Orthodox Parish of St Martin & St Helen
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of the British Isles and Ireland
Patriarchate of Antioch and all the East

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Sunday 8 November 2026. Issue 54.

Tone 6
The Synaxis of the Archangels Michael and Gabriel and of all the Bodiless and Heavenly Angelic Hosts; Saint Olga of Alaska, the Midwife; Saint Philaret, Metropolitan of New York and Eastern America

Epistle Reading
Hebrews (2:2-10)

Prokeimenon in Tone IV

He makes His angels spirits, and His ministers a flame of fire.
Verse: Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God, Thou hast been magnified exceedingly.

Brethren, if the word spoken through angels was confirmed, and every transgression and disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape, if we neglect so great a salvation, which having at first been spoken through the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard, God also bearing witness with them, both by signs and wonders, and by manifold powers, and by distributions of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will? For it was not to angels that He subjected the inhabited world to come, of which we are speaking. But one has testified in a certain place, saying, "What is man, that Thou shouldest be mindful of him? Or the son of man, that Thou shouldest visit him? Thou didst decrease him a little from the angels; Thou didst crown him with glory and honour, and didst set him over the works of Thy hands; Thou didst put all things in subjection under his feet." For in putting "all things" in "subjection" to Him, He left nothing that is not subject to Him. But now we do not see yet "all things in subjection" to Him.

But we behold Him "who has been decreased a little from the angels," even Jesus, because of the suffering of death, "crowned with glory and honour," so that by the grace of God He should taste of death on behalf of every one. For it was fitting that He, for whom are all things, and through whom are all things, in bringing many sons into glory, the Leader of their salvation would be perfected through sufferings.

Alleluia.

Verse 1: He who dwells in the help of the Most High shall abide in the shelter of the God of heaven.
Verse 2: He will say to the Lord: Thou art my protector and my refuge my God, and in Him shall I trust.

Gospel Reading
Luke (8:41-56)

At that time, a man named Jairus came, and he was a ruler of the synagogue. He fell down at Jesus' feet and begged him to come to his house because he had an only daughter, about twelve years old, who was dying. But as Jesus went, the crowd pressed against him. There was a woman who had a flow of blood for twelve years and who had spent all she had on physicians, but she could not be healed by any. She came behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak. Immediately, the flow of her blood stopped. Jesus said, "Who touched me?" As everyone was denying it, Peter and those with him said, "Master, the people are crowding and pressing against you, and you ask, 'Who touched me?'" But Jesus said, "Someone has touched me, for I perceived that power has gone out from me." When the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came forth trembling. Falling down before Jesus, in the presence of all the people, she confessed to him why she had touched him, and how she had immediately been healed. He said to her, "Daughter, be of good cheer! Your faith has made you well. Go in peace." While Jesus was still speaking, someone came from the ruler of the synagogue's house, saying to him, "Your daughter is dead. Do not trouble the Teacher." But when Jesus heard it, he answered him, "Do not be afraid! Only believe, and she will be healed." When Jesus arrived at the house, he did not allow anyone to enter in, except Peter, John, and James, as

well as the father of the child and her mother. All were weeping and mourning the girl, but Jesus said, "Do not weep! She is not dead, but sleeping." But they mocked him, knowing that she was dead. Jesus put them all outside, and taking the girl by the hand, he called, "Child, arise!" Her spirit returned, and she immediately got up. He ordered that something to eat should be given to her. Her parents were amazed, but he commanded them to tell no one what had been done.

Troparion of the Resurrection. Tone 6.

The angelic powers were at Thy tomb; the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Thy grave, seeking Thy most pure Body. Thou didst capture hell, not being tempted by it. Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. O Lord who didst rise from the dead: glory to Thee.

The Archangels
Troparion

O Commanders of the heavenly hosts, we who are unworthy beseech you: by your prayers encompass us beneath the wings of your immaterial glory, and faithfully preserve us who fall down and cry out to you: Deliver us from all harm, for you are the Commanders of the Powers on high!

St Martin the Merciful
Troparion

In signs and in miracles thou wast renowned throughout the land of Gaul. By grace thou art a light for the world, O Martin, Bishop blessed of God. Deeds of mercy and compassion filled thy life with their splendours, teaching and wise counsel were thy riches and treasures, which still thou dost dispense freely to those who honour thee.

St Helen
Troparion

We behold thee, glorious Helen, with thy God-inspired son, in the joys of the kingdom of Heaven, and we magnify Christ, for he hath revealed to us thine honoured festival, giving light more brilliant than the sun. Therefore we cry in faith: O People, exalt Christ above all forever!

The Entrance of the Theotokos
Kontakion

The most pure temple of the Saviour, the very precious chamber and Virgin, the sacred treasure of the glory of God, is presented today in the house of the Lord. She bringeth with her the grace of the Spirit, which the angels of God do praise. She is the heavenly tabernacle.

The Synaxis of the Archangels

Holy Scripture teaches that angels are good and invisible spirits who stand close to God, and that He sends them, sometimes in visible form, at the great turning points of history, when His will is about to be made known or fulfilled. The two Archangels Michael and Gabriel lead the angelic powers, and the Church established today's feast, on 8 November, in remembrance of the missions and labours of the angels.

Michael appears throughout the Old Testament: when Abraham was about to offer Isaac, and alongside Joshua the son of Nun, Elijah, the Patriarch Jacob and the seer Balaam. He rescued Lot when God resolved to destroy Gomorrah, and he led the people of Israel out of Egypt. His mission is to put down the enemies of the true Church.

Gabriel's mission, by contrast, is to announce the salvation of mankind. His name comes from a Hebrew phrase meaning "Man of God", also rendered "the strength of God". In the Gospel of Luke he appears to Zachariah, telling him that his barren wife Elizabeth will bear a son, and because Zachariah doubts, he is left unable to speak until John the Baptist is born. Tradition also credits Gabriel with announcing the birth of the Theotokos to Joachim and Anna, and with bringing the news of the Nativity to the shepherds near Bethlehem. Above all, he announced to the Virgin that she would bear Christ.

Gabriel is also held to have been present at the Passion and the Resurrection: Tradition identifies him with the young man who fled from Gethsemane, and with the angel who told the Myrrh-bearing Women that Christ had risen. He will sound the trumpet that announces the Lord's Second Coming.

Source: Adapted from saint.gr and OrthodoxWiki

Holy Liturgy this week

Wednesday 11 November, 8:10am
Patronal Feast of St Martin of Tours, St Martin's Church.