

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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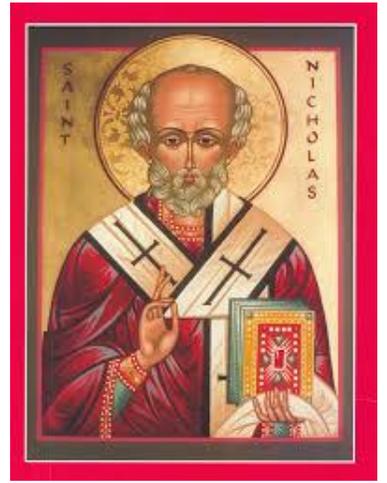
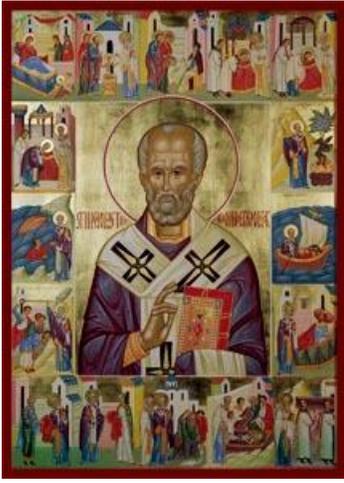
Pastor Emeritus, V. Rev. Fr. **Gregory Ofiesh**

Sub-Dn. **Michel Khoury**

Sub-Dn. **Ilyan Baalbaki**

Parish Council Chairman: **Maher Munib Zabaneh (650) 219-3779**

Parish Council Vice Chairman: **Ramzi Srouji**



February 10, 2019

Sunday of the Canaanite and Hieromartyr Haralambos

أحد الكنعانية والشهيد في الكهنة خارالمبوس (فرح)

Memorial Service Sunday February 17th:

- ❖ Forty Day Memorial Service for the Servant of God **Abdallah Hanna Shami** offered by his family.
- ❖ Six Month Memorial Service for the Servant of God **P.J. Boyle** offered by his family.
- ❖ Nine Day Memorial Service for the Servant of God **Dimitri Alexaieff** offered by his family. May their memory be eternal!

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: St. Paul to St. Timothy. (2:1-10)

Timothy, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus; and what you have heard from me before many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier on service gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to satisfy the one who enlisted him. An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. Think over what I say, for the Lord will grant you understanding in everything. Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descended from David, as preached in my gospel, the gospel for which I am suffering and wearing fetters like a criminal. But the word of God is not fettered. Therefore, I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain salvation in Christ Jesus with its eternal glory.

الرسالة: ٢ تيموثاوس ١: ١-١٠

يا ولدي تيموثاوس تقوّ في النعمة التي في المسيح يسوع وما سمعته منّي لدى شهود كثيرين استودعهُ أناساً أمناء كُفوءاً لأنّ يعلموا آخرين أيضاً. احتمل المشقات كجندي صالح ليسوع المسيح. ليس أحد يتجنّد فيرتبك بهوموم الحياة. وذلك ليُرصي الذي جنّده. وأيضاً إن كان أحد يجاهد فلا ينال الإكليل ما لم يُجاهد جهاداً شرعيّاً. ويجب على الحارث الذي يتعب أن يشترك في الإثمار أولاً. إفهم ما أقول فليؤتكَ الربّ فهمًا في كلّ شيء. أذكر أنّ يسوع المسيح الذي من نسل داود قد قام من بين الأموات على حسب إنجيلي الذي احتمل فيه المشقات حتّى القيود كمجرم، إلا أنّ كلمة الله لا تُقَيّد. فذلِكَ أنا أصبر على كلّ شيء من أجل المختارين لكي يحصلوا هم أيضاً على الخلاص الذي في المسيح يسوع مع المجد الأبديّ.

THE GOSPEL: St. Matthew. (15:21-28)

At that time, Jesus went to the district of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and cried, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely possessed by a demon." But He did not answer her one word. And His disciples came and begged Him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before Him, saying, "Lord, help me." And He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table." Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.

الإنجيل: متى ١٥: ٢١-٢٨

في ذلك الزمان خرج يسوع إلى نواحي صور وصيدا، وإذا بامرأة كنعانية قد خرجت من تلك التخوم وصرخت إليه قائلة: ارحمني يا رب يا ابن داود، فإن ابنتي بها شيطان يُعذبها جداً. فلم يُجبها بكلمة. فدنا تلاميذه وسألوه قائلين: اصرّفها فإنها تصيح في إثرنا. فأجاب وقال لهم: لم أرسل إلا إلى الخراف الضالة من بيت إسرائيل. فأنت وسجدت له قائلة: أغثنّي يا رب. فأجاب قائلاً: ليس حسناً أن يُؤخذ خبز البنين ويُلقى للكلاب. فقالت: نعم يا رب، فإن الكلاب أيضاً تأكل من الفئات الذي يسقط من موائد أربابها. حينئذ أجاب يسوع وقال: يا امرأة، عظيم إيمانك، فليكن لك كما أردت. فشفيّت ابنتها من تلك الساعة.

Teen SOYO Visit to Holy Assumption Monastery:

View pictures of the Teen Soyo's spiritual visit to Holy Assumption Monastery on our facebook at: https://www.facebook.com/pg/stnicksf/photos/?tab=album&album_id=10157204907299994

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS:

- ❖ **ANNUAL VALENTINE PARTY: Saturday February 9th.** Donation: \$100. Includes: Premium Dinner, Open Bar and Mezza. Featuring famous Palestinian singer: **Elias Glyanos**. Doors @ 7:30 PM. Please call to reserve your seats.
- ❖ **YOUNG ADULT CHURCH SERVICE & LUNCH OUTING:** To be held the **2nd and 4th Sundays in February**. First event will be held **Sunday, February 10th, 2019, 11AM @ St. Nicholas Church** and lunch to be followed immediately after Sunday School. Location will be determined. RSVP with Shadi Azar (415) 279-2533
- ❖ **ST. NICHOLAS CRAB FEED: Saturday February 23rd,** Doors open at 7 PM. Please call the church office to reserve at 415 648 5200.
- ❖ **ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH HOLY LAND TOUR:** We are planning a trip to the Holy Land. We will tour many parts of Palestine. **May 29th through June 10th**. If you would like to join us on this trip, please contact the church office. Please reserve by February 24th.
- ❖ **CAMP THREE HOLY YOUTHS: June 16-21st.** campthy.com

Holy Bread of Oblation:

- ❖ Offered by **Almaz Tannous** for the good health of her children **Mike, Hani, Gihan, Christine & their families**. Also in loving memory of **Charles & Asal Tannous, Yosef & Margrit Hanhan, Hanna, Salima, Atlah & George Keishk**. God bless and may their memory be eternal!

Metropolitan Anthony : On Holy Communion

Through living the whole life of the church, and pre-eminently by Communion in the Holy Mysteries, we seek participation in the common life with Christ the Saviour. Living in the church, being the body of Christ in the midst of the world, being the presence of the living Christ incarnate through us, being the lodging place of the Holy Spirit, His Temple, being children of the heavenly Father in the most literal and unconditional sense, this is precisely what we seek, to make our life one with Christ. What does this mean? When we come to Holy Communion we ask and we dream that eternal life, with its light, its joy, and its solemn victory should be actualised in us. And we often forget that on earth Christ's victory was concealed. Yes, the whole fullness of the Godhead dwelt among us physically, but how hidden it was! How much grief of body and soul Christ as a man lived through, how many times people went past Him not seeing God in Him, and only hearing words - for them frighteningly incomprehensible and unacceptable, about such love as we wish for ourselves, but which we are so rarely prepared to give to others. And so, when we partake of the Holy Mysteries, when we wish to live the life of the church, we should remember that we are asking for communion to the whole life of Christ and to His mysterious, deep relationship with the Father; to the breath of the Holy Spirit, and to that eternal, unconquerable purity.

But together with this, we should be prepared to share the fate of the Saviour on earth. He came to His own, and His own did not recognise Him; He preached love, and people ran away from this love in terror, because love demanded the rejection of self. Each of His words was both life and temptation, and therefore a judgement on each man and on the world. And in answer to love, and in answer to the truth, and in answer to the fact that in boundless love God had wished to dwell amidst His people and share all with them, Christ was rejected. But in Him love did not falter. He gave up His life; people thought they were taking it away, but He freely gave it up. We too are called to do the same thing by partaking of the Holy Mysteries, by our communion with the church, by reason of our love towards Christ, feeble though, it may be. And when we shall seek not only heaven, joy and protection, but a fully common life and full communion with Him, and when like Him we shall be ready to carry the cross together with Him - not just what we call our cross, the troubles of life, our personal sorrows, our illnesses, - but His cross which means suffering with all who suffer, with each and all who are perishing in sin: only then will the Saviour's prayer be fulfilled that His joy should be fully realised in us. If we so long for communion with Christ that we are prepared to share His cross on earth, then on earth we shall already have shared in His sonhood and in the victory of love. May the Lord give us courage, may He make us understand that Christ called us to live upon earth as He lived. He did not come to suffer torment for our sake in order that we might live according to our own senseless sinful will. And then our Communion with Him must be full. But we must begin with this, to acquire the mind of Christ on earth. When His disciples asked, begged, prayed that He should grant them to sit on His right hand and on His left hand in the Kingdom of Heaven, He said: "Are you ready to drink of the cup which I shall drink, are you prepared to be plunged into that horror into which I shall be plunged?" And they answered; "Yes, we are." And then the Saviour said these words to them which He still repeats to us when we share the cup of life with Him, He told them. "You shall indeed drink of the cup which I shall drink. You shall indeed be baptised with the baptism wherewith I am baptised, but to judge who shall sit on my right hand and on my left is not given to Me but to the Father." If our love is real, if we love Him, if we have learned from Him how to love, if we could only truly share with Him His whole life beginning with the cross, should we not then understand that it is too soon to begin to think about where we shall sit, whether on His right or His left, whether far or near? And should we not then be able to entrust ourselves with complete confidence in the love of the Lord?

إيمان عظيم

فيما نستعد للمرحلة الطقسية المقبلة التي تُسمى التريودي وتبتدئ بأحد الفريسي والعشائر، تنتصب أمامنا شخصية مذهلة في الإنجيل وهي شخصية المرأة الوثنية الكنعانية الفينيقية التي لما علمت باقتراب السيد في نواحي صور وصيدا خرجت من بلادها إلى وجهه. المسيح لم يدخل إلى صور وصيدا لأنهما كانتا وثنيتين، ولكنه اقترب منهما، فخرجت المرأة إليه لأنها كانت بحاجة إليه وكان قلبها إلى ابنتها المريضة وسمعت بأن نبيا جديدا ظهر في إسرائيل يحنّ على المرضى. أنت وطلبت إليه ان ينحني على وضعها.

كلّمت المرأة يسوع فلم يُجبها لأن الكنعانيين كانوا نجسين في نظر اليهود لأهم يعبدون آلهة كثيرة. ولما استنكف السيد عن تليبتها، ظلت تطلب حتى ألحّ التلاميذ عليه بالاستماع إليها، وإذ به يقول لها هذه الجملة القاسية: «انا لم أرسل الا إلى الخراف الضالة من بني اسرائيل». ومعنى ذلك ان المخلص كان ينبغي في حياته بالجسد أن يحصر كرازته في حدود «المؤمنين بالله». وبعد موته وقيامته فقط تخرج الرسالة من اورشليم إلى العالم من خلال التلاميذ. اما هو فلا يمسّ الوثنيين أثناء وجوده على الأرض ولا يتعاطاهم. ولكنه إذا أهرق دمه على الصليب وانفجر ضياؤه من القبر في اليوم الثالث، فإن النور سوف يأتي ويشمل العالم بأسره. حاول السيد أن يشرح ذلك للمرأة الكنعانية، ولكنها ألحّت عليه أكثر فأكثر. فقسا عليها أكثر من قبل وقال لها: «لا يؤخذ خبز البنين ويُلقى للكلاب». في العهد القديم «الكلاب» نعتٌ أطلق على الذين لا يعبدون الله الواحد ويُعتبرون نجسين. لا شك ان السيد دخل في حوار سرّي معها لا نعرف فحواه، ولكننا نعرف جواب المرأة كما ورد في إنجيل متى لما صدها يسوع صدها أخيرا وقال لها انه لا شأن له معها ومع شعبها ولا علاقة لعبادة الله بعبادة الوثن. أجابت هي قائلة: «نعم يا سيّد، ولكن الكلاب تأكل من فتات الخبز الذي يسقط من موائد أربابها».

وكانها تضيف: تريدنا كلابا وتريد ربك ربا واحدا أحد، وتريد بني شعبك بنين وهدم لإلهك. انت على حق، وانا أقبل ان أكون معدودة بين الكلاب. ولكنكم اذا كنتم قريبين من هذا الإله وتتمتعون بأنعامه وأفضاله وكلماته وتعزياته ووصاياه وحقيقته، إن كنتم متربّعين حول مائدة الرب وتتنعمون وتُسرفون، تبقى هذه الكسر من الخبز. نحن مستعدّون لالتقاطها عسى أن تُشفى. عرفت الكنعانية أن الذي يُكلّمها عنده الحياة وأن ابنتها المريضة بحاجة إلى الحياة. إن شفاء الانسان يكلفه تواضعا كبيرا وانسحاقا أمام الله، ولهذا نزلت الكنعانية إلى الأرض وانكسر قلبها حتى النهاية.

ولما رأى يسوع هذه النفس العظيمة وهذا الإيمان العظيم، كسر القانون وهو انه لم يُرسل إلى الخراف الضالة من خارج اسرائيل. صار قلبه القانون فاجتاز المسافة بين اسرائيل والوثنيين وشفيت ابنتها من تلك الساعة.

قلب المسيح يتسع لكل قلب، وإذا انكسرت القلوب فإنها داخلة إلى قلب الله كما قال القديس يوحنا الانجيلي في رسالته الأولى: «الله أعظم من قلوبنا» (٣: ٢٠).

المطران جاورجيوس

SAINT NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH BANQUET HALL

The Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church Banquet Hall, is the perfect venue for your next wedding reception, baptism, graduation, birthday, or conference. We offer a range of professional banquet and catering services for making any event a very personal experience for our community. Our vast and eclectic menu showcases a variety of banquet menu options and premium beverages. Our friendly and professionally trained staff will work with you to identify your needs, budget and develop the perfect event for you.

For more information contact our Church office at (415) 648-5200 or info@stnicholas-sf.com



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Salim Qaru: 650 642 0168

Maurice Kari: 650 455 1600

Elias Batshon: 650 580 7185

Jeries Azar: 415 710 0456

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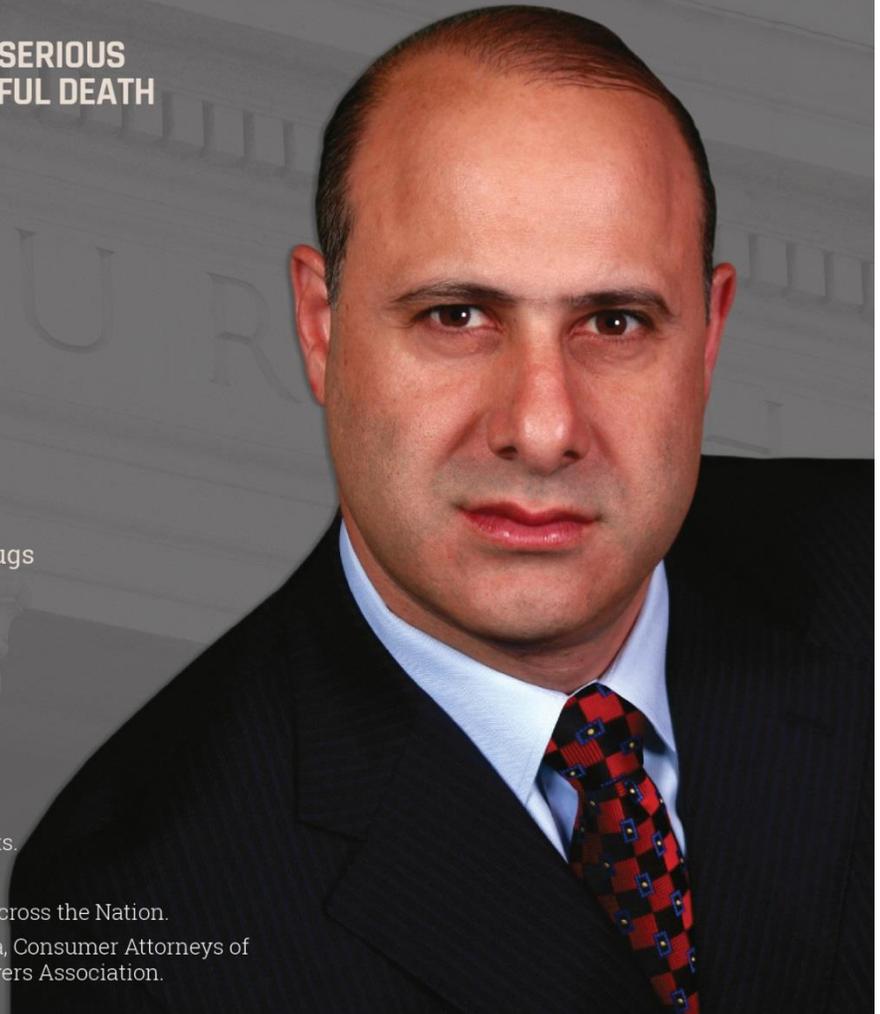
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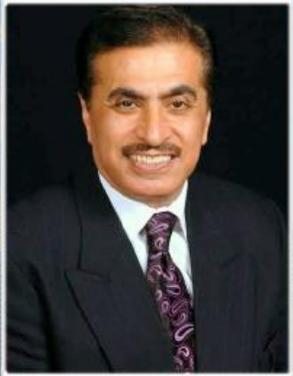
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