

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**

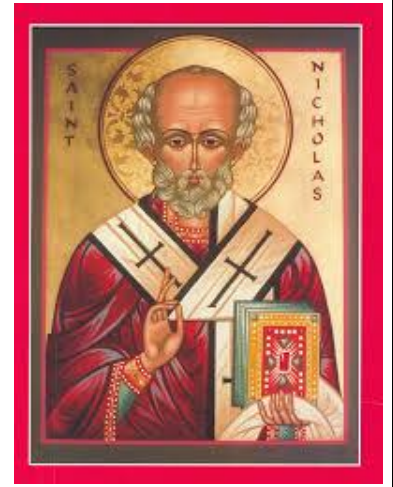
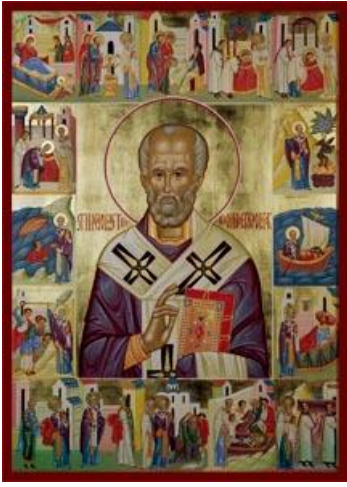
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Sub-Dn. **Ilyan Baalbaki**

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Parish Council Chairman: **Azar Azar**

Parish Council Vice Chairman: **Salim Qaru**



Sunday, April 24th, 2022 (HAPPY EASTER)

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

Al Maseeh Qam! Haqan Qam!

Kristos Anesti! Alithos Anesti!

المسيح قام! حقا قام كل عام وأنتم بخير



THE EPISTLE: Acts: 1:1-8

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commandment through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. To them he presented himself alive after his passion by any proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the kingdom of God. And while staying with them he charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me, for John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit." So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom of Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth."

الرسالة: أعمال الرسل 1:1-8

إني قد أنشأت الكلام الأول يا ثاوفيلس في جميع الأمور التي ابتدأ يسوع يعملها ويعلم بها إلى اليوم الذي صعد فيه من بعد أن أوصى بالروح القدس الرسل الذين اصطفاهم، الذين أراهم أيضًا نفسه حيًا بعد تألمه ببراهين كثيرة وهو يتراءى لهم مدة أربعين يومًا ويكلّمهم بما يختص بملكوت الله. وفيما هو مجتمع معهم أوصاهم أن لا تبرحوا من اورشليم بل انتظروا موعد الأب الذي سمعتموه مني، فإن يوحنا عمّد بالماء وأما انتم فستعمّدون بالروح القدس لا بعد هذه الأيام بكثير. فسأله المجتمعون قائلين: يا رب أفي هذا الزمان تردّ الملك إلى إسرائيل؟ فقال لهم: ليس لكم أن تعرفوا الأزمنة أو الاوقات التي جعلها الأب في سلطانه لكنكم ستنالون قوة بحلول الروح القدس عليكم، وتكونون لي شهودًا في اورشليم وفي جميع اليهودية والسامرة وإلى أقصى الأرض.

THE GOSPEL: John 1:1-17

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was

John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light. The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not. He came to his own home, and his own people received him not. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God; who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. (John bore witness to him, and cried, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, for he was before me.'") And from his fullness have we all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

الإنجيل: يوحنا 1:

في البدء كان الكلمة، والكلمة كان عند الله وإلهًا كان الكلمة، هذا كان في البدء عند الله. كلُّ به كان، وبغيره لم يكن شيء مما كَوَّن. به كانت الحياة والحياة كانت نور الناس، والنور في الظلمة يضيء والظلمة لم تدركه. كان انسان مرسل من الله اسمه يوحنا. هذا جاء للشهادة ليشهد للنور، لكي يؤمن الكل بواسطته. لم يكن هو النور بل كان ليشهد للنور. كان النور الحقيقي الذي ينير كل انسان آتٍ الى العالم. في العالم كان، والعالم به كَوَّن، والعالم لم يعرفه. الى خاصته اتي وخاصته لم تقبله، فأما كل الذين قبلوه فأعطاهم سلطانًا ان يكونوا اولادًا لله الذين يؤمنون باسمه، الذين لا من دم ولا من مشيئة لحم ولا من مشيئة رجل لكن من الله وُلِدوا. والكلمة صار جسدًا وحلَّ فينا (وقد أبصرنا مجده مجدٌ وحيدٌ من الأب) مملوءًا نعمة وحقًا. ويوحنا شهد له وصرخ قائلاً: هذا هو الذي قلتُ عنه إن الذي يأتي بعدي صار قبلي لانه متقدمي، ومن ملئه نحن كُلنا اخذنا ونعمة عوض نعمة، لان الناموس بموسى أعطي، وأما النعمة والحق فبيسوع المسيح حصل.

ALTAR CANDLES قناديل الهيكل



Offered by **Hani Tannous** in Loving memory of
Kathy Tannous on the occasion of her Two Year Memorial.
May Her Memory be Eternal!



Offered by **Krikor and Christine Jekelian** for the good health of their children Christopher, Charlie and Starlet Jekelian. *God Bless and Many Years!*

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!

Good Friday Flowers \$50 (Minimum Donation) per Bouquet

الزهور لتزيين نعش المسيح يوم الجمعة العظيمة

Name: _____ الأسم

Phone Number _____ رقم التلفون

Donation(\$): _____ المبلغ

Message: _____

Good Friday flowers: Dear Parishioners: To avoid misspelling of the names, please mail or email the names along with the donation or put it in the tray on Sunday in an envelope with your name & write a memo that this donation is for the "Bier of Christ". Thank you for your cooperation.

**2022 SCHEDULE OF SERVICES:
GREAT AND HOLY WEEK OF OUR LORD'S PASSION AND HIS GLORIOUS
RESURRECTION**

Holy and Great Wednesday, April 20th

Holy Oil Service 7:00 PM (صلاة مسح المرضى بالزيت المقدس)

Holy and Great Thursday, April 21st

1- Divine Liturgy 10:30 AM (خميس الأسرار)

Breakfast after liturgy (offered by **Andoni & Rula Tannous and family**).

2- Matins with 12 Passion Gospels 7:00 PM (صلاة اناجيل الآلام)

Holy and Great Good Friday, April 22nd

1- The Royal Hours & Vespers Service 11:00 AM (صلاة الغروب)

Decoration of Bier of Christ (تزيين نعش السيد المسيح)

2- Matins with the Lamentations at the Tomb at 7:00 PM (تقاريط جناز السيد المسيح)

Followed by Soup and Bagels (offered by **Leila Paolino and Najwa & Mourice Kari**).

Holy and Great Saturday, April 23rd (خدمة الفصح المجيد)

Starting Service 9:30 PM (بداية الخدمة)

Rush 10:00 PM (صلاة الهجمة)

Matins 10:30 PM

Divine Liturgy (القداس الالهى)

Followed by free breakfast, sponsored by the Men's Fellowship & all those who donated
and prepared by **Jeries Tannous & crew**.

Holy and Great Sunday, April 24th

Vespers 12:00 PM (صلاة الباعوث)

Followed by Children Eggs Hunt

***Agape Service - صلاة الباعوث & children's Eggs Hunt Sunday,
April 24th at 12:00 PM Agape (Vesper) Service***

Following the Service we will have the Golden Easter Egg Hunt donated by **Mike Tannous, Hani Tannous, Gihan Cosentino, Christine Jekelian and their families in Loving memory of Josef & Margarit Hanhan, Charles & Almaz Tannous and Asal Tannous.**
May their Memory be Eternal! Many Thanks and May God bless you and your families.

HOLY AND GREAT THURSDAY

Please join us **Thursday, April 21st** for Divine Liturgy at **10:30 AM**. We will have free
Breakfast offered by **Andoni & Rula Tannous and family** following the service.
Many Thanks and May God Bless you and your family.

EASTER BREAKFAST

Please join us **Saturday, April 23rd** for our Easter Service starting at **9:30 PM**. We will have
free Easter Breakfast prepared by **Jeries & Josephine Tannous and family** and sponsored
by the **Men's Fellowship**, directly following the service. We would like to thank everyone
and their families who donated.

Good Friday Soup and Bagels

Leila Paolino and Najwa & Mourice Kari are donating & preparing the Soup, Bagels and Coffee after the Lamentation Service in Loving memory of **Sub. Deacon Michel Khoury**. *God Bless and May His Memory be Eternal!*

GOLDEN EASTER EGG HUNT

Join us this **Sunday, April 24th** for Agape Service at **12 PM**, followed by our annual Golden Easter Egg Hunt! (**Donated by Mike Tannous, Hani Tannous, Gihan Cosentino, Christine Jekelian and Family**). Easter Breakfast will be served to all. Looking forward to seeing all the Children and Family for this joyous occasion!

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS:

- ☞ **MOTHER'S DAY FAMILY NIGHT:** **Friday, May 6th**, doors open at 7 PM. Join us for an incredible night celebrating Mothers! Live entertainment featuring **Safwan, Worood and Radwan**. Amazing Meza followed by a Delicious Dinner, sponsored by the Men's Fellowship. Adults \$60 and Children 12 & under \$30. *For tickets and reservations, please call the Church office, Jeries, Tannous, Jeries Azar, Mourice Kari, or Elias Batshon.*
- ☞ **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 now open with limited space. To register please visit: <https://campthy.com/camper-registration/>
- ☞ **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.

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

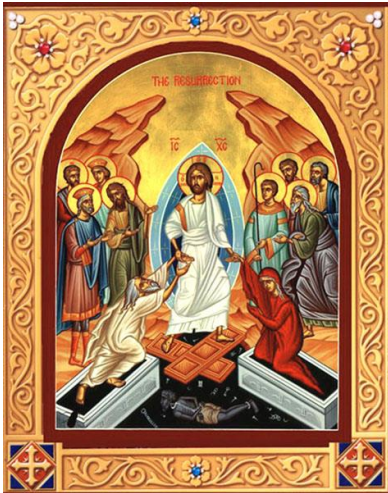
AL MASEEH QAM! HAQAN QAM!

KRISTOS ANESTI! ALITHOS ANESTI!

المسيح قام! حقا قام

كل عام وأنتم بخير

Metropolitan Anthony
EASTER MESSAGE



When Christ first rose from the tomb and appeared to His disciples and the myrrh-bearing women, He greeted them with the word "Rejoice!". And then later when He appeared to the Apostles His first words were "Peace be unto you!"; peace, because their confusion was very great - the Lord had died. It seemed as though all hope had perished for the victory of God over human wickedness, for the victory of good over evil. It would seem that life itself had been slain and light had faded. All that remained for the disciples who had believed in Christ, in life, in love, was to go on existing, for they could no longer live. Having tasted eternal life they were now condemned to expect cruel persecution and death at the hands of Christ's enemies. "Peace be unto you", proclaimed Christ. "I have arisen, I am alive, I am with you, and

henceforth nothing - neither death nor persecution - will ever separate us or deprive you of eternal life, the victory of God". And then, having convinced them of His physical resurrection, having restored their peace and an unshakable certainty of faith, Christ uttered words which may in the present age sound menacing and frightening to many, "As the Father sent Me, so I send you". Only a few hours after Christ's death on the cross, not long after the fearful night in Gethsemane, the betrayal by Judas when Christ had been taken by His enemies, condemned to death, led out beyond the city walls and died on the cross, these words sounded menacing. And it was only faith, the conquering certainty that Christ had risen, that God had conquered, that the Church had become an invincible force that transformed these words into words of hope and triumphant God-speed.

And the disciples went out to preach; nothing could stop them. Twelve men confronted the Roman empire. Twelve defenceless men, twelve men without legal rights were out to preach the simplest message, that divine love had entered the world and that they were willing to give their lives for the sake of this love, in order that others might believe and come to life, and that a new life might begin for others through their death. [I Cor. IV :9-13]

Death was indeed granted them; there is not a single apostle except St. John the Divine who did not die a martyr's death. Death was granted them, and persecution and suffering and a cross (II Cor. VI: 3-14). But faith, faith in Christ, in God Incarnate, faith in Christ crucified and risen, faith in Christ who brought unquenchable love into the world, has triumphed. "Our faith which has conquered the world is the victory." This preaching changed the attitude of man to man; every person became precious in the eyes of another. The destiny of the world was widened and deepened; it burst the bounds of earth and united earth to heaven. And now we Christians, in the words of a western preacher, in the person of Jesus Christ, have become the people to whom God has committed the care of other people; that they should believe in themselves because God believes in us; that they should hope for all things because God puts His hope in us; that they should be able to carry our victorious faith through the furnace of horror, trials, hatred and persecution - that faith which has already conquered the world, in the faith in Christ, God crucified and risen. So let us also stand up for this faith. Let us proclaim it fearlessly, let us teach it to our children, let us bring them to the sacraments of the Church which, even before they can understand it, unite them with God and plant eternal life in them.

All of us, sooner or later, will stand before the judgment of God and will have to answer whether we were able to love the whole world - believers and unbelievers, the good and the bad - with the sacrificial, crucified, all-conquering love with which God loves us. May the Lord give us invincible courage, triumphant faith, joyful love in order that the kingdom for which God became man should be established, that we should truly become godly, that our earth should indeed become heaven where love, triumphant love lives and reigns. Christ is risen!

فصح العبور

من «سوء الوجود» إلى «حسن الوجود»

هو إياه أدركنا في ظلمتنا، في عطشنا وجوعنا إليه، في غربتنا القسريّة عن هيكله الحجريّ ومائدة عشائه. لكنّه بدا لنا نوراً في هيكلنا اللحميّ؛ فهناك، حيث يجاهد هو «من أجل حياة العالم» (يوحنا ٦: ٥١)، و«لتكون له حياة أفضل» (يوحنا ١٠: ١٠)، اجتاز عتبة ما كان يفصله عنا. فبقدرته محبّته دخل حصوناً منيعة عليه، حصون قلوبنا، فأباد عمتها وأشرق فيها. أمام مفارقة إقامة خدمة الفصح هذا العام «والأبواب مغلقة» (يوحنا ٢٠: ٢٦)، بحيث استحال على المؤمنين أن يؤمّوا الكنيسة وأبوابها موصدة، دخل هو إلى حيث نحن أغلقنا الأبواب عليه كثيراً وتركناه خارجاً، أعني قلوبنا. هناك مدّ يده إلينا، في تلك العتمة، وأقامنا، كما فعل مرّة في صبيحة الفصح عندما أمسك بيدي آدم وحوّاء وأخرجهما من القبر.

نعم، المسيح قام! إنّها صرخة من هو في العتمة وافتقده نور اليد الممدودة إليه! ليست هذه الصرخة تمتمة على شفاهنا، أو نغمة صادرة من حناجرنا، أو نصّاً منوطاً في كتاب، أو ترنيمة تؤدّيها جوقة متمرّسة. إنّها صرخة نعمته في قلوبنا (غلاطية ٤: ٦). أليس هذا ما شاءت الكنيسة أن تقدّمه لنا في صبيحة الفصح على لسان الإنجيليّ يوحنا: «النور يضيء في الظلمة، والظلمة لم تدركه» (١: ٥)؟ أو ليست هذه هي صرخته فينا، يطالبنا بواسطتها أن نطلبه هو أينما كنّا؟ فهو المطالب بنا

لنطالب به! هكذا لم تقدر ظلمتنا ولا خطيئتنا ولا غربتنا على أن تحبّه أو تبعده عنا، ولا أن تخفي محبّته وخلاصه وعنايته بنا. ها قد انقضت الحقيقة أمام ناظرَي قلوبنا وبتنا نطلبها بأكثر إلحاح، بل نطالب بها حقاً من حقوقنا، وإن كنّا لسنا أهلاً لها. لنضع إذاً الأمور في نصابها. هوذا حقّ الله فينا: «كلّ شيء به كان، وبغيره لم يكن شيء ممّا كان. فيه كانت الحياة، والحياة كانت نور الناس» (يوحنا ١: ٤). فهو مبدأ الحياة ومبدئها، خالقها والمعتني بها. وهو يمدّ الإنسان بالنور ليتعلّم ويتدرّب كيف يتعهّد الحياة كلّها: «كان النور الحقيقيّ الذي ينير كلّ إنسان آتياً إلى العالم» (يوحنا ١: ٩). وهو لم يكتفِ بأن أعطانا «الوجود»، بل أتحفنا بـ «حسن الوجود»، أي بكرامة فوق كلّ كرامة: «أمّا كلّ الذين قبلوه فأعطاهم سلطاناً أن يصيروا أولاد الله، أي المؤمنون باسمه» (يوحنا ١: ١٢). وضع غرّى علاقة بينه وبيننا لا تنفصم إلّا إذا رفضناها بمحض إرادتنا أو أعرضنا عنها بسلوكنا. هذا ما يذكره يوحنا بحسرة ويذكرنا به: «إلى خاصّته جاء، وخاصّته لم تقبله» (١: ١١).

هكذا صنع الإنسان الجحيم بنفسه لنفسه، إذ تغرّب عن الله وتغرّب عن أخيه الإنسان واستغلّ الوجود بعكس الغاية منه. بتغرّبه عن حقيقة نفسه، صار «أدنى من الوجود» الذي خلقه الله من أجله ويعيش أزماً لا تعدو الأزمة الحاليّة سوى إحدى مظاهر هذا التغرّب. لكنّ إرادة الله الخيرة دبّرت أمراً عجيّباً، عمليّة إنقاذ فريدة، لأنّه يحبّ الإنسان حبّاً جمّاً. إليك الدواء والعلاج والحقيقة: «والكلمة صار جسداً وحلّ بيننا، ورأينا مجده، مجدّاً كما لوحيد من الأب، مملوءاً نعمة وحقاً» (يوحنا ١: ١٤).

إنّها الأيقونة التي تعكس طبيعة «حسن الوجود». وهذا ما شارك يسوع به الإنسان الذي يؤمن به. المعاناة الحاضرة تفتح الباب أمامنا لنعرف عمق محبة الله وارتباطه بنا، وكيف يسير بالمؤمنين به إلى حسن الوجود، أي «الذين ولدوا ليس من دم، ولا من مشيئة جسد، ولا من مشيئة رجل، بل من الله» (١: ١٣). هكذا ينسبنا الله إليه ويتبنّانا، مرّة وإلى الأبد. هذه هي نظرته إلينا وهكذا يعرفنا ويعرّف عنا، إن آمنا به. هلاً أدركنا إذاً أنّ الشرّ ليس من طبيعته، وأنّنا نغلبه بمحبّته ونعمته أنّي وجدّ؟

فرحي أنّنا نسير في طريق العبور إلى «حسن الوجود»، بعد أن أسأنا عيش نعمة «الوجود» فأنحدرنا إلى «سوء الوجود». شهادات كثيرة معاصرة تُبرز كيف أنّ الله ما فتئ يعمل حتّى الآن، في واقعنا الراهن، حتّى يتمّ هذا العبور على سعيد الشخص والجماعة. معاونو الله في هذا العمل ليسوا قلة. إنّها خميرة صالحة موجودة في عجيب هذا العالم ويمكنها أن تهتف مع يوحنا هتاف الفصح هذا: «من ملئه نحن جميعاً أخذنا، ونعمة فوق نعمة» (١: ١٦). هؤلاء يقبلون قلقنا إلى رجاء، ومخاضنا إلى ولادة، وانحباسنا إلى انطلاق، وضمورنا إلى غيره، وأزمتنا الحاضرة إلى فرصة. عسانا نلحق بهم فنعيد معهم الفصح السريّ، أي عبورنا من الموت إلى الحياة في المسيح. المسيح قام!

سلوان

متروبوليت جبل لبنان

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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- 25ft x 25ft dance floor
- Lighting & Sound
- On-site catering with staff
- Fully equipped industrial kitchen
- Tables, chairs, linens, flatware, silverware available
- Set up, take down, and cleaning services
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Recent Transactions



2844 21st Street
\$3,595,000
12 Units



3156-3158 24th Street
\$2,700,000
8 Unit Mixed-Use



3801 Mission Street
\$1,900,000
4 Unit Mixed-Use



2697 Mission Street
\$4,700,000
28 Units Mixed-Use



249 Grand Avenue
\$1,887,500
2 Unit Mixed-Use



302 28th Avenue
\$3,275,000
6 Units Multifamily




627-633 Irving Street
\$3,000,000
3 Unit Mixed-Use

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Trial Attorney Since 1996