



+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
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FEAST OF PALM SUNDAY:

ENTRANCE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST INTO JERUSALEM

قُدَّاسِ أَحَدِ الشَّعَائِينِ. دُخُولِ رَبِّنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ إِلَى أُورَشَلِيمِ



Palm Sunday

On this day in the Holy Orthodox Church, the Sunday of Palms, we celebrate the radiant and glorious festival of the Entrance of our Lord Jesus Christ into Jerusalem.

Jesus came to Bethany on the Sunday falling before the six days of the Mosaic Passover. On the following day He sent two of His Disciples, who brought Him a donkey on which He sat to enter the city. And when the great multitude heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, they immediately took palm branches in their hands and went out to meet Him. All cried, "Hosanna! Blessed is

He that cometh in the Name of the Lord, King of Israel!" The branches of palm trees were a symbol of Christ's victory over Satan and Death. And the meaning of "Hosanna" is, "We pray Thee, save." The donkey's colt, which was still an untamed animal, and impure according to the law, as well as Christ's sitting thereon, symbolize the former savagery and impurity of the Gentiles; and their subsequent taming and obedience to the holy law of the Gospel.

THE EPISTLE

Blessed is He Who cometh in the Name of the Lord.

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endures forever.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Philippians. (4:4-9)

Brethren, rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice! Let your forbearance be known to all people. The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your petitions be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are honorable, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report; if there is any virtue, and if there is any praise, think about these things. The things which you both learned and received, and heard and saw in me, these things do; and the God of peace will be with you.

الرسالة.

مُبَارَكُ الْآتِي بِاسْمِ الرَّبِّ .

اعْتَرَفُوا لِلرَّبِّ فَإِنَّهُ صَالِحٌ وَإِنَّ إِلَى الْأَبَدِ رَحْمَتُهُ ..

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولَسِ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى أَهْلِ فِلِيبِي. (4:4-9)

يا إِخْوَةٌ، اَفْرَحُوا فِي الرَّبِّ كُلِّ حِينٍ وَأَقُولُ أَيْضاً اَفْرَحُوا. وَلِيُظَهِّرْ حِلْمَكُمْ لِجَمِيعِ النَّاسِ. فَإِنَّ الرَّبَّ قَرِيبٌ. لَا تَهْتَمُوا الْبَتَّةَ، بَلْ فِي كُلِّ شَيْءٍ فَلْتَكُنْ طَلِبَاتِكُمْ مَعْلُومَةً لَدَى اللَّهِ بِالصَّلَاةِ وَالتَّضَرُّعِ مَعَ الشُّكْرِ. وَلِيَحْفَظْ سَلَامُ اللَّهِ، الَّذِي يَفُوقُ كُلَّ عَقْلِ، قُلُوبَكُمْ وَبِصَابِرِكُمْ فِي يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ. وَبَعْدُ أَيُّهَا الْإِخْوَةٌ، مَهْمَا يَكُنْ مِنْ حَقٍّ، وَمَهْمَا يَكُنْ مِنْ عَفَافٍ، وَمَهْمَا يَكُنْ مِنْ عَدْلِ، وَمَهْمَا يَكُنْ مِنْ طَهَارَةٍ، وَمَهْمَا يَكُنْ مِنْ صِفَةٍ مُحَبَّبَةٍ، وَمَهْمَا يَكُنْ مِنْ حُسْنِ صِيَتٍ، إِنْ تَكُنْ فَضِيلَةً، وَإِنْ يَكُنْ مَدْحٌ، فَفِي هَذِهِ اَفْتَكِرُوا. وَمَا تَعَلَّمْتُمُوهُ، وَتَسَلَّمْتُمُوهُ، وَسَمِعْتُمُوهُ، وَرَأَيْتُمُوهُ فِيَّ، فَبِهَذَا اَعْمَلُوا، وَإِلَهُ السَّلَامِ يَكُونُ مَعَكُمْ.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (12:1-18)

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus who had died was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. There they made Him a supper; Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at table with Him. Mary took a pound of costly ointment of pure nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped His feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment. But Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, one of His Disciples (he who was to betray Jesus), said, "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" This he said, not because he cared for the poor but because he was a thief, and as he had the moneybox he used to take what was put into it. Jesus said, "Let her alone, let her keep it for the day of My burial. The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have Me." When the great crowd of the Jews learned that He was there, they came, not only on account of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Lazarus also to death, because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus. The next day a great crowd who had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying, "Hosanna! Blessed is He Who cometh in the Name of the Lord, the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young ass and sat upon it; as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on an ass's colt!" His Disciples did not understand this at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that this had been written of Him and had been done to Him. The crowd that had been with Jesus when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead bore witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet Jesus was that they heard He had done this sign.

الإنجيل

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ يُوْحَنَّا الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ، وَالتَّلْمِيذِ الطَّاهِرِ. (12:1-18)

قَبْلَ الْفِصْحِ بِسِتَّةِ أَيَّامٍ، أَتَى يَسُوعُ إِلَى بَيْتِ عَنِيَا حَيْثُ كَانَ لِعَازَرُ الَّذِي مَاتَ فَأَقَامَهُ يَسُوعُ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ. فَصَنَعُوا لَهُ هُنَاكَ عَشَاءً، وَكَانَتْ مَرَّتَا تَخْدُمُهُ، وَكَانَ لِعَازَرُ أَحَدَ الْمُتَكَيِّفِينَ مَعَهُ. أَمَّا مَرْيَمُ فَأَخَذَتْ رَطْلَ طَيْبٍ نَارِدِينَ خَالِصٍ، كَثِيرَ الثَّمَنِ، وَدَهَنْتْ قَدَمَيْ يَسُوعَ وَمَسَحَتْ قَدَمَيْهِ بِشَعْرِهَا. فَامْتَلَأَ الْبَيْتُ مِنْ رَائِحَةِ الطَّيْبِ. فَقَالَ أَحَدُ تَلَامِيذِهِ، يَهُوذَا ابْنُ سَمْعَانَ الْإِسْخَرِيوطِيِّ، الَّذِي كَانَ مُزْمَعاً أَنْ يُسَلِّمَهُ، " لِمَ لَمْ يُبَّعْ هَذَا الطَّيْبُ بِثَلَاثِ مِئَةِ دِينَارٍ وَيُعْطَى لِلْمَسَاكِينِ؟" وَإِنَّمَا قَالَ هَذَا لِأَنَّهَا بِالْمَسَاكِينِ، بَلْ لِأَنَّهَا كَانَتْ سَارِقاً وَكَانَ الصُّنْدُوقُ عِنْدَهُ، وَكَانَ يَحْمِلُ مَا يُلْقَى فِيهِ. فَقَالَ يَسُوعُ: "دَعْهَا، إِنَّمَا حَفِظْتَهُ لِيَوْمِ دَفْنِي، فَإِنَّ الْمَسَاكِينِ هُمْ عِنْدَكُمْ فِي كُلِّ حِينٍ، وَأَمَّا أَنَا فَلَسْتُ عِنْدَكُمْ فِي كُلِّ حِينٍ." وَعَلِمَ جَمْعٌ كَثِيرٌ مِنَ الْيَهُودِ أَنَّ يَسُوعَ هُنَاكَ، فَجَاؤُوا، لَا مِنْ أَجْلِ يَسُوعَ فَقَطْ، بَلْ لِيَنْظُرُوا أَيْضاً لِعَازَرَ الَّذِي أَقَامَهُ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ. فَاتَمَرَّ رُؤَسَاءُ الْكَهَنَةِ أَنْ يَقْتُلُوا لِعَازَرَ أَيْضاً، لِأَنَّ كَثِيرِينَ مِنَ الْيَهُودِ كَانُوا بِسَبَبِهِ يَذْهَبُونَ فَيُؤْمِنُونَ بِيَسُوعَ. وَفِي الْعَدَدِ، لَمَّا سَمِعَ الْجَمْعُ الْكَثِيرُ الَّذِينَ جَاؤُوا إِلَى الْعِيدِ بِأَنَّ يَسُوعَ آتٍ إِلَى أُورُشَلِيمَ، أَخَذُوا سَعْفَ النَّخْلِ وَخَرَجُوا لِلِقَائِهِ وَهُمْ يَصْرُخُونَ قَائِلِينَ: "هُوشَعْنَا، مُبَارَكُ الْآتِي بِاسْمِ الرَّبِّ مَلِكِ إِسْرَائِيلِ." وَإِنَّ يَسُوعَ وَجَدَ جَحْشاً فَرَكِبَهُ كَمَا هُوَ مَكْتُوبٌ: "لَا تَخَافِي يَا ابْنَةُ

صِهْيُون. هَا إِنَّ مَلِكِكَ يَأْتِيكَ رَاكِبًا عَلَى جَحْشِ ابْنِ آتَانَ". وَهَذِهِ الْأَشْيَاءُ لَمْ يَفْهَمَهَا تَلَامِيذُهُ أَوَّلًا، وَلَكِنْ لَمَّا مُجِدَّ يَسُوعُ حِينَئِذٍ تَذَكَّرُوا أَنَّ هَذِهِ إِنَّمَا كُتِبَتْ عَنْهُ وَأَنَّهَمْ عَمِلُوهَا لَهُ. وَكَانَ الْجَمْعُ الَّذِينَ كَانُوا مَعَهُ حِينَ نَادَى لِعَازَرَ مِنَ الْقَبْرِ وَأَقَامَهُ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ يَشْهَدُونَ لَهُ. وَمِنْ أَجْلِ هَذَا اسْتَقْبَلَهُ الْجَمْعُ، لِأَنَّهُمْ سَمِعُوا بِأَنَّهُ قَدْ صَنَعَ هَذِهِ الْآيَةَ.

Love Your Neighbor

April – Archdiocese Collection for Palm Sunday (April 28, 2024)

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.



Flowers for The Bier نَعش المسيح of Christ.

Offered by Jack and Sylvia Dudum and family in memory of John and Misadeh Dudum and family; Elias and Nahiel Nazzal and family; Butros and Nabihah Dudum and family. Many years!

Upcoming Events

Every Sunday at 7pm	St. Anastasia Fellowship Meeting.
Wednesday, April 24 th	Pre-Sanctified Liturgy القداس السابق تقديسه at 6:00 PM
Saturday May 4 th	Egg hunt after Divine Liturgy
September 28-29	Annual Middle Eastern Festival

Coffee Hours

April 28 th	Bake sale. No coffee hour.
May 5 th	Easter / Pascha
May 12 th	Sponsor Needed
May 19 th	Lunch (Chinese Food), hosted by Maureen and Jeane in thanksgiving for her conversion to Holy Orthodoxy.
May 26 th	Sponsor Needed

Holy Oblations

This week, Holy Oblations are offered by:

- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Nick Nicola, George Messih, Vivian Srouji, Daniel Romley** and **Aida Youakeem**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Frida Cawog**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Karim Nino**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Carol Syariani**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Sam Nassab**. 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 Kavar, Mason Kavar, Jonathan Juha and Maron Juha

- † Palms for Palm Sunday are offered by **Jim and Denise Dudum and Family** in loving memory of John, Misadeh, Audie and Mary Dudum and Jim and Rose Romley. May their memory be eternal!



Memorial Services

June 9th: 10-year memorial service for the servant of God Fakhry Farhan Kawar, offered by Ramsey and Kian Kawar and family. May his memory be eternal!

June 23rd: by Fairouz Freij : one year memorial for Khalid Haddad, 30 years for Angel Freij and 20 years for Emilie Haddad . May their memory be eternal

Holy Week Schedule

<u>April 27th</u> : Lazarus Saturday	Lazarus Saturday Liturgy at 10:00am.
<u>April 28th</u> : Palm Sunday	Matins at 9:00am, Divine Liturgy at 10:00am Bridegroom Service صلاة الختن at 6:30pm
<u>April 29th</u> : Holy Monday	Bridegroom Service صلاة الختن at 6:30 pm
<u>April 30th</u> : Holy Tuesday	Bridegroom Service صلاة الختن at 6:30 pm
<u>May 1st</u> : Holy Wednesday	Holy Unction صلاة الزيت المقدس at 6:30 pm
<u>May 2nd</u> : Holy Thursday	Vesperal Liturgy and Washing of the Feet at 10:00am Passion Gospels at 6:30 pm
<u>May 3rd</u> : Holy Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Royal Hours, Vespers and Taking the Body from the Cross – 2:30 pm• Lamentations تقاريط الجنائز at 6:30 pm• Vigil at Christ's Tomb at 9:00pm
<u>May 4th</u> : Holy Saturday	Vesperal Liturgy at 10:00am Rush Service 10:30 pm followed by the Divine Liturgy
<u>May 5th</u> : Great and Holy Pascha	Agape Vespers at 1:00pm

St. John Orthodox Church

**501 Moraga Way
Orinda, CA 94563**

You could use this QR code for your donation



Fellowship Hall News

Building Committee Update:

Work the last few weeks has been on the roof, siding and hardscape, as well as some more rough electrical on the inside of the building. The next phases we can expect to see are stucco material going onto the walls, which once thoroughly cured will be the last phase before installing tiles on the exterior wall.

Additionally, framing for concrete work is underway for the service driveway, electrical pad and the trash enclosure. This will not be easily visible as it is all on the Hall Drive side of the building.

Parish Help Needed

Fellow parishioners, the fundraising committee is seeking your help in finding funding for our community hall. If you or anyone you know, has any experience with grants for charitable organizations, we would love to talk with you! We would like to apply for some grants, but don't know where to begin. This is an important step in fulfilling our financial goals for the hall. If you have any information, please email David Hanna at davidnlisah@hotmail.com. Thank you!

LORE

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St John Orthodox Church Storefront

Help Us
Reach Our Goal!



See's Candies

Who doesn't love chocolate? Please order your See's Candies. 20% of the proceeds will support our building fund.

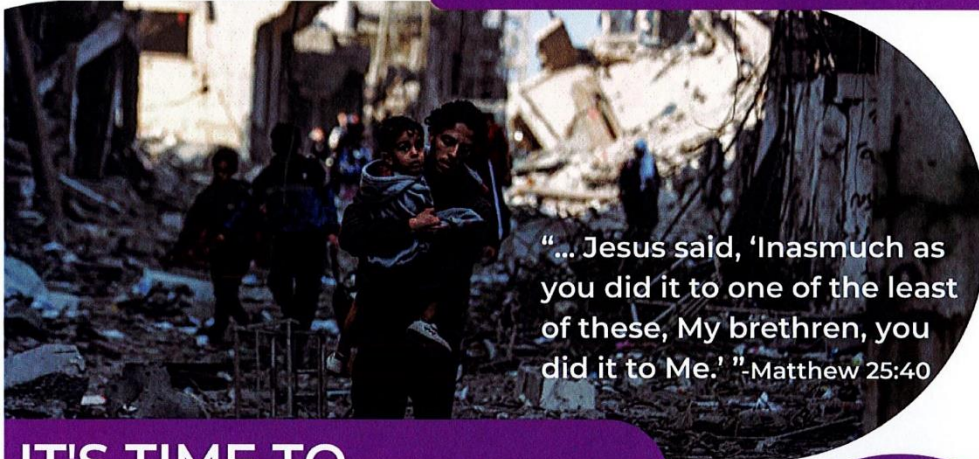
- Own a business and need to gift?
- Any gift?
- Easter chocolate??
- SEE'S just because it's SEE'S??

ANYONE can purchase!! Please scan the QR code, find the link on our Facebook, or ask anyone in the fundraising committee .

Zinc Shingles on the Roof!



GREAT LENT PROJECT



“... Jesus said, ‘Inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these, My brethren, you did it to Me.’”-Matthew 25:40

IT'S TIME TO **DONATE** GAZA TENT SPONSORSHIPS

We have partnered with an aid agency that is providing tents for families whose homes have been destroyed amid the ongoing atrocities in Gaza. Tents are furnished and can house a whole family.

Help us to reach our target of 100 tents throughout the Lenten season

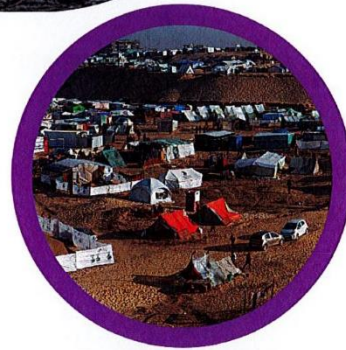
\$350.00 PER TENT

Checks can be mailed to our office, payable to St. Mary Church- Gaza Tent Project. Or donate online at the link below, or by scanning the QR code

WWW.STMARYLIVONIA.COM



18100 Merriman Rd. Livonia, MI 48152 734-422-0010



Meeting Urgent Needs and Planning for the Future

Active in the Middle East since the 1990s, IOCC is using its deep experience and relationships to provide aid during the ongoing conflict in the Holy Land. Since conflict began in October, IOCC has remained in close contact with partners and staff on the ground.

From food and water to baby formula and medicine, IOCC has supplied essential support to thousands of displaced refugees in Gaza. Read more about how IOCC is providing emergency relief while planning for long-term needs.



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.: 049/2024

Great Lent, 2024

TO BE READ FROM THE PULPIT AND PRINTED IN THE BULLETIN

Beloved Hierarchs, Clergy, and Faithful of our Archdiocese,

Greetings in the name of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ!

During this holy season of repentance, we strive with renewed focus to live rightly, being “doers of the word and not just hearers” (James 1:22). Along with increasing our prayers and abandoning self-indulgence, we especially focus on caring for the needs of others. As we hear on Meatfare Sunday, we will be judged by God on how we have responded to the sufferings of the “least of these” (Matthew 25), so we must strive to give attention to their needs as we would to Christ’s.

Although our Lord Jesus Christ taught and exemplified this law of love in the most perfect way, it is also beautifully stated in the Old Law, where God commands, “If one of your brothers happens to be in need . . ., you will not harden your heart nor shut your hand to your needy brother. You will surely open your hands to him” (Deuteronomy 15:7–8). Such giving is not just some humanitarian project but a relational act: opening our hearts and hands to our brothers and sisters. It is a determination to actually see the homeless woman we pass on the street and to remember the friend or acquaintance who has fallen on hard times. Although the magnitude of suffering in the world tempts us to insulate ourselves against the needs of others, the law of love reminds us that each person is a treasure and that his need is not a problem but an opportunity to embrace him.

As we have for 50 years now, we again encourage you to open your hearts and hands to the needy by contributing to our Food for Hungry People program this Lent. We appeal to your well-known generosity and ask the blessing of Almighty God on all who participate in this worthy effort.

With prayers for an edifying and enriching Great Lent and a glorious celebration of Pascha, I remain,

Your Father in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "T. Saba". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "T".

✠ 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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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.: 157/2024

Palm Sunday
April 28, 2024

To be read from the pulpit and printed in the bulletin.

Venerable Hierarchs, Reverend Clergy, and Christ-loving Faithful of this Archdiocese,

May you have much joy on this glorious feast of Palm Sunday!

Today we see Christ riding triumphantly into the Holy City of Jerusalem and the crowds welcoming Him with praise and loving service, as they shout “Hosanna!” and lay down palm branches and even their own clothes as a carpet for His entrance. Let us likewise open our hearts to Him and welcome Him into our lives. Let us praise Him not just with hymns at church but also by confessing His goodness in our daily prayers and in our conversations with others. Let us lay down for Him a welcoming carpet of generous deeds toward our neighbors and faithful obedience toward Him. May we thus receive Him to rule in our hearts as our delivering King, and may we remain loyal to Him in word and deed—not betraying and abandoning Him, like the crowds in Jerusalem long ago.

As is our custom in this archdiocese, today we also remember our Father in Christ, His Beatitude Patriarch John X, and all our brothers and sisters of the Patriarchate of Antioch in its historic homeland of the Middle East. As we proclaim this ancient Faith in the New World, they are keeping it alive in the apostolic and historic places of its beginnings. Yet many of them continue to suffer from the aftermath of wars, disasters, and economic collapse. For this reason, we invite you to contribute today toward the patriarchate and its humanitarian work. Through your donations you can provide some comfort to our brothers and sisters in need, showing solidarity with them as one Body in Christ. Please give generously.

Wishing you all a deeply meaningful Holy Week and a glorious Pascha, I remain,

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "T. Saba". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

✠ 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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ROSE'S ANNUAL PALM SUNDAY BAKE SALE

SUNDAY, APRIL 28TH



Please contact Denise Dudum at 925-360-3350 if you'd like to contribute your special baked goods or if you'd like to

PRE-ORDER

FUNDRAISER

JOIN US!



**IS GIVING
50% BACK TO:**

**St. John Orthodox
church**

Thursday, May 16

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.

Fundraiser Code:

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

IOCC Program Highlights

Gaza: A Note from Archbishop Alexios

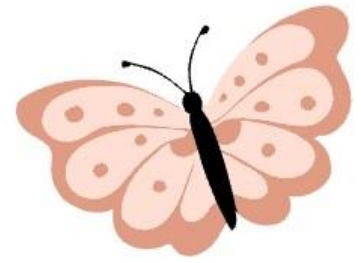


His Eminence Archbishop Alexios reads from the Gospel at St. Porphyrios Greek Orthodox Church in Gaza.

IOCC recently received a letter from Archbishop Alexios, the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Jerusalem's representative in Gaza—where IOCC continues working with the Orthodox Church to help people displaced by conflict. Here is an excerpt from His Eminence's letter:

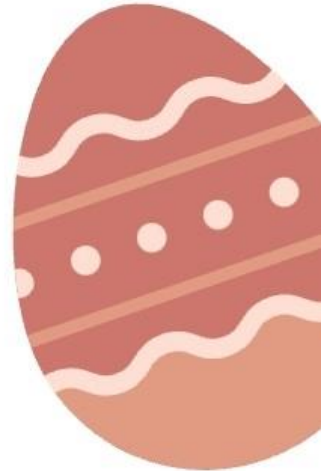
“In Gaza [we] are living one of the most difficult times of our lives... We are very thankful to you and your friends that are supporting you in your activities, in being the real Christian charity in the world, especially in the Holy Land, the land of our Lord Jesus Christ. We pray to our Lord Jesus Christ in the holy city of Jerusalem... to strengthen all of you in your duties, and to keep you and your families in good health, to live with peace and prosperity.”

Find more about IOCC's ongoing response at iocc.org/holyland.



ST. JOHN'S

PASCHA EGG HUNT



*Saturday May 4th
after morning service*

EGG HUNT, BRUNCH, ARTS & CRAFT, & MORE!!

*** RAFFLE BASKETS ***

ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARDS
PURCHASING TENTS IN GAZA



IN ADDITION WE WILL BE PUTTING CARE
PACKAGES FOR LOCAL HOMELESS

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER AND/OR DONATE
PLEASE CONTACT RANIA KASHOU OR IRENE GUAJARDO

