

كنيسة مار نقولا الأنطاكية الأرثوذكسية

**St. Nicholas Orthodox Church**

Antiochian Archdiocese of North America

Diocese of Los Angeles and the West

5200 Diamond Hts. Boulevard, San Francisco, CA 94131

Tel: (415) 648-5200

Email: [info@stnicholas-sf.com](mailto:info@stnicholas-sf.com)--website:[stnicholas-sf.com](http://stnicholas-sf.com)

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

Pastor, V. Rev. Fr. **George Baalbaki**

(586) 214-4428 [revbaalbaki@yahoo.com](mailto:revbaalbaki@yahoo.com)

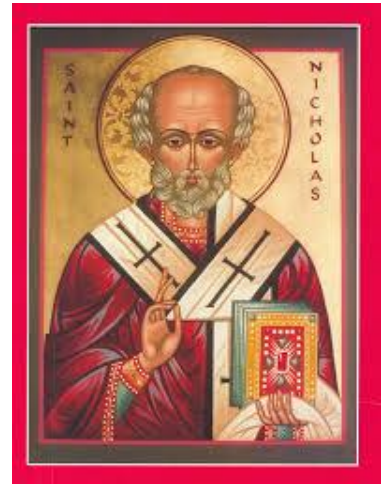
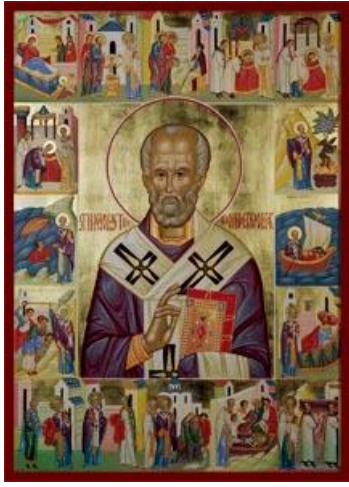
Pastor Emeritus, V. Rev. Fr. **Gregory Ofiesh**

Sub-Dn. **Michel Khoury**

Sub-Dn. **Ilyan Baalbaki**

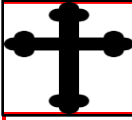
Parish Council Chairman: **Maher Munib Zabaneh (650) 219-3779**

Parish Council Vice Chairman: **Ramzi Srouji**

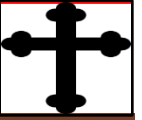


**Sunday, November 17, 2019**

Gregory the wonderworker, bishop of Neo-Caesarea



**Memorial Service:** Three and Nine Day Memorial Service for the Handmaiden  
of God **Faika Zughbaba** offered by her family. May her memory be eternal!



**NATIVITY FAST: November 15<sup>th</sup> - December 24<sup>th</sup>** We would like to  
wish you a happy Advent season!

Nativity Fast (Advent) is the period preceding the Christmas season in  
which we abstain from meat and dairy products. Eating fish is allowed  
except Wednesdays and Fridays, and we can eat all the regular meals like  
breakfasts, lunches, and dinners. The purpose of this fast is seeking the  
spirituality and the preparation for the feast of the advent of our Lord on  
December 25<sup>th</sup>.

بدء صوم الميلاد: أبناء الرعية الأحياء: كل عام وأنتم بألف خير.

في كنيستنا الأرثوذكسية المقدسة، يبدأ صوم الميلاد هذا العام الجمعة الواقع فيه ١٥ تشرين  
الثاني، وسيستمر حتى ٢٤ كانون الأول.

وهذا الصوم لا يوجد فيه "صوم انقطاعي". أي لا يوجد صوم للساعة ١٢:٠٠، فهو صوم خفيف.  
أي نستطيع أن نتناول وجبة افطار صباحا، من مواد صيامية.

وفي ٢٥ كانون الأول سنحتفل بعيد "الميلاد" الذي فيه أتى ابن الله إلى العالم ليدلنا على طريق  
الخلاص، الطريق إلى الله الأب. صوم مبارك



**THE EPISTLE: St. Paul to the Galatians. (6:11-18)** Brethren, see with what large letters I am  
writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that  
would compel you to be circumcised and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the  
cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the Law, but  
they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to  
glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and  
I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new  
creation. Peace and mercy be upon all, who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth  
let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus  
Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

**الرسالة: غلاطية ٦: ١١-١٨** يا إخوة، انظروا ما أعظم الكتابات التي كتبها إليكم بيدي. إن كل الذين يريدون أن يُرضوا بحسب الجسد يلزمونكم أن تختنوا، وإنما ذلك لئلا يُضطهدوا من أجل صليب المسيح، لأن الذين يختننون هم أنفسهم لا يحفظون الناموس، بل إنما يريدون أن تختننوا ليفتخروا بأجسادكم. أمّا أنا فحاشى لي أن أفتخر إلا بصليب ربنا يسوع المسيح الذي به صُلب العالم لي وأنا صُلبت للعالم؛ لأنه في المسيح يسوع ليس الختان بشيء ولا القلف بل الخليفة الجديدة. وكل الذين يسلكون بحسب هذا القانون فعليهم سلام ورحمة، وعلى إسرائيل الله. فلا يجلب عليّ أحدٌ أتعاباً في ما بعد فأني حامل في جسدي سمات الرب يسوع. نعمة ربنا يسوع المسيح مع روحكم أيها الإخوة، أمين.

### **THE GOSPEL: St. Luke. (12:16-21)**

The Lord spoke this parable: “The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully; and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’ And he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns, and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.’ But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.” As He said this, Jesus called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

**الإنجيل: لوقا ١٢: ١٦-٢١**

قال الرب هذا المثل: إنسان غنيّ أخصبت أرضه ففكر في نفسه قائلاً: ماذا أصنع فإنه ليس لي موضع أأخزن فيه ثماري. ثم قال: أصنع هذا. أهدم أهراي وأبني أكبر منها وأجمع هناك كل غلاتي وخيراتي. وأقول لنفسي: يا نفس إن لك خيرات كثيرة موضوعة لسنين كثيرة فاستريح وكلي واشربي وافرحي. فقال له الله: يا جاهل، في هذه الليلة تُطلب نفسك منك. فهذه التي أعدتها لمن تكون؟ فهكذا من يدخر لنفسه ولا يستغني بالله. ولما قال هذا نادى: من له أذنان للسمع فليسمع.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS:**

- ❖ **ST. NICHOLAS FAMILY NIGHT (Sponsored by the Rantisi Families): Saturday November 23<sup>rd</sup>.** Adults: \$25. Children:\$15. Doors at 7 PM. Special guest singer: Rami Keila.
- ❖ **ST. NICHOLAS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY: Friday December 20<sup>th</sup> featuring the musically talented: BISHARA SAKHNINI.** Please call in advance to reserve seats.

**BURBARA:** December 1<sup>st</sup>: Delicious “Burbara” Pudding will be served after Liturgy donated by **Diana Batshon** in memory of her Husband **Michel Batshon**. May his memory be eternal! Many thanks to **Diana**. May God bless you and your family.

### **THANKSGIVING:**

As we gather with our families this Thanksgiving to thank God for the many blessings He has bestowed on us, we also need to be mindful of the needs of others. If you know of anyone in need, please contact Father George Baalbaki at [revbaalbaki@yahoo.com](mailto:revbaalbaki@yahoo.com) or 586 214 4428.

### **Parish Council Election will take place on Sunday December 8<sup>th</sup>.**

There will be a parish council election meeting for the sole purpose of electing some members of the Parish Council for the upcoming term. Three are to be elected and one to be appointed by the Pastor. **Anyone interested in serving or nominating someone to serve on the Parish Council must be fully pledged and spiritually qualified.** *Please submit your candidate's name to Father George and/or Maher Zabaneh as soon as possible.* In order to vote in the elections, members must be in spiritual and financial good standing with the church.

### **The Feast of the Patron Saint of our Church: Saint Nicholas**

Friday December 6<sup>th</sup> Celebrating the great Feast of St. Nicholas the

Patron Saint of our Church / رئيس أساقفة ميرا

Matins at 10:00 AM, Diving Liturgy at 11:00 AM followed by a luncheon.

**St. Nicholas Food/Supply Drive:** On Saturday November 23rd, St Nicholas will be hosting a Thanksgiving food drive where we will prepare sandwiches for the less fortunate. We encourage and hope all young adults, teens and families can join us! The plan will consist of meeting at Church, preparing sandwiches and going out to hand them out to people in need. It would be such a blessing during the Holidays to help in any way we can. Here is a list of things we would need donated to make this event possible. Any donations will be greatly appreciated. **Food/ Drink Donation list:** Bread, Sandwich meat (preferably whole Turkey/Ham we can slice at church), Lettuce/Mixed Greens, Tomatoes, Cheese Slices, Paper bags, Foil, Condiment packets, Small bags of chips, Any other types of snacks (fruit, granola, crackers, etc...), Water bottles. **Non Food donations:** Old clothing (Jackets/sweaters/hoodies/long sleeves), T-shirts, Pants/Shorts, Socks!, Gloves, Hand Sanitizer, Toothpaste, Floss, Feminem products, Small combs, Chapstick, Band aids, Hand wipes. Please contact [info@stnicholas-sf.com](mailto:info@stnicholas-sf.com) with any donations or questions. Thank you in advance!

**LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING/ELECTION:** We are going to have our annual Ladies Auxiliary meeting, on Wednesday November 20<sup>th</sup>. Agenda: Election! The Election will be held to select new officers. Location: St. Nicholas Church @ 6:30 PM. Dinner will be served.

الغني الغبي يحدثنا إنجيل اليوم عن غني انشغل بغناه. ويسوع بيّن لنا في هذا المثل ان الذي جعل قلبه في المال لا يبقى في قلبه موضع لشيء آخر. وعلى العموم إذا جعلنا في القلب أي شيء أو أي شخص يتحكّم بنا لا يبقى في القلب مكان لشيء آخر. مغزى النص الإنجيلي هو أن يكون المال خاضعاً للإنسان، أن يكون المال شيئاً نستعمله لا شيئاً يستعملنا. المال يُقتنى اقتناء ولا يُحبّ حباً. وبالتالي لا بدّ من تديده، في وقت من الأوقات، في ظل النظام الذي نحيا فيه عندما يُعرقل حياتنا الأخلاقية. تحدّث الإنجيل عن إنسان أراد أن يجمع الممتلكات لنفسه ولا يشارك فيها أحداً. ولكي تبقى له وحده، أراد ان يبني مخازن ومستودعات أكبر من التي لديه. فقال لنفسه أن استمتعي في هذه الحياة وكلّي واشربي، فالحياة كلها طعام ولذة، والحياة كلها أموال وما تشتريه الأموال. هكذا قال هذا الرجل الذي وصفه الكتاب على انه غبي، والغباء هو في انه أقبل فقط على اللذات ولم يستلذ بالله، لم يحب الخالق. كانت نفسه فارغة من ربه، مليئة بالشهوة. أي انها كانت بالحقيقة لا شيء، كانت تتلاشى بتلاشي الشهوات، تتحطّ بانحطاط اللذات. كيف يكون المال أداة ولا يكون هو غاية جهودنا؟ كل إنسان يعرف ان المال ممكن ان يملكه بدل ان يبقى سيّداً على ماله. المال أصلاً عبد يمكن ان ينقلب معبوداً. ولأن السيد يعرف هذا قال: «لا تقدرون ان تعبدوا الله والمال». إذا كثّر المال أو لم يكثر وأحببته كأنه معشوق أي تعيش ليس فقط به ولكن له، يحتلّ في قلبك مكانة الله. إذ ذاك يتحكّم بأعمالك من حيث انك في نهاية شوقك اليه يصبح في قلبك هو المعبود وإن صعب عليك ان تعترف بذلك. ولكن هذه هي الحال ان المال معبود كثيرين أغنياء كانوا أم فقراء. يحزنون جداً حتى الخوف إذا خسروه ويكون وحده موضع سرورهم الحقيقي فلا يعادله سرور آخر. في الواقع النفسي يمكن ان يتحكّم بك المال تحكما حقيقيا فتتابع حياتك فقط لاقتنائه وينتهي سرورك عنده. وفي أقصى السقوط لا تفضل شيئاً عليه مهما ادعيت. إذ ذاك لا محل عندك للعاطفة وفي حالة تعلقك العظيم لا القربى ولا الصداقة وربما لا التقوى لها مكانة عندك. يصبح المال إلهاً حقاً بمعنى انه يأخذ كل اهتمامك، كل عقلك، كل قلبك، وكل شيء آخر يصبح عندك وهماً أو خرافة أو كذبة. في أقصى التعلّق به تضحي بالناس جميعاً بما فيهم الأقربون. هو عندك بمثابة شخص حي. عندما يقول الناس هذا عاشق مال هم لا يبالغون. الكلمة في محلّها. عشق الجنس الآخر يتلاشى أمام عشق المال إذا طغى.

المطران جاورجيوس

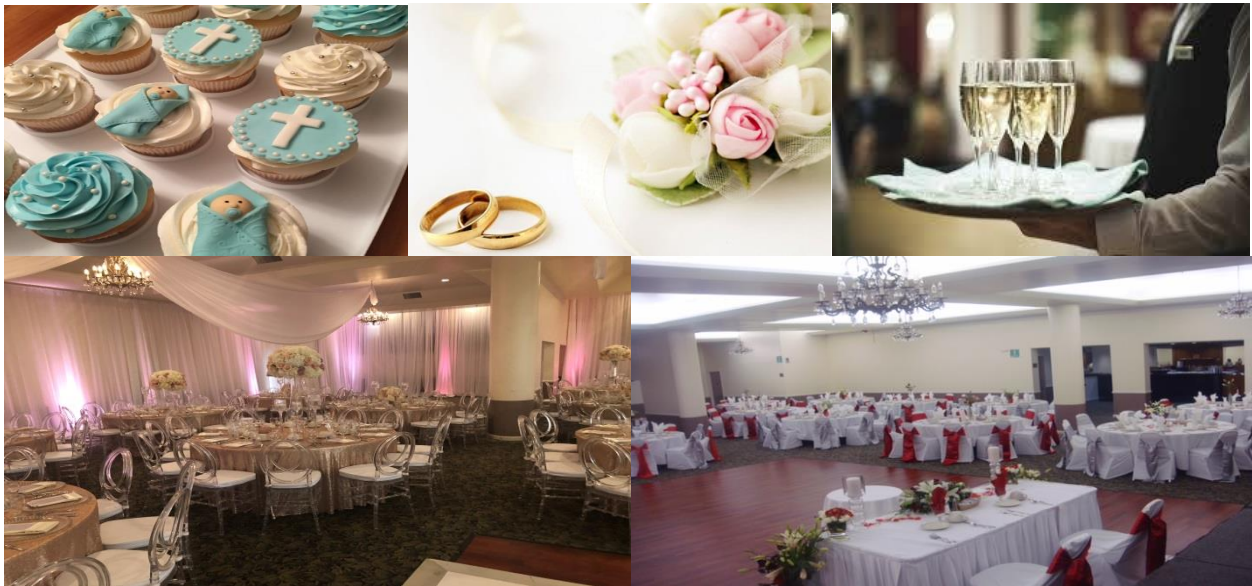
### Metropolitan Anthony Sourozh: The Parable of the Rich Man

The end of today's Gospel reading is a warning about something that we could all be aware of all the time, that is that death is at our elbow, that much, very much, of what we do will perish with us as unnecessary, mortal. Does this mean that Christ's warning about the closeness of death should frighten us and deprive us of creative strength? No, on the contrary; the Fathers used to say, "keep a constant memory of death," not in the sense that we should be afraid of death and live under its constant shadow, but rather because nothing but the awareness of the fact that life is short, that it may end at any moment, can give to every moment its final meaning, and to the whole of life the feeling that we must hurry to do good, that we must hurry to live in such a way that at whatever moment death overtakes us, it will be a moment of triumphant life. We would live with such depth, so intensely, if only this awareness were with us constantly. If we were to know that the words that I am now speaking to you were the last, how differently would I say them, and how differently would you listen! If we were to feel that the person we were talking to might be dead within a few minutes, how careful we should be that our words and actions in relation to him should be the culmination of all the love and care of which we are capable, that they should be the triumph of everything that is best and highest in our relationship. The reason that we live so badly, utter so many empty words, rotten words, dead words, commit so many actions that afterwards burn in our soul like wounds, is that we live as though this life was merely a rough draft of the life we will one day be living, when we have had time to shape the draft into the final story. But that is not how things work; death comes and the draft remains rough, his life has not been lived, just blotted, and there remains regret for the person who could have been great, but turned out shallow and insignificant. That is what today's Gospel is about, not that we should be afraid of death, but that, knowing that it can come at any moment, every moment must be perfect, every word must be a word of life, filled with the Spirit, fit to enter eternity. And every action of ours in relation to each one of us should be such as to give life and express the fullness and depth and strength of the love and reverence which we should feel for each other and for all. Let us consider this, and then if we can act upon it, every word and every action will acquire the dimension of eternity and shine with its light.

# 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)



## **Banquet Hall Amenities**

- Over 6000 square feet
- Seating for up to 350 guests
- 200 square foot elevated stage
- 25ft x 25ft dance floor
- Lighting & Sound
- Bar available
- Fully equipped industrial kitchen
- On-site catering available with staff
- External caterers are welcome
- Tables, chairs, linens, flatware, silverware available
- Event set up, tear down and cleaning services available
- Complimentary parking lot
- Wheelchair accessible

# THE MICHAEL LAW FIRM

(415) 447-2833  
issa@michaellawsf.com  
1648 Union St., Suite 201  
San Francisco, CA 94123

**ISSA J. MICHAEL, Esq.**

Trial Attorney since 1996

## REPRESENTING VICTIMS OF SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURY/WRONGFUL DEATH

- › Auto Accidents
    - › Pedestrians
    - › Bicycles
    - › Motorcycles
    - › Taxi
    - › Buses
    - › Trucking
  - › Airplane & Train Crashes
  - › Construction Site Accidents
  - › Explosions, Fires & Burns
  - › Product Defects
  - › Defective Medical Devices & Drugs
  - › Medical Malpractice
  - › Elderly Abuse
  - › Falls (Slip & Trip)
  - › Dog Attacks
  - › Assault/Battery & Homicides
- Millions of dollars recovered for clients.
  - No fees unless recovery.
  - San Francisco Bay Area, the State & Across the Nation.
  - Members of the State Bar of California, Consumer Attorneys of California, & San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association.



***PASSION, SENSITIVITY &  
ZEALOUS ADVOCACY***

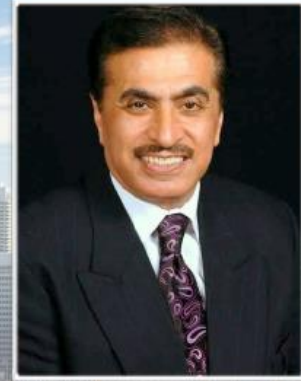
**[www.MichaelLawSF.com](http://www.MichaelLawSF.com)**



TRIAL LAWYERS | PERSONAL INJURY | WRONGFUL DEATH



**ONE MARKET STREET, 36TH FLOOR | San Francisco CA  
433 Airport Blvd, Suite 126 | Burlingame CA  
2901 West Coast Highway | Newport Beach CA**



**Looking to...**

- **Purchase a home?**
- **Sell your business?**
- **Purchase a new business?**
- **Purchase commercial property?**
- **Lease a location for your business?**

**We are here to help you!  
CALL ON US**

**JERIES TANNOUS**  
Commercial and Residential Real Estate  
BRE # 00550532  
Cell: (650)740-9263

**Specializing in:  
Business Brokerage  
Commercial Real Estate  
Sales & Leasing  
Residential Real Estate**