

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 SABA, of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian
Archdiocese of North America www.antiochian.org
Archpriest Timothy Baclig, Pastor frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org
Rev. Fr. Minas Sarchizian, Assisting Priest fatherminas@gmail.com
Rev. Deacon Andrew Monsue armcopper@gmail.com
Subdeacon Richard Tamoush Tamoush.Richard@gmail.com
Subdeacon Magued Wassef wassefm@msn.com
Subdeacon Richard Ajalat, Pastoral Assistant rajalat@stmichaelvannuys.com
Parish Council Chair - Connie Abdun-Nur Barilla cmatthews46@yahoo.com
Council Vice-Chair - Kris Thabit kthabit66@hotmail.com
Council Secretary - John Khouri johngkhouri@gmail.com
Council Treasurer - Britton McLinn britton@ikon-x.com

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Women of No. America (AOCWNA)

Chapter President - Charmaine Darmour cdarmour@sbcglobal.net
Choir Director - Art Danks artdanks1@yahoo.com
Church School Director - Adrienne Hines superintendent@stmichaelvannuys.org
Youth Director - Cooper Rowe crowe31@gmail.com
Young Adult Director - Richard Ajalat rajalat@stmichaelvannuys.org
Young Parents' Ministry - Brittney Ajalat brittneylee704@gmail.com
Faithtree Resources Exec. Director - Michelle Moujaes michelle@faithtree.org
Project Manager - Michael J. Malouf michael@jacksonia.com
Stewardship Chair - Richard Tamoush Tamoush.Richard@gmail.com
Capital Funds Campaign Chair - Ron Zraick ronaldzraick@gmail.com
Communications Chair - Michael Paraskevas michaelparaskevas13@gmail.com
Bookstore Manager - Bobbi Monsue bobbi_monsue@att.net
Golf Classic Co-Chair - Don Meena donmeena@sbcglobal.net
Webmaster - Dan Raju dan.raju16@hotmail.com
Charity Coordinator - Cindy Tamoush cindy.tamoush@gmail.com
Head Usher - Ramez Hage jeddo.ramez@gmail.com

Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the 4th Ecumenical Council

Venerable Hieromartyr Athenogenes, Bishop of Herakleopolis, and his ten disciples

Sunday, July 16, 2023

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 of the Holy Fathers (Tone 8)

Thou, O Christ, art our God of exceeding praise Who didst establish our Holy Fathers as luminous stars upon earth, and through them didst guide us unto the true Faith, O most merciful One, glory to Thee.

Apolytikion of St. Marina (Tone 4)

O Lord Jesus, unto Thee Thy lamb doth cry with a great voice: O my Bridegroom, Thee I love; and seeking Thee, I now contest, and with Thy baptism am crucified and buried. I suffer for Thy sake, that I may reign with Thee; for Thy sake I die, that I may live in Thee: accept me offered out of longing to Thee as a spotless sacrifice. Lord, save our souls through her intercessions, since Thou art great in mercy.

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 Theotokos (Tone 2)

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

Daily Readings

THE EPISTLE (for the Holy Fathers)

*Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.
For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us.*

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Titus (3:8-15)

Titus, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned. When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful. All who are with me send greetings to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

THE GOSPEL (for the Holy Fathers)

The Reading of the Holy Gospel is according to St. Matthew (5:14-19)

The Lord said to His Disciples: "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father Who is in heaven. Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them, but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

The Synaxarion

On July 16 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Hieromartyr Athenogenes, bishop of Herakleopolis, and his ten disciples.

On this Sunday, we commemorate the 630 holy and God-bearing Fathers of the Fourth Ecumenical Council, which convened in Chalcedon in 451 against the Monophysites.

Verses

Shunning opposite errors like the sea monsters Scylla and Charybdis,
The Fathers steer the Church on a straight course to safety.

The Holy Fathers were, once again, concerned with the nature of Jesus Christ. The false teaching arose that Christ's human nature (considered by heretics as less perfect) dissolved itself in His divine nature (considered by heretics as more perfect): like a cube of sugar in a parcel of water. Thus, in that scenario, Christ had only one nature, the Divine. These false preachers were called Monophysites ("mono", meaning "one" and "physis", meaning "nature"), and they were led by Eutyches and Dioscorus. Monophysitism overemphasized the divine nature of Christ, at the expense of the human. The Fourth Ecumenical Council condemned Monophysitism and proclaimed that Christ has two complete natures: the divine and the human, as defined by previous Councils. These two natures function as equally perfect, without confusion, and are neither divided nor separate. The Fathers declared that at no time did they undergo any change.

By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us.
Amen.

OFFERINGS

The Holy Bread is being offered this morning by Don Meena and family in loving memory of Albert Meena (+18 July, 2016), beloved brother and uncle. Memory eternal.

Father Timothy, thanks everyone for their kind messages and cards on the occasion of his sixty-ninth birthday on July 11th.

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

for the healing and continued health of Diane Geller, dear friend of
Art & Kathy Danks

for the newborn child: Martha Mae Hines born to Adrienne & Regan
Hines on July 13, 2023. May God grant her, her parents and sister,
Layla, many years!

for the repose of the newly-departed servant of God, Shirley Wawee
(+7 July, 2022), beloved mother of John (& Sherry) Wawee and grand-
daughters, Jaclyn and Heather. Memory eternal.

[Funeral Service Schedule: Monday, July 17 — visitation at Valley
Funeral Home (2121 West Burbank Blvd, 91506) from 3 to 7 p.m.;
Funeral Service — Tuesday, July 18 at St. Michael Church, beginning at
10 a.m., followed by Interment Trisagion at 12 noon at Pierce Brothers
Westwood Memorial Park (1218 Glendon Avenue, Los Angeles 90024)]

for the repose of the newly-departed servant of God, Joni Slatko
(+30 June, 2023), the beloved wife of Lenny Slatko and family. Memory
Eternal. [Viewing at Forest Lawn Memorial Park; No. Hollywood Hills
(6300 Forest Lawn Dr.) on Wednesday, July 19 from 4 to 8 p.m.;
Funeral Service at Old North Church (Forest Lawn) at noon
followed by the Graveside Trisagion]

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

NOTE: Wednesday and Friday are observed as days of fasting

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost and the Seventh Sunday of Matthew

Great Vespers – Saturday, July 22nd, 5 p.m.

Orthros – Sunday, July 23rd, 8:45 a.m., Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.

Fast of the Holy Dormition - August 1-14; and Feast - August 15

[we observe the traditional fasting discipline (no meal, poultry, fish, milk, cheese, eggs,
wine and olive oil) Monday-Friday and the eve of the Feast, Tuesday, August 14, with
provision for wine and olive oil on Saturday and Sunday; fish, wine and oil on the Feast of
the Holy Transfiguration (August 6th)]

Paraklesis (Intercessory Prayer Service) – Wednesday, August 2nd and 9th at 6:30 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join in our Parish Bible Study Zoom Meeting

Our next Bible Study is on Tuesday evening, July 18th, at 7 p.m. We will be continuing our study of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). A link to the Zoom meeting will be sent out on July 18th. Sessions are recorded for those unable to attend. Plan to join us.

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 July 24, 2023.

Our 2023 Pledge Form Provided with this Bulletin

Have you completed a financial pledge for the 2023 calendar year? Is your contributions up-to-date? 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. Our 2023 budget has included the increase of costs and was expanded to include additional maintenance expenses for our new church sanctuary. A hardcopy of the Pledge Form is provided this bulletin and is available in the church narthex or can be mailed to you by request. As a committed member of St. Michael Church, please complete a new 2023 form. An annual "Fair Share Contribution" is paid by St. Michael Church to the Archdiocese (\$50/adult; \$35/17 years of age or under). If you have completed a Pledge Form and would like to receive an six-month update of your contributions, please send your request to our Treasurer, Britton McLinn at: britton@stmichaelvannuys.org Six-month reports will be provided in July following our June Financial Report. Thank you.

St. Michael Antiochian Orthodox Church
16643 Vanowen Street, Van Nuys, CA 91406 Phone: 818-994-2313
Website: www.stmichaelvannuys.org

2023 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

Use of Assembly Hall and In-House Caterer

St. Michael Church will provide its ballroom and kitchen for special events, i.e., parties and receptions, with an established donation fee for parishioner requests made on an individual basis. Also, we welcome licensed caterers who may be interested in use of our kitchen. Please contact either: Connie Barilla: <cmatthews46@yahoo.com>, Michael Mitchell <mgmitchell3@gmail.com>, or Father Timothy for more information.

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

Holy Bread Offering List

Jul 23 - open

Jul 30 - open

Aug 06 - open (Holy Transfiguration)

Coffee Hour Hosts Calendar

Jeannette Omeisah

Jeannette Omeisah

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

Upcoming Events

[Note: You may now access our Google Parish Calendar to your personal calendar. Here is the link: <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/1?cid=YWRtaW5Ac3RtaWN0YWVsdmFubnV5cy5vcmc>]

56th Biennial Antiochian Archdiocese Convention hosted by St. George Church (Phoenix, Arizona); July 23-30, 2023

Go to: www.ac2023az.org

Start of Church School - September

St. Michael Feast Day Celebration - Save the date!

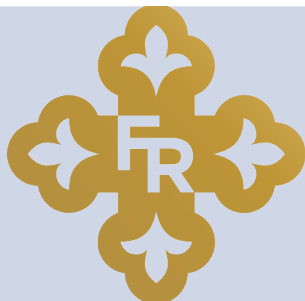
Saturday-Sunday, November 4-5, 2023

Sponsorships of Sanctuary Items

Sponsorships or dedications of items and iconography of our new church sanctuary are available. Please contact Father Timothy for more information and questions at: frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org

Faithtree Resources has just released its new course that is worth your time.

Click here to learn more: <https://www.faithtree.org/divine-liturgy>



FAITHTREE
RESOURCES

Divine Liturgy

THE GREATEST INVITATION

Divine Liturgy: The Greatest Invitation—our brand new course that

will help you experience God in the Liturgy like never before—is available now!

Taught by priests, teachers, ministry leaders, and laypeople, **this course will give you perspectives and tools to help you encounter God in a more meaningful way.**

Take a look inside the course now!

Pastor's Sermon
Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the 4th Ecumenical Council

by V. Rev. Timothy Baclig

July 16, 2023

Today, along with three other times in the year we remember the Holy Fathers of our Church who participated in the great Councils: 1) On the Sunday following the Feast of the Ascension, we commemorate the **Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council** in Nicaea (324 AD) which proclaimed Christ as being of one essence (*homoousios*) with the Father; 2) On the first Sunday during the period of October 11-17 we celebrate **The Feast of the Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council** at Constantinople (787 AD) which defended the use of icons as expressions of Christian piety; 3) The Seventh Council is also remembered each year on the first Sunday of Great Lent – known as “The Sunday of [the triumph] Orthodoxy;” 4) Today, the first Sunday in the period between July 13-19 we commemorate **The Holy Fathers of the Fourth Ecumenical Council at Chalcedon** (451 AD) that proclaimed that Christ has two natures, divine and human, united in one Person, and born of the Holy Theotokos. It is this Church Council that resulted in the first schism – dividing the church from those who, on the one hand, believed that Christ had one nature (the “monophysites,” also called “the non-Chalcedonians”) and those who upheld the decision of the Council: proclaiming that Jesus Christ had two natures: a divine and a human nature, united in one person.

We remember the Church Fathers as examples of faith, inspiration, sound teaching, holiness of life, and as courageous witnesses; in some cases even sacrificing their lives as martyrs of the Faith. Countless Church fathers and Church mothers lived what they taught, and taught what they lived. Heard in today's Gospel lesson is the concluding verse: *Whoever **does** [the commandments of God] and teaches them shall be called great in the Kingdom of heaven (Matthew 5:19).* Notice that the word “does” precedes the word “teaches.”

We can all be very thankful for having had many good teachers in our life. The lessons that we learn from them were effective because they were knowledgeable people whose lives were great in spiritual content. They were persons of strong moral character; not hypocrites; fully human; repentant sinners. Men and women, who we greatly respected, and who, loved and enjoyed their work; people who were fully alive in doing what they did well; who lived with a clear conscience.

Good teachers know what they are talking about. They are persons with experience and a good reputation. However, I have noticed that the best teachers among the very intelligent were the simple, uncomplicated, humble and loving. I Corinthians 13 reminds us: *If I speak (with) the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophesy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge... but have not love, and am nothing...*

St. Paul said in writing to the Corinthians: ***A man who thinks that he knows something, does not yet know as he ought to know.*** (I Corinthians 8:2) This wonderful verse is sandwiched between two verses that are its commentary. Verse 1 of chapter 8 begins, “**...knowledge puffs up, but love builds up.**” Then in verse 3 of chapter 8 in I Corinthians: “**The man who loves God is known by God.**”

A saint once said that a person who teaches by example is like someone who gives to others his own wealth, because he gives part of himself. There is nothing more inspirational or influential than the true example of people who practice the truths they teach. There is nothing more disappointing or disillusioning than to observe people who do not practice what they may profess. As Christians we not only expect others to be examples for us, we also share the responsibility in being examples ourselves, to others through deeds, not mere words. A Christian always begins with building a personal relationship with God before attempting to teaching others.

Our Orthodox theology is not theoretical—having no relevance or application to how we live our lives. This is precisely what can be found by looking closely at what today’s Gospel reveals in what the Church Fathers have taught us.

The reading of today’s Gospel lesson (Matthew 5:14-19) is taken from the context of our Lord’s “Sermon on the Mount”. A close reading of the section will help us to recognize that our Lord was establishing a relationship between “doing what is good” and “keeping God’s Law”. However, as pointed out in many of my previous sermons: the Christian Law, or what Christ has established under the “New Covenant” is, in reality, a more difficult law because it pertains to what God has prescribed for our hearts.

Christian ethics is based on the truth that every one of us has “...sinned and fallen short of the glory of God”; we have all “missed the mark”, and there is no righteousness outside of what God has Himself accomplished in sending His Son, our Lord Jesus

Christ, born of a holy Virgin, under the Law, causing, as what is described in scripture: He who knew no sin to become sin for us; to be the most perfect sacrifice for our salvation in fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets. For as we find in the words of St. Paul in writing to the Romans (chapter 8, verse 3-4), *For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so He condemned sin in sinful man, in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to (our) sinful flesh but according to the Spirit.*

In other words, Christ's saving work, His accomplished deed and supreme sacrifice on the Cross for you and I, fulfilled what no man's human righteousness could achieve. His sacrifice went even beyond any animal offering of atonement for sin. For there is no righteousness, no holiness, no perfection, outside of the One who is Righteous, the One who is Holy, and the One who is Perfect. For "One is Holy, one is Lord, Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father" as we proclaim in our Liturgy.

Doing what is good therefore is: not only desiring, but **doing** our utmost to be in step with God's will and Spirit. At the preface of today's Gospel lesson the Christian is a person who is described as the "salt of the earth" and the "light of the world". Verse 13 of chapter 5 begins: "You are the salt of the earth... (continuing at verse 14) "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house." And then, at verse 16 we hear: "In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven."

Upon first hearing such a description one could easily misinterpret what it means. St. John Chrysostom's commentary on this passage helps us to keep the right perspective. **St. John's commentary also helps us to also understand the significance of this passage being chosen on the commemoration of the Holy Fathers, our preeminent teachers of Orthodox doctrine.** St. John says: that "our Lord's words intend to train us to strictness of life... to be earnest and devout in our endeavors; openly transparent before the eyes of all as "in the midst of the amphitheater of the world..." He goes on to say that it was not fame (of their teaching) that made the followers of Christ conspicuous, but the actual demonstration of their works; their deeds. In his own words St. John says, "...as through they had wings, more vehemently than the sunbeam, they overran the

whole earth, sowing the light of godliness... **It was impossible that what they preached (would) sink into silence and obscurity.**” [Homilies XV, 11, and XVI, 5 on Matthew V]

In one of our church prayers, God’s Commandments are called: “a light.” Doing what is good in keeping God’s Commandments, can seem impossible for many. Today, many consider it too difficult and give up. That is because it is only possible through Christ and His Spirit that indwells us. It is the greater work, the more profound and brilliant work of God, like the miracle achieved in the sacred union of a man and a woman. Notice I said “sacred”, meaning that it is blessed of God and unique. It is the beginning of not just any good deed, but a sacred good deed. Just as the work of an ordained person, or any baptized person for that matter is with the blessing and power of God Himself who also continues His creative work in the world through us – with all of our weaknesses and imperfections. This is what is meant by the word “sanctity”. One has sanctity when he or she is does the work that is sanctioned; the work that is authorized, supported, confirmed, and blessed of God. On the contrary, one is “sanctimonious” when there is fraud, when one is pretentious, or is falsely pious.

The whole matter, while simple, becomes complicated to us because we are caught up and distracted by the many things of this world that cause us to think and believe differently from what God has designed. Life is not life if it is reduced to getting things, finding acquiring things, making things, and using things. Life is acquiring the Holy Spirit. Without the study of Scripture, prayer, and fasting we cannot remain properly focused. These disciplines are taught by the Church as the means by which we preserve and maintain our vision of the Kingdom.

The lessons of our Lord’s Sermon on the Mount as found in the Gospel of Saint Matthew therefore provide us with that focus, but only if they do not become for us a lesson that we interpret for ourselves, to suit our desires and interests; our self-serving goals and selfish desires. Doing what is good, therefore, is simply loving God and keeping His commandments. It is the whole premise and basis to the Sermon on the Mount. It is not just love for love sake. It is not even love for your or my sake. It is God’s love for us, our love of God and love of our neighbor.

Prayer

Our soul awakes early from the night, O God, for Thy commandments are a light. Teach us Thy righteousness, thy commandments and Thy statures, O God. Enlighten the eyes of our understanding, lest at any time we sleep unto death in sins. Dispel all

darkness from our hearts. Graciously give unto us the Sun of Righteousness, and preserve our life unassailed, by the seal of Thy Holy Spirit. Guide our steps into the way of peace. Grant us to lead a godly life, both thinking and doing such things that are well pleasing unto Thee. For Thou art our Sanctification, and unto Thee do we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. A-men.

EOTHINON 6

الايوثينا5

TONE 5

اللحن 5

**SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FATHERS
OF THE FOURTH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL**

HIEROMARTYR ATHENOGENES, BISHOP OF HERAKLEOPOLIS, AND HIS TEN DISCIPLES

أبوليتيكيون القيامة باللحن الخامس

لِنُسَبِّحْ نَحْنُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَنَسْجُدْ لِلْكَمَةِ، الْمَسَاوِي لِإِلَابِ وَالرُّوحِ فِي الْأَزَلِيَّةِ وَعَدَمِ الْإِبْتِدَاءِ، الْمَوْلُودِ مِنْ
الْعَذْرَاءِ لِخَلَاصِنَا، لِأَنَّهُ سُرَّ بِالْجَسَدِ أَنْ يَغْلُوَ عَلَى الصَّلِيبِ، وَيَحْتَمِلَ الْمَوْتَ، وَيُنْهَضَ الْمَوْتَى
بِقِيَامَتِهِ الْمَجِيدَةِ.

أبوليتيكيون لأحد الآباء القديسين باللحن الثامن

أَنْتَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ إِلَهَنَا الْفَائِقُ التَّسْبِيحِ، يَا مَنْ أَسَّسْتَ آبَاءَنَا الْقَدِيسِينَ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ كَوَاكِبَ
لَامِعَةٍ، وَبِهِمْ هَدَيْتَنَا جَمِيعاً إِلَى الْإِيمَانِ الْحَقِيقِيِّ، يَا جَزِيلَ الرَّحْمَةِ الْمَجْدُ لَكَ.

طروبارية رؤساء الملائكة باللحن الرابع

أَيُّهَا الْمُتَقَدِّمُونَ عَلَى الْأَجْنَادِ السَّمَاوِيِّينَ، نَتَوَسَّلُ إِلَيْكُمْ نَحْنُ غَيْرَ الْمُسْتَحَقِّينَ، حَتَّى أَنْكُمْ
بَطْلِبَاتِكُمْ تَكْتَنُوفُونَا بِظُلِّ أَجْنَحَةِ مَجْدِكُمْ غَيْرِ الْهَيُولِيِّ، حَافِظِينَ إِيَّانَا نَحْنُ الْجَائِينَ
وَالصَّارِحِينَ بِغَيْرِ فَتُورٍ، أَنْقَدُونَا مِنَ الشَّدَائِدِ، بِمَا أَنْكُمْ رُؤَسَاءُ مَرَاتِبِ الْقَوَاتِ الْعُلُويَّةِ.

قنداق السيدة على اللحن الثاني

يا شفيعة المسيحيين غير المخذولة، المتوسطة لدى الخالق غير المرذودة، لا تعرضي عن أصوات طلباتنا نحن الخطاة، بل تداركينا بالمعونة بما أنك صالحة نحن الصارخين إليك. بإيمان: بادري إلى الشفاعة وأسرعِي في الطلبة، يا وادة الإله المتشفعة دائماً في مكرميك.

الرسالة

افرحوا بالرب وابتهجوا أيها الأبرار، طوبى لمن غُفرت معصيتهم
فصلٌ من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول إلى تيطس

يا ولدي تيطس، هذا قولٌ صادقٌ، وأريدُ أن تكونَ حازماً في هذا الأمرِ حتى ينصرفَ المؤمنون بالله إلى العملِ الصالحِ، فهذا حسنٌ ومفيدٌ للناس. أما المجادلةُ السخيفةُ وذكرُ الأنسابِ والخلافِ والمناقشةُ في الشريعةِ، فاجتنبها لأنها لا تفيدُ ولا تنفع. وأما صاحبُ البدعِ فأعرضْ عنه بعد أن تُنذِرَه مرةً ومرتين. وأنتِ تعرفُ أن من كان مثله ضلَّ وكان خاطئاً وحكَمَ على نفسه. ومتى أرسلتُ إليك أرتيماس أو تيخيكس بادرُ في المجيءِ إليَّ إلى نكوبولس، لأنِّي أنوي أن أقضي الشتاءَ هناك. واجتهدْ في إعدادِ سفرِ زيناس معلِّمِ الشريعةِ وأبلس لئلا يحتاجا إلى شيء. ولتعلمِ ذونا حسنَ القيامِ بالعملِ الصالحِ ليسدوا الحاجاتِ الضرورية، فلا يكونوا عقماء. يسلم عليك جميع الذين معي. سلِّم على أحبائنا في الإيمان. ولتكنْ النعمةُ معكم أجمعين.

الإنجيل

فصلٌ شريفٌ من بشارة القديس متى

قال الربُّ لتلاميذه: أنتم نورُ العالمِ، لا تخفي مدينةً على جبلٍ، ولا يوقدُ سراجٌ ويوضعُ تحت المكيالِ، لكن على المنارة حتى يضيء لجميع الذين هم في البيت. فليضيء نوركم هكذا قدام الناس، ليروا أعمالكم الصالحة ويمجدوا أباكم الذي في السماوات. لا تظنوا أنني جئت لأبطل الشريعة والأنبياء: ما جئت لأبطل، بل لأأكمل. الحق أقول لكم: إلى أن تزول السماء والأرض لن يزول حرف أو نقطة من الشريعة حتى يتم كل شيء. فمن خالف وصية من أصغر هذه الوصايا وعلم الناس أن يعملوا مثله، عدَّ صغيراً في ملكوت السماوات. وأما من عمل بها وعلمها فهو يُعدُّ عظيماً في ملكوت السماوات.

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 في الكنيسة الارثوذكسية.