

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 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost and the Sixteenth Sunday of Matthew (“Sunday of Zacchaeus”)

The Hieromartyr Blaise, Bishop of Sebastia and his companions
Theodora the empress; New-martyr George of Serbia

Sunday, February 11, 2024

Tone 3; Eothinon 3

Apolytikion of the Resurrection (Tone 3)

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and become the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

Apolytikion of St. Blaise (Tone 4)

By choosing the Apostles’ way of life, thou hast succeeded to their throne. Inspired by God, thou didst find the way to divine contemplation through the practice of virtue. After teaching the Word of Truth without error, thou didst defend the Faith to the very shedding of thy blood, O Holy Martyr among bishops Blaise. Entreat the Lord our God to save our souls.

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 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 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost)

*Sing praises to our God, sing praises.
Clap your hands, all ye peoples.*

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians (6:1-10)

Brethren, working together with Him, then, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For He says, "At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation." Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

THE GOSPEL (for the Sixteenth Sunday of Matthew)

The Reading of the Holy Gospel is according to St. Matthew (25:14-30; Luke 8:8)

The Lord spoke this parable: A man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them; and he made five talents more. So also, he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying: "Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the

joy of your master.” And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying: “Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.” His master said to him, “Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.” He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying: “Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.” But his master answered him, “You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and gather where I have not winnowed? Then you ought to have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who was the ten talents. For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.” As Jesus said these things He cried out: “He who has ears to hear, let him hear!”

The Synaxarion

On February 11 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the holy Hieromartyr Blaise, bishop of Sebastia, and his companions.

Verses

Since the throat of Blaise was with the sword clean severed,
From ailing throats he averteth harmful humors.

On the eleventh, unyielding bronze cut the neck of Blaise.

Born in Cappadocia, Blaise (Vlassios) was meek and God-fearing from early childhood. During a period of violent persecution of Christians, Blaise encouraged his flock and visited the martyrs in prison, among them the famous Eustratius. Later in life, Blaise retired to the mountain of Argeos and lived there in a cave. Ferocious wild beasts, recognizing a holy man, came to him and he gently tamed them. Persecutors sent by the emperor Licinius found the saint in that hidden spot and took him for trial. On the way there, Blaise healed a boy who had a bone stuck in his throat and, at the petition of a poor widow, made the wolf that had taken her pig return it to her. The dark judges tortured him, flogging him terribly. By his steadfastness, Blaise brought many unbelievers to the

Christian Faith. Seven women and two children were thrown into prison with him. Together, they suffered and were glorified on this day in 316. Blaise's prayers are sought for the health and well-being of domestic animals and for protection from wild beasts. He is also invoked against ailing and sore throats.

On this day, we also commemorate Theodora the empress; and New-martyr George of Serbia. By the intercessions of Thy saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

GLOSSARY: Apolytikion (ah-poh-lee-tee-key-on); plural, Apolytikia: A brief poem in accentual metre, expressing the theme of a feast. Kontakion (kon-tah-kee-on); plural, Kontakia: A special kind of Troparion that expresses the teaching of a Feast. It summarizes and applies the meaning of a feast of day. Orthros (Or-thros): The word literally means early morning. It is the name of the service, which by some has been called Matins, and still by others, Lauds, though it does not correspond exactly to either of the Western Services. Eothinon (ee-oh-thee-non): meaning – pertaining to the dawn. They are the eleven assigned readings of the Gospel during the Orthros Service, pertaining to the eleven appearances of our Lord to His Disciples after the Resurrection. Synaxis (see-nax-sees) “the gathering or coming together” as it pertains to a celebration of a commemoration or feast. Following a major Feast a “Synaxis” commemorates the “co-stars” of the Feast, i.e., following the Feast of the Presentation of Christ (Ss. Simeon and Anna), following the Feast of the Birth of Christ (the Holy Virgin Mary), following the Feast of Holy Theophany (St. John the Baptist), etc. Synaxarion (see-nax-sah-ree-on) the summary of a Feast, describing a historical significance and meaning of a commemoration.

OFFERINGS

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

for the repose of the newly-departed Protodeacon George Moubayed (+4 February, 2024) of St. Mark Church (Irvine). Memory eternal

for the repose of the newly-departed servant of God, Albert Malouf (+5 February, 2024). Memory eternal.

for the repose of the newly-departed servant of God, Adrienne Andrews (+8 February, 2024). Memory eternal.

for Katie Nassief, celebrating her 93rd birthday today,
by Mark and the Nassief family.

in loving memory of Louis Aboud, Sr. (+10 February, 1999)
by the members of his family. Memory eternal.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

[Note: Wednesdays and Fridays are observed as days of fasting]

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost and The Seventeenth Sunday of Matthew

Saturday, February 17th - Great Vespers, 5 p.m.

Sunday, February 18th - Orthros, 8:45 a.m., Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Zoom Meeting Virtual Bible Study: Tuesday, February 13th

Bible Study with Father Timothy — will meet this Tuesday, February 13th at 7 p.m. A Zoom link and security password provided in a weekly parish e-mail. Each study is limited to one hour. We will continue our study of the Holy Spirit, “gifts” and various “manifestations.” Recorded links of our study are available upon request of Father Timothy at: frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org

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>

Young Adult Super Bowl Party, Sunday, February 11, 2024

Teen Winter Camp — February 16-19, 2024 (Camp St. Nicholas)

St. Michael Chili Cook-off — Sunday, February 25, 2024

Music Worship on Pascha to Pentecost — Saturday, March 16

ST. MICHAEL YOUNG ADULT SUPER BOWL PARTY

**Sunday, February 11
2:30PM**

**Location: Sbdn. Richard
Ajalat's Home**

**RSVP to Richard at:
rajalat@stmichaelvannuys.org
and to receive his
address**



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% service charge. 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 also contact us for assistance with any of these options; especially when information of our bank routing and account numbers are needed. We thank you for your continued faithful support of St. Michael parish.



St Michael AW Annunciation Tea



Saturday, March 23rd

10am Morning Prayer - followed By Tea Time

Guest Speaker - V. Rev. Fr. John Finley - Speaking On:

"I Should Be Doing That!"

Building Community Through Acts Of Kindness

It's "Tea Time" once again! Mark the date & plan to join for this wonderful annual event.

As is our tradition, all proceeds will be donated to St Barbara Monastery in Santa Paula.

Minimum donation of \$8 per person. We ask that you bring a Lenten dish to share & indicate what in your response.

**RSVP by Sunday, March 17th
to Charmaine at
cdarmour@sbcglobal.net**



Save the Date!

St. Michael Golf Classic - Monday, June 3, 2023; Wood Ranch Golf Club

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

Sunday February 25th

Chili

COOK OFF

Make the
best chili to
win prizes!

FOLLOWING LITURGY SUNDAY FEB 25



\$7 PER PERSON
\$20 FOR FAMILIES OF 4+

*All proceeds will be donated to
Project Mexico's Infant Orphanage.*



To Participate Email:
alevy202@gmail.com

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

Holy Bread Offering List

Feb 18 - open

Feb 25 - open

Mar 03 - Nicole & Robert Webster

Mar 10 - open (Meat Fare)

Coffee Hour Hosts Calendar

Chili Cook-off

Nicole & Robert Webster

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



ST. MICHAEL

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

VAN NUYS, CALIFORNIA

Frequently Asked Questions When Completing a Pledge Form

What is the reason for completing an annual parish Pledge Form?

Each year planning for budgeted receipts and expenditures are an important part of being responsible stewards of Christ's church. Some of our month-to-month expenses include: priest and staff salaries, utility and maintenance expenses, the payment of taxes on all investment (income) property (yes, churches do pay property taxes), and insurance. Moreover, it is not uncommon for these expenses increase each year. It is a goal of our Parish Council to meet these expenses with the contributions of our members. The Pastor does not receive stipends (monetary gifts) for house blessings, baptisms, weddings and funerals if a family is not enrolled as a regular contributor of the parish. The Pastor's living expenses and allowances are included the Annual Budget of the parish.

Our 2024 Pledge Form is included with this bulletin and is also available on our parish website at: <https://www.stmichaelvannuys.org/donate/> Hard copies are also available at the entrance of the church.

The form may be completed and returned to the Church Office at: 16643 Vanowen Street; Van Nuys; California; 91406. To date, \$45,710 pledge commitments have been received towards our \$413,000 Annual Budget

NOTICE: Year-end Contribution Statements are being prepared for distribution. Should you need to have your statement to file your taxes sooner than later, please let us know and it will be provided to you electronically or by a hard copy in the mail.

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

2024 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

DIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES & THE WEST TEEN SOYO NEWSLETTER

JANUARY, 2024 | VOLUME 11



St. Xenia of Saint Petersburg

“St. Xenia a patron saint of St. Petersburg, who according to tradition, gave all her possessions to the poor after her husband died. Her husband had been Colonel Andrey Petrov, a chanter at the Saint Andrew Cathedral. After his death, Xenia became a "fool-for-Christ" and for 45 years wandered around the streets of St. Petersburg, usually wearing her late husband's military uniform. As a saint, she is noted for her intercessions in helping those with employment, marriage, the homeless, for fires, for missing children, and for a spouse. She is venerated in several countries. There are about 40 churches and chapels built in her name.”

BIBLE BOWL

What is the Bible Bowl?

It is an event sponsored by the archdiocese for parishes where participants study a particular book of the bible at are asked questions and compete against other parishes.

How to participate?

Create a team of PreTeens, Teens, or Adults with three members and up to two alternatives. Make sure to sign up at [this link](#). Be ready on July 5th and don't forget to study the book of Romans!

ORATORICAL

What is the Oratorical festival?

Youth participants present speeches discussing the faith and the Church through exploring and deepening their faith while honing their speech writing and public speaking skills.

How to participate?

Prepare a speech on Romans 8:28. Sign up using [this link](#). The festival takes place July 6th and make sure to practice!

More information can be found at <https://www.antiochianevents.com/la.htm>

SAVE THE DATE!!!!!!



**Zoom with His
Eminence April 18th!!!**

FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM

@DLAWSOYO



SAVE THE DATE

ST. MICHAEL'S

31ST ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC

HELP CONTINUE THE LONG-STANDING TRADITION OF
"GETTING OUT FOR THE DAY"
BY PARTICIPATING IN OUR ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC AND BBQ
MONDAY, June 3rd – WOOD RANCH GOLF CLUB

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

Make up your own foursome or we'll pair you up.
Shotgun Start – 4 Golfer Scramble Format – 3 Mulligans
Participation in Putting Contest, Closest to the Line
Team and Individual Awards
Continental Breakfast – Box Lunch – Barbeque Dinner
Sodas – Water – Beer – and More!!!!
\$200.00 Per Player!

NON-GOLFERS

Can't get out the whole day, then join us later for an evening of fun & frolic!
Barbeque Dinner
Auctions and Raffles
Special Golf Ball Raffle - \$50.00 each

For reservations or more information contact:
Don Meena (661) 259-9449 or donmeena@sbcglobal.net
Fred Milkie, Jr. (818) 535-4243 or milkief@aol.com

**THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST
AND THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW
THE AFTERFEAST OF THE PRESENTATION (MEETING) OF CHRIST
PARTHENIOS, BISHOP OF LAMPSAKOS;
VENERABLE LUKE OF HELLAS;
NEW-MARTYR GEORGE OF CRETE**

بمجد وهوان، بصيبت رديء وصيبت حسن. كمضلين ونحن صافون، كمجبولين ونحن مغزوفون، كمانيين وها نحن نحيا، كمؤدبين ونحن غير مقبولين، كحزائي ونحن دابنا فرحون، كفقراء ونحن أغنياء كثيرين، كأن لا شيء لنا ونحن نملك كل شيء.

الإجليل

فصل شريف من بشاراة القديس متي

وكأنما إنسان مسافر دعا عبده وسلمهم أمواله، فأعطى واحدا خمس ورنات، وأخر ورنتين، وأخر ورنَةً كُل واحد على قدر طاقه. وسافر للوقت. فمضى الذي أخذ الخمس ورنات وتاجر بها، فربح خمس ورنات آخر. وهكذا الذي أخذ الورتنين، ربح أيضا ورتنتين أخريين. وأما الذي أخذ الورتنة فمضى وحفر في الأرض وأحفى فصاة سيده. وبعد زمان طويل أتى سيده أولئك العبيد وحاسبتهم. فجاء الذي أخذ الخمس ورنات وقدم خمس ورنات آخر قائلا: يا سيده، خمس ورنات سلمتني. هوذا خمس ورنات أخرجت فوفيتها. فقال له سيده: نعمًا أيها العبد الصالح والأمين! كنت أمينًا في القليل فأعطيتك على الكثير. أدخل إلى فرح سيديك. ثم جاء الذي أخذ الورتنتين وقال: يا سيده، ورتنتين سلمتني. هوذا ورتنتان أخريتان ربحتهما فوفيهما. قال له سيده: نعمًا أيها العبد الصالح الأمين! كنت أمينًا في القليل فأعطيتك على الكثير. أدخل إلى فرح سيديك. ثم جاء أيضًا الذي أخذ الورتنة الواحدة وقال: يا سيده، عرفت أنك إنسان قاس، تحصصت حيث لم تزرع، وتجمع من حيث لم تبتذر. فحفت ومضيت وأحفت ورتنتك في الأرض. هوذا الذي لك. فأجاب سيده وقال له: أيها العبد المتريز والكسولان، عرفت أي أحصد حيث لم أزرع، وأجمع من حيث لم أبتذر، وكان ينبغي أن تضع فضتي عند الصبارة، فعند مجيبي كنت أخذ الذي لي مع ربًا. فخذوا منه الورتنة وأعطوها للذي له العشر ورنات. لأن كل من له يعطى فيزداد، ومن ليس له فالذي عنده يؤخذ منه. والعبد البطال اطرحوه إلى الظلمة الخارجية، هناك يكون البكاء وصريز الأسنان

طروبارية القيامة على اللحن الثاني

عندما انحدرت إلى الموت أيها الحياة الذي لا يموت، حينئذ أمتّ الجحيم بيزرق لاهوتك. وعندما أقمت الأموات من تحت الترى، صرّح نوحك جميع القوات السماويين: أيها المسيح الإله، أعطني الحياة، المجد لك.

أفرحي يا والدة الإله الغدراء، الممتلئة بعمّة، لأنّ منك أشرق شمس العتل المسيح الهنا، منيرًا للذين في الظلام. سرّ وابتهج أنت أيها الشيخ الصديق، حاملاً على ذراعك الممتق نفوسنا، والمايح لنا القيامة.

طروبارية رؤساء الملاحة باللحن الرابع

أيها المتقدّمون على الجند السماويين، تنوّل اليك نحن غير المستحقين، حتّى إنكم بطليباتكم تكثفوننا بظلّ أجنحة مجدكم اللاهولي، حافظين إيانا نحن الجائين والصارخين بغير فتور: أقتونا من الشدايد، بما أنكم رؤساء مراتب القوات الطوية.

أيها المسيح الإله، يا من بمولده قدس المستودع البتولي، وبارك يدي سمعان كما لاق، وأدركنا الآن وخلصنا؛ احفظ رعبتك بسلام في الخروب، وأيد الملوك الذين أحببتهم، بما أنك وحدك محب للبتسر.

الرسالة

الرّب يعطي قوّة لتعبيه

قدّموا للرّب يا أبناء الله، قدّموا للرّب مجدًا وكرامةً.

فصل من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول الثانية إلى أهل كورنثوس

يا إخوة، فإذ نحن عاملون معهُ نطلب أن لا تقبلوا نعمة الله باطلاً. لأنّه يقول: "في وقت مقبول سمعتك، وفي يوم خلاص أعنتك." هوذا الآن وقت مقبول. هوذا الآن يوم خلاص. ولستنا نجعل عترة في شيء لبلا لآلام الجحمة. بل في كل شيء نظهر أنفسنا كخدام الله: في صنبر كثير، في شدائد، في صنزورات، في ضيقات، في صنزبات، في سجون، في اضطرابات، في اتعاب، في أشهر، في أصوام، في طهارّة، في علم، في أناة، في لطف، في الروح القدس، في محبة بلا رياء، في كلام الحق، في قوّة الله ببلاح البر للبتين وللبتسار.

إن مفهومنا لتناول القران يعني عومية المشاركة فيه لذوي العقيدة الواحدة، إلا ان المشاركة في سر القران المقدس هنا مقتصر على اعضاء الكنائس الارثوذكسية والذين يحضرون انفسهم بالصلاة والصوم والاعتراف منذ فترة قريبة وعلى كل حال، فإننا ندعو الجميع للمشاركة في الخبز المقدس الذي يوزع عند انتهاء مراسيم القداس الرجاء مراجعة الكاهن إذا رغبت أن تصبح عضواً في الكنيسة الارثوذكسية.