

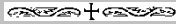
# **St. George Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church**



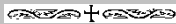
**SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2023**

**SIXTH SUNDAY OF PASCHA: SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN;  
EQUALS-TO-THE-APOSTLES CONSTANTINE AND HELEN**

**His Beatitude Patriarch of Antioch  
and All the East JOHN X**

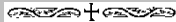


**His Eminence Metropolitan SABA  
Archbishop of New York and  
Metropolitan of all North America.**



**V. Rev. Nicholas V. Belcher**

**Rev. Dn. Scott Miller**



**Parish Council Officers**

**Ziad Juzdan**  
(Chairman)

**Elie Saade**  
(Vice Chairman)

**Michael Kaufman**  
(Treasurer)

**Grace Dibi**  
(Secretary)

**St. George's Organizations**

**A-MEN**

Fares Kadan  
973-979-9670

**Charity Committee**

Julie Abboud  
[immalbert@aol.com](mailto:immalbert@aol.com)

**Choir Director**

Jane Tadros  
973-222 4112

**Ladies Society**

Rima Bandeli  
973-872-1382

**Maintenance Committee**

Issa Lwaysi  
[Lwaysi@verizon.net](mailto:Lwaysi@verizon.net)

**PTA**

Rana Alhazim  
[Stgeorgenjpta@gmail.com](mailto:Stgeorgenjpta@gmail.com)

**Stewardship Committee**

Paul Juzdan  
973-941-6962

**Sunday School**

Director  
Donna Starke  
[dstarke@mka.org](mailto:dstarke@mka.org)

**Young Adults**

Victoria Ayoub  
Youssef Sabah

**Church Office**

[mesaba@stgeorgenj.com](mailto:mesaba@stgeorgenj.com)  
973-256-8961

## **RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN 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.

### **أبوليتيكيون القيامة باللحن الخامس**

لِنَسْبِخْ نَحْنُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَنَسْجُدْ لِلْكَلِمَةِ، الْمَسَاوِي لِأَبِ وَالرُّوحِ فِي الْأَزَلِيَّةِ وَعَدَمِ الْإِبْتِدَاءِ، الْمَوْلُودِ مِنَ الْعَذْرَاءِ لِخَلَاصِنَا، لِأَنَّهُ سَرٌّ بِالْجَسَدِ أَنْ يَغْلُوقَ عَلَى الصَّلِيبِ، وَيَحْتَمِلَ الْمَوْتَ، وَيُنْهَضَ الْمَوْتَى بِقِيَامَتِهِ الْمَحِيدَةِ.

## **APOLYTIKION OF SS. CONSTANTINE AND HELEN IN TONE EIGHT**

Having seen the image of Thy Cross in Heaven, and, like Paul, having received the call not from men, Thine apostle among kings, Constantine, entrusted the commonwealth to Thy hand, O Lord. Keep us always in peace, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, O only Lover of mankind.

### **أبوليتيكيون للقديسين قسطنطين وهيلانة باللحن الثامن**

يَا رَبُّ إِنَّ قِسْطَنْطِينَ الَّذِي هُوَ رَسُولُكَ فِي الْمُلُوكِ، لَمَّا شَاهَدَ رَسْمَ صَلَيبِكَ فِي السَّمَاءِ عَيَانًا. وَبِمَثَابَةِ بُولُسَ قَبْلَ الدَّعْوَةِ لَيْسَ مِنَ الْبَشَرِ، أُوْدِعَ بِيَدِكَ الْمَدِينَةَ الْمُتَمَلِّكَةَ، فَأَنْقَذَهَا بِالسَّلَامَةِ كُلِّ حِينٍ، بِشَفَاعَاتِ وَالِدَةِ الْإِلَهِ، يَا مُحَبَّبَ الْبَشَرِ وَحَدِّكَ.

## **TROPARION OF SAINT GEORGE IN TONE FOUR**

As deliverer of captives, as defender of the poor, healer of the infirm, champion of kings, Victorious, Great Martyr George, intercede with Christ our Lord, intercede for the soul's salvation.

### **طروبارية القديس جاورجيوس باللحن الرابع**

أَنْتَكَ لِلْمَأْسُورِينَ مُحَرَّرٌّ وَمُعْتَقٌّ، وَلِلْفُقَرَاءِ وَالْمَسَاكِينِ عَاضِدٌ وَنَاصِرٌ، وَلِلْمَرْضَى طَبِيبٌ وَشَافٍ، وَعَنْ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ مُكَافِحٌ وَمُحَارِبٌ. أَيُّهَا الْعَظِيمُ فِي الشُّهَدَاءِ جَاورْجِيُوسُ الْمُظْفَرُ. تَسْتَعِذُّ إِلَى الْمَسِيحِ الْإِلَهِ فِي خَلَاصِ نَفُوسِنَا

## **KONTAKION OF PASCHA IN TONE EIGHT**

Though Thou didst descend into the grave, O Immortal One, yet didst Thou destroy the power of Hades, and didst arise as victor, O Christ God, calling to the myrrh-bearing women, Rejoice, and giving peace unto Thine Apostles, O Thou Who dost grant resurrection to the fallen.

### القنداق للفصح باللحن الثامن

وَلَيْزُنْ كُنْتِ نَزَلْتِ إِلَى قَبْرِ يَا مَنْ لَا يَمُوتُ، إِلَّا أَنْكَ دَرَسْتِ قُوَّةَ الْجَحِيمِ، وَقُمْتِ غَالِبًا أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ الْإِلَهَ، وَلِلنَّسُوءِ حَامِلَاتِ  
الطَّيِّبِ قُلْتِ "أَفْرَحُنْ"، وَوَهَبْتِ رُسُلَكَ السَّلَامَ، يَا مَانِيحَ الْوَاقِعِينَ الْقِيَامَ.

### THE EPISTLE

*Their voice has gone out into all the earth.*

*The heavens declare the glory of God.*

**The Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.**

**(26:1, 12-20)**

In those days, King Agrippa said to Paul, "You have permission to speak for yourself." Then Paul stretched out his hand and made his defense: "I journeyed to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests. At midday, O king, I saw on the way a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining round me and those who journeyed with me. And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? It hurts you to kick against the goads.' And I said, 'Who art Thou, Lord?' And the Lord said, 'I am Jesus Whom you are persecuting. But rise and stand upon your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you to serve and bear witness to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you, delivering you from the people and from the Gentiles, to whom I send you to open their eyes, that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.' Wherefore, O King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but declared first to those at Damascus, then at Jerusalem and throughout all the country of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God and perform deeds worthy of their repentance."

## الرسالة (للقدّيسين قسطنطين وهيلانة)

إلى كلِّ الأرضِ خرَجَ صَوْتُهُ.

السماواتُ تُذِيعُ مَجْدَ اللَّهِ.

### فصلٌ من أعمالِ الرسلِ القدّيسين الأَطهارِ.

في تلكِ الأيامِ قالَ المَلِكُ أَغْرِيْبَا لِيُوْسَ: «مَأْدُونٌ لَكَ أَنْ تَتَكَلَّمَ عَن نَفْسِكَ». فحِينَئِذٍ بَسَطَ بُوْلُسُ يَدَهُ وَطَفِقَ يَحْتَجُّ. «لَمَّا انطَلَقْتُ وأنا على ذلكِ إلى دِمَشْقَ، بِسُلْطَانٍ وَتَوَكِيلٍ مِنْ رُؤَسَاءِ الكَهَنَةِ، رَأَيْتُ فِي نَصْفِ النِّهَارِ على الطَّرِيقِ أَيُّهَا المَلِكُ، نُورًا مِنَ السَّمَاءِ يَفُوقُ لَمْعَانَ الشَّمْسِ، قَدْ أَبْرَقَ حَوْلِي وَحَوْلَ السائِرِينَ مَعِي. فَسَقَطْنَا جَمِيعًا على الأَرْضِ، وَسَمِعْتُ صَوْتًا يُكَلِّمُنِي وَيَقُولُ بِاللُّغَةِ العِبْرَانِيَّةِ: سَأوُلُ، سَأوُلُ! لِمَاذَا تَضْطَهْدُنِي؟ إِنَّهُ لَصَعْبٌ عَلَيْكَ أَنْ تَرْفُسَ المَنَاحِسَ. فَقُلْتُ: مَنْ أَنْتَ يَا رَبُّ؟ فَقَالَ: أَنَا يَسُوعُ الَّذِي أَنْتَ تَضْطَهْدُهُ. وَلَكِنْ قُمْ وَقِفْ عَلَى قَدَمَيْكَ، فَإِنِّي لِهَذَا ظَهَرْتُ لَكَ، لِأَنْتَ خَبِكَ خَادِمًا وَشَاهِدًا بِمَا رَأَيْتَ وَبِمَا سَأْتَرَأَى لَكَ فِيهِ، وَأَنَا أَتَجَبُّ مِنَ الشَّعْبِ وَمِنَ الأُمَّمِ الَّذِينَ أَنَا الآنَ مُرْسَلُكَ إِلَيْهِمْ، لِتَفْتَحَ عِيُونَهُمْ فَيَرْجِعُوا مِنَ الظُّلْمَةِ إِلَى النُّورِ، وَمِنْ سُلْطَانِ الشَّيْطَانِ إِلَى اللَّهِ، حَتَّى يَبْأَلُوا مَغْفِرَةَ الخَطَايَا وَحِطًّا بَيْنَ المُقَدَّسِينَ بِالإِيمَانِ الَّذِي بِي. «فَمِنْ ثَمَّ أَيُّهَا المَلِكُ أَغْرِيْبَا ما عَصَيْتُ الرُّؤْيَا السَّمَاوِيَّةَ، بَلْ بَشَّرْتُ الَّذِينَ فِي دِمَشْقَ أَوَّلًا، وَأَوْرُشَلِيمَ وَأَرْضِ اليَهُودِيَّةِ كُلِّهَا، ثَمَّ الأُمَّمَ أَيْضًا، بَأَن يَتُوبُوا وَيَرْجِعُوا إِلَى اللَّهِ عَامِلِينَ أَعْمَالًا تَلِيْقُ بِالتَّوْبَةِ.

## THE GOSPEL

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (9:1-38)**

At that time, when Jesus was passing, he saw a man blind from his birth. And His disciples asked Him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. I must work the works of Him who sent Me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." As he said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed

the man's eyes with the clay, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam," which means "Sent." So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is he;" others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man." They said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash'; so I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for He does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them. So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about Him, since He has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself." His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess him to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore, his parents said, "He is of age, ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "Whether he is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did He do to you? How did He

open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become His disciples?" And they reviled him, saying, "You are His disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where He comes from." The man answered, "Why, this is a marvel! You do not know where He comes from, and yet He opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, He could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him He said, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" He answered, "And who is He, Sir, that I may believe in Him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen Him, and it is He who speaks to you." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped Him.

### الإنجيل (لأحد الأعمى)

#### فصل شريف من بشارة القديس يوحنا الإنجيلي البشير والتلميذ الطاهر. (9:1-38)

في ذلك الزمان، فيما يسوع مُجتازاً، رأى إنساناً أعمى منذ مولده. فسأله تلاميذه قائلين: يا رب، من أخطأ أهذا أم أبواه حتى وُلِدَ أعمى؟ أجاب يسوع: لا هذا أخطأ ولا أبواه، لكن لِنَظْهَرِ أَعْمَالُ اللَّهِ فِيهِ. يَنْبَغِي لِي أَنْ أَعْمَلَ أَعْمَالَ الَّذِي أَرْسَلَنِي مَا دَامَ نَهَارٌ. يَأْتِي لَيْلٌ حَيْثُ لَا يَسْتَطِيعُ أَحَدٌ أَنْ يَعْمَلَ. مَا دُمْتُ فِي الْعَالَمِ، فَأَنَا نُورُ الْعَالَمِ. قَالَ هَذَا، وَنَقَلَ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ، وَصَنَعَ مِنْ تَفْلَتِهِ طِينًا، وَطَلَى بِالطِّينِ عَيْنَيِ الْأَعْمَى، وَقَالَ لَهُ: اذْهَبْ وَاغْتَسِلْ فِي بَرَكَةِ سَلْوَامٍ (الذي تفسيره المرسل). فَمَضَى وَاغْتَسَلَ وَعَادَ بَصِيرًا. فَالْجِيرَانُ وَالَّذِينَ كَانُوا يَرَوْنَهُ مِنْ قَبْلُ أَنَّهُ كَانَ أَعْمَى قَالُوا: أَلَيْسَ هَذَا هُوَ الَّذِي كَانَ يَجْلِسُ وَيَسْتَعْطِي؟ فَقَالَ بَعْضُهُمْ هَذَا هُوَ، وَآخَرُونَ قَالُوا "إِنَّهُ يُشْبِهُهُ". وَأَمَّا هُوَ فَكَانَ يَقُولُ "إِنِّي أَنَا هُوَ". فَقَالُوا

لَهُ: كَيْفَ انْفَتَحَتْ عَيْنَاكَ؟ أَجَابَ ذَاكَ وَقَالَ: إِنْسَانٌ يُقَالُ لَهُ يَسُوعُ، صَنَعَ طِينًا وَطَلَى عَيْنَيَّ وَقَالَ لِي  
 "اذْهَبْ إِلَى بَرَكَةِ سِلْوَامِ وَاغْتَسِلْ". فَمَضَيْتُ وَاغْتَسَلْتُ، فَأَبْصَرْتُ. فَقَالُوا لَهُ: أَيْنَ ذَاكَ؟ فَقَالَ: لَا أَعْلَمُ.  
 فَأَتُوا بِهِ، أَيْ بِالَّذِي كَانَ قَبْلًا أَعْمَى إِلَى الْفَرِيسِيِّينَ. وَكَانَ حِينَ صَنَعَ يَسُوعُ الطِّينَ وَفَتَحَ عَيْنَيْهِ يَوْمَ سَبْتِ.  
 فَسَأَلَهُ الْفَرِيسِيُّونَ أَيْضًا، كَيْفَ أَبْصَرَ؟ فَقَالَ لَهُمْ: جَعَلَ عَلَى عَيْنَيَّ طِينًا ثُمَّ اغْتَسَلْتُ، فَأَنَا الْآنَ أَبْصِرُ.  
 فَقَالَ قَوْمٌ مِنَ الْفَرِيسِيِّينَ: هَذَا الْإِنْسَانُ لَيْسَ مِنَ اللَّهِ، لِأَنَّهُ لَا يَحْفَظُ السَّبْتَ. آخَرُونَ قَالُوا: كَيْفَ يَقْدِرُ  
 إِنْسَانٌ خَاطِئٌ أَنْ يَعْمَلَ مِثْلَ هَذِهِ الْآيَاتِ؟ فَوَقَعَ بَيْنَهُمْ شِقَاقٌ. فَقَالُوا أَيْضًا لِلْأَعْمَى: مَاذَا تَقُولُ أَنْتَ عَنْهُ  
 مِنْ حَيْثُ إِنَّهُ فَتَحَ عَيْنَيْكَ؟ فَقَالَ: إِنَّهُ نَبِيٌّ. وَلَمْ يُصَدِّقِ الْيَهُودُ عَنْهُ أَنَّهُ كَانَ أَعْمَى فَأَبْصَرَ حَتَّى دَعَا  
 أَبَوِي الَّذِي أَبْصَرَ وَسَأَلُوهُمَا قَائِلِينَ: أَهَذَا هُوَ ابْنُكُمَا الَّذِي تَقُولَانِ إِنَّهُ وُلِدَ أَعْمَى؟ فَكَيْفَ أَبْصَرَ الْآنَ؟  
 أَجَابَهُمْ أَبَوَاهُ وَقَالَا: نَحْنُ نَعْلَمُ أَنَّ هَذَا وَوَلَدُنَا، وَأَنَّهُ وُلِدَ أَعْمَى، وَأَمَّا كَيْفَ أَبْصَرَ الْآنَ فَلَا نَعْلَمُ، أَوْ مَنْ فَتَحَ  
 عَيْنَيْهِ، فَنَحْنُ لَا نَعْلَمُ، هُوَ كَامِلُ السِّنِّ فَاسْأَلُوهُ، فَهُوَ يَتَكَلَّمُ عَن نَفْسِهِ. قَالَ أَبَوَاهُ هَذَا، لِأَنَّهُمَا كَانَا يَخَافَانِ  
 مِنَ الْيَهُودِ، لِأَنَّ الْيَهُودَ كَانُوا قَدْ تَعَاهَدُوا أَنَّهُ إِنْ اعْتَرَفَ أَحَدٌ بِأَنَّهُ الْمَسِيحُ، يُخْرِجُ مِنَ الْمَجْمَعِ. فَلِذَلِكَ قَالَ  
 أَبَوَاهُ، "هُوَ كَامِلُ السِّنِّ، فَاسْأَلُوهُ." فَدَعَا ثَانِيَةً الْإِنْسَانَ الَّذِي كَانَ أَعْمَى وَقَالُوا لَهُ: أَعْطِ مَجْدًا لِلَّهِ، فَإِنَّا  
 نَعْلَمُ أَنَّ هَذَا الْإِنْسَانَ خَاطِئٌ. فَأَجَابَ ذَاكَ وَقَالَ: أَخَاطِئُ هُوَ لَا أَعْلَمُ، إِنَّمَا أَعْلَمُ شَيْئًا وَاحِدًا، أَنِّي كُنْتُ  
 أَعْمَى، وَالْآنَ أَنَا أَبْصِرُ. فَقَالُوا لَهُ أَيْضًا: مَاذَا صَنَعَ بِكَ؟ كَيْفَ فَتَحَ عَيْنَيْكَ؟ أَجَابَهُمْ: قَدْ أَخْبَرْتُكُمْ فَلَمْ  
 تَسْمَعُوا، فَمَاذَا تُرِيدُونَ أَنْ تَسْمَعُوا أَيْضًا؟ أَلَعَلَّكُمْ أَنْتُمْ أَيْضًا تُرِيدُونَ أَنْ تَصِيرُوا لَهُ تَلَامِيذٌ؟ فَسَمِعُوهُ وَقَالُوا  
 لَهُ: أَنْتَ تَلْمِذُ ذَاكَ، وَأَمَّا نَحْنُ فَإِنَّا تَلَامِيذُ مُوسَى، وَنَحْنُ نَعْلَمُ أَنَّ اللَّهَ قَدْ كَلَّمَ مُوسَى، فَأَمَّا هَذَا، فَلَا نَعْلَمُ  
 مِنْ أَيْنَ هُوَ. أَجَابَ الرَّجُلُ وَقَالَ لَهُمْ: إِنَّ فِي هَذَا عَجَبًا أَنْتُمْ مَا تَعْلَمُونَ مِنْ أَيْنَ هُوَ وَقَدْ فَتَحَ عَيْنَيَّ،  
 وَنَحْنُ نَعْلَمُ أَنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يَسْمَعُ لِلْخَطَايَا، وَلَكِنْ إِذَا أَحَدٌ اتَّقَى اللَّهَ وَعَمِلَ مَشِيئَتَهُ، فَلَهُ يَسْتَجِيبُ. مُنذُ الدَّهْرِ لَمْ  
 يُسْمَعْ أَنَّ أَحَدًا فَتَحَ عَيْنَيَّ مَوْلُودٍ أَعْمَى. فَلَوْ لَمْ يَكُنْ هَذَا مِنَ اللَّهِ، لَمْ يَقْدِرْ أَنْ يَفْعَلَ شَيْئًا. أَجَابُوهُ وَقَالُوا  
 لَهُ: إِنَّكَ فِي الْخَطَايَا قَدْ وُلِدْتَ بِجُمْلَتِكَ، أَفَأَنْتَ تَعْلَمُنَا؟ فَأَخْرَجُوهُ خَارِجًا. وَسَمِعَ يَسُوعُ أَنَّهُمْ أَخْرَجُوهُ خَارِجًا،  
 فَوَجَدَهُ وَقَالَ لَهُ: أَنْتُمْ أَنْتَ بَابِنِ اللَّهِ. فَأَجَابَ ذَاكَ، وَقَالَ: فَمَنْ هُوَ يَا سَيِّدُ لِأَوْمِنَ بِهِ؟ فَقَالَ لَهُ يَسُوعُ: قَدْ  
 رَأَيْتَهُ وَالَّذِي يَتَكَلَّمُ مَعَكَ هُوَ هُوَ. فَقَالَ لَهُ: قَدْ آمَنْتُ يَا رَبِّ، وَسَجَدَ لَهُ.



***Holy Communion may only be received by Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves by prayer, fasting, and being at peace with others. All are invited to receive a blessing from the priest and partake of the antidoron (blessed bread) at the end of the liturgy.***

### **THE SYNAXARION**

On May 21 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate Constantine, Prince of Murom, and his sons Michael and Theodore, the Wonderworkers; and the holy, glorious, God-crowned and great Sovereigns Constantine and Helen, the Equals to the Apostles.

#### *Verses*

*As the Sovereigns had the earthly crown in common,*

*So have they now in common the crown celestial.*

*On the twenty-first died Constantine with his mother.*

Before a great battle, a brilliant Cross appeared to Constantine in the sky during the day, completely adorned with stars and written on the Cross were these words: "By this Sign Conquer." Astonished, the emperor ordered a large cross to be forged similar to the one that appeared to him; and that it be carried before the army. By the power of the Cross he achieved a glorious victory over the larger enemy. Immediately after that, Constantine issued the famous Edict of Milan in 313 to halt the persecution of Christians. When a discord began in the Church because of the heretic Arius, the emperor convened the First Ecumenical Council in Nicaea in 325, where the heresy was condemned and Orthodoxy confirmed. Helen, the pious mother of the emperor, visited Jerusalem, discovered the Honorable Cross of the Lord, built the Church of the Resurrection on Golgotha and other churches throughout the Holy Land. This holy woman presented herself to the Lord in her eightieth year in 327. Emperor Constantine died ten years later at age 65.

On this day, the sixth Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate the miracle wrought by our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ upon the man who was blind from his birth.

*Verses*

*O Light of Light most perfect, and Light-provider,  
On the blind from birth, O Word, eyes Thou bestowest.*

The Savior met this man, born blind and incurable after every human effort, while leaving the Temple on the Sabbath. Saints John Chrysostom, Basil the Great and Irenaeus teach that the man was born without eyeballs. Jesus spat into the dirt, made clay, rubbed it in his eye sockets and told him to wash in the pool of Siloam, a famous water spring in Jerusalem. The Savior did not send him there because his eye sockets were filled with clay, nor did the pool have healing power, but instead to test his faith and obedience. Jesus fashioned the eyes of the blind man from the dirt as God fashioned man from the dirt. The blind man proclaimed that Jesus healed him, but this confession caused him to be cast out by the enemies of the truth. Even his own parents would not defend him. However, the blind man followed Jesus from that moment forward.

By Thine infinite mercy, O Christ our God, Giver of light, have mercy on us. Amen.

**Spirit of the Righteous Made Perfect**

V. Rev. Fr. Elias Bitar, Lily Azar, Elena Weded Syriana, Sophie Barkat, Theodore Haggar, Phyllis Haggar, Fedwa Fadil, Asa Busada, Ida Azrak, Louis Baram, Arthur Nafash, Afife Shama, Kamil Shama, Alfred Haggar, and Robert Lynch. May the Lord God rest their souls in peace and grant comfort to their families.

### Donations

- In memory of Margaret Nahass offered by Diane & Gabriel Sabbagh.
- In memory of Hafez & Wadia Juzdan and Zaki & Raid Hinnawi and for the good Health of the Juzdan Family offered by Ziad & Fadia Juzdan.
- In memory of Yanni Karaoglan, Anna Kamikian, and Assaad Sarraf offered by Michel & Nina Karagolan

### Sunday School News

We would like to thank our teachers and all of those who supported the Sunday School this year. May God continue to Bless them and grant them many years.

### Upcoming Events

- Today - Sunday School Graduation & Ladies Society Basket Auction during coffee hour
  - Festival workdays this week are Monday and Tuesday at 6pm
  - Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup> – **Ascension** Orthros and Liturgy
  - Festival Set Up Day – Saturday May 27<sup>th</sup> 10am
- ***Please remember to see Mike Nafash for your booth sponsorship.***
- ***Super 50/50 Raffle Tickets are available.***

## FESTIVAL WORK SCHEDULE 2023

Monday May 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Msakhan	6 PM
TUESDAY MAY 23	Maamool	6 PM
Saturday May 27 <sup>th</sup>	Setting Up	10 AM
Tuesday May 30 <sup>th</sup>	Ghraybe	6 PM
Wednesday May 31 <sup>st</sup>	Baklawa	6 PM

*"Many hands make light work."*

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**JUNE 1ST, 2ND, 3RD**

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