

# **The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost and The Sixth Sunday of Matthew The Procession of the Precious and Life-giving Cross**

The Seven Maccabean Youths, their mother Solomonia and Eleazar their teacher

**Sunday, August 1, 2021**

**Tone 5; Eothinon 6**

## **Apolytikion for the Resurrection (Tone 5)**

Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

## **Apolytikion for the Holy Cross (Tone 1)**

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance, granting to Thy people victory over all their enemies, and by the power of Thy Cross preserving Thy commonwealth.

## **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 Transfiguration (Tone 7)**

Thou wast transfigured on the mount, and Thy Disciples, in so far as they were able, beheld Thy glory, O Christ our God; so that, when they should see Thee crucified, they would remember that all Thy suffering was voluntary, and could declare to all the world that Thou art truly the effulgent Splendor of the Father.

## **Daily Readings**

THE EPISTLE (for the Sixth Sunday after Pentecost)

*Thou, O Lord, shalt keep us and preserve us.  
Save me, O Lord, for the godly man is no more.*

## **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans (12:6-14)**

Brethren, having gifts that differ according to the grace that was given to us, let each use them accordingly: whether prophecy, let him prophesy according to the proportion of the faith; or ministry, let him give himself to the ministry; or the teacher, to the teaching; or he who exhorts, in the exhorting; he who gives, let him do it with simplicity; he who presides, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness. Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. Love one another with brotherly affection; in honor preferring one another; in diligence not slothful; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing steadfastly in prayer; communicating to the necessities of the saints; given to hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless, and do not curse.

THE GOSPEL (for the Sixth Sunday of Matthew)

## **The Reading of the Holy Gospel is according to St. Matthew (9:1-8)**

At that time, Jesus got into a boat, crossed over and came to His own city. And behold, they brought to Him a paralytic, lying on his bed; and when Jesus saw their faith

He said to the paralytic, "Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven." And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man is blaspheming." But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—He then said to the paralytic—"Rise, take up your bed and go home." And he rose and went home. When the crowds saw it, they marveled, and they glorified God, Who had given such authority to men.

## **The Synaxarion**

On August 1 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we celebrate the Procession of the honored and life-giving Cross.

### **Verses**

Let the whole world entire worship the Cross  
through Which it truly knew to worship Thee, O Word.

This multi-dimensional feast was established as a memorial of the simultaneous victories of the Russians over the Bulgars and the Greeks over the Saracens. In both battles, the soldiers carried crosses from which a heavenly radiance shone forth. A memorial was therefore instituted that, on August 1, the true Precious Cross be carried from the Church of Saint Sophia in Constantinople, first around the interior of the church and then through the streets to allow the people to venerate it. The Precious Cross consecrated the earth and the air, and protected against sicknesses. Finally, on August 14, the eve of the Dormition of the Theotokos, it was taken back to the church in the imperial palace. In the Russian Church, this feast is also combined with the remembrance of the Baptism of Rus on August 1, 988.

On this day, we also commemorate the holy Seven Martyrs, the Maccabees: Abim, Anthony, Guria, Eleazar, Eusebona, Achim and Marcellus; their mother Solomone and Eleazar their teacher. By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

## **LITURGICAL CALENDAR**

### **The Dormition Fast – August 1-14**

[Note: During the period of the fast, the Church's Traditional fasting discipline is observed with the abstinence of meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine and oil, through August 14<sup>th</sup>.

Wine and oil are permitted on Saturdays and Sundays. Also, Fish, wine and oil are permitted on the Feast of the Transfiguration.]

**Service of the *Paraklesis*** - Wednesday, August 4; 6:30 p.m.

### **The Feast of the Holy Transfiguration - Friday, August 6<sup>th</sup>**

Friday, August 6 - Divine Liturgy, 11 a.m.

### **The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost and The Seventh Sunday of Matthew**

Saturday, August 7<sup>th</sup>, Great Vespers, 5 p.m.

Sunday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, Orthros, 8:45 a.m., Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.

**Service of the *Paraklesis*** - Wednesday, August 11; 6:30 p.m.

## THE DISCIPLINE OF FASTING AND PRAYER

We are now in a two week period called, **The Dormition Fast** (August 1-14). It is one of the four major fasting periods in the discipline of the Orthodox church (the others being: Great Lent, the Christmas Fast and the Apostles' Fast). The August Dormition Fast precedes the memorial of the Holy Dormition of the All-Holy virgin Mother of God (August 15).

It is beneficial for us to make an effort to observe this fast (to the degree that it is not detrimental to our health). Jesus Himself fasted and taught His disciples about fasting (see St. Matthew's Gospel 6:16-18). The purpose of fasting is to be strengthened spiritually, allowing our spiritual desires to dominate our physical or carnal appetites. This is a means of becoming liberated from being dependent upon the things of this world; focusing our attention upon the spiritual virtues and things of the eternal Kingdom of God. The discipline of fasting provides power to the soul (when accompanied with prayer) in order that it might not yield to temptation and sin. According to St. Seraphim of Sarov, fasting is an "indispensable means" of gaining the fruit of the Holy Spirit in one's life (see Galatians 5:22-23), and Jesus Himself taught that some forms of evil cannot be conquered without it. (see Matthew 17-21 and Mark 9:29).

A special prayer service called the *Paraklesis* [Παράκλησις] (pah-RAH-kle-sis), which means "supplicatory canon," is done each evening of the Dormition Fast. This year, the service will take place on Monday evening, August 4th, then again on Wednesday - August 11th, beginning at 6:30 p.m. and will be live-streamed. The prayer service is especially dedicated on behalf of those who are in need of all forms of help and healing. Names of persons may be turned in to Father Timothy.

The Orthodox Church has always understood the discipline of fasting to be accompanied with prayer and good works as mentioned in St. Matthew's Gospel (7:21). It is also important to remember that the Paraklesis Service is not limited to taking place during the Dormition Fast. It is a prayer service that may be said for anyone at any time, in a home or at a bedside, by personal request.

## OFFERINGS

Roses for the Procession of the Holy Cross is being offered for the good health of our families and friends. May God protect us from all harm.

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

by Sharon Katerelos for the health and salvation of Samia Khatib-Hinton,  
that her physicians and family receive divine guidance and peace.

for Margaret Abdun-Nur, celebrating her ninetieth birthday (August 2nd).  
May God grant her continued health and many years!

for the one-year memorial of the servant of God, Jalil Abualezzam (+29 July, 2020)  
of Amman, Jordan; beloved brother of Laila Dawud, and siblings, George, Julia, Samira,  
Susu, Milad, Nabiha and the late Issa Abu al Eitham and their families. Memory eternal.

by Joe Ayoub for the three-year memorial of his beloved mother,  
Nora Ayoub (+29 July, 2018). Memory eternal.

for healing and continued health of Ron Zraick.

for the six-year memorial of the servants of God: Rose Jones (+1 August, 2015)  
Mary (Berry) Evans (+2 August, 2020)  
and Cheryl Cambridge (+1 August). Memory eternal.

Included in our prayers throughout the month of August are those celebrating their birthday: Fuad Rafidi (8/1), Jonathan Kenneth Contes (8/2), Margaret Abdun-Nur (8/2), Ava Rose Hage (8/2), Gabrielle Camacho (8/3), Dr. George Kudmani (8/3), Sabine Moujaes (8/3), Linda Andrews (8/4), Elisa Milkie (8/4), Marcelle Rowihab (8/4), Patricia Malouf (8/5), Blake Zoe Murr (8/6), Charlotte Murr (8/6), Nicholas Andrews (8/9), Juliana Aparicio (8/9), Nichola Hallak (8/9), Joseph Mallouk (8/9), Billy Gross (8/10), Carl Andrews (8/10), Samir Boutari (8/10), Amal Makhoul (8/10), Magued Wassef (8/10), Paige Nicola (8/11), Diane Saba (8/11), Audrey Waldman (8/11), Michael Horaney (8/12), Lucas John Abughazaleh (8/13), Ruta McLinn (8/13), Aristides Katerelos (8/14), Albert Bitar, Jr. (8/15), Michael A. Haddad (8/18), Elias Ababseh (8/18), Gloria Mittry (8/19), Chad Blair (8/20), Madelyn Palmer (8/20), Adhanet Woldemichael (8/21), Karoleen Ababseh (8/23), Emily Apostolou (8/23), Robert Camacho (8/23), Molly Anne McCarron (8/23), Katherine Leilani Baclig (8/25), Celine Marie Srouf (8/26), Raquel Randy Ababseh (8/27), Gerald Aboud (8/27), Rami Abughazaleh (8/28), Sonia Karam (8/30), George Mallouk (8/30), Megan Monsue (8/30); and those celebrating their wedding anniversary: Hanna & Rima Sweis (8/8) Tiffany & Tom Akoury (8/12), Phil & Katie Nassief (8/16), Walter & Christina Rygiol (8/16), Marilee & Charles Ajalat (8/17), Kelly & Kenneth Malouf (19); Michael & Kelly Meena (8/22), Sean & Robin O'Dea (8/22), Praneet Panga (8/22), Johny & Edlin Sweis (8/25), Randy & Genevieve Ababseh (8/27), Nickie & Chuck Malouf (8/27), Richard & Cindy Tamoush (8/27), Sylvana & Daniel Barney (8/28), John & Carrie Khouri (8/28), Joseph & Erica Kneizeh (8/28), Rose Ann & Frank E. Skaff (8/28), Sandi & Jeff Gorup (8/29), Vanessa & David Obenhaus (8/31). May God grant them many years!

Michael T. Saliba, +31 Aug., 1953  
 Martha Solomon, +27 Aug., 1960  
 Salama Yanni, +13 Aug., 1961  
 Elmer S. Miller, +14 Aug., 1961  
 Angelina Diab, +28 Aug., 1961  
 Hazel Boyer, Aug., 1965  
 George A. Barkett, +13 Aug., 1969  
 Michelle Hogue, +2 Aug., 1972  
 Edward J. Andrews, +9 Aug., 1974  
 Shikri Massabni, +26 Aug., 1977  
 Edna Zraick, +20 Aug., 1979  
 Elizabeth Pitkart, +22 Aug., 1980  
 Labiba Filipous +Aug., 1984  
 Nancy Leo Courey, +15 Aug., 1985  
 Michel Razook, Sr., +16 Aug., 1985  
 Jad Salem Dabbour, +5 Aug., 1988  
 John T. Black, Sr., +25 Aug., 1988  
 Ernest Kaleel, +2 Aug., 1989  
 Wadih Mattar, +28 Aug., 1989  
 Robert Soffa, +11 Aug., 1991  
 Sarah Ansara, +16 Aug., 1992  
 Donna Rae Hallak, +22 Aug., 1992  
 Stephanie H. Siano, +18 Aug., 1993  
 Afton Bailey, +15 Aug., 1995  
 Issa Saadeh, +21 Aug., 1995  
 Richard Kayaleh, +18 Aug., 1996

Sadie Skaff, +19 Aug., 2001  
 Mary Kiley, +3 Aug., 2002  
 Frank Hallak, +11 Aug., 2002  
 Carmilea Adeeb, +17 Aug., 2002  
 Lenore Baba, +24 Aug., 2002  
 Rose Deeb, +31 Aug., 2002  
 Linda Koudsi, +31 Aug., 2004  
 Joyce Skaff, +1 Aug., 2004  
 Margaret Satel, +25 Aug., 2005  
 Evelyn Barghash, +22 Aug., 2006  
 Lena Nassief, +16 Aug., 2007  
 Chris Reisch, +24 Aug., 2007  
 Mary Zaki, +26 Aug., 2008  
 Donna Cruzan, +11 Aug., 2009  
 Carmen Satel, +13 Aug., 2009  
 Carolee Khalil, +24 Aug., 2010  
 Dr. Martha Barba, +13 Aug., 2011  
 Miladeh Saadeh, +25 Aug., 2011  
 Eula Martha Cates, +25 Aug., 2011  
 Alex Akoury, +27 Aug., 2011  
 Adeeb G. Sadd, +31 Aug., 2011  
 Sabin Nassif, +27 Aug., 2011  
 Eli Shaheen, +02 Aug., 2013  
 Joseph David, +04 Aug., 2013  
 Albert "Al" Coury, Sr., +08 Aug., 2013  
 Cheryl Cambridge, +01 Aug., 2015

Carolyn Cates, +8 Aug., 1998  
Henry Antoniewicz, +14 Aug., 1998  
Diab Makhoul, +25 Aug., 1999  
Helen Hatem, +6 Aug., 2000  
Marvin Adams, +17, Aug., 2000  
Mary Klimowych, +12 Aug., 2001  
Rev. Fr. Cosmo Ansara, +12 Aug.

Rose Jones, +01 Aug., 2015  
Elizabeth Lamar, +18 Aug., 2017  
Dr. Sakae Kawata, +26 Aug. 2017  
Floyd Farha, +12 Aug. 2018  
Jamilie Rabadi, +29 Aug. 2018  
Mary (Berry) Evans, +2 August, 2020  
George Butros, +17 August, 2020

### **Memory Eternal!**

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

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Live-streaming Sunday Orthros and Liturgy**

If you are unable to be with us at church on Sunday, are on vacation or out-of-town, 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](http://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. Mailing your check to the church will save our church a 3% service charge. Other options for your contributions include: a) automatic bill pay and b) recurring automatic withdrawal, both of which may be arranged with your bank. You may contact us for assistance with any of these options; especially when information of our bank routing and account numbers are needed. E-mail your questions to: [frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org](mailto:frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org)

### **Join in our Parish Bible Study Zoom Meetings**

Our next Bible Study will be held on Tuesday evening, August 3rd, at 7 p.m. We will be beginning our study of St. Paul's Epistle to Philemon. A link to the Zoom meeting will be sent out on Tuesday. Sessions are recorded for those unable to attend who may also request the link to the study. Plan to join us.

### **Church Attendance**

We are currently requesting that everyone attending our church services to again wear face coverings due to the City policy regarding the rapid rise in the Delta COVID Variant. Questions will also be answered by Father Timothy by e-mail at: [frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org](mailto:frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org) The Sacrament(s) are also available on weekdays by appointment.

### **Six Month Parish Financial Statement**

Our Parish Constitution requires the publishing of a Six-month Financial Statement. Our members will be receiving this information as a hard copy in the mail only. Should you have any questions, please speak with our Church Treasurer: Julie Bitar, or contact her at: <[jbitar027@gmail.com](mailto:jbitar027@gmail.com)>.

### **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). A new book release by Fr. Stephen de Young, now available is: [The Religion of the Apostles; Orthodox Christianity in the First Century.](#)

Father Stephen is the co-host of "Lords of the Spirits" on Ancient Faith Radio. Your credit card will also be accepted for payment.

## **Upcoming Events**

### **5th Annual Orthodox Advanced Leadership Conference**

September 21-19, 2021

### **30th Annual St. Michael Annual Golf Classic**

(TBA)

### **Diocesan Fall Gathering** - October 8-10, 2021

Host: St. John Church; Orinda, California

### **The 57th "Sweetheart Ball"** - at the Universal Hilton Hotel

(Saturday, November 27, 2021)

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

#### **Holy Bread Offering List**

#### **Coffee Hour Hosts Calendar**

Aug 06 - open (Feast of the Holy Transfiguration)

Aug 08 - open

Aug 15 - The Mitchell family (Feast of the Holy Dormition)

Aug 22 - Ron & Kathy Zraick

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

## **New Church Building Fund**

As we approach the completion of our new church building project it has been determined that we are \$400,000.00 dollars short in order to obtain a Certificate of Occupancy from the City of Los Angeles. We still have many items to comply with, that include codes set by the City and State in order to be able to worship in our new church as a "public use building."

We are very thankful for the many who have generously supported our Project, however, several households of our parish who have not donated to our project.

We have now developed a parishioner loan program that will enable you to help us reach our goal of occupancy (\$50,000.00 dollar minimum), whereby you will be paid interest on the loan plus a five-year payback. This will be backed by a Promissory Note. There are other details that will be discussed should you express a willingness to lend the money to the church.

We are also exploring a Line of Credit with a lending institution. In the case of a Line of Credit you only pay interest on the money you draw, and not the established amount of credit. Ideally, we would like to avoid any type of loans and remain debt free. Should you have any questions please contact Ron Zraick by e-mail [ronaldzraick@gmail.com](mailto:ronaldzraick@gmail.com) or by phone at 310-897-1571.

## **Lecture on the Holy Land Monotheistic Faiths**

For the past three years, Father Timothy has been providing seasonal lectures to pre-college and college students on the subject: "The Three Monotheistic Faiths of the Holy Land: Judaism, Christianity and Islam." You are welcome to receive the recorded links to the lecture by request. Simply e-mail Father Timothy at: [frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org](mailto:frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org)

**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** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Age** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Age** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Age** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Age** \_\_\_\_\_

## Our 2021 Pledge Form Provided with this Bulletin

As a committed member of St. Michael Church, please complete a new 2021 form. 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. Hardcopies will be mailed to you by request. We thank you for your faithful financial support of our parish and all who have made additional contributions to our Building Fund.

EOTHINON 6

الايوثينا 6

tone 5

اللحن 5

### THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW AND THE PROCESSION OF THE PRECIOUS AND LIFE-GIVING CROSS THE SEVEN MACCABEAN YOUTHS, THEIR MOTHER SOLOMONIA AND ELEAZAR THEIR TEACHER

#### طروبارية القيامة على اللحن السادس

إنّ القواتِ الملائكية ظهرت عند قبرك الموقر، فالحراسُ صاروا كالأموات، ومريم وقفت عند القبرِ طالبةً جسّدك الطاهر، فسيبتَ الجحيمَ ولم تُجربَ منها، وصادفتَ البتولَ مانحاً الحياةَ، فيا من قام من بين الأموات، يا ربّ المجدُ لك.

#### طروبارية الصليب على اللحن الأول

خَلِّصْ يا ربّ شعبك وباركْ ميراثك، وامنحْ عبيدك المؤمنين الغلبةَ على الشرير، واحفظْ بقوةِ صليبك جميعَ المختصين بك.

#### طروبارية رؤساء الملائكة باللحن الرابع

أيها المتقدمون على الأجناد السماويين، نتوسّلُ إليكم نحن غير المستحقين، حتّى أنكم بطلباتكم تكتنوفوننا بظلّ أجنحة مجدكم غير الهيولي، حافظين إيانا نحن الجاثين والصارخين بغير فتور، أنقذونا من الشدائد، بما أنكم رؤساء مراتب القوات العلوية.

تَجَلَّيْتَ أيُّها المسيحُ الإلهُ على الجبل، وحسبنا وسع تلاميذك شاهدوا مجدك. حتّى عندما يُعابنونك مصلوباً، يَفْطَنُوا أنّ الأمك طوعاً باختيارك، ويكرزوا للعالم، أنّك أنت بالحقيقة شعاع الآب.

## الرسالة

أَنْتَ يَا رَبُّ تَحْفَظُنَا وَتَسْتُرُنَا مِنْ هَذَا الْجِيلِ  
خَلَّصَنِي يَا رَبُّ، فَإِنَّ الْبَارَّ قَدْ فَنِي.

### فصل من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول إلى أهل رومية.

يا إخوة، إذ لنا مواهبٌ مختلفةٌ باختلافِ النعمةِ المُعطاةِ لنا، فمن وهبَ النبوءةَ فليتنبأ وفقاً للإيمان، ومن وهبَ الخدمةَ فليلازمِ الخدمةَ، والمعلمُ التعليمَ، والواعظُ الوعظَ، والمتصدّقُ البساطةَ، والمُدبّرُ الاجتهادَ، والراحمُ البشاشةَ. وتكن المحبة بلا رياء. كونوا ماقنين للشرِّ



وَمُلْتَصِقِينَ بِالْخَيْرِ. مُجِبِّينَ بَعْضُكُمْ بَعْضًا حُبًّا أَخَوِيًّا، مُبَادِرِينَ بَعْضُكُمْ بَعْضًا بِالْإِكْرَامِ، غَيْرَ مُتَكَاسِلِينَ فِي الاجْتِهَادِ، حَارِّينَ بِالرُّوحِ، عَائِدِينَ لِلرَّبِّ، فَرِحِينَ فِي الرَّجَاءِ، صَابِرِينَ فِي الضِّيقِ، مُوَظِّبِينَ عَلَى الصَّلَاةِ، مُؤَاسِسِينَ الْقَدِيسِينَ فِي احْتِيَاجَاتِهِمْ، عَاكِفِينَ عَلَى ضِيَاةِ الْغُرَبَاءِ. بَارِكُوا الَّذِينَ يَضْطَهُدُونَكُمْ، بَارِكُوا، وَلَا تَلْعَنُوا.

## الإنجيل

**فَصَلُّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ مَتَّى الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ.**  
فِي ذَلِكَ الزَّمَانِ، دَخَلَ يَسُوعُ السَّفِينَةَ وَاجْتَاَزَ وَجَاءَ إِلَى مَدِينَتِهِ. فَأِذَا بِمُخَلِّعٍ مُلْقَى عَلَى سَرِيرٍ قَدِّمُوهُ إِلَيْهِ. فَلَمَّا رَأَى يَسُوعُ إِيمَانَهُمْ، قَالَ لِلْمُخَلِّعِ: "ثِقْ يَا بَنِيَّ، مَغْفُورَةٌ لَكَ خَطَايَاكَ." فَقَالَ قَوْمٌ مِنْ الْكُتْبَةِ فِي أَنْفُسِهِمْ "هَذَا يُجَدِّفُ." فَعَلِمَ يَسُوعُ أَفْكَارَهُمْ، فَقَالَ: "لِمَاذَا تُفَكِّرُونَ بِالشَّرِّ فِي قُلُوبِكُمْ؟ مَا الْإَيْسَرُ أَنْ يُقَالَ، مَغْفُورَةٌ لَكَ خَطَايَاكَ، أَمْ أَنْ يُقَالَ قُمْ فَاَمْشِ؟ وَلَكِنْ لِكَيْ تَعْلَمُوا أَنَّ ابْنَ الْبَشَرِ لَهُ سُلْطَانٌ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ أَنْ يَغْفِرَ الْخَطَايَا. (حِينَئِذٍ قَالَ لِلْمُخَلِّعِ) "قُمْ، أَحْمِلْ سَرِيرَكَ وَاذْهَبْ إِلَى بَيْتِكَ." فَقَامَ وَمَضَى إِلَى بَيْتِهِ. فَلَمَّا نَظَرَ الْجُمُوعُ، تَعَجَّبُوا وَمَجَّدُوا اللَّهَ الَّذِي أَعْطَى النَّاسَ سُلْطَانًا كَهَذَا.

### 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