

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**

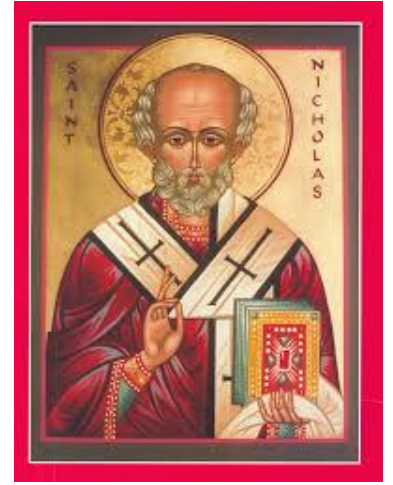
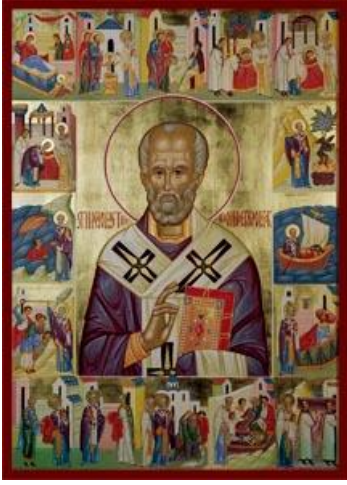
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Sub-Dn. **Ilyan Baalbaki**

Sub-Dn. **Tariq Rantisi**

Parish Council Chairman: **Azar Azar**

Parish Council Vice Chairman: **Salim Qaru**



Sunday, January 30, 2022

The three great hierarchs and ecumenical teachers:

Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian & John Chrysostom

أحد زكّا العشار / عيد الأقمّار الثلاثة

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!



SYMPATHY AND CONDOLENCES:

We would like to offer our Deepest Sympathy and Condolences to the
Entire Khoury and Qutami Families on the passing of our Dear Sister in Christ,
Leila Ghandour Khoury into eternal life.

+ *May Her Memory Be Eternal* +

THE EPISTLE: Hebrews (13:7-16)

Brethren, remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the Word of God; consider the outcome of their life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings; for it is well that the heart be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited their adherents. We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through His own blood. Therefore, let us go forth to Him outside the camp and bear the abuse He endured. For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city, which is to come. Through Him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge His Name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

الرسالة: عبرانيين 13: 7-16

يا إخوة، اذكروا مُدبّرَيْكم الذين كلّمكم بكلمة الله. تأملوا في عاقبة تصرّفهم واقنعوا بإيمانهم. إنّ يسوع المسيح هو هو أمس واليوم وإلى مدى الدهر. لا تتفادوا لتعاليم متنوّعة غريبة، فإنّه يحسُن أن يثبّت القلب بالنعمة لا بالأطعمة التي لم ينتفع الذين تعاطوها. إنّ لنا مذبحاً لا سلطان للذين يخدمون المسكن أن يأكلوا منه لأنّ الحيوانات التي يدخل بدمها عن الخطيئة إلى الأقداس بيد رئيس الكهنة تُحرّق أجسامها خارج المحلّة. فلذلك يسوع أيضاً تألم خارج الباب ليُقَدّس الشعب بدم نفسه. فلنخرُجْ إذن إليه إلى خارج المحلّة حاملين عاره لأنه ليس لنا ههنا مدينة باقية بل نطلب الآتية. فلنقرّب به إذن ذبيحة التسبيح كل حين، وهي ثمرُ شفاه معترّفة لاسمه. لا تنسوا الاحسان والمؤاساة فإنّ الله يرضي مثل هذه الذبائح.

THE GOSPEL: Luke (19:1-10)

At that time, Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. And there was a man named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector, and rich. And he sought to see Who Jesus was, but could not, on account of the crowd, because he was small of stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Jesus, for He was to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he made haste and came down, and received Him joyfully. And when they saw it they all murmured, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham; for the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost."

الإنجيل: لوقا (10-1:19)

في ذلك الزمان، فيما يسوع مجتازاً في أريحا، إذا برجل اسمه زكا كان رئيساً على العشارين، وكان غنياً وكان يلمس أن يرى يسوع من هو، فلم يكن يستطيع من الجمع لأنه كان قصير القامة فتقدم مسرعاً، وصعد إلى جميزة لينظره، لأنه كان مزمعاً أن يجتاز بها فلما انتهى يسوع إلى الموضع، رفع طرفه فرأه، فقال له: يا زكا أسرع انزل، فاليوم ينبغي لي أن أمكث في بيتك فأسرع ونزل وقبله "فوقف زكا وقال ليسوع: هاءنذا، يا رب، أعطني. فلما رأى الجميع ذلك تدمروا قائلين: إنه دخل ليحل عند رجل خاطي فراحاً المساكين نصف أمواله. وإن كنت قد غبت أحدًا في شيء، أرد أربعة أضعاف فقال له يسوع: اليوم قد حصل الخلاص لهذا البيت لأنه هو أيضاً ابن إبراهيم لأن ابن البشر إنما أتى ليطلب ويخلص ما قد هلك.

ALTAR CANDLES قناديل الهيكل



Offered by **Beatrix Salih and Family** in Loving Memory of **John Salih** .
+ *May his memory be eternal!*

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS:

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

***LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING/ELECTION:** This Sunday, January 30th following Church 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!*

***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.

***TEEN SOYO EVENT:** Friday, February 4th, at 7 PM. More info. to be announced.

***ST NICHOLAS YOUNG ADULTS LUNCHEON:** Sunday, February 6th, at 1:15 PM after Church service. This will be the young adults' first luncheon of the year. Come join us for some spiritual discussions, social fun, and great food. Election will also take place for 2022 young adult board. *Seafood Station: 803 Cortland Ave, San Francisco, CA 94110.*

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

***ST. NICHOLAS FAMILY NIGHT:** Saturday, March 5th. More details to follow.

***CAMP THY 2022:** June 20th – June 25th. Camp is back at St. Sava Mission in Jackson, Ca! Registration is open with limited space. To register, please visit: <https://campthy.com/camper-registration/>.

MENS FELLOWSHIP MEETING LAST TUESDAY:

Thank you to those that joined us, it was a successful meeting with a delicious crab feed!



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

UPCOMING CHURCH EVENTS

February- December 2022

Month	Day	Event:
February	4 th	Teen SOYO Event
February	12 th	St. Nicholas Annual Valentine's Party
March	5 th	St. Nicholas Family Night
June 20 th – 25 th		Camp THY
June 30 th – July 3 rd		PLC in Santa Clara
July	24 th	St. Nicholas Annual Day Picnic
October 1 st – 2 nd		St. Nicholas Annual Festival
November	19 th	St. Nicholas Annual Thanksgiving Family Night
December	11 th	Parish Council Elections
December	17 th	St. Nicholas Christmas Party

Metropolitan Anthony Surozh

ZACCHAEUS



In these weeks of preparation for Lent, we were faced last Sunday with the story of Bartimaeus to attract our attention on our own blindness; our spiritual blindness of which we are not aware while physical blindness is so clearly perceived; but also on the fact that if we want to recover our sight, our spiritual vision, our understanding of self, of God, of our neighbour, of life, there is only one person to whom we can turn - it is God, our Lord Jesus Christ. Bartimaeus have tried all means to recover his sight, but it is only when he turned to Christ that he did recover it.

Whether we have taken advantage of the past week to reflect deeply on our own blindness, and in the darkness to begin to see some light, I do not know; each of us will have to answer for his eagerness or his laziness.

But today we are confronted with a new parable, or rather, a new story of the life of Christ: the story of Zacchaeus. This story speaks to us again directly and the question which is been asked from us is this: What matters to me more? The good opinion of people around me, that people should not jeer at you, laugh at you because you are seeking to see God, to meet Him, or the necessity, the inner call to discover everything provided you can see Christ face to face? Is vanity stronger in us or the hunger for God? And Saint John of the Ladder says clearly that vanity is contempt of God and cowardice before men. What is our attitude: are we prepared to discard everything, provided we can meet God - or not? And in our circumstances it is not so much people who will prevent us, people will not jeer at us, they will not laugh at us: they will be totally indifferent; but this does not mean that we like beggars not turn to them, hoping for their approval, and in order to receive this approval, turn away from our search, from the only thing that can heal us and give us new life.

Also, we will find within ourselves conflicting voices, saying, Don't! Don't make yourself ridiculous! Don't single yourself out by a search which is not necessary; you have got everything... Zacchaeus was rich, Zacchaeus was known as an honorable citizen - so are we! We possess so much, we are respected - are we going to start on a road that will make us into what Paul calls 'the scum of the earth', debase us? This is the question which today's story of Zacchaeus says to us: is vanity, that is the search of things which are vain, empty, and the fear of other people's opinion that will prevail, or the hunger each of us has, at times, acute for a meeting with the living God?

زكّا العشار

هذا كان رئيساً لجباة الضرائب اي كان يلتزم الضرائب التي تدفع للرومانيين: السلطة الرومانية تُعيّنه لقاء مبلغ يدفعه لها، وهو يوظّف أعواناً له ليجبوا من الشعب، وكانوا يقبضون من الأفراد بمقتضى الهوى فيُحقّقون لهم شخصياً أرباحاً طائلة. كان رئيس العشارين في مدينة أريحا مثلاً عيّنت له السلطة المدنية أن يجبي عشرة آلاف دينار، فيجمع من مجموعة المواطنين عشرين ألف دينار ويترك الفرق في جيبه. زكّا العشار كان رئيس جباة أريحا. يقول عنه الإنجيل انه كان غنياً، ولا يقول انه كان سارقاً مثل معظم الذين كانوا يلتزمون الجباية من السلطة الرومانية.

زكّا كان عنده الفضول أن يرى يسوع إذ عرف ان السيد كان مزمعا أن يجتاز في أريحا. ربما كان هذا عنده فضولاً ليرى شخصياً ذاع صيتها في البلاد، هل كان هناك عمق روحي أكثر؟ جُلّ ما نعرفه أنه قام بجهد إذ تسلّق جُميزة ليراه لأنه كان قصير القامة. هل كان وصفه بقصير من قبل لوقا ورواية أنه صعد الى الجميزة ليوحي لنا أن علينا أن نتخطّى كل صعوبة روحية فينا لنلقى يسوع؟ لمّا رأى يسوع زكّا جالساً على غصن من الشجرة، قال له: “أسرع انزل، فاليوم ينبغي لي أن أمكث في بيتك”. كان السيد اذاً مزمعا أن يدخل في حديث طويل مع الرجل يتطلّب ساعات من الليل هنا قال الإنجيل: “فأسرع ونزل”. لم يقل فقط “نزل”. نفّذ كلياً رغبة يسوع إليه. ثم يقول: “فقبله فرحاً”. زكّا يعرف أن هذا المعلم الجديد عنده أشياء يقوله من الله، تمتمة لتوبته. فبعد أن دخل البيت، أتت من زكّا الكلمة الصاعقة: “ها أنذا يا رب أعطي المساكين نصف أموالي، وإن كنتُ قد غبنتُ أحداً في شيء أرّد أربعة أضعاف”. من يُعطي نصف أمواله للمساكين؟ لماذا أربعة أضعاف؟ أليس لأنه خاف بالأب لا يردّ كل شيء للذي غبنه بالجباية؟ بعد هذه الآية المخلّصة للرب يسوع، “اليوم حصل الخلاص لهذا البيت”. اليوم، بتوبة هذا الرجل تنتهي حياته السابقة. ثم يأتي الوعد: “لأن ابن البشر إنما أتى ليطلب ويخلص ما قد هلك”. ليس من إنسان محكوماً عليه أو أنه اعتُبر من أبناء الهلاك إنّ هو أحبّ الرب فوق ما هو بشريّ فيه. المطران جاورجيوس (جبل لبنان)

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!

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Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church

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3156-3158 24th Street

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3801 Mission Street

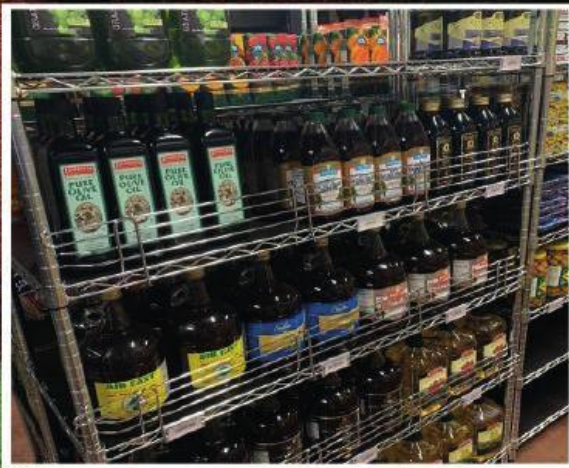
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