

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 Beatitude **Patriarch JOHN X**, Patriarch  
of Antioch and All of East

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

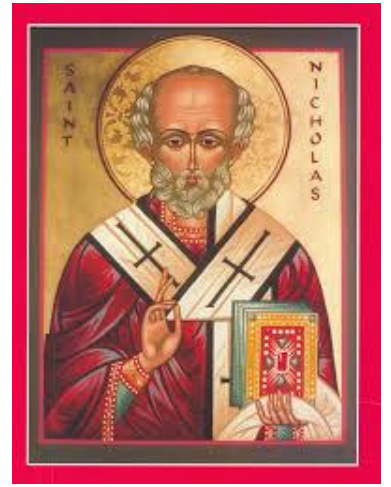
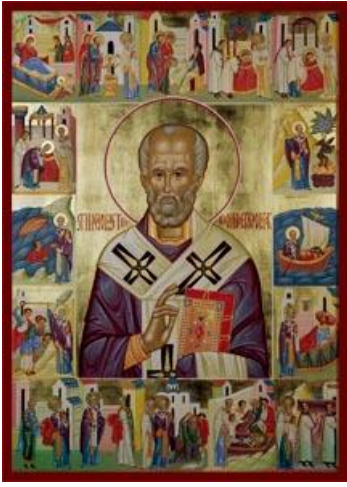
(586) 214-4428 [revbaalbaki@yahoo.com](mailto:revbaalbaki@yahoo.com)

Sub-Dn. **Ilyan Baalbaki**

Sub-Dn. **Tariq Rantisi**

Parish Council Chairman: **Azar Azar**

Parish Council Vice Chairman: **Salim Qaru**



**Sunday, December 11, 2022**

**Sunday of the Forefathers (Ancestors) of Christ**

أحد الأجداد القديسين

**SYMPATHY AND CONDOLENCES:**

We would like to offer our deepest sympathy and condolences **to the Entire Srouji and Dallal Families** on the falling asleep of our sister in Christ, + **Farida Vidreen Dallal**.

*May her memory be eternal!*

**MEMORIAL SERVICES:**

- ✠ Third and Nine Days Memorial Service for the Handmaiden of God, **Farida Vidreen Dallal** will be held on **Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>**, offered by her family. *May Her Memory be Eternal!*
- ✠ Third, Nine and Forty Days Memorial Service for the Servant of God, **Hanna Salim Elias Shnoudi** will be held on **Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>**, offered by his family. *May His Memory be Eternal!*
- ✠ Forty Days Memorial Service for the Servant of God, **Audie John Dudum** will be held on **Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>**, offered by his family. *May His Memory be Eternal!*

**THE EPISTLE: Colossians (3:4-11)**

Brethren, when Christ, Who is our life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these, the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its Creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

الرسالة: كولوسي

يا إخوة، متى ظهر المسيح الذي هو حياتنا، فأنتم أيضاً تظهرون حينئذ معه في المجد. فأميتوا أعضاءكم التي على الأرض: الزنى، والتجاسة، والهوى، والشهوة الرديئة، والطمع الذي هو عبادة وثن. لأنه لأجل هذه يأتي غضب الله على أبناء العصيان. وفي هذه أنتم أيضاً سلكتم حيناً إذ كنتم عائسين فيها. أما الآن، فأنتم أيضاً اطرحوا الكل: الغضب، والسخط، والخبث، والتجديف، والكلام القبيح من أفواهكم. ولا يكذب بعضكم بعضاً، بل اخلعوا الإنسان العتيق مع أعماله. والبسوا الإنسان الجديد الذي يتجدد للمعرفة على صورة خالقه. حيث ليس يوناني ولا يهودي، لا ختان ولا قلف، لا بربري ولا اسكيثي، لا عبد ولا حر، بل المسيح هو كل شيء وفي الجميع.

## THE GOSPEL: Luke (14:16-24)

The Lord spoke this parable: "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But, one by one, they all began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.' For many are called, but few are chosen."


### الإنجيل: لوقا

قَالَ الرَّبُّ هَذَا الْمَثَلُ: إِنْسَانٌ صَنَعَ عَشَاءً عَظِيماً وَدَعَا كَثِيرِينَ. فَأَرْسَلَ عَبْدُهُ فِي سَاعَةِ الْعَشَاءِ يَقُولُ لِلْمَدْعُوعِينَ: نَعَالُوا فَإِنَّ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ قَدْ أُعِدَّ. فَطَفِقَ كُلُّهُمْ وَاحِدٌ فَوَاحِدٌ يَسْتَعْذِرُونَ. فَقَالَ لَهُ الْأَوَّلُ: قَدْ اشْتَرَيْتُ حَقْلاً، وَلَا بُدَّ لِي أَنْ أَخْرُجَ وَأَنْظُرَهُ، فَاسْأَلْكَ أَنْ تُعْفِينِي. وَقَالَ الْآخَرُ: قَدْ اشْتَرَيْتُ خَمْسَةَ فِدَادِينَ بَقَرٍ وَأَنَا مَاضٍ لِأَجْرِبِهَا، فَاسْأَلْكَ أَنْ تُعْفِينِي. وَقَالَ الْآخَرُ: قَدْ تَزَوَّجْتُ امْرَأَةً، فَلِذَلِكَ لَا أَسْتَطِيعُ أَنْ أَجِيءَ. فَأَتَى الْعَبْدُ وَأَخْبَرَ سَيِّدَهُ بِذَلِكَ. فَحِينَئِذٍ، غَضِبَ رَبُّ الْبَيْتِ، وَقَالَ لِعَبْدِهِ: أَخْرُجْ سَرِيعاً إِلَى شَوَارِعِ الْمَدِينَةِ وَأَزْقِنِهَا وَأَدْخِلِ الْمَسَاكِينَ وَالْجُدَعَ وَالْعُمَيَّانَ وَالْعُرْجَ إِلَى هَهُنَا. فَقَالَ الْعَبْدُ: يَا سَيِّدُ، قَدْ قُضِيَ مَا أَمَرْتَ بِهِ، وَبَيَقَى أَيْضاً مَحَلٌّ. فَقَالَ السَيِّدُ لِلْعَبْدِ: أَخْرُجْ إِلَى الطَّرِيقِ وَالْأَسْجَةِ واضْطَرِّرْهُمْ إِلَى الدُّخُولِ حَتَّى يَمْتَلِئَ بَيْتِي. فَإِنِّي أَقُولُ لَكُمْ إِنَّهُ لَا يَذُوقُ عَشَائِي أَحَدٌ مِنْ أَوْلِيكَ الرِّجَالِ الْمَدْعُوعِينَ. لِأَنَّ الْمَدْعُوعِينَ كَثِيرُونَ وَالْمُخْتَارِينَ قَلِيلُونَ.


### قناديل الهيكل ALTAR CANDLES

 Offered by **Angela Husary**, for the good health and well-being of **Victor & Angela Husary and their children Christopher, Anthony and Michael. God Bless and Many Years!**

Offered by **Sana Jarjura & Family** in Loving memory of parents **George and Najla Jarjura.**  
*May their memories be eternal!*

 Offered by **Rossete Saba** in in good health of her children **Mary, Michael, John and his family and Ann Marie and her family.** And for **Nick Saba and Joanne Saba** on the special occasion of their birthdays. *God Bless and Many Years!* Also in Loving memory of **Nicola Saba and George Saba.**

*May their memories be eternal!*

 Offered by **Sue Wais** for the good health and well-being of my husband **Donald Wais, myself, my daughter & son in-law Jeanette & Jason Yoshida;** and my Grand Sons **Anthony, Khalil and Dylan Yoshida. God Bless and Many Years!** Also, in Loving Memory of my parents **Khalil Fareed Tannous and Janette Abu Ghazaleh Tannous.**

*May their memory be eternal.*

### Holy Bread of Oblation is Offered by:

✠ **David Hanhan and his family**, in loving memory of his mother **Afdokia Hanhan** and his son **Joseph David Hanhan.**

*May Their Memory Be Eternal!*

✠ **Lamis & Samer Massad** for the good health and well-being of her family.

*God Bless and Many years!*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS:**

### **NATIVITY FAST:**



**November 15th - December 24<sup>th</sup>.**

*We would like to wish you a happy Advent season!*

بدء صوم الميلاد: يبدأ صوم الميلاد يوم الثلاثاء 15 تشرين الثاني ويستمر حتى 24 كانون الأول. كل عام وأنتم خير

**PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS:** December 11<sup>th</sup>. There will be a parish council election meeting for the sole purpose of electing some members of the Parish Council for the upcoming term. The Candidates interested in running should be in a good standing position- spiritually qualified and pledged for the last two years. Please submit your candidate's name to Father George and/or Azar Azar as soon as possible. In order to vote in the elections, members must be spiritually and financially in good standing with the church.

**ST. NICHOLAS YOUNG ADULT UGLY SWEATER CHRISTMAS PARTY:** Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, from 6 PM – 10 PM @ 3832 Balboa St. SF. Our annual Christmas party is next week! Wear your ugly Christmas sweaters, bring a white elephant gift, and get ready for fellowship and fun! Event is \$20, includes Dinner & Drinks. Please contact Esther Clemence or Shadi Azar to reserve your spot.

### **ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY IS SOLD OUT!**

Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, doors open at 7:30 PM. **NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR.**

**SPECIAL ANTIOCHIAN ARCHDIOCESE CONVENTION:** January 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>, 2023. More info to follow.

**YOUNG ADULTS MINISTRY ANNUAL WINTER RETREAT AT BIG BEAR:** January 13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Please join us for our annual winter retreat! Link to register is on @dlawyoungadults Instagram bio. Invite your family and friends, all young adults are welcome! For questions and for more information, please contact Esther Clemence or Shadi Azar.

### **Metropolitan Anthony**

#### **Bridal Feast**

How often have we heard today's a parable about those people who were called to the Bridal Feast of the King, and who refused to come. The one who had acquired a plot of land; he thought he was in possession of it; in reality, he was so attached to it that he could not detach himself from it: he was a prisoner of what he thought he possessed. And so it is with whatever we imagine we possess; it is enough for us to have the smallest thing in our hand — and this hand is alienated to us; we cannot use it anymore, we cannot use our arm, our whole body is conditioned by what we possess, or imagine we possess: we are held a prisoner by it. Others refused to come because they



had bought five pairs of oxen: they had to try them, they had a task to fulfil, they had work to do, they had perhaps what they believed to be a mission in life, and therefore they had no time for anything except that that was their personal concern. And the last refused to come because his heart was full of his own joy; having married, how could he be concerned with anyone else's marriage? He was full of his own joy — how could he participate in anyone else's joy? And so, they all turned away from the call.

Doesn't it apply very directly to us? Each of us possesses something that he deems so important that he is prepared to turn away from God — yes, from God: there is no time for prayer, there is no time for worship.

At the same time we turn away from other people who need us because we are busy with our own business? And how often happens that we are full of joy or of sorrow — but they are our own, we hug them to our heart, we have no time for anyone else's sorrow or anyone else's joy. But then, what should we do? You hear every Sunday in the Liturgy words that say, 'Let us lay aside all the cares of this life'; does it mean that we must turn away from the earth on which we live, from the tasks which are ours, from the joys and true sorrows that come our way? No!

But there is an answer to it perhaps in the lines that precede the reading from the Epistle which we heard today, where we are told: Are you risen with Christ? Are you where He is? Is your life hid in God with Christ? What does it really mean to us? It means that if we are dead with the death of Christ to everything which is destructive of love, destructive of compassion, which is self-centredness, which is self-love, which leaves no space for anyone but ourselves — if we are dead to all this, and if we have accepted life on Christ's terms, ready to live for others, live for God, live for the joy and life of those who surround us — then we are risen with Christ, and our life is indeed hid with Christ in God, it is at the very depth of God, at the very depth of divine love! And then we can turn to the earth; then, instead of possessing we can serve, instead of overpowering we can try to bring this earth of ours, in an act of love, in an act of reverence to be free, to be God's earth, to be able to bring fruit, not as it does being raped, being violently possessed by us, but giving us its fruit in an act of responsive love. And the same applies to our tasks; we are called to serve, we are called to make of all our life an act of concern, of love, of service — then, all that we do becomes an act of God, then it becomes meaningful and it does not separate us from God.

And if joy has come into our heart, it is a gift of God; if sorrow has come into our heart, we can carry it to God, for it to be integrated in the mystery of salvation! Let us reflect on this! Let us truly lay aside all the cares of this life in the sense that let us not be prisoners, but free: Christ has come to set us free. And then the earth, and our labour, and our joys, and our sorrows and everyone on earth will become part of the Kingdom of God.

Then indeed, our life will be hid with Christ in God, but a God Who have chosen so to love the world as to be incarnate, to become man among men, to take upon Himself all the human destiny, createdness, life in a fallen world, the consequences of human sin, and even the loss of God which is what kills. And, having accepted it all in an act of saving and redeeming love, He has risen, and anyone can enter into eternal life, the life of the resurrection by uniting himself or herself to Christ.



وجها الغربية عن الله  
والشركة معه في يسوع المسيح  
يُدخلنا مثل المدعوين إلى العشاء في سرّ علاقة يسوع مع الإنسان، حيث يعبر يسوع عن رغبة أبيه بدعوتنا إلى مائدته، أي  
إلى الشركة معه. فمائدة الطعام، وهي خبرة مأخوذة من حياتنا اليومية، صورة تصلح للتعبير عن الشركة التي تجمع بين  
ندمائنا والدّاعي إليها. وهذا ما تجسّده الكنيسة بامتياز في اجتماعها الإفخارستيّ، في اجتماع المؤمنين حول مائدة الربّ.  
عبر المثل، نتعرّف إلى وجه المأساة في هذه العلاقة، نتيجة عيش الإنسان في غربّة عن الله. وجه من وجوه هذه المأساة أن  
يخطئ الإنسان في استخدام حرّيته عندما يُعرض عن الدخول في الشركة التي يعرضها الله عليه. أطلّ يسوع على هذا الوجه  
عبر نماذج ثلاثة أفصح عنها في المثل ومرتبطة بصلب الممارسة اليومية. فقد اتّخذ ثلاثة من المدعوين من ظروف الحياة  
حجّة ليحلّوا أنفسهم من التزامهم السابق بتلبية الدعوة، في رفض ظاهر وواضح، ولربّما مقصود، من قبلهم بقصد عدم  
مشاركة الدّاعي في مائدته. هؤلاء أثروا في آخر لحظة، ولأسباب مختلفة، أن «يستعفوا»، وهم قاموا بذلك باتّفاق في ما بينهم،  
«برأي واحد» (لوقا ١٤: ١٨).

وجه آخر من المأساة هو وجود كثيرين خارج هذه الشركة، لأسباب كثيرة، وأهمّها غياب الفرصة السانحة المعطاة لهم على  
عكس حال المستعفين الثلاثة. شمل الداعي اليوم، بقصده ودعوته، أولئك الذين وضعتهم ظروف الحياة خارج هذه الصلة  
بالدّاعي، فدعاهم، على دفعتين. كانت حياة هؤلاء مأساة بداعي الشقاء الذي يعيشون فيه، فهم من «المساكين والجدع والعرج  
والعمي»، ومن الذين يعيشون على «الطرق والسيارات» (لوقا ١٤: ٢١ و ٢٣).  
أمام وجهي المأساة هذه، نلمس تواضع يسوع، فهو ينزل إلى قعر المأساة ويلامسها بحنان وثبات وإخلاص لقصد الله تجاه  
المخلوقين على صورته، وإن تفاعل معه هؤلاء بطرائق مختلفة، سلبية أو إيجابية. هو يلامس حرّيتنا وظروف حياتنا اليومية،  
ويعن في إعلاء كرامة الإنسان عبر خطب ودّه - إذا جاز التعبير - بإرساله عبده إلى من سبقت دعوتهم، وأيضاً إلى من  
استدركهم بالدعوة، على حدّ سواء (لوقا ١٤: ١٧، ٢١ و ٢٣)، ويحرص على احترام حرّية المدعوين بشكل لافت، ولو أهينت  
كرامته من وجهة نظرنا الإنسانية. فالإنسان يتحمّل في النهاية تبعّة حسن أو سوء استخدام حرّيته أمام دعوة الله ليدخل في  
الشركة معه. وشاء يسوع أن يُظهر الطابع المصيريّ لهذا الاستخدام بقوله: «أقول لكم إنّه ليس واحد من أولئك الرجال  
المدعوين يذوق عشاّي» (لوقا ١٤: ٢٤).

نعم، قيل يسوع واقعنا الساقط ولم يدنّه أو يحكم عليه. فهو أتى ليعطينا الفرصة لتغيير هذا الواقع. وأوضح لنا المثل كيف أنّ  
البعض كان مكتفياً بما حقّقه أو صار له من حياة كريمة في نظرهم، فاستعاض بها عن الشركة مع الله. على عكس هؤلاء، فإنّ  
الذين فقدوا كلّ مقومات الحياة الكريمة المادّية أو الإنسانيّة، فهؤلاء قبلوا دعوة الله ليس لأنّهم وجدوا مائدة أرضيّة، بل مائدة  
روحيّة لمسوا أهمّيّتها بقدر الاتّضاع الذي عاينوا قعره بداعي الظروف التي عاشوها. لمسوا في كلمة الله تعزية، وفي حنانه  
طعاماً مغدّياً، وفي الجلوس إلى مائدته استعادة لإنسانيّتهم وكرامتهم التي هدروها في غربتهم عنه.  
أنقذ يسوع بتواضعه من تغرّبوا عن الله وقبلوا دعوته. إنّه تواضع قاده إلى حمل صليب غربتنا، وخدمة سرّ التدبير الخلاصيّ  
بيننا، وتقديم جسده على مائدة شركتنا مع الله. إنّه الصليب ذاته الذي يحمله من يتبعون يسوع ويخدمون التدبير عينه بإخلاص.  
كم يحتاج هؤلاء اليوم إلى الصبر والحكمة والنعمة في سبيل تحقيق هذه الدعوة، على مثال يسوع في تحمّل واقع الإنسان  
المتغرّب عن الله، ليحافظوا على الحميّة في الخدمة التي رأيناها فيه، وعلى اتّضاعه أمام الواقع المأساويّ، وعلى رجائه بأنّه  
قابل للفداء! كم من النباهة واليقظة والاتّضاع يحتاج الذين اكتفوا بأنفسهم أو بواقعهم فتغرّبوا عن الله في قلوبهم! هلاًّ جمعنا  
إذا المائدة الإفخارستيّة حيث شركتنا مع الله، وكذلك خدمة القريب فهي فرصة رؤية وجه الله فيه!  
+ سلوان متروبوليت جبيل والبترون وما يليهما (جبيل 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.

### 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







**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



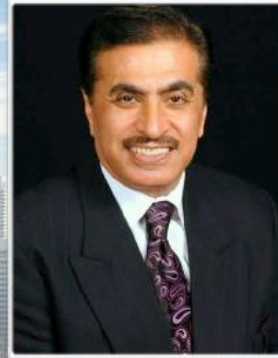
P: (650) 918-7465  
Saadehlawfirm.com  
john@saadehlawfirm.com

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





**ONE MARKET STREET, 36TH FLOOR | San Francisco CA  
433 Airport Blvd, Suite 126 | Burlingame CA  
2901 West Coast Highway | Newport Beach CA**



**Looking to...**

- **Purchase a home?**
- **Sell your business?**
- **Purchase a new business?**
- **Purchase commercial property?**
- **Lease a location for your business?**

**We are here to help you!  
CALL ON US**

**JERIES TANNOUS**  
**Commercial and Residential Real Estate**  
**BRE # 00550532**  
**Cell: (650)740-9263**

**Specializing in:**  
**Business Brokerage**  
**Commercial Real Estate**  
**Sales & Leasing**  
**Residential Real Estate**



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