

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: [info@stnicholas-sf.com](mailto:info@stnicholas-sf.com)--website: [stnicholas-sf.com](http://stnicholas-sf.com)

His Eminence **Metropolitan JOSEPH**, Archbishop  
of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

Pastor, V. Rev. **Fr. George Baalbaki**

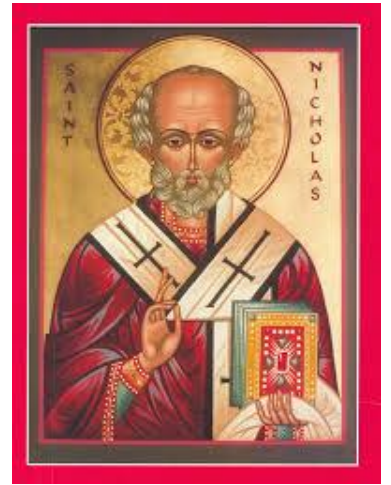
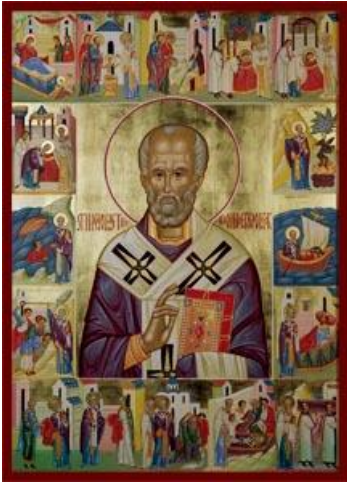
(586) 214-4428 [revbaalbaki@yahoo.com](mailto:revbaalbaki@yahoo.com)

Sub-Dn. **Ilyan Baalbaki**

Sub-Dn. **Tariq Rantisi**

Parish Council Chairman: **Azar Azar**

Parish Council Vice Chairman: **Salim Qaru**



**Sunday, September 11, 2022**

**Sunday before the Elevation of the Holy Cross**

**After-feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos**



### **MEMORIAL SERVICES**



- 40 Days Memorial Service for the Servant of God, + **Daoud Jaber Azar** will be held **This Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>**, offered by his family. Mercy Meal to follow.

*May his memory be eternal!*

- One Year Memorial Service for the Handmaiden of God, + **Basima Jaghab Atwan** will be held **This Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>**, offered by her family.

*May her memory be eternal!*

### **THE EPISTLE: Galatians. (6:11-18)**

Brethren, see how large a letter I have written to you with my own hand. As many as desire to make a fair show in the flesh, they compel you to be circumcised, only that they may not be persecuted for the Cross of Christ. For not even those who are circumcised do themselves keep the Law; but they desire to have you circumcised, that they may boast in your flesh. But God forbid that I should boast, except in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through and so you believed. Whom the world is crucified to me, and I to the world. For in Christ Jesus, neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. Henceforth, let no one trouble me; for I bear in my body the brand-marks of the Lord Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

### **الرسالة: غلاطية**

يا إخوة، انظروا ما أعظم الكتابات التي كتبتها إليكم بيدي. إن كل الذين يريدون أن يرضوا بحسب الجسد يلزمونكم أن تختنوا، وإنما ذلك لئلا يضطهدوا من أجل صليب المسيح. لأن الذين يختنون هم أنفسهم لا يحفظون الناموس بل إنما يريدون أن تختنوا ليفتخروا بأجسادكم. أما أنا، فحاشي لي أن افتخر إلا بصليب ربنا يسوع المسيح، الذي به صلب العالم لي وأنا صلبت للعالم. لأنه في المسيح يسوع ليس الختان بشيء ولا القلف بل الخليقة الجديدة. وكل الذين يسلكون بحسب هذا القانون، فعليهم سلام ورحمة وعلى إسرائيل الله! فلا يجلب علي أحد أتعاباً فيما بعد، فإني حامل في جسدي سمات الرب يسوع. نعمة ربنا يسوع المسيح مع روجكم أيها الإخوة. آمين.

### **THE GOSPEL: John. (3:13-17)**

The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but He who descended from heaven, the Son of man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up,

that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent His Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.”

#### الإنجيل: يوحنا

قَالَ الرَّبُّ: لَمْ يَصْعَدْ أَحَدٌ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ إِلَّا الَّذِي نَزَلَ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ، ابْنُ الْبَشَرِ الَّذِي هُوَ فِي السَّمَاءِ. وَكَمَا رَفَعَ مُوسَى الْحَيَّةَ فِي الْبَرِّيَّةِ، هَكَذَا يَنْبَغِي أَنْ يَرْفَعَ ابْنُ الْبَشَرِ. لِكَيْ لَا يَهْلِكَ كُلُّ مَنْ يُؤْمِنُ بِهِ، بَلْ تَكُونُ لَهُ الْحَيَاةُ الْأَبَدِيَّةُ. لِأَنَّهُ هَكَذَا أَحَبَّ اللَّهُ الْعَالَمَ حَتَّى بَذَلَ ابْنَهُ الْوَحِيدَ لِكَيْ لَا يَهْلِكَ كُلُّ مَنْ يُؤْمِنُ بِهِ بَلْ تَكُونُ لَهُ الْحَيَاةُ الْأَبَدِيَّةُ. فَإِنَّهُ لَمْ يُرْسِلِ اللَّهُ ابْنَهُ الْوَحِيدَ إِلَى الْعَالَمِ لِيُدِينَ الْعَالَمَ، بَلْ لِيُخَلِّصَ بِهِ الْعَالَمَ.



#### ALTAR CANDLES قناديل الهيكل



- Offered by **Naifeh Abdallah Batarse and Family** in Loving Memory of her brother **Anthony Abdallah Shami and his family Anna Marie, Jasmin and Jamilah Shami** on their 21<sup>st</sup> year memorial. *May Their Memory be Eternal!*
- Offered by the **Atwan and Jaghab Families** in Loving Memory of **Basima Jaghab Atwan, Christopher Isas Ghanem, Issam Jaghab, Basem Jaghab and Naimeh Jaghab**. *May Their Memory be Eternal!*
- Offered by **Nadim, Basma, Janan, Jim, Ivette, Jennifer, Brandon and Matthew Howell and Jane Moran** for the continued good health of **Oscar Moran** on the special occasion of his birthday on September 7<sup>th</sup>. *God Bless and Many Years!*
- Offered by **Gebremedhin Family** in Loving Memory of **Rozina Gebremedhin** on her 5<sup>th</sup> year memorial. *May Her Memory be Eternal!*

#### Holy Bread of Oblation is Offered by:

✠ **Radi and Janet Baqleh**, in Loving memory of **Daoud Jaber Azar**.  
*May His Memory Be Eternal!*

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

**Fr. George Baalbaki will be out of the state from September 12 – September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022.**  
On Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, the Services will be covered by another clergy. In case of any emergencies, please call the Church office (415) 648-5200/ Kh. Eman Baalbaki (586) 214-7465 / Fr. Samer Youssef (408) 375-5673 and/or Fr. Nicholas Borzghol (415) 317-2072. Thank you.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS:

- **43<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL PALESTINE CULTURAL DAY:** September 17<sup>th</sup> from 11 AM – 9 PM : Leo Ryan Park, 650 Shell Blvd, Foster City, CA 94404.
- **HOLY VIRGIN MARY ANTIOCHIAN CHURCH 18<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL FOOD AND MUSIC FESTIVAL:** Saturday, September 17, 2022 from 11 AM – 10 PM: 3060 Jefferson Blvd. West Sacramento, CA 95691. All are welcome! For more info, contact Jean Baba (916) 955-4736.
- **ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST ORTHODOX CHURCH FESTIVAL:** September 24-25. More info to come.
- **ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH 26<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL FOOD FESTIVAL:** October 1-2. Mark your calendars! Our long awaited 26th annual food festival is around the corner! Please join us with your family and friends for amazing food, live music & entertainment, kids corner, local business vendors, craft beers and so much more! (Saturday, Oct. 1st from 12-9 pm and Sunday, Oct. 2nd from 12-7 pm)

- **ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH ANNUAL FESTIVAL CAR RAFFLE TICKETS:** Our annual raffle ticket with the grand prize of a brand new Tesla is back! It is not too late to enter the raffle, \$50 per ticket. To purchase your ticket(s), please contact Elias Batshon (650) 580-7185 or the Church office (415) 648-5200. Drawing will take place on Sunday, Oct. 2nd.
- **FALL GATHERING: OCTOBER 7-9, 2022** Hosted by St. Simeon Orthodox Christian Mission Church in Santa Clarita, CA. Please visit [www.scvorthodox.com](http://www.scvorthodox.com) for more info.
- **ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX FESTIVAL: October 8-9.** More info to come.
- **SAVE THESE DATES FOR OUR UPCOMING EVENTS OF 2022:**

|                 |                        |  |
|-----------------|------------------------|--|
| <b>November</b> | <b>19<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>St. Nicholas Annual Thanksgiving Family Night</b> |
| <b>December</b> | <b>11<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>Parish Council Elections</b>                      |
| <b>December</b> | <b>17<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>St. Nicholas Christmas Party</b>                  |

### **Metropolitan Anthony**

#### **Nativity of the Mother of God (September 8)**

I should like to say a few words about the greatness of this feast. When a man surveys this world in which we live, which is so vast, seemingly boundless, and looks at himself in it, he feels very small and insignificant. And if he adds to this the hardness and coldness of men, he may sometimes feel extremely vulnerable, helpless and unprotected both before people and before the terrifying vastness of the world. Yet at the same time if a man looks at himself not in relation to his surroundings, but goes deep into himself, he will there discover such an expanse, such depths, that the whole created world is too small to fill it. Man sees the beauty of the world — and the vision does not completely satisfy him; he learns an enormous amount about God's creation — and the knowledge does not fill him to the brim. Neither human joy nor even human sorrow can completely fill a man, because in him is a depth that exceeds everything created; because God made man so vast, so deep, so limitless in his spiritual being, that nothing in the world can finally satisfy him except God Himself. Today's feast of the Mother of God demonstrates this fact with particular beauty and splendor. She so believed in God, She gave herself to Him with such a pure mind and pure heart, with an unwavering will, with the purity of Her virginity and life such that She was granted to say the Name of God perfectly, with such love that the Word became flesh and God was made man in Her.

Through this we are shown that not only is the soul, the inner being and spirit of man, so created by God that it can contain the mystery of a meeting with the living God, but that even the body is so made that in an unfathomable way it can be united with the living God. Indeed, according to St. Peter we are called to become partakers of the divine nature; according to St. Paul our vocation is to become temples of the Holy Spirit. The whole of the New Testament teaches us that we are the Body, the living tremulous Body of Christ, through baptism and through Holy Communion. How wonderful this is, and therefore with what reverence must we regard not only our immortal soul, but this body of ours which is called to rise again, to enter the Kingdom of God and be glorified, like the body of Christ.

In the XI century St. Simeon the New Theologian wrote one day when he had returned to his humble cell after receiving Holy Communion, words to this effect, "I look upon this corruptible body, upon this frail flesh, and I tremble, because by partaking of the Holy Mysteries it has been permeated by God, it has been united with Christ, it is overflowing with the Holy Spirit... these powerless hands have become the hands of God, this body has become a body that God has taken possession of."

Consider what has been given us not only by our faith, but by the sacraments of the Church. The immersion in the blessed waters of Baptism makes us particles, living members of Christ's Body, the Anointing with Holy Chrism is not only the visible seal of the Holy Spirit, but makes us the temples in which He dwells. When the bread and wine which are offered by our faith and love to God are consecrated, they become incomprehensibly and mysteriously the Body and Blood of Christ, and this created matter partakes of Christ and imparts to us, who are incapable of soaring to God in spirit, the divinity of Christ, which saves and transfigures us in soul and body.

This feast of Nativity of the Mother of God is the time when we remember the birth of the One who for the sake of us all, for the whole human race, was able to show such faith, to surrender so absolutely to God, that He could become Man through Her, and bring us these manifold, unfathomable gifts. Glory to Her humility, glory to Her faith, glory to Her love, glory to God Who was incarnate and to the Virgin Mother of God, the worthy vessel of the incarnation of the Son of God, Christ our God!

### معالم ارتفاعنا على الصليب

في الأحد الذي يسبق رفع الصليب، يساعدنا نصّ الإنجيل على أن نتهياً للاحتفال بحدث غير وجه البشرية إلى الأبد، وهو ارتفاع يسوع على الصليب. نتبين من القراءة الإنجيلية حركة انتقال من واقع إلى آخر يُدخلنا في عمق تدبير الله من جهتنا ويساعدنا على تبيان معالم ارتفاعنا على الصليب. فما هي عناصر حركة الانتقال هذه وكيف ترسم معالم ارتفاعنا على الصليب؟

أولاً، حركة انتقال بين السماء والأرض. هذه دعاها يسوع حركة نزول من السماء وصعود إليه، في إشارة واضحة إلى سرّ تجسّده، والذي تتوّج بإعلان محبة الأب بابنه المرفوع على الصليب. ففي حركة نزول الابن تجسيد لمحبة الأب للإنسان وعنايته به، وفي حركة صعود الابن على الصليب تجسيد لالتزامه الدائم بخلاص الإنسان.

ثانياً، حركة انتقال من شخص موسى إلى شخص المسيح. فالأول قاد الشعب العبراني من عبودية مصر إلى أرض الميعاد، أما الثاني فيقود شعبه، البشرية المؤمنة به، من عبودية الخطيئة والشرّ والشيطان والموت إلى الشركة مع الله والإقامة في ملكوت النعمة والصلاح والبرّ الذي فيه.

ثالثاً، حركة انتقال من الشعب العبراني السالك في البرية حينها والمتّجه إلى أرض الميعاد، إلى حقيقة انتقال البشرية المدعوة إلى الإيمان بيسوع المسيح لتؤلف شعب الله، جسده الحيّ، أي الكنيسة التي هي أرض الميعاد الحقيقي حيث نصير ورثة الإله الحقيقي وأبنائه وأخصّائه.

رابعاً، حركة انتقال العالم من الهلاك إلى الخلاص. وهذا حصل رمزياً بالعود الذي رفعه موسى في البرية يوماً، والآن بالعود المحيي المرفوع مرّة في أورشليم والمنسوب أبداً في وسط الفردوس. وكما كانت معاينة ذلك العود في البرية سبباً لشفاء من لسعتهم الحيات، كذلك الآن فإنّ من تأمل بالمسيح المرفوع على الصليب وجد شفاء من الخطيئة المعشّنة فيه، وحصناً أمام التجارب، وثقة بمحبة الله، وقوة يستمدّها من المصلوب.

خامساً، حركة انتقال بين محبة الأب للعالم ومحبة الابن للأب. حركة المحبة هذه تحملنا وتطمئننا، إن دخلنا في حركتها بالإيمان. حريّ بها أن تشكّل شبكة الأمان التي نركن إليها وننطلق منها، أن تغذيّا ونغذي بها سوانا. من آمن حقاً استمدّ من محبة الله هذه عناصر الحياة والحكمة والخدمة والصلاة، وبذلها على مذبح الله والقريب.

سادساً، حركة انتقال من الحياة الحاضرة إلى الحياة الأبدية. فالشركة الحية التي تجمع الكنيسة المجاهدة بالكنيسة الظاهرة تشكّل المدى الذي يجعل من الناظرين إلى المرفوع على الصليب والمتأملين بتدبيره المحيي، وتشكّل أيضاً الرافعة التي تعين المؤمنين في رفع حياة العالم إلى الله واستدراار نعمته عليه. هكذا يتقدّس الإنسان المنتمي إلى هذا الجسد ويمدّ العالم الذي يعيش فيه بحياة هذا الجسد، بحيث يقدّسه «بنعمة ربنا يسوع المسيح، ومحبة الله الأب، وشركة الروح القدس».

سابعاً، حركة انتقال بين صليب يسوع وصلبينا. بالصليب أدخل يسوع إلى العالم مبدأ الحياة الجديدة والخلاص. فالذين يحملون الصليب كما حمله يسوع يأخذون على عاتقهم أن ينهلوا من محبة الله ويشاركوها مع أترابهم في العالم. فيصير صليبيهم وصليب المسيح واحداً، أي شهادة لمحبة الله المخلصة للعالم والمحبية لإياه والمغذية له. فيكون المسيح والمسيحيّ واحداً بداعي حملهم الصليب ذاته وارتفاعهم عليه حتّى يمجّد الأب أبناءه كما مجّد ابنه الوحيد.

على هذا المنوال، نتهياً لارتفاعنا على الصليب ونثبت عليه ولا ننزل عنه إلّا متى شاء الربّ ذلك. أمّا قوة الثبات عليه فتأتي من أن نضع نصب أعيننا عود الصليب الذي ارتفع عليه يسوع حبّاً بنا ومن أجلنا، ونستمدّ من محبته القوة على المضي في مواجهة صعاب هذا الدهر من دون الاستسلام لها أو التخلّي عن إيماننا بالفادر على أن يعيننا فيها. هلاً حملنا إذاً هذه الشهادة في كنيستنا:

«هكذا أحبّ الله العالم حتّى بذل ابنه الوحيد» (يوحنا ٣: ١٦)؟

+ سلوان متروبوليت جبيل والبترون وما يليهما



# 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.

### BANQUET HALL AMENITIES

- Over 6000 square feet with a full bar
- 350 capacity with dining
- 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
- Complimentary parking lot
- Wheelchair accessible



# REAL ASSETS. REAL RESULTS.

## Considering Buying or Selling a Multi-Unit or Mixed-Use Property?

Specializing in Mixed-Use, Multi-Family, SRO's, and Commercial Properties in San Francisco and San Mateo Counties.

Having recently brokered 20+ million dollars in recent transactions in the last year, no challenge is too big or small. Contact me for commercial real estate inquiries.



**Hanna J Azar**

Broker-Associate

✉ [Hannajohn.Azar@compass.com](mailto:Hannajohn.Azar@compass.com)

☎ 415 875 0177

🌐 [Azarrealtygroup.com](http://Azarrealtygroup.com)

#02005698

Compass is a real estate broker licensed by the State of California operating under multiple entities. License Numbers 01901628, 1527235, 1527365, 1356742, 1443761, 1097075, 1935350, 1961027, 1842087, 1869607, 1866771, 1527205, 1079000, 1272467. All material is intended for informational purposes only and is compiled from sources deemed reliable but is subject to errors, omissions, changes in price, condition, sale, or withdrawal without notice. No statement is made as to the accuracy of any description or measurements (including square footage). This is not intended to solicit property already listed. No financial or legal advice provided. Equal Housing Opportunity.



### Recent Transactions



**2844 21<sup>st</sup> Street**  
\$3,595,000  
12 Units



**3156-3158 24<sup>th</sup> 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 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue**  
\$3,275,000  
6 Units Multifamily



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

**COMPASS**  
COMERCIAL





**Your Favorite Mediterranean  
Food, Spices, Sweets**



Follow us on [f](#) [i](#) @mosaicmarketbayarea



9 37th street & El Camino , San Mateo



+1 650-477-2099





# SAADEH LAW

**JOHN SAADEH,**  
ESQ, MBA



BUSINESS LAW



REAL ESTATE LAW



ESTATE PLANNING



P: (650) 918-7465  
Saadehlawfirm.com  
john@saadehlawfirm.com

333 Gellert Blvd, Ste. 145  
Daly City, CA 94015





REPRESENTING VICTIMS  
OF SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURY  
& WRONGFUL DEATH

If you or someone you know has  
suffered serious injuries or lost a  
loved one due to someone else's  
negligence...

make The Michael Law Firm  
your first call.

- Wrongful Death
- Traumatic Brain Injuries
- Burn Injuries (Fires/Explosions)
- Auto/Motorcycle Crashes
- Uber/Lyft/Taxi Accidents
- Falls (Slip/Trip) & Construction



(415) 447-2833  
[MichaelLawCA.com](http://MichaelLawCA.com)

ISSA MICHAEL, ESQ.  
Trial Attorney Since 1996