

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 Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos

Sunday, August 15, 2021

Tone 7; Eothinon 8

Apolytikion for the Resurrection (Tone 7)

Thou didst shatter death by Thy Cross, Thou didst open paradise to the thief; Thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment-bearing women into joy. And didst bid Thine Apostles proclaim a warning, that Thou hast risen O Christ, granting to the world the Great Mercy.

Apolytikion of the Dormition of the Theotokos (Tone 1)

In thy birth-giving, O Theotokos, thou didst keep and preserve virginity; and in thy falling-asleep thou hast not forsaken the world; for thou wast translated into life, being the Mother of Life. Wherefore, by thine intercessions, deliver our souls from death.

Kontakion of the Dormition of the Holy Theotokos (Tone 2)

Verily, the Theotokos, who is ever watchful in intercessions, and whose prayers are never rejected, neither tomb nor death could control. But since she is the Mother of Life, He Who dwelt in her ever-virgin womb did translate her to life.

Daily Readings

THE EPISTLE (for the Holy Dormition)

*My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
For He hath regarded the humility of His servant.*

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Philippians (2:5-11)

Brethren, let this mind be in you, which is also in Christ Jesus; who, being in the form of God, did not think it robbery to be equal with God, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a slave, becoming Himself in the likeness of men; and being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, becoming obedient unto death, even the death of the Cross. For this cause also God highly exalted Him, and gave Him a Name which is above every name; that in the Name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those who are in heaven, and those who are on earth, and those who are under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

THE GOSPEL (for the Holy Dormition)

The Reading of the Holy Gospel is according to St. Luke (10:38-42; 11:27-28)

At that time, Jesus entered a certain village; and a woman named Martha received Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to His teaching. But Martha was distracted with much serving; and she went to Him and said, "Lord, dost Thou not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things; one thing is needful. Mary has chosen the good portion, which shall not be taken away from her." As He said this, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, "Blessed is the womb that bore Thee, and the breasts that Thou didst suck!" But He said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

The Synaxarion

On August 15 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the venerable Dormition and Translation of our supremely glorious Lady the Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary.

Verses

That the world-saving Maiden died is no marvel,
Since, after the flesh, the world's Maker died also.
God's Mother liveth forever, though she died on the fifteenth.

The Archangel Gabriel appeared to Mary and revealed to her that within three days she will find repose. She returned to her home with great joy, desiring in her heart once more to see in this life, all of the Apostles of Christ. The Lord fulfilled her wish and all of the Apostles, borne by angels in the clouds, gathered at the same time at the home of John on Zion. After seeing them, the Theotokos peacefully gave up her soul to God without any pain or physical illness. The Apostles took the coffin with her body from which an aromatic fragrance emitted and, in the company of many Christians, bore it to the Garden of Gethsemane to the sepulcher of her parents, Saints Joachim and Anna. Only the Apostle Thomas was absent, according to God's Providence, in order that a new and all-glorious mystery of the Holy Theotokos would again be revealed.

On the third day, Thomas arrived and desired to venerate the body of the Holy All-pure one. But when the Apostles opened the sepulcher, they found only the winding sheet and the body was not in the tomb. That evening, the Theotokos appeared to the apostles surrounded by a myriad of angels and said to them: "Rejoice, I will be with you always."

By the intercessions of the Theotokos, O God, have mercy on us and save us, since Thou art good and the Lover of mankind. Amen.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

The Ninth Sunday of Matthew and
The After-feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos
Great Vespers - Saturday, August 21, 5 p.m.
Sunday, August 22 - Orthros, 8:45 a.m., Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.

OFFERINGS

Holy Bread for the Feast of the Holy Dormition is being offered with prayers for the Mitchell family: Michael, Mary Ann, celebrating her Feast Day, Andrew, Hannah and Olivia.

Holy Bread is also being offered by Adam Lamar with prayers for his newborn grandnephew, Samuel Arthur Churchill, born to Bella & Geoffrey Churchill on August 10, 2021. May God grant them a healthy and long life!

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

for the repose of the newly-departed Archpriest Gregory Ofiesh (+11 August, 2021), retired Pastor Emeritus of St. Nicholas Church (San Francisco). Memory eternal.

for the wellbeing of Khouriye Helen Ashie and her family.

sending our love to our uncle Emile Skaff from the Deeb family.

Janice Davis and family with the recent passing of John Davis.
May his memory be eternal. Love, the Deeb family.

by Samia Habib for the continued health of her family and friends
and in memory of her departed husband, Gregory, family and friends.

for Mary Ann Mitchell, celebrating her Feast Day.
May God grant her many years! From her secret sister.

for Diana Nasser, on the occasion of her birthday (August 18).
May God bless her with good health and much happiness always;
offered by her Prayer Sister.

for the upcoming birthday of Gloria Mittry (August 19).
May God grant her continued health and many years!

for friends, Jeff & Brenda Neller, by Eric Nelson.

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> 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

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 The Sacraments are also available on weekdays by appointment.

Parish Council Virtual Meeting

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

Join in our Parish Bible Study Zoom Meetings

Our next Bible Study will be held on Tuesday evening, August 17th, at 7 p.m. We will be continuing our study of St. Paul's Epistle 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.

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

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

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. We thank 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.

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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 22 - Ron & Kathy Zraick; The Srour and Milkie family

Aug 29 - open

Sep 05 - open

Sep 12 - open

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

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. 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.

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 or by phone at 310-897-1571.



CALIFORNIA STATEWIDE FIRE SUMMARY WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2021

TODAY THERE ARE **9,789** PERSONNEL
BATTLING **11** ACTIVE LARGE WILDFIRES THAT
IN TOTAL HAVE BURNED **941,003** ACRES

RESOURCE BREAKDOWN:
STATE, LOCAL, TRIBAL AND FEDERAL
RESOURCES ASSIGNED TO
ACTIVE WILDFIRES

729 ENGINES

159 HANDCREWS

257 BULLDOZERS

268 WATERTENDERS

45 HELICOPTERS