



# +St. John the Evangelist Orthodox Church

Antiochian Archdiocese of North America

His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH,

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

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**DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES ON SUNDAY, MARCH 27, 2022**

**TONE 7 / EOTHINON 7**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT**

**VENERATION OF THE PRECIOUS AND LIFE-GIVING CROSS**

MARTYR MATRONA OF THESSALONICA; MARTYRS PHILETOS THE SENATOR, HIS WIFE LYDIA OF ROME AND THOSE WITH THEM;  
PAUL, BISHOP OF CORINTH

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## **HOLY MARTYRS AND THE FEAST OF THE VENERATION OF THE HONORABLE AND LIFE-CREATING CROSS**

On March 27 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the holy Martyr Matrona of Thessalonica; Martyrs Philetos the senator, his wife Lydia of Rome and those with them; and Paul, bishop of Corinth. On this same day, the Third Sunday of the Fast, we keep the feast of the Veneration of the honorable and life-creating Cross. Every hard and strenuous work is accomplished with great difficulty, which appears especially in the middle of such work; for the effort in this performance brings with it fatigue which makes the accomplishment of the rest difficult. Having arrived with God's grace at the middle of the Fast, our

compassionate Mother—the Holy Orthodox Church—thought fit to reveal to us the Holy Cross as the joy of the world and power of the faithful to help us carry on the struggles of the divine Fast.

By its power, O Christ God, preserve us from the crafty designs of the evil one and account us worthy to worship Thy divine Passion and life-giving Resurrection, as we achieve the course of the Forty Days with ease, and have mercy on us, as Thou alone art good and the Lover of mankind. Amen.

## **THE EPISTLE**

*O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.*

*Unto Thee, O Lord, will I cry, O my God!*

### **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (4:14-5:6)**

Brethren, since we have a great High Priest, Who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast the confession. For we do not have a High Priest Who is unable to sympathize with our infirmities, but one Who has been in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore draw near with boldness to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy, and may find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest, being taken from among the people, is appointed on behalf of the people in things pertaining to God, that he may offer up both gifts and sacrifices for sins; who can have compassion on the ignorant and on those who are erring, since he himself also is encompassed with infirmity. Because of this he is bound, as for the people so also for himself, to offer up for sins. And no one takes the honor upon himself, but as being called by God, as was Aaron. So Christ also did not glorify Himself to become a High Priest, but it was by the One saying to Him, "Thou art My Son, today I have begotten Thee." As He says also in another place, "Thou art a Priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek."

خَلِّصْ يَا رَبُّ شَعْبَكَ وَبَارِكْ مِيراثَكَ.

إِلَيْكَ يَا رَبُّ أَصْرُخُ إِلَهِي.

### فَصْلٌ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولْسِ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى الْعِبْرَانِيِّينَ.

يا إخوة، إذ لنا رئيس كهنة عظيم قد اجتاز السموات، يسوع ابن الله، فلنتمسك بالإعتراف. لأن ليس لنا رئيس كهنة غير قادر أن يرثي لأوهاننا، بل مجرب في كل شيء مثلنا ما خلا الخطيئة. فلنقبل إذن بثقة إلى عرش النعمة، لننال رحمة ونجد ثقة للإغاثة في أوانها. فإن كل رئيس كهنة متخذ من الناس يُقام لأجل الناس فيما هو لله، ليقرّب تقادم وذبايح عن الخطايا، في إمكانه أن يُشفق على الذين يجهلون ويضلون، لكونه هو أيضاً متلبساً بالضعف. ولهذا يجب عليه أن يُقرّب عن الخطايا لأجل نفسه كما يُقرّب لأجل الشعب. وليس أحد يأخذ لنفسه الكرامة، بل من دعاه الله كما دعا هارون. كذلك المسيح لم يمجّد نفسه ليصير رئيس كهنة، بل الذي قال له "أنت ابني وأنا اليوم ولدتك". كما يقول في موضع آخر "أنت كاهن إلى الأبد على رتبة ملكيصادق".

## THE GOSPEL

### The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (8:34-9:1)

The Lord said, "If any man would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." And Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."

### فَصْلٌ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ مَرْقُسِ الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ، وَالتَّمْلِيذِ الطَّاهِرِ.

قال الربُّ: مَنْ أَرَادَ أَنْ يَتَّبِعَنِي فَلْيَكْفُرْ بِنَفْسِهِ وَيَحْمِلْ صَلِيبَهُ وَيَتَّبِعَنِي، لِأَنَّ مَنْ أَرَادَ أَنْ يُخَلِّصَ نَفْسَهُ يُهْلِكُهَا، وَمَنْ أَهْلَكَ نَفْسَهُ مِنْ أَجْلِي وَمِنْ أَجْلِ الْإِنْجِيلِ يُخَلِّصُهَا. فَإِنَّهُ مَاذَا يَنْتَفِعُ الْإِنْسَانُ لَوْ رَبِحَ الْعَالَمَ كُلَّهُ وَخَسِرَ نَفْسَهُ؟ أَمْ مَاذَا يُعْطِي الْإِنْسَانُ فِدَاءً عَنِ نَفْسِهِ؟ \* لِأَنَّ مَنْ يَسْتَحِي بِي وَبِكَلَامِي فِي هَذَا الْجِيلِ الْفَاسِقِ الْخَاطِئِ. يَسْتَحِي بِهِ ابْنُ الْبَشَرِ مَتَى أَتَى فِي مَجْدِ أَبِيهِ مَعَ الْمَلَائِكَةِ الْقَدِيسِينَ. وَقَالَ لَهُمْ: الْحَقُّ أَقُولُ لَكُمْ، إِنَّ قَوْمًا مِنْ الْقَائِمِينَ هَهُنَا لَا يَذُوقُونَ الْمَوْتَ حَتَّى يَرَوْا مَلَكُوتَ اللَّهِ قَدْ أَتَى بِقُوَّةٍ.

**“Love your Neighbor”- A Ministry of St John the Evangelist Orthodox Church**

During this year's Great Lent, and for March and April, St John's will be collecting donations as we have done for many years, alongside all parishes in the Antiochian Archdiocese for the following two important programs of the Archdiocese.

**March – Archdiocese Collection for Seminarian Fund on Sunday of Orthodoxy (March 13):** This fund is to support the seminarians and their families throughout the country who are attending one of the Orthodox Seminaries as they seek to learn more about and to begin to serve our Archdiocese as priests, deacons and lay ministers.

**April – Archdiocese Collection for Palm Sunday (April 17):** Each year, the Archdiocese asks each parish to take a collection to help support the Patriarchate in Antioch on Palm Sunday. This will be our “neighbor” for the month of April.

**Palm Sunday Rose Bake Sale:**

**To Pre Order please call Denise Dudum at (925) 360-3350 and we would love to see you all at the church to pick up the delicious sweets prepared by our Ladies**

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|--------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Nammoura</b>          | <b>\$24/dozen</b> |
| <b>Ghraibeh</b>          | <b>\$20/dozen</b> |
| <b>Baklawa (walnuts)</b> | <b>\$30/dozen</b> |
| <b>Ka'ak (dates)</b>     | <b>\$24/dozen</b> |
| <b>Warbat (cream)</b>    | <b>\$30/dozen</b> |

**Upcoming Events**

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| <b>Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup></b>    | Divine Liturgy at the Annunciation Greek cathedral SF at 10:00 AM                            |
| <b>Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup></b>    | Akathost/Salutations المديح at 6:30 PM   |
| <b>Monday, March 28<sup>th</sup></b>    | صلاة النوم الكبرى Great Compline 6:00 PM   |
| <b>Wednesday, March 30<sup>th</sup></b> | Pre-sanctified Liturgy at 6:00 PM  |
| <b>Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup></b>     | Akathost/Salutations المديح at 6:30 PM   |
| <b>April 3<sup>rd</sup></b>             | Lenten Luncheon prepared by the Ladies, \$10 minimum donation and Children under 10 are free |
| <b>April 17<sup>th</sup></b>            | Palm Sunday Rose Bake Sale   |
| <b>Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup></b>    | Pascha / Easter  |

**Coffee Hours**

|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| <b>March 27<sup>th</sup></b> | Mona Thayer in loving memory of Matilda Messih |
| <b>April 3<sup>rd</sup></b>  | Lenten Luncheon prepared by the Ladies         |

### ***Holy Oblations***

This week Holy Oblations are offered by:

- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Noha Schulze, George Messih, and Nabil Wahbeh**. Many years.
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Helen Addes**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family in memory of **Fred Gedeon**. May his memory be eternal!
- † St. John Parish Family in memory of **Carla Karanikola**. May her memory be eternal!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **George Wahbeh**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Issam Freij**. Many years!

### ***Candles for the altar table and in front of the icons of Christ and the Theotokos offered by:***

- † Ibrahim Fasheh in memory of Hanada Fasheh for one full year. May her memory be eternal!



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- † March 27<sup>th</sup> Epistle Readers:  
Arabic: Eveleen Salem  
English: Deena Farrah

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- † Flowers for the Sunday of the Holy Cross in loving memory of **Metropolitan Archbishop, Philip Saliba, V. Rev. Father Emile and Claudette, Hanna and Nassif and Adma Saliba** by Nick Jr. and Najat Nicola and family. Memory eternal!



***St. John Orthodox Church***  
***501 Moraga Way***  
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