

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**

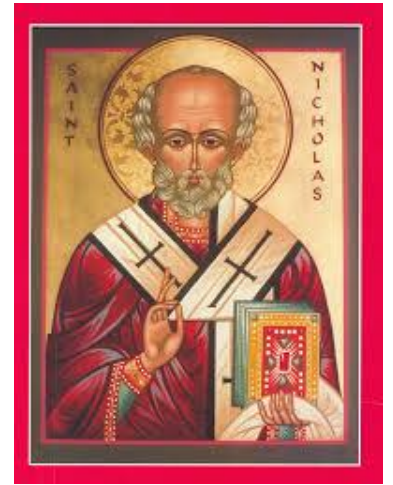
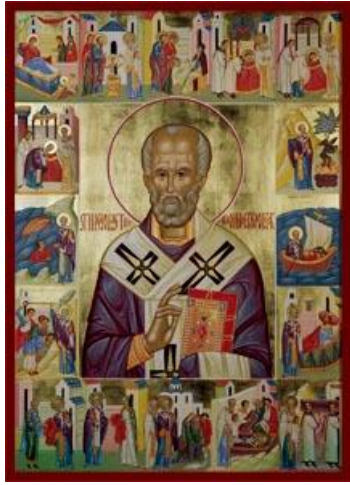
(586) 214-4428 revbaalbaki@yahoo.com

Sub-Dn. **Ilyan Baalbaki**

Sub-Dn. **Tariq Rantisi**

Parish Council Chairman: **Azar Azar**

Parish Council Vice Chairman: **Salim Qaru**



Sunday, January 23, 2022

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!

House Blessing

V. Rev. Fr. George Baalbaki started his visitation for house blessings.

If you would like the Priest to bless your home, please contact the church office or

Fr. George to schedule a visit.

Church Office: 415-648-5200 | Fr. George: 586-214-4428 | Email: info@stnicholas-sf.com

THE EPISTLE: 1 Timothy (1:15-17)

Timothy, my son, the saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. And I am the foremost of sinners; but I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display His perfect patience for an example to those who were to believe in Him for eternal life. To the King of Ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory to the ages of ages. Amen.

الرسالة: 1 تيموثاوس 1: 15-17

يا ولدي تيموثاوس، صادقة هي الكلمة، وجديرة بكل قبول، أن المسيح يسوع إنما جاء الى العالم ليخلص الخطاة الذين أنا أولهم . لكنني لأجل هذا رُحِمْتُ ليُظهر يسوع المسيح فيّ أنا أولاً كل أناة مثلاً للذين سيؤمنون به للحياة الأبدية . فلَمَلِكِ الدهور الذي لا يعرفه فساد ولا يُرى، الله الحكيم وحده، الكرامة والمجد الى دهر الدهور، آمين

THE GOSPEL: Luke (18:35-43)

At that time, as Jesus drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging; and hearing a multitude going by, he inquired what this meant. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." And he cried, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" And Jesus stopped, and commanded him to be brought to Him; and when he came near, Jesus asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me receive my sight." And Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed Him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

الإنجيل: لوقا 18:35-43

في ذلك الزمان فيما يسوع بالقرب من أريحا كان أعمى جالسا على الطريق يستعطي. فلما سمع الجمع مجتازا سأل: ما هذا؟ فأخبر بأن يسوع الناصري عابر، فصرخ قائلا: يا يسوع ابن داود ارحمني. فزجره المتقدمون ليسكت فازداد صراخا: يا ابن داود ارحمني. فوقف يسوع وأمر أن يُقَدَّم إليه. فلما قُرب سأل: ماذا تريد أن أصنع لك؟ فقال: يا رب، أن أبصر. فقال له يسوع: أبصر، إيمانك قد خلّصك. وفي الحال أبصر وتبعه وهو يُمَجِّد الله. وجميع الشعب إذ رأوا سبحوا الله.

قناديل الهيكل ALTAR CANDLES



Offered by **Afaf Dudum** in Loving Memory of her son, **Tom Dudum**.
+ *May his memory be eternal!*



Offered by **Hilda Dabai and Family** in Loving Memory of **Joe Dibsy**.
+ *May his memory be eternal!*

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS:

***GENERAL PARISH MEETING:** This Sunday, January 23rd directly following Service.

***MEN'S FELLOWSHIP MEETING:** Coming Tuesday, January 25th at St. Nicholas. Crab Dinner for \$50 per person. Please RSVP before Sunday. All men are welcome to join us! We look forward to a great fellowship!

***LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING/ELECTION:** Sunday January 30th following service at St. Nicholas Church. We are going to have a ladies meeting, election, and fun gathering with lunch served right after service. If you would like to nominate yourself or have any questions regarding elections, please reach out to Father George. We are encouraging *all the ladies* to join us! Thank you and see you there!

***ANNUAL VALENTINE'S PARTY:** Saturday, February 12th. More details to follow.

***SUNDAY SCHOOL IS NOW IN SESSION:** Please encourage your children to join us!

***AHOS (Antiochian House of Studies):** Educational opportunities offered by the Antiochian House of Studies. We encourage you to register and learn in depth of our Orthodox faith. Please visit <http://tahos.org/> to apply.

***CAMP THY 2022:** June 20th – June 25th at St. Sava Mission in Jackson. For more information, please visit: <https://campthy.com/>.

***70th ANNUAL PARISH LIFE CONFERENCE 2022:** June 29th – July 3rd taking place in Santa Clara Marriott Hotel. For more information, please visit: <https://antiochianevents.com/la>

2022 Great Lent

Lent Period: March 7th – April 23rd

Day	Date	Celebration
Sunday	February 27 th	Judgment Sunday (Meatfare Sunday)
Sunday	March 6 th	Forgiveness Sunday (Cheesefare Sunday)
Monday	March 7th	FIRST MONDAY of GREAT LENT
Sunday	March 13 th	Sunday of Orthodoxy
Friday	March 25 th	Annunciation of the Theotokos (Fish Allowed)
Sunday	March 27 st	Sunday of the Holy Cross
Sunday	April 10 th	Catholic Palm Sunday
Sunday	April 17 th	Orthodox Palm Sunday (Fish Allowed) / Catholic Easter
Friday	April 22 nd	Great and Holy Friday
Sunday	April 24th	GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA
Sunday	June 12 th	Pentecost

Metropolitan Anthony

Healing of Bartimeus



We are coming now to the weeks of preparation for Lent. Habitually on this particular week we read the Gospel of the Blind man. This story is that where Mark and Luke tell us about the blind man, a man who have tried everything to be healed, his own and other people's wisdom and ability, in vain, and who in the end found that Christ was passing by. Christ had not come to him, He was just passing along the road where the blind man was seated, begging, because there was nothing left to him. He did not expect any more healing or anything" only to survive. And then hope flared up in him: someone was passing, and this crowd had a peculiar sound, it was not a caravan, it was not people who were just walking along the road; it had a centre, a focus, there was something peculiar about this crowd. And he asked who it was, and when he heard Who it was, he began to cry for help. And Christ gave him help: He restored his sight, He cured his blindness.

Looking at this story don't we learn something very important? Our soul is sick, our life is waning" I am speaking of eternal life, perhaps not the life of our body; something is dying in us, and we should learn from David the King to cry out of the deep, the deep of our despair, the deep of our disillusionment, the deep of our misery, the deep of our sin, the deep of all the things that destroy us, cry a cry, aand say, I trust you, Lord! I trust your silence, as I would trust your word... And then, if we only abandon ourselves to that confidence, we will hear the Lord saying, See again! Go home, worry no more " home meaning the very depth of your being, the place where you are alive, because your soul is alive, life has come back!

Let us enter into these weeks of preparation with this glorious encouragement from God Himself, with this hope He gives us, this certainty, indeed He gives us. Let us start on this journey, and be ready when Lent comes to have gone from blindness to sight.

And next week, when we remember Zaccheus, let us remember him again with eyes that can see, and then go on, from strength to strength, from brokenheartedness to brokenheartedness, and from sickness to healing, until we come to the Resurrection.

الخطاة الذين أنا أولهم

من هو تيموثاوس الذي أرسلت اليه رسالتان؟ من أعمال الرسل نرى ان بولس لقي هذا الشاب في لسترة وجعله معاونه الأمل. كان أبوه يونانيا اي وثنيا وكانت أمه يهودية واعتنقت الإيمان المسيحي وتعلم الكتب المقدسة اي العهد القديم منذ نعومة أظفاره. كانت تتنابه وعكات كثيرة واهتم بولس لصحته وختته لتجنب المتاعب التي يثيرها المسيحيون المتهودون. ورسمه مشايخ الكنيسة. الرسائل الرعائية وهذه منها تعكس لاهوت بولس.

في الرسالة الأولى الى تيموثاوس يقول معلمه بولس أن "صادقة هي الكلمة وجديرة بكل قبول" وهي كلمة التي كان يعلمها الرسول ويسمّيها إنجيله أي ذلك الذي أخذه مباشرة من السيد منذ ظهوره له على الطريق المستقيم، وهي أن المسيح جاء ليخلص الخطاة اي نحن جميعا، ثم يعرف نفسه على انه أول الخطاة وهي الكلمة التي على كل واحد منا أن يقولها عن نفسه، اذ ليس لأحد منا أن يقارن نفسه بالآخرين فلا يقول عن نفسه أنا أفضل من هذا وذاك بهذه الفضيلة او تلك، وعليه أن يرى نفسه آخر الناس لأن الرب وحده يدين سرائر الناس حسب إنجيلي (والكلمة لبولس) بيسوع المسيح.

فليس لأي إنسان أن يقول عن نفسه إلا أن الرحمة تنزل عليه وتنقذه من كل خطيئة. وإذا رحمه الرب، يكون هذا بطول أناته. عند ذاك يرى الناس رحمة الرب عليه ويعرفون انها ستنزل عليهم لينالوا الحياة الأبدية التي تبدأ بالمعمودية وتبقى معنا في الأسرار المقدسة والإيمان.

"فلذلك الدهور الذي لا يعرفه فساد ولا يرى، الله الحكيم وحده، الكرامة والمجد الى دهر الداهرين". هذه هي حركة اختطافنا اليه في التسبيح. الحركة الاولى نحو الله هي السؤال او الطلب. وإذا نلنا الطلب الذي يكون لخلاصنا، نشكره. وهذه هي الحركة الثانية نحو الله. وبعد هذا لا يبقى الا التسبيح.

هذه الحركات الثلاث هي الصلاة. نتوسل اولا لنيل ما هو للخلاص. لنا أن نطلب الصحة ووسائل العيش دون أن ننسى أنها تقودنا الى الله. الصحة والطعام والشراب ليست غاية. هي طريق الى خلاص النفس وتنقيتها. هذا وحده السكنى مع الله في هذا العالم والعالم الآتي. معاشرتنا الرب في كل يوم هي الخلاص عينه.

أن نعيش في طلب الغفران في التواضع نتيجة قول الرب: "صلّوا في كل حين". نحن لا نستطيع أن نتلو الصلاة في كل حين، ولكننا نطلب أن يرفع الرب قلوبنا اليه في كل حين. وهذه صلاة لا كلام فيها. وإذا أدركنا هذه الدرجة في العلاقة مع الأب والابن والروح نكون في السماء منذ الآن، نصبح مسكن الله، أحرارا من كل شهوة مؤذية، منجذبين الى وجه الأب الذي هو البدء والنهاية.

وهذا لا يتحقق لأحد ما لم ير نفسه مثل بولس "آخر الناس"، اي اذا تواضعنا، والتواضع فضيلة ما من بعدها فضيلة. هي التي تؤهلنا أن نقول مع بولس ان المسيح جاء ليخلص الخطاة الذين أنا أولهم. عند ذاك يرفعنا الله الى عرشه.

المطران جاورجيوس

ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH

House Blessing

V. REV. FR. GEORGE BAALBAKI STARTED HIS
VISITATION FOR HOUSE BLESSING. IF YOU WOULD
LIKE THE PRIEST TO BLESS YOUR HOME, PLEASE
CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE OR FR. GEORGE TO
SCHEDULE A VISIT. THANK YOU!

EMAIL: INFO@STNICHOLAS-SF.COM

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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 with a vast and eclectic menu, showcasing a variety of catering options and premium beverages. Our friendly and professionally trained staff will work with you to identify your needs within your budget to create a personal and memorable event.

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