,

Brittney Ajalat

Young Parent's Ministry

P.S. Stay connected. Maintain contact with each other and receive informative materials from our group App. Enter the conversation by logging on to: <https://band.us/n/a0af2b6334W85>

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**ANNUNCIATION OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS**  
**SYNAXIS OF THE HOLY ARCHANGEL GABRIEL**

**طروبارية القيامة على اللحن الأول**

إِنَّ الْحَجَرَ لَمَّا خُتِمَ مِنَ الْيَهُودِ، وَجَسَدَكَ الطَّاهِرَ حَفِظَ مِنَ الْجَنْدِ، قُمْتَ فِي الْيَوْمِ الثَّالِثِ أَيَّهَا  
الْمَخْلُصُ، مَانِحاً الْعَالَمَ الْحَيَاةَ. فَلذَلِكَ قَوَاتُ السَّمَاوَاتِ هَتَفُوا إِلَيْكَ يَا وَاهَبَ الْحَيَاةَ: الْمَجْدُ  
لِقِيَامَتِكَ أَيَّهَا الْمَسِيحُ، الْمَجْدُ لِمَلِكِكَ، الْمَجْدُ لِنَدْبِيرِكَ يَا مُحَبَّ الْبَشَرِ وَحَدِّكَ

**طروبارية البشارة على اللحن الرابع**

الْيَوْمَ إِكْلِيلُ خَلَاصِنَا وَظُهُورُ السِّرِّ الَّذِي مِنْذُ الدَّهْوَرِ، لِأَنَّ ابْنَ اللَّهِ يَصِيرُ ابْنَ الْبَتُولِ  
وَجِبْرَائِيلُ بِالنِّعْمَةِ يُبَشِّرُ. لِذَلِكَ فَلْنَهْتَفْ مَعَهُ: افْرَحِي يَا مَمْتَلَنَةً نِعْمَةً الرَّبِّ مَعَكَ.

**قنداق آحاد الصوم على اللحن الثامن**

إِنِّي أَنَا عَبْدُكَ يَا وَالِدَةَ الْإِلَهِ، أَكْتُبُ لَكَ رَايَاتِ الْغَلْبَةِ يَا جَنْدِيَّةَ مَحَامِيَّةَ، وَأَقْدِمُ لَكَ الشُّكْرَ  
كَمُنْقَذَةٍ مِنَ الشَّدَائِدِ. لَكِنْ بِمَا أَنَّ لَكَ الْعِزَّةَ الَّتِي لَا تَحَارِبُ، أَعْتَقِنِي مِنْ صُنُوفِ الشَّدَائِدِ،  
حَتَّى أَصْرُخَ إِلَيْكَ: افْرَحِي يَا عَرُوسًا لَا عَرُوسَ لَهَا

**الرسالة**

أخبروا من يومٍ إلى يومٍ ببشارةٍ خلاصِ إلهنا، رتلوا للربِّ ترتيلاً جديدةً،  
هللوا للربِّ يا جميع أهل الأرض

**فصلٌ من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول إلى العبرانيين**

يَا إِخْوَةَ، إِنَّ الَّذِي يُقَدَّسُ وَالَّذِينَ تَقَدَّسُوا لَهُمْ أَصْلٌ وَاحِدٌ، فَلَا يَسْتَحِي أَنْ يَدْعُوَهُمْ إِخْوَةً،  
فَيَقُولُ: «سَأبَشِّرُ بِاسْمِكَ إِخْوَتِي وَأَسَبِّحُكَ فِي الْجَمَاعَةِ». وَيَقُولُ أَيْضًا: «عَلَى اللَّهِ  
اتِّكَالِي»، وَأَيْضًا: «هَا أَنَا مَعَ الْأَبْنَاءِ الَّذِينَ وَهَبَهُمُ اللَّهُ لِي». وَلَمَّا كَانَ الْأَبْنَاءُ شُرَكَاءَ فِي  
اللَّحْمِ وَالدَّمِ، شَارَكَهُمْ يَسُوعُ كَذَلِكَ فِي طَبِيعَتِهِمْ هَذِهِ لِيَقْضِيَ بِمَوْتِهِ عَلَى الَّذِي فِي يَدِهِ  
سُلْطَانُ الْمَوْتِ، أَيِ إِبْلِيسَ، وَيُحَرِّرَ الَّذِينَ كَانُوا طَوَالَ حَيَاتِهِمْ فِي الْعِبُودِيَّةِ خَوْفًا مِنَ  
الْمَوْتِ. جَاءَ لَا لِيُسَاعِدَ الْمَلَائِكَةَ، بَلْ لِيُسَاعِدَ نَسْلَ إِبْرَاهِيمَ. فَكَانَ عَلَيْهِ أَنْ يُشَابِهَ إِخْوَتَهُ

في كُلِّ شَيْءٍ، حَتَّى يَكُونَ رَئِيسَ كَهَنَةٍ، رَاحِمًا أَمِينًا فِي خِدْمَةِ اللَّهِ، فَيُكْفِّرَ عَن خَطَايَا الشَّعْبِ، لِأَنَّهُ هُوَ نَفْسُهُ تَأَلَّمَ بِالتَّجَرُّبَةِ، فَأَمَكْنَهُ أَنْ يُعِينَ الْمُجَرَّبِينَ.

## الإنجيل

### فصل من بشارة القديس لوقا الإنجيلي

في ذلك الزمان حَبَلَتْ امْرَأَتُهُ أَلْيَصَابَاتُ، فَأَخْفَتْ أَمْرَهَا خَمْسَةَ أَشْهُرٍ. وَكَانَتْ تَقُولُ: «هَذَا مَا أَعْطَانِي الرَّبُّ يَوْمَ نَظَرَ إِلَيَّ لِيُزِيلَ عَنِّي الْعَارَ مِنْ بَيْنِ النَّاسِ». حِينَ كَانَتْ أَلْيَصَابَاتُ فِي شَهْرِهَا السَّادِسِ، أَرْسَلَ اللَّهُ الْمَلَكَ جِبْرَائِيلَ إِلَى بَلَدَةٍ فِي الْجَلِيلِ اسْمُهَا النَّاصِرَةُ، إِلَى عَذْرَاءَ اسْمُهَا مَرْيَمُ، كَانَتْ مَخْطُوبَةً لِرَجُلٍ مِنْ بَيْتِ دَاوُدَ اسْمُهُ يَوْسُفُ. فَدَخَلَ إِلَيْهَا الْمَلَكَ وَقَالَ لَهَا: «السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ، أَيَّتَهَا الْمَمْتَلَنَةُ نِعْمَةً. الرَّبُّ مَعَكَ». فَاضْطَرَبَتْ مَرْيَمُ لِكَلَامِ الْمَلَكَ وَقَالَتْ فِي نَفْسِهَا: «مَا مَعْنَى هَذِهِ التَّحِيَّةِ؟» فَقَالَ لَهَا الْمَلَكَ: «لَا تَخَافِي يَا مَرْيَمُ، نَلْتِ حُظُوتَهُ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ: فَسَتَحْبَلِينَ وَتَلْدِينَ ابْنًا تُسَمِّيَنَّهُ يَسُوعَ. فَيَكُونُ عَظِيمًا وَابْنُ اللَّهِ الْعَلِيِّ يُدْعَى، وَيُعْطِيهِ الرَّبُّ الْإِلَهَ عَرْشَ أَبِيهِ دَاوُدَ، وَيَمْلِكُ عَلَى بَيْتِ يَعْقُوبَ إِلَى الْأَبَدِ، وَلَا يَكُونُ لِمُلْكِهِ نِهَايَةٌ!» فَقَالَتْ مَرْيَمُ لِلْمَلَكَ: «كَيْفَ يَكُونُ هَذَا وَأَنَا عَذْرَاءٌ لَا أَعْرِفُ رَجُلًا؟» فَأَجَابَهَا الْمَلَكَ: «الرُّوحُ الْقُدُسُ يَحِلُّ عَلَيْكَ، وَقُدْرَةُ الْعَلِيِّ تَظَلُّكَ، لِذَلِكَ فَالْقُدُّوسُ الَّذِي يُولَدُ مِنْكَ يُدْعَى ابْنَ اللَّهِ. هَا قَرِيبَتُكَ أَلْيَصَابَاتُ حَبَلَى بَابِنَ فِي شَيْخُوخَتِهَا، وَهَذَا هُوَ شَهْرُهَا السَّادِسُ، وَهِيَ الَّتِي دَعَاهَا النَّاسُ عَاقِرًا. فَمَا مِنْ شَيْءٍ غَيْرٍ مُمَكَّنَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ». فَقَالَتْ مَرْيَمُ: «أَنَا خَادِمَةُ الرَّبِّ: فَلْيَكُنْ لِي كَمَا تَقُولُ». وَمَضَى مِنْ عِنْدِهَا الْمَلَكَ.

### ملاحظة بخصوص تناول القربان المقدس

إن مفهومنا لتناول القربان يعني عمومية المشاركة فيه لذوى العقيدة الواحدة، إلا 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.