#### 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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#### **The Third Sunday of Great Lent** The Veneration of the Precious and Life-giving Cross;

Commemorating the Martyrs Chrysanthos, Daria, and those with them of Rome; and the Martyr Pancharios of Nicomedia

#### Sunday, March 19, 2023

#### Tone 7; Eothinon 7

#### Apolytikion of 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 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 of our Patron the Archangel Michael (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 [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."

#### **Daily Readings**

THE EPISTLE (for the Third Sunday of Lent)

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance. To Thee, O Lord, have I cried, O my God.

# The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews (4:14 - 5:6)

Brethren, since we have a High Priest, Who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but One Who in every respect has been tempted as we are, vet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is bound to offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not take the honor upon himself, but he is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not exalt Himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by Him Who said to Him, "Thou art My Son, today I have begotten Thee"; as He says also in another place, "Thou art a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek."

THE GOSPEL (for the Third Sunday of Lent)

# The Reading of the Holy Gospel is according to St. Mark (8:34 - 9:1)

The Lord said, "If any man would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for My sake and the Gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." And Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Kingdom of God come with power."

#### The Synaxarion – March 19th

On March 19 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Martyrs Chrysanthos, Daria, and those with them of Rome; and the Martyr Pancharios of Nicomedia.

On this same day, the Third Sunday of the Fast, we keep the feast of the Veneration of the honorable and life-creating Cross.

#### Verses

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

Every hard and strenuous work is accomplished with great difficulty, which appears especially in the middle of such work; for the effort in this performance brings with it fatigue which makes the accomplishment of the rest difficult. Having arrived with God's grace at the middle of the Fast, our compassionate Mother—the Holy Orthodox Church—thought fit to reveal to us the Holy Cross as the joy of the world and power of the faithful to help us carry on the struggles of the divine Fast.

By its power, O Christ God, preserve us from the crafty designs of the evil one and account us worthy to worship Thy divine Passion and lifegiving Resurrection, as we achieve the course of the Forty Days with ease, and have mercy on us, as Thou alone art good and the Lover of mankind. 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 about membership.

#### **OFFERINGS**

Holy Bread is being offered this morning by Adeeb & Nuha Abughazaleh with prayers for Nuha, Adalyn and Adeeb, celebrating their birthdays. Prayers also also offered for their children: Elias, Carole, Samer, Hani, Rami and their children. May God grant them all many years!

Roses for the procession of the Holy Cross is being offered this morning by the Deeb family in loving memory of Marion R. Deeb, Rose Deeb, Amelia Nader, beloved mother and grandmothers of the Deeb family. Memory eternal.

We thank Carolyn Sadd and Carrie Sadd Khouri who hosted last Wednesday's Lenten dinner.

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

by Joe Ayoub for the good health of Mary Beth Paul and for the repose of the newly-departed Brett Radin. Memory eternal.

for Metropolitan PHILIP (+19 March, 1995) of thrice-blessed memory and eternal repose.

### LITURGICAL CALENDAR

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

#### Weekday Lenten Service

Monday, March 20 - <u>Great Compline</u>, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 22 - <u>Presanctified Liturgy</u>, 6 p.m. Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup> – <u>The Akathist Hymn</u>, 4<sup>th</sup> stasis ("Madeyeh"), 6:30 p.m.

#### The Feast of the Holy Annunciation

Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup> — <u>Orthros</u>, 8:30 a.m. <u>Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.</u>

#### The Fourth Sunday of Great Lent

#### The Commemoration of St. John "of the Ladder" (Climacus)

Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup> — <u>Great Vespers</u>, 5 p.m. Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup> – <u>Orthros</u>, 8:45 a.m., <u>Divine Liturgy</u> 10 a.m.

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

\*\*Fish, wine and oil are permitted on Palm Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>. Holy Pascha (Easter) is celebrated on April 16<sup>th</sup>.

#### ORDER OF THE PROCESSION WITH THE HOLY CROSS

The procession with the Holy Cross this morning, the procession will take place at the end of Orthros following the Great Doxology.

The procession begins at the altar with the Priest censing the tray of flowers and the Cross as the choir begins singing The Trisagion Hymn. The procession begins (going around the church) beginning with the Altar Boys, followed by the Cross, and clergy. Upon returning to the table on the solea in front of the Holy Altar, the tray with the Cross and flower being placed upon the table, the following order is observed:

PRIEST: "Wisdom! Stand upright!" Hymn of the Cross sung by the Clergy (Arabic)

CHOIR: Hymn of the Cross sung by the Choir twice (English)

This is immediately followed by the hymn: "Before Thy Cross..." first by the clergy and twice by the choir and the people. Before the start of the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great.

#### THE HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF THE HOLY CROSS AND ITS VENERATION

Apart from many other occasions on which the precious Cross of Christ is venerated in the Orthodox Church, there are two particular feasts completely devoted to its veneration. The first is the Third Sunday of Great Lent; the second is the Feast of the Raising (*Exaltation*) of the Holy Cross (September 14<sup>th</sup>). On the third Sunday of Great Lent, the anniversary of the finding of the Cross by St. Helen is commemorated. St. Helen was the mother of the first Byzantine emperor, Constantine the Great. She was a devout Christian and supported the Christian cause with great zeal. In 326AD, at the age of 71, St. Helen visited the Holy Land where she discovered the Cross on which our Lord was crucified, according to the tradition widely circulated at the time and quoted by highly respected historians. She founded there the Basilicas on the Mount of Olives and at Bethlehem, as well as other Churches in both Constantinople and Rome.

Originally, the anniversary of the finding of the Cross was set to be celebrated on March 6<sup>th</sup>, but since March 6<sup>th</sup> usually falls within Great Lent and no Eucharist can be celebrated unless it falls on a Saturday or Sunday, the celebration of the anniversary was shifted to the Third Sunday of Lent.

# Basil leaves are used with flowers in the procession because its sweet scent was evident at the place where the Holy Cross was found.

Note: On each of the five Sundays of Great Lent, the prayers of St. Basil the Great are used within the Divine Liturgy. The five Sundays of Lent are among the ten times when the Liturgy of St. Basil is used each year. Others include: January 1st, the Feast of St. Basil, January 6th, Holy Theophany, Holy Thursday, Holy Saturday and Christmas Eve.

The Liturgy of St. Basil is Antiochian, specifically from Cappadocia where St. Basil was a bishop. It is older than the Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, perhaps by two centuries. The Liturgy of St. Basil was known to be the standard weekday liturgy in the Great Church of Constantinople (*St. Sophia*) up until the 6th century, after which the Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom began being commonly celebrated on Sundays.

To follow the service from our red <u>Service Book</u>, you will find the prayers of St. Basil beginning on page 132, replacing the prayers that begin on page 103 in the Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom. You will also find the prayers of St. Basil conveniently alongside the prayers of St. John Chrysostom in the spiral bound congregational service book.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### March is "Women's Month" in the Antiochian Archdiocese

Reading the epistle this morning is: Patricia Malouf. Today's ushers are: Mary Minassian and Nicole Webster

#### Antiochian Women Lenten Spinach Pie Sale

Pick-up your pre-orders of wrapped and sealed packages at the church today. Please earmark your check "spinach pies" for payment.

#### Articles by Metropolitan SABA (in English and Arabic)



View the message from Metropolitan SABA here, available in English and Arabic: "Is Fasting an Obligation?" <u>https://antiochian.org/regulararticle/</u> <u>1537</u>

In a second article republished this week on "The Approach to God: The East verses the West, also available in English and Arabic go to: <u>https://antiochian.org/regulararticle/1544</u>

This week's article: "Love: A Cross and Resurrection." Go to: <u>https://antiochian.org/regulararticle/1547</u>

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Note to Coffee Hour hosts: coffee and paper goods will be provided each week. Holy Bread Offering List Coffee Hour Hosts Calendar Mar 22 - Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts and Lenten Meal Mar 25 - Feast of the Annunciation Liturgy and Women's Tea Mar 26 - Lisa Nassif (Fourth Sunday of Lent) Lisa Nassif Mar 29 - Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts and Lenten Meal Apr 02 - Tanya Milkie (Fifth Sunday of Lent) Tanya Milkie Please contact Fr. Timothy (818/219-3761; frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org) to sign-up to offer Holy Bread or host the coffee hour.

#### Wednesday Evening Lenten Meal

We have a host for the after-Liturgy Lenten meal for all of the Wednesday evenings of Great Lent. It is the sole purpose for the meal, following the Pre-sanctified Liturgy, to provide a simple and uncomplicated offering of food and not a full dinner. The Lenten meal is for renewed strength for those who have fasted in preparation for Holy Communion at the evening Liturgy and is not a fundraiser. The meal should be modest and not require accumulating leftovers. This will also reduce the need for time consuming clean-up. The Wednesday evening Liturgies now begin at 6 p.m. and not 6:30. This will avoid eating late, and allow enough time for travel home, especially when children get up early for school in the morning and many begin another workday. The Pre-sanctified Liturgy is the Liturgy for all of the forty-day weekdays of Great Lent. The festal Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom is celebrated on the Saturday (for the departed) and St. Basil the Great on Sunday (for the Resurrection), when wine and oil are permitted. In some monasteries, the Pre-sanctified Lituray and Lenten meal is the sole sustenance for the faithful during Great Lent. It is also important to keep in mind that our Lenten discipline is the practice that includes: fasting, prayer and good works—all three.

#### Zoom Meeting Virtual Bible Studies Will Resume in April

<u>Our Weekly Bible Study will resume after Pascha</u>. The link for the last recorded link and Study Guide of our concluding chapters of the Book of Genesis is also available by request by contacting Father Timothy at: <u>frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org</u>

# Lite Lenten Lynch Synday. March 19th

# Hosted by St Michael Antiochian Women

"This is how we know what love is: Christ gave Histife for us, We too, then, ought to give

our lives for others!

If we have worldly goods and see others in need, yet close our hearts against them, how can we claim that we love God?"

DISASTER RELIEF



Hummus Salad Rice Bazella (Pea Stew) Fruit Dessert

# **ALL PROCEEDS** - **100%** For Earthquake Relief Through our Patriarchate

#### 30th St. Michael Golf Classic — Monday, May 22, 2023

The St. Michael 30th Anniversary Golf Tournament and Banquet will take place on Monday, May 22, 2023. One of the enjoyable events is the Golf Ball Raffle. The Raffle Grand Prize is a surprise TRIP! We have begun soliciting parishioners for donations of \$50 cash/check, \$50 gift cards, or a gift item with a \$50 value or more — used to purchase additional raffle prizes. Your gifts or donations may be brought or mailed to the church. Please contact DeAnne Abraham (661) 259-7897 or Samia Habib (818) 919-3870 should you have questions. The deadline for all donations is: Sunday May 14, 2023. Looking forward to another glorious day in the sun!



#### **Upcoming Events**

[Note: <u>You may now access our Google Parish Calendar</u> <u>to your personal calendar</u>. Here is the link: <u>https://</u> <u>calendar.google.com/calendar/u/1?</u> cid=YWRtaW5Ac3RtaWNoYWVsdmFubnV5cy5vcmc]

Holy Friday Vigil — Friday, April 14, 2023

**St. Michael Antiochian Women Annunciation Tea** Saturday, March 25, 2023; <u>Divine Liturgy</u>, 9:30 a.m. followed by a Lenten Lunch

58th St. Nicholas Sweetheart (Debutante) Ball April 29, 2023; Hilton Universal City

**St. Michael 30th Annual Golf Classic** — Monday, May 22, 2023 Wood Ranch Golf Club; Simi Valley

**Diocesan Parish Life Conference** hosted by St. Luke Church (Garden Grove) June 28 to July 2, 2023; Irvine Marriott; <u>www.laplc.org</u>

#### **St. Michael Vacation Bible School (VBS)** Monday-Friday, July 10-14, 2023; Ages Kindergarten to 5th Grade

**56th Biennial Antiochian Archdiocese Convention** hosted by St. George Church (Phoenix, Arizona); July 23-30, 2023 Go to: <u>www.ac2023az.org</u>



#### Announcing Summer Camp 2023 ""Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness." (Genesis 1:26)

Week 1: July 9 – 15. Entering 2<sup>nd</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Week 2: July 16 – July 22 Entering 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Week 3: July 23 – July 29 Entering 2<sup>nd</sup>– 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

Tuition: \$600 (\$100 deposit due at time of Registration) Busses: \$50 each way – if desired (from St Luke and St Nicholas) See https://www.campstnicholas.com/site/home/ for Registration Links

Scholarships provided by The Order of St. Ignatius of Antioch is also provided to each parish. Please see Father Timothy for more information

#### 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: <u>bobbi monsue@att.net</u>. Now is the time to place your order for your Holy Week Service Book and other gifts for Holy Pascha (Easter).

EOTHINON 7	TONE 7
الايوثينا 7	اللح 7

#### THIRD SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT VENERATION OF THE PRECIOUS AND LIFE-GIVING CROSS

طروبارية القيامة على اللحن السابع حطّمتَ بصليبِكَ الموتَ وفتحتَ للص الفردوس, وحوّلتَ نوحَ حاملات الطيب, وأَمَرتَ رسلَك أن يكرزوا بأنّك قد قُمتَ أيّها المسيحُ الإلهُ مانحاً العالمَ الرحمةَ العظمى.

**طروبارية الصليب على اللحن الأول** خلص يا رب شعبك وبارك مير اثك<sub>ر</sub> وامنح عبيدك المؤمنين الغلبة على الشرير, واحفظ بقوة صليبك جميع المختصين بك.

طروبارية رؤساء الملائكة باللحن الرابع أيّها المتقدّمونَ على الأجناد السماويين، نتوسّلُ إليكم نحن غيرَ المستحقّين، حتّى أَنّكم بطلباتِكم تكتنوفوننا بظلِّ أجنحةِ مجدِكم غيرِ الهيولي، حافظينَ إيّانا نحنُ الجاثين والصارخينَ بغيرِ فتور، أنقذونا منَ الشدائدَ، بما أنّكم رؤساءُ مراتبِ القوّاتِ العلوية.

قنداق آحاد الصوم على اللحن الثامن إني أنا عبدك يا والدة الإله, أكتب لك رايات الغلبة يا جندية محامية, وأقدم لك الشكر كمنقذة من الشدائد. لكن بما أن لك العزة التي لا تحارب, أعتقيني من صنوف الشدائد, .حتى أصرخ إليك: افرحي يا عروسا لا عروس لها

### الرسالة

خلص يا ربّ شعبَك وبارك مير اتَك لليك يا ربّ أصرخ الهي. فصلٌ من رسالةِ القديسِ بولسَ الرسولِ إلى العبر انيين

يا إخوة ولما كان لنا رئيس كهنة عظيم قد اجتاز السماوات وهو يسوع ابن الله فلنتمسك بالاعتراف به فلنا رئيس كهنة قادر أن يشفق على ضعفنا مُجَرّبٌ في كل شيء ما عدا الخطيئة. فلنتقدم بثقة إلى عرش النعمة لننال رحمة ونجد نعمة تغيثنا عند الحاجة. فكل رئيس كهنة يؤخذ من بين البشر ويقام من أجلهم فيما هو لله ليقدم قرابين وذبائح عن الخطايا. وهو قادر أن يشفق على الجاهلين والضالين لأنه هو نفسه متلبس بالضعف. ولهذا يجب عليه أن يقدم كفارة عن خطاياه وعن خطايا الشعب. وما من أحد يتفسه هذه الكرامة إلا إذا دعاه الله كما دعا هارون. وكذلك المسيح لم يرفع نفسه ليصب كهنة بل رفعه الذي قال له: أنت ابني وأنا اليوم ولدتك. وقال له في من عنه الما يفسه كلب كهنة بل رفعه الذي قال له: أنت ابني وأنا اليوم ولدتك وقال له في موضع آخر : أنت

# الإنجيل

فصل شريف من بشارة القديس مرقص

قال الرب: من أراد أن يتبعني, فلينكر نفسه ويحمل صليبه ويتبعني, لان من أراد أن يخلص نفسه يخسر ها, ولكن من خسر نفسه في سبيلي وفي سبيل البشارة يخلصها. فماذا ينفع الإنسان لو ربح العالم كله وخسر نفسه؟ وبماذا يفدي الإنسان نفسه؟ لان من يستحي بي وبكلامي في هذا الجيل الفاسق الخاطىء, يستحي به ابن البشر متى جاء في مجد أبيه مع الملائكة الأطهار. وقال لهم: "الحق أقول لكم: في الحاضرين هنا من لا يذوقون الموت, حتى يروا مجيء ملكوت الله في قوة".

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 (و على كل حال، فإننا ندعو الجميع للمشاركة فى الخبز المقدس الذى يوزع عند إنتهاء مراسيم القداس.) رجاء مراجعة الكاهن إذا رغبت أن تصبح عضوا فى الكنيسة الارثوذكسية.

#### ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL LADIES' SOCIETY PRESENTS



#### APRIL 29, 2023

#### HILTON UNIVERSAL HOTEL

# COCKTAIL HOUR AT 5PM DOORS OPEN AT 6PM

EARLY BIRD TICKETS BY MARCH 31ST \$200 ADULT • \$175 CHILDREN REGULAR PRICED TICKETS \$230 ADULT • \$200 CHILDREN

A \$6 convenience fee per ticket will be added when purchased online. Convenience fee is waived if paid by check. Children ages 3-10 may order a children's dinner

## LAST DAY TO BUY TICKETS APRIL 17th

For more information and to purchase tickets visit stnicholasla.org or email Lauren Malouf at Imalouf@hchc.edu



### Save The Date St. Michael 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Classic COME HELP AND CONTINUE THE LONG-STANDING TRADITION OF "GETTING OUT FOR THE DAY" BY PARTICIPATING IN OUR ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC AND BBQ MONDAY, MAY 22<sup>nd</sup> – 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 - Barbecue Dinner



Sodas – Water – Beer – and More!!!!

\$185.00 Per Player!

NON-GOLFERS



Can't get out the whole day? Then join us later for an evening of fun & frolic! Barbecue Dinner Chinese Auction – Golf Ball Raffle



**For reservations or more information contact:** Don Meena (661) 623-0340 or <u>donmeena@sbcglobal.net</u>

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

HOLE SPONSORSHIPS: Michael Srour (818) 314-9363 or <u>mcsrour@gmail.com</u>