

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 Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost; The Ninth Sunday of Luke

The Holy Prophet Obadiah; Martyr Barlaam of Antioch;
Martyr Azi the Wonderworker of Isauria in Asia Minor and 150 soldiers with him

Sunday, November 19, 2023

Tone 7; Eothinon 2

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 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 Entrance Theotokos (Tone 4)

The sacred treasury of God's holy glory, the greatly precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the Savior's most pure temple, free of stain and undefiled, into the House of the Lord on this day is brought forward and bringeth with herself the grace of the Most Divine Spirit; her do God's Angels hymn with songs of praise, for she is truly the heavenly tabernacle.

Daily Readings

THE EPISTLE (for the Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost)

The Lord will give strength to His people.

Ascribe to the Lord, O sons of God, ascribe to the Lord honor and glory.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians (2:14-22)

Brethren, Christ is our peace, Who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in His flesh the law of commandments and ordinances, that He might create in Himself

one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the Cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end. And He came and preached peace to you, who were far off, and peace to those who were near; for through Him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone, in Whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in Whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

THE GOSPEL (for the Ninth Sunday of Luke)

The Reading of the Holy Gospel is according to St. Luke (12:16-21)

The Lord spoke this parable: “The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully; and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’ And he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns, and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.’ But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.” As He said this, Jesus called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

The Synaxarion

On November 19 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Holy Prophet Obadiah.

Verses

Obadiah would again tell aught of the future,
Were he not struck with awe at his own departure.
On the nineteenth died Obadiah.

Obadiah lived at the court of King Ahab of Israel, but when the king turned away from true worship and bowed down to idols, Obadiah did not follow the king, but continued to serve the one, true God. When the evil Queen Jezebel raised a persecution against all the prophets of God,

Obadiah gathered one hundred of them, hid them in two caves, and fed them to the end of the persecution (I Kings 18:4). A contemporary of the great Prophet Elias, Obadiah revered him greatly and served him in all things, as his follower and disciple. He lived 900 years before Christ and entered peacefully into rest.

On this day, we also commemorate the Martyr Barlaam of Antioch. Because of his faith in Christ the Lord, an impious judge tortured him harshly. He took Barlaam to the pagan temple and set a burning coal on his palm and incense on the coal. The judge thought that the pain would cause the martyr to shake the coal and incense off his hand before the idols, and thus involuntarily cense them. However, the soldier of Christ heroically held the burning coal on his palm with no thought of casting it before the idols, until his fingers were burned through and fell off and his palm was completely burnt. After that, elder Barlaam's whole body fell to the ground and his soul went to the eternal rest of our Lord the Savior. This glorious, heroic elder suffered in 304.

On this day, we also commemorate the Martyr Azi the wonderworker of Isauria in Asia Minor and 150 soldiers with him. By the intercessions of Thy saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

THE CHRISTMAS FAST – ADVENT

The Church ordains that this preparation begins on November 15. The Fast is forty days long and is sometimes known as Philip's Fast because it begins the day after November 14, which is dedicated to St. Philip the Apostle.

The Fast has very ancient origins. Leo the Great, in the Fifth Century, made mention of it as an ancient, established Fast, which gave importance to the event of the Birth of Christ by the Church, even at that time. The Christians Church did not universally observe the Fast in length and method until the Council of Constantinople in 1166 AD. It was at that Council that the ancient regulations and various customs and traditions of the churches were studied and forty days was chosen to be most representative.

Many of us want the Feast without the penitential note that precedes it. We want Christmas without Advent. The result is that most of us only "observe" the day of Christmas and fail to "keep" the day holy. The Christmas fast gives us time to meditate upon the meaning of our Lord's coming (God born as a man) – in the past, present, and future. Only to the extent that we prepare carefully for His Coming can we receive Him worthily. Hence, as Christmas approaches, we should be aware of the meaning of the Christmas fast (Advent) upon us and our

souls. Consciences need examination; sins need to be forgiven. Above all, souls need refreshment with His Sacramental Presence when the Christmas Fast ends and Christ is born.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Fast of the Holy Nativity - November 15 - December 24

[This fast is divided into two periods: 1) November 15 - December 19 - the traditional fasting discipline includes no meat, poultry, dairy, fish, wine and olive oil on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, with provision for wine and oil (some also permit fish) on Tuesdays and Thursdays; with fish, wine and olive oil on Saturdays and Sundays; 2) December 20-24 - the traditional fast is Monday through Friday with provision for wine and olive oil on Sunday, December 24.]

Feast of the Presentation of the Holy Theotokos - November 21

Divine Liturgy, Tuesday, November 21st, 10 a.m.

Thursday, November 23 (Thanksgiving Day - USA)

Saturday, November 25

**The Leave-taking (Apodosis) of the Entrance of the Theotokos
Feast of the Great Martyr Katherine the All-wise of Alexandria**

The Thirteenth Sunday of Luke

Saturday, November 25th, Great Vespers, 5 p.m.

Sunday, November 26th, Orthros, 8:45 a.m., Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m.

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

The Holy Bread is being offered by Catherine, Pat and Sophia Turley for the forty-day memorial of the newly departed servant of God, John Apostolou (+27 September, 2023) with prayers for the members of his family. Memory eternal.

Holy Bread is also being offered by Barbara Bohamed and family with prayers for the six-month memorial of her sister, Carole McHugh (+13 April, 2023), the continued health of her family, and for the repose of her departed loved ones. Memory eternal.

Holy Bread is being offered by Sonia Karam in loving memory of her beloved husband, Tony (+19 November, 2007), with prayers for the members of her family. Memory eternal.

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

for the healing speedy recovery of Eleanor Safady.

for the healing speedy recovery of Leila Milkie.

for the well being of the servant of God, Ed Corey.

for the healing and speedy recovery of Marilyn Deal,
the mother of Kelly Malouf.

for the good health of Dalia by Steven Murray.

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

Holy Bread Offering List

Coffee Hour Hosts Calendar

Nov 26 - open

Dec 03 - open

Dec 10 - open

Church School Lenten Lunch

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Parish Meeting

In accordance with our Parish Constitution, we will convene a Meeting of the Voting Membership today, immediately following Liturgy for the purpose of accepting nominations for the election of three (3) persons to fulfill three (3) three-year terms to the Parish Council (2024–2026). Nominations will also be received from the floor, however, it would be appropriate to first: 1) inquire with the Pastor if they are qualified to be nominated (before asking the person); 2) inquire with the person you

intend to nominate if they will accept nomination. We thank Kris Thabit, the Vice-Chair, and Chair of the Nominations Committee. Please be sure to sign-in in order that we may verify a quorum for the meeting. The Parish Constitution prescribes that all nominees must be at least twenty-five years of age or older, have been a pledging member of the parish for at least one year and have fulfilled the canonical requirements of the Faith [Article VI, Sec. 2]. The nominees must also be committed in attending monthly Parish Council meetings held on the third (3rd) Monday of each month.

Weekly Bible Study to Continue After Holy Theophany

Due to the Feasts of November 21st (The Presentation of the Theotokos) and the Eve of the Feast of St. Nicholas (December 5th) our Bible Study will resume after the Feast of Holy Theophany in January. All of the five recorded sessions on the Bible Verses of the Divine Liturgy are available by request and required viewing for all catechumens.

Church Offering Options

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% fee. Other options for your contributions include: a) automatic bill pay; 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.

Last Call — Parish Christmas Card Listing

Our 2023 St. Michael Christmas card will include listings of parishioners who want to participate in our annual Christmas greetings that will also conveniently provide a full schedule of our Festal Services beginning with the Sunday before Christmas, the Feast of the Holy Nativity and Holy Theophany. Frieda Kabbash is receiving donations for listings and may be contacted at: frieda702@aol.com Each listing is a minimum \$15 donation. We thank our anonymous sponsor for again covering the cost

for the project that enables your contribution to be a church donation for a tax deduction.

Upcoming Events

[Note: You may now access our Google Parish Calendar to your personal calendar.

Simply go to: <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/1?cid=YWRtaW5Ac3RtaWN0YWVsdmFubnV5cy5vcmcj>

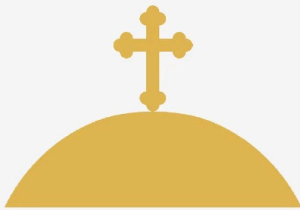
Special Meeting of the Voting Membership
for Accepting Parish Council Nominations - Sunday, November 19

Young Adult Christmas Tree Decoration Party following Liturgy
Sunday, November 19

Church School Christmas Program and Lenten Lunch
Sunday, December 10

Parish Council Dinner Meeting — Monday, December 11, 2023
at the home of Michael & Mary Ann Mitchell

Sixth Installation of Iconography (The altar *Platytera*)
December 27 to January 4



ST. MICHAEL

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

VAN NUYS, CALIFORNIA

Save the Date!

Join us for the Consecration of our new church, presided by His Eminence, Metropolitan SABA; Saturday-Sunday, October 5-6, 2024.



Please Join us for a
YOUNG ADULTS

Christmas Tree
DECORATING PARTY

NOVEMBER 19



AFTER CHURCH

St. Michael Christmas Program

The Prince of Peace

Dec 10th, 2023 | 11:30AM Following Liturgy
Lenten Meal to Follow



FOR PARENTS OF PARTICIPANTS

Final Rehearsal on Sat, Dec 9th, 2023

Contact Cooper Rowe for your child to participate
superintendent@stmichaelvannuys.org

**St. Michael Antiochian Orthodox Church
of the San Fernando Valley**

16643 Vanowen Street, Van Nuys, California 91406-4622
Metropolitan SABA, Archbishop of New York and all North America

Dear Parishioners & Friends of St. Michael,

St. Michael continues to support Loaves & Fishes, a local pantry serving the impoverished areas in Van Nuys and throughout the San Fernando Valley areas. **The drop-off dates this year are: Sunday, November 19th and Sunday December 17th.** A cart marked Food Collection will be placed in the kitchen for your donations.

Should you be able to participate in our Thanksgiving and/or Christmas food collection the following are suggested:

1. Personal care items: socks, deodorant soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, sanitary napkins, disposable razors.
2. Baby items: infant formula, diapers (size 4-5), pull-ups (size 5 or larger)
3. Bottle water, canned food items (preferably with pull-up tabs), i.e., tuna, chicken, baked beans, fruit, vegetables, chili soups, pasta/ravioli, peanut butter, Ensure, Carnation Instant Breakfast, coffee/tea.
4. Monetary donation: Write a check made out to "St. Michael Church," earmarked "Holiday Food Collection" and place it in the narthex offering box (a tax incentive).
5. If you are doing your own shopping at Ralph's or Food-4-Less stores, don't forget to use your Ralphs Reward Card to help St. Michael Church to benefit from your purchases. We are also receiving grocery store gift cards.

You may contact me, Cindy Tamoush, at: 818-917-4847 or [<cindy.tamoush@gmail.com>](mailto:cindy.tamoush@gmail.com), should you have any questions. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours in Christ,

Cindy Tamoush

Charity Coordinator

Teen SOYO Raffle

Tickets for our Annual Teen SOYO Holiday Raffle are available each Sunday until the date of the drawing, Sunday, December 10, 2023, during our Church School Christmas Program. Proceeds from the raffle will help Teen SOYO sponsor the Special Olympics at the Antiochian Village.

"In-house" Caterers to Be Interviewed For Kitchen Use

Use of our Assembly Hall kitchen is available for qualifying caterers that accommodate our parish calendar and schedule. Our kitchen facilities can provide for a caterer's business operation on weekdays and weekends that do not impede our church activities. Speak with David Dawud for more information at: <realty@daviddawud.com>.

Use of Assembly Ballroom

Use of our ballroom for wedding and anniversary receptions, family reunions, and selective special events are available for a donation to St. Michael Church based upon group size, maintenance and security fees.



Michael Baclig, President of the Antiochian Men

Michael Baclig, the son of Father Timothy, and his family will be with us (December 17-27). An opportunity is being planned for the men of our parish to meet and speak with Michael on the unique ministry of The Antiochian, founded in the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast. The gathering will either be on Friday or Saturday, December 22nd or 23rd. Your suggestions are welcome.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

[The Sacrament of Confession with Absolution is available by appointment or up until 15 minutes prior to the services.]

The Sunday before The Holy Nativity

“The Sunday of the Genealogy”

Saturday, December 16th – Great Vespers, 5 p.m.

Sunday, December 17rd – Orthros, 8:45 a.m., Divine Liturgy,* 10 a.m.

The Royal Hours of the Holy Nativity

[observed as a day of strict fasting (dry eating)]

Friday, December 22nd – The First Hour, 6 a.m., The Third Hour, 9 a.m.,
The Sixth Hour, 12 noon, The Ninth Hour, 3 p.m. (in-person and Live-streamed)

THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY IN THE FLESH OF OUR LORD, GOD, AND SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST

Saturday, December 23rd - Great Vespers, 5 p.m.

Sunday, December 24th (Christmas Eve and *Paramon*)

Orthros, 8:30 a.m. followed by The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom*, 10 a.m.

Great Vespers of the Holy Nativity – 5 p.m.

Monday, December 25th (Christmas Day)

Orthros and the Christmas Canon, 8:30 a.m. followed by

The Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great,* 10 a.m.

[There is **no** fasting from December 25th to January 4th]

The Sunday after The Feast of The Holy Nativity

Saturday, December 30th – Great Vespers, 5 p.m.

Sunday, December 31st – Orthros, 8:45 a.m., Divine Liturgy,* 10 a.m.

The Circumcision of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ and the Feast of St. Basil the Great (New Year’s Day)

Sunday, December 31st (New Year’s Eve) – Great Vespers, 5 p.m.
with prayers for the New Year

Monday, January 1st (New Year’s Day) – Orthros, 8:45 a.m.;
Divine Liturgy,* 10 a.m., with prayers for the New Year

The Royal Hours of the Holy Nativity

[observed as a day of strict fasting (dry eating)]

Friday, January 5th – The First Hour, 6 a.m., The Third Hour, 9 a.m.,
The Sixth Hour, 12 noon, The Ninth Hour, 3 p.m. (in-person and Live-streamed)

THE GREAT FEAST OF HOLY THEOPHANY (EPIPHANY)

Friday, January 5th — following The Ninth Royal Hour (3 p.m.),
The Vespereal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great,* 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 6th – Festal Orthros, 8:30 a.m. with
“The Great Sanctification of Water,” immediately followed by followed by
The Festal Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom* 10 a.m.

** Services with Holy Communion*

PASTORAL SERMON

The Ninth Sunday of Luke

By V. Rev. Timothy Baclig

November 19, 2023

Upon hearing today’s Gospel lesson, you and I should ask ourselves: “How much is enough?” What do I need in order to live a life in such a way that I am not hoarding my possessions?

We all have responsibilities with serious concerns: a) providing for our family; which may include avoiding debt; doing everything we can to ensure that our children are educated; preparing for the needs of our retirement and concerns for our medical expenses. All of these things come with great uncertainty. They can, at the same time be excuses for not sharing with others, especially those with great needs. Some of us, especially if we are blessed with good fortune, consider every possible way of avoiding taxes; we carefully plan our deductions, consider ways to multiply our income with wise investments; you know what I’m taking about. My point is: so much of our financial planning is without much certainty. We worry about tomorrow, but we clearly know that our Lord teaches us that we should not; yet our lives are seem largely dependent upon what resources we have.

So then I must ask: What does this morning's Gospel say to us? A great deal about what I've just said is relative if we are to take seriously what is taught by our Lord in the Gospel: Let me review some of His words with you. It is interesting to note that one-third of our Lord's teaching has a direct bearing upon what we do (or don't do) with our resources:

1. [Matthew 6:25ff] *...do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food and the body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? (v. 33) But seek first [the Kingdom of God] and His righteousness...*
2. [Matthew 6:21; Luke 12:34] *Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. **For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.***

For the past two Sundays we have heard lessons that have focused our attention upon doing good works. Specifically, we have been reminded that our rich heritage in Christ, who is Himself, the fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets, calls us to be merciful. Moreover, it was made clear that "being merciful" should be the motivation of "making sacrifices."

Our Christian Tradition (in both the East and West) has observed a fast during the Season of Advent. Our church has kept a fast in preparation for the Great Feast of our Lord's coming. However, unlike Great Lent, this period of forty days has, over the years, tended to place greater emphasis upon the practice of doing good works. The whole legend of Santa Claus, for example, based upon the real person of St. Nicholas the Wonder-worker, is commonly depicted as a kind and charitable saint, who was a doer of good deeds, especially to the poor. Yet, without minimizing the discipline of fasting and prayer practiced during the season, fasting, we should understand, does not exclusively mean abstinence from foods. Fasting can also, and very possibly mean, the abstinence of

the many other things that we have found ourselves “consuming:” **things** that we may have become possessive of, or very possibly attached to; even behavior that we have found ourselves compelled to do. The foolish rich man spoken of in today’s Gospel is a good example. **He lacks an understanding of God as his Source and selfishly hoarded his goods.**

St. Gregory the Great addresses the fast in this way: “...let no one believe that fasting alone is sufficient; for the Lord tells us by the mouth of the prophet, ‘The kind of fasting I want is this: Remove the chains of oppression and the yoke of injustice, and let the oppressed go free.’ And then he continues, ‘Share your food with the hungry and open your homes to the poor. Give clothes to those who have nothing to wear, and do not refuse to help your own relatives (Isaiah 58:6, 7). The Lord therefore blesses the fast that uplifts our hands in almsgiving before His eyes, which is joined to the love of our neighbor, and founded on compassion.”

We live in a land that has prided itself upon freedoms that have provided each of us with countless opportunities for our every ambition. If either by working hard, such as our parents or grandparents did, some of whom were immigrants, or if it was our good fortune to become the inheritors of all that they achieved to make our life much easier, **our standard of living is largely spoken of in terms of our possessions.** And so the very words of our Lord Jesus Christ in the verse preceding today’s lesson could not be more alarming: “*Watch out!*” He said, “*Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses*” (verse 15). The Lord then proceeds to present us with a parable that describes a successful man who defines his life in terms of what he possesses, and further, considers the purpose of his life in this world solely in terms of being a consumer. We hear the rich man in today’s Gospel says to himself, “You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry” (verse 19). These words are part of the writings of the Old Testament author of Ecclesiastes. They are the very words that are also found in the prophesy of Isaiah. However in Isaiah, the phrase ends with the words: “...for tomorrow we die” (Isaiah 22:13). It is not mentioned in the quote because the Gospel lesson draws the same conclusion: the rich man’s life ends with death.

Today’s lesson is also a good study into the mind of the greedy. In commenting on the rich fool, St. Basil says: *His heart is tormented, devoured with anxiety. For what [others might rejoice in] brings pain to the [greedy]. [The rich man is not happy that] his storehouses are stuffed full. The overflowing riches which his storehouses are unable*

to hold are a torment to his soul, lest perhaps the overflow should bring some of their blessing to those in want! The man in the parable is truly selfish, according to Basil.

Our Lord's concludes the lesson of the parable with the warning: that possessing the rich man's attitude and his way of thinking is foolish. Why? Because it would be more proper for one's goal in life to be focused upon becoming "rich towards God" – the Giver of every gift, the Provider and Source of all things.

In last week's Gospel lesson we heard our Lord say, *I desire mercy not sacrifice (Matthew 9:10)*. The man in today's parable was neither merciful nor sacrificial. He considered his life blessed by having the ability to selfishly hoard his riches. He gave no thought to the fact that he would not be able to take any of his possessions with him to the grave. He was in fact, deluded in his thinking: perceiving himself rich, he was in fact very poor. Thinking of his wealth in terms of the abundance of his possessions, he gave no thought to what it meant to be "rich toward God".

Prayer

O Christ our God, have mercy upon us sinners. O Holy Virgin, Mother of God, beneath your compassion we take refuge, despise not our prayer in our spiritual poverty, but by your intercessions, deliver us from all manner of greed, jealousy, pride and envy. O Holy Spirit of God, purify our hearts set aright our minds, and sanctify our souls that we may be found faithful stewards of all that has been entrusted to our care. Establish us in your will; grant that we may remain steadfast in our commitment and earnest in our desire to be rich towards God. For Thou art He who is a ready help to us in our time of need, and to Thee do we ascribe glory, together with the Father who is unoriginate, and our Lord, God, and Saviour Jesus Christ; for blessed art Thou unto ages of ages. A-men.

EOTHINON 2

الايوثينا 2

-tone 7

اللحن 7

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST THE NINTH SUNDAY OF LUKE

THE HOLY PROPHET OBADIAH; MARTYR BARLAAM OF ANTIOCH;
MARTYR AZI THE WONDERWORKER OF ISAURIA IN ASIA MINOR AND 150 SOLDIERS WITH HIM

أبوليتيكيون القيامة باللحن السابع

حَظَمْتَ بِصَلِيْبِكَ الْمَوْتَ، وَفَتَحْتَ لِلصِّ الْفِرْدَوْسَ، وَحَوَّلْتَ نَوْحَ حَامِلَاتِ
الطَّيْبِ، وَأَمَرْتَ رُسُلَكَ أَنْ يَكْرِزُوا، بِأَنَّكَ قَدْ قُومْتَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ إِلَهُ، مَانِحاً الْعَالَمَ
الرَّحْمَةَ الْعُظْمَى.

طروبارية رؤساء الملائكة باللحن الرابع

أَيُّهَا الْمُتَقَدِّمُونَ عَلَى الْأَجْنَادِ السَّمَاوِيِّينَ، نَتَوَسَّلُ إِلَيْكُمْ نَحْنُ غَيْرَ الْمُسْتَحَقِّينَ، حَتَّى
أَنْتُمْ بِطَلْبَاتِكُمْ تَكْتَنُفُونَنَا بِظِلِّ أَجْنَحَةِ مَجْدِكُمْ غَيْرِ الْهَيُولِيِّ، حَافِظِينَ إِيَّانَا نَحْنُ
الْجَائِثِينَ وَالصَّارِحِينَ بِغَيْرِ فَتُورٍ، أَنْقِذُونَا مِنَ الشَّدَائِدِ، بِمَا أَنْتُمْ رُؤَسَاءُ مَرَاتِبِ
الْقَوَاتِ الْعُلُويَّةِ.

قنداق لعيد دخول السيدة باللحن الرابع

الْيَوْمَ الْهَيْكَلُ الَّذِي لِلْمُخْلِصِ، الْكَلْبِيِّ النَّقَاءِ، الْعَذْرَاءُ الْخِذْرُ ذُو الثَّمَنِ الْجَزِيلِ،
وَهِيَ الْكَنْزُ الطَّاهِرُ لِحُدِّ الْإِلَهِ، إِذْ تَدْخُلُ بَيْتَ الرَّبِّ، تَدْخُلُ نِعْمَةَ الرُّوحِ الْإِلَهِيِّ
مَعَهَا. فَلْتَسَبِّحْهَا مَلَائِكَةُ اللَّهِ، لِأَنَّهَا الْمِظْلَةُ السَّمَاوِيَّةِ.

الرسالة

(لِلأحد الرابع والعشرين بعد العنصرة)

فصل من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول إلى أهل أفسس

الرَّبُّ يُعْطِي قُوَّةً لِشَعْبِهِ.

قَدِّمُوا لِلرَّبِّ يَا أَبْنَاءَ اللَّهِ.

فصل من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول إلى أفسس. (22-14:2)

يَا إِخْوَةٌ، إِنَّ الْمَسِيحَ هُوَ سَلَامُنَا، هُوَ جَعَلَ الْإِثْنَيْنِ وَاحِدًا، وَنَقَضَ فِي جَسَدِهِ
حَائِطَ السِّيَاحِ الْحَاجِزِ، أَيِ الْعَدَاوَةِ. وَأَبْطَلَ نَامُوسَ الْوَصَايَا فِي فِرَائِضِهِ،
لِيَخْلُقَ الْإِثْنَيْنِ فِي نَفْسِهِ إِنْسَانًا وَاحِدًا جَدِيدًا بِإِجْرَائِهِ السَّلَامِ. وَيُصَالِحُ كِلَيْهِمَا
فِي جَسَدٍ وَاحِدٍ مَعَ اللَّهِ فِي الصَّلِيبِ، بِقِتْلِهِ الْعَدَاوَةَ فِي نَفْسِهِ. فَجَاءَ وَبَشَرَكُمُ

بِالسَّلَامِ، الْبَعِيدِينَ مِنْكُمْ وَالْقَرِيبِينَ. لِأَنَّ بِهِ لَنَا كَلِمَاتِنَا التَّوَصَّلَ إِلَى الْآبِ فِي رُوحٍ
وَاحِدٍ. فَلَسْتُمْ غُرَبَاءَ بَعْدُ وَنُزَلَاءَ، بَلْ مُوَاطِنُو الْقَدِيسِينَ وَأَهْلُ بَيْتِ اللَّهِ. وَقَدْ بُنِيتُمْ
عَلَى أَسَاسِ الرُّسُلِ، وَالْأَنْبِيَاءِ، وَحَجَرِ الزَّائِيَةِ هُوَ يَسُوعُ الْمَسِيحُ نَفْسُهُ الَّذِي بِهِ
يُنْسَقُ الْبُنْيَانُ كُلُّهُ، فَيَنْمُو هَيْكَلًا مُقَدَّسًا فِي الرَّبِّ، وَفِيهِ أَنْتُمْ أَيْضًا تُبْنُونَ مَعًا
مَسْكَنًا لِلَّهِ فِي الرُّوحِ.

الإنجيل

الإنجيل (للاحد التاسع من لوقا)

فصل شريف من بشارة القديس لوقا الإنجيلي البشير والتلميذ
الطاهر. (21-16:12)

قَالَ الرَّبُّ هَذَا الْمَثَلُ: إِنْسَانٌ غَنِيٌّ أَخَصَبَتْ أَرْضُهُ. فَفَكَرَّ فِي نَفْسِهِ قَائِلًا "مَاذَا
أَصْنَعُ؟ فَإِنَّهُ لَيْسَ لِي مَوْضِعٌ أَخْزَنُ فِيهِ أَثْمَارِي." ثُمَّ قَالَ، "أَصْنَعُ هَذَا: أَهْدِمُ
أَهْرَائِي وَأَبْنِي أَكْبَرَ مِنْهَا، وَأَجْمَعُ هُنَاكَ كُلَّ غَلَّاتِي وَخَيْرَاتِي. وَأَقُولُ لِنَفْسِي، يَا
نَفْسُ إِنَّ لَكَ خَيْرَاتٍ كَثِيرَةً فَاسْتَرِيحِي وَكُلِّي واشْرَبِي وافرحي." فَقَالَ لَهُ اللَّهُ:
"يَا جَاهِلُ! فِي هَذِهِ اللَّيْلَةِ تُطَلِّبُ نَفْسَكَ مِنْكَ. فَهَذِهِ الَّتِي أَعَدَدْتَهَا لِمَنْ تَكُونُ؟"
فَهَكَذَا مَنْ يَدَّخِرُ لِنَفْسِهِ وَلَا يَسْتَعْنِي بِاللَّهِ. وَلَمَّا قَالَ هَذَا نَادَى: مَنْ لَهُ أُذُنَانِ
لِلسَّمْعِ، فَلْيَسْمَعْ.

ملاحظة بخصوص تناول القربان المقدس

إن مفهومنا لتناول القربان يعني عمومية المشاركة فيه لذوى العقيدة الواحدة، إلا إن المشاركة في سر القربان
المقدس هنا تقتصر فقط على أعضاء الكنائس الارثوذكسية والذين يحضرون أنفسهم بالصلاة والصوم والاعتراف
منذ فترة قريبة (وعلى كل حال، فإننا ندعو الجميع للمشاركة في الخبز المقدس الذي يوزع عند إنتهاء مراسيم
القداس). رجاء مراجعة الكاهن. إذا رغبت أن تصبح عضواً في الكنيسة الارثوذكسية