

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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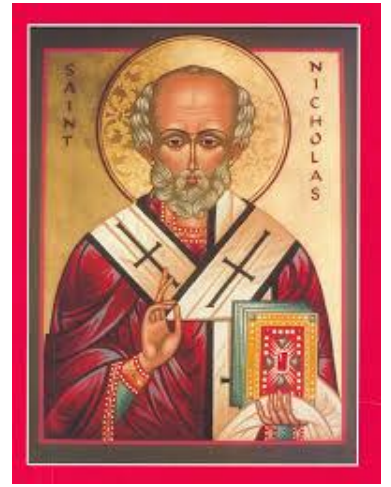
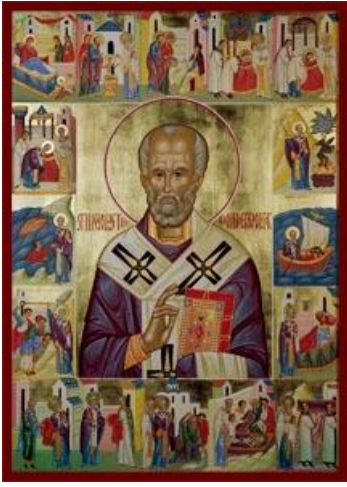
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Parish Council Vice Chairman: **Salim Qaru**



Sunday, March 1, 2020

Sunday of Forgiveness (Cheese Fare)

أحد مرفع الجبن - الغفران



Memorial Service:

- ❖ Three & Nine Day Memorial Service for the Servant of God **George Saliba Jada** offered by his family. May his memory be eternal!

Memorial Service Sunday March 8th:

- ❖ Nine & Forty Day Memorial Service for the Servant of God **Ibrahim Khalil Rantisi** 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 و ١٤: ١-٤

يا إخوة إن خلاصنا الآن أقرب مما كان حين آمنّا. قد تناهى الليل واقترب النهار فلندع عنّا أعمال الظلمة ونلبس أسلحة النور. لنسلكنّ سلوكًا لائقًا كما في النهار، لا بالقصوف والسكر ولا بالمضاجع والعهر ولا بالخصام والحسد، بل البسوا الربّ يسوع المسيح ولا تهتمّوا بأجسادكم لقضاء شهواتها. من كان ضعيفًا في الإيمان فاتّخذوه بغير مباحثة في الآراء. من الناس من يعتقد أنّ له أن يأكل كلّ شيء، أمّا الضعيف فيأكل بقولاً. فلا يزدري الذي يأكل من لا يأكل، ولا يدين الذي لا يأكل من يأكل، فإنّ الله قد اتّخذ من أنت يا من تدين عبدًا أجنبيًّا! إنّ لمولاه يثبت أو يسقط، لكنّه سيثبت لأنّ الله قادر على أن يثبتّه.

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.

الإنجيل: متى ٦: ١٤-٢١

قال الرب: إن غفرتُم للناس زلاتهم يغفر لكم أوبؤكم السماوي أيضًا، وإن لم تغفروا للناس زلاتهم فأبؤكم أيضًا لا يغفر لكم زلاتكم. ومتى صمتُم 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 يفسد سوس ولا أكلة ولا ينقب السارقون ولا يسرقون، لأنه حيث تكون كنوزكم هناك تكون قلوبكم.

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, Ilham Azar, Claudia Azar, & Rima Qaru. Thank you for all the hard work!

This Sunday's Readers: Sermonette (Bishop's Letter): Randa Shatara

- ❖ **Epistle Reader Arabic: Nadia Rantisi**
- ❖ **Epistle Reader English: Salwa Shnoudi**

SAVE THE DATE:

- ❖ **TEEN SOYO CAR WASH: Saturday February 29th.** Come support our Teen Soyo. We will be handwashing cars!
- ❖ **YOUNG ADULT MOASTERY TRIP: Saturday March 14th,** our young adults will be visiting the Holy Assumption Monastery in Calistoga from 9 AM – 2 PM.
- ❖ **TEEN SOYO SANTA CRUZ RETREAT: Saturday March 21st.** Teen Soyo Deanery retreat Ages 13-19 in Santa Cruz.
- ❖ **ST. NICHOLAS CRAB FEED FAMILY NIGHT: Wednesday March 25th at 7:30 PM.** All you can eat crab! Chicken and pasta for non-crab eaters. Please RSVP by February 25th by calling the church office at (415) 648-5200. Donation: Adults : \$50 Children (under 12 years old): \$25
- ❖ **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 many different things. More info at: www.lapl.org**

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>

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.

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 Great Lent

Lent Period: March 2nd – April 19th

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

Day	Date	Celebration
Sunday	March 1	Forgiveness Sunday (Cheesefare Sunday)
Monday	March 2	FIRST DAY OF GREAT LENT
Sunday	March 8	Sunday of Orthodoxy
Sunday	March 22	Sunday of the Holy Cross
Wednesday	March 25	Annunciation of the Theotokos (Fish Allowed)
Sunday	April 12	Palm Sunday (Fish Allowed)
Friday	April 17	Great and Holy Friday
Sunday	April 19	GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA

The Services program during the period of Great Lent 2020

برنامج الصلوات خلال فترة الصوم الأربعيني المقدس لعام ٢٠٢٠

Day	Service	Time	Language	Topic	Day
Wednesdays	Great Compline Service	7 pm	مساءً	خدمة النوم الكبرى "يا رب القوات"	الإربعاء
Fridays (Followed by Potluck)	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

Metropolitan Anthony of Sourozh: 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.

أين كنوزكم؟

قال لنا بولس الرسول في رسالة اليوم: "قد تناهى الليل واقترب النهار". ها نحن نضع أعمال الظلمة ونُقيل على النور، على هذا النور الذي سيجيئنا في الفصح المقدس. ولكن قبل ذلك سيأتينا هذا الضوء الإلهي بهذه الاجتهادات التي سنقوم بها برحمة من ربنا وفضل منه.

لقد حدّثنا الإنجيلي الطاهر عن صوم نقوم به من أجل الله، نقوم به في الخفاء بحيث لا نتظاهر ولا ندّعي ولكننا نعرفه رحمة من ربنا ونحن نكافح حتى نحصل لنا نعمة الرضى وحتى نتدرّب على أدب الرب ومخافته.

القضية ليس قضية إمساك عن طعام أو شراب، وليست فقط امتناعاً عن اللحم. هذه رياضات، هذه تمارين نتمرّن بها على شيء أسمى. طبعاً لا بد لنا من أن نخضع هذا الجسد بالصوم لكي نروّضه على ان هناك شيئاً أفضل من الجسد ولكي نجعله يتحسّس بوجود الفقراء. قام الصوم بالدرجة الأولى في أوائل المسيحية على هذه الفكرة: ان الإنسان يمسك عن طعام ليوزّع ثمنه على المساكين. كان المسيحيون يصومون كلما عرفوا ان واحدا منهم في حاجة، وكانوا يصومون متى شأؤوا حتى يوفروا طعاما ويعطوه للفقراء. لهذا كانت الرحمة بُعداً من أبعاد الصوم. غاية الصوم أن نتدرب به في مدرسة الرحمة.

لذا قال الرب في إنجيل اليوم: "لا تكنزوا لكم كنوزاً على الأرض حيث يُفسد السوس ويسرق السارقون" اي لا تجعلوا ممتلككم على المال ولكن اعرفوا أن هناك فقراء يحتاجون الى هذا المال وأن لهم عليه حقاً. المال الذي بين أيديكم ليس لكم نهائياً ولكنه للمحتاجين اليه. العطاء ليس اختيارياً. عليكم ان تُعطوا. هذا ليس بتصدّق، هذا واجب لأن الأرض للناس كلهم وأموال الأرض للناس أجمعين.

"لا تكنزوا لكم كنوزاً على الأرض لأنه حيث تكون كنوزكم فهناك تكون قلوبكم أيضاً"، اي إذا اعتبرتم ان المال كنزكم كانت قلوبكم مفعمة بحبه، واذا اعتبرتم ان ملكوت الله كنزكم أصبحت قلوبكم مليئة بالله. الحياة يجب ألا تكون حيرى بين الله والدنيا بحيث نرانا نبقى مترددين بين المسيح وما هو ليس بالمسيح. لذا فإننا ندخل في جهاد هذا الصوم مقرّين بأن المسيح هو كل الحياة، وبالتالي سوف ندخل في رصانة المسيح حتى نبني له كنيسة مجيدة لا تقوم بالحجر فقط ولكنها تقوم بقلوب متألّفة منسجمة.

هذا جهاد لنا يقوم به كل على قدر استطاعته وكما تسمح له عاقبته، هذا في ما يختص بالطعام والشراب. ولكننا نقوم به جميعاً في ما يختص بالناحية الروحية، أي اننا جميعاً مدعوون الى المحبة والى الغفران والى ان نضمّ الناس جميعاً الى قلوبنا حتى يضمّننا الله الى قلبه. فإذا أحببنا الناس كنّا أحبباء الله، وإن أبغضنا الناس كنا مبغدين عن الله. الكنيسة المسيحية ليس فيها سوى ان نحبّ بعضنا بعضاً وان نجاهد حتى نبقى على هذه المحبة طيلة العمر.

مهما قال الناس فينا، مهما فعلوا، الناس جميعاً أحبباء الله وأبناء الله، ولذلك نحبّهم ونُسأندهم ونصوم عن النسيمة حتى يكون لنا جميعاً نصيب في محبة الرب.

المطران جاورجيوس

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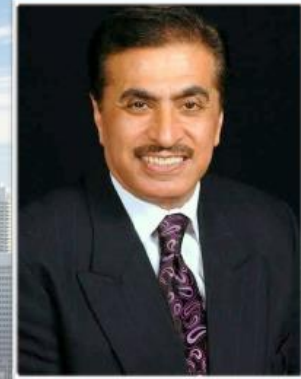
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