

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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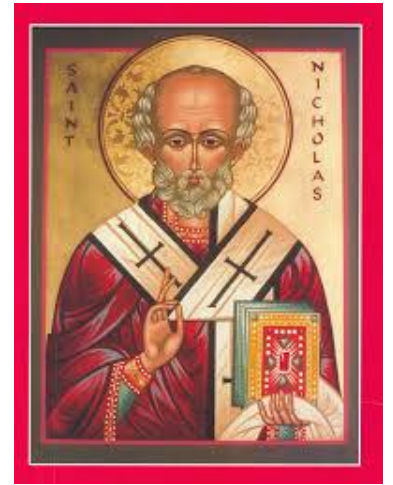
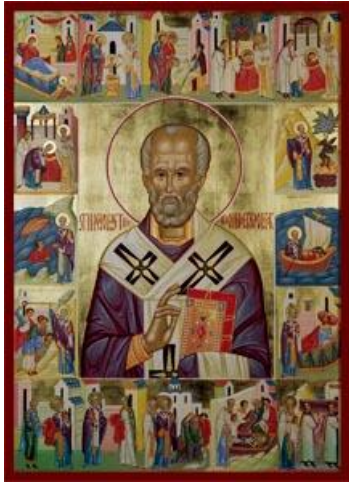
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Sub-Dn. **Tariq Rantisi**

Parish Council Chairman: **Azar Azar**

Parish Council Vice Chairman: **Salim Qaru**



Sunday, June 20, 2021

The Great Feast of Pentecost // أحد العنصرة

GAZA RELIEF:

Our hearts, thoughts and prayers are with the people of GAZA. The people of GAZA need our help! We will be hosting a Humanitarian & Disaster Relief Fundraiser for GAZA. Please help us help those who are in need. All proceeds will be donated to Churches in GAZA and other Humanitarian organizations. To make donations, please mail a check here to St. Nicholas earmarked "For Gaza". You may also donate on our website by choosing "GAZA RELIEF" under "Funds" on our giving website: <https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stn5200254>

IMPORTANT NOTICE: CHURCH IS OPEN! If you plan to attend, please make sure you wear a mask and use hand sanitizer when you walk inside. Please don't attend if you're feeling sick. We pray for the good health, well-being, and safety of everyone. God bless!

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

THE EPISTLE: The Acts of the Apostles. (2:1-11)

When the day of Pentecost had come, the Disciples were all together in one place. And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. And they were amazed and wondered, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians, we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God."

الرسالة: أعمال الرسل ٢: ١-١١ لَمَّا حَلَّ يَوْمَ الْخَمْسِينَ كَانَ الرَّسُلُ كُلُّهُمْ مَعًا فِي مَكَانٍ وَاحِدٍ. فَحَدَّثَ بَغْتَةً صَوْتَ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ كَصَوْتِ رِيحٍ شَدِيدَةٍ عَاصِفَةٍ، وَمَلَأَ كُلَّ الْبَيْتِ الَّذِي كَانُوا جَالِسِينَ فِيهِ. وَظَهَرَتْ لَهُمْ أَلْسِنَةٌ مُتَقَسِّمَةٌ كَأَنَّهَا مِنْ نَارٍ فَاسْتَقَرَّتْ عَلَى كُلِّ وَاحِدٍ مِنْهُمْ. فَامْتَلَأُوا كُلُّهُمْ مِنَ الرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ وَطَفَقُوا يَتَكَلَّمُونَ بِلُغَاتٍ أُخْرَى كَمَا أُعْطَاهُمُ الرُّوحُ أَنْ يَنْطَقُوا. وَكَانَ فِي أُورُشَلِيمَ رِجَالٌ يَهُودٌ أَتَقْيَاءُ مِنْ كُلِّ أُمَّةٍ تَحْتَ السَّمَاءِ. فَلَمَّا صَارَ هَذَا الصَّوْتُ اجْتَمَعَ الْجُمْهُورُ فَتَحَيَّرُوا لِأَنَّ كُلَّ وَاحِدٍ كَانَ يَسْمَعُهُمْ يَنْطَقُونَ بِلُغَتِهِ. فَدَهِشُوا جَمِيعُهُمْ وَتَعَجَّبُوا قَائِلِينَ بَعْضُهُمْ لِبَعْضٍ: أَلَيْسَ هَؤُلَاءِ الْمُتَكَلِّمُونَ كُلُّهُمْ جَلِيلِيِّينَ؟ فَكَيْفَ نَسْمَعُ كُلَّ مَنَّا لُغَتَهُ الَّتِي وُلِدَ فِيهَا؟ نَحْنُ الْفَرَسِيُّونَ وَالْمَادْيِيِّينَ وَالْعِيلَامِيِّينَ وَسَكَّانَ مَا بَيْنَ النَّهْرَيْنِ وَالْيَهُودِيَّةِ وَكِبَادُوكِيَّةِ وَبُنْتُسَ وَأَسِيَّةِ، وَفَرِيجِيَّةِ وَبِمْفِيلَةَ وَمِصْرَ وَنَوَاحِي لِيْبِيَّةِ عِنْدَ الْقَيْرَوَانِ وَالرُّومَانِيِّينَ الْمَسْتُوطِنِينَ وَالْيَهُودَ وَالْخَلَاءَ، وَالْكِرِّيْتِيِّينَ وَالْعَرَبَ نَسْمَعُهُمْ يَنْطَقُونَ بِأَلْسِنَتِنَا بَعْضَانَا مِنَ اللَّهِ.

THE GOSPEL: St. John. (7:37-52; 8:12)

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and proclaimed, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.'" Now this He said about the Spirit, which those who believed in Him were to receive; for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. When they heard these words, many of the people said, "This is really the prophet." Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Is the Christ to come from Galilee? Has not the Scripture said that the Christ is descended from David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?" So there was a division among the people over Him. Some of them wanted to arrest Him, but no one laid hands on Him. The officers then went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, "Why did you not bring Him?" The officers answered, "No man ever spoke like this man!" The Pharisees answered them, "Are you led astray, you also? Have any of the authorities or the Pharisees believed in Him? But this crowd, who do not know the Law, are accursed." Nicodemus, who had gone to Him before, and who was one of them, said to them, "Does our Law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?" They replied, "Are you from Galilee too? Search and you will see that no prophet is to rise from Galilee." Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

الإنجيل: يوحنا ٧: ٣٧-٥٢

فِي الْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ الْعَظِيمِ مِنَ الْعِيدِ كَانَ يَسُوعُ وَاقِفًا فَصَاحَ قَائِلًا: إِنْ عَطَشَ أَحَدٌ فَلْيَأْتِ إِلَيَّ وَيَشْرَبْ. مَنْ آمَنَ بِي فَكَمَا قَالَ الْكِتَابُ سَتَجْرِي مِنْ بَطْنِهِ أَنْهَارٌ مَاءٍ حَيٍّ، (إِنَّمَا قَالَ هَذَا عَنِ الرُّوحِ الَّذِي كَانَ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ بِهِ مُزْمَعِينَ أَنْ يَقْبَلُوهُ إِذْ لَمْ يَكُنِ الرُّوحُ الْقُدُسُ قَدْ أُعْطِيَ بَعْدَ لَأَنَّ يَسُوعَ لَمْ يَكُنْ بَعْدَ قَدْ مُجَّدٍ). فَكَثِيرُونَ مِنَ الْجَمْعِ لَمَّا سَمِعُوا كَلَامَهُ قَالُوا: هَذَا بِالْحَقِيقَةِ هُوَ النَّبِيُّ. وَقَالَ آخَرُونَ: هَذَا هُوَ الْمَسِيحُ. وَآخَرُونَ قَالُوا: أَلَعَلَّ الْمَسِيحَ مِنَ الْجَلِيلِ يَأْتِي؟ أَلَمْ يَقُلْ الْكِتَابُ إِنَّهُ مِنْ نَسْلِ دَاوُدَ مِنْ بَيْتِ لَحْمِ الْقَرْيَةِ حَيْثُ كَانَ دَاوُدُ يَأْتِي الْمَسِيحُ؟ فَحَدَّثَ شِقَاقَ بَيْنِ الْجَمْعِ مِنْ أَجْلِهِ. وَكَانَ قَوْمٌ مِنْهُمْ يَرِيدُونَ أَنْ يُمَسِّكُوهُ وَلَكِنْ لَمْ يَلْقَ أَحَدٌ عَلَيْهِ يَدًا. فَجَاءَ الْخَدَّامُ إِلَى رُؤَسَاءِ الْكَهَنَةِ وَالْفَرِيسِيِّينَ، فَقَالَ هَؤُلَاءِ لَهُمْ: لَمْ لَمْ تَأْتُوا بِهِ؟ فَأَجَابَ الْخَدَّامُ: لَمْ يَتَكَلَّمْ قَطُّ إِنْسَانٌ هَكَذَا مِثْلَ هَذَا الْإِنْسَانِ. فَأَجَابَهُمُ الْفَرِيسِيُّونَ: أَلَعَلَّكُمْ أَنْتُمْ أَيْضًا قَدْ ضَلَلْتُمْ؟ هَلْ أَحَدٌ مِنَ الرُّؤَسَاءِ أَوْ مِنَ الْفَرِيسِيِّينَ آمَنَ بِهِ؟ أَمَّا هَؤُلَاءِ الْجَمْعُ الَّذِينَ لَا يَعْرِفُونَ النَّامُوسَ فَهُمْ مَلْعُونُونَ. فَقَالَ لَهُمْ نِيقُودِيمُوسُ الَّذِي كَانَ قَدْ جَاءَ إِلَيْهِ لَيْلًا وَهُوَ وَاحِدٌ مِنْهُمْ: أَلَعَلَّ نَامُوسَنَا يَدِينُ إِنْسَانًا إِنْ لَمْ يَسْمَعْ مِنْهُ أَوَّلًا وَيَعْلَمَ مَا فَعَلَ؟ أَجَابُوا وَقَالُوا لَهُ: أَلَعَلَّكَ أَنْتَ أَيْضًا مِنَ الْجَلِيلِ؟ ابْحَثْ وَانْظُرْ أَنَّهُ لَمْ يَقُمْ نَبِيٌّ مِنَ الْجَلِيلِ. ثُمَّ كَلَّمَهُمْ أَيْضًا يَسُوعُ قَائِلًا: أَنَا هُوَ نُورُ الْعَالَمِ. مَنْ يَتَّبِعْنِي فَلَا يَمْشِي فِي الظَّلَامِ بَلْ يَكُونُ لَهُ نُورُ الْحَيَاةِ.

ALTAR CANDLE OFFERING:

- ❖ Offered by **Khader & Basima Atwan** in loving memory of **Chris (Atwan) Ghanem** on the special occasion of his birthday on June 24th. May his memory be eternal!
- ❖ Offered by **Nabil, Jane, Nick and Alex Hanhan** for the continued good health for all on the special occasion of their birthdays on this month. God bless and many more years to come.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS:

- ❖ **BOWLING NIGHT: Friday June 18th.** We are hosting a bowling night at Hometown Bowl in South San Francisco. Ages 18-39. Event will start 6:30 PM until 9:30 PM! It will be \$20 for two hours of bowling and shoe rentals. Must RSVP so we are able to rent out the appropriate number of lanes. Please call or send Shadi Azar a text at (415) 279-2533.
- ❖ **CAMP THY 2021: June 20th-25th.** Divine Liturgy, Luncheon, and introductory day on June 20th @ St. Nicholas Church. Monday (6/21), Tuesday (6/22), and Thursday (6/24) to be hosted at Saint Nicholas. Wednesday (6/23) & Friday (6/25), our Sister Churches in Sacramento & Los Altos will be hosting us for activities. Camp Registration also includes a ticket to **Great America** on Thursday, June 17th, 2021. Register Now: <https://form.jotform.com/92868742644168>
- ❖ **PARISH LIFE CONFERENCE: July 8th-10th.** Registration: <https://www.antiochianevents.com/la>

CONGRATULATIONS:

And best wishes to the 2021 graduates:

- ❖ **David Srouji**
- ❖ **Nadine Nervaiz**
- ❖ **Jamie Msalam**
- ❖ **Brianna Rantisi**
- ❖ **Alexa Christina Dabai**
- ❖ **Adriana Saoud**
- ❖ **Rami Bader**
- ❖ **Andrew Abuyaghi**
- ❖ **John Rantisi**
- ❖ **Yazan Dabit**
- ❖ **Tarik Dabit**
- ❖ **Mallak Zuhair Mukatash**
- ❖ **Anthony Mufarreh**
- ❖ **Nicholas Barksdale**
- ❖ **Jahna Mousa**
- ❖ **Nadia & Issa Keishk**

Good luck and God Bless you all!

TREE OF LIFE:

We have updated our Tree of Life in the back of our Church. If you would like to donate an engraved Leaf to place on the Tree in memory of your loved one, please contact the Church office.



CAMP THY UPDATES:

1. **Schedule-** The day-to-day schedule is provided below, but can also be found [here](#) on our website.
2. **Packing List-** The packing list is provided below, but can also be found [here](#) on our website.
3. **Camp THY Merchandise-** The youth from our Teen SOYO have partnered with our staff to help create and design Camp THY T-Shirts and Masks. These items can be purchased as a pre-order OR in person upon check-in. If you need any assistance in placing a pre-order, please reach out to Shadi Azar @ shadiazar@campthy.com
 - T-Shirts: \$15/each (Available Sizes: S, M, L & XL)
 - Masks: \$10/each (One Size Fits All)
 - ***Bundle: Purchase a T-shirt and a Mask for only \$20***
4. **Volunteer/Counselors-** It's not too late to sign up as a volunteer or a counselor! You can apply [here](#) on our website. If you'd like to find out more information, please reach out to Esther Clemence Batarse @ estherclemence@campthy.com
5. **Final Payment-** If you have not fulfilled a full payment for your child(s), please do so by Friday, June 11th, 2021 by check or credit card. If you need any assistance in processing your payment, please reach out to Ilyan Baalbaki @ ilyanbaalbaki@campthy.com
6. **Questions?** If you should have any questions about the schedule, packing list, drop off locations, etc. please feel free to reach out to Claudine Batarse @ claudinebatarse@campthy.com

Metropolitan Anthony of Sourozh: DAY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Today we are keeping the Feast of the Holy Spirit. What do we know about Him? We heard wonderful words of prayer about Him yesterday on Trinity Sunday, but let us think of Him, of the name He is given in the Gospel, which is translated 'The Comforter' in English, in other translations 'The Advocate'. He is the One Who is the Comforter indeed, the One Who consoles us for our separation from Christ, Who consoles us who are like orphans, who long to be with Christ our God, our Saviour, and who know that as long as we are in the flesh - and these are the words of St. Paul - we are separated from Him. But for Him to be our Comforter, to be our consolation, we must first be aware of the fact that we are separated and this is the first question we must ask ourselves: are we aware of it, or do we live in the delusion that we are in God and God in us, and that nothing more is needed? How much more is needed!

He is also the One Who, as the Comforter, gives us strength, strength to live despite the separation, strength to stand fast and to be the doers of the Will, the fulfillers of the Commandments of God, the One Who can give us vigour of soul, determination, power to act. But this, again, only if we turn to Him and say, Come! Come and abide in us! Cleanse us! Be not only our Comforter but our strength also.

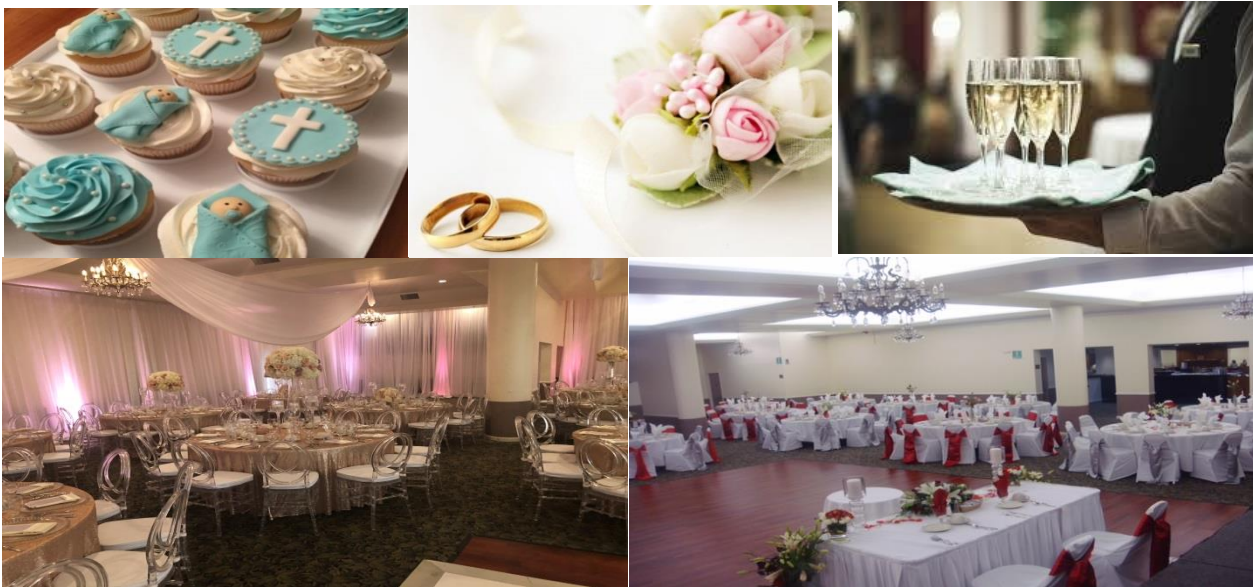
Lastly, He is the One Who gives us, already now, the joy of knowing how close we are despite what seems to be an infinite distance between God and us, the One Who, in unutterable groanings, speaks to God from the depths of our being; the One Who, because we are Christ's own people, His brothers and sisters in humanity - and these are His own words - that we are the children of the Father. The joy of this, the wonder of this, the dignity of this! Indeed also, the responsibility of this...

If we think of our world which is to such a great extent alien to God, the Spirit is already the beginning of eternal life. His presence is a decisive fact. He beats against the rocks like the sea, He breaks resistances. He is the joy of eternity knocking at our door, forcing Himself into our lives, reminding us of God our Father, of Christ our Saviour and of our greatness and dignity before God, showing us that all things are possible in the power of Christ Who sustains us.

Let us therefore responsibly and gratefully keep this Feast. And may the Spirit of God Who came in tongues of fire upon the Apostles, come to us also - perhaps like a fire that sets us aglow and makes us like a Burning Bush, or touches us like the still, small voice which the Prophet heard in the wilderness in which God was, in His quiet humility, in His surrender to us, in His love for us.

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



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