

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

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and Metropolitan of all North America www.antiochian.org
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The Glorious and Brilliant Feast of the Entrance of our Lord Jesus Christ into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday)

Sunday, April 17, 2022

Apolytikion of Lazarus (Tone 1)

O Christ our God, by raising Lazarus from the dead before Thy Passion Thou didst confirm the universal resurrection. Wherefore, we like children, carry the banner of triumph and victory, cry to Thee, O Conquerer of death: Hosanna in the highest; blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

Apolytikion of Palm Sunday (Tone 4)

O Christ God, when we were buried with Thee in Baptism, we became deserving of Thy Resurrection to immortal life. Wherefore we praise Thee crying, Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord!

Kontakion of Palm Sunday (Tone 4)

Upborne upon the heavenly throne, and seated upon the earthly foal, O Christ our God, receive the praises of angels and the hymns of men, exclaiming before Thee, Blessed is He that cometh to restore Adam.

Daily Readings

THE EPISTLE (for Palm Sunday)

Blessed is He Who cometh in the Name of the Lord.

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endures forever.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Philippians (4:4-9)

Brethren, rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let all men know your forbearance. The Lord is at hand. Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely,

whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, these do; and the God of peace will be with you.

THE GOSPEL (for Palm Sunday)

The Reading of the Holy Gospel is according to St. John (12:1-18)

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus who had died was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. There they made Him a supper; Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at table with Him. Mary took a pound of costly ointment of pure nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped His feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment. But Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, one of His Disciples (he who was to betray Jesus), said, "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" This he said, not because he cared for the poor but because he was a thief, and as he had the money box he used to take what was put into it. Jesus said, "Let her alone, let her keep it for the day of My burial. The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have Me." When the great crowd of the Jews learned that He was there, they came, not only on account of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Lazarus also to death, because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus. The next day a great crowd who had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying, "Hosanna! Blessed is He Who cometh in the Name of the Lord, the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat upon it; as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" His Disciples did not understand this at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that this had been written of Him and had been done to Him. The crowd that had been with Jesus when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead bore witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet Jesus was that they heard He had done this sign.

The Synaxarion

Today in the Holy Orthodox Church we celebrate Palm Sunday, the glorious and brilliant entrance of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ into Jerusalem. Jesus came to Bethany on the Sunday falling before the six days of the Mosaic Passover. On the following day He sent two of His Disciples, who brought Him a donkey on which He sat to enter the city. And when the great multitude heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, they immediately took palm branches in their hands and went out to meet Him. All cried, "Hosanna! Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord, King of Israel!" The branches of palm trees were a symbol of Christ's victory over Satan and death. And the meaning of "Hosanna" is, "We pray Thee, save." The donkey's colt, which was still an untamed animal, and impure according to the law, as well as Christ's sitting thereon, symbolize the former savagery and impurity of the Gentiles; and their subsequent taming and obedience to the holy law of the Gospel. *To our Lord Jesus Christ, the vanquisher of sin and death, be glory, honor and worship, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. 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

Holy Bread is being offered on Lazarus Saturday by Monica Juganu in loving memory of her mother, Nun Filoftheia (+17 March, 2016). Memory eternal.

Holy Bread is being offered this morning by Dimitri, Alex, Jonah and Sabine Moujaes with prayers for their parents, Waleed & Michelle, who are celebrating their eighteenth wedding anniversary today. May God grant them many years of continued good health and prosperity.

Holy Bread is also being offered by Antoine & Georgiana Nader in loving memory of their parents, Nouhad & Aref Nader (+17 April, 1987) and Joseph & Labibe Habak. Memory eternal.

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

In memory of the newly-departed Khouriye Patricia (“Patty”) Romley (+14, April, 2022). Memory eternal.

for the healing and good health of Linda Mitchell

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

[Note: Friday, April 15th was the end of the Great Fast. Monday, April 18th begins the Fast of Great and Holy Week.*]

Palm Sunday**

[Note: There are no memorials held on Palm Sunday]

Sunday, April 17th – Orthros, 8:45 a.m.

The Procession of Palms and The Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.

Complete texts of church services are available on-line at:
<https://antiochian.org/liturgicday>

* For more information on fasting or questions, speak with Father Timothy.

** Fish, wine and oil are permitted on Palm Sunday, April 17th.
Holy Pascha (Easter) is celebrated on Sunday, April 24th.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Plan to Participate in the Arabic Choir on Holy Friday

All who would like to participate in chanting the Lamentations in Arabic should plan to attend a rehearsal at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, April 22, 2021. Please respond to our Choir Director, Art Danks, to participate at: artdanks1@yahoo.com

Join us for our Pot Luck Paschal Breakfast - April 23-24

All who would like to provide a dish for the Paschal Breakfast following the Midnight Liturgy should contact Subdeacon Richard Ajalat at: rajalat@stmichaelvannuys.org to ensure a menu with a variety of dishes.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

NOTE: Confessions will be heard before and/or after the services, or by appointment during the week. It would be most appropriate for confessions to be completed by Holy Wednesday (April 20th) just prior to the Sacrament of Holy Unction and the Holy Thursday morning Liturgy.

THE SERVICES OF GREAT AND HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday Evening – April 17th

Bridegroom Orthros and Procession, 6:30 p.m.

صلاة الختن الاولى

Great and Holy Monday – April 18th

Bridegroom Orthros and Confessions, 6:30 p.m.

صلاة الختن الثانية

Great and Holy Tuesday – April 19th

Bridegroom Orthros and Confessions, 6:30 p.m.

صلاة الختن الثالثة

Great and Holy Wednesday – April 20th

Confessions

The Sacrament of Holy Unction, 6:30 p.m.

صلاة الزيت المقدس

Great and Holy Thursday – April 21st

Vespertal Liturgy of St. Basil, 10 a.m.

قداس الخميس العظيم

Orthros of the Twelve Passion Gospels, 6:30 p.m.

صلاة إنجيل الآلام

Great and Holy Friday – April 22nd

Great Vespers of the Descent from the Cross, 3 p.m.

صلاة غروب الجمعة العظيمة

Orthros of the Lamentations and Procession, 6:30 p.m.

خدمة جناز المسيح

Great and Holy Saturday – April 23rd

Service of the Preparing of the Holy Gifts (*Proskomedie*), 8:30 a.m.

Vespertal Liturgy of St. Basil the Great, 9 a.m.

صلاة سبت النور العظيم

SERVICES OF THE GLORIOUS RESURRECTION – HOLY PASCHA

The “Rush Procession” Orthros, 11:30 p.m.

The Divine Liturgy and “Agape Breakfast”

قداس الفصح

يلي القداس فطور المحبة

Holy Pascha – April 24th

The Paschal Vespers of Love (*Agape*), 11 a.m.

صلاة الباعوث

MAY
2

Easter
EGG HUNT



***St. Michael Antiochian Orthodox Church
Church School Presents: Annual Easter Egg Hunt***
Following the Agape Vespers at 11 a.m.

We are very excited to announce that we will be having an Easter Egg Hunt this year! Because many of you have not been back to church yet we are asking for an RSVP so we can make sure there are enough eggs for everyone that will be attending. Please email/text your response to Brittney Ajalat at blajalat@gmail.com / (818) 434-3558 by April 25th.

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. If you have a coin box, you may either mail a check for the total amount to the parish or should you turn in your box be sure to put your name on the box when you turn it in. Thank you for your support of our annual Lenten charity campaign.

Raies-Murr Educational Trust Scholarship

Only members, in good standing of St. Michael Antiochian Orthodox Church (Van Nuys) or St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Cathedral (Los Angeles) and who have been accepted to or are currently enrolled in a **publicly supported** (not private) institution of higher learning, including eligible **publicly supported** vocational, technical and trade schools, are eligible to apply for a Raies-Murr Scholarship. Applications can be obtained by e-mailing Mallory Murr at: <RaiesMurrScholarship@gmail.com>. The applications must be returned by mid-July 2022.

Save the Date for our St. Michael Golf Classic



Our 29th Annual Golf Classic is now scheduled for Monday, May 23, 2022 at the Wood Ranch Club (Simi Valley). Mark your calendars to save the date for a fun-filled gathering for our parish community.

Our 2022 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.

**SAINT MICHAEL ORTHODOX CHURCH
2022 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, credit card payments in-person, automatic bill pay, automatic payments from your bank (See back). Church address: 16643 Vanowen Street; Van Nuys, California; 91406-4622; Website: www.stmichaelvannuys.org**

Ways to pay your pledge or donation:

- 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

Parish Council Dinner Meeting — Monday, April 25 [details to follow]

Forest Lawn (Glendale) Cemetery Plot For Sale
For more information, speak with Father Timothy.

Support for Ukraine

Those of you who would like to donate to The International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) earmarked to Ukraine would be to go to www.IOCC.org/OVFUkraine. If you would prefer donating by check, please make it out to IOCC and in the memo line put “OVF/Ukraine” and mail to IOCC, Attn: Donor Services; 110 West Road, Suite 360, Baltimore, MD; 21204. If you have questions you can contact IOCC at 410-243-9820.

Note to Coffee Hour hosts: Please contact Father Timothy for Instructions.

Holy Bread Offering List

Apr 21 - Holy Thursday Liturgy
Apr 23 - open (Holy Saturday)
Apr 24 - open (Holy Pascha)

Coffee Hour Hosts Calendar

Pot Luck Paschal Breakfast

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

Upcoming Events

Virgin Mary Life-giving Spring Mission Fundraiser: Saturday, May 7
St. Nicholas Cathedral Heritage Hall

St. Michael 29th Golf Classic: Monday, May 23, 2022 at Wood Ranch
Golf Club (Simi Valley) <www.woodranchgc.com>

Diocesan Parish Life Conference hosted by The Church of the
Redeemer (Santa Clara Marriott) — June 29 - July 3, 2022
Conference Registration link: [https://www.antiochianevents.org/events/
diocese-of-los-angeles-and-the-west-1/registration](https://www.antiochianevents.org/events/diocese-of-los-angeles-and-the-west-1/registration)
Conference Schedule: https://www.antiochianevents.com/la_schedule

Archdiocesan Clergy Institute — July 18-22, 2022
(Antiochian Village; Bolivar, Pennsylvania)



Save The Date For:

The St. Michael

29th Annual Golf Classic

Honoring those who've served

Carl Andrews. Ameen "Babe" Mittrv and Emile F. skaff

COME HELP CONTINUE THE LONG-STANDING TRADITION OF
"GETTING OUT FOR THE DAY" BY PARTICIPATING IN OUR
ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC AND BBQ

MONDAY, MAY 23rd – WOOD RANCH GOLF CLUB:

12:00 Noon Shotgun Start

GOLFERS – or those who claim to be!!!!

Make up your own foursome or we'll pair you up.

Shotgun Start – 4 Golfer Scramble Format – 2 Mulligans –

Participation in Putting Contest

Closest to the Line – Team and Individual Awards – Raffles

Continental Breakfast – Box Lunch – Barbeque Dinner

Sodas – Water – Beer – and More!!!!

\$185.00 Per Player!



NON-GOLFERS



Unable to get out for the whole day?

Then join us later for an evening of fun and frolic!

Barbecue Dinner; Chinese Auction – Golf Ball Raffle – Door Prizes

\$50.00 each

For reservations or more information contact:

Don Meena (661) 623-0340 or donmeena@sbcglobal.net

Fred Milkie, Jr. (818) 535-4243 or milkief@aol.com

HOLE SPONSORSHIP

Michael Srour (818) 314-9363 or mcsrour@gmail.com



Sanctuary Chairs Available for Sponsorships

A sample of our new solid oak upholstered seats have arrived. So see them please contact Father Timothy for sponsorships: \$300/chair, or \$3,000 for a "gang-tied" row of ten that form a pew. Each seat includes a book pocket (front and back) beneath the seat, and a vinyl kneeler. Twelve custom high chairs are also available for choir sponsorship seating (\$350).





DIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES & THE WEST PARISH LIFE CONFERENCE

HOSTED BY: ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER (LOS ALTOS HILLS, CA)
JUNE 29 - JULY 3, 2022 ~ SANTA CLARA MARRIOTT

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

Dear Parents, Grandparents, Godparents and Teachers,

We are again submitting Creative Festival entries to this year's Parish Life Conference that will take place in Santa Clara (June 29 to July 3, 2022). This year's theme is: "Unless you are converted and become like children you will by no means enter the Kingdom of Heaven" (Matthew 18:3). The deadline, originally set for this Friday, April 15, 2022 has been extended should your child or teen desire to submit an entry. Our Youth Director, Cooper Rowe, will be compiling all Creative Arts, Writing, Poetry and Photography entries for shipping. All entries must be turned in by Sunday, May 1, 2022 for proper mounting.

Here is the link to the Creative Festival Rules, Guidelines and Suggestions for each entry: <https://antiochian.org/dashboard?name=creative%20festivals>.

The Bible Bowl and Oratorical Festival participants would require attendance at the Parish Life Conference. Conference information is provided with this link: <https://antiochianevents.com/la>. Also, see the current published Conference schedule: https://www.antiochianevents.com/la_schedule

May we all enter the joy of the Lord in the Feast of His Holy Resurrection!

V. Rev. Timothy Baclig
Pastor

Zoom Meeting Virtual Bible Studies Will Resume in May

Our Weekly Bible Study will resume after Pascha. Our study will be on the "Prayer Book of the Church" — The Psalms. For more information contact: frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org

Pastoral Message

V. Rev. Timothy Baclig, Pastor
Palm Sunday - April 17, 2022

Beloved in Christ,

Our celebration on Palm Sunday actually begins with the miracle of Christ raising of Lazarus from the dead commemorating this coming Saturday, April 11. The Gospel lesson of "Lazarus Saturday" prepares us for the glorious entry of Christ into the City of Jerusalem on Palm Sunday (April 17).

Similarly, our celebration of Easter begins with Great and Holy Friday. However, the service that is often well attended on Holy Friday is not "the end of the story." Just as the joy of Palm Sunday begins with the raising of Lazarus from the dead, so it is with Christ's Holy Resurrection. We begin on Great and Holy Friday with the sadness of what seems a great tragedy, but our worship concludes with the triumphant victory of Christ's glorious Resurrection. Joy is experienced in overcoming suffering. And there is no resurrection without death.

During Great and Holy Week, the Divine Grace of God and His merciful forgiveness is showered upon us on Holy Wednesday with the Sacrament of Holy Unction for the healing of soul and body. We are thankful that this year, we will be able to have many of you present in the church for the Sacrament of Healing.

The twelve Gospel lessons of Holy Week on Thursday, begins with the Lord demonstrating for us what being a servant means with His washing the feet of the disciples. This occurs just before He offers Himself to us as the bread and wine at The Last Supper, when He said, "His Body ... and this is my Blood..., for the forgiveness of sins" (Matthew 26:26-28). Thus, we see how each of our services of Holy Week are a part of a whole and complete message.

Everyone who began gathering the little town of Bethany, the home of Lazarus, and began crowding the streets as Jesus made His way to the City of Jerusalem; bringing palms and branches of olives shouted "Hosanna!" while waving them. It is a word that means; "Save us, I pray, save now!" There was a desperation in the cry from their hearts on that day. They were in great need for a deliverer; a Savior. This exclamation is like the petition we often hear within our Liturgy over and over again: *Help us! Save us! Have mercy on us! And keep us, O God, by Thy grace!*

The shouts of "Hosanna" from the people in Jesus' day continued with the phrase: "Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord, the King of Israel!" They were anticipating the coming of the Messiah (The "Anointed One"). They had hope in finding Him. However, the full context of the prophesies of the Covenant (Old Testament) were not yet fully realized: *This all took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet [Zechariah 9:9]: "Say to the daughter of Zion, 'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'" And who would think of a King arriving on a donkey? Who ever thought that this King would've been born in a cave amidst animals? Who would've imagined this King washing the feet of His Disciples?*

"Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord!" It is also your and my exclamation. It begins with "Hosanna" (a cry for help, to be saved - you and me today!), but it continues with the acknowledgment that He has come, that He is present, and that He is to come! We can be certain of His love. We can be certain of His presence. It is a steadfast and unconditional love - unlike any other. He promised to never leave or forsake us (Hebrews 3:5). So for you and I who have been baptized and illumined, we shout for joy: "Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" (Matthew 21:1-9).

Our parents, grandparents, and even our godparents have paved the way with great sacrifices. We are who we are, because of who they were. Their prayers for us continue! Our salvation is just as important as it was to them. It is most important to God! Be sure that it is also important to you and your children. There is no better time to be connected than during Holy Week when we together

revisit: the full and complete message of the Gospel. Holy Week is only beginning... it's not too late! Plan time to be present with us.

God wants us to be connected. He so desired a connection to us that He was born of human flesh! He desired to be so connected to us that He not only became one of us, He accepted becoming a mockery, bearing all of our sins, in order to save us. He accepted becoming a curse; was even spat upon. Why? Because no one else could turn the tables on evil. It is only He Who Is The Author of life: He who is Truth; He who is also the Way (John 14:6). It was only He that could bring us the peace we yearn to have; to fill us with the joy we long to feel; to heal the pain and uncertainty. John

You and I must find our connection with God! You and I must also remain connected to Him! If the life of your family is important; if the survival of your relationships are valuable; if they are needing to be meaningful, then being connected to the Church (The Body of Christ) is being in the right place, especially on Holy Week. We are united with Him and each other because there was someone who prayed for you; and who may still be praying for you!

May the journey we make together to the Cross that ends at the empty tomb bring us unspeakable joy in the full knowledge of all that God has done for us through Christ Jesus, our Lord and King! May His Light so shine on us in the end, not only as a symbol, but with the full reality that He has granted us the forgiveness of sins and has reconciled us with Himself and with each other.

ENTRANCE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST INTO JERUSALEM (PALM SUNDAY)

دخول ربنا يسوع المسيح المجيد إلى اورشليم (أحد الشعانين)

طروبارية لعازر على اللحن الأول

أيها المسيح الإله، لما أقمت لعازر من بين الأموات قبل أيامك حققت القيامة العامة، لذلك ونحن كأطفال نحمل علامات الغلبة والظفر، صارخين إليك يا غالب الموت، أوصنا في الأعلى، مبارك الآتي باسم الرب.

طروبارية الشعانيين على اللحن الرابع
أيها المسيح إلهنا، لقد دُفنا معك في المعمودية، فاستحققتنا بقيامتك الحياة
الخالدة. أوصنا في الأعالي، مبارك الآتي باسم الرب

قنداق أحد الشعانيين على اللحن السادس

أيها المسيح الإله، المستوي على عرش في السماء، والراكب عفواً على الأرض،
لقد قبلت تسبيح الملائكة ونشيد الفتیان الهاتفين إليك: مبارك أنت الآتي لتحي آدم

الرسالة

مبارك الآتي باسم الرب. احمدا الرب فإنه صالح، وإن إلى الأبد رحمته
فصل من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول إلى أهل فيليبي

يا إخوة، إفرحوا دائماً في الرب، وأقول أيضاً: افرحوا. وليظهر لطفكم لجميع البشر. فإن
الرب قريب. لا تقلقوا أبداً، بل ارفعوا طلبتكم إلى الله بالصلاة والتضرع والحمد. وسلام
الله الذي يفوق كل إدراك يحفظ قلوبكم وعقولكم في المسيح يسوع. وبعد، أيها الاخوة،
فافتكروا فيما هو حق، وشريف، وعادل، وطاهر، ومُسْتَحَبُّ وحسن السمعة وما كان
فضيلةً وأهلاً للمديح، واطبوا على عمل ما تعلمتموه وتسلمتموه وسمعتموه ورأيتموه في،
وإله السلام يكون معكم

الإنجيل

فصل شريف من بشارة القديس يوحنا

وقبل الفصح بسنة أيام جاء يسوع إلى بيت عنياء، حيث كان لعازر الذي أقامه من بين
الأموات. فاقيم له عشاء هناك، وكانت مرّتا تخدم، وكان لعازر في جملة الذين معه على
الطعام. فتناولت مريم حقة طيب من النّاردين الخالص الغالي الثمن، ودهنت قدمي يسوع
ثم مسحتهما بشعرها. فعبق البيت بالطيب. فقال يهوذا الإسخريوطي أحد تلاميذه، وهو
الذي أوشك أن يسلمه: ”لماذا لم يبع هذا الطيب بثلاثمائة دينار، فتعطي للفقراء؟“ ولم
يقُل هذا لاهتمامه بالفقراء، بل لأنه كان سارقاً وكان صندوق الدراهم عنده، فيختلس ما

يُلْقَى فِيهِ فَقَالَ يَسُوعُ: “ دَعَهَا، فَإِنَّهَا حَفِظَتْ هَذَا الطَّيِّبَ لِيَوْمِ دَفْنِي. إِنَّ الْفُقَرَاءَ هُمْ عِنْدَكُمْ دَائِمًا أَبَدًا، وَأَمَّا أَنَا فَلَسْتُ عِنْدَكُمْ دَائِمًا أَبَدًا”. وَعَلِمَ جَمْعٌ كَثِيرٌ مِنَ الْيَهُودِ أَنَّ يَسُوعَ هُنَاكَ فَجَاؤُوا، لَا مِنْ أَجْلِ يَسُوعَ فَقَطْ، بَلْ لِيَرَوْا أَيْضًا لِعَازَرَ الَّذِي أَقَامَهُ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ. فَعَزَمَ عَظَمَاءُ الْكَهَنَةِ عَلَى أَنْ يَقْتُلُوا لِعَازَرَ أَيْضًا، لِأَنَّ كَثِيرًا مِنَ الْيَهُودِ كَانُوا يَنْصَرِفُونَ عَنْهُمْ بِسَبَبِهِ وَيُؤْمِنُونَ بِيَسُوعِ. وَلَمَّا كَانَ الْعَدُ سَمِعَ الْجَمْعَ الْكَثِيرَ الَّذِينَ أَتَوْا لِلْعِيدِ أَنَّ يَسُوعَ قَادِمٌ إِلَى أُورَشَلِيمَ. فَحَمَلُوا سَعَفَ النَّخْلِ وَخَرَجُوا لِاسْتِقْبَالِهِ وَهُمْ يَهْتَفُونَ: “ هُوَ شَعْنَا ! تَبَارَكَ الْآتِي بِاسْمِ الرَّبِّ مَلِكُ إِسْرَائِيلِ ! ” فَوَجَدَ يَسُوعُ جَحْشًا فَرَكِبَهُ، كَمَا وَرَدَ فِي الْكِتَابِ: ” لَا تَخَافِي يَا بِنْتَ صِهْيُونِ هُوَذَا مَلِكُكَ آتٍ رَاكِبًا عَلَى جَحْشِ ابْنِ أَتَانَ”. هَذِهِ الْأَشْيَاءُ لَمْ يَفْهَمُهَا تَلَامِيذُهُ أَوَّلَ الْأَمْرِ، وَلَكِنَّهُمْ تَذَكَّرُوا، بَعْدَمَا مُجِّدَ يَسُوعَ، أَنَّهَا فِيهِ كُتِبَتْ، وَأَنَّهَا هِيَ نَفْسُهَا لَهُ صُنِعَتْ. وَكَانَ الْجَمْعُ الَّذِي صَحِبَهُ، حِينَ دَعَا لِعَازَرَ مِنَ الْقَبْرِ وَأَقَامَهُ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ، يَشْهَدُ لَهُ بِذَلِكَ. وَمَا خَرَجَ الْجَمْعُ لِاسْتِقْبَالِهِ إِلَّا وَقَدْ سَمِعَ أَنَّهُ أَتَى بِتِلْكَ الْآيَةِ.

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