

كنيسة مار نقولا الأنطاكية الأرثوذكسية

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

Antiochian Archdiocese of North America

Diocese of Los Angeles and the West

5200 Diamond Heights Blvd., San Francisco, CA 94131

Tel: (415) 648-5200

Email: info@stnicholas-sf.com--website: 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

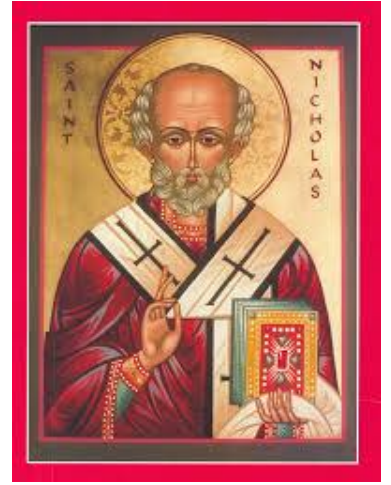
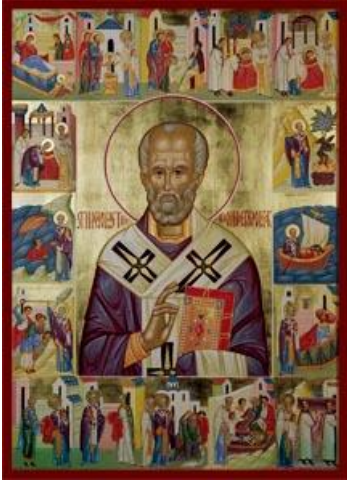
Pastor Emeritus, V. Rev. Fr. **Gregory Ofiesh**

Sub-Dn. **Michel Khoury**

Sub-Dn. **Ilyan Baalbaki**

Parish Council Chairman: **Ramzi Srouji**

Parish Council Vice Chairman: **Salim Qaru**



Sunday, February 09, 2020

Sunday of the Pharisee and the Publican

أحد الفريسيّ والعشار

Memorial Service:

- ❖ One Year Memorial Service for the Handmaiden of God **Gina El Sineitti** offered by her family. May her 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: Timothy. (3:10-15)

Timothy my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, and my sufferings; and what befell me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra. What persecutions I endured; yet from them all, the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

الرسالة: ٢ تيموثاوس ٣: ١٠-١٥

يا ولدي تيموثاوس إنك قد استقريت تعليمي وسيرتي وقصدي وإيماني وأناتي ومحبتتي وصبري واضطهاداتي وآلامي، وما أصابني في أنطاكية وإيقونية ولسترة، وأية اضطهادات احتملت وقد أنقذني الرب من جميعها، وجميع الذين يريدون أن يعيشوا بالتقوى في المسيح يسوع يضطهدون. أما الأشرار والمغوون من الناس فيزدادون شرًا مضلين ومضلين. فاستمر أنت على ما تعلمته وأيقنت به عالمًا ممن تعلمت وأنك منذ الطفولة تعرف الكتب المقدسة القادرة على أن تُصيرك حكميًا للخلاص بالإيمان بالمسيح يسوع.

الإنجيل: لوقا ١٨: ١٠-١٤

قال الرب هذا المثل: إنسانان صعدا إلى الهيكل ليصليا، أحدهما فريسيّ والآخر عشار. فكان الفريسيّ واقفًا يصلي في نفسه هكذا: «اللهم إني أشكرُك لأنني لستُ كسائر الناس الخُطفة الظالمين الفاسقين ولا مثل هذا العشار، فأني أصوم في الأسبوع مرتين وأعشر كل ما هو لي». أما العشار فوقف عن بُعد ولم يُرد أن يرفع عينيه إلى السماء، بل كان يقرع صدره قائلاً: «اللهم ارحمني أنا الخاطيء». أقول لكم إن هذا نزل إلى بيته مبررًا دون ذلك، لأن كل من رفع نفسه اتضع، ومن وضع نفسه ارتفع.

THE GOSPEL: St. Luke. (18:10-14)

The Lord spoke this parable: “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank Thee that I am not like other men, extortionists, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to Heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

ONLINE GIVING: We are pleased to tell you that you can now pay your pledge online! Go to our website <https://www.stnicholas-sf.com/>, Click here to Donate Online. Many of us today pay most of our bills online, so now you can pay your church pledge as well. Thank you for your support.

ALTAR CANDLE OFFERING:

- ❖ Offered by St. Nicholas Church for the good health and speedy recovery of **Very Rev. Fr. Gregory Ofiesh**. God bless and many years!
- ❖ Deepest sympathy and condolences to the **Chami and Peretz** families for the passing of **Mardah (Chami) Peretz**. May her memory be eternal!
- ❖ Deepest sympathy and condolences to the **Husary families** for the passing of **Khader Mousa Husary**. May his memory be eternal!

SAVE THE DATE:

- ❖ **YOUNG ADULT DOWNTOWN SF SCAVENGER HUNT:** Two hours. One epic adventure. Your team will solve puzzles, complete challenges, and explore historic landmarks. **SATURDAY FEBRUARY 8TH @ 2PM.** Any questions contact Shadi Azar @ tel: (415)2792533 or follow our Instagram account @stnickscavengerhunt ! Looking forward to seeing everyone.
- ❖ **ANNUAL VALENTINE PARTY:** **Saturday February 15th. Doors: 7:30 PM.** The first time in San Francisco we proudly present the famous singer from Aleppo: **YOUSEF SHAMOUN**. Open bar, premium dinner, and mezza. Please reserve your seats by contacting the church office.
- ❖ **YOUNG ADULT BIG BEAR WINTER RETREAT:** **February 15th – 17th.** Our young adults will be traveling down to Southern California for an Orthodox retreat in Big Bear at The Coptic Village. Please join us! More info at dlawyoungadults.com
- ❖ **MEN'S FELLOWSHIP MEETING:** **Tuesday February 25th.** Dinner will be served. We usually have a special guest speaker that will cover a topic of his or her specialty. All men of the church are welcome to join the meeting!
- ❖ **TEEN SOYO CAR WASH:** **Saturday February 29th.** Come support our Teen Soyo. We will be handwashing cars!
- ❖ **PARISH LIFE CONFERENCE 2020:** We are pleased to announce that we will be hosting the PLC this year. **July 1-5th at Hyatt Burlingame.** We need your help with advertisements in the Souvenir Journal. More info at: www.laplcc.org

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Welcome to the new 2020 Sunday School Year! We are excited to welcome everyone back and have new students join! In addition we have developed an online registration form for parents to sign up their children. It is extremely necessary that each individual student has a form submitted. If you have any questions feel free to contact the director at estherbatarse@gmail.com Thank you. Link to registration. <https://form.jotform.com/200137043640037>

2020 BIBLE BOWL: The upcoming *68th Parish Life Conference* will take place on 1st - 5th July 2020 hosted by our Parish. We are seeking members to join the Bible Bowl Team Divisions; Juniors (ages: 13-15), Seniors (ages:16-19) and Adults (20 and older). For those who would like to participate in the upcoming Bible Bowl and be part of the St. Nicholas Bible Bowl teams, please see Father George or Tariq Rantisi. 2020 Bible Bowl Topic: The Gospel of St. John. For more information please visit, 68TH ANNUAL PARISH LIFE CONFERENCE, WEBSITE <https://antiochianevents.com/la>

Metropolitan Anthony of Sourozh: THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE

On our journey towards Lent, and beyond Lent towards Easter, we come to a series of parables which must prepare us to our journey through Lent. And today's parable speaks to us of the pharisee and of the publican.

The publican came into the church knowing that he has no right to be there. In what sense? The church is a small place on earth which is totally dedicated to God, which belongs to God alone, in which God has a right to live, into which we come to meet Him, and no-one else. O, of course, everyone else, but only together with Him. And the publican stood by the door knowing that he is a stranger and that his only hope lay in the fact that God loves. He had said in the Old Testament, 'Child, give Me thy heart — all the rest belongs to Me'.

So, we can come and give our heart to God, and only then can we walk into this sacred ground.

The pharisee lived according to rules; he thought, he felt that he did everything that was expected of him according to the Law, he had rights before God; he had a right to be in God's realm, he was one of His people. And therefore, looking round he could compare others who in his eyes were not worthy of the same.

Let us reflect on ourselves; when we come to church: are we aware that it is a realm into which we can come only if our heart has been given to God, and if our heart has become His dwelling place? And also, if we have tried, however hard, however honestly to live according to the Gospel, can we say 'I am worthy', can I say 'I have a right to be here'? No, it is only love that can give us a right; it is only our love, mutual, and our love to God that can allow us to enter into this sacred realm. And when we come, let us stop one moment by the door, and think, 'This realm is sacred; it is God's dwelling place; let me enter into it with all my heart;' turn to God and say, 'Lord, I am unworthy, and yet, I am loved; I am impure, and yet I can love Thee, O Lord, and the people around me. Imperfectly, but this is the only ground on which I can stand here'

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
- 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@michaellawfirm.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***

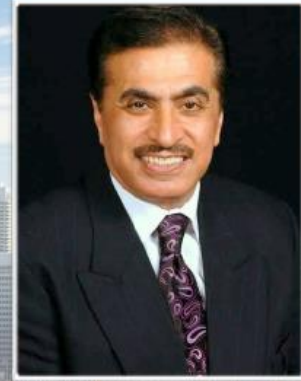
www.MichaelLawSF.com



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