

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

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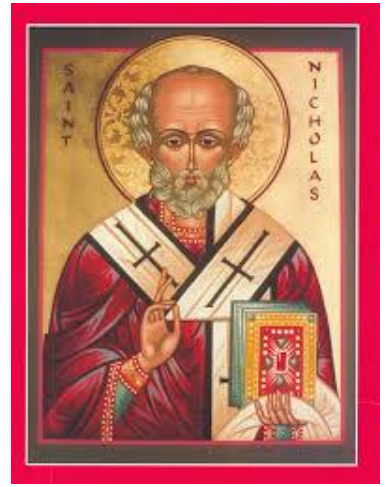
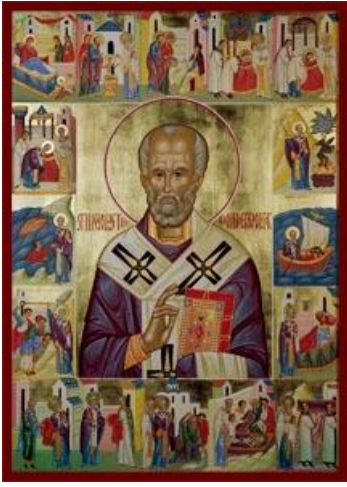
Pastor Emeritus, V. Rev. Fr. **Gregory Ofiesh**

Sub-Dn. **Michel Khoury**

Sub-Dn. **Ilyan Baalbaki**

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

Parish Council Vice Chairman: **Ramzi Srouji**



Sunday, March 10, 2019

Sunday of Forgiveness (Cheese Fare)

أحد مرفع الجبن - الغفران

Memorial Service:

- ❖ Forty Day Memorial Service for the Servant of God **Dimitri Alexaieff**
offered by his family. May his memory be eternal!

THE EPISTLE: St. Paul to the Romans. (13:11-14:4)

Brethren, salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. As for the man who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not for disputes over opinions. One believes he may eat anything, while the weak man eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who abstains, and let not him who abstains pass judgment on him who eats; for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Master is able to make him stand.

الرسالة: رومية ١٣ : ١١-١٤ ، ١٤ : ١-٤

يا إخوة إن خلاصنا الآن أقرب مما كان حين آمنّا. قد تناهى الليل واقترب النهار فلندع عنا أعمال الظلمة ونلبس أسلحة النور. لنسلكن سلوكًا لائقًا كما في النهار، لا بالقصوف والسكر ولا بالمضاجع والعهر ولا بالخصام والحسد، بل البسوا الرب يسوع المسيح ولا تهتموا بأجسادكم لقضاء شهواتها. من كان ضعيفًا في الإيمان فاتخذوه بغير مباحثة في الآراء. من الناس من يعتقد أن له أن يأكل كل شيء، أما الضعيف فيأكل بقولاً. فلا يزدري الذي يأكل من لا يأكل، ولا يدين الذي لا يأكل من يأكل، فإن الله قد اتّخذ من أنت يا من تدين عبدًا أجنبيًّا؟ إنه لمولاه يثبت أو يسقط، لكنه سيثبت لأن الله قادر على أن يثبت.

الإنجيل: متى ٦ : ١٤-٢١

قال الرب: إن غفرتُم للناس زلاتهم يغفر لكم أوبؤكم السماوي أيضًا، وإن لم تغفروا للناس زلاتهم فأوبؤكم أيضًا لا يغفر لكم زلاتكم. ومتى صمتتم فلا تكونوا معبسين كالمرائين فإنهم يُنكرون وجوههم ليظهروا للناس صائمين. الحق أقول لكم إنهم قد استوفوا أجرهم. أما أنت فإذا صمت فادهن رأسك واغسل وجهك لئلا تظهر للناس صائمًا بل لأبيك الذي في الخفية، وأبوك الذي يرى في الخفية يُجازيك علانية. لا تكنزوا لكم كنوزًا على الأرض حيث يُفسد السوس والأكلة وينقب السارقون ويسرقون، لكن اكنزوا لكم كنوزًا في السماء حيث لا يُفسد سوس ولا أكلة ولا ينقب السارقون ولا يسرقون، لأنه حيث تكون كنوزكم هناك تكون قلوبكم.

THE GOSPEL: St. Matthew. (6:14-21)

The Lord said to His Disciples: If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father Who is in secret; and your Father Who sees in secret will reward you. Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

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 prepares a Lenten Luncheon on Sundays. This year they are asking for your help by donating or preparing food.

Cheese Fare Sunday Luncheon

Join us this Sunday. Cheese Fare Luncheon offered by:

Janet Azar, Elham Azar, Basma Hawal, Mery Skef, and Barjet Rantisi.

Thank you for all your hard work!

This Sunday's Readers: Sermonette: Nahil Hanhan

❖ Epistle Reader Arabic: Gladys Maalouf

❖ Epistle Reader English: Patricia Arango

The Services program during the period of Great Lent 2019			برنامج الصلوات خلال فترة الصوم الأربعيني المقدس لعام ٢٠١٩		
Wednesdays	Great Compline Service	7 pm	٧ مساءً	خدمة 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	11 am	١١ صباحاً	القداس الإلهي للقديس باسيليوس الكبير	الأحد

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.

Altar Candle Offering:

- ❖ Offered by **Janan, Jim, Jennifer, Brandon and Matthew Howell, Jane and Oscar Moran** for the good health of **Nadim and Basma Howell** on the occasion of their wedding anniversary of 59 years on March 6th. God bless and many more years!

2019 Great Lent

Lent Period: March 11th – April 28th

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

Day	Date	Celebration
Sunday	March 10 th	Forgiveness Sunday (Cheesefare Sunday)
Monday	March 11th	FIRST MONDAY of GREAT LENT
Sunday	March 17 th	Sunday of Orthodoxy
Monday	March 25 th	Annunciation of the Theotokos (Fish Allowed)
Sunday	March 31 st	Sunday of the Holy Cross
Sunday	April 21 st	Palm Sunday (Fish Allowed)
Friday	April 26 th	Great and Holy Friday
Sunday	April 28th	GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS:

- ❖ **YOUNG ADULT CHURCH SERVICE & LUNCH OUTING:** Sunday, March 10th & Sunday March 24th @ 11AM @ St. Nicholas Church and lunch to be followed immediately after Sunday School. Location will be determined. RSVP with Shadi Azar (415) 279-2533
- ❖ **SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS AND STAFF PARTICIPATION IN THE PROCESSIONS DURING LENT SEASON:** Sunday School students and staff are asked to stay in church after communion to participate in the following processions, classes would resume as normal after the procession. **Sunday, March 17th - Holy Icons Procession.**
Sunday, March 31st - Holy Cross Procession
- ❖ **ANTIOCHIAN TEEN SOYO LENTEN RETREAT:** Hosted by Holy Virgin Martyr Antiochian Orthodox Church. **March 23rd 2019 12:00 PM – 7:00 PM. \$10 includes lunch and dinner.** Keynote Speaker: **Father Paul Baba.** Come enjoy a fun day with your fellow Teen Soyo Members. 3060 Jefferson Blvd. W. Sacramento, CA 95691. For more info, contact Ilyan Baalbaki at (586) 604 5331.
- ❖ **ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST LENTEN RETREAT:** Saturday March 23rd 9:30 AM – 3:00 PM. No charge but donations are welcome. 501 Moraga Way, Orinda, CA
- ❖ **2019 CREATIVE ARTS FESTIVAL:** 2019 Creative Arts Festival Theme: Antiochian Village (AV) Past, Present, & Future. (*"I Can Do All Things Through Christ, Who Strengthens Me"* Philippians 4:13.) Main Website : <http://www.antiochian.org/festivals/cf>
Due Date for Submission: Sunday, March 24th to the Sunday School teachers.
Attention Sunday School Students and Parents: We will be preparing arts submissions for the Creative Arts Festival for the 2019 Parish Life Conference (<https://antiochianevents.com/la.html>). It is important that ALL students be present in Sunday School every Sunday during the months of February and March to participate and complete their projects. Students may take their projects and work on them on their own time as well.
- ❖ **CAMP THREE HOLY YOUTHS:** June 16-21st. campthy.com
- ❖ **2019 BIBLE BOWL:** 2019 Bible Bowl : St Paul's Letters to the Ephesians, Philippians, and Colossians. Main Website : <https://orthodoxyouth.org/bible-bowl/>
** We are seeking members to join the Bible Bowl Team Divisions; Juniors (ages: 13-15) , Seniors (ages:16-18) and Adults (ages: 18 and over). For those who would like to participate in this year's Bible Bowl and be part of the St. Nicholas Bible Bowl teams, please see Fr. George Baalbaki or Tariq Rantisi for more details.

Metropolitan Anthony: SUNDAY OF FORGIVENESS

After these weeks of preparation during which we have examined our soul, our lives, all our relationship before the eyes and the judgment of God, we enter today into the joy of Lent; the joy of Lent. The word 'lent' means the spring; it is a beginning, and a beginning of life, a beginning of newness, a new time. It is a time when we will no longer be reminded of our own sins, no longer be confronted with images in parables of fall and repentance, but faced with the names of Saints who have started their lives as we start them: the frail, weak, vacillating, but who by the grace of God, by the power of God have become what they are: men, women, children whom we can venerate, in whom we can rejoice, who can be set as examples to us, to whom we can turn for their prayers unto salvation.

Tonight we will start on this journey; on the journey that leads us from our sinful condition, recognized, repentant unto a new time, unto the Resurrection of Christ which is the beginning for us of our own eternal life. We will start on this journey to-night as the people of Israel started from the land of Egypt for the Promised Land: still frail, still burdened, still incompletely free. But it is not by looking back at ourselves, but by looking towards the Living God Who is Life and salvation, and to the example of those who have been victorious by the power of God that we will find courage, inspiration to come to the final victory, to the newness of life which is our calling and God's promise. We will have to journey together, and we must not be in any delusion: we will be difficult for one another as companions on the journey; but we will depend on one another if we want to achieve to come to an end, — in the same way in which the Israelites were in the desert: not always obedient to God, not always loyal to one another, and yet, needing each other in order to reach the promised goal.

So, let us start now; let us think of the feast which we keep next Sunday: Triumph of Orthodoxy. It is not the triumph of the Orthodox over anyone else; it is the triumph of God over people. The triumph of His truth, the triumph of God in the lives of people.

And then, let us look at one saint after the other, and listen to what he has got to say to us: Gregory Palamas, John of the Ladder, Mary of Egypt and all those who have followed in the footsteps of Christ. And we will then reach the point at which we must forget everyone and everything, and remember nothing, no one but the Lord Jesus Christ: what He is, what He has done for us, what He is doing for us. Let us learn to forget ourselves in the course of those weeks, joyfully, gratefully, that we can now turn away from ourselves and look only Godward. And when the time of Passion week comes, again, in a new way, with a new determination, with a new renunciation to ourselves, turn and look at God Who has become man that we may be saved, and be grateful, forget ourselves, remember only Him and He will remember us unto salvation.

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



Banquet Hall Amenities

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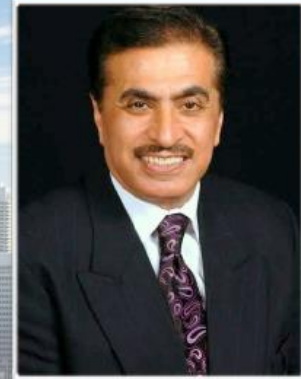
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