

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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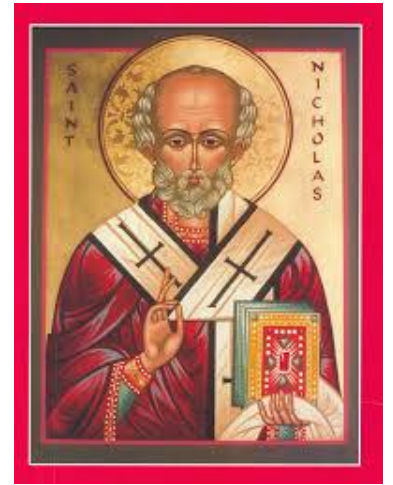
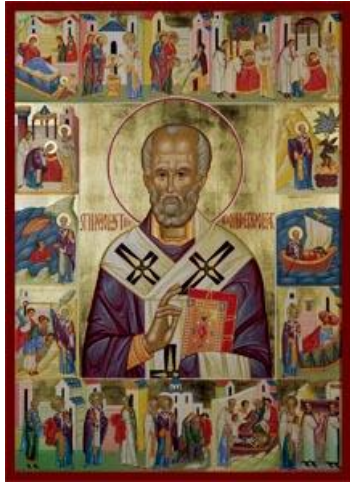
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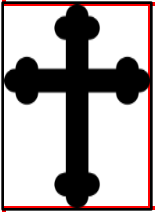


**Sunday, August 15, 2021**

**Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos ( عيد رقاد والدة الإله )**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:**

**CHURCH IS OPEN! If you plan to attend, please make sure to wear a mask 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!**



**FUNERAL SERVICE:**

Our Deepest sympathy and condolences to the **Ofiesh** families on the passing of our beloved, **The Very Reverend in Christ, Father Gregory Ofiesh.**

**+ May His Memory Be Eternal +**

**THE EPISTLE: Philippians (2:5-11)**

Brethren, let this mind be in you, which is also in Christ Jesus; who, being in the form of God, did not think it robbery to be equal with God, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a slave, becoming Himself in the likeness of men; and being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, becoming obedient unto death, even the death of the Cross. For this cause also God highly exalted Him, and gave Him a Name which is above every name; that in the Name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those who are in heaven, and those who are on earth, and those who are under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**فِيلِيبِّي**

يَا إِخْوَةُ، لِيَكُنْ فِيكُمْ الْفِكْرَ الَّذِي فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ أَيْضًا. الَّذِي إِذْ هُوَ فِي صُورَةِ اللَّهِ، لَمْ يَكُنْ يَعْتَدُ مُسَاوَاتُهُ لِلَّهِ اخْتِلَاسًا. لَكِنَّهُ أَخْلَى ذَاتَهُ أَخَذًا صُورَةَ عَبْدٍ، صَانِرًا فِي شِبْهِ الْبَشَرِ، وَمَوْجُودًا كَبَشَرٍ فِي الْهَيْئَةِ. فَوَضَعَ نَفْسَهُ وَصَارَ يُطِيعُ حَتَّى الْمَوْتِ مَوْتِ الصَّلِيبِ. فَلِذَلِكَ رَفَعَهُ اللَّهُ وَوَهَبَهُ اسْمًا يَفُوقُ كُلَّ اسْمٍ، لِكَيْ تَسْجُدُوا بِاسْمِ يَسُوعَ كُلُّ رُكْبَةٍ مِمَّا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَمَا عَلَى الْأَرْضِ وَمَا تَحْتَ الْأَرْضِ. وَيَعْتَرِفُ كُلُّ لِسَانٍ أَنَّ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحَ رَبًّا، لِمَجْدِ اللَّهِ الْآبِ

**THE GOSPEL: Luke (10:38-42; 11:27-28)**

At that time, Jesus entered a certain village; and a woman named Martha received Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to His teaching. But Martha was distracted with much serving; and she went to Him and said, "Lord, dost Thou not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things; one thing is needful. Mary has chosen the good portion, which shall not be taken away from her." As He said this, a woman

in the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, "Blessed is the womb that bore Thee, and the breasts that Thou didst suck!" But He said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

#### لوفّا

في ذلك الزمان دَخَلَ يَسوعُ قَرْيَةً، فَفَلَّيْنَتْهُ امْرَأَةٌ اسْمُهَا مَرْثَا فِي بَيْتِهَا، وَكَانَتْ لِهَذِهِ أُخْتُ تُسَمَّى مَرْيَمَ. فَجَلَسَتْ هَذِهِ عِنْدَ قَدَمَيْ يَسوعَ تَسْمَعُ كَلَامَهُ. وَكَانَتْ مَرْثَا مُرْتَبِكَةً فِي خِدْمَةِ كَثِيرَةٍ، فَوَقَفَتْ وَقَالَتْ: يَا رَبُّ، أَمَا يَعْنِيكَ أَنَّ أُخْتِي قَدْ تَرَكَتْنِي أُخْدُمُ وَحْدِي؟ فَقُلْ لَهَا أَنْ تُسَاعِدَنِي. فَأَجَابَ يَسوعُ وَقَالَ لَهَا: مَرْثَا، مَرْثَا، إِنَّكَ مُهْتَمَّةٌ وَمُضْطَرِبَةٌ فِي أُمُورٍ كَثِيرَةٍ، وَإِنَّمَا الْحَاجَةُ إِلَى وَاحِدٍ. فَأَخْتَارَتْ مَرْيَمَ النَّصِيبَ الصَّالِحَ الَّذِي لَا يَنْزَعُ مِنْهَا. وَفِيمَا هُوَ يَتَكَلَّمُ بِهَذَا، رَفَعَتِ امْرَأَةٌ مِنَ الْجَمْعِ صَوْتَهَا وَقَالَتْ لَهُ: طُوبَى لِلْبَطْنِ الَّذِي حَمَلَكَ وَالتَّدْبِينِ اللَّذِينَ رَضِعْتَهُمَا. فَقَالَ لَهَا: بَلْ طُوبَى لِلَّذِينَ يَسْمَعُونَ كَلِمَةَ اللَّهِ وَيَحْفَظُونَهَا.

**DORMITION FEAST (The feast of St. Mary) is on Sunday, August 15<sup>th</sup>.**

#### **ALTAR CANDLE OFFERING:**

- ❖ Offered by **Nadim and Basima Howell** for the continued good health of our beloved **Father George Baalbaki** on the special occasion of his birthday on August 20<sup>th</sup>. God bless and Many More Years!
- ❖ Offered by **Khader, Basima, and Lisa Atwan**, in loving memory of **Christopher Issa Ghanem**. May his memory be eternal!
- ❖ Offered by **Khader, Basima, and Lisa Atwan** in loving memory of **Naimeh Jaghab** for her remembrance on August 14<sup>th</sup>. May her memory be eternal!
- ❖ Offered by **Basima, Janan, Jim, Ivette, Jennifer, Brandon, Matthew Howell, Jen, and Oscar Moran**, for the continued good health of **Nadim Howell**, on the special occasion of his birthday. God bless and many more years!
- ❖ Offered by **Peter and Carolyn Boyle and Chris, Amy, Speero and Katie Tannous** in loving memory of **Peter James Khoury Boyle**, on his third year memorial. May his memory be eternal!
- ❖ Offered by **St. Nicholas Church** for all those named Mary, Mariam, and Mimi, on the special occasion of their Name Day of **OUR MOST HOLY LADY THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER VIRGIN MARY**, especially:  
Mary Azar, Maryanne Bashour, Mary Hanhan, Mary Ann Katout, Mary Katout, Mary Khoury, Mary Jane Ofiesh, Mary Saba, Mary Twal, Marianne Hanna, Marianne Yaser, Maritsa Wahhab, Mari Turk, Ann Marie Saba, Maria Rantisi, Mariam Halteh, Marilyn Habeeb, Mery Skef, Mary Al Haj, Mary Jaghab, Maria Husary, Mimi Hanhan and Mary Karouba.

***May you have a blessed and happy Name's Day and May God Bless you All!***

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS:**

- ❖ **ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC- ALL SAINTS ORTHODOX CHURCH:**  
**Sunday, August 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am. Rohnert Park Twin Creeks Park 5530 Kerry Rd., Rohnert Park, CA Donation: \$25 Adults. \$10 Children for 10 & Under.**
- ❖ **ANNUAL LEBANESE FESTIVAL:** **Saturday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, from 12pm-10pm.**  
**Courthouse Square: Downtown Redwood City, Redwood City, CA.**
- ❖ **ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH ANNUAL FESTIVAL RAFFLE TICKETS:**  
**\$50 Per ticket. Please contact Elias Batshon (650) 580-7185**
- ❖ **ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH ANNUAL FOOD FESTIVAL:** **October 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>.**  
**More info to come.**

## Metropolitan Anthony

### Dormition of the Mother of God

The Feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God - which combines two events: Her death and Her resurrection in the body on the third day - has been for centuries, indeed, from the very beginning of the existence of the Russian Orthodox Church its Feast, its joy, its glory.

The Mother of God has not been a passive instrument of the Incarnation; without Her 'Amen' the Incarnation would have been as impossible as without the will of God. She is the response of the whole creation to God's love and to God's gift of self not only to mankind but to the whole Cosmos He has created. And in that we rejoice, because Her word is our word. Her word was perfect, as Her trust was, Her faith was, Her gift of self was. Ours is imperfect, and yet our voices resound within Hers, weakly, hesitantly at times, but with faith and also with love.

She is the glory of all Creation; the Mother of God: one might have expected that death could not touch Her; but if death and a death so cruel could touch Her Divine Son, the Son of God and the Son of Mary, the Son of God and the Son of man - of course She had to pay the tribute of all the earth to the sin of man and also die. But according to Orthodox Tradition, death could not keep Her prisoner. She had given Herself unreservedly and perfectly to God, and it was to God, no longer to the earth that She belonged. And on the third day, when the Apostles came and reopened Her grave for one of them to be able to venerate Her, who had not been present at Her burial, it was found empty: She had risen because the bonds of death could not hold Her, and corruption could not touch a body which had been the body of the Incarnation. What a wonderful joy to think that now, side by side with the risen and ascended Christ, one of us, of mankind, a woman of flesh and blood is enthroned and in Her we can see the glory which will, we believe, be ours if we are faithful to God as She was.

So, let us rejoice, and not only here where our church has been dedicated since the early eighteenth century to the Assumption of the Mother of God, to Her Dormition, but with the whole Russian Church, and with all those who belong to it and are scattered over the face of the world, one with the Mother Church, one with the Mother of God, worshipping the Lord with all there is in us and seeing in Her the image of the whole Creation in adoration before the Living God.

#### رقاد السيدة

لا ذِكر لموت والدة الإله في العهد الجديد. لا حديث عن هذا قبل القرن الخامس. قبل العام 500 كان يُحتفل بالعيد بتاريخين مختلفين حتى اعتمدت الكنيسة تاريخ 15 آب في القرن السابع في القسطنطينية واقتسبه الكرسي الأنطاكي بعد ذلك.

ذَكَرَ العيدُ الوعَّازُ وأشهرهم القديس أندرواس الكريتيّ الدمشقيّ المولد والقديس يوحنا الدمشقيّ وغيرهما ولا سيما القديس غريغوريوس بالاماس وعندنا كتبهم. خلاصة تعاليمهم نجدها في طقس العيد، ولكن هذه التعاليم لم تسكبها الكنيسة في عقيدة مجمعيّة. من العبادات، أي من خدمة العيد غروباً وسَحَرًا، رقدت بالرب وقبرُها معروف في الجثمانية في القدس في دير الراهبات الروسيات هناك، وكان لي نعمة رؤيته في أولى زياراتي للمدينة المقدسة سنة 1947.

أيقونة العيد تُمثّل والدة الإله مستلقية على سرير وحولها الرسل وكانوا لم يغادروا فلسطين الى البشارة في الخارج ما يجعل بعضا يعتقدون أنها لم تُعمّر الا سنين قليلة بعد قيامة المخلص، كما تُمثّل السيد واقفا الى جانب السرير حاملا طفلة مقمّطة بالبياض ووجهها وجهُ والدة الإله وتدلّ إذاً على أنه قابض روحها التي استلمها من أمّه. في خدمة الغروب نقول انها انتقلت من الأرض الى السماء. كلمة سماء في اللغة الأرثوذكسية تدلّ على حالتنا بعد القيامة. هي حالة المجد الأخير. اذا قارنت الرسالة الى العبرانيين بين الملائكة والإنسان، تقول عن هذا الله: "إنك أنقصته قليلا عن الملائكة". واذا قارنت عبادتنا بين الملائكة والعذراء، تقول عن هذه: "يا من هي أكرم من الشاروبيم وأرفع مجدا بغير قياس عن السيرافيم". والملائكة في السماء حول العرش الإلهي.

ما نقوله هنا يؤيِّده كلام القديس غريغوريوس بالاماس اذ يقول: "اليوم نحتفل برقادها او انتقالها المقدس الى حياة أخرى. فإذا هي دون الملائكة قليلا، لمواتيتها، فإنها، بدونها من إله الكل قد سَمَت على الملائكة ورؤساء الملائكة وكل القوات السماوية الأرفع منها".

ما عدا الله المحاط بمجده السماوي هناك بشريّ واحد ساكن في المجد وهو مريم، وليس في السماء مجدان. لذلك إذا بلغت المجد الإلهي هنا في العشق، تجد مريم مسكوبا المجد عليها. وإذا تحدّثت الى الله، تجد والدّة الإله في مطرح من حديثك. وإذا كلّمته أنت، هي لا تعطيك إلا ما استلمته أعني نعمة الروح القدس. هذا ما أخذته عندما قبلت البشارة. ولما قال لها الملاك: "الروح القدس يحلّ عليك"، عني أن روح الرب سوف يُلازمها طوال حياتها.

وإذا انت اخذت المسيح في هذه الدنيا، تأخذ معه التي لازمته، هذه التي جعلها أمّا لكل تلميذ حبيب لَمّا كان معلّقا على الخشبة.

المطران جاورجيوس

### **TREE OF LIFE:**

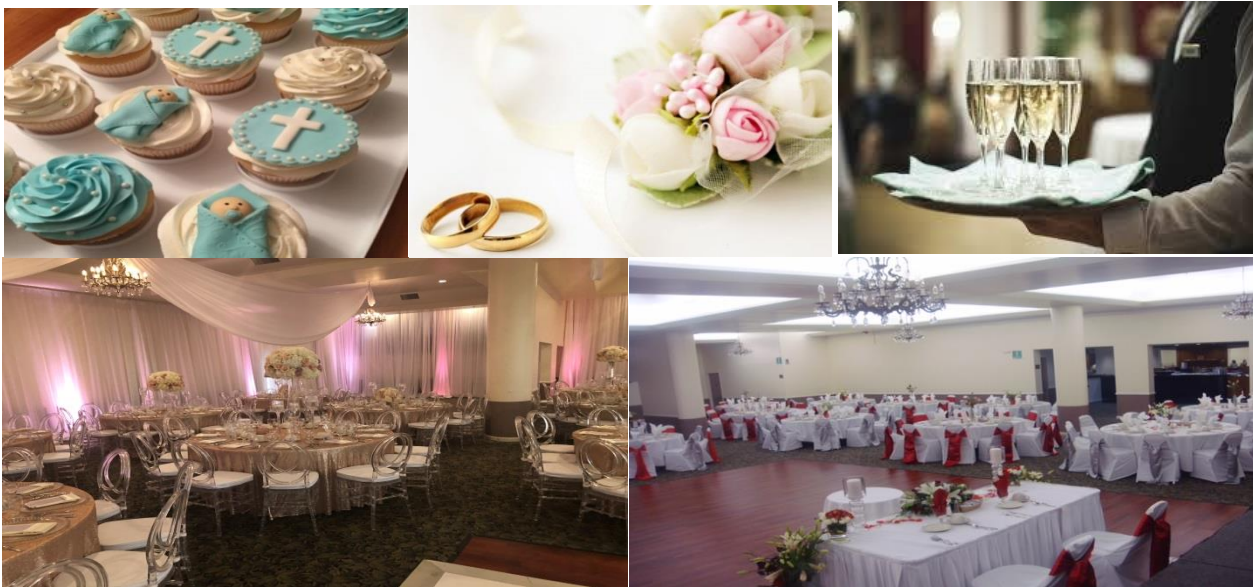
We have updated our Tree of Life in the back of our Church. If you would like to donate an engraved Leaf to place on the Tree in memory of your loved one, please contact the Church office.





# 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)



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