

# **The Sunday after the Holy Transfiguration and the Seventh Sunday of Matthew**

Emilianos the Confessor, Archbishop of Kyzikos; Myron, Archbishop of Crete

**Sunday, August 8, 2021**

**Tone 6; Eothinon 7**

## **Apolytikion for the Resurrection (Tone 6)**

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 of the Transfiguration (Tone 7)**

When, O Christ our God, Thou wast transfigured on the mountain, Thou didst reveal Thy glory to Thy Disciples in proportion as they could bear it. Let Thine everlasting light also enlighten us sinners, through the intercessions of the Theotokos. O Thou Bestower of light, 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 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 Seventh Sunday after Pentecost)

*O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.*

*Unto Thee will I cry, O Lord my God.*

**The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans  
(15:1-7)**

Brethren, we who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves; let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to edify him. For Christ did not please himself; but, as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached thee fell on me." For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures, we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

THE GOSPEL (for the Seventh Sunday of Matthew)

**The Reading of the Holy Gospel is according to St. Matthew  
(9:27-35)**

At that time, as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed him, crying aloud: "Have mercy on us, Son of David." When He entered the house, the blind men came to Him; and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to Him, "Yes, Lord." Then He touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly charged them, "See that no one knows it." But they went away and spread His fame through all that district. As they were going away, behold, a dumb demoniac was brought to Him. And when the demon had been cast out, the dumb man spoke; and the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel." But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons." And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity.

**The Synaxarion**

On August 8 in the Holy Orthodox Church, during the after-feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ, we commemorate our righteous father Emilianos the Confessor, archbishop of Kyzikos.

### **Verses**

Since Emilianos made much of his soul's salvation,  
He made little of the flesh even until his ending.

On the eighth a furrow received the bones of Emilianos.

Emilianos was archbishop in the time of the wicked Emperor Leo the Armenian, the iconoclast. Refusing to carry out the imperial directive on the removal of icons from the churches, he was, along with other Orthodox bishops, sent into exile. Emilianos spent five years in exile, enduring many ills and much humiliation for the sake of Christ. He died in 820, and joined the company of the citizens of Heaven.

On this day, we also commemorate Myron, archbishop of Crete. By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

## **OFFERINGS**

Holy Bread is being offered this morning by Samir & Amira Boutari, for their continued health and the healing of Vivian Boutari and Simone Latif; and remembering Samir, on the occasion of his birthday. May God grant him many years.

Holy Bread is also being offered this morning by Laila Dawud for the health of her family: Nadeem, David and Nahil, Naveen, Natalie, Assad, Assad, Dema, Emily, and Andrew; and in memory of her beloved husband, Assad; daughter, Dema; brothers, Issa, Jaleel, George; and her parents, Khaleel & Badeha. Memory eternal.

Grapes for the Feast of the Holy Transfiguration were offered by Marcia O'Dea with prayers for the continued health of the O'Dea and Chala families.

Grapes for the Feast of the Holy Transfiguration are being offered today by Samia Habib with prayers for the continued health of her family.

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

for the newly-departed, Rainer Gruetzmacher (+7 August, 2021),  
the father-in-law of Stephanie Monsue. Memory eternal.

for Pat Malouf on her birthday, from her secret sister.

for Daphne Thabet from her secret sister.

for the recovery and continued health of Linda Mitchell.

## LITURGICAL CALENDAR

### ***The Fast of the Holy Dormition: August 1-14***

*[Traditional fasting includes: no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine and oil,  
however wine and oil are allowed on Saturdays and Sundays]*

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

### **The Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos**

Great Vespers - Saturday, August 14, 5 p.m.

Sunday, August 15 - Orthros, 8:45 a.m., Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.

## 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: [frimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org](mailto:frimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org)

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

Our next Bible Study will be held on Tuesday evening, August 10th, at 7 p.m. We will be beginning our study of St. Paul's Epistles to the Corinthians. 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 Sacraments 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)>.

## **Parish Council Virtual Meeting**

Monday, August 16, 2021, 5 p.m., (Link to be provided)

## **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)

## **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.

## **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 everyone for their faithful financial support of our parish and all who have made additional contributions to our Building Fund. Please note the four options available for your offerings listed on the form: 1) hardcopy check mailed or brought to church, 2) automatic bill pay, 3) on-line credit card contribution, and 4) recurring automatic bank withdrawal.

**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**

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

**Holy Bread Offering List**

**Coffee Hour Hosts Calendar**

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

Aug 22 - Ron & Kathy Zraick; The Srour family

Aug 29 - open

Sep 05 - open

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

**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)

**LAPD Notice**

In May, street racing claimed the life of a driver in Reseda. Just the other night a street racing accident in Burbank took 3 more lives. Street racing continues to be a serious problem all around the Valley. According to LAPD, In 2021, there's been over 2,000 traffic stops, nearly 1,900 citations written, 433 vehicles impounded, and 437 people arrested in connection with illegal street racing & takeovers. LAPD's Street Racing Taskforce is committed to disrupting and abating this deadly activity.

**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.

## THE DISCIPLINE OF FASTING

We are now in a two week period called, **The Dormition Fast**. 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* (pah-RAH-kle-sis), which means "supplicatory canon," is done each evening of the Dormition Fast. This year, the service will take place on Wednesday evening, August 11th, beginning at 6:30 p.m. 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. A form is provided in the narthex.

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.

**EOTHINON 7**

الايوثينا 7

**TONE 6**

اللحن 6

### THE SUNDAY AFTER THE HOLY TRANSFIGURATION

#### SEVENTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

EMILIANOS THE CONFESSOR, ARCHBISHOP OF KYZIKOS; MYRON, ARCHBISHOP OF CRETE

#### طروبارية القيامة على اللحن السادس

إنّ القواتِ الملائكية ظهرت عند قبرك الموقر، فالحراسُ صاروا كالأموات، ومريم  
وقفت عند القبرِ طالبةً جسدك الطاهر، فسبيتَ الجحيمَ ولم تُجربَ منها، وصادفتَ البتولَ  
مانحاً الحياة، فيا من قام من بين الأموات، يا ربَّ المجدِّ لك.

لَمَّا تَجَلَّيْتَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ الْإِلَهُ فِي الْجَبَلِ، أَظْهَرْتَ مَجْدَكَ لِلتَّلَامِيذِ حَسَبَمَا اسْتَطَاعُوا، فَاشْرُقْ لَنَا نَحْنُ الْخَطَاةَ نوركِ الْأَزَلِيِّ، بِشَفَاعَاتِ وَالِدَةِ الْإِلَهُ، يَا مَانِحَ النُّورِ، الْمَجْدُ لَكَ.

طروبارية رؤساء الملائكة باللحن الرابع  
أَيُّهَا الْمُتَقَدِّمُونَ عَلَى الْأَجْنَادِ السَّمَاوِيِّينَ، نَتَوَسَّلُ إِلَيْكُمْ نَحْنُ غَيْرِ الْمُسْتَحَقِّينَ، حَتَّى أَنْتُمْ بِطُلُبَاتِكُمْ تَكْتَنُفُونَنَا بِظُلِّ أَجْنَحَةِ مَجْدِكُمْ غَيْرِ الْهَيُولِيِّ، حَافِظِينَ إِيَّانَا نَحْنُ الْجَائِثِينَ وَالصَّارِحِينَ بِغَيْرِ فُتُورٍ، أَنْقِدُونَا مِنَ الشَّدَائِدِ، بِمَا أَنْتُمْ رُؤَسَاءُ مَرَاتِبِ الْقَوَاتِ الْعُلُويَّةِ.

تَجَلَّيْتَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ الْإِلَهُ عَلَيَّ الْجَبَلِ، وَحَسَبَمَا وَسِعَ تَلَامِيذُكَ شَاهَدُوا مَجْدَكَ. حَتَّى عِنْدَمَا يُعَايِنُونَكَ مَصْلُوبًا، يَفْطَنُوا أَنْ أَلَمَكَ طَوْعًا بِاخْتِيَارِكَ، وَيَكْرِهُونَ لِلْعَالَمِ، أَنَّكَ أَنْتَ بِالْحَقِيقَةِ شَعَاعُ الْآبِ.

## الرسالة

خَلِّصْ يَا رَبُّ شَعْبَكَ وَبَارِكْ مِيرَاثَكَ.  
إِلَيْكَ يَا رَبُّ أَصْرُحُ إِلَهِي.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولْسِ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى أَهْلِ رُومِيَّةِ.

يَا إِخْوَةَ، يَجِبُ عَلَيْنَا نَحْنُ الْأَقْوِيَاءُ أَنْ نَحْتَمِلَ وَهَنَ الضُّعْفَاءِ، وَلَا نُرْضِيَ أَنْفُسَنَا. فَلْيُرْضِ كُلُّ وَاحِدٍ مِنَّا قَرِيبَهُ لِلْخَيْرِ، لِأَجْلِ الْبُنْيَانِ. فَإِنَّ الْمَسِيحَ لَمْ يُرْضِ نَفْسَهُ، وَلَكِنْ كَمَا كُتِبَ "تَعْيِيرَاتُ مُعِيرِكَ وَقَعَتْ عَلَيَّ." لِأَنَّ كُلَّ مَا كُتِبَ مِنْ قَبْلِ، إِنَّمَا كُتِبَ لِتَعْلِيمِنَا، لِيَكُونَ لَنَا الرَّجَاءُ بِالصَّبْرِ وَبِتَعَزُّيَةِ الْكُتُبِ. وَلِيُعْطِكُمْ إِلَهُ الصَّبْرِ وَالتَّعَزُّيَةِ أَنْ تَكُونُوا مُتَّفَقِي الْأَرَاءِ فِيمَا بَيْنَكُمْ، بِحَسَبِ الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ. حَتَّى إِنَّكُمْ بِنَفْسٍ وَاحِدَةٍ وَفَمِ وَاحِدٍ تُمَجِّدُونَ اللَّهَ أَبَا رَبِّنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحَ. مِنْ أَجْلِ ذَلِكَ، فَلْيَتَّخِذْ بَعْضُكُمْ بَعْضًا كَمَا اتَّخَذَكُمْ الْمَسِيحُ لِمَجْدِ اللَّهِ.

# الإنجيل

## فصل شريف من بشارة القديس متى الإنجيلي البشير والتلميذ الطاهر (35:9-27)

في ذلك الزمان فيما يسوع مجتازُ تبعهُ أعميان يصيحان ويقولان ارحمنا يا ابن داود\* فلما دخل البيت دنا إليه الأعميان فقال لهما يسوع هل تؤمنان أنني أقدر أن افعل ذلك. فقالا له نعم يارب\* حينئذ لمس أعينهما قائلاً كمايما نكما فليكن لكما فانفتحت أعينهما ، فانتهرهما يسوع قائلاً انظرا لا يعلم أحد\* فلما خرجا شهراه في تلك الأرض كلها\* وبعد خروجهما قدموا إليه اخرس به شيطان\* فلما أُخرج الشيطان تكلم الأخرس، فتعجب الجموع قائلين لم يظهر قط مثل هذا في إسرائيل\* أما الفريسيون فقالوا إنه برئيس الشياطين يُخرج الشياطين\* وكان يسوع يطوفُ المدن كلها والقرى يُعلمُ في مجامعهم ويكرزُ ببشارة الملكوت ويشفي كل مريض وكل ضعف في الشعب.

### 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 في الخبز المقدس الذى يوزع عند إنتهاء مراسيم القداس). رجاء مراجعة الكاهن. إذا رغبت أن تصبح عضواً فى الكنيسة الارثوذكسية