

*The Self-Ruled Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese
Of North America
Diocese of Los Angeles and the west.*

St.Philip Antiochian Orthodox Church
كنيسة القديس فيليبس الرسول الأنطاكية الارثوذكسية

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Pastor: Reverend Father Elias Ferzli.

Attached: V. Rev. Archpriest Joseph Sakkab; Rev. Deacon Simon Sakkab.



December 23, 2012

Sunday before Nativity of Christ (Sunday of the Genealogy)

الأحد قبل الميلاد (أحد النسبة).

Weekly Service Schedule:

Saturday: 6:00 PM Vesper service
Sunday: 9:30 AM Matins' Service
11:00 AM Divine Liturgy

(Troparion of the resurrection -Tone 4)

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.

(Troparion of the Forefeast of the Nativity -Tone 4):

Be thou ready, O Bethlehem; for Eden hath been opened for all. Prepare, O Ephratha; for the Tree of life hath blossomed forth in the cave from the Virgin; for her belly did appear as a noetic paradise in which is planted the divine Plant, whereof eating we shall live and not die as Adam. Verily, Christ shall be born, raising the likeness that fell of old.

(Troparion of Sunday before the Nativity -Tone 2):

Great are the accomplishments of faith; for the three holy youths rejoiced in the fountain of flames as though at waters of rest. And the Prophet Daniel appeared a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep. Wherefore, by their pleadings, O Christ God, have mercy upon us.

(Troparion of St-Philip -Tone 3):

O Holy Apostle Philip intercede with our merciful God to grant our souls, forgiveness of sins.

Kontakion:

Today the Virgin cometh to the cave where she will give birth in an ineffable manner to the Word Who is before all the ages. Rejoice, therefore, O universe, when thou hearest it heralded: Glorify Him, with the angels and the shepherds, Who chose to be seen as a new-born babe, the God Who is before all the ages.

الطروباريات:

(للقيامة – باللحن الرابع):

إن تلميذات الرب تعلمن من الملاك، الكرز بالقيامة البهج، وطرحن القضاء الجدّي، وخاطبن الرسل مفتخرات وقائلات، سبي الموت وقاه المسيح الإله، ومنح العالم الرحمة العظمى.

(لتقدمة عيد الميلاد – باللحن الرابع)

استعدي يا بيت لحم، فقد فُتحت عدن للجميع، تهيأي يا إفرائا، لأن عود الحياة قد أزهـر في المغارة من البتول، لأن بطنها قد ظهر فردوساً عقلياً، فيه الغرس الإلهي، الذي إذ نأكل منه نحيا، ولا نموت مثل آدم، المسيح يولد، منهضاً الصورة، التي سقطت منذ القديم.

(لأحد النسبة – باللحن الثاني)

عظيمة هي تقويمات الإيمان، لأن الثلاثة الفتية القديسين قد ابتهجوا في ينبوع اللهب كأنهم غلى ماء الراحة، والنبي دانيال ظهر راعياً للسباع كأنها غنم، فبتوسلاتهم أيها المسيح الإله ارحمنا.

(للقديس فيليب الرسول – باللحن الثالث):

أيها الرسول القديس فيليبس، تشفع الى الإله الرحيم، ان ينعم بصفح الزلات لنفوسنا.

الفتداق:

اليوم العذراء، تأتي إلى المغارة، لتلد الكلمة الذي قبل الدهور، ولادة لا تفسر ولا يُنطق بها، فافرحي أيها المسكونة إذا سمعت، ومجدي مع الملائكة والرعاة، الذي سيظهر بمشيئته طفلاً جديداً، وهو إلهنا قبل الدهور.

The Epistle:

Blessed are Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers.

For Thou art justified in all that Thou hast done for us.

The Reading is from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (11:9-10, 32-40)

Brethren, by faith Abraham sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city

which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, and put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated—of whom the world was not worthy—wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

الرسالة

مبارك أنت يا رب إله آبائنا،
لأنك عدل في كل ما صنعت بنا.

فصل من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول الى العبرانيين ٩: ١١-١٠ و ٤٠: ٣٢

يا إخوة بالإيمان نزل إبراهيم . في ارض الميعاد نزوله في ارض غريبة، وسكن في خيام مع اسحق ويعقوب الوارثين معه للموعود بعينه، لأنه انتظر المدينة ذات الأسس التي الله صانعها وبارئها وماذا أقول ايضا؟ انه يضيق بي الوقت إن أخبرت عن جدعون وباراق وشمشون ويفتاح وداود وصموئيل والأنبياء الذين بالإيمان هزموا الممالك وعملوا البر ونالوا المواعد وسدوا أفواه الأسود وأطفأوا حدة النار ونجوا من حدّ السيف وتقووا من ضعف وصاروا أشداء في الحرب وكسروا معسكرات الأجانب، وأخذت نساء أمواتهن بالقيامة وعُذب آخرون بتوتير الأعضاء والضرب ولم يقبلوا بالنجاة ليحصلوا على قيامة أفضل، وآخرون ذاقوا الهزء والجلد والقيود ايضا والسجن، ورُجموا وتُشروا وامْتَحِنُوا وماتوا بحدّ السيف وساحوا في جلود غنم ومَعَز وهم مُعَوِّزُونَ مُضَائِقُونَ مجهودون (ولم يكن العالم مستحقا لهم)، وكانوا تائهين في البراري والجبال والمغاور وكهوف الأرض. فهؤلاء كلهم، مشهودا لهم بالإيمان، لم ينالوا المواعد، لأن الله سبق فنظر لنا شيئا أفضل أن لا يكملوا بدوننا.

The Gospel

The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (1:1-25)

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, and Aram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa, and Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amon, and Amon the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, Who is called Christ. So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ were fourteen generations. Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear

to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call His Name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: “Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and His Name shall be called Emmanuel” (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called His Name Jesus.

الإنجيل

فصل شريف من بشارة القديس متى الإنجيلي البشير ١: ٢٥-١

كتاب ميلاد يسوع المسيح ابن داود ابن ابراهيم. فايراهيم ولد اسحق واسحق ولد يعقوب ويعقوب ولد يهوذا وإخوته، ويهوذا ولد فارص وزارح من تامار، وفارص ولد حصرون وحصرون ولد آرام وأرام ولد عميناداب وعميناداب ولد نحشون ونحشون ولد سلمون وسلمون ولد بوغز من راحاب وبوغز ولد عوبيد وعوبيد ولد يسى ويسى ولد داود الملك. وداود الملك ولد سليمان من التي كانت لأرييا وسليمان ولد رحبعام ورحبعام ولد أبييا وأبييا ولد آسا وآسا ولد يوشافاط ويوشافاط ولد يورام ويورام ولد عزريا وعزيا ولد يوتام ويوتام ولد آحاز وآحاز ولد حزقيا وحزقيا ولد منسى ومنسى ولد آمون وآمون ولد يوشيا ويوشيا ولد يكنيا وإخوته في جلاء بابل. ومن بعد جلاء بابل يكنيا ولد شالتنيل وشالتنيل ولد زربابل وزربابل ولد أبيهود وأبيهود ولد ألياقيم وألياقيم ولد عازور وعازور ولد صادق وسادوق ولد أخيم وأخيم ولد أليهود وأليهود ولد ألعازر وألعازر ولد متان ومتان ولد يعقوب ويعقوب ولد يوسف رجل مريم التي ولد منها يسوع الذي يدعى المسيح. فكل الأجيال من ابراهيم الى داود اربعة عشر جيلا ومن داود الى جلاء بابل اربعة عشر جيلا ومن جلاء بابل الى المسيح اربعة عشر جيلا. اما مولد يسوع المسيح فكان هكذا: لما خطبت مريم امه ليوسف ووجدت من قبل ان يجتمعا حبل من الروح القدس. وإذ كان يوسف رجلها صديقا ولم يرد ان يشهرها، هم بتخليتها سرا. وفيما هو مفكر في ذلك اذا بملاك الرب ظهر له في الحلم قائلا: يا يوسف ابن داود، لا تخف ان تأخذ امرأتك مريم، فان المولود فيها انما هو من الروح القدس. وستلد ابنا فتسميه يسوع، فانه هو يخلص شعبه من خطاياهم (وكان هذا كله ليتم ما قيل من الرب بالنبي القائل: ها ان العذراء تحبل وتلد ابنا ويدعى عمانوئيل الذي تفسيره الله معنا). فلما نهض يوسف من النوم صنع كما أمره ملاك الرب. فأخذ امرأته ولم يعرفها حتى ولدت ابنها البكر وسماه يسوع.

His Beatitude Patriarch-Elect Youhanna X of Antioch and All the East



His Eminence the Metropolitan Archbishop of Western and Central Europe has been elected Patriarch of the Great City-of-God Antioch and all the East.

The Patriarch-elect Youhanna X (Yaziji) was elected by the members of the Holy Synod earlier today, December 17, during a special session held at the Balamand Patriarchal Monastery of the Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos.

The Patriarch-elect was born in 1955 in the city of Latakia, Syria into a pious Orthodox home. His father was Syrian and was a professor of Arabic Language. His mother is Lebanese. He has four brothers, with his brother Paul being the current Metropolitan of Aleppo, and he has one sister who is a nun. During his early studies, he played a key role in the leadership of Orthodox youth, and organized many choirs to sing in the local churches.

The Patriarch-elect received his primary, secondary and university education in Latakia, Syria graduating with a degree in civil engineering. He earned a degree in theology in 1978 from the St. John of Damascus School of Orthodox of Theology at the Balamand University and a doctorate in theology (emphases in liturgy and Byzantine music) in 1983 from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki in Greece. He was tonsured a monk at the Athonite Monastery of St Paul on the Holy Mountain, was ordained to the holy diaconate in 1979 and to the holy priesthood in 1983, and in 1981 became professor of Liturgical Studies at the St. John of Damascus School of Orthodox Theology at the Balamand University. He assumed the position of dean of that theological school from 1988-1991 and again from 2001-2005. He was elected and consecrated to the sacred episcopacy in 1995 with the title Bishop of al-Hosn. He has served as superior of the Monastery of St George al-Humayrah in the Christian Valley (Wadi al-Nasara) in Syria, superior of the Our Lady of Balamand Monastery, and spiritual father to the Convent of the Dormition in Blemmana, Syria. In 2008 he was elected and enthroned as the Metropolitan of the Archdiocese of Western and Central Europe.

The Patriarch-elect has had strong influence in the Middle East and other areas , having participated in many international Orthodox and ecumenical conferences in countries such as Greece, Italy, Switzerland, Cyprus, Russia, and Great Britain. His love of music has led him to translate many selections of liturgical music. He is the author of a work on the principles of Byzantine Music which he first wrote in 1990, with a second edition having been published in 2001. In 1999 he lectured at the Balamand University on the subject of the contribution of the Church of Antioch to liturgical development in the 6th and 7th centuries. He has written scholarly works on the life of St. Nektarios The Wonderworker, the role of marriage in the life of Orthodox clergy, the life of St. Macrina, St. Gregory Nazianzus, and a comprehensive work on the life of the saints published in 1984. In 2002, he lectured at Oxford University on the topic of the Church in the Middle East, and also at the biennial Clergy Symposium for the Archdiocese of North America.

The date of His Beatitude's Enthronement has not yet been announced. *Eis polla eti dhespota!*

Announcements

New Year's Eve party: Please contact Rania Al Debbs or Rita Estephan.

Antiochian Women:

Bake Sale: On Saturday and Sunday December 15 & 16. Volunteers needed. Please contact any of the Antiochian Women.

Services for the Holy Nativity feast:

Monday December 24:

10:00 am: The Royal hours for the Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Monday December 24:

6:00 pm: Vespers service including Artoklasia for the feast of the Nativity of the Lord.

7:00 pm: Orthros (including Polyeleos and Metalipsis prayer), followed by

8:30 pm: Festal Divine Liturgy.

10: 00 pm: **Christ is born, glorify Him.**

Tuesday December 25:

10:00 am: Orthros followed by a Divine Liturgy (at 11:00 am).

Monday December 31, at 6:00 pm: Vespereal Divine Liturgy for the feast of the Circumcision of the Lord & St. Basil the Great.