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 Sunday of the Last Judgment (Meat Fare)

Martyr Kodratos of Corinth and his five companions; Anastasia the patrician of Alexandria

Sunday, March 10, 2024

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 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 for the Prodigal Son (Tone 1)

When Thou comest, O God, to earth with glory, and all creatures tremble before Thee, and the river of fire floweth before the Altar, and the books are opened and sins revealed, deliver me then from that unquenchable fire, and make me worthy to stand at Thy right hand, O righteous Judge.

Daily Readings

THE EPISTLE (for the Sunday of the Last Judgment)

The Lord is my strength and my praise. The Lord chastising has chastised me, but He hath not delivered me over to death.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians (8:8 - 9:2)

Brethren, food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. Only take care, lest this liberty of yours somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if any one sees you—a man of knowledge—at table in an idol's temple, might he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? And so by your knowledge this weak man is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. Thus, sinning against your brethren and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of my brother's falling, I will never eat meat, lest I cause my brother to fall. Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are not you my workmanship in the Lord? If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

THE GOSPEL (for the Sunday of the Last Judgment)

The Reading of the Holy Gospel is according to St. Matthew (25:31-46)

The Lord said, "When the Son of man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. Before Him will be gathered all the nations, and He will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and He will place the sheep at His right hand, but the goats at the left. Then the King will say to those at His right hand, 'Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed Me, I was naked and you clothed Me, I was sick and you visited Me, I was in prison and you came to Me.' Then the righteous will answer Him, 'Lord, when did we see Thee hungry and feed Thee, or thirsty and give Thee drink? And when did we see Thee a stranger and welcome Thee, or naked and clothe Thee? And when did we see Thee sick or in prison and visit Thee?' And the King will answer them, Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.' Then He will say to those at his left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave Me no food, I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome Me, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see Thee hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to Thee?' Then He will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to Me.' And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

The Synaxarion

On March 10 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate Martyr Kodratos of Corinth and his five companions; and Anastasia the patrician of Alexandria.

Today, we commemorate the Second and impartial Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Verses

When the Judge of all sitteth to judge the earth, Come now! Mayest Thou judge me worthy of Thy voice!

It is the Sunday of the Last Judgment—known also as Meat Fare Sunday —the lesson of which occurs in today's Holy Gospel. Jesus illustrates to us God's ineffable goodness and His great love for mankind. And so lest some who are lazy should loiter and spend the time appropriate to their salvation in the pursuit of sin, and be suddenly overtaken by death, the divine Fathers decree that on this day the remembrance of the Second Appearance of Christ may be celebrated. The intention is to remind them that, as God is good and loving to mankind, He is also a very righteous Judge Who recompenses each according to his deeds. Our Lord teaches us that when we minister to our brother or sister, we really minister to Him. This brings us righteousness and life eternal.

By Thine ineffable love for mankind, O Christ God, make us worthy of Thy devoted voice, number us among Thy righteous ones and have mercy on us. Amen.

A Note Regarding Holy Communion

Since we understand Communion to mean that we have all things in common, sharing an identical Faith, *only* those who are members of the Orthodox Church and who have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting and recent Confession may participate in Holy Communion. (We invite all, however, to partake of the blessed bread which is distributed at the dismissal.) Please see the Pastor for inquiries on how to become a member.

OFFERINGS

Holy Bread is being offered for the one-year memorial of the servant of God, Mariana Gantus Wall (+2 February, 2023) by John & Jo Ann Gantus and family. Memory eternal.

Holy Bread is also being offered by Marcia O'Dea for the guidance and protection of Sean & Robin, Dillon and Kiera O'Dea; also in memory of Robin's newly-departed mother, Joanna Michaelis (+7 March, 2024). Memory eternal.

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

by Charmaine Darmour for the repose of the newly-departed servant of God, George Tabanji (+2 March, 2024). Memory eternal.

for the newly-married servants of God, Tatyana & Jonathan Matni. May God grant them many years!

for the child, Lamuel Shibli Haddad, the newborn son of Shibli & Genesis Haddad, being baptized today. May God grant him many years!

for the new expected parents: Rachel & William Grundler

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

[Note: Today ("Meat Fare") is the final day for consuming all meat products, However, eggs, dairy, fish, wine and oil may be consumed on <u>any day</u> of this week.]

The Sunday of the Cheese Fare*

<u>Great Vespers</u> – Saturday, March 16th, 5 p.m. <u>Orthros</u> – Sunday, March 17th, 8:45 a.m.; <u>Divine Liturgy</u>, 10 a.m.

The Beginning of Great Lent – Monday, March 18th Lenten Weekday Services

<u>Great Compline</u> – Mondays, 6:30 p.m.

Liturgy of Pre-Sanctified Gifts – Wednesdays, 6 p.m.

"<u>Akathist</u>"/"<u>Madeyeh</u>" (Service of Intercessory Prayer) – Fridays, 6:30 p.m.

* the final day for consuming all dairy products, eggs, fish wine and oil. A traditional fasting discipline is observed during the Great Fast, which lasts from Pure Monday (March 18th) through Great and Holy Saturday (May 4th). *Katalysis* (provision) for wine and oil is made on Saturdays and Sundays [with the exception of Great and Holy Saturday when there is *katalysis* for wine, but not for oil (implying food made more tasty by being cooked in or with oil as opposed to simple *xerophagy* of 'dry eating,' meaning raw fruits, vegetables and grains or those soaked or cooked in water)]. On the Feast of the Annunciation (March 25th) and Palm Sunday (April 28th), fish, wine and oil are permitted.

IMPORTANT NOTE: One should bear in mind that fasting is not an end it itself, but a means to a spiritual goal. One's health should not be jeopardized in fasting. The Church does not recommend those persons such as expectant mothers or those requiring medication to ignore their doctor's instructions. One should also consider How abstaining from social activities and various other pleasures may also be helpful. Should you have questions, please speak with Fr. Timothy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Reading the Epistle this morning is **Christy Hanson Chiaburu** Today's ushers are: **Samia Habib** and **Charlotte Murr**.

Parish Council Virtual Meeting — Monday, March 11; 6 p.m.

Zoom Meeting Virtual Bible Study

Our weekly Bible Study — Our final session on our introduction to Great Lent and Holy Week is this Tuesday, March 12th. Our study will resume after Holy Pascha on Tuesday, May 14. Recorded links of our study are available upon request of Father Timothy.

Note to Coffee Hour hosts: coffee and paper goods will be provided each week.Holy Bread Offering ListCoffee Hour Hosts CalendarMar 17 - open (Cheese Fare)Mar 24 - open (Sunday of Orthodoxy)Mar 25 - open (Feast of the Annunciation)Mar 31 - Jennifer Lyneis and familyMar 31 - Jennifer Lyneis and familyThe Lyneis familyPlease contact Father Timothy (818/219-3761; frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org) to sign-up to
offer Holy Bread or to host the Coffee Hour.

Upcoming Events

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

Music Worship on Pascha to Pentecost — Saturday, March 16 St. Luke Church (Garden Grove) 9 a.m. (no fee; dinner \$20) Register with Anna Nasser by March 11, 2024: 714-971-2244

St. Michael Women's Annunciation Tea — Saturday, March 23, 2024 Minimum donation \$8/person and Lenten dish; RSVP by Sunday March 17 to <u>cdarmour@sbcglobal.net</u>

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.

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

Saturday, March 23rd

St Michael AW

Annunciation Tea

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



* St Michael Antiochian Women * CHARITABLE SERVICE PROJECT FOR MARCH - ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN'S MONTH SUPPORTING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS In the San Fernando Valley *

March as Women's Month is an opportunity to support women in need

Items being collected for personal hygiene kits:

Toothbrushes, toothpaste,dental floss, lip balm/chapstichairbrush, comb, deodorant, nail file (non metal only) **Other items being collected:**

Shampoo, bar soap, liquid body wash, face wipes, feminine hygiene products (pads & tampons) new socks,

We are also collecting "GENTLY USED" clothing & shoes for women & children

If you are not able to shop - a donation can be made with a check to the church. Put a memo that indicates "domestic violence shelter" and someone will shop for you. We will be purchasing cloth bags for the hygiene kits as well as hygiene products.

Please bring items to church & leave in the kitchen - It would help if you could advise your donations so we know what we need to fill in by contacting Charmaine at: cdarmour65@gmail.com We will be assembling hygiene kits after church on Sunday, March 31st & we will need help!

Golf Classic Raffle

The Golf Ball Raffle will be held at the Golf Classic dinner on June 3rd. Donations of \$50 gift cards to any business or \$50 cash or check and a card card will be purchased for you. Earmarked donations may also be made on-line. Samia Habib will be available at the coffee hour for your donation. The deadline for your donation is May 11, 2024. You may either bring your gift card or check to church, or to my home address: Samia Habib; 852 N. Maple St. Burbank, CA 91505; cell: (818)919-3870; e-mail: <u>samiaburbank@gmail.com</u> Thank you for your support. Feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN



LENTEN SPINACH PIE SALE PICKUP ON SAT/SUN APRIL 13/14

PRE-ORDER ONLY LIMITED QUANTIES Spinach Pies \$20 dozen

Proceeds to the AW Project to create an Endowment for our widowed Khourias

Place your order with Charmaine Darmour cdarmour@sbcglobal.net

St. Michael Antiochian Orthodox Church of the San Fernando Valley

16643 Vanowen Street, Van Nuys, California 91406-4622

His Eminence, Metropolitan SABA, Archbishop of the Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of No. America

Dear St. Michael Church Family,

His Eminence, Metropolitan SABA has provided us with his teaching as we prepare for the season of Great Lent. They are available in both English and Arabic as follows:

- a. "A New Pharisaism" https://www.antiochian.org/regulararticle/1956
- b. "The Humble Person" https://www.antiochian.org/regulararticle/1968

We will begin the season of Great Lent in one week when three additional services will be added to our week: <u>Great Compline</u>, Mondays at 6:30 p.m., <u>The Liturgy of Pre-Sanctified Gifts</u>, Wednesdays at 6 p.m., and <u>The Akathist Hymn</u> (service of Intercessory Prayers) on Fridays at 6 p.m. All of our services will be live-streamed. A light Lenten dinner will follow the Wednesday Pre-sanctified Liturgy and any family desiring to host the meal or have any question should contact Father Timothy at: <u>frtimothy@stmichaelvannuys.org</u>. <u>The meal should be modest and not a full dinner</u>, i.e., soup and salad with beverages. Please note that our Wednesday evening service begins at 6 p.m. and not 6:30, to help us to return home early on a school night and work day.

In Christ,

V. Rev. Timothy Baclig Pastor



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 that was presented at our Annual Meeting on January 28th.

What is an annual "Fair Share Commitment?"

Each parish of the Antiochian Archdiocese pays 10% of its parish income to assist with the expenses of our bishops, Archdiocesan and Diocesan departments and programs. Over one-fourth of the Archdiocese budget is dedicated to youth programs. The annual payment to the Archdiocese from St. Michael Church is currently: \$26,000 or 10% or our parish income (excluding contributions received for the Building Fund, charity collections, special Archdiocese collections, and memorial gifts). This money is collected from our parishioners from their first contribution to the church: \$50 for each adult and \$35 for each child (17 years of age or under) in a household. All additional funds pledged by our parishioners assist with the monthto-month expenses of the parish.

Our 2024 Pledge Form is available on our parish website at: https// www.stmichaelvannuys.org/donate/ and is also provided with this bulletin. Hard copies are also on hand in the narthex and will be mailed to you by request.

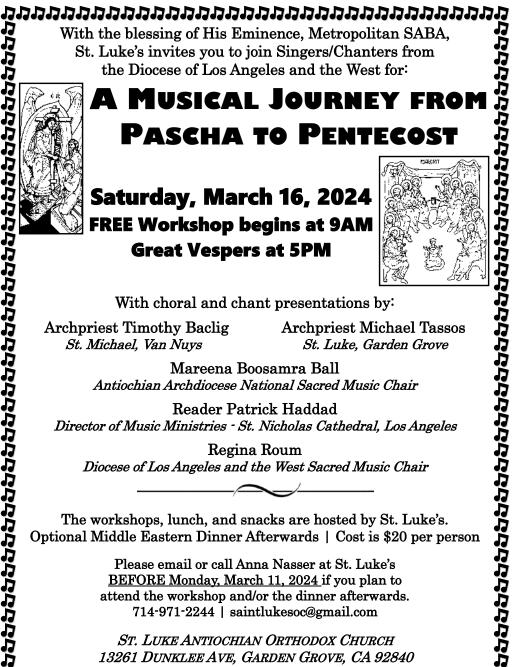
The form may be completed and returned to the Church Office at: 16643 Vanowen Street; Van Nuys; California; 91406.

NOTICE: Year-end Contribution Statements are ready 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 Nuvs, CA 91406 Phone: 818-994-2313 Website: www.stmichaelvannuys.org

2024 CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT FORM 1. All enrolled members <u>must first fulfill</u> 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 hardcopy 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.stmichaelvannuvs.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



With choral and chant presentations by:

Archpriest Timothy Baclig St. Michael, Van Nuys

Archpriest Michael Tassos St. Luke, Garden Grove

Mareena Boosamra Ball Antiochian Archdiocese National Sacred Music Chair

Reader Patrick Haddad Director of Music Ministries - St. Nicholas Cathedral, Los Angeles

Regina Roum Diocese of Los Angeles and the West Sacred Music Chair

The workshops, lunch, and snacks are hosted by St. Luke's. Optional Middle Eastern Dinner Afterwards | Cost is \$20 per person

> Please email or call Anna Nasser at St. Luke's BEFORE Monday, March 11, 2024 if you plan to attend the workshop and/or the dinner afterwards. 714-971-2244 | saintlukesoc@gmail.com

ST. LUKE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH 13261 DUNKLEE AVE, GARDEN GROVE, CA 92840

PASTORAL SERMON The Sunday of Meat Fare By V. Rev. Timothy Baclig March 10, 2024

The themes of love and judgment are often mentioned together in the Bible and in Christian prayers and hymns. For example in St. John's epistle we read: *God is love, and whoever lives in love lives in union with Him. Love is made perfect in us in order that we may have courage on the Judgment Day (I John 4:16-17).*

In the Gospel of St. John we hear: For God so loved the world that He gave is only Son . . . God did not send His Son into the world to be its **judge**, but to be its Savior. Whoever believes in the Son is not **judged**; but whoever does not believe has already been **judged** (John 3:16-18).

In a petition heard in our Liturgy we hear the words: *For a Christian ending to our life, painless, blameless, and peaceful, and a good defense before the fearful judgment seat of Christ, let us ask of the Lord...* Jesus Christ is our "good defense." He is our advocate and has provided the atonement for our sins by His voluntary sacrifice. Our petition is a plea for His love and mercy.

But you may ask what about all of the fearful descriptions of hell, fire and brimstone in the Bible? These are warnings in a pictorial representation, just as they are found in icons. However, these images are not interpreted as geographic or physical places created by God for the punishment of human beings. They are admonitions with a clear and serious message: Life outside of the love of God results in evil, falsehood, hatred, guilt, alienation, and pain. Life apart from God leads to agony of darkness in which people torment themselves and each other. It is a spiritual hell created not by God but by the willful refusal to turn to God, Who is love, in order to be forgiven, cleansed, renewed and liberated.

How can the Lord of love and goodness be also the Lord of judgment? Is there an inconsistency in the images of God as a loving Father and God as a righteous Judge? The Church Fathers answered this perplexing difficulty by affirming that God is always a loving Father for everyone—both righteous and sinners. In this life, and in the life to come, everyone who is desirous of knowing God, experience the radiance of God's love. However those who have separated themselves from God experience the same radiance of God's love as fire of judgment—a "scourge of love," as described by St. Isaac the Syrian.

God does not **cause** judgment at any time. He is not vengeful to evildoers nor does He prepare a place of punishment (Hell). This does not mean that Hell does not exist. It does. However, God is love and by His very nature He cannot do what is evil, hateful, or destructive to anyone. Judgment and hell are spiritual conditions of sin and darkness. Judgment **results** when someone is separated from God who is the source of light and life. Judgment also results when we willfully shut ourselves off from God's redeeming love.

Through the Parable of the Last Judgment, Christ teaches us that heaven and hell pertain to the fulfillment of physical and spiritual needs. That fulfillment is determined by choices. Each day we make choices on a path to holiness or unrighteousness. These choices are directly related to our physical and spiritual well being. Christ taught us by His example and teaching that the main virtues of Christians are faithful obedience and loving service to God and to each other. Great Lent is a time for sorting out our real needs from the distortion of false needs. I call it "the Church's forty-day rehabilitation of the soul." By bringing shaper focus upon what is necessary from what is not, we can in fact be able to do more in helping others. This is precisely the point of today's Gospel lesson.

Magnolia Science School

Linda Gravani, President of the Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council informed us on February 16, 2024 of the plans for a charter school planned across the street from St. Michael Church from the corner of Vanowen and De Celis Place, adjacent to the tennis courts. The plans include 27 classrooms, administration offices, multipurpose room, an 11,380 square foot gym and 14,363 sq. ft. field area; 91 parking spaces, 117 bicycle parking for a maximum of 564 students. More information will follow as they are made available.

EOTHINON 7	TONE 7
الايوثينا 7	اللحن7

THE SUNDAY OF THE LAST JUDGMENT (MEAT FARE)

MARTYR KODRATOS OF CORINTH AND HIS FIVE COMPANIONS; ANASTASIA THE PATRICIAN OF ALEXANDRIA أبوليتيكيون القيامة باللحن السابع

حَطَمْتَ بِصَليبِكَ المَوْتَ، وَفَتَحْتَ لِلِّصِّ الفِرْدَوْس، وَحَوَّلْتَ نَوْحَ حاَمِلاتِ الطِّيبِ، وأمَرْتَ .رُسُلَكَ أَنْ يَكْرِزوا ، بِأَنَّكَ قَدْ قُمْتَ أَيُّها المَسيحُ الإلهُ، مانِحاً العالَمَ الرَّحْمَةَ العُظْمي

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 لأحد الدينونة، باللحن الأوّل

إذا أتَيْتَ يا اللهُ على الأرْضِ بِمَجْدٍ، تَرْتَعِدُ مِنْكَ البَرايا بِأَسْرِها، ونَهْرُ النارِ يَجْرِي أمامَ عَرْشِكَ، والصُحُفُ تُفْتَحُ، والخَفايا تُشَهَّرُ، فَنَجِّني حِينَئَذٍ مِنَ النارِ التي لا تُطْفَأ، وأَهَلِّني لِلْوقوفِ عَنْ يَمينِكَ، أيُّها الدَّيانُ العادِل.

الرسالة

قصل من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول الأولى إلى أهل كورنش فصل من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول الأولى إلى أهل كورنش يا اخوة إن الطعام لا يقرّبنا إلى الله فإن أكلنا لا نكسب شيئا وإن لم نأكل لا نخسر شيئا. ولكن انظروا أن لا تكون حريتكم هذه حجر عثار للضعفاء. فإنْ رآك أحد يا صاحب المعرفة تأكل في بيت الأوثان ألا يتشجع إذا كان ضعيف الضمير فيأكل من ذبائح الأوثان؟ فيهلك بسبب معرفتك الأخ الضعيف الذي مات المسيح من أجله. وهكذا تخطئون إلى المسيح حين تخطئون إلى الاخوة وتجرحون ضمائر هم الضعيفة. فإذا كان الطعام يشكك أخي فلن آكل لحما إلى الأبد لئلا أشكك أخي. أما أنا رسول؟ أما أنا حر؟ أما رأيت ربنا يسوع المسيح؟ أما أنتم عملي في الرب؟ وإن لم أكن رسو لا عند غيركم فإني رسول عندكم.

الانجيل

فصلٌ شريفٌ من بشارةِ القديس متى

قال الربِّ: متى جاء ابنُ البشر في مجدٍه ومعه جميعُ الملائكة القديسين يستو ي على عرش مجدِه. وتُحشد أمامه جميعُ الشعوبِ فيميز بعضَهم من بعض مثلما يميز الراعي الخراف عن الجداء. فيقيم الخراف عن يمينه. والجداء عن يساره. ويقول للذين عن يمينه: تعالوا, يا من باركهم أبي, رثوا الملك المهيأ لكم منذ إنشاء العالم, لأنى جعت فأطعمتموني وعطشت فسقتموني وكنت غريبا فأويتموني وعريانا فكسوتموني, ومريضا فزرتموني, وسجينا فجئتم إلى. فيجيبه الصديقون: يا رب, متى ر أيناك جائعا فأطعمناك؟ أو عطشانا فسقيناك؟ ومتى ر أيناك غريبا فآويناك؟ أو عريانا فكسوناك؟ ومتى رأيناك مريضا أو سجينا فجئنا اليك؟ فيجيبهم الملك: الحق أقول لكم: بما أنكم فعلتم هذا لواحد من اخوتي الصىغار , فلي فعلتموه! ثم يقول للذين عن يساره: ابتعدوا عني يا ملاعين إلى النار الأبدية المهيأة لإبليس وملائكته: لأني جعتُ فلم تطعموني وعطشت فلم تسقوني وكنت غريبا فلم تؤووني وعرينا فلم تكسوني ومريضا وسجينا فلم تزوروني. فيجيبه هؤ لاء: يا رب متى رأيناك جائعا أو عطشانا, غريبا أو عريانا, مريضا أو سجينا ولم نخدمك؟ فيجيبهم الملك: الحق أقول لكم: بما أنكم لم تفعلوا هذا لواحد من اخوتي الصغار, فلي لم تفعلوه! فيذهب هؤ لاء إلى العذاب الأبدى والصديقون إلى الحياة الأبدية

ملاحظة بخصوص تناول القربان المقدس

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