

كنيسة مار نقولا الأنطاكية الأرثوذكسية

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church
Weekly Bulletin

Antiochian Archdiocese of North America
Diocese of Los Angeles and the West

5200 Diamond Hts. Boulevard, San Francisco, CA 94131
Tel: (415) 648-5200

Email: info@stnicholas-sf.com--website:stnicholas-sf.com

Pastor, V. Rev. Fr. George Baalbaki

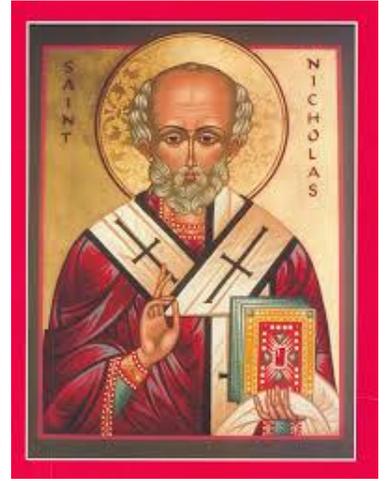
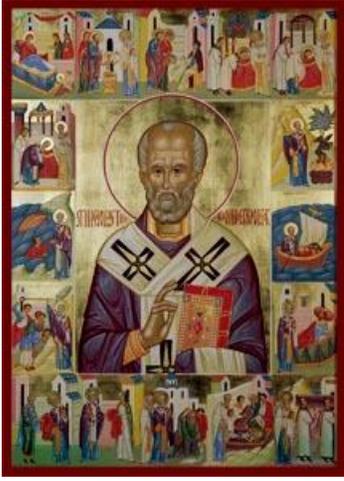
(586) 214-4428 revbaalbaki@yahoo.com

Pastor Emeritus, V. Rev. Fr. Gregory Ofiesh

Sub-Dn. Michel Khoury

Sub-Dn. Ilyan Baalbaki

Parish Council Chairman: Maher Shami



Sunday, September 24th, 2017

Proto-martyr Thekla, equal-to-the-Apostles

القديسة تقلا أولى الشهيديات المعادلة الرسل/البار سلوان الأثوسيّ

❖ *Memorial Service:*

- ❖ **This Sunday:** Six month memorial service for the Servant of God, **Bishara Kubein**, offered by **Raghda Kubein** and family. May his memory be eternal!
- ❖ **October 8th:** Nine and Forty-Day memorial service for the Handmaiden of God, **Gloria Lama** offered by her family. May her memory be eternal!

THE EPISTLE: The Second Epistle of St. Paul to St. Timothy. (3:10-15)

Timothy, my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, my sufferings, what befell me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra. What persecutions I endured! Yet from them all, the Lord rescued me. Indeed, all, who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

الرسالة: ٢ تيموثاوس ٣: ١٠-١٥

يا ولدي تيموثاوس، إنك قد استقرت تعليمي وسيرتي وقصدي وإيماني وأنا تي ومحبتتي وصبري، واضطهاداتي وآلامي وما أصابني في أنطاكية وإيقونية ولسترة، وأية اضطهادات احتملت وقد أنقذني الرب من جميعها، وجميع الذين يريدون أن يعيشوا بالتقوى في المسيح يسوع يُضطهدون. أما الأشرار والمغورون من الناس فيزدادون شرًا مُضلين ومُضَلَّين. فاستمر أنت على ما تعلمته وأيقنت به عالمًا ممن تعلمت. وإنك منذ الطفولية تعرف الكتب المقدسة القادرة على أن تصيرك حكيماً للخلاص بالإيمان بيسوع المسيح.

THE GOSPEL: St. Luke. (5:1-11)

At that time, Jesus was standing by the lake of Gennesaret. And He saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, Jesus asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the people from the boat. And when Jesus had finished speaking, He said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at Thy word I will let down the nets." And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking, they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them.

And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the catch of fish, which they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men." And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed Him.

الإنجيل: لوقا ٥: ١-١١

في ذلك الزمان فيما يسوع واقف عند بحيرة جنيسارت، رأى سفينتين واقفتين عند شاطئ البحيرة وقد انحدر منها الصيادون يغسلون الشباك. فدخل إحدى السفينتين وكانت لسمعان، وسأله أن يتباعد قليلاً عن البرّ، وجلس يعلم الجموع من السفينة. ولما فرغ من الكلام قال لسمعان: تقدّم إلى العمق والقوا شباككم للصيد. فأجاب سمعان وقال له: يا معلّم إنّنا قد تعبنا الليل كلّه ولم نُصب شيئاً، ولكن بكلمتك ألقى الشبكة. فلما فعلوا ذلك احتازوا من السمك شيئاً كثيراً حتى تخرقت شبكتهم. فأشاروا إلى شركائهم في السفينة الأخرى أن يأتوا ويعاونوهم. فأتوا وملاوا السفينتين حتى كادتتا تغرقان. فلما رأى ذلك سمعان بطرس خرّ عند ركبتي يسوع قائلاً: اخرج عني يا ربّ فإنّي رجل خاطئ، لأنّ الانذهال اعتراه هو وكلّ من معه لصيد السمك الذي أصابوه، وكذلك يعقوب ويوحنا ابنا زبدي اللذان كانا رفيقين لسمعان. فقال يسوع لسمعان: لا تخفّ فإنّك من الآن تكون صانداً للناس. فلما بلغوا بالسفينتين إلى البرّ تركوا كلّ شيء وتبعوه.

Altar Candle Offering:

- ❖ By **St. Nicholas Church** for the good health and speedy recovery of **Nadim Howell** and **John Siner**. Many years!
- ❖ In loving memory of **Khalil** and **Asal Tannous**, **Joseph** and **Margaret Hanhan**. Also for the continued good health of **Almaz Tannous** and all the **Tannous family**.
- ❖ *Sponsors for Sunday's are needed. Please make checks payable to St. Nicholas Church in the amount of \$25.00 or more. Thank you!*

SAVE THE DATE:

- ❖ **September 30th & October 1st: St. Nicholas Church Annual Food Festival.** Food, Dancing, Hookah, Raffle to win a CAR! A lot of items are needed for our festival. We would appreciate your generosity to donate and help us with purchases. Thank you for your continuous support.
We need your help: Preparations for the Annual Church Food Festival have begun. We need all the help we can get so we can make it as successful as possible. We will be starting at 9:00 am during all these days. Everybody is welcome. If you have any questions, please contact Khourye Eman Baalbaki or Gladys Maalouf. We will be making:
 - ❖ **September 27th, 28th, 29th:** Grape leaves, stuffed zucchini, & eggplant.
 - ❖ **September 30th, & October 1st:** FESTIVAL DAYS. We will need help from everybody for all preparations and festival activities.
- ❖ **October 8th: TEEN SOYO meeting.** Directly after Sunday Church service.
- ❖ **October 15th: YOUNG ADULTS meeting.** Directly after Sunday Church service.
- ❖ **October 22nd: TEEN SOYO meeting.** Directly after Sunday Church service.
- ❖ **October 22nd, 2017 @ 5:00 pm. St. Nicholas proudly presents: A Ballroom Dance Show:** Our first Ballroom Dance Show on October 22nd including: dinner, DJ, raffle, and contest by HAT. So ladies get out your best HAT and let's have some fun. Donation: \$50.00
For further information please contact **Gladys Maalouf @ 415-832-0316.**

CHURCH FOOD FESTIVALS:

- ❖ St. John the Evangelist (Orinda, Fr. Nicholas Borzghol): **September 23rd & 24th**
- ❖ **St. Nicholas Church (San Francisco, Fr. George Baalbaki): September 30th & October 1st**

Metropolitan Anthony Surozh GOSPEL READING

The Gospel is read in the church at every service, at every service we are standing around this word of God and we always think that that makes us God's own people. And yet a great deal more is required of us if we wish to be this people of God and the people who can claim that that divine word belongs to it. The Bible was born in a human community, the Gospel was born within the Church. Both the community of Israel and the Church of God were there before Scriptures were elaborated. It is from within this community that knowledge of God, love of God, vision of His greatness, vision of His incredible beauty, vision also of the condition and destiny of the becoming and the vocation of man sprang. It is the community that brings forth a witness of something which is known to it, which is its life, which is its love and its joy. The people of the Bible are not the people who read it, are not the people who keep it faithfully in their hands and proclaim it. The true people of God, the true people of the Bible, the true people of the Gospel should be such a community that could write the Holy Book, proclaim it within its experience, bring it forth, give birth to it. Short of being such a community we do not truly belong either to the Gospel or to the people of God.

Often we console ourselves thinking that we are the worshipping community where the word of God is declared, where it is preached, the community that somehow aims at living the word. And yet when we look around we see that what is made manifest gives the lie to our claim. If we were the community which from within, from the depth of its own experience had brought forth the divine word, those who hear us repeat it, proclaim and preach it would have a double revelation: on one hand of the thing declared, on the other hand the fact that these things have become flesh and blood, that they have become reality of human life and the community which would preach the divine word would be a proof that this divine word is true.

Is that what we see? Can we say that the community which we are, small or big, is a community which in itself is a proof of the message which we bring, the good news that Christ brought into the world? Is it not still true and perhaps more now than it was in the early days, that the word of God is mocked and reviled because of us? Here is the rebirth to which we are called. We have a Book which has been brought forth from the very depth of human experience of God, a Book in which God indeed speaks through a community that could witness the truth of the word. We must become again such a community, we must learn to live according to God's own word, to the revelation of His will; we must learn to be such people whose life coincides with the word of the Gospel.

As long as the Gospel remains a law outside us, as long as the Gospel is the divine will different or opposed to our will – we are not the community of the Gospel; we are aiming at becoming it, perhaps, at best, but we are not yet a community capable of revealing the good news to the word. Christ said that the word He has preached is not an arbitrary command of God, it is the revelation of what true humanity is, it is a revelation to us and to others of how a truly human being should feel and think and will and live. As long as we do not feel that way

and think that way and live that way – it is not that we are disobeying God’s law, it is not that we are destroying our true self, we are not human in a true sense, in the vocational sense of this word. And so the renewal of the Church begins within each of us. The reform of the church when it touches ways of praying, when it affects outer constitution is not a return to the sources. There is only one well of light of which streams the water of eternal life – it is the Gospel itself which is a revelation to each and all of us of what human being is and what human relationships are.

Let us then take earnestly this witness of the Gospel, realising that when the judgment comes it is not God with a law, different or alien from us, who will judge us. We will see what we should have been, what we might have been and what we have not chosen to be. There will be sadness, there will be tears indeed, not because God will curse and reject us, but because, seeing the beauty of our calling, we will see how far short of it we have fallen.

Let us then in the time left to us, and it does not take years, it takes a moment that transforms a life, let us turn to the Gospel itself, let us learn from Christ Himself what we are, what we can be and if we have any doubt we can, let us remember Christ’s own words when Peter asked: “Who then can be saved?” Christ answered: “This is impossible to men, but to God all things are possible.” Let us go forth in this hope and in this joy and in this certitude.

القديسة تقلا

وُلدت القديسة تقلا في القرن الأوّل، ابنة عائلة وثنيّة مقيمة في مدينة إيقونية في آسيا الصغرى (تركيا الحاليّة). لمّا بلغت الثامنة عشرة خطبها أهلها لشابّ وثنيّ مثلهم. لكن قبل أن يتمّ الزواج صدف أنّ بولس الرسول كان يعلم في بيت مجاور لبيت تقلا. استمعت إليه باهتمام كبير مدّة ثلاثة أيّام واقتنعت بكلامه وأمنت بالمسيح ونذرت نفسها لخدمته. لمّا أخبرت أمّها برفضها الزواج غضبت وأخذت ابنتها إلى والي المدينة الذي حاول بكلّ الطرائق أن يردّها عن قرارها فلم ينجح، إلى أن ألقاها في النار فحفظها الله سالمة. بعد ذلك هربت وتبعت الرسول بولس ورافقتة إلى أنطاكية حيث وقع عليها نظر رجل مهمّ في المدينة، ولمّا قاومته وشى بها إلى الوالي على أنّها مسيحيّة. حكم عليها الوالي بالموت وألقاها للوحوش فلم تمسّها بأذى. تعجّب الوالي جدًّا وسألها: من أنت وما هي هذه القوّة الفاعلة فيك؟ فأجابت: أنا أمة الإله الحيّ. فأطلق سراحها.

بقيت تقلا تركز بكلمة الله إلى أن انسحبت إلى معلولا حيث عاشت ناسكة في مغارة. وقد أعطاه الربّ الإله موهبة شفاء المرضى فتدفّق عليها الناس واهتدى كثيرون إلى المسيح بواسطتها. غضب أطباء المنطقة وأرسلوا رجالاً أشراراً ليؤذوها. لمّا طاردوها هربت وصلّت إلى الربّ فانشقت صخرة دخلت تقلا فيها فكانت الصخرة مخبأً لها ومدفنًا. تسمّيها الكنيسة أولى الشهيديات المعادلة الرسل لأنّها قضت حياتها في التبشير بالمسيح، وواجهت الاضطهاد والعذاب والموت من أجله. دير القديسة تقلا قائم حتّى الآن في معلولا يزوره الكثيرون.

22nd Annual ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH MIDDLE EASTERN FESTIVAL

Sept. 30th
12pm-10pm

Oct. 1st
12pm- 8pm

You won't want to miss :

- Live Music by well known Bay Area singers!
 - Hookah Smoking
 - Craft Beer
 - Raffle to WIN a CAR!
- Debkeh Performances (cultural dancing)
- Fantastic & Delicious Mediterranean Food
 - Church Tours
 - Henna Tattoos
- Ladies Auxiliary Kan Zaman Booth (Photo booth)
- Jumper for the kids
- and much more!



goo.gl/MuyuTT

5200 Diamond Heights Blvd. San Francisco, CA 94131 | (415) 648-5200

*Welcome to the
Twenty-Third Annual*



*Middle
Eastern
Food
Festival*



**Saturday September 23rd from 11:00am to 8:00pm &
Sunday September 24th from 12:00pm to 8:00pm**

**St. John the Evangelist Antiochian Orthodox Church
501 Moraga Way in Orinda, California
925-258-4255 ~ www.stjohnorinda.org**

Join in the fun! Ahlan wa sahan (Welcome)

**Live Entertainment - Children's Activities - Delicious Ethnic foods
Drinks & Sweets - Church & Cultural Center - Shopping Bazaar**

THE MICHAEL LAW FIRM

ISSA J. MICHAEL, Esq.

Trial Attorney since 1996

(415) 447-2833

issa@michaellawfirm.com

1648 Union St., Suite 201

San Francisco, CA 94123

REPRESENTING VICTIMS OF SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURY/WRONGFUL DEATH

- › Auto Accidents
 - › Pedestrians
 - › Bicycles
 - › Motorcycles
 - › Taxi
 - › Buses
 - › Trucking
 - › Airplane & Train Crashes
 - › Construction Site Accidents
 - › Explosions, Fires & Burns
 - › Product Defects
 - › Defective Medical Devices & Drugs
 - › Medical Malpractice
 - › Elderly Abuse
 - › Falls (Slip & Trip)
 - › Dog Attacks
 - › Assault/Battery & Homicides
- Millions of dollars recovered for clients.
 - No fees unless recovery.
 - San Francisco Bay Area, the State & Across the Nation.
 - Members of the State Bar of California, Consumer Attorneys of California, & San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association.



***PASSION, SENSITIVITY &
ZEALOUS ADVOCACY***

www.MichaelLawSF.com

THE MICHAEL LAW FIRM

PERSONAL
INJURY

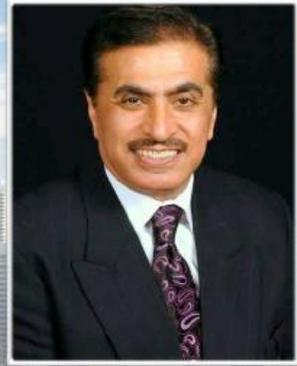


WRONGFUL
DEATH

TRIAL LAWYERS



**ONE MARKET STREET, 36TH FLOOR | San Francisco CA
433 Airport Blvd, Suite 126 | Burlingame CA
2901 West Coast Highway | Newport Beach CA**



Looking to...

- **Purchase a home?**
- **Sell your business?**
- **Purchase a new business?**
- **Purchase commercial property?**
- **Lease a location for your business?**

**We are here to help you!
CALL ON US**

JERIES TANNOUS
Commercial and Residential Real Estate
BRE # 00550532
Cell: (650)740-9263

**Specializing in:
Business Brokerage
Commercial Real Estate
Sales & Leasing
Residential Real Estate**