

كنيسة مار نقولا الأنطاكية الأرثوذكسية

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

Antiochian Archdiocese of North America

Diocese of Los Angeles and the West

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His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH, Archbishop
of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

Pastor, V. Rev. Fr. George Baalbaki

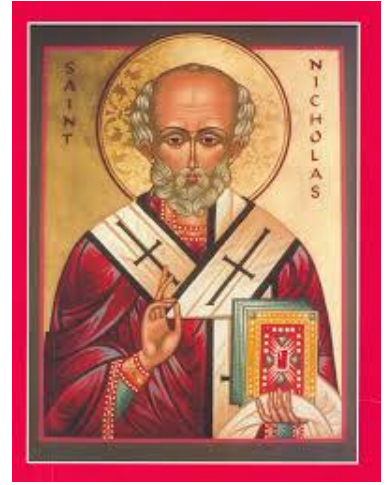
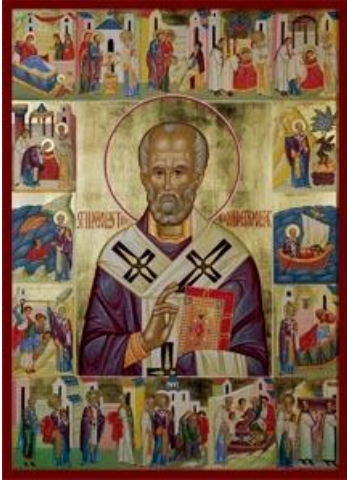
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Pastor Emeritus, V. Rev. Fr. Gregory Ofiesh

Sub-Dn. Michel Khoury

Sub-Dn. Ilyan Baalbaki

Parish Council Chairman: Maher Shami



Sunday, February 25, 2018

First Sunday of Great Lent (Sunday of Orthodoxy)

أحد الأرثوذكسية: الأحد الأوّل من الصوم

Procession of the Holy Icons - Sunday of Orthodoxy

It is customary for the procession of the Holy Icons to take place immediately after the Service.

House Blessings are underway:

If you have not received a phone call from the church office yet, please reach out and contact us to set up a time for a home blessing from Father George. You can also reach him at 586 214 4428

THE EPISTLE: The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (11:24-26, 32-40)

Brethren, by faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to share ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. 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 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: عبرانيين ١١ : ٢٤-٢٦ و ٢٤: ٢٦

يا إخوة، بالإيمان موسى لما كَبُرَ أبى أن يُدعى ابناً لابنة فرعون، مختاراً الشقاء مع شعب الله على التمتع الوقتي بالخطيئة، ومعتبراً عار المسيح غنى أعظم من كنوز مصر، لأنه نظر إلى الثواب. وماذا أقول أيضاً؟ إنه يضيق بي الوقت إن أخبرت عن جدعون وباراق وشمشون ويفتاح وداود وصموئيل والأنبياء الذين بالإيمان قهروا الممالك، وعملوا البر، ونالوا المواعد، وسدوا أفواه الأسود، وأطفأوا حدة النار، ونجوا من حدّ السيف، وتقوّوا من ضعف، وصاروا أشداء في الحرب، وكسروا معسكرات الأجانب، وأخذت نساء أمواتهنّ بالقيامة، وعذب آخرون بتوتير الأعضاء والضرب، ولم يقبلوا بالنجاة ليحصلوا على قيامة أفضل؛ وآخرون ذاقوا الهُزء والجلد والقيود أيضاً والسجن، ورُجموا ونُشروا وامْتُحنوا وماتوا بحدّ السيف، وساحوا في جلود غنم ومعز وهم معوزون مُضايقون مجهودون (ولم يكن العالم مستحقاً لهم)، وكانوا تائهين في البراري والجبال والمغاور وكهوف الأرض. فهؤلاء كلّهم، مشهوداً لهم بالإيمان، لم ينالوا الموعد لأنّ الله سبق فنظر لنا شيئاً أفضل: ألا يكملوا بدوننا.

THE GOSPEL: St. John. (1:43-51)

At that time, Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael, and said to him, "We have found Him of Whom Moses in the Law and also the Prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming to Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" Nathanael said to Jesus, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered Him, "Rabbi, Thou art the Son of God! Thou art the King of Israel!" Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things than these." And Jesus said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."

الإنجيل: يوحنا ١: ٤٣-٥١

في ذلك الزمان أراد يسوع الخروج إلى الجليل، فوجد فيليبس فقال له: اتبعني. وكان فيليبس من بيت صيدا، من مدينة أندراوس وبطرس. فوجد فيليبس نثنائيل فقال له: إن الذي كتبت عنه موسى في الناموس والأنبياء قد وجدناه، وهو يسوع بن يوسف الذي من الناصرة. فقال له نثنائيل: أمة الناصرة يمكن أن يكون شيء صالح؟ فقال له فيليبس: تعال وانظر. فرأى يسوع نثنائيل مقبلاً إليه فقال عنه: هوذا إسرائيلي حقاً لا غش فيه. فقال له نثنائيل: من أين تعرفني؟ أجاب يسوع وقال له: قبل أن يدعوك فيليبس، وأنت تحت التينة رأيتك. أجاب نثنائيل وقال له: يا معلم، أنت ابن الله، أنت ملك إسرائيل. أجاب يسوع وقال له: لأني قلت لك إني رأيتك تحت التينة، أمنت؟ إنك ستعاين أعظم من هذا. وقال له: الحق الحق أقول لكم إنكم من الآن ترون السماء مفتوحة وملائكة الله يصعدون وينزلون على ابن البشر.

Lenten Luncheon

Join us this Sunday. Lenten Luncheon offered by:

Gladys Maalouf and Khouria Eman Baalbaki

Altar Candle Offering:

- ❖ By St. Nicholas Church for the good health of the following: **Juliette Khoury, Chris Atwan, Nabil Khoury, Gisele Turk, and Fouad Jeha**. God bless!
- ❖ By **Nadia, Yousef, Tariq, and Rami Rantisi** for the good health of **Michael Rantisi** on the occasion of his birthday. Many Years!

SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY:

PAN ORTHODOX VESPERS: Sunday February 25th, 2018 at 5 PM at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church. 999 Brotherhood Way, San Francisco, CA. Hosted by His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos of the Greek church.

Deepest Sympathy:

- ❖ And condolences to the **Haitham Madanat** and the **Madanat** family on the passing of his mother **Hind Hanna Madanat**.
- ❖ And condolences to the **Tershay** family on the passing of Reverend Deacon **John Tershay**. May their memory be eternal!

MARCH IS LADIES' MONTH

In keeping with the tradition in our Archdiocese, ladies will show their involvement in the life of the church in the most visible way during the month of March.

They will usher, collect trays, read the Epistle and deliver sermonette...

Our ladies Auxiliary usually prepare a Lenten Luncheon on Sundays. This year they are asking of your help by Donating or preparing food for that purpose.

Food for Hungry:

- ❖ Please pick up a donation box and donate what you can for the poor and needy people during this holy season. The boxes will be collected after Easter.

SAVE THE DATE:

- ❖ **RETREAT: Saturday March, 10th.** A retreat with the great scholar and teacher **Father Paul Tarazi.** First Session 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM: "The Holy Cross in the Bible" Potluck Lunch at 12:30 PM. Second Session 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM: "Biblical Questions and Answers". Book Signing. Free Admission. Donations Accepted. Hope to see you there!
- ❖ **CAMP THREE HOLY YOUTHS: June 18-22nd, 2018 at St. Sava Mission in Jackson, California.** Tuition: \$100 per camper. Register online at www.norcaldeanerycamp.org.

The Services program during the period of Great Lent 2018			برنامج الصلوات خلال فترة الصوم الأربعيني المقدس لعام ٢٠١٨		
Wednesdays	Great Compline Service	7 pm	٧ مساءً	صلاة النوم الكبرى "يا رب القوات"	الإربعاء
Fridays	Akathist Service	7 pm	٧ مساءً	خدمة مديح والدة الاله	الجمعة
Sundays	The Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great	10 am	١٠ صباحاً	القداس الإلهي للقدّيس باسيليوس الكبير	الأحد

❖ 2018 Great Lent

❖ *Lent Period: February 19th – April 8th*

Strict Fast: NO Dairy, Meat, Cheese, Eggs, and Fish

Day	Date	Celebration
Sunday	February 25 th	Sunday of Orthodoxy (Sunday of Icons)
Sunday	March 11 th	Sunday of the Holy Cross
Sunday	March 25 th	Annunciation of the Theotokos (Fish Allowed)
Sunday	April 1 st	Palm Sunday (Fish Allowed)
Friday	April 6 th	Great and Holy Friday
Sunday	April 8 th	GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA

Potted Palms & Easter Flowers

على كل من يرغب بالتبرع من أجل الورود، البخور، النخيل، والزيت، والفحم، والنبيد، للاستعمال في الكنيسة خلال فترة الصوم الكبير، عيد الشعانين، جناز المسيح وعيد الفصح المجيد يرجى كتابة الأسماء

من أجل صحة _____

من أجل راحة نفوس _____

If you would like to offer palms or flowers in memory of a loved one or for a special occasion, please fill out this form and give it to the ushers or one of the Ladies' Society officers.

Your Name _____

For the health of _____

In loving memory of _____

In celebration of _____

Holy Icons Underline Divine Beauty. - Metropolitan Kallistos Ware

Metropolitan Kallistos Ware

Nothing is contemptible that God has made.

All God made is good; that **the whole world is a sacrament of divine presence**. Through material things we can worship God and learn about Him. Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory!

God is present in the icons and also in the Eucharist, but the manner of His presence is different.

Icons safeguard our faith in the fullness of the Incarnation, our faith in the creativity of the human person made according to God's image, our faith in the intrinsic holiness of all material things. God is good – He is Goodness itself. God is true – He is Truth itself. God is beautiful – He is Beauty itself". **Holy icons underline divine beauty**. Beauty is attractive and draws us to itself. Beauty calls to us and draws us to itself. Icons show the attractiveness of God. They are our door to eternity. Icons help us understand the very Glory of God!

An icon is not simply a religious picture designed to arouse appropriate emotions in the beholder; it is one of the ways whereby God is revealed to man. Through icons the Orthodox Christian receives a vision of the spiritual world.

From the book The Orthodox Church by Timothy Ware (Now Bishop Kallistos of Diokleia)

https://iconandlight.wordpress.com/orthodox_greek_icons_blog/



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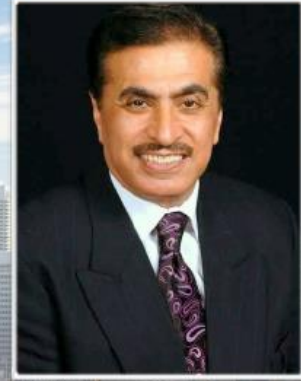
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