



St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church

Sunday, July 20, 2025

Sixth Sunday of Matthew

His Eminence, Metropolitan SABA
Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America
His Grace, Bishop ANTHONY – Diocese of LA & the West
V. Rev. Fr. Dr. Christopher Salamy, Pastor
Rev. Dn. Raphael Abrahams • Rev. Dn. Serafim Grove
Rev. Dn. Basil Ritchie • Rev. Dn. Michael Haddad • Rev. Dn. Peter Samore
Rev. Dn. Dr. Gregory Abdalah, Pastoral Assistant • Christian Farradj, Youth Pastor
Harpreet Kaur, Executive Assistant to the Pastor
Jane Romley, Parish Administrator • Matthew Peters, Ministry Lead
Valerie Haddad, Director of Ministry, Growth & Development

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (TONE FIVE)

Let us believers, praise and worship the Word, coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

APOLYTIKION OF PROPHET ELIAS (TONE FOUR)

The incarnate Angel, and the Prophets' summit and boast, the second forerunner of the coming of Christ our God, Elias, the glorious, from above sent down his grace upon Elisseus; he doth cast out sickness and doth also cleanse lepers; and unto all that honor him, he poureth forth streams of cures.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. GEORGE (TONE FOUR)

As deliverer of captives and defender of the poor, healer of the infirm, champion of kings, victorious Great Martyr George intercede with Christ our God for our souls' salvation.

ORDINARY KONTAKION (TONE TWO)

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

THE EPISTLE

(For Prophet Elias)

Thou art a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek. The Lord said unto my Lord: Sit Thou on my right hand, until I make Thine enemies Thy footstool.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. James. (5:10-20)

Brethren, take as an example of suffering and patience the prophets who spoke in the Name of the Lord. Behold, we call those blessed who were steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful. But above all, my brethren, do not swear, either by Heaven or by earth or with any other oath; but let your yes be yes and your no be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation. Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is any cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.

Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man has great power in its effects. Elias was a man of like nature with ourselves and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again and the heavens gave rain, and the earth brought forth its fruit. My brethren, if any one among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

THE GOSPEL

(For Sixth Sunday of Matthew)

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

At that time, Jesus got into a boat, crossed over and came to His own city. And behold, they brought to Him a paralytic, lying on his bed; and when Jesus saw their faith He said to the paralytic, "Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven." And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man is blaspheming." But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—He then said to the paralytic—"Rise, take up your bed and go home." And he rose and went home. When the crowds saw it, they marveled, and they glorified God, Who had given such authority to men.

THOSE TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER...

Living: Romy, Chase, Paul, Mary, Joshua, Peter, Richard, Anthony, Moira, Mac, Laila, Michael, Ray, Pam, Amal, Nejwa, Randa, Regan, Theresa, Kristine, Sherry, Samira, Robert, Daniel, Jane, Jillian, Sandy, Iyad, Nina, Victoria, Nicholas, Elizabeth, Mary, Alexandros, Aikaterina, David and Donald.

Lamies Fakhouri offers Holy bread for the health of Lamies, Sam and Sophia. May God grant them many years.

Congratulations and God's blessings to Heather & Justin Stanford on the Churching of their baby, Valerie. May God grant them many years.

Thank you, Chris and Hnadi Bandak, for sponsoring coffee hour!