

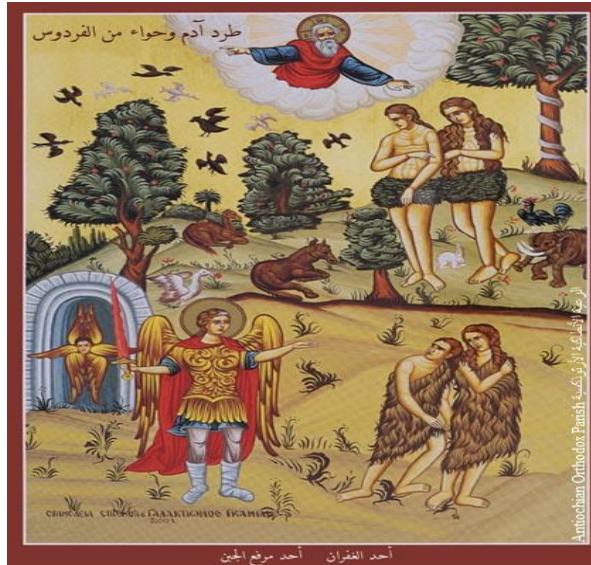


ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN
ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA
Diocese of Los Angeles and the West

**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF
THE REDEEMER
380 MAGDALENA AVE, LOS ALTOS HILLS, CA 94024
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www.orthodoxredeemer.org

**V. REV. FR. SAMER YOUSSEF, D. MIN
REV. FR. THEODORE SAKELLAR, MTS**



FEBRUARY 22, 2026

SUNDAY OF FORGIVENESS (CHEESE FARE)

UNCOVERING OF THE SEVEN MARTYRS' RELICS AT GATE OF EUGENIOS IN
CONSTANTINOPLE;

MARTYR ANTHUSA AND HER TWELVE SERVANTS

أحد الغفران (أحد مرفع الجبن)

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE FOUR

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation. And proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying: Death hath been spoiled; Christ God is risen, granting the world Great Mercy.

أبوليتيكيون القيامة باللحن الرابع

إِنَّ تَلْمِيذَاتِ الرَّبِّ تَعَلَّمْنَ مِنَ الْمَلَائِكَةِ الْكَرَّرَ بِالْقِيَامَةِ الْبَهْجِ، وَطَرَحْنَ الْقَضَاءَ الْجَدِّيَّ، وَخَاطَبْنَ الرَّسُلَ مُفْتَخِرَاتٍ وَقَائِلَاتٍ: سُبِّحِ الْمَوْتُ وَقَامَ الْمَسِيحُ الْإِلَهُ، وَمَنَحَ الْعَالَمَ الرَّحْمَةَ الْعُظْمَى.

TROPARION OF TRANSFIGURATION – TONE SEVEN

When Thou was Transfigured on the mountain top, O Christ our God. Thou didst reveal thy glory to thy disciples as they could bear it. Enlighten us poor sinners as well with thine everlasting light through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Thou Giver of light, glory to Thee.

طروبارية التجلي على اللحن السابع

لما تجليت أيها المسيح الإله في الجبل، أظهرت مجدك للتلاميذ بحسبما استطاعوا. فأشرق لنا نحن الخطاة نورك الأزلي، بشفاعته والدة الإله، يا مانح النور المجد لك.

KONTAKION FOR SUNDAY OF FORGIVENESS IN TONE SIX

O Thou Who guidest to wisdom, and givest understanding and intelligence, the Instructor of the ignorant, and Helper of the poor, strengthen my heart and grant it understanding, O Master. Give me word, O Word of the Father; for behold, I shall not refrain my lips from crying to Thee, O merciful One, have mercy upon me who am fallen.

قنداق لأحد الغفران، باللحن السادس

أَيُّهَا الْهَادِي إِلَى الْحِكْمَةِ، وَرَازِقُ الْفَهْمِ وَالْفِطْنَةِ، وَمُوَدِّبُ الْجُهَالِ، وَعَاصِدُ الْمَسَاكِينِ، شَدِّدْ وَقَهِّمْ قَلْبِي أَيُّهَا السَّيِّدُ، وَأَعْطِنِي كَلِمَةً يَا كَلِمَةَ الْآبِ، لِأَنَّي هَاأَنْدَا لَا أَمْنَعُ شَفَتِي مِنَ الصَّرَاحِ إِلَيْكَ: يَا رَحِيمُ، ارْحَمْنِي أَنَا الْوَاقِعُ.

THE EPISTLE

Make your vows unto the Lord and perform them.

God is known in Judah; His name is great in Israel.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans. (13:11-14:4)

Brethren, now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk becomingly, as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in chambering and licentiousness, not in strife and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh to fulfill its lusts. But as for the one who is weak in faith, receive him, but not for disputes over opinions. For one believes he may eat anything; but the weak person eats herbs. Let not him who eats despise him who does not eat, and let not him who does not eat judge him who eats; for God has received him. Who are you to be the judge over the servant of a stranger? To his own master he either stands or falls; but he will be made to stand; for God is able to make him stand.

الرسالة

صَلُّوا وَأَوْفُوا الرَّبَّ إِلَهَنَا.

اللهُ معروفٌ في أرضِ يهوذا. اِسْمُهُ عَظِيمٌ في إِسْرَائِيلَ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولُسِ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى أَهْلِ رومية.

يا إِخْوَةُ، إِنَّ خَلاصَنَا الآنَ أَقْرَبُ مِمَّا كَانَ حِينَ آمَنَّا. قَدْ تَنَاهَى اللَّيْلُ وَاقْتَرَبَ النَّهَارُ، فَلَنَدْعُ عَنَّا أَعْمَالَ الظُّلْمَةِ وَنَلْبَسَ أَسْلِحَةَ النُّورِ. لِنَسْلُكَنَّ سُلُوكًا لائِقًا كَمَا فِي النَّهَارِ، لا بِالقُصُوفِ وَالسُّكْرِ، ولا بِالْمَضَاجِعِ وَالعَهْرِ، ولا بِالخِصَامِ وَالْحَسَدِ، بَلِ النَّبُسُوا الرَّبَّ يَسُوعَ المَسيحَ ولا تَهْتَمُّوا بِأَجْسَادِكُمْ لِقِضَاءِ شَهَوَاتِهَا. مَنْ

كَانَ ضَعِيفًا فِي الإِيمَانِ فَاتَّخِذُوهُ بِعَغيرِ مُبَاحَثَةٍ فِي الآراءِ. مِنَ النَّاسِ مَنْ يَعتَقِدُ أَنَّ لَهُ أَنْ يَأْكُلَ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ، أَمَّا الضَّعِيفُ فَيَأْكُلُ بَقُولًا. فَلَا يَزِدِرِ الَّذِي يَأْكُلُ مَنْ لا يَأْكُلُ ولا يَدِينُ الَّذِي لا يَأْكُلُ مَنْ يَأْكُلُ، فَإِنَّ اللهَ قَدْ اتَّخَذَهُ. مَنْ أَنْتَ يا مَنْ تَدِينُ عَبْدًا أَجْنَبِيًّا؟ إِنَّهُ لِمَوْلَاهُ يَتَّبِعُ أو يَسْفُطُ. لَكِنَّهُ سَيَتَّبِعُ لِأَنَّ اللهَ قَادِرٌ عَلَى أَنْ يُنَبِّتَهُ.

THE GOSPEL

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (6:14-21)

The Lord said to His Disciples: If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father Who is in secret; and your Father Who sees in secret will reward you. Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

الإنجيل المقدس

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ مَتَّى الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ.

قال الرَّبُّ: إِنَّ غَفَرْتُمْ لِلنَّاسِ زَلَّاتِهِمْ، يَغْفِرُ لَكُمْ أَبُوكُمُ السَّمَاوِيِّ أَيْضاً. وَإِنْ لَمْ تَغْفِرُوا لِلنَّاسِ زَلَّاتِهِمْ، فَأَبُوكُمْ أَيْضاً لَا يَغْفِرُ لَكُمْ زَلَّاتِكُمْ. وَمَتَّى صُمْتُمْ، فَلَا تَكُونُوا مُعَبِّسِينَ كَالْمُرَائِينَ. فَإِنَّهُمْ يُنَكِّرُونَ وُجُوهَهُمْ لِيُظْهِرُوا لِلنَّاسِ صَائِمِينَ. الْحَقُّ أَقُولُ لَكُمْ، إِنَّهُمْ قَدْ أَحْذُوا أَجْرَهُمْ. أَمَا أَنْتَ فَإِذَا صُمْتَ، فَأَذْهَنْ رَأْسَكَ وَاغْسِلْ وَجْهَكَ لِيَلَّا تَظْهَرَ لِلنَّاسِ صَائِماً، بَلْ لِأَبِيكَ الَّذِي فِي الْخَفِيَّةِ، وَأَبُوكَ الَّذِي يَرَى فِي الْخَفِيَّةِ يُجَازِيكَ عِلَانِيَةً. لَا تَكْنِزُوا لَكُمْ كُنُوزاً عَلَى الْأَرْضِ، حَيْثُ يُفْسِدُ السُّوسُ وَالْأَكِلَةُ وَيَنْقُبُ السَّارِقُونَ وَيَسْرِقُونَ. لَكِنْ اكْنِزُوا لَكُمْ كُنُوزاً فِي السَّمَاءِ حَيْثُ لَا يُفْسِدُ سَوْسٌ وَلَا آكِلَةٌ وَلَا يَنْقُبُ السَّارِقُونَ وَلَا يَسْرِقُونَ. لِأَنَّهُ حَيْثُ تَكُونُ كُنُوزُكُمْ، هُنَاكَ تَكُونُ قُلُوبُكُمْ.



HOLY BREAD OF OBLATION

OFFERED BY: Fr. Samer, the Clergy and the parishioners for the good of the parish council members, the building committee and the Ladies Auxiliary and their families. Many Years!

OFFERED BY: Fr. Samer, the Clergy and the parishioners for the good health of all the families in Gaza, Palestine, Syria, Lebanon and Ukraine and all the countries has the unrest in the world. Many Years!

OFFERED BY: Aboujudom children; Daoud, Rajaie, Majdi, Samer, Randa and Late Rima and the grandchildren and great grandchildren for the good health of beloved father and Grandfather and great grandfather Edmond Aboujudom on the occasion of his 101st birthday (Feb 18). Many Years!

OFFERED BY: Fr. Samer and Kh. Julianna for the good health of their son Dimitry on the occasion of his birthday (Feb 17) and the good health of their sons Damian and Dominic. For the good health of Kh. Malvi on the occasion of her birthday (Feb 19) and the good health of the Youssef and Neyman families. Many Years!

OFFERED BY: Dima Khoury for the good health of her husband Bassam on the occasion of his birthday (Feb19) and the good health of their daughters; Rawan and her husband Mousa Katwan and their kids Zayn, Amira and Malik, Natalie and her husband Suleiman Araj and their sons David and Kais. For the good health of the Khoury, Makhoulf, Katwan and Araj families. Many Years!

OFFERED BY: Michel and Rima Gannage for the good health of the Gannage and Smine families. Many Years!

OFFERED BY: Charlie Kawwas and Carol Sara in memory of Charlie's father, Bishara Kawwas, (27 year memorial). Memory Eterna!

OFFERED BY: Michel and Rima Gannage in memory of Édouard, Wadad, Randa, and Hind. Memory Eternal!



COFFEE HOUR AND CHEESE FARE POTLUCK

Offered By: Ladies Auxiliary

(To host the Coffee Hour, please contact Wardeh Asfour @408-718-3339)

office@orthodoxredeemer.org

Online Link: <https://holytransfiguration.breezechms.com/form/26c422>

Services Schedule Every Week

Matins @ 9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM

Vespers: Every Saturday @ 5:00 PM

Vespers: Sunday of Orthodoxy on Saturday, March 1 @ 5:00 PM

At (Ss Peter & Paul Orthodox Church, Ben Lomond)

(Please check your email in case of any cancellations for Vespers)

Schedule of Lent for 2026

Great Lent begins February 23rd

Every Wednesday Pre-Sanctified Liturgy

Every Friday Akathist (Madayeh)

Monday Feb 24: Great Compline at 6:30 PM

Wednesday Feb 25: Pre-Sanctified Liturgy at 6:30 PM

Friday Feb 27: Akathist (Madayeh) at 6:00 PM



HOME BLESSING 2026

As a tradition in the Orthodox Church, the priest will take the Holy Water which was blessed at the church, and bless the homes of the parishioners. Fr. Samer will start the home visitations and blessings on January 7th, 2026. You will receive a phone call from the office or Fr. Samer the day before to schedule your home blessing. You will receive your 2026 Church Calendar at the home blessing. If you like to schedule your own home blessing, please contact the office by phone at 650-

941-1570 or by email at office@orthodoxredeemer.org , or you can contact Fr. Samer Youssef at 408-375-5673.

PARISH COUNCIL 2026

The Parish Council members' of 2026. Chair President; Bassam Khoury, Vice-Chair; Linda Salah, Treasurer; Henry Veizades, Secretary; Rima Gannage, Maher Fasheh, Sana Eideh, Johnny Khamis, Jake Timothy, Edmund Khinno and Sal Hanhan. Roula Haddad will represent the Antiochian Women Committee and Salem Aweiss will represent the Men Fellowship Committee.

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN 2025

The Antiochian Women Committee Leaders of 2026. Roula Haddad (Chairwoman), Dania Amireh (Vice- Chairwoman), Ibtisam Kreitem (Secretary/ Communication), Wardeh Asfour (Kitchen/Coffee Hour), Rima Gannage (Bookkeeping), Diana Khoury (Myrrh Barrier), and Hala Aboujudom (Sunshine).

CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER YOUNG ADULTS

Young adults (college age and up to 39-1/2) meet on the first Sunday of the month and organize social, educational, and volunteer activities. For more information, please contact Dimitry Youssef (President of the Young Adults in the Diocese of Los Angeles and the West) @ (408)364-5670, or Fr.Theodor Sakellar @ 408-455-8145

SOYO (YOUTH GROUP 12-18 YEARS)

Our SOYO (Youth Group) is active through the leadership of the Advisors: Dominic Youssef and Caesar Haddad. The officers are: President; Riad Akery, Vice-President; Christina Alnweisser Secretary; Mila Haddad, Treasurer; Gabreilla Ajlouni, Social Media Coordinator; Adriana Ajlouni.

Orthodoxy 101 Class

Confession 101 with Fr. Theodore

Have you ever felt unsure about Confession — how to begin, what to say, or what to expect? You are not alone. This class is truly for everyone: those inquiring into the Orthodox Church, catechumens preparing to be received, and lifelong Orthodox Christians who may feel nervous, rusty, or simply ready to go deeper. Fr. Theodore will walk us through the meaning and practice of Confession, answering our questions with the goal of helping everyone feel comfortable and at peace.

Lent is a season of renewal. Confession is the beautiful gift through which we receive God's grace, healing, and forgiveness, and are given a fresh beginning.

Join us at 12:15 pm in the church!

Upcoming classes:

Feb 22 - No Class

March 1 - Confession

March 8 - Ordination & Administration

Led by Fr Theodore and Jake Timothy (pursuing the Certificate in Orthodox Theology from the Antiochian House of Studies). Overseen by Fr Samer.

All are welcome! Registration is open for inquirers and catechumens via the QR code below.



SUNDAY SCHOOL CORNER

Sunday School Registration is now open. Please register your children ASAP. Registration forms are available at the church hall or on church

Website: <http://www.orthodoxredeemer.org/schoolregistration>

School Schedule:

Sunday school starts 9/14/25 and ends 5/17/26. Sunday school graduation

Ceremony will be on 5/17/26. Sunday school classes begin after communion and ends at 12:30pm.

Teachers: Samuel Hage, Hussam Ibrahim, Dimitry Youssef, Heather Simonovich, Randa Hanani and Jocelyn Mikhael. Caitlin Timothy and Alia Nystrom as back-up/support.



Our Parish Bookstore Opens This Week!

We're excited to announce that our parish bookstore is opening this week! Lenten merchandise is already arriving — including beautiful candles and incense for your prayer corner — along with a must-read for the season: Great Lent by Alexander Schmemmann.

Book Spotlight:

Only 100 pages and broken into short, 2–8 page chapters that can be read in minutes. This classic book is profound yet simple. Read and pray through it week by week to deepen your Lenten journey!

UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE CHURCH

Please save the date

- **February 23:** *Great Lent begins*
- **March 1-31:** *March is Antiochian Women's Month - Please sign up for Sermonettes, Epistle Readings and Ushering*
- **March 1:** *Sunday of Orthodoxy*
- **March 6:** *Monthly Committee Meeting and potluck on Friday night @6:30 at the Church Hall*
- **March 20:** *Friday Night Madayeh at 6:00 PM followed by potluck and guest speaker Joy Corey talking about Her book "The Tools of Spiritual Warfare"*
- **March 21:** *Tea Party. Please see the flyer below*
- **March 29:** *Sunday School Open House*

- **March 31:** *Easter Kaak Workshop @ 10:00AM*
- **April 5:** *Palm Sunday/ Bake sale*
- **April 10:** *Good Friday*
- **April 11:** *Holy Saturday/ midnight potluck*
- **April 12:** *Easter/ Pascha. Egg Hunt*
- **April 18:** *Bright Saturday Picnic organized by the parish council*
- **July 1-5:** *2026 Parish Life Conference, PLC in San Diego*
- **July 23-27:** *Camp Three Holy Youths, July 23rd – July 27th
@Daybreak Camp, Ben Lomond*
- **Food Festival Sept 12 & 13:** *Our annual Food Festival will be on
September 12th & 13th*

خدمة صلاة الغروب أحد الغفران

**LENTEN VESPERS WITH CEREMONY OF MUTUAL FORGIVENESS
SERVED ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2026; TONE 4**

HIEROMARTYR POLYCARP, BISHOP OF SMYRNA; VENERABLE GORGONIA,
SISTER OF GREGORY THE THEOLOGIAN

Priest: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

الكاهن: تبارك الله إلهنا كل حين، الآن وكل أوان وإلى دهر الداهرين.

Choir: Amen.

الجوق: آمين.

“O LORD I HAVE CRIED” IN TONE FOUR

O Lord, I have cried out unto Thee, hear Thou me; hear Thou me, O Lord. O Lord, I have cried out unto Thee, hear Thou me. Give ear to the voice of my supplication when I cry out unto Thee: hear Thou me, O Lord.

The Penitential Stichera from the Triodion in Tone Four

Verse 10. Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise Thy Name.

O Lord, although I desired to blot out with my tears the handwriting of my many sins, and for the rest of my life to please Thee through sincere repentance, yet doth the enemy lead me astray, as he warreth against my soul with his cunning. O Lord, before I utterly perish, do Thou save me.

استيخن 10. أخرج من الحبس نفسي، لكي أشكر اسمك.

أَرَدْتُ يَا رَبُّ بِالذُّمُوعِ أَنْ أُمَحُو كِتَابَ ذُنُوبِي الْمَكْتُوبِ بِالْيَدِ، وَبِقِيَّةِ حَيَاتِي بِالتَّوْبَةِ أَرْضِيكَ، لَكِنَّ العُدُوَّ يُطْغِنِي وَيُقَاتِلُ نَفْسِي. فَمِنْ قَبْلِ أَنْ أَهْلَكَ بِالكَلِيَّةِ، خَلِّصْنِي يَا رَبُّ مُنْعِمًا.

Verse 9. The righteous shall wait for me until Thou recompense me.

What man who, being tossed in the tempest, fleeth to this haven and is not saved from harm? Or who in sorrow and pain doth fall down before this Physician and is not fully healed? O Thou Creator of all things, O Thou Who healest the ailing, O Lord, before I utterly perish, do Thou save me.

استيخن 9. إِيَّاي يَتَنَظَّرُ الصَّادِقُونَ حَتَّى تُجَازِيَنِي.

مَنْ ذَا الَّذِي يَكُونُ ضِمْنًا هَيْجَانِ اللَّجَّةِ وَيُسَارِعُ إِلَى هَذَا المِينَاءِ وَلَا يَجُوزُ؟ أَوْ أَيُّ مَرِيضٍ يَقْصِدُ هَذَا المَشْفَى وَلَا يَنَالُ الشِّفَاءَ؟ فَيَا مُبَدِعَ الكُلِّ وَطَبِيبَ المَرَضَى مِنْ قَبْلِ أَنْ أَهْلَكَ بِالكَلِيَّةِ، خَلِّصْنِي يَا رَبُّ مُنْعِمًا.

Verse 8. Out of the depths have I cried to Thee, O Lord, Lord hear my voice.

Wash me with my tears, O Savior, for I am defiled by many sins. Therefore, I fall down before Thee: I have sinned, have mercy upon me, O God.

استيخن 8. مِنَ الأعْماقِ صَرَخْتُ إِلَيْكَ يَا رَبُّ، يَا رَبُّ اسْتَمِعْ صَوْتِي.

أَيُّهَا المَخْلِصُ اغْسِلْنِي بِحَمِيمِ دُمُوعِي، لِأَنِّي مُدْنَسٌ بِخَطَايَا كَثِيرَةٍ، لِذَلِكَ أُخِرُّ لَكَ سَاجِدًا، أَخْطَأْتُ اللُّهُمَّ فَارْحَمْنِي.

Verse 7. Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

I am a sheep of Thy spiritual flock, and to Thee I flee for refuge, O Good Shepherd. I have gone astray, O God: seek me and have mercy upon me.

استيخن 7. لَتَكُنْ أُنْذَاكَ مُصْعَبَتَيْنِ إِلَى صَوْتِ تَصْرُعِي.

إِنِّي أَلْتَجَأُ إِلَيْكَ أَيُّهَا الرَّاغِي الصَّالِحُ، أَنَا الحَّرُوفَ المُحْصَى مِنْ رَعِيَّتِكَ، فَاطْلُبْنِي أَنَا الصَّالِّ اللُّهُمَّ وَارْحَمْنِي.

For Forgiveness Sunday in Tone Two

Verse 6. If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee there is forgiveness.

Let us all hasten to the subjugation of the flesh by abstinence, as we approach the divine battlefield, the battlefield of blameless fasting. Let us pray to the Lord, our Savior, in tears and prayers, turning away completely from sin, and crying, “We have sinned against Thee, O Christ, the King. Save us, therefore, as of old Thou didst save the people of Nineveh; and make us partakers of Thy heavenly kingdom, O compassionate One.”

استيخن 6. *إِنْ كُنْتَ لِلْإِتَامِ رَاصِدًا يَا رَبُّ، يَا رَبُّ مَنْ تَيْتَبْتُ، فَإِنَّهُ مِنْ عِنْدِكَ هُوَ الْإِغْتِقَارُ. بِإِقْبَالِنَا عَلَى مِيدَانِ الصِّيَامِ الطَّاهِرِ، هَلُمَّ نُبَادِرْ كُلَّنَا إِلَى تَذَلِيلِ الْبَشَرَةِ بِالْإِمْسَاكِ، وَلِنَطْلُبِ الرَّبِّ مُخْلِصِنَا بِالذُّمُوعِ وَالصَّلَوَاتِ، وَلِنُنَسِّ الشَّرُورَ كُلَّ النَّسِيَانِ هَاتِفَيْنِ: حَطَّنَا إِلَيْكَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ الْمَلِكُ، فَخَاصِنَا كَمَا خَاصَّتْ أَهْلَ نَيْنَوَى قَدِيمًا، وَاجْعَلْنَا شُرَكَاءَ فِي مَلَكُوتِكَ السَّمَاوِيِّ، أَيُّهَا الْمُتَحَنِّينَ.*

Verse 5. *Because of Thy Name have I waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited upon Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.*

If I were to imagine all my sins deserving all punishment, I would despair of myself, O Lord Savior; for by them have I disobeyed Thy noble commandment, wasting my life in extravagance. Wherefore, I beseech Thee to purify me with Thy showers of forgiveness, and lighten me with fasting and supplication; for Thou alone art compassionate; and reject me not, O all bountiful and of transcendent goodness.

استيخن 5. *مِنْ أَجْلِ اسْمِكَ صَبِرْتُ لَكَ يَا رَبِّ، صَبِرْتُ نَفْسِي فِي أَقْوَالِكَ، تَوَكَّلْتُ نَفْسِي عَلَى الرَّبِّ. يَا رَبُّ، لَدَى تَأْمَلِي أَفْعَالِي الْمُسْتَوْجِبَةَ كُلَّ عُقُوبَةٍ، أَيَأْسُ مِنْ نَفْسِي لِأَيِّ بِمَخَالَفَتِي وَصَايَاكَ الشَّرِيفَةِ، أَيُّهَا الْمُخْلِصِ، قَضَيْتُ عُمْرِي بِالْخَلَاعَةِ. فَلِذَلِكَ أَبْتَهَلُ إِلَيْكَ أَنْ تُطَهِّرَنِي بِوَابِلِ النَّوْبَةِ، وَتُبَيِّرَنِي بِالصَّوْمِ وَالصَّلَاةِ لِأَنَّكَ رَحِيمٌ وَحَدَّكَ، وَلَا تَرْفُضْنِي أَيُّهَا الْمُحْسِنُ إِلَى الْكُلِّ وَالْفَائِقُ الصَّلَاحِ.*

Verse 4. *From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel trust in the Lord.*

Let us begin the season of fasting with rejoicing, giving ourselves to spiritual strife, purifying soul and body, fasting from passions, as we fast from foods, faring on the virtues of the Spirit, which, if we continue to long for, we shall all be worthy to behold the most solemn Passion of Christ, and the holy Passover, rejoicing with spiritual joy.

استيخن 4. *مِنْ انْفِجَارِ الصُّبْحِ إِلَى اللَّيْلِ، مِنْ انْفِجَارِ الصُّبْحِ لِيَبْكُلَ إِسْرَائِيلُ عَلَى الرَّبِّ. لِنَقْتَتِحْ زَمَنَ الصِّيَامِ بِحُبُورٍ، بِإِذْلِيلِ أَنْفُسِنَا فِي الْجِهَادَاتِ الرُّوحِيَّةِ. وَلِنُنَقِّ النَّفْسَ وَنُطَهِّرِ الْجَسَدَ، صَائِمِينَ عَنِ الشَّهَوَاتِ صَوْمَنَا عَنِ الْأَغْذِيَةِ، مُتَنَعِّمِينَ بِفَضَائِلِ الرُّوحِ الَّتِي نَسْتَحِقُّ، بِتَنْمِيمِنَا إِيَّاهَا بِشَوْقٍ، أَنْ نَشَاهِدَ آلامَ الْمَسِيحِ الْإِلَهِ الْكَامِلَةَ الْوَقَارِ، وَنُعَايِنَ الْفِصْحَ الْمُقَدَّسَ مُبْتَهِّجِينَ رُوحِيًّا.*

THEOTOKION FROM THE MENAION IN TONE TWO

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Joy of all that sorrow art thou, * and of the oppressed a protectress, and nurture of all the poor, * comfort unto the estranged, a staff art thou of the blind, * visitation of all the sick, * a shelter and succor * unto those brought down by pain, helper of orphaned ones; * Mother of God in the highest * art thou, O immaculate Maiden; * hasten, we beseech thee, to redeem thy slaves.

المجد للآبِ، والابنِ، والروحِ القُدسِ. الآنَ وكلَّ أوانٍ وإلى دهرِ الدهرينِ، آمين.

إِنَّكَ سُورُ الْمَحْرُوبِينَ، وَنَصِيرَةُ الْمَظْلُومِينَ، وَفُؤْتُ الْبَائِسِينَ، وَعَزَاءُ الْغُرَبَاءِ وَعَكَّازُ الْعُمِيَانِ، لِلْأَيْتَامِ مَعُونَةٌ، لِلْمَرْضَى افْتِقَادٌ، عَضُدٌ وَسِتْرٌ لَجَمِيعِ الْمُقْهُورِينَ، فَيَا مَنْ هِيَ أُمُّ الْعَلِيِّ، جِئْنَا إِلَى طَهْرِكَ نَرْجُو، أَسْرِعِي وَخَلِّصِي عِبِيدَكَ.

O GLADSOME LIGHT

Choir: O gladsome Light of the holy glory of the immortal, heavenly, holy and blessed Father: O Jesus Christ. Lo now that we have come to the setting of the sun, as we behold the evening light, we hymn Thee: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, God. Meet it is for Thee at all times to be magnified by joyous voices, O Son of God and Giver of life. Wherefore the whole world doth glorify Thee.

الجوق: يا نوراً بهيئاً لِقُدسِ مَجْدِ الآبِ الَّذِي لَا يَمُوتُ، السَّمَاوِيِّ، الْقُدُوسِ، الْمَغْبُوطِ، يَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ. إِذْ قَدْ بَلَّغْنَا إِلَى غُرُوبِ الشَّمْسِ، وَنَظَرْنَا نُوراً مَسَانِيّاً، نُسَبِّحُ الآبَ وَالابْنَ وَالرُّوحَ الْقُدُسَ الْإِلَهَ. فَيَا ابْنَ اللَّهِ الْمُعْطِيَ الْحَيَاةَ، إِنَّكَ لَمُسْتَحَقٌّ فِي سَائِرِ الْأَوْقَاتِ أَنْ تُسَبِّحَ بِأَصْوَاتِ بَارَّةٍ، لِذَلِكَ الْعَالَمِ لَكَ يُمَجِّدُ.

THE HYMN OF ST. SIMEON THE GOD-RECEIVER

Priest: Lord, now lettest thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.

الكاهن: الآنَ أَطْلِقُ عَبْدَكَ أَيُّهَا السَّيِّدُ عَلَى حَسَبِ قَوْلِكَ بِسَلَامٍ، لِأَنَّ عَيْنَيَّ قَدْ أَبْصَرْتَا خَلَاصَكَ الَّذِي أَعَدَدْتَهُ أَمَامَ كُلِّ الشُّعُوبِ، نُوراً لِاسْتِعْلَانِ الْأُمَمِ، وَمَجْداً لِشُعْبِكَ إِسْرَائِيلَ.

THE TRISAGION PRAYERS

People: Holy God. Holy Mighty. Holy Immortal. Have mercy on us. (*thrice*)

الشعب: قُدُّوسُ اللهُ، قُدُّوسُ القَوِي، قُدُّوسُ الذي لا يَمُوتُ، اَرْحَمَنَا. (ثلاثاً)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

المَجْدُ لِلآبِ وَالابْنِ وَالرُّوحِ القُدُّوسِ، الآنَ وَكُلَّ أوانٍ وإِلى دَهْرِ الداهِرِينَ، آمين.

All Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy God, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy name's sake. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

أَيُّهَا الثَّالوثُ القُدُّوسُ اَرْحَمْنَا، يا رَبِّ اغْفِرْ خَطَايانا، يا سَيِّدِ تَجَاوَزْ عَن سَيِّئَاتِنَا، يا قُدُّوسُ، اِطَّلِعْ واشْفِ اَمْرَاضَنَا، من أَجْلِ اسْمِكَ، يا رَبُّ اَرْحَمْ، يا رَبُّ اَرْحَمْ، يا رَبُّ اَرْحَمْ.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

المَجْدُ لِلآبِ وَالابْنِ وَالرُّوحِ القُدُّوسِ، الآنَ وَكُلَّ أوانٍ وإِلى دَهْرِ الداهِرِينَ، آمين.

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name; thy kingdom come; Thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

أبانا الذي في السَّمَاوَاتِ، لِيَتَقَدَّسَ اسْمُكَ، لِيَأْتِ مَلَكُوتُكَ، لِيَتَكُنْ مَشِيئَتُكَ كَمَا في السَّمَاءِ كَذَلِكَ على الأَرْضِ، خُبِّرْنَا الجَوْهَرِي اَعْطِنَا اليَوْمَ، واتْرِكْ لَنَا ما عَلَيْنَا، كما نَتْرِكُ لِمَنْ لَنَا عَلَيْهِ، ولا تُنْجِلْنَا في تَجْرِبَةٍ، لَكِنْ نَجِّنَا مِنَ الشَّرِّيرِ.

Priest: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

الكاهن: لأنَّ لَكَ المُلْكُ والقُوَّةُ والمَجْدُ، أَيُّهَا الآبُ وَالابْنُ وَالرُّوحُ القُدُّوسُ، الآنَ وَكُلَّ أوانٍ، وإِلى دَهْرِ الداهِرِينَ.

Choir: Amen.

الجوقة: آمين.

LENTEN APOLYTIKIA IN TONE FIVE

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Mary full of grace; the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, for thou didst give birth to the Savior of our souls. (*The clergy and people prostrate.*)

إِفْرَحِي يَا وَالِدَةَ الْإِلَهِ الْعَذْرَاءِ، مَرْيَمُ يَا مُمْتَلِئَةَ نِعْمَةً، الرَّبُّ مَعَكَ. مُبَارَكَةٌ أَنْتِ فِي النِّسَاءِ وَمُبَارَكَةٌ هِيَ تَمْرَةٌ
بَطْنِكَ، لِأَنَّكَ وُلِدْتِ مُخْلِصَ نَفُوسِنَا. (سجدة).

O Baptizer of Christ, remember our congregation, that we may escape from our iniquities, for to thee was given grace to intercede for us. (*The clergy and people prostrate.*)

يَا صَابِغَ الْمَسِيحِ أَذْكَرَ جَمَاعَتَنَا، لِكَيْ نَنْجُو مِنْ آثَامِنَا، لِأَنَّكَ قَدْ أُعْطِيتِ نِعْمَةً لِتَشْفَعِ فِيْنَا. (سجدة).

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

O pure apostles, and all ye saints, pray for our sakes, that we escape tribulations and sorrows, for we have taken ye as fervid intercessors with the Savior. (*The clergy and people prostrate.*)

الْمَجْدُ لِلآبِ، وَالْإِبْنِ، وَالرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ.

أَيُّهَا الرُّسُلُ الْأَطْهَارُ وَجَمِيعَ الْقَدِيسِينَ، تَوَسَّلُوا مِنْ أَجْلِنَا لِكَيْ نَنْجُو مِنَ الشَّدَائِدِ وَالْأَحْزَانِ، لِأَنَّنا قَدْ أَحْرَزْنَاكُمْ
شُفَعَاءَ لَدَى الْمُخْلِصِ. (سجدة).

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

We have taken refuge under the wing of thy compassion, O Theotokos. Turn not away from our beseechings in tribulation, but save us from distress, O thou who alone art pure and blessed. (*No prostration.*)

الآنَ وَكُلَّ أَوَانٍ وَإِلَى دَهْرِ الدَاهِرِينَ، آمِينَ.

يَا وَالِدَةَ الْإِلَهِ، إِذْ قَدْ لَجَأْنَا تَحْتَ كَنْفِ تَحَنُّنِكَ، فَلَا تُعْرِضِي عَن تَوَسُّلَاتِنَا فِي الصِّبِقَاتِ، بَلْ نَجِّنَا مِنَ الشَّدَائِدِ
أَيُّهَا النَّقِيَّةُ الْمُبَارَكَةُ وَحَذَكِ.

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (40 times)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, thou who without corruption bearest God the Word and art truly Theotokos: we magnify thee.

Bless, father, in the Name of the Lord.

(أَرْبَعِينَ صَوْتًا، بِصَوْتِ هَادِي). الْقَارِئُ: يَا رَبُّ ارْحَمْنَا

الْمَجْدُ لِلآبِ، وَالْإِبْنِ، وَالرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ. الآنَ وَكُلَّ أَوَانٍ وَإِلَى دَهْرِ الدَاهِرِينَ. آمِينَ.

يَا مَنْ هِيَ أَكْرَمُ مِنَ الشَّارُوبِيمِ، وَأَرْفَعُ مَجْدًا بَعِيرَ قِيَاسٍ مِنَ السَّارَافِيمِ، الَّتِي بَدُونَ فَسَادٍ، وَأَلَدْتَ كَلِمَةَ اللَّهِ، حَقًّا
إِنَّكَ وَالِدَةُ الْإِلَهِ، إِيَّاكَ نُعْظِمُ.

بِاسْمِ الرَّبِّ، بَارِكْ يَا أَبَ.

Priest: Christ our God, the Existing One, is blessed, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

الكاهن: الْمَسِيحُ إِلَهُنَا هُوَ الْمُبَارَكُ كُلَّ حِينٍ، الْآنَ وَكُلَّ أَوَانٍ وَإِلَى دَهْرِ الدَّاهِرِينَ.

Reader: Amen. O heavenly King, support our believing kings; confirm their faith; guide the nations; give peace to the world and preserve well this holy church. Grant repose to our departed fathers and brothers, in the dwelling-places of the righteous. Receive us in repentance and confession, for Thou art good and the Lover of mankind.

الجوقة: آمين. أَيُّهَا الْمَلِكُ السَّمَاوِي، أَيَّدْ عِبِيدَكَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ، وَطَيِّدِ الْإِيمَانَ، هَدِيءَ الْأُمَّةِ، أَعْطِ الْعَالَمَ السَّلَامَ،
وَاحْفَظْ هَذِهِ الْكَنِيسَةَ الْمُقَدَّسَةَ حِفْظًا جَيِّدًا، وَرَتِّبِ الْمُتَوَقِّينَ مِنْ آبَائِنَا وَإِخْوَتِنَا فِي مَسَاكِنِ الصِّدِّيقِينَ، وَتَقَبَّلْنَا
بِالتَّوْبَةِ وَالْإِعْتِرَافِ، بِمَا أَنْتَ صَالِحٌ وَمُحِبٌّ لِلْبَشَرِ.

PRAYER OF ST. EPHRAIM THE SYRIAN

Priest: O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth, meddling, lust of power, and idle talk. (*prostration*)

But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to me, Thy servant. (*prostration*)

Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to see my own sins and not to judge my brother, for Thou art blessed unto ages of ages. Amen. (*prostration*)

أَيُّهَا الرَّبُّ وَسَيِّدُ حَيَاتِي، أَعْتِقْنِي مِنْ رُوحِ الْبَطَالَةِ، وَالْفُضُولِ، وَحُبِّ الرِّئَاسَةِ، وَالْكَلامِ الْبَطَالِ. (مَطَّائِيَّة)

وَأُنْعِمْ عَلَيَّ أَنَا عَبْدُكَ الْخَاطِئِ، بِرُوحِ الْعِفَّةِ، وَإِنْبِضَاعِ الْفِكْرِ، وَالصَّبْرِ، وَالْمَحَبَّةِ. (مَطَّائِيَّة)

نَعَمْ يَا مَلِكِي وَإِلَهِي، هَبْ لِي أَنْ أَعْرِفَ ذُنُوبِي وَعَيْوِي، وَأَنْ لَا أَدِينُ إِخْوَتِي، فَإِنَّكَ مُبَارَكٌ إِلَى دَهْرِ الدَّاهِرِينَ،
آمِينَ. (مَطَّائِيَّة)

THE DISMISSAL

Priest: Glory to Thee, O Christ our God and our hope, glory to Thee.

Choir: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Lord, have mercy (*thrice*). Father, bless.

Priest: May Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother; by the might of the Precious and Life-giving Cross; by the protection of the honorable Bodiless Powers of Heaven; at the supplication of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable apostles; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers; *of Saint N., the patron and protector of this holy community*; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, and of all the saints: have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as He is good and loveth mankind.

Choir: Amen.

الكاهن: المجد لك أيها المسيح الإله يا رجاءنا، المجد لك.

الجوقة: المجد للآب، والابن، والروح القدس. الآن وكلّ أوانٍ وإلى دهرِ الدهرين. آمين. يا رب ارحم (ثلاثا)
بارك يا أب.

الكاهن: أيها المسيح إلهنا الحقيقي، بشفاعات أمك الكليّة الطهارة والبريّة من كلّ عيب؛
وبقدرة الصليب الكريم المحيي؛ وبطلبات القوات السماويّة المكرّمة العادمة الأجساد؛ والنبيّ الكريم السابق
المجيد يوحنا المعمدان؛ والقديسينّ المشرفين الرسل الجديرين بكلّ مديح؛ والقديسينّ المجيدين الشهداء
والقديس (فلان) شفيع وحامي هذه الرعيّة المقدّسة، المتألّفين بالظفر؛ وآبائنا الأبرار المتوسّحين بالله؛
والقديسينّ الصديقين يواكيم وحنّة جدّي المسيح الإله، ارحمنا وخلصنا بما أنّك صالح ومحبّ للبشر.
الجوقة: آمين.

THE CEREMONY OF MUTUAL FORGIVENESS

As the choir very slowly and in low voice sings the theotokion below and then the odes of the Paschal Canon the exchange of mutual forgiveness may now take place, beginning with the clergy. The priest stands next to the icon of the Theotokos at the iconostasis. One by one, the faithful slightly bow before the priest, who also does the same before each of the faithful, each saying to one another, “Forgive me, a sinner.” The response is, “God forgives.”

THEOTOKION IN TONE TWO

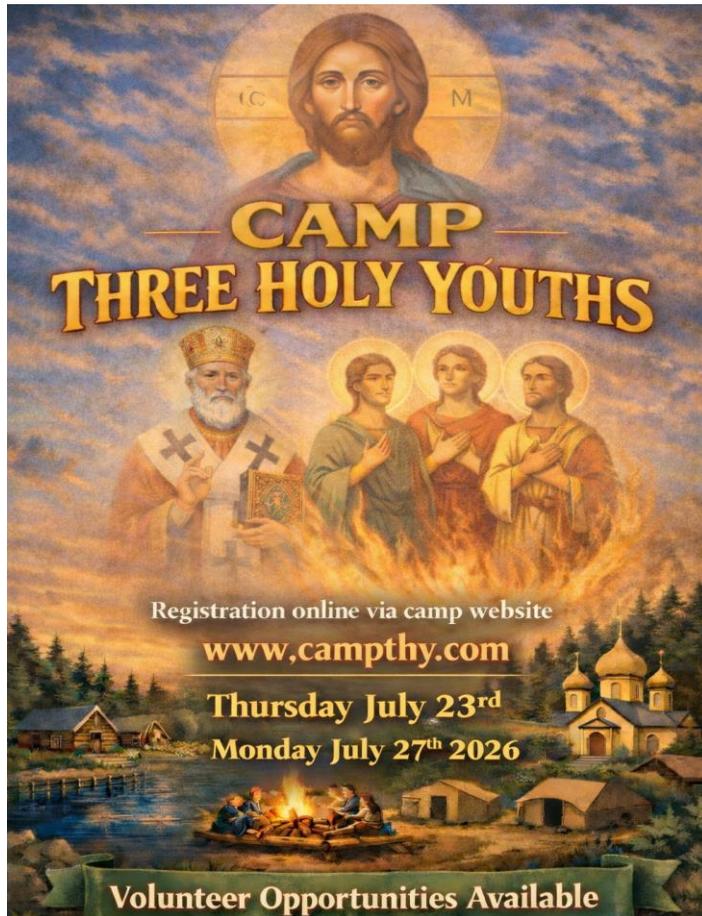
All those who with faith flee unto thee, with thy mighty hand dost thou shelter, O pure one, as thou art good; no one else have we who sin as a perpetual intercessor for us with God in dangers and sorrows, we who have been burdened down with our abundant sins, Mother of God in the highest. Wherefore, we all fall down before thee; rescue us, thy servants, from adversities.

أَيْتُهَا الصَّالِحَةُ، حَامِي عَنْ كُلِّ الْمُؤْتَمِرِينَ بِإِيمَانٍ إِلَى سِتْرِكَ الْعَزِيزِ؛ لِأَنَّه لَيْسَ لَنَا، نَحْنُ الْخَطَاةَ الْمُؤْتَمِرِينَ مِنْ
كَثْرَةِ السَّيِّئَاتِ، وَسَيِّطُ دَائِمٌ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ، فِي الشَّدَائِدِ وَالْأَحْزَانِ، سِوَاكَ، يَا أُمَّ الْإِلَهِ الْعَلِيِّ. لِأَجْلِ ذَلِكَ نَجْثُو لَكَ
سَاجِدِينَ، فَأَنْقِذِي عِبِيدَكَ مِنْ كُلِّ شِدَّةٍ.

Camp Three Holy Youths

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church Presents Camp Three Holy Youths on July 23-27, 2026 @ Daybreak Camp, Ben Lomond.

There will be a Scholarship available, first come first serve. Please notify Fr. Samer as soon as possible.



LENTEN BROCHURE 2026

+PRESANCTIFIED+

Wed. Feb 25 6:30 PM
Wed. Mar 4 6:30 PM
Wed Mar 11 6:30 PM
Wed Mar 18 6:30 PM
Wed Apr 01 6:30 PM

+AKATHIST+

Friday, Feb 27 6:00 PM
Friday, Mar 06 6:00PM
Friday, Mar 13 6:00 PM
Friday, Mar 20 6:00 PM
Friday, Apr 03 6:00 PM

+SPECIAL SERVICES+

Vespers: Every Saturday at 5:00pm

Great Compline:

February 23, Monday at 6:30pm
March 2, Monday at 6:30pm Vespers instead of Compline
March 9, Monday at 6:30pm
March 16, Monday at 6:30pm
March 23, Monday at 6:30pm

Annunciation: Wednesday March 25th Vespersal Divine Liturgy at 11:00am,
followed by Potluck Luncheon at the Church Hall.

By the mercy of God Almighty

John X

Patriarch of Antioch and All the East

to

My brothers, Pastors of the Holy Church of Antioch,

My sons and daughters, everywhere across this Apostolic See:

Dear brothers and beloved spiritual children,

At the threshold of the holy Forty Days, the Church stands with us. Through the preparatory Sundays that precede Great Lent, she calls us to become a bridal chamber for the heavenly Bridegroom, Christ our God. At the threshold of this Forty-Day Lent, the Church stands with us and reminds us that God wants us to be a chamber adorned with the humility of the Publican, the repentance of the Prodigal Son, with care for our brother in humanity, and with longing for the Paradise that was lost through pride and arrogance.

With the preparatory Sundays that precede Great Lent, the Church guides our steps and calls us to cast off the pride of the Pharisee and to imitate the humility of the Publican in the Gospel parable. She calls us to knock at the door of God's compassion with the modesty of the Publican and with his confession of sin, not with the insolence of the Pharisee who exalted himself even before God.

In the same spirit, she leads us to contemplate the parable of the Prodigal Son who departed from God and lived in sin. Yet the bitterness of sin restored within him the sweetness of living in his Heavenly Father's house. His Father, in turn, opened to him the arms of compassion.

From these two Gospel parables, she then leads us to hear the voice of the Judge on this Sunday: "For I was hungry, and you gave me food; I was thirsty, and you gave me drink; I was a stranger, and you took me in; I was naked, and you clothed me; I was sick, and you visited me; I was in prison, and you came

unto me.” It is as though she is telling us that God desires mercy more than all other rites and practices.

From these Sundays, she appears to us on the final Sunday to address the Paradise lost by Adam, lost by each one of us, as if to say: Return, O human, to the paradise of your soul, which you find first and foremost in the sweetness and peace of Christ. Make yourself a bride for that heavenly Bridegroom, who refuses to dwell except in souls ruled by humility, inhabited by repentance, and in which mercy is manifested in deeds and not merely in words.

With the beginning of Great Lent, we pray to Christ, bowing to Him the knee of both our soul and body. We open to Him the doors of our souls and address Him thus: O Heavenly Bridegroom, come and be with us as we sail in life as our ship is battered by the waves of this troubled world. Be with us, O Lord, and secure the sail of our souls, that it may not be torn away by the winds of this world, nor confused by the falsehood of its might. Be with us, O God, grant peace to us and to Your world, and by the power of Your silence still the deceitful noises of this world, entangled in its selfishness and passions. Be with us and grant peace to our souls, to our homes, and to our countries.

Anoint with the oil of Your divine consolation all who are in distress, hardship, or illness. Bless and protect our children and our families. Have mercy on us and on Your world, and receive into Your mercy the souls of those who have gone before us to the place of Your holy light. For You are blessed and glorified unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Damascus, February 15, 2026.

His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan SABA



Archbishop of New York
and Metropolitan of
All North America

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA

Prot. no.: 021/2026

Great Lent, 2026

"To give to the poor is to lend to God; He will repay you abundantly." – St. Gregory of Nyssa

TO BE READ FROM THE PULPIT AND PRINTED IN THE BULLETIN

Beloved Hierarchs, Clergy, and Faithful of our Archdiocese,

Greetings in the name of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ!

As we approach the holy season of Great Lent, we are reminded of the words of our Lord: *"For I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me drink..."* (Matthew 25:35). These words call us to a life of mercy and compassion, especially during this time of spiritual renewal.

For the 52nd year, our Archdiocese once again commences the Lenten **Food for Hungry People and Charitable Outreach Campaign**, a vital ministry that extends Christ's love to those in need. Through your generosity, countless families and individuals—both within our communities and throughout the world—receive nourishment, hope, and dignity.

I urge every parish and every faithful Orthodox Christian to participate wholeheartedly in this sacred effort. This year especially, your contributions will provide concentrated support to food programs and humanitarian initiatives in local parishes and communities that show the Gospel in action.

At the same time, let us not stop with simply giving a monetary donation, but let us reflect on the words of St. John Chrysostom: "Many can give money to those in need, but to personally serve the needy readily, out of love, and in a fraternal spirit, requires a truly great soul." Let us offer not only from our material abundance, but also from our hearts and our very beings to serve the poor, remembering that true fasting is inseparable from acts of charity.

Please make your donations through your local parish. As we prepare for and eagerly await the Paschal Feast on April 12, let us transform our fasting into a feast of love for our brothers and sisters who hunger and thirst each and every day of the year.

May the Lord bless your Lenten journey with strength and grace, and may your offerings become a source of light and life for those in need.

With paternal love in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "T. Saba". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

+SABA

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

"The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11: 26)

★ ALL YOU CAN EAT ★
CRAB & SEAFOOD

Join Us for Our Annual

CRAB FEED DINNER

FEBRUARY 21ST • 6:00PM

CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER HALL

380 Magdalena Ave.,
Los Altos Hills, CA 94024



ALL YOU CAN EAT CRAB, SEAFOOD, SALAD, DESSERT, APPETIZERS

WINE & SOFT DRINKS INCLUDED!

ADULTS: \$100 PER PERSON

CHILDREN 10 & UNDER: \$40

For Tickets, Please Contact:

Ibtisam Kreitem @ 408-594-3000

office@orthodoxredeemer.org

Please join Fr. Samer and the clergy for the celebration of Pan-Orthodoxy Vespers on the evening of Sunday, March 1, 2026 at Ss Peter & Paul Antiochian Orthodox Church in Ben Lomond. The service will begin at 5:00 pm and there will be potluck afterward. Please bring Lenten dish to share and fellowship with brethren and around the Bay Area.

March 1, 2026



THE SOUTHBAY
PAN-ORTHODOX CLERGY
INVITES YOU TO

***SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY
VESPERS***

5PM

Ss Peter & Paul
Antiochian Orthodox Church
9980 Hwy 9, Ben Lomond 95005

Join us for a Lenten Potluck afterwards.
Please bring a dish to share.

Redeemer Hands of Hope - Hygiene Kit Assembly Night

Friday, March 13, 2026 @ 6:00 PM

Thanks to your generosity, we have successfully raised funds to assemble hygiene kits for veterans transitioning into housing. We are deeply grateful for your support.

We now invite you to join us for an evening of service, fellowship, and dinner as we assemble the kits together in our church hall.

For those who did not have an opportunity to donate previously but would still like to participate, we kindly request a minimum contribution of \$20 per volunteer. This contribution will go directly toward purchasing additional hygiene supplies and providing dinner for the evening.

Please RSVP to Ibtissam Kreitem at (408) 594-3000.

Your hands can make a difference.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

— The Redeemer —
HANDS OF HOPE
Sharing God's Love Through Hygiene Kits for the Newly Housed

Help Us Make a Difference!

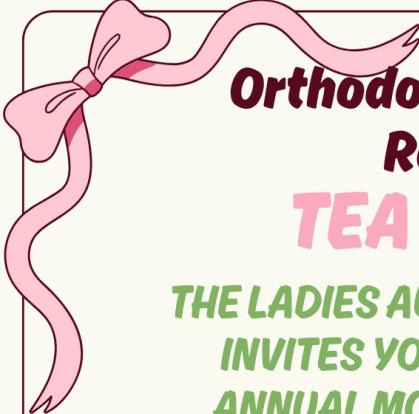
Each Hygiene Kit Costs Just **\$20**

Your Donation Can Provide:

- Toothbrush & Toothpaste
- Soap & Shampoo
- Deodorant & Razors
- Other Daily Essentials

Our Goal is to raise funds for 100 hygiene kits.

For More Information:
Contact: Eva Katwan 408-781-5563
or Dima Khoury 408-315-3470



**Orthodox Church of the
Redeemer**
TEA PARTY

**THE LADIES AUXILIARY CORDIALLY
INVITES YOU TO ATTEND OUR
ANNUAL MOTHER- DAUGHTER
POTLUCK TEA PARTY**

GUEST SPEAKER JOY COREY

AUTHOR OF "The Tools of Spiritual Warfare"

Saturday, March 21, 2026

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

At the Church Hall

***Please invite your Mothers, Grandmothers,
Daughters, Sisters, Cousins and Friends.***

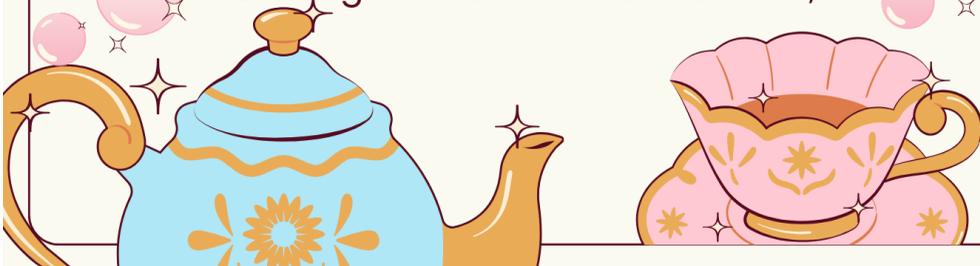
***Please bring your favorite Tea Cup and
an appetizer, finger food or dessert to share.***

Tea, coffee and beverages will be provided

RSVP to: office@orthodoxredeemer.org

Ibtisam Kreitem @ (408)594-3000

380 Magdalena Ave. Los Altos Hills, CA



ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX
CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER



PALM SUNDAY

BAKE SALE

SUNDAY APRIL 5, 2026

1100AM - 1:00PM

**JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL PALM SUNDAY BAKE SALE!
ENJOY A HOMEMADE ASSORTMENT OF TRADITIONAL
ARABIC SWEETS (KAAK, MAAMOUL, BAKLAVA,
GHRAYBEH, HAREESEH) AND MANY MORE FAVORITES.
ALL LOVINGLY PREPARED BY OUR CHURCH LADIES**

PRE-ORDERS

NOW AVAILABLE

CONTACT CHURCH OFFICE AT
OFFICE@ORTHODOXREDEEMER.ORG
IBTISAM KREITEM @ (408)594-3000



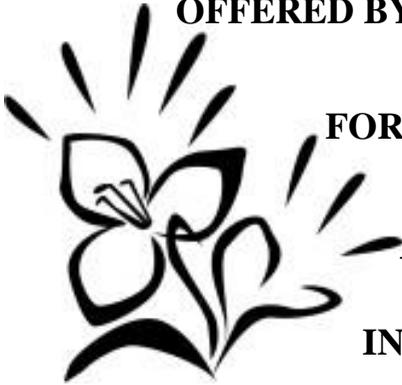
EASTER FLOWER OFFERING

Please fill the form and give it to the office.
All donations will be for decorating the tomb of Christ and the Altar.
All names will be prayed for at Easter Divine Liturgy.

Easter Flower Offering

Antiochian Orthodox Church of the Redeemer
380 Magdalena Avenue
Los Altos Hills, CA 94024

OFFERED BY: _____



FOR THE GOOD HEALTH OF: _____

IN MEMORY OF: _____

OFFERING AMOUNT: \$ _____

Make check payable to Orthodox Church of the Redeemer





BUILDING OUR FUTURE TOGETHER End-of-Year Campaign Update

- Raised: \$3.5M for the new hall & learning center
- County requirements nearly complete
- Promising discussions with school operators
- Goal: Break ground by mid-2026
- Remaining need: **\$750,000** for loan approval



If you are able, please consider an end-of-year tax-deductible gift to support our parish's future.

GIVE TO ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER



<https://www.orthodoxredeemer.org/funds>

