



SELF-RULED ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA, Diocese of Los Angeles and the West
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE
REDEEMER

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SEPTEMBER 13, 2009

www.orthodoxredeemer.org

V. REV. FR. SAMER YOUSSEF, PASTOR

Sunday before the Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Fore-feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Consecration of Resurrection Church in Jerusalem

REFRAINS OF THE FIRST ANTIPHON

My God, my God, look upon me; why hast Thou forsaken me? The words of my transgressions are far from my salvation.

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

O my God, I cry in the daytime, but Thou hearest not. But Thou, the praise of Israel, dwellest in the sanctuary. (*Refrain*)

Glory... Both now... (*Refrain*)

REFRAINS OF THE SECOND ANTIPHON

O God, why hast Thou cast us off forever? Remember Thy congregation, which Thou hast purchased of old.

Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who wast crucified in the flesh; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

This is Mount Zion wherein Thou hast dwelt. (*Refrain*)

God is our King before the ages: working salvation in the midst of the earth. (*Refrain*)

Glory... Both now... O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

REFRAINS OF THE THIRD ANTIPHON

The Lord reigneth, let the people rage; He sitteth upon the cherubim, let the earth be moved. The Lord is great in Zion; and He is high above all the people. Let them give thanks to Thy great Name, for it is holy. (*Sing the Apolytikion of the Holy Cross below.*)

THE EISODIKON (ENTRANCE HYMN) OF THE FEAST

Exalt ye the Lord our God, and worship at His footstool; for He is holy. Save us, O Son of God, Who wast crucified in the flesh; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

APOLYTIKION OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS IN TONE ONE

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance, granting to Thy people victory over all their enemies, and by the power of Thy Cross preserving Thy commonwealth.

TROPARION OF TRANSFIGURATION – TONE 7

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 ever lasting 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، بشفاعة والدة الإله، يا مانح النور المجد لك.

KONTAKION OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS IN TONE FOUR

Do Thou, Who of Thine own good will was lifted up upon the Cross, O Christ our God, bestow Thy bounties upon the new Nation which is called by Thy Name; make glad in Thy might those who lawfully govern, that with them we may be led to victory over our adversaries, having in Thine aid a weapon of peace and a trophy invincible.

THE ANTI-TRISAGION HYMN

Before Thy Cross we bow down in worship, Master, and we glorify Thy Holy Resurrection. (THRICE)

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

And we glorify Thy Holy Resurrection.

Dynamis!

Before Thy Cross we bow down in worship, Master, and we glorify Thy Holy Resurrection.

THE EPISTLE

(For the Sunday before the Exaltation of the Holy Cross)

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.

To Thee, O Lord, I have cried, O my God.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians. (6:11-18)

Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the Law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all, who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John.

(19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30-35)

At that time, the chief priests and the elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put Him to death. And they came to Pontius Pilate saying, "Crucify Him, crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "Take Him yourselves and crucify Him, for I find no crime in Him." The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and by that law He ought to die, because He has made Himself the Son of God." When Pilate heard these words, he was the more afraid; he entered the praetorium again and said to Jesus, "Where art Thou from?" But Jesus gave no answer. Pilate therefore said to Him, "Wilt Thou not speak to me? Knowest Thou not that I have power to release Thee, and power to crucify Thee?" Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over Me unless it had been given you from above.

When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called "The Pavement", and in Hebrew, "Gabbatha." Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover; it was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" They cried out, "Away with Him, away with Him, crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." Then he handed Him over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus and led him away, and He went out, bearing His own Cross, to the place called the place of a skull, which is called in Hebrew "Golgotha." There they crucified Him, and with Him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. Pilate also wrote a title and put it on the Cross; it read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." Many of the Jews read this title, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek.

Now standing by the Cross of Jesus were His mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Cleopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw His mother, and the Disciple whom He loved standing near, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" Then He said to the Disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the Disciple took her to

his own home. After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now fulfilled, said, "It is finished"; and He bowed His head and gave up the spirit.

Since it was the day of Preparation, in order to prevent the bodies from remaining on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who had been crucified with him; but when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs. But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true.

MEGALYNARION OF THE FEAST IN TONE EIGHT

Magnify, O my soul, the most precious Cross of the Lord.

Thou art the mystical paradise, O Theotokos; for that thou, being untilled, didst bud forth Christ, by Whom was planted on earth the life-giving tree of the Cross. Wherefore, as we adore it being elevated, we magnify thee.

HOLY BREAD OF OBLATION

OFFERED BY Kh. Julianna for the good health and safe arrival of the V. Rev. Fr. Fayes Mansour from Germany and for the good health of Khouria Maha and their daughter Widad Westphal and family.

OFFERED BY: Sam and Najla Jaber for the good health of the Jaber family.

OFFERED BY Parish council and family for the good health of the co-chairs of the Food Festival Nabil and Basma Batmani and for the good health all laborers and donors and benefactors of the 28th Food Festival. May God grant you many years.

Procession of the Cross

The Service of the Exaltation (Elevation) of the Holy Cross will take place after the Divine Liturgy.

Flowers for the Exaltation of the Cross

Offered by Sam and Najla Jaber.

COFFEE HOUR
Enjoy the 28th Food Festival

SERVICES

MATINS at 9:00 a.m., DIVINE LITURGY at 10:00 A.M.

Parish Council members of 2009

Chairman: Robert Wells	Council Members:
Vice Chairman: Basma Batmani	David Aboujudom
Secretary: Sheila Veizades	Carmen Batmani
Treasurer: Dania Amireh	Fadi Hanani
Men of the Redeemer: George	Simon Hanhan
Barghouth	Joe Landino
Ladies of the Redeemer: Norma	Basheer Salameh
Alhadad	Jim Stroud
&Hala Aboujudom	
Sunday School: Hala Elmasu	

ICON & FURNISHING DONATIONS

Note that we still have icons available for donation in the dome they are the Prophets. You can donate them for the good health or in memory of a loved one.

These are the items we need donations for.

The name of the Icon	The Location	Donation
12 Prophets: Jeremiah, Joel, Abbakum, and Jonas	Between Dome Windows	\$1875.00 each

Description of the item	Donation
St. John the Baptist Medallion	\$1,500.00 donated as of Aug 2 nd 09
Standing Candle Holder on table	\$2,500.00
Two Chandeliers	\$5,000.00 each
Two Candle Stands	\$1,600.00 each



Sunday School Corner

Welcome back to Sunday school! The staff hopes you have had a wonderful summer. We look forward to welcoming you back as a returning or new student for the 2009-10 year! Our Sunday school offers opportunities for learning which supplement the learning-taking place in Divine Liturgy. Let us commit ourselves to learn more about God and our Orthodox Faith. It is our hope that together we can make this a successful year!

Sunday School Registration:

Parents and guardians are encouraged to register students before the first day of school so that we have a better estimate of enrollment. Please stop by the Sunday School registration table at the hall during coffee hour immediately after Divine Liturgy starting August 16, 2009.

School Schedule:

Sunday school starts 9/27/09 ends 5/23/10. Sunday school graduation ceremony will be on 6/06/10.

Sunday school classes begin after communion and end at 11:45 p.m.

Pre-Kindergarten through First Grade children must be picked up from their classrooms.

Snacks - We suggest that each parent provide juice and **healthy snack** to share **twice** during the school year.

Please bring them to your classroom teachers as soon as possible i.e. Apple Juice, Cranberry Juice, Grape Juice

Fresh fruit: Apples, Oranges, Bananas, Carrots, Celery.

Cheese sticks, Graham crackers, raisins, Gold-fish, Cheez-it, popcorn.

Please do not bring any peanut butter products because of Allergy problems.

Attendance – Students need to be here on a regular basis and on time for Divine Liturgy. There are a total of 28 lessons. A special certificate and gift will be given at the end of Sunday school for those students who attend 50% or more. A participation certificate will be given to all students who attend at least 25%.

Please join us for our **Twelveth Annual Sunday school picnic** on October 4 immediately after Divine Liturgy. We will join the Parish picnic at our Church grounds. We will have barbecue and organized games. Come and join the fun!!!

CLASS PICTURE

We will have our class picture taken immediately after Holy Communion
On September 27, 2009.

Please meet with your class in the Sunday school courtyard.
Don't miss out! Be Present on Picture Day!

Let There be Music!

Liturgical Hymn, We will meet in the courtyard every Sunday before class for 5 – 10 minutes. The children will be learning various Hymns: More Honorable than the Cherubim, Nativity Hymn, , Holy God Holy Mighty, Christ is Risen, and Transfiguration Troparion during the Sunday school year. It is important for all grade levels to learn to sing and be ready to let music fill the air. We encourage all students to participate.

We look forward to another excellent year!

It is with great joy that we welcome Sunday school staff especially three new teachers
Diana Halteh, Rana Kassis, and Jim Stroud...

Welcome to all the Sunday school Staff:

Pre-K & Kdg

Widad Tarazi

1st – 2nd

Diana Halteh & Rana Kassis

3rd – 5th

George Barghouth, Amanda Salameh,

6th – 8th

Sheila Veizades & Rima Gannage

Teen

Jim Stroud

Substitute Teacher

George Keshek

Christmas Pageant Director

Nancy Godfrey

Assistant

June Strickland

Important Dates:

August 16

Registration for Sunday school begins

September 27

Beginning of Sunday School & Class Picture

October 4

Sunday school picnic, barbecue and games

October 11

Casting for Christmas Play

Hala Elmasu - Superintendent