

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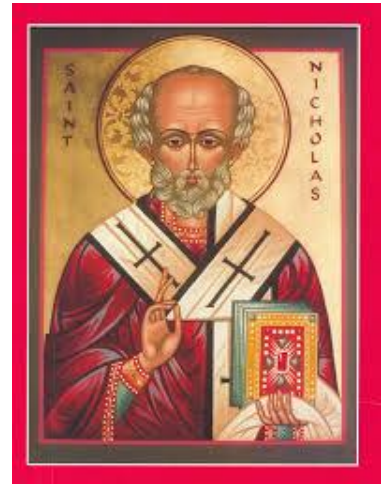
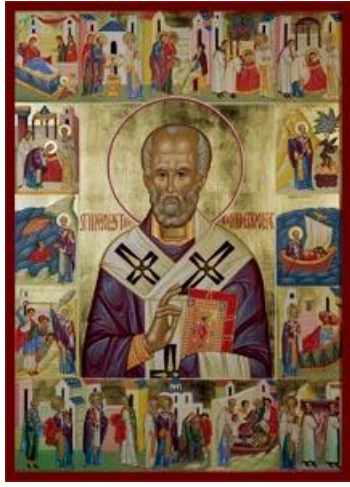
Pastor Emeritus, V. Rev. Fr. **Gregory Ofiesh**

Sub-Dn. **Michel Khoury**

Sub-Dn. **Ilyan Baalbaki**

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

Parish Council Vice Chairman: **Ramzi Srouji**



**Sunday, June 23, 2019**

**All Saints Sunday**

أحد جميع القديسين

**Memorial Service Next Sunday, June 30<sup>th</sup>:**

- ❖ Six Month Memorial Service for the Servant of God  
**Abdallah Hanna Shami** offered by his family.
- ❖ One Year Memorial Service for the Servant of God  
**Sami Ibrahim Batshoun** offered by his family.

May their memory be eternal!

**THE EPISTLE: Hebrews. (11:33-40; 12:1-2)**

Brethren, all the saints 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, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so 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 tempted, 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. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfection of our faith.

**الرسالة: عبرانيين 11: 33-40; 12: 1-2**

يا إخوة إن القديسين أجمعين بالإيمان قهروا الممالك وعملوا البرّ ونالوا المواعد وسدّوا أفواه الأسود، وأطفأوا حدّة النار ونجوا من حدّ السيف وتقوّوا من ضعف وصاروا أشداء في الحرب وكسروا معسكرات الأجنبيّ، وأخذت نساء أمواتهن بالقيامة، وعُدّب آخرون بتوتير الأعضاء والضرب، ولم يقبلوا بالنجاة ليحصلوا على قيامة أفضل، وآخرون ذاقوا الهزء والجلد والقيود أيضا والسجن، ورُجموا ونُشروا وامْتَحِنُوا وماتوا بحدّ السيف، وساحوا في جلود غنم ومعزّ وهم مُعَوِّزون مُضايِقون مَجْهُودون، ولم يكن العالم مستحقا لهم، فكانوا تائهين في البراري والجبال والمغاور وكهوف الأرض. فهؤلاء كلهم، مشهودا لهم بالإيمان، لم ينالوا الموعد لأن الله سبق فنظر لنا شيئا أفضل أن لا يكْمُلُوا بدوننا. فنحن أيضا إذ يُحَدِّق بنا مثل هذه السحابة من الشهود فلنلقِ عنا كل ثقلٍ والخطيئة المحيطة بسهولة بنا، ولنسابق بالصبر في الجهاد الذي أمامنا، ناظرين إلى رئيس الإيمان ومكْمَله يسوع.

## **THE GOSPEL: St. Matthew. (10:32-33, 37-38; 19:27-30)**

The Lord said to his disciples, "Everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven; but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven." "He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and he who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me." Then Peter said in reply, "Lo, we have left everything and followed you. What then shall we have?" Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of man shall sit on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for my name's sake, will receive a hundred-fold, and inherit eternal life. But many that are first will be last, and the last first."

**الإنجيل: متى 10: 32-33 و 37-38 و 19: 27-30**

قال الرب لتلاميذه: كل من يعترف بي قدام الناس اعترف انا به قدام ابي الذي في السموات. ومن ينكرني قدام الناس انكره انا قدام ابي الذي في السموات. من احب ابا او اما اكثر مني فلا يستحقني، ومن احب ابنا او بنتا اكثر مني فلا يستحقني. ومن لا يأخذ صليبه ويتبعني فلا يستحقني. فأجاب بطرس وقال له: هوذا نحن قد تركنا كل شيء وتبعناك، فماذا يكون لنا؟ فقال لهم يسوع: الحق أقول لكم إنكم أنتم الذين تبعتموني في جيل التجديد، متى جلس ابن البشر على كرسي مجده، تجلسون أنتم أيضا على اثني عشر كرسيًا تدينون أسباط إسرائيل الاثني عشر. وكل من ترك بيوتا أو إخوة أو أخوات أو أبا أو أما أو امرأة أو أولادًا أو حقولاً من أجل اسمي يأخذ مئة ضعف ويرث الحياة الأبدية. وكثيرون أولون يكونون آخريين وآخرون يكونون أولين.

### **Altar Candle Offering:**

- ❖ Offered by the **Atwan** family for the good health of **Christopher Atwan** on the occasion of his birthday on June 24<sup>th</sup>. God bless and many years!

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS:**

- ❖ **PARISH LIFE CONFERENCE OF LOS ANGELES AND THE WEST:** The annual PLC will take place this year on July 3<sup>rd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> in San Diego area. For more info please go to <https://antiochianevents.com/la.html>
- ❖ **ST. NICHOLAS ANNUAL PICNIC:** Sunday July 14<sup>th</sup> at Hanna Winery at 5353 Occidental Rd, Santa Rosa, CA 95401. **DIVINE LITURGY CHURCH SERVICE WILL BE HELD AT THE WINERY AT 11 AM! Donation: \$25 Adults. \$10 Children 12 & Under. Food, live music, pool, great company.** We will have a bus leaving from the church to transport those who are unable to drive. There will be limited capacity so please call us in advance to reserve a seat.
- ❖ **ANTIOCHIAN ARCHDIOCESE NATIONAL CONVENTION:** The national convention of our Archdiocese will take place on July 21<sup>st</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> in Grand Rapids, MI. For more info please visit: <https://ac2019gr.org/>
- ❖ **ST. NICHOLAS FAMILY NIGHT SPONSORED BY THE LADIES AUXILIARY:** Friday August 16<sup>th</sup> More info to come.
- ❖ **ST. NICHOLAS ANNUAL FOOD FESTIVAL:** September 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>. More info to come.

### **Sayings From The Saints Of The Church:**

"You cannot be too gentle, too kind. Shun even to appear harsh in your treatment of each other. Joy, radiant joy, streams from the face of him who gives and kindles joy in the heart of him who receives. All condemnation is from the devil. Never condemn each other. We condemn others only because we shun knowing ourselves. When we gaze at our own failings, we see such a swamp that nothing in another can equal it. That is why we turn away, and make much of the faults of others. Instead of condemning others, strive to reach inner peace. Keep silent, refrain from judgement. This will raise you above the deadly arrows of slander, insult and outrage and will shield your glowing hearts against all evil." —St Seraphim

## **Metropolitan Anthony: ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**

The Mother of God and the Saints whose memory we keep today, those who are known to us because God has revealed them, and because they have been understood and recognised, either by their contemporaries, or years, at times - centuries later, all the Saints are the response of the earth to the love of God. And this response is given by them not only in their own name but in the name of all creation and in our names also; because each of us has the privilege to be called by one name, our Christian name, the name of one of those Saints. And the Saints whose names are ours stand before God and pray that their name should not be made unworthy in the eyes of the Lord. The Saints of God embrace the whole of Creation in their love, in their intercession, in their prayer, in their real, continuous presence. How wonderful it is that we belong to this vast family of men, of women, of children who have understood what the Lord meant when He came, and lived, taught and died for us! They responded with their own heart, they understood with all their mind, and they accepted His message with all their determination, to overcome in themselves all that have been the cause of the crucifixion; because if only one person on earth had strayed, fallen away from God, Christ would have come to save at the cost of His life. This is His own testimony to a Saint of the early centuries who had been praying that the sinners should be confounded; and He appeared to him, and said, Never pray that way! If one sinner have existed, I would have died for him...

The Saints are people who responded to love by love, people who realised that if someone can die for them, their only response of gratitude is to become such that he should not have died in vain. To take up our cross means exactly this: to turn away from all those things which are Christ's death and crucifixion, from all those things which surrounded Christ with hatred and lack of understanding. We are all free to do this, more than those who lived in His time because they could be mistaken in Him in those days; but in our days, after two thousand years, when we can read the Gospels, and see emerging from the story the stature, the Person of Christ, when we have got millions of witnesses that tell us that He truly gave His life for us, and that the only response we can give is to give our lives for one another in His name - how can't we respond?

Let us therefore, on this day make a new resolve: to listen in the way in which they listened, with all their heart, all their mind, all their will, all their self to see what happened, to hear what He said, to respond by gratitude and by determination. And then, if we offer this little to God - our gratitude and our good will - the strength, the power for us also to grow into the stature which God has willed, dreamt for us, - the power will be of God; as He had said, My strength deploys itself in weakness, My grace sufficeth... And Paul, who knew that, added, in another passage, All things are possible unto us in the power of Christ Who sustains us... There is no doubt: we can, if we only will allow God to save, to carry us from earth to heaven.

Let us make a new start, so that the Saints whose names we wear should rejoice in us, so that the Mother of God Who gave Her Son unto death that we may respond, that we may understand, that we may be saved should rejoice, and that Christ should see that it is not in vain that He lived, taught, and died. Let us be His glory, a light; it may be a small light, just like a small candle, it may be a bright light as one of the great Saints - but let us be a light that lights the world and makes it less dark! Let us be joy so that others may learn to rejoice in the Lord.

# ST. Nicholas CHURCH PICNIC

## Hanna Winery

Sunday July 14th

**DIVINE LITURGY CHURCH SERVICE WILL BE  
HELD AT THE WINERY AT 11 AM!**

**Address: 5353 Occidental Rd, Santa Rosa, CA 95401**

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Transportation will be provided to those unable to drive. Seating is limited so please reserve in advance by calling the church office.

# 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](mailto:info@stnicholas-sf.com)



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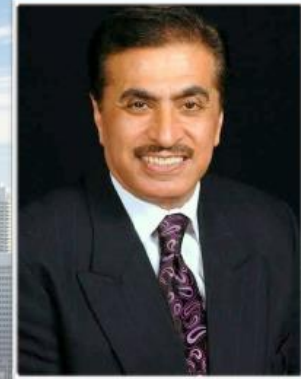
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