



+St. John the Evangelist Orthodox Church

Antiochian Archdiocese of North America
Metropolitan Saba of New York and all North America
V. Rev. Fr. Nicholas Borzghol, Pastor
Dn. Nicholas Adranly

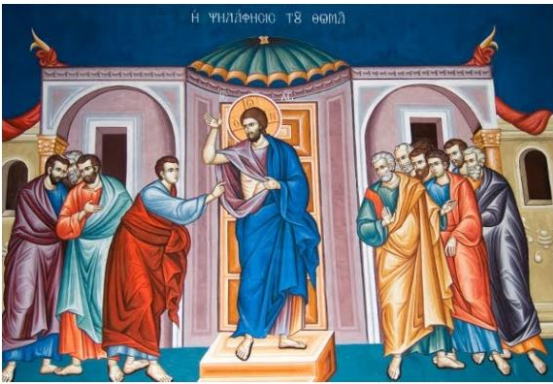
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SUNDAY, APRIL 27, 2025 : NEW SUNDAY OR ANTI-PASCHA SUNDAY OF THOMAS THE APOSTLE, CALLED "THE TWIN"

قُدَّاسُ الْأَخْدِ الْجَدِيدِ، أَحَدُ الرُّسُولِ تَوْمَ الرُّسُولِ الَّذِي يُقَالُ لَهُ التَّوَامُ

HIEROMARTYR SIMEON, BISHOP OF JERUSALEM AND THE KINSMAN OF THE LORD;
JOHN THE CONFESSOR, ABBOT OF THE MONASTERY OF THE CHASTE

Thomas Sunday



On the second Sunday of Pascha, we inaugurate the celebration of Christ's Resurrection, and the occasion whereon the Holy Apostle Thomas touched the Savior's side. This day is called New Sunday, Thomas Sunday or Anti-Pascha. The last term means "in place of Pascha" because Thomas did not immediately hear of Christ's Resurrection and disbelieved it. Starting with this day, the Church dedicates Sunday to the celebration of the Resurrection.

As the Disciples were gathered on Pascha, Jesus entered and greeted them in His usual way, saying, "Peace be unto you."

Then He showed them His hands, feet and side. Jesus ate with His Disciples and reassured them of His Resurrection. However, Thomas was not with them at that time, and insisted upon seeing the Savior's wounds—the print of the nails in His hands and feet, and the spear in His side—before he would believe that Jesus was risen. Eight days later, Christ appeared again to the Disciples, this time with Thomas present. The Master told Thomas to see and feel His wounds. Then Thomas immediately cried out, "My Lord and my God!" But Jesus tells His Disciples, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." This event also clearly illustrates the human and divine Natures of Christ.

THE EPISTLE

Great is our Lord, and great is His strength. Praise ye the Lord, for the Lord is good.

The Reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles. (5:12-20)

In those days, many signs and wonders were done among the people by the hands of the apostles; and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch. None of the rest dared to join them, but the people magnified them. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and pallets, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. The people also gathered from the cities around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed. But the chief priest rose up and all who were with him, that is, the sect of the Sadducees, and filled with jealousy they laid their hands on the apostles and put them in the common prison. But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out and said: "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life."

الرسالة.
عَظِيمٌ هُوَ رَبُّنَا وَعَظِيمَةٌ هِيَ قُوَّتُهُ.
سَبِّحُوا الرَّبَّ فَإِنَّهُ صَالِحٌ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ أَعْمَالِ الرُّسُلِ الْقَدِيسِينَ الْأَطْهَارِ.

فِي تِلْكَ الْأَيَّامِ، جَرَتْ عَلَى أَيْدِي الرُّسُلِ آيَاتٌ وَعَجَائِبُ كَثِيرَةٌ فِي الشَّعْبِ. وَكَانُوا كُلُّهُمْ بِنَفْسٍ وَاحِدَةٍ فِي رِوَاقِ سُلَيْمَانَ. وَلَمْ يَكُنْ أَحَدٌ مِنَ الْآخَرِينَ يَجْتَرِئُ أَنْ يُخَالِطَهُمْ، لَكِنْ كَانَ الشَّعْبُ يُعَظِّمُهُمْ. وَكَانَ جَمَاعَاتٌ مِنْ رِجَالِ وَنِسَاءٍ يَنْضَمُّونَ بِكَثْرَةٍ مُؤْمِنِينَ بِالرَّبِّ. حَتَّى إِنَّ النَّاسَ كَانُوا يَخْرُجُونَ بِالْمَرْضَى إِلَى الشُّوَارِعِ، وَيَضَعُونَهُمْ عَلَى فُرْشٍ وَأَسِرَّةٍ، لِيَقَعَ وَلَوْ ظِلُّ بُطْرُسَ، عِنْدَ اجْتِيَازِهِ، عَلَى بَعْضِ مِنْهُمْ. وَكَانَ يَجْتَمِعُ أَيْضًا إِلَى أُورُشَلِيمَ جُمُهورُ الْمُدُنِ الَّتِي حَوْلَهَا، يَحْمِلُونَ مَرْضَى وَمُعَذِّبِينَ مِنْ أَرْوَاحِ نَجِسَةٍ، فَكَانُوا يُشْفَوْنَ جَمِيعُهُمْ. فَقَامَ رَئِيسُ الْكَهَنَةِ وَكُلُّ الَّذِينَ مَعَهُ، وَهُمْ مِنْ شِيعَةِ الصَّدُوقِيِّينَ، وَامْتَلَأُوا غَيْرَةً. فَأَلْقَوْا أَيْدِيَهُمْ عَلَى الرُّسُلِ وَجَعَلُوهُمْ فِي الْحَبْسِ الْعَامِ. فَفَتَحَ مَلَاكُ الرَّبِّ أَبْوَابَ السِّجْنِ لَيْلًا، وَأَخْرَجَهُمْ، وَقَالَ: أَمْضُوا وَقِفُوا فِي الْهَيْكَلِ، وَكَلِمُوا الشَّعْبَ بِجَمِيعِ كَلِمَاتِ هَذِهِ الْحَيَاةِ.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (20:19-31)

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be to you." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be to you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in His side, I will not believe." Eight days later, His disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said, "Peace be to you." Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand, and place it in My side; do not be faithless, but believing." Thomas answered Him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Thomas, you have believed because you have seen Me. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His Name.

الإنجيل

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ يوحَنَّا الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ. (20:19-31)

لَمَّا كَانَتْ عَشِيَّةُ ذَلِكَ الْيَوْمِ، وَهُوَ أَوَّلُ الْأَسْبُوعِ وَالْأَبْوَابُ مُغْلَقَةٌ حَيْثُ كَانَ التَّلَامِيزُ مُجْتَمِعِينَ خَوْفًا مِنَ الْيَهُودِ، جَاءَ يَسُوعُ وَوَقَفَ فِي الْوَسْطِ وَقَالَ لَهُمْ: "السَّلَامُ لَكُمْ". فَلَمَّا قَالَ هَذَا أَرَاهُمْ يَدَيْهِ وَجَنْبَهُ، فَفَرَحَ التَّلَامِيزُ حِينَ أَبْصَرُوا الرَّبَّ. وَقَالَ لَهُمْ ثَانِيَةً: "السَّلَامُ لَكُمْ، كَمَا أَرْسَلَنِي الْآبُ كَذَلِكَ أَنَا أَرْسَلُكُمْ". وَلَمَّا قَالَ هَذَا نَفَخَ فِيهِمْ وَقَالَ لَهُمْ: "خُذُوا الرُّوحَ الْقُدُسَ. مَنْ غَفَرْتُمْ خَطَايَاهُمْ تُغْفَرْ لَهُمْ وَمَنْ أَمْسَكْتُمْ خَطَايَاهُمْ أَمْسَكَتُمْ". أَمَّا تَوْمَ أَحَدُ الْإِثْنَيْ عَشَرَ الَّذِي يُقَالُ لَهُ التَّوَّامُ فَلَمْ يَكُنْ مَعَهُمْ حِينَ جَاءَ يَسُوعُ، فَقَالَ لَهُ التَّلَامِيزُ الْآخَرُونَ "إِنَّا قَدْ رَأَيْنَا الرَّبَّ"، فَقَالَ لَهُمْ: "إِنْ لَمْ أَعَيْنِ أَثَرُ الْمَسَامِيرِ فِي يَدَيْهِ، وَأَضَعُ إصْبَعِي فِي أَثَرِ الْمَسَامِيرِ، وَأَضَعُ يَدِي فِي جَنْبِهِ لَا أُوْمِنُ". وَتَعَدَّ ثَمَانِيَةَ أَيَّامٍ كَانَ تَلَامِيذُهُ أَيْضًا دَاخِلًا وَتَوْمَ مَعَهُمْ، فَآتَى يَسُوعُ وَالْأَبْوَابُ مُغْلَقَةٌ وَوَقَفَ فِي الْوَسْطِ وَقَالَ لَهُمْ: "السَّلَامُ لَكُمْ"، ثُمَّ قَالَ لَتَوْمَ: "هَاتِ إصْبَعَكَ إِلَى هَهُنَا وَعَيْنِي يَدِي، وَهَاتِ يَدَكَ وَضَعْهَا فِي جَنْبِي، وَلَا تَكُنْ غَيْرَ مُؤْمِنٍ بَلْ مُؤْمِنًا". أَجَابَ تَوْمَ وَقَالَ لَهُ: "رَبِّي وَالْهَى". قَالَ لَهُ يَسُوعُ: "لَأَنَّكَ رَأَيْتَنِي يَا تَوْمَ أَمَنْتَ؟ طُوبَى لِلَّذِينَ لَمْ يَرَوْا وَآمَنُوا". وَأَيَّاتٌ أُخْرَى كَثِيرَةٌ صَنَعَ يَسُوعُ أَمَامَ تَلَامِيذِهِ لَمْ تُكْتَبْ فِي هَذَا الْكِتَابِ. وَأَمَّا هَذِهِ، فَقَدْ كُتِبَتْ لِتُؤْمِنُوا أَنَّ يَسُوعَ هُوَ الْمَسِيحُ ابْنُ اللَّهِ، وَلَكِي تَكُونَ لَكُمْ، إِذَا آمَنْتُمْ، حَيَاةً بِاسْمِهِ.

Love Your Neighbor

April – Archdiocese Collection for Palm Sunday (April 13, 2025)

Each year, the Archdiocese asks each parish to take a collection to help support the Patriarchate in Antioch on Palm Sunday. This will be our “neighbor” for the month of April.

Thanks for a Great Easter Egg Hunt!

Christ is Risen. Truly he is risen! We're so grateful for everyone's contribution, the teamwork and donations make our Pascha Egg Hunt event a success! Takes a lot of helping hands and giving hearts to pull off any event. Everyone's efforts were greatly appreciated and don't go unnoticed. The young adults helped with setting up, the teens enthusiasm to help the young ones in arts and crafts, and having a picture opportunity with the Easter bunny.



A large attendance of all ages all around our grounds, 45 kids counting down to pick up around 1000 eggs all over our grounds was only a site should be sight.

Many Blessings, Rania & Kimberly

PROJECT MEXICO & ST. INNOCENT ORPHANAGE

At St. John's, many of our teens have had the opportunity to volunteer to build homes for communities in need in Northern Mexico, just across the US border (about 30 minutes from San Diego). We have some interest in taking a group down this summer, June 12-18th. This is a wonderful, transformative volunteer experience as part of "a mission to build hope, one home at a time" and has been a blessing to participate in. <https://www.projectmexico.org/homebuilding#gl>

The homebuilding program is open to all teens 14 years & above or adults of any age!!! Younger teens under 14 can join along with a parent chaperone. If you're interested or have questions, please contact Rula Adranly rulaadranly@comcast.net or Nadine Potts nbhpotts@sbcglobal.net.

Best Ever Rose Bake Sale

Best ever Rose Bake Sale \$6,688 headed by Denise Dudum who always dedicated her love and time towards the sale. Thank you Denise and all the ladies who donated, helped, prepared and baked the dessert, arranged the lunch boxes, and handled the sale, your dedication and hard work is very much appreciated. The proceed will be added to the ladies accounts towards the our future kitchen equipments. Thanks again!

Mother's Day luncheon on Sunday May 4th at 1:30pm

Melo's restaurant 644 San Ramon Blvd, Danville

Let's get together to honor our mothers, wives, grandmothers, godmothers and aunties To show them our love and appreciation for a Mother's Day luncheon, no cooking or cleaning. \$50 per person, Pizza for children 12 and under is \$12 per child.

Menu: salad

Choice of entrée

1) Chicken Marsala

2) Or

2) Lasagna

Soft drink

Alcohol on your own

For reservation and payment please call Mona Thayer by May 1st at 925 918-2170.

Thank you

Upcoming Events

Sunday, May 4th	Mother's Day Luncheon at Melo's Restaurant at 1:30pm
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Coffee Hour

April 27th	Sponsor Needed
May 4th	Sponsor Needed
May 11th	Sponsor Needed

Holy Oblations

This week, Holy Oblations are offered by:

- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Nick Nicola, George Messih, Sam Nassab, Sandy Dudum Bennett, Fairouz Freij, Henriette Hilal** and **Aida Youakeem**. Many years!
- † Victor and Angela Husary for the good health of **Chris Husary**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish family for the good health of **Samir** and **Pat Jeha**. Many years!
- † Romley, Farradj and Lawyer families in memory of **Kh. Patricia Romley**. May her memory be eternal!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **George Adranly**. Many years!

Candles for the altar table and in front of the icons of Christ and the Theotokos offered by:

- † Ibrahim Fasheh in memory of Hanada Fasheh for one full year. May her memory be eternal!



- † Altar Servers:
Nathan Sweis, Clayton Morgan, Elias Freij, Angelo Freij, Andrew Freij, Mazyn Haddadin, James Dudum, John Dudum, David Evans, Evan Kawar, Mason Kawar, Jonathan Juha, Maron Juha and Zaiden Karanikola
- † Thank you to Ziad and Charlene Nassoura for donating the communion wine.
God bless you and your children!

His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan SABA



Archbishop of New York
and Metropolitan of
All North America

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA

Prot. no.: 155/2025

Great and Holy Pascha - 2025

Beloved in Christ:
The Most Reverend Hierarchs,
The Reverend Priests and Deacons,
And the devout People of God in this blessed Archdiocese,

Christ is risen! I greet you with the most beautiful proclamation on this radiant and divine Pascha. I offer my heartfelt prayers for each of you daily, asking for God's abundant mercy and the joy of victory over death—every kind of death—for all of you.

I will not address the glorious event of the Resurrection from a doctrinal perspective today, but instead, I wish to offer a brief reflection.

In our Church, each feast is a moment where we relive the event itself. At Pascha, as you know, we walk with our Lord Jesus through every step of His salvific journey, culminating in His resurrection from the dead. The Cross precedes the Resurrection; death precedes life. This is why we begin our Paschal celebration on Great and Holy Friday evening. In the middle of the service, immediately after the chanting of the lamentations for the death of the Lord, we begin chanting the Resurrectional verses: *"Blessed art thou, O Lord, teach me thy statutes."*

There is a beautiful tradition in some churches where this funeral service begins with clergy wearing dark purple vestments, the color of the Lenten season. Then, following the lamentations, they change into white vestments. It is worth noting that white, the color of the Resurrection, becomes predominant in the church coverings and clergy vestments following the service.

All of this is an outward expression affirming that the Cross (death) and the Resurrection are one inseparable event. If we walk with Christ in His Passion, it is to prepare for the joy of His Resurrection.

Thus, it is only the repentant—those who recognize their sins and feel the need to be freed from them—who know how to crucify their sins with Christ, bury them in His tomb, and rise with Him in His Resurrection, striving toward the face of the Risen Lord. Then their eyes become fixed on Christ the Risen One, and through His Resurrection and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit,

"The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11: 26)

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they come to understand that they are called to live not on earth, but in heaven—and thus realize that their Christian calling is to make earth itself a piece of heaven.

After our Christ defeated death, we now understand—by the grace of the Risen Lord—that we are responsible for transforming the world and restoring it to the Kingdom of God, beginning by purifying it from sin. But we have also begun to understand that this great work does not begin with others – it begins with us and within us.

What remains is for us to live a new life: a life free of sin, a life the world does not know, for it is according to God's will, not our own. I invite you to reflect with me on words written by Metropolitan Georges Khodr on Pascha 2014, when he had reached the age of ninety-one:

“I am a crossing, O Lord, until I meet You. Do not allow me to distract myself: ‘Shine Your face upon Your servant,’ that I may become of Your light. Take me to You, that I may know You. Do not leave me in the wilderness of this world. Do not leave me prey to the beasts. Come, for in Your coming I am formed. If You come to me, I will complete my journey toward Your face, O Lord. If I see You, Your face becomes my world. Nothing benefits me but Your face. That is Pascha. Let no other face distract me from You. Fix my eyes upon it. Each day, I desire Your face, O Master. Let it suffice for me as my life. Train me to see You as my all in this age and the one to come, so that I may understand You are existence itself. Discipline me to forsake all things to see You. If I attain You, You will take care of me. I will become Paschal in You. And if I reach You, my journey ends.” (From **"Who Am I at Pascha," Pascha 2014**)

May the joy of our Risen Lord flood your hearts at all times.

Yours in the Risen Christ,



+**SABA**

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

“The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch” (Acts 11: 26)

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OF NORTH AMERICA**

رقم: ٢٠٢٥/١٥٥

عيد الفصح العظيم والمقدس، ٢٠٢٥

أحبائي في المسيح:
السادة الأساقفة الكلي برّهم،
قدس الكهنة والشمامسة الموقرين،
شعب الله الورع، في هذه الأبرشية المباركة،

المسيح قام! أجمل هتاف أعيدكم به في هذا الفصح الإلهي المنير، وأرفع صلواتي ذاكرا إياكم
يوميًا، وطالبا رحمة الله الغامرة وفرح الانتصار على الموت، كل موت، لكم جميعًا.

لن أنظر إلى حدث القيامة المجيدة عقانديا، بل سأأمل قليلا فيه.

العيد، في كنيستنا، محطة نستعيد فيها حدث العيد. في الفصح، كما تعلمون، نرافق أحداث
الرب يسوع الخلاصية خطوة خطوة، وصولاً إلى قيامته من بين الأموات. فالصليب يسبق
القيامة، الموت يسبق الحياة. لذلك تلاحظون أن الفصح عندنا يبتدئ مساء الجمعة العظيمة؛
ففي منتصف خدمة جناز الرب، نبدأ بترتيل قياميات الملائكة: "مبارك أنت يا رب علمني
حقوقك".

ثمة تقليد جميل في بعض الكنائس حيث تبدأ خدمة الجناز والكهنة يرتدون بذلاتهم الكهنوتية
باللون الصيامي البنفسجي الغامق، وبعد انتهاء التقاريط يستبدلون باللون الأبيض. جدير
 بالذكر أن اللون الأبيض، لون القيامة هو الذي يسود في كل أغنية الكنيسة وبذلات الكهنة بعد
خدمة الجناز.

هذا كله تعبير خارجي يؤكد فيه ارتباط الصليب (الموت) بالقيامة وأن كليهما حدث واحد. فإذا
رافقنا المسيح في خطوات آلامه فإنما كي نستعد لفرح قيامته.

"The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11: 26)

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من هنا وحدهم التائبون الذين وعوا خطاياهم وأدركوا حاجتهم إلى التحرر منها، يعرفون كيف يصلبونها مع المسيح، ويدفنونها مع قبره، ويقومون منها بقيامته، ناهدين إلى وجه المسيح القائم. إذ ذاك تتسمر عيونهم على المسيح القائم ويعون، من بعد قيامة المسيح وحضور الروح القدس فيهم، باتوا مدعوين إلى العيش في السماوات، لا على الأرض، وتاليا يدركون أن دعوتهم كمسيحيين باتت في جعل الأرض قطعة من السماء.

بعد أن هزم مسيحنا الموت، صرنا نعي، بنعمة المسيح القائم، أننا مسؤولون عن تحويل العالم ليستعاد إلى ملكوت الله، وذلك بتنقيته من الخطيئة. لكننا بدأنا نعي أن هذا العمل العظيم لا يبدأ من غيرنا بل يبدأ بنا وفينا.

بقي علينا أن نحيا حياة جديدة، حياة خالية من الخطيئة، حياة يجهلها العالم، لأنها بحسب مشيئة الله، لا مشيئتنا نحن. وأدعوكم للتأمل معي فيما كتبه المطران جورج خضر في فصيح 2014، وكان قد بلغ الواحدة والتسعين آنذاك:

"أنا عبورٌ يا سيدٌ حتّى ألقاك. لا تدعني أتلهى بنفسي: "أضئ بوجهك على عبدك" لأكون من ضيائك. خذني إليك لأعرفك. لا تدعني في وحشة هذا العالم. لا تتركني فريسةً للوحوش. تعال في مجيئك أتكون. وإذا جنّت إليّ أكمل سيري إلى وجهك يا رب. إذا رأيتك يصبح وجهك هو العالم. لا ينفعني إلّا وجهك. إنّه هو الفصح. لا يلهني عنك وجه. سمّر عينيّ عليه. كلّ يوم أريد وجهك يا سيد. اكفني به حياة لي. درّبني على أن أراك كلّاً لي في هذا الدهر وفي الدهر الآتي، فأفهم أنّك الوجود. روضني على أن أتترك كلّ شيء لأراك. إذا أدركتك أنت تتدبرني. أصبح فصيحاً فيك. فإذا وصلت إليك تنتهي مسيرتي."

(من أكون في الفصح، فصيح 2014)

ليغمركم إلهنا القائم بفرح حضوره في كل حين.

الداعي لكم،

+سأبا



رئيس أساقفة نيويورك وميتروبوليت أميركا الشمالية

"The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11: 26)

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PLEASE SEND THIS TO 10 ARAB PEOPLE



CALIFORNIA FISH GRILL IS PROUD TO SUPPORT
**St. John
Church**

Thursday, June 12 at 11AM-8PM
2910 Ygnacio Valley Rd. Bldg. G
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

California Fish Grill will donate 25% of sales from this event back to the organization. Simply present this flyer, mention the organization upon ordering or **scan the QR code at kiosk.**

IN-STORE USE ONLY



If placing an order online, please enter code at checkout: **fund2025**

A BETTER WAY TO *Seafood™*

Dine & Donate

A dine and donate fundraising event, where a portion of a restaurant's sales on a specific day are donated to our church when mention St. John and/or show the flyer. Essentially creating a win-win situation for both the restaurant and St. John. Plus you can gather with fellow community members and have no mess to clean. Additionally you don't have to cook or worry about what to eat that day. :)



JOIN US!



IS GIVING
50% BACK TO:

St. John Orthodox
Church

Thursday, Apr 24
All day

The Kebab Shop
2359 Oak Grove Rd Bldg H
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

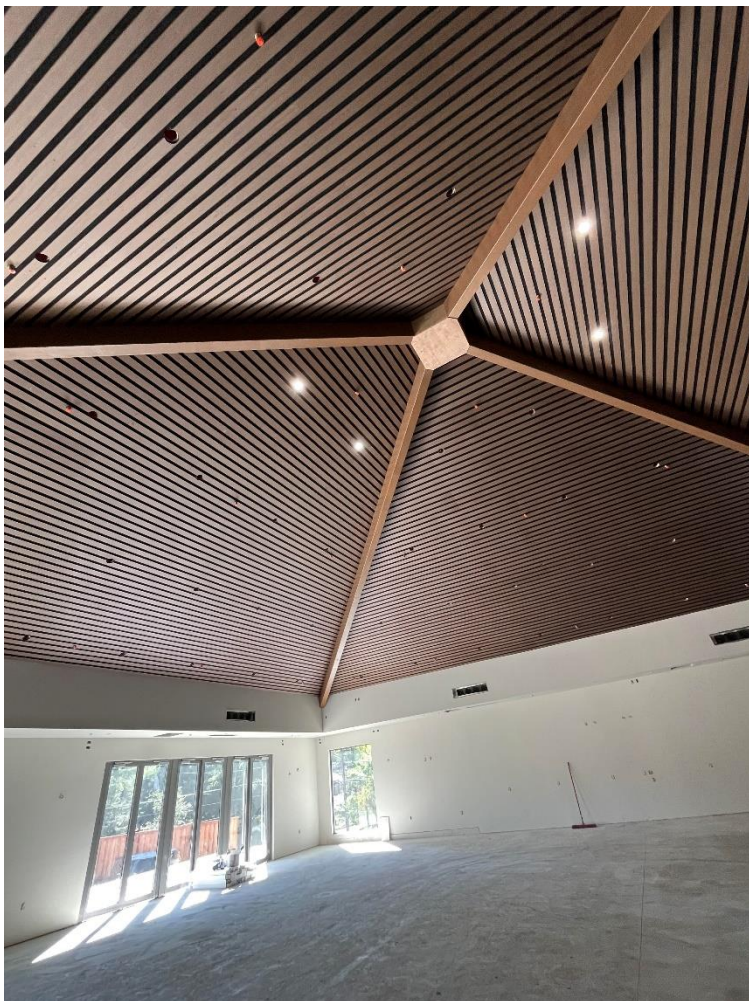
To participate in this fundraiser, show this flyer during checkout at the store or order online at order.thekebabshop.com using the fundraiser coupon code below.

Code for online ordering:
FUNDRAISER

This fundraiser event is between St. John Orthodox Church and The Kebab Shop. The Kebab Shop will donate 50% of qualifying food and beverage sales to St. John Orthodox Church. Additional sales exclusions may apply including: Delivery, Catering, any other promotions. Offer valid only on select date(s) and location(s). Offer void if flyer is distributed in or near the store. The Kebab Shop may impose additional terms and conditions.

**FORCE
4 GOOD**
FUNDRAISING

FUNDRAISER



Fellowship Hall Update

Due to delays out of our control from county officials, we had to slow the pace of construction work, but thankfully, this past Friday the inspectors have come and approved us to continue moving forward. As you can see from the pictures, the ceiling in the hall is completed, with final light fixtures and sprinkler heads to be installed shortly. The walls, floors and fixtures are installed in the restrooms, and we are awaiting partition walls as well as lighting and ceiling panels. The kitchen hoods are installed and walls are going up. Painting is moving ahead this week and hall floors are to be installed soon after. Members of the parish are working with the building committee and contractor to finalize kitchen equipment.

As we are approaching hall completion and occupancy, we are resuming work on our donor recognition plaque. The list attached shows the names of the donors to the hall that have donated \$1,000 or more since 2013. We ask that you let us know soon if we have inadvertently misspelled any names, or if you would like to change the way your donation is recognized on the plaque. Also, if you would like to know your exact contribution amount that we have on record, please contact the church office. To date, we have received more than \$925,000 in direct donations, not counting contributions from church events such as the crab feed, dinners, and the Men's Fellowship and Ladies of St John. We would like to show that we have raised more than \$1 million dollars, and are asking all to consider their donations to see if we can close the \$75,000 gap before we finalize the plaque design. However, we kindly ask that you do not divert your pledges and donations from the parish operating funds to do so.

We thank you all for your contributions of time, talents and resources to this project, for your patience as we approach the finish line, and we look forward to a wonderful celebration in the new fellowship hall soon!

St. John Financial Snapshot

Year to Date Actual Finances as of 03/31/2025

INCOME	2025 Year To Date	% of Total Income	2024 Year to Date	
Membership Pledges	\$ 38,908	21%	\$ 44,387	-\$5K difference vs. YTD 2024. -\$6K difference vs. 2025 Budget.
Tray Collections	\$ 4,271	2%	\$ 3,474	
Preschool Contribution	\$ 106,280	59%	\$ 58,172	
Crab Feed and Festival	\$ 21,011	12%	\$ 23,499	
Ladies Contribution	\$ 5,000	3%	\$ -	Related to prior year. Add'l \$5K expected in December 2025.
Other**	\$ 6,051	3%	\$ 5,221	
Total Income	\$ 181,521	100%	\$ 134,753	
Total Expenses	\$ 159,491		\$ 99,198	
YTD Net Income	\$ 22,031	12%	\$ 35,555	

**Other includes bookstore, candles, flowers, palms, coffee hour, memorials, weddings, baptisms, weddings, prior year pledges

Building Fund Balance \$ 761,943.83

Those who wish to see the full financial summary should contact Parish Council Treasurer Andrew Thayer

St. John Orthodox Church
501 Moraga Way
Orinda, CA 94563

You could use this QR code for your donation

