



+St. John the Evangelist Orthodox Church

Antiochian Archdiocese of North America

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TONE 6 / EOTHINON 1

TRANSFER OF THE ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS (NOVEMBER 21ST)



The Entrance of the Theotokos to the Temple

Today in the Holy Orthodox Church, we celebrate the Entrance of the Mother of God into the Temple.

Leading the procession into the Temple were virgins with lighted tapers in their hands, then the three-year-old Most-holy Virgin, led by her father and mother. The Virgin was clad in vesture of royal magnificence and adornments as was befitting the “King’s daughter, the Bride of God” (Psalm 44:13-15). Following them were many kinsmen and friends, all with lighted tapers. Fifteen steps led up to the Temple. Joachim and Anna lifted the Virgin onto the first step, then she ran quickly to the top herself, where she was met by the High Priest Zachariah, who was to be the father of St. John the Forerunner. Taking her by the hand, he led her not only into the Temple, but into the “Holy of Holies,” the holiest of holy places, into which no one but the high priest ever entered, and only once each year, at that. Zachariah

“was outside himself and possessed by God” when he led the Virgin into the holiest place in the Temple, beyond the second curtain—otherwise, his action could not be explained. The Most-holy Virgin remained in the Temple and dwelt there for nine full years. While her parents were alive, they visited her often. When God called her parents from this world, the Most-holy Virgin was left an orphan and did not wish to leave the Temple until death or to enter into marriage. The Most-holy Virgin Mary was the first of such life-vowed virgins, of the thousands and thousands of virgin men and women who would follow her in the Church of Christ.

THE EPISTLE (For the Entrance of the Theotokos)

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.

For He hath regarded the humility of His servant.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (9:1-7)

Brethren, even the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly sanctuary. For a tent was prepared, the outer one, in which were the lamp stand and the table and the bread of the Presence; it is called the Holy Place. Behind the second curtain stood a tent called the Holy of Holies, having the golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, which contained a golden urn holding the manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant; above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail. These preparations having thus been made, the priests go continually into the outer tent, performing their ritual duties; but into the second only the high priest goes, and he but once a year, and not without taking blood which he offers for himself and for the errors of the people.

تُعْظِمُ نَفْسِي الرَّبِّ، وَتَبْتَهِجُ رُوحِي بِاللَّهِ مُخْلِصِي،
لَأَنَّهُ نَظَرَ إِلَى تَوَاضَعِ أُمَّتِهِ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولَسِ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى الْعِبْرَانِيِّينَ. (7-1:9)

القارئ: يا إخوة، إِنَّ الْعَهْدَ الْأَوَّلَ كَانَتْ لَهُ أَيْضاً فَرَائِضُ الْعِبَادَةِ وَالْقُدْسُ الْعَالَمِيِّ. لَأَنَّهُ نُصِبَ الْمَسْكِنُ الْأَوَّلُ الَّذِي يُقَالُ لَهُ الْقُدْسُ، وَكَانَتْ فِيهِ الْمَنَارَةُ وَالْمَائِدَةُ وَخُبْزُ التَّقْدِيمَةِ. وَكَانَ وَرَاءَ الْحِجَابِ الثَّانِي، الْمَسْكِنُ الَّذِي يُقَالُ لَهُ قُدْسُ الْأَقْدَاسِ. وَفِيهِ مُسْتَوْقَدُ الْبَحْرِ مِنَ الذَّهَبِ وَتَابُوتُ الْعَهْدِ الْمُغَشَّى بِالذَّهَبِ مِنْ كُلِّ جِهَةٍ، فِيهِ قِسْطُ الْمَنِّ مِنَ الذَّهَبِ، وَعَصَا هَارُونَ الَّتِي أَفْرَحَتْ وَلَوْحَا الْعَهْدِ. وَمِنْ فَوْقِهِ كَارُوبَا الْمَجْدِ الْمُظْلِلَانِ الْغِطَاءِ. وَلَيْسَ هُنَا مَقَامُ الْكَلَامِ فِي ذَلِكَ تَفْصِيلاً. وَحَيْثُ كَانَ ذَلِكَ مُهَيَّأً هَكَذَا، فَالْكَهَنَةُ يَدْخُلُونَ إِلَى الْمَسْكِنِ الْأَوَّلِ كُلِّ حِينٍ فَيَتِمُّونَ الْخِدْمَةَ. وَأَمَّا الثَّانِي، فَإِنَّمَا يَدْخُلُهُ رِئِيسُ الْكَهَنَةِ وَحْدَهُ مَرَّةً فِي السَّنَةِ، لَيْسَ بِإِلَّا دَمٍ يُقَرَّبُهُ عَنْ نَفْسِهِ وَعَنْ جَهَالَاتِ الشَّعْبِ.

THE GOSPEL (For the Entrance of the Theotokos)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (10:38-42; 11:27-28)

At that time, Jesus entered a certain village; and a woman named Martha received Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to His teaching. But Martha was distracted with much serving; and she went to Him and said, "Lord, dost Thou not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things; one thing is needful. Mary has chosen the good portion, which shall not be taken away from her." As He said this, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, "Blessed is the womb that bore Thee, and the breasts that Thou didst suck!" But He said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

الإنجيل (لعيد دخول السيدة)

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ لُوقَا الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ. (28-27:10; 42-38:10)

فِي ذَلِكَ الزَّمَانِ دَخَلَ يَسُوعُ قَرْيَةً، فَقَبِلَتْهُ امْرَأَةٌ اسْمُهَا مَرْثَا فِي بَيْتِهَا، وَكَانَتْ لِهَذِهِ أُخْتُ تُسَمَّى مَرْيَمَ. فَجَلَسَتْ هَذِهِ عِنْدَ قَدَمَيْ يَسُوعَ تَسْمَعُ كَلَامَهُ. وَكَانَتْ مَرْثَا مَرْثَا مُرْتَبِكَةً فِي خِدْمَةِ كَثِيرَةٍ، فَوَقَّعَتْ وَقَالَتْ: يَا رَبُّ، أَمَا يَعْنِيكَ أَنَّ أُخْتِي قَدْ تَرَكَتْنِي أَخْدُمُ وَحْدِي؟ فَقُلْ لَهَا أَنْ تُسَاعِدَنِي. فَأَجَابَ يَسُوعُ وَقَالَ لَهَا: مَرْثَا، مَرْثَا، إِنَّكَ مُهْتَمَّةٌ وَمُضْطَرِبَةٌ فِي أُمُورٍ كَثِيرَةٍ، وَإِنَّمَا الْحَاجَةُ إِلَى وَاحِدٍ. فَأَخْتَارَتْ مَرْيَمَ النَّصِيبَ الصَّالِحَ الَّذِي لَا يُنْزَعُ مِنْهَا. وَفِيمَا هُوَ يَتَكَلَّمُ بِهَذَا، رَفَعَتْ امْرَأَةٌ مِنَ الْجَمْعِ صَوْتَهَا وَقَالَتْ لَهُ: طُوبَى لِلْبَطْنِ الَّذِي حَمَلَكَ وَالثَدَّيْنِ اللَّذَيْنِ رَضَعْتَهُمَا. فَقَالَ لَهَا: بَلْ طُوبَى لِلَّذِينَ يَسْمَعُونَ كَلِمَةَ اللَّهِ وَيَحْفَظُونَهَا.

Project Mexico 2023

Commit. Prepare. Serve.

God willing, we're planning to get a group together for a homebuilding trip next summer through Project Mexico <https://www.projectmexico.org/homebuilding>.

As you may know, our parish has participated in this amazing program for many years by taking groups of teens, college students and adults to build homes for impoverished families in northern Mexico. **Would you like to join us in 2023? Your commitment is needed and planning starts now.** This year we're working with our sister Church of the Redeemer in Los Altos, to coordinate one joint group. Tentative dates are June 8 - June 14, 2023. If you're interested, please contact Rula Adranly at 510-508-0929 or email rulaadranly@comcast.net.

Hebrews 13:16 "And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, November 15th	Beginning of the Nativity fast/Advent
Sunday, December 4th	The annual Jolly Christmas Car event
Sunday, December 11th	Ladies Meeting
Sunday, December 18th	Rose Bake Sale. Please let Denise know if you are planning to help and bake sweets.
Sunday, December 18th	Sunday school Christmas program

Coffee Hours

November 20th	Fadwa Samara in memory of Victor Samara
November 27th	Helen Ghantous and family for the one year memorial of Alex Ghantous
December 4th 	Fairouz Freij in memory of Angel Freij, Emily, Issa, Fuad and George. Also for the good health of Rania Shuhaiber and family. Borbara بربارة pudding in celebration of the feast of St. Barbara.
December 11th	Carol and Samir Syriani
December 25th	Christmas

Holy Oblations

This week, Holy Oblations are offered by:

- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Noha Schulze, George Messih and Aida Youakeem**. Many years!
- † Also, for the good health of their family!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Souhila Swies**. Many years!
- † Also, for the good health of their family!
- † St. John Parish Family in memory of **Afdokia Hanhan** (Yardena's mother). May her memory be eternal!
- † St. John Parish Family in memory of **Metropolitan Philip**. May his thrice-blessed memory be eternal! (St. Philip's Nov. 14th)
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Nadia Frangieh**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Matthew Simon, Matthew Madain, Matthew Jaber**, and all those who are named after St Matthew the Evangelist on occasion of his name's day. Many years! (St. Matthew's Nov. 16th)

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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- † Altar Servers: Nathan Swiess, Clayton Morgan, Elias Freij, Angelo Freij, Andrew Freij, Mazyn Haddadin

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Jolly Christmas Cars

 DECORATE THE TRUNK OF YOUR
CAR FOR ALL TO ENJOY

After Liturgy on 12/04/2022

Bring goodies to share with all the kids

There will be a prize for the most festive car 

If you would like participate, donate and/or need
more information please contact
 Rania Kashou 415.722.0774

