

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**

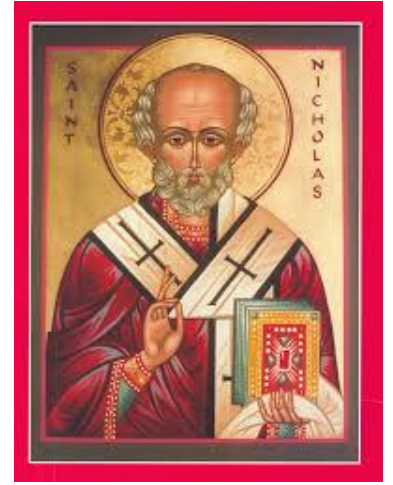
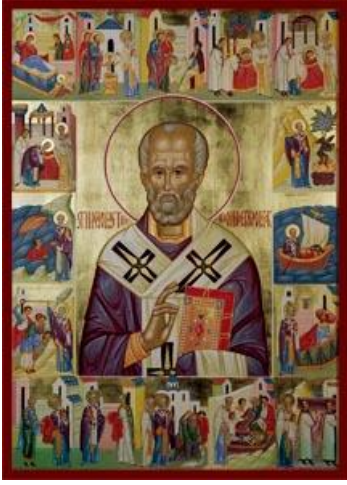
(586) 214-4428 revbaalbaki@yahoo.com

Sub-Dn. **Ilyan Baalbaki**

Sub-Dn. **Tariq Rantisi**

Parish Council Chairman: **Azar Azar**

Parish Council Vice Chairman: **Salim Qaru**



Sunday, March 13, 2022

First Sunday of Great Lent (Sunday of Orthodoxy)

أحد الأرثوذكسية (الأول من الصوم) احد رفع الايقونات

The **Procession of the Holy Icons** to take place following Service.

CHURCH IS OPEN!

Mask is optional when entering, for the fully vaccinated.

Please don't attend if you're feeling sick.

We pray for the good health, well-being, and safety of everyone. God Bless!

THE EPISTLE: Hebrews (11:24-26, 32-40)

Brethren, by faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; choosing rather to share ill-treatment with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; esteeming the reproach of the Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he looked to the recompense of reward. And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me if I tell of Gideon, Barak, Sampson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and all the prophets, who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, from weakness were made strong, became mighty in war, and turned to flight armies of the aliens. Women received their dead by resurrection, and others were tortured, not accepting their deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. And others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, they were tempted, they were slain with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, being destitute, afflicted, tormented (of whom the world was not worthy), wandering in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a witness through their faith, did not receive the promise, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

الرسالة: عبرانيين ١١: ٢٤-٢٦، ٣٢-٤٠

يا إخوة، بالإيمان موسى لما كَبُرَ أبى أن يُدعى ابنًا لابنة فرعون، مختارًا الشقاء مع شعب الله على التمتع الوقتي بالخطيئة، ومعتبرًا عار المسيح غنى أعظم من كنوز مصر، لأنه نظر إلى الثواب. وماذا أقول أيضًا؟ إنه يضيق بي الوقت إن أخبرت عن جدعون وباراق وشمشون ويفتاح وداود وصموئيل والأنبياء الذين بالإيمان قهروا الممالك، وعملوا البر، ونالوا المواعد، وسدوا أفواه الأسود، وأطفأوا حدة النار، ونجوا من حدّ السيف، وتقوّوا من ضعف، وصاروا أشداء في الحرب، وكسروا معسكرات

على قيامة أفضل؛ وآخرون ذاقوا الهُزء والجلد والقيود أيضًا والسجن، ورُجموا ونُشروا وامْتَحِنُوا وماتوا بحدّ السيف، وساحوا في جلود غنم ومعز وهم معوزون مُضايِقون مجهودون (ولم يكن العالم مستحقاً لهم)، وكانوا تائهين في البراري والجبال والمغاور وكهوف الأرض. فهؤلاء كلّهم، مشهوداً لهم بالإيمان، لم ينالوا الموعد لأنّ الله سبق فنظر لنا شيئاً أفضل: أن لا يكْمُلوا بدوننا.

THE GOSPEL: John (1:43-51)

At that time, Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael, and said to him, "We have found Him of Whom Moses in the Law and also the Prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming to Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" Nathanael said to Jesus, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered Him, "Rabbi, Thou art the Son of God! Thou art the King of Israel!" Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things than these." And Jesus said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."

الإِنْجِيل: يوحنا ١: ٤٤-٥٢

في ذلك الزمان أراد يسوع الخروج إلى الجليل، فوجد فيلبس فقال له: اتبعني. وكان فيلبس من بيت صيدا، من مدينة أندراوس وبطرس. فوجد فيلبس نثنائيل فقال له: إنّ الذي كتّبت عنه موسى في الناموس والأنبياء قد وجدناه، وهو يسوع بن يوسف الذي من الناصرة. فقال له نثنائيل: أَمِنْ الناصرة يمكن أن يكون شيء صالح؟ فقال له فيلبس: تعال وانظر. فرأى يسوع نثنائيل مقبلاً إليه فقال عنه: هوذا إسرائيلي حقاً لا غشّ فيه. فقال له نثنائيل: من أين تعرفني؟ أجاب يسوع وقال له: قبل أن يدعوك فيلبس، وأنت تحت التينة رأيتك. أجاب نثنائيل وقال له: يا معلّم، أنت ابن الله، أنت ملك إسرائيل. أجاب يسوع وقال له: لأتّي قلت لك إني رأيتك تحت التينة، أمنت؟ إنّك ستعاين أعظم من هذا. وقال له: الحقّ الحقّ أقول لكم إنّكم من الآن ترون السماء مفتوحة وملائكة الله يصعدون وينزلون على ابن البشر.

Holy Bread of Oblation is offered by:

✠ **David Hanhan and his family**, in loving memory of His Son,
Joseph David Hanhan. May His Memory Be Eternal!

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.

This Sunday's Readers:

- ✧ Sermonette:
Kh. Eman Baalbaki
- ✧ Epistle in Arabic:
Ruwaida Haddad
- ✧ Epistle in English:
Pat Arango

Lady Auxiliary Bake Sale!

Palm Sunday, April 17th, following Church Service

We are currently taking pre-orders via phone.

Ka'ak Date, Warbat, Walnut Kataif: \$3 each

Helbeh, Maqruta, Burma, Baklava, and more: \$2 each

For Pre-orders, please contact the church office, Janet Azar,
Inam Shami, Juliet Najjar or Randa Shatara.

*Pre-order pick-ups are on Saturday, April 16th and Sunday,
April 17th from 12 PM- 2 PM @ St. Nicholas Church.*

Food for Hungry

Please pick up a donation box and donate what you can for the poor and needy people during this Holy Season. The boxes will be collected after Easter.

A Special Thank you to the Tannous families

for hosting a successful fundraising Family Night!

And Thank you to All of you that joined us, volunteered and donated to this cause.

We appreciate you and ask God to Bless All of you!

2022 Great Lent

{ Lent Period: March 7th – April 23rd }

Day	Date	Celebration
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
The Services program during the period of Great Lent 2022		برنامج الصلوات خلال فترة الصوم الأربعيني المقدس لعام 2022
Wednesdays	Great Compline Service	7 pm مساءً خدمة النوم الكبرى "يا رب القوات" الإربعاء
Fridays (Followed by Potluck)	Akathist Service	7 pm مساءً خدمة مديح والدة الاله الجمعة
Sundays	The Divine Liturgy	11 am صباحاً القداس الإلهي الأحد

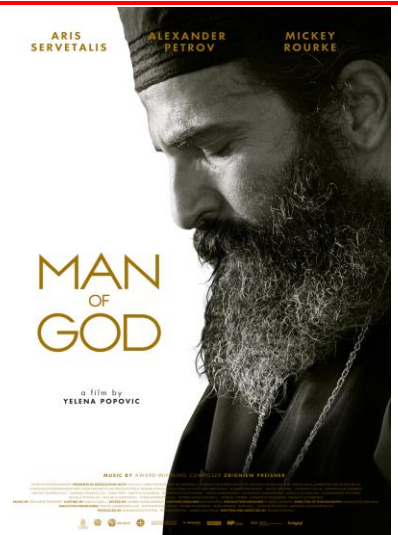
ST. NICHOLAS YOUNG ADULTS & TEEN SOYO **MOVIE TAKE OVER!**

Monday, March 21st at 6:30 PM

Please join us as we reserved a whole theater for *St. Nicholas Young Adults and Teen SOYO* to watch **"Man of God,"** which follows the events of St. Nektarios, one of the most renowned saints of the Orthodox Church. This movie is being played only one day throughout the whole country.

To secure the spot, we are asking for payment upfront. \$11 per ticket, we accept Venmo or Paypal.

Please RSVP with Ilyan Baalbaki or Shadi Azar.



ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS:

- ☞ **ST. NICHOLAS TEEN SOYO BOWLING NIGHT:** This Evening, March 11th at 7 PM @ **Classic Bowl**. Join us for a fun night of bowling and fellowship! \$5 for shoes and any extra for food. We look forward to seeing all of our teens!
- ☞ **NEWLYWEDS AND MIDDLE -AGED FAMILIES MEETING:** Friday, April 1st, at 6 PM in the Church hall.
- ☞ **LADY AUXILIARY MONTHLY MEETING:** Saturday, April 2nd. St. Nicholas Ladies Auxiliary will be having their monthly meeting at Mimi Hanhan's home in Sacramento. *All of you ladies are welcome!* If you are planning to join us, please RSVP with the Church office (415-648-5200) or Sue Rantisi (650-823-2949) to confirm your spot. We look forward to a great meeting with you ladies!
- ☞ **ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH EASTER KIDS WORKSHOP:** Sunday, April 10th, *directly following Church Service in our hall*. This is going to be a free and fun event for the whole family to enjoy. Bring your children and join us for this beautiful event, full of Easter activities! Luncheon will be served to all.
- ☞ **AFFORDABLE HOMES FOR SALE in Diamond Heights:** Habitat for Humanity is building 8 affordable homes for first-time homebuyers. Applicants cannot have owned a home in the past 3 years, meet income guidelines and willing to complete 500 volunteer hours. Approved applicants qualify for monthly payment equal to 30% of your gross household income, no down payment and will have 0% interest mortgage. There is a mandatory virtual info session prior to applying. Applications are now open until April 22nd and the lottery will be held on May 13th. For more info, please visit: www.habitatgsf.org/amber-drive-info.
- ☞ **ST. NICHOLAS SPRING HAT SHOW:** Sunday, May 22nd, directly following Divine Liturgy. *Ladies, Get ready to show up in your spring hats!* 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 or for more information, please visit: <https://campthy.com/camper-registration/>
- ☞ **70th ANNUAL PARISH LIFE CONFERENCE 2022:** June 29th – July 3rd, taking place in Santa Clara Marriott Hotel, hosted by Orthodox Church of the Redeemer. To register or for more information, please visit: <https://antiochianevents.com/la>
- ☞ **TREE OF LIFE:** If you would like to purchase a Leaf with your name or a loved one's name engraved to hang on the Tree, please contact the Church office.
- ☞ **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME:** DON'T FORGET TO SET YOUR CLOCK 1 HOUR FORWARD THIS SUNDAY!

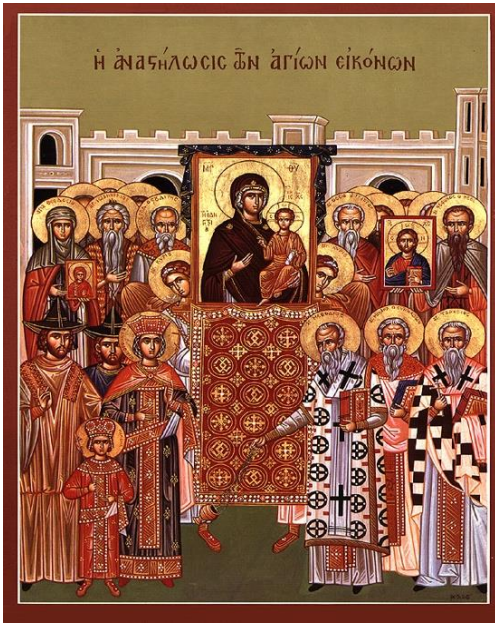
2022 ST. NICHOLAS UPCOMING EVENTS

Save the Dates!

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 of Sourozh

SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY



We are keeping today, as every year at the end of the first week of Lent, the Feast of the Triumph of Orthodoxy. And every year we must give thought to what is meant, not only as a historical event, but also in our personal lives. First of all we must remember that the Triumph of Orthodoxy is not the Triumph of the Orthodox over other people. It is the Triumph of the Truth Divine in the hearts of those who belong to the Orthodox Church and who proclaim the Truth revealed by God in its integrity and directness.

Today we must thank God with all our hearts that He has revealed Himself to us, that He has dispelled darkness in the minds and hearts of thousands and thousands of people, that He who is the Truth has shared the knowledge of the perfect Truth Divine with us. The occasion of this feast was the

recognition of the legitimacy of venerating icons. By doing this we proclaim that God - invisible, ineffable, the God whom we cannot comprehend, has truly become man, that God has taken flesh, that He has lived in our midst full of humility, of simplicity, but of glory also. And proclaiming this we venerate the icons not as idols, but as a declaration of the Truth of the Incarnation.

By doing this we must not forget that it is not the icons of wood and of paint, but God who reveals Himself in the world. Each of us, all men, were created in the image of God. We are all living icons, and this lays upon us a great responsibility because an icon may be defaced, an icon may be turned into a caricature and into a blasphemy. And we must think of ourselves and ask ourselves: are we worthy, are we capable of being called "icons", images of God? A western writer has said that meeting a Christian, those who surround him should see him as a vision, a revelation of something they have never perceived before, that the difference between a non-Christian and a Christian is as great, as radical, as striking, as the difference there is between a statue and a living person. A statue may be beautiful, but it is made of stone or of wood, and it is dead. A human being may not at first appear as possessed of such a beauty, but those who meet him should be able, as those who venerate an icon - blessed, consecrated by the Church - should see in him the shining of the presence of the Holy Spirit, see God revealing Himself in the humble form of a human being. As long as we are not capable of being such a vision to those who surround us, we fail in our duty, we do not proclaim the Triumph of Orthodoxy through our life, we give a lie to what we proclaim. And therefore each of us, and all of us collectively, bear every responsibility for the fact that the world meeting Christians by the million is not converted by the vision of God's presence in their midst, carried indeed in earthen vessels, but glorious, saintly, transfiguring the world.

What is true about us, simply, personally, is as true about our churches. Our churches were called by Christ as a family, a community of Christians to be a body of people who are united with one another by total love, by sacrificial love, a love that is God's love to us. The Church was called, and is still called, to be a body of people whose characteristic is to be the incarnate love

of God. Alas, in all our churches what we see is not the miracle of love divine.

From the very beginning, alas, the Church was built according to the images of the State - hierarchical, strict, formal. In this we have failed - to be truly what the early, first community of Christians were. Tertullian writing in defence of the Christians said to the Emperor of Rome: "When people meet us they are arrested and say: 'How these people love one another!'" We are not collectively a body of people about whom one could say this. And we must learn to recreate what God has willed for us, what has once existed: to recreate communities, churches, parishes, dioceses, patriarchates, the whole church, in such a way that the whole of life, the reality of life should be that of love. Alas, we have not learned this yet.

And so, when we keep the feast of the Triumph of Orthodoxy we must remember that God has conquered, that we are proclaiming the truth, God's own Truth, Himself incarnate and revealed, and there is a great responsibility for all of us collectively and singly in this world, that we must not give the lie to what we proclaim by the way in which we live. A western theologian has said that we may proclaim the whole truth of Orthodoxy and at the same time deface it, give it the lie by the way in which we live, showing with our life that all these were words, but not reality. We must repent of this, we must change, we must become such that people meeting us should see God's truth, God's light, God's love in us individually and collectively. As long as we have not done this we have not taken part in the Triumph of Orthodoxy. God has triumphed, but He has put us in charge of making his triumph the triumph of life for the whole world.

Therefore, let us learn to live according to the Gospel which is the Truth and the Life, not only individually but collectively, and build societies of Christians that are a revelation of it, so that the world looking at us may say: "Let us re-shape our institutions, re-shape our relationships, renew all that has gone or remains old and become a new society in which the Law of God, the Life of God can prosper and triumph.

الصوم والإنسان الآخر

للمطران جورج (خضر)

... وكانت كلمة الرب إلى زكريّا قائلاً هكذا تكلم رب الجنود قائلاً احكموا حكم الحق واصنعوا الرأفة والمراحم كلّ إنسان إلى أخيه. لا تظلموا الأرملة واليتيم والغريب والبائس ولا تفكروا شراً الواحد على أخيه (زكريّا، من الإصحاح السابع).
يذكرنا زكريّا بأن الصوم هو لله، اتّجاه إليه وبالنسبة اتّجاه إلى الرأفة والمراحم، فلا نظلم الأرملة واليتيم والغريب والبائس ولا نفكر بالشرّ الواحد على أخيه. هذا النوع من الصوم ينحدر من أننا صرنا في عهد جديد مع الله، من أن الله صار في داخل كلّ نفس. وهذه الفضائل ناتجة من الروح القدس الذي يملأ الصوم...
نجد الفكرة ذاتها، أن الصوم طريقة رأفة، في أشعياء حينما يقول الله للناس: «... أليس هذا هو الصوم الذي أثرته: حلّ قيود النفاق وفكّ ربط النير وإطلاق المضغوطين أحراراً وكسر كلّ نير؟ أليس هو أن تكسر للجائع خبزك وأن تدخل البائسين المطرودين بيتك وإذا رأيت العريان أن تكسوه وأن لا تتوارى عن لحمك؟» (أشعياء ٥٨: ٢-٧).
... تلاحظون إذاً، من كلام أشعياء، ان الصوم موجود حتّى يتواضع الإنسان أمام الله ويجد نفسه ذليلاً أمام الله فقط وعندئذ يكتشف الآخر في طريقه عندما يصغر في عيني نفسه. هذا ما اكتشفته الكنيسة الأولى أيضاً إذ نجد رسالة أرسلها مسيحيّ إلى الأمبراطور الرومانيّ في القرن الثاني للميلاد، قال دفاعاً عن المسيحيّين: «إنهم يصومون مع أنهم فقراء لأنهم يريدون أن يساعدوا بعضهم بعضاً». هذا يعني أنهم يمتنعون عن الطعام ويوفّرون ثمنه لكي يعطوا المبالغ لفقرائهم. اكتشفت الكنيسة الأولى أن إحدى غايات الصوم الأساسية هي أن يعطي الإنسان أخاه الإنسان. ولكن، أبعد من هذا العطاء المادّي، هناك الإخوة البشريّة في المسيح...



Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church

Banquet Hall



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\$3,595,000 | 12 Units

- 40%+ upside in rents
- ADU potential



3156-3158 24th Street

\$2,700,000 | 8 Unit Mixed-Use Property

- Off Market Transaction
- Represented Seller



3801 Mission Street

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