

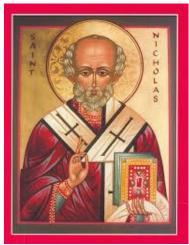
كنيسة مار نقولا الأنطاكية الأرثوذكسية

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church Antiochian Archdiocese of North America Diocese of Los Angeles and the West 5200 Diamond Heights Blvd., San Francisco, CA 94131 Tel: (415) 648-5200

Email: <u>info@stnicholas-sf.com</u>--website:<u>stnicholas-sf.com</u> His Eminence **Metropolitan JOSEPH**, Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

Pastor, V. Rev. Fr. George Baalbaki (586) 214-4428 <u>revbaalbaki@yahoo.com</u> Sub-Dn. Ilyan Baalbaki Sub-Dn. Tariq Rantisi

Parish Council Chairman: Azar Azar Parish Council Vice Chairman: Salim Qaru



Sunday, July 10, 2022 Hieromartyr Joseph of Damascus & His Companions

MEMORIAL SERVICES:

Third, Nine and Forty Days Memorial Service for the Servant of God, + Issa Dabai will be held this Sunday, July 10th, offered by his family. May his memory be eternal!

Six Months Memorial Service for the Handmaiden of God, + Leila Ghandour Khoury will be held on Sunday, July 17th, offered by her family. *May her memory be eternal!*

Cone Year Memorial Service for the Servant of God, + Hanna George Karkar will be held on Sunday, August 7th, offered by his family. *May his memory be eternal!*

Cone Year Memorial Service for the Servant of God, + **Fr. Gregory Ofiesh** will be held on **Sunday, August 21**st, offered by his family. *May his memory be eternal!*

May his memory be eternal!

THE EPISTLE: 2 Timothy (2:1-10)

Timothy, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus; and what you have heard from me before many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier on service gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to satisfy the one who enlisted him. An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. Think over what I say, for the Lord will grant you understanding in everything. Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descended from David, as preached in my gospel, the gospel for which I am suffering and wearing fetters like a criminal. But the word of God is not fettered. Therefore, I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain salvation in Christ Jesus with its eternal glory.

الرسالة: 2 تيموثاوس يا وَلَدي نيموثاوسَ، تَقَوَّ في النِّعْمَةِ التي في المَسيح يَسوعَ. وما سَمِعْتَهُ مِنّي لَدى شُهودٍ كَثيرينَ، اسْتَودِعْهُ أُناساً أُمَناءَ كُفُوًاً لأَنْ يُعَلِّمُوا آخَرِينَ أيضاً. احتَمِلِ المَشَقَّاتِ كَجُنْدِيٍّ صالِحٍ لِيَسوعَ المسيحِ. لَيْسَ أَحَدٌ يَتَجنَّدُ فَيَرْ تَبِكُ بِهُمومِ الحياةِ، وذلِكَ ليُرْضِيَ الذي جَنَّدُهُ. وأيضاً، إنْ كانَ أَحَدٌ يُجاهِدُ، فَلا يَنالُ الإكْليلَ ما لَمْ يُجاهِدْ جِهاداً شَرْعِيَّاً. ويَجِبُ أنَّ الحارثَ الذي يَتعَبُ أَنْ يَشْتَرِكَ في الأَثْمارِ أَوَّلاً. إِفْهَمْ ما أَقول. فَليُؤتِكَ الرَّبُّ فَهْماً في كُلِّ شَيْءٍ. أُذكُرُ أنَّ يَسوعَ المَسيحَ، الذي مِنْ نَسْلِ داودَ، قَدْ قامَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الأَمُواتِ على حَسَبِ إنجيلي. الذي أحتَمِلُ فيهِ المَشَقَّاتِ حتَّى القُيودَ كَمُجْرِمٍ، إلاَّ أَنَّ كَلِمَةَ اللهِ لا تُقَيَّدُ. فإن لِكَيْ يَحصُلُوا هُمْ أيضاً على كُلِّ شيءٍ ما لَمَسَيَّحٍ، مَعَ المَعْدِي الذي مِنْ بَيْنِ داودَ فَلا يَعْنِ ا

THE GOSPEL: Matthew (8:5-13)

At that time, as Jesus entered Capernaum, a centurion came forward to him, beseeching Him and saying, "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, in terrible distress." And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him." But the centurion answered Him, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and he does it." When Jesus heard him, He marveled, and said to those who followed him, "Truly, I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such faith. I tell you, many will come from east and west and sit at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the Kingdom of Heaven, while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth." And to the centurion Jesus said, "Go; be it done for you as you have believed." And the servant was healed at that very moment.

الإنجيل: متى في ذلك الزمان، دَخَلَ يَسوعُ كَفْر ناحومَ، فَدَنا إليه قائِدُ مِنَة، وطَلَبَ إليْه قائلاً: يا رَبُّ إنَّ فتايَ مُلْقيَّ في البَيْت مُخَلَّعاً يُعَذَّبُ بِعَذاب شديد. فقالَ لَهُ يَسوعُ: أنا آتي وأَشْفِيه. فأجابَ قائِدُ المنَة قائِلاً: يا رَبُّ، لَسْتُ مُسْتَحِقًا أَنْ تَدْخُلَ تَحْتَ سَقْفي، ولَكِنْ قُلْ كَلِمَةً لا عَيْرُ، فَيْبَراً فَقَتايَ. فإتي أنا إنسانٌ تَحْتَ سُلُطانٍ، ولي جُنَدٌ تَحْتَ يَدي، أقولُ لِهَذا "اذهَبْ"، فَيَذْهَبُ، وللآخر "النَّتِ"، فَيَنْتي مُعْدَلُ تَحْتَ سَقْفي، ولَكِنْ قُلْ كَلِمَةً لا عَيْرُ، فَيْبَراً فَقَتايَ. فإتي أنا إنسانٌ تَحْتَ سُلُطانٍ، ولي جُندٌ تَحْتَ يَدي، أقولُ لِهَذا "اذْهَبْ"، فَيَذْهَبُ، ولِلآخر "النَّتِ"، فَيَأْتي، ولِحَمْ هذا"، فَيَعْمَلُ. فَلَمَّا سَمِعَ يَسوعُ، تَعَجَّبَ وقالَ للذينَ يَتْبَعونَهُ: الحقَّ أقولُ لِهَذا "أَذْهَبْ"، فَيَذْهمَبُ، ولِلآخر "النَّتِ"، فَيَأْتي، ولَعَنْ عُمْلُ هذا"، فَيَعْمَلُ. فَلَمَّا سَمِعَ يَسوعُ، تَعَجَّبَ وقالَ للذينَ يَتْبَعونَهُ: الحقَّ أقولُ لَكُمْ، إنِّي لَمْ في المُعار مَعْدار هذا ولا في إسرائيل. أقولُ لَكُمْ في الظُلمَةِ البَرَّانيَةِ هُذَا مَنْواتِ و المَعارِب ويتَكَلُونَ معَ إبراهيمَ واسحقَ ويعْقوبَ في مَلكوت أليمُ، وللمَ

قناديل الهيكل <u>ALTAR CANDLES</u>

General Sue Wais and the entire Tannous family in loving memory of their beloved Father Khalil Fareed Tannous on his 19th year memorial and Mother Jannette Abu Ghazaleh Tannous. *May their Memory be Eternal*.

Offered by Janan, Jim, Ivette, Jennifer, Brandon & Matthew Howell, and Oscar Moran, for the continued good health of Jane Moran, on the special occasion of her birthday, July 12. *God bless and many more 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!

CONGRATULATIONS:

Congratulations to **Raad and Nahren Halteh** on the new addition to their family, **Natalia Rae Halteh.** *God bless and many years!*

<u>CAMP THY 2022:</u> The directors and staff of Camp THY 2022 put in tremendous amount of work and WHAT AN AMAZING WEEK THE CAMPERS HAD! We want to thank ALL of the campers, counselors in training, counselors, directors, Fr. George Baalbaki, Kitchen staff, and all of the volunteers that made this week unforgettable! And Thank YOU for your support and donations. *God Bless you all!* Please visit: <u>https://m.facebook.com/CampTHY/</u> for see more photos!

ST. NICHOLAS ANNUAL PICNIC!

Bring your family and friends and join us on Sunday, July 24^{th,} @ 12 PM at Meadowlands picnic site located in Baylands Park: 999 Caribbean Dr., Sunnyvale, CA 94089.
Divine Liturgy will be held at St. Nicholas Church at 10 AM instead of 11 AM. Donation: \$25 Adult / \$10 Child (ages 6-12)

Congratulations to this year's Creative Arts Festival Winners:

Zain Qutami for winning 2nd place for the fifth grade division!
Christina Habib for winning 2nd place for the fourth grade division!
David Azar honorable mention for late submission in the fourth grade division!
Mariam Elgelda for winning 2nd place in the third grade division!
Naifeh Batarse for winning 1st place for the second grade division!
Nicholas Habib for winning 2nd place TIE in the second grade division!
Mia Saddekni for winning 2nd place in the kindergarten division!
Zahra Batarse for winning 2nd place in the preschool division!



ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS:

TESLA RAFFLE TICKET: Our annual raffle ticket with the grand prize of a brand new Tesla is back! \$50 per ticket, drawing will take place on Sunday October 2, 2022. To purchase your ticket(s), please contact Elias Batshon (650) 580-7185 or the Church office (415) 648-5200.

SAVE THE DATES : UPCOMING EVENTS 2022		
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 THE FAITH OF THE B CENTURION

How great must have been the faith of the Centurion who came to Christ asking for a healing of his servant, whom he loved, who was faithful to him. He heard Christ say, "I shall come and work a miracle in thy home", and he could answer, "Don't come! A word of Thine would be enough to restore the health of my servant!" This is an event of the life of Christ; it is an event that touched not only the Centurion, not only his servant, but every member of the household. He came without Christ, and the servant was healed. Who of us, in dire, agonizing pain is capable of turning to the Lord, present Him his request, ask Him to show mercy and to manifest His power, and when the Lord says to us, in our hearts, "I shall come, I shall work this miracle for you" - who of us would have the courage to say, "No, Lord! Thy word is enough!"... We have the Gospel, we have the example of the Saints of whom many, many built a life of saintliness on one saying of the Gospel which they took seriously and to which they devoted all their energies, all their life. We have the Gospel, a word, that word that can heal a life, that can transform people, that can transfigure relationships, and human souls, and human lives. Who of us ever said to the Lord, "Thy Gospel suficeth unto me"? And how often we turn to the Lord and say, "Yes, Lord - I have read it all, but come Thyself, speak to me, speak a word which is not written, speak a word that would like iron or fire penetrate into my heart! Speak again, again, again, Lord!". And so, we pass by the whole Gospel, all the message of God, all the example of Christ, all that we see in the Apostles and the later Saints because we want a new revelation, a new word. And you remember also how, when Christ commanded His disciples to cast a net into the sea and this net brought a multitude of fish, Saint Peter suddenly saw Who He was. He had heard it all, he had heard the Sermon on the Mountain, he had been with Christ from the beginning - and he saw only dimly who He was. At that moment, the moment of a material miracle he realized Who was in his boat, and he said, "Lord, leave this boat! I am a sinner, I am unworthy of Thy presence!"

And again, who of us, at moments when the Lord came close to us, have the thought of saying such words, realizing because of the holiness of Christ, the holiness of God, how unworthy we are of Him, of His life, His teaching, His example, His death, His descent into hell, to the very rock bottom of evil. And this hell is not only an image; isn't it within us? Isn't there in us a darkness that needs more than enlightenment - the Light of God, God, the light of the world.

Let us think of what we hear. I have just come back from Russia, and whenever I come, I am awed by what I see there. Not by great services, but the people who for more than half a century have carried the burden of the cross, and how awe-inspiring - I was to say, how humiliating it is to one to has to speak to people whose life is a preaching of the Gospel, while one's own is a shame of Christ. Yes, it is true what the Gospel says that by our words shall we be judged, saved or condemned. How frightening it is to have by duty, by necessity to speak words of truth and to know that every word condemns you. And so, when a priest comes out, makes a sign of the Cross, putting himself under the protection of the Crucifix, the death, the sacrificial love of Christ - pray for him who is to declare the Gospel, perhaps unto judgment and condemnation of self - and for the salvation of you souls. And then perhaps this prayer will sustain the preacher, and the preacher speaking God's own words, helped by the grace of God, may sustain your life and help you to reach Christ, not him: suddenly to realize that the preacher does not exist - there is only a message. Remember! Saint John the Baptist was not called a "preacher" who proclaimed the word of God; it is said of him \Box "à Voice, shouting in the wilderness". It was not a man, it was a message. Receive the message, pass by the messenger, and receive the message as Christ describes, as good earth that engulfs the seed, feeds it and brings fruit, fruit of life: not of feelings, not of thoughts, but a life which is that of God incarnate, Christ's life in us.

مبارزة الاتضاع وثمارها حادثة شفاء عبد قائد المئة عن بُعد تقودنا إلى الاتّضاع العذب أمام طرفَى العلاقة: يسوع وقائد المئة. تخال نفسك أمام مباراة في الاتّضاع وتنتظر بلهفة مَن يخرج منتصرًا منها. لعلّ انتظارًا كهذا ملغومٌ منذ البدء، لأنَّ التباري في الاتّضاع سيُنشئ حكمًا اتّضّاعًا أكبر، الأمر الذي سيصعب معه تقدير مَن فاز في المباراة. هل يهمّك أن تتابع أشواطها؟ بالطبع نعم، فحياتك موضوعة على محكّ رؤية النتيجة، لأنَّك إمَّا تخرج منتصرًا أو منهزمًّا في ذاتك، ولو كنتَ الآن من مشاهدي أحداثها أو مستمعي سردها. يفتتح قائد المئة الجولة بوضعٌ مسألة عذاب غلامه أمّام يسوع، فينبري يسوع إلى تلقّف المناسبة ويطرح المبادرة بالذهاب إليه فورًا ليشفيه. القائد يتّضع بشأن غلّمه، والإله المتجسّد يتّضع بشأن المخلوق على صورته. كلاهما يمشيان على الطريق ذاتها: من جهة، الانحناء الخفر والمحبِّ أمام واقع الإنسان المعذَّب، ومن جهة أخرى، الاستعداد الكريم والنبيل لرفع هذا الواقع عن كاهله. ينقلنا وقع هذا الحوار: «يا سيّد، غلامي مطروح في البيت مفلوجًا متعذَّبًا جدًّا... أنا آتي وأشفيه» (متّى ٨: ٦-٧)، لنقف أمام مشهد مدهش يظهر فيه ثنائيّ متناغم ومّتجانس ومثاليّ بانحنائهما كأيهما أمام هذا الغلام المعذّب الذّي نحمل نحن صورته فينا كان على هذا الاتّضاع أن يمرُّ في امتحان ممارَّسة السلطان والقوّة، امتحان مريرُ للنفس المتو أضعة، بحيث لا يتأذّى هو ولا يؤذي بدوره أحدًا من جرّاء ممارستهماً. هذا ما نستشفّه من توصيف القائد لخدمته وطريقة قيادته لجنده وطريقة تجاوبهم معه. هكذا صرّح أمام يسوع: «أنا أيضًا إنسان تحت سلطان. لي جند تحت يدى. أقول لهذا: اذهبْ! فيذهب، و لآخر: إئتِ! فيأتي، ولعبدي: إفعلْ هذا! فيفعل» (متّى ٨: ٩). لقد أدّت طريقة ممارُّسته لسلطانه إلى خلق جوَّتناغم بين رئاسة صالحة وطاعة مرّنة، بحيث أتي أداء هذه الفرقة العسكريّة منضبطًا في المناخ الذي خلقه هذا القائد بين أعضائها. امتحان ممارسة السلطان والقوّة أكسب هذا ألقائد حكمةً أن يضع الواحد نفسه عن غيره معيارًا لتعاطى الواحد مع الآخر . وفي هذا لا توجد منَّة أبدًا بين رئيس ومرؤوس. هذا ما يشي به كلام القائد في الجولة الثانية من مباراة التواضع: «يا سيّد، لستُ مستحقًا أن تدخل تحت سقفي، لكن قلْ كلمة فقط فيبر أ غلامي» (متّى ٨: ٨). هذه المرّة ينحني القائد أمام يسوع انّحناءة العارف لنفسه معرفة حقيقيَّة، فهو غير مستحقّ، والعارف أيضًا بشخص يسوع وقدرته، إذ كلمة واحدة منه تفي بالغرض وتحقَّق المني. أمام هذا التصريح البليغ والنافذ إلى الجو هر، لاقاه يسوع باتّضاع أكبر، إذ انحنى أمام تو أضع قائد المئة بإعلانه أمام الملء: «الحقّ أقول لكم، لم أجدٌ ولا في إسرائيل إيمانًا بمقدار هذا» (متَّى ٨: ١٠)! لقد غبِّطه ورفعه فوق مَن كان يُفترض بهم أن يُقبلوه مسيحًا ولم يقف يسوع عند هذا الحد، بل أتبعه بتصريح آخر أبلغ منه، وفيه ينحني يسوع أمام أمثال هذا القائد عبر العصور الذين سيؤمنون به على شاكلته: «إنّ كثيرين سيأتون من المشارق والمغارب ويتّكئون مع إبراهيم وإسحق ويعقوب في ملكوت السماوات» (متّى ٨: ١١).

خاتمة الحادثة بسيطة للغاية. ففي المقلب الأوّل منها فرحٌ: فرح يسوع بإيمان القائد، وفرح القائد و غلامه بالشفاء المعطى. هذا ما عبّرت عنه كلمة يسوع لقائد المئة، ولنا من بعده: «اذهب وكما آمنتَ ليكنْ لك» (متّى ٨: ١٣). لقد كان الفرح المشترك هو الميداليّة التي ربحها المشاركون في هذه المباراة. إنّه الفرح المُعطى لنا بيسوع ومنه. أمّا في المقلب الآخر، فهناك حزن مخزٍ على فقدان فرصة الفرح هذه، و هذا ما توحي به كلمة يسوع الموجّهة إلينا بشكل خاصّ: «أمّا بنو الملكوت فيُطرحون إلى الظلمة الخارجيّة. هناك يكون البكاء وصرير الأسنان» (متّى ٨: ١٢). فهل فاتتنا أم ستفوتنا فرصة الاتضاع المبارك في معارج حياتنا فينطبق علينا كلام الربّ هذا؟ أم سندخل معموديّة نار الاتّضاع ليلاقينا يسوع على دروبها فيرفعنا معه ويرفع من نقرّب ملواتنا وخدمتنا؟ في كلتي الحالتين، رجاؤنا أن يشفينا الربّ من عدم اتّضاعنا وقلّة إيماننا لتصير طلبتنا حمن الموات خير خدّام لعهده الجديد.

سلوان متروبوليت جبيل والبترون وما يليهما

Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church





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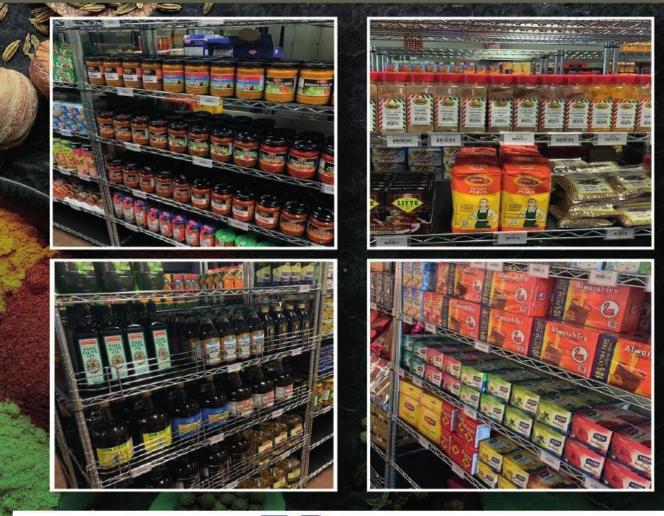


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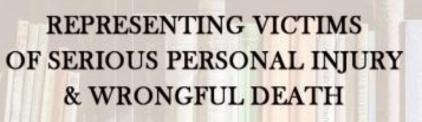


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