

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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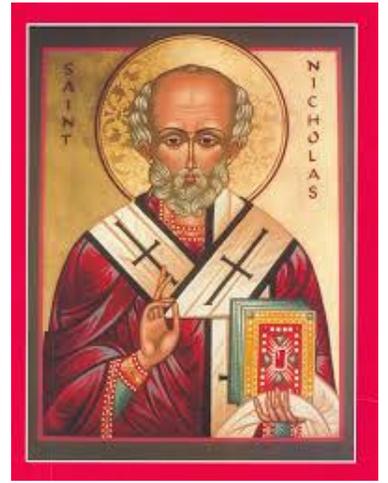
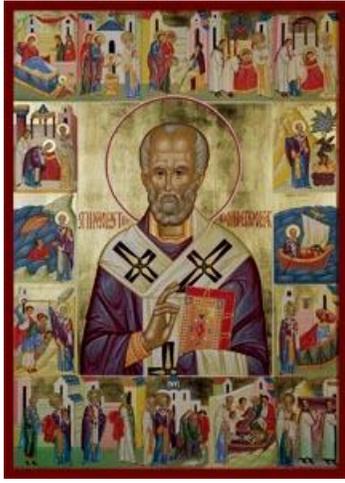
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Sub-Dn. **Michel Khoury**

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Parish Council Vice Chairman: **Ramzi Srouji**



September 22, 2019

THE EPISTLE: St. Paul to the Corinthians. (1:21-2:4)

Brethren, it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has commissioned us; He has put his seal upon us and given us His Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. But I call God to witness against me—it was to spare you that I refrained from coming to Corinth. Not that we lord it over your faith; we work with you for your joy, for you stand firm in your faith. For I made up my mind not to make you another painful visit. For if I cause you pain, who is there to make me glad but the one whom I have pained? And I wrote as I did, so that when I came I might not suffer pain from those who should have made me rejoice, for I felt sure of all of you, that my joy would be the joy of you all. For I wrote you out of much affliction and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to cause you pain but to let you know the abundant love that I have for you.

الرسالة: ٢ كورنثوس ١: ٢٤-٢١ و ٢: ١-٤ يا إخوة، إن الذي يثبتنا معكم في المسيح وقد مسحنا هو الله، الذي ختمنا أيضاً وأعطى عربون الروح في قلوبنا. وإني أستشهد الله على نفسي أنني لإشفاقي عليكم لم آت أيضاً إلى كورنثوس، لا لأننا نسود على إيمانكم بل نحن أعوان سروركم لأنكم ثابتون على الإيمان. وقد جزمتم بهذا في نفسي ألا آتيكم أيضاً في غم، لأنني إن كنت أغمكم فمن الذي يسرني غير من أسبب له الغم؟ وإنما كتبت لكم هذا بعينه لئلا ينالني عند قدومي غم ممن كان ينبغي أن أفرح بهم. وإني لو اتق بجميعةكم أن فرحي هو فرح جميعكم. فإنني من شدة كآبة وكرب قلب كتبت إليكم بدموع كثيرة، لا لتغتموا بل لتعرفوا ما عندي من المحبة بالأكثر لكم.

الإنجيل: لوقا ٥: ١-١١ في ذلك الزمان فيما يسوع واقف عند بحيرة جنيسارت، رأى سفينتين واقفتين عند شاطئ البحيرة وقد انحدر منهما الصيادون يغسلون الشباك. فدخل إحدى السفينتين وكانت لسمعان، وسأله أن يتباعد قليلاً عن البر، وجلس يعلم الجموع من السفينة. ولما فرغ من الكلام قال لسمعان: تَقَدَّمْ إلى العمق وألقوا شباككم للصيد. فأجاب سمعان وقال له: يا معلم إنا قد تعبنا الليل كله ولم نضب شيئاً، ولكن بكلمتك ألقى الشبكة. فلما فعلوا ذلك احتازوا من السمك شيئاً كثيراً حتى تحرقت شبكتهم. فأشاروا إلى شركائهم في السفينة الأخرى أن يأتوا ويعاونوهم. فأتوا وملأوا السفينتين حتى كادتتا تغرقان. فلما رأى ذلك سمعان بطرس خر عند ركبتي يسوع قائلاً: اخرج عني يا رب فإنني رجل خاطئ، لأن الانذهال اعتراه هو وكل من معه لصيد السمك الذي أصابوه، وكذلك يعقوب ويوحنا ابنا زبدي اللذان كانا رفيقين لسمعان. فقال يسوع لسمعان: لا تخف فإنك من الآن تكون صائداً للناس. فلما بلغوا بالسفينتين إلى البر تركوا كل شيء وتبعوه.

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS:

- ❖ **ST. NICHOLAS ANNUAL FOOD FESTIVAL: September 28th & 29th.** Food, Dancing, Raffle to win a 2019 Nissan. Raffle Donation: \$50. 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 to 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. We will be making:
September 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th: Grape leaves, stuffed zucchini, & eggplant.
- ❖ **FALL GATHERING:** Hosted by Saint Peter and Saint Paul Orthodox Church, 9980 Hwy 9, Ben Lomond, CA 95005. **October 25th-27th.**

CHURCH & COMMUNITY ANNUAL FESTIVALS:

- ❖ St. John the Evangelist (Orinda): **September 21st & 22nd**
- ❖ St. George Orthodox Cathedral (Daly City): **September 21st & 22nd**
- ❖ **St. Nicholas Church (San Francisco, Fr. George Baalbaki): September 28th & 29th.**

Pledge Reminder:

- ❖ **We would like to remind you to honor your pledge.** The annual pledge for the members of our church is \$600 per family or \$300 per individual. Your support is truly needed and appreciated and it helps fulfill our commitment. God bless!



THE MIRACULOUS CATCH OF FISH. Luke 5:1-11.

Blessed Theophylact of Ochrid

The Lord flees glory, which all the more pursues Him. When the crowd pressed against Him, He entered the boat, so that from the boat He could teach those standing on the shore, and everyone would be in front of Him, rather than some coming towards Him from behind. And when He had finished teaching the people, He did not leave the owner of the boat without payment, but gave him a two-fold benefit: He bestowed on him an abundance of fish, and He made him His disciple. Marvel at how wisely the Lord arranges our salvation, drawing to Himself each one by means of the things that are his own and with which he is familiar. As He had attracted the Magi with a star, so now He draws the fishermen by means of fish. Behold the gentleness of Christ, how He does not command, but requests, that Peter put out from land. Behold also the obedience of Peter, how he welcomes into his boat a man whom he did not know, and obeys Him in everything. When the Lord tells him to launch out into the deep, Peter does not become exasperated and leave Him, nor does he reply, "I have toiled the whole night and gained nothing, and now I should obey you and do it all again?" Peter said nothing like this, but instead, *At Thy word I will let down the net*. Such was the warmth of his trust even before he had faith. And he caught so great a number of fish that he was not able to haul them in, and he beckoned to his companions in the other boat. He calls them with a signal, because his astonishment at the catch was so great that he could not even speak. Out of great reverence for Jesus, Peter begs Him not to remain in the boat, and calls himself a sinner who is not worthy to be with Him. You may also understand these things in a spiritual sense. The boat is the synagogue of the Jews. Peter represents the teachers of the law. For the teachers of the law also toiled the whole night before Christ came (the time before Christ's sojourning on earth was indeed night) and took in nothing. But when Christ came, and it became day, the teachers of the law were replaced by the Apostles who, at His word, that is, at His command, let down the net of the Gospel in which they caught so great a number of men that the Apostles could not haul in the catch by themselves. And so they beckon to their partners and companions and together pull in the net. These are the pastors and teachers of the Church in every generation who teach and interpret the words of the Apostles, laboring with the Apostles to catch mankind. Consider also the words, *Let down the net*. The net is the Gospel: like the fisherman's net, which is a lowly and commonplace thing, the Gospel is composed of humble, everyday words which reach down and condescend to the simplicity of the people. This is why it is said that the net is let down. If anyone should say that letting down the net also indicates the depth of meaning of the Gospel, neither would he be off the mark. Therefore the words of the prophet have also been fulfilled, *Behold, I will send many fishermen, saith the Lord, and they shall fish for them; and afterward I will send many hunters, and they shall hunt for them* (Jer. 16:16). The fishermen are the holy Apostles, and the hunters are the leaders and teachers of the Church in each generation.

St. Nicholas Church

24th Annual Middle Eastern Festival



September
28th & 29th

Raffle
to Win a CAR



Local Vendors



Delicious
Mediterranean
Food & Sweets

Church Tour

Debkeh
Performance



Kids Activity
Center



Live Music
by well-known Bay area Singers



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25th Annual Middle Eastern Food Festival



St John Antiochian Orthodox Church
501 Moraga Way in Orinda, CA

Sat. Sep 21, 2019 11am - 8pm
Sun. Sep 22, 2019 12pm - 7pm

Live music from the great Rami Kaileh
Grand Prize Drawing ~ Delicious Food ~ Authentic Sweets
Children's Activities ~ Cultural Center ~ Vendor Booths
Henna Garden

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

- Over 6000 square feet
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- Bar available
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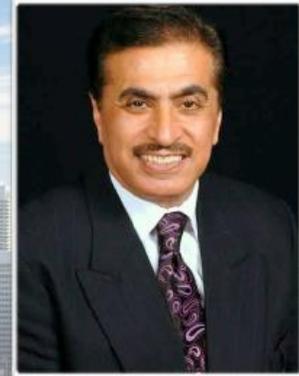
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