

## +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

501 Moraga Way, Orinda, California 925-258-4255 www.stjohnorinda.org email: st.john.evangelist.orinda@gmail.com

## SUNDAY, AUGUST 10, 2025 NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST & NINTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW AFTER-FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF CHRIST

MARTYR AND ARCHDEACON LAURENCE OF ROME, HIEROMARTYR SIXTUS, BISHOP OF ROME & THOSE WITH THEM; VENERABLE LAURENCE OF KALUGA, THE FOOL FOR CHRIST'S SAKE



On August 10 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we continue to celebrate the Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ, and we commemorate the Martyr and Archdeacon Laurence of Rome, Hieromartyr Sixtus, bishop of Rome and those with them.

Emperor Decius was determined to destroy Christianity and Sixtus was quickly brought to trial with two of his deacons. Sixtus told Laurence that he would die for Christ soon thereafter; as soon as they had beheaded Sixtus and his deacons, Laurence was apprehended. Beforehand, Laurence had

placed all of his affairs and the affairs of the church in order. Immediately before his martyrdom, Laurence safeguarded the church valuables and healed four people. Laurence did not want to deny Christ and advised Emperor Decius to reject his false gods. Decius refused, and Laurence was beaten, and then placed on a gridiron over a fire. Roasting in the fire, Laurence thanked God and mocked the emperor for his paganism. Laurence gave up his pure and heroic soul to God on August 10, 258.

On this day, we also commemorate the Venerable Laurence of Kaluga, the Fool for Christ's sake.

#### THE EPISTLE

Make your vows and pay them to the Lord our God. God is known in Judaea; His Name is great in Israel.

## The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (3:9-17)

Brethren, we are God's fellow workers; you are God's husbandry, God's building. According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise architect I laid a foundation, and another builds upon it. Let each one take heed how he builds upon it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; everyone's work will become manifest; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire itself will test each one's work of what sort it is. If anyone's work which was built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, but he himself will be saved, yet so as by fire. Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone corrupts the temple of God, God will corrupt him. For the temple of God is holy, whose temple you are

صلُّوا وَأُوْفوا الرَّبَّ الِلَهَنا،. اللَّهُ مَعْروفٌ في أرضِ يهوذا.

#### فَصْلٌ مِنْ رسالَةِ القِدّيسِ بولُسَ الرسولِ الأولى إلى أهْلِ كورنْثوس. (9:3-17)

أنا بِحَسَبِ نِعْمَةِ اللهِ المُعْطَاةِ لي، كَبَنّاءٍ حَكيمٍ وَضَعْتُ الأَساسَ وآخَرُ .يا إِخْوَةُ، إِنَّا نَحْنُ عامِلُونَ مَعَ اللهِ، وأَنتُمْ حَرْثُ اللهِ وبِناءُ اللهِ فَإِنْ كَانَ . إِذْ لا يَسْتَطيعُ أَحَدٌ أَنْ يَضَعَ أَساساً غَيْرَ المَوْضوعِ، وهُوَ يسوعُ المسيح.يَبْني عَلَيْهِ. فَلْيَنْظُرْ كُلُّ واحِدٍ كَيْفَ يَبْني عَلَيْهِ فَإِنَّ عَمَلَ كُلِّ واحِدٍ سَيكُونُ بَيِّناً، لأَنَّ يَوْمَ .أو فِضَّةً أَوْ حِجارَةً ثَمينَةً أَوْ حَشيشاً أَوْ حَشيشاً أَوْ تَبْناً أَحَدٌ يَبْني عَلى هذا الأساسِ ذَهَباً وَمَن بَقِيَ عَمَلُهُ الذي بَناهُ على الأساسِ، فَسَيَنالُ أُجْرَةً.الرَّبِ سَيُظْهِرُهُ لأَنَّهُ يُعْلَنُ بالنارِ، وسَتَمْتَحِنُ النارُ عَمَلَ كُلِّ واحِدٍ ما هُوَ وَمَن بَقِي عَمَلُهُ اللهِ وأَنَّ روحَ اللهِ ساكِن فيكُمْ؟ مَنْ يُفْسِدُ .احْتَرَقَ عَمَلُهُ، فَسَيَخْسَرُ، وسَيَخْلُصُ هُوَ وَلَكِنْ كَمَنْ يَمُرُّ في النارِ هيكَلُ اللهِ مُقَدَّسٌ، وهُوَ أَنتُم. هيكَلُ اللهِ مُقَدَّسٌ، وهُوَ أَنتُم.

#### **THE GOSPEL**

#### The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (14:22-34)

At that time, Jesus made the Disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He dismissed the crowds. And after He had dismissed the crowds, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. When evening came, He was there alone, but the Disciples' boat by this time was many furlongs distant from the land, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea. But when the Disciples saw Jesus walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately He spoke to them, saying, "Take heart, it is I; have no fear." And Peter answered Him, "Lord, if it is Thee, bid me come to Thee on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out His hand and caught him, saying to him, "O man of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped Him, saying, "Truly, Thou art the Son of God." And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.

#### فصلٌ شريفٌ مِنْ بِشارَةِ القديس مَتَّى الإنجيليِّ البَشيرِ والتلميذِ الطاهر. (22:14-34)

ولِمّا صَرَفَ الجُموعَ، صَعِدَ . في ذلكَ الزمانِ، اضطَرَ يسوعُ تَلاميذَهُ أَنْ يَدْخُلُوا السَفينةَ ويَسْبِقوهُ إلى الجَمُوع ويَسْبِقوهُ إلى الجبلِ لِيُصلّي. ولَمَّا كانَ المَساءُ، كانَ هُناكَ وَحْدَهُ وكانَتِ السَفينةُ في وسَطِ البَحْرِ تَكُدُها الأَمْواجُ، لأَنَّ الريحَ كانَتْ . وحْدَهُ إلى الجبلِ لِيُصلّي. ولَمَّا كانَ المَساءُ، كانَ هُناكَ وَحْدَهُ فَلَمَّا رَآهُ التَلاميذُ ماشِياً على البَحْرِ، اصْطرَبُوا وقالوا . وعِنْدَ الهَجْعَةِ الرابِعَةِ مِنَ الليلِ، مَضَى إلَيْهِمْ ماشِياً على البَحْرِ . مُضادَّةً لَها " فَأَجابَهُ بُطْرُسُ قائِلاً: "يا رَبُ، إنْ كُنْتَ أَنْتَ . فَلْوَقْتِ كَلَّمَهُمْ يَسوعُ قائِلاً: "يَقُوا، أَنا هُوَ، لا تَخافوا. "إنَّهُ خَيالٌ"، ومِنَ الخَوْفِ صَرَخُوا فَلَمَّا رَأَى شِدَّةَ ." فَنَزَلَ بُطْرُسُ مِنَ السَفينَةِ، ومَشَى على المِياهِ آتِياً إلى يسوع." فَقالَ: "تعالَ.هُوَ، فَمُرْنِي أَنْ آتِيَ إلَيْكَ على المِياهِ أَتِياً إلى يسوع." فَقالَ: "تعالَ.هُوَ، فَمُرْنِي أَنْ آتِيَ إلَيْكَ على المِياهِ الرَبِحِ، خافَ، وإذْ بَدَأَ يَغْرَقُ، صاحَ قائِلاً: "يا رَبُ نَجِنِي!" ولِلْوَقْتِ مَدَّ يَسوعُ يَدَهُ وأَمْسَكَ بِهِ، وقالَ لَهُ: "يا قليلَ الإيمانِ، لِماذا شَكَكْت؟" الربح، خاف، وإذْ بَدَأ يَغْرَقُ، صاحَ قائِلاً: "يا رَبُ نَجِنِي!" ولِلْوَقْتِ مَدَّ يَسوعُ يَدَهُ وأَمْسَكَ بِهِ، وقالَ لَهُ: "يا قليلَ الإيمانِ، لِماذا شَكَكْت؟" " ولَمَّا عَبَروا، جاءوا إلى . فَجاءَ الذينَ كانوا في السَفينَةِ وسَجَدوا لَهُ قائِلِينَ: "بالحَقيقَةِ أَنْتَ ابْنُ اللهِ ولَمَّا دَخَلا السَفينَة، سَكَنَتِ الربح.

#### Donations for Heritage Booth at Festival

During the past few Festivals, there were multiple inquiries about purchasing used Middle Eastern items/ souvenirs at the Heritage Booth. We would like to gather unwanted items from our parish.

If you have anything to donate, please contact Dn. Nicholas Adranly at 510-207-1796 for more information.

#### Festival Dance Group for Kids

We are trying to put together a small group to dance at our upcoming festival. Children between the ages of 5-10 (around that age) and willing to learn and be dedicated. Please contact Rania Kashou 415.722.0774. (Text is fine) or Irene Guajardo.

Couple of rules:

- \* You must come to church every Sunday starting August 3rd September 14th.
- \* You must ready to stay at lease 30-45 minutes after church for practice.
- \* You must be available on both festival days (performance in the earlier part -time TBD)

#### Krispy Kreme Fundraising Campaign

Another exciting fundraiser! Campaign is good until December 31.

How it works!

1. Order place an order using the link or QR code.

https://www.groupraise.com/offer-campaigns/60225-st-john-church-krispy-kreme-digital-dozens

- 2. Support 50% of each Original Glazed Dozen you order is donated back to the organization.
- 3. EnjoyVisit your local Krispy Kreme to pick up your Original Glazed Dozens!

#### Dave & Buster's Fundraising Campaign

We have something new and exciting!!

Dave & Buster's fundraising campaign will begin NOW until December 31, 2025. Get Your Power Cards through St. John link.

#### How it works!

1. Place an order using St. John fundraising link. Here is the link:

https://www.groupraise.com/offer-campaigns/59958-st-john-church-dave-busters-fundraising-campaigns?utm\_source=sendgrid&utm\_medium=email&utm\_campaign=o\_offers\_day\_1

And/or ask: Rania Kashou

- 2. 50% of each Dave & Buster's Power Card purchased is donated back to the organization.
- 3. Visit any Dave & Buster's location to pick up your Power Card and start playing! Awesome gift for kids, grand kids, parents, even yourself. Who doesn't like to play??

This link can be forwarded to friends, families, neighbors, coworkers, businesses, anyone!!

**Upcoming Events** 

Thursday, August 7th	Paraklesis for the Virgin Mary at 6 pm.		
Wednesday, August 13th	Parakeisis for the Virgin Mary at 6 pm.		
Thursday, August 14th	Vesperal Divine Liturgy for the feast the Dormition of the Theotokos at 6 pm.		
Sunday, August 17th	Six months memorial service for the servant of God George Wahbeh, offered by Afaf Wahbeh and family. May his memory be eternal!		
Sunday, August 31st	Nick Nicola and Family will offer the 40 Day Service for the handmaiden of God Najat Nicola. May her memory be eternal!		
Sunday, September 7th	40 day memorial service for the handmaiden of God Aida Youakim. May her memory be eternal!		
Sat-Sun, Sept. 20 <sup>th</sup> -21 <sup>st</sup>	St. John's annual Middle Eastern Food Festival		

Coffee Hour

August 10	Dan and Mona Thayer	
August 17	Afaf Wahbeh; 6 month memorial for George Wahbeh	
August 24		

#### **Holy Oblations**

This week, Holy Oblations are offered by:

† St. John Parish Family for the good health of Nick Nicola, Sam Nassab, Sandy Dudum Bennett, Fairouz Freij, George Adranly, Fred Addas, Henriette Hilal, Souhad Halaka. and Norma Khalil. Many years!

† St. John Parish Family in memory of **Najat Nicola**. May her memory be eternal!

- † St. John Parish Family in memory of **Aida Youakeem**. May her Memory be Eternal!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **George Messih**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Rocky Dudum**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **George Cawog**. Many years!
- † Marc Johnston, Monica Mikhail and Chris and Dalia Martsolf for the good health of their parents **Moira, Zaid, Mark and Gaia.** Many years!

<u>Candles for the altar table and in front of the icons</u> 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

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

You could use this QR code for your donation



#### ST. JOHN MIDDLE EASTERN FESTIVAL – 2025 PRE-ORDER FORM

ITEM	PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
Spinach Pies (baker's dozen)	\$ 60.00		
Cheese Pies (baker's dozen)	\$ 60.00		
Meat Pies (baker's dozen)	\$ 60.00		
Grape Leaves – 1 large tray (approx. 180 leaves)	\$200.00		
Grape Leaves – 1 small tray (approx. 90 leaves)	\$100.00		
Name:			
Date Paid:			
ORDERS DUE TO RULA			
ADRANLY 8/17/25 rulaadranly@comcast.net			

#### Advertisement Form for 2025 Festival Ad Book

#### 31st Annual Middle Eastern Festival

#### Sponsored by St. John the Evangelist Orthodox Church

Festival Location: St. John the Evangelist Orthodox Church Grounds, 501 Moraga Way, Orinda, CA 94563

Dates: Saturday, September 20th & Sunday, September 21st					
Advertiser:					
Contact:					
Address:					
Phone:	Email				
Advertisement (circle one)					
Premium Page AD	Full Page AD	1/2 Page AD	1/4 Page AD		
\$500 Plus	\$250	\$125	\$75		

Note: If you wish to include a logo or special typeface, it's best to email it.

The 2025 Middle Eastern Festival will feature the finest Middle Eastern entertainment, delicious food, exotic desserts, live music, folk dancing, bazaar, Middle Eastern heritage exhibits, children's games & activities, and more.

The Festival Book, given to attendees, will include advertisements from local businesses and community supporters;

On behalf of the parishioners of St. John the Evangelist Orthodox Church and members of the 2025 Festival Committee, we thank you for your support.

#### Checks payable to <u>St. John Church Festival Mail to:</u>

St. John the Evangelist Orthodox Church Office, 501 Moraga Way, Orinda, CA Email: st.john.evangelist.orinda@gmail.com web: www.st.johnorinda.org

## GRAPES FOR THE FEAST OF TRANSFIGURATION OFFERED ON SUNDAY BY NICK NICOLA AND FAMILY IN MEMORY OF NAJAT NICOLA.

## MAY HER MEMORY BE ETERNAL!





### ST. JOHN ORTHODOX CHURCH

# MIDDLE EASTERN FOOD FESTIVAL





MUSIC



FOOD



CULTURE



SEPTEMBER 20 & 21 501 MORAGA WAY ORINDA, CA SAT 11AM - 8PM | SUN NOON - 7PM

**FREE ADMISSION** 





## LET'S GET ROLLING & BAKING...in our new kitchen!! Saturday, 8/9 and 8/23





Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:30

Saturday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:30

We need all hands on deck to help roll grape leaves and make spinach pies for the upcoming festival. We'll have coffee and treats and always enjoy our time working together. Please let Rula A. know if you can help. It's a blessing to work together. Ecclesiastes 4:9 Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil.

#### **Building Committee Update**

It's punch list time! Believe it or not, we are nearing the finish line. The Building Committee and the architect have met with the contractor to review a preliminary punch list of items that need to be completed prior to the building inspection for occupancy. These items include things like acoustic wall panels, signage, HVAC grills, fire extinguishers, etc.

Additionally, outside the scope of the original contract with Petra, we have ordered the major kitchen equipment. Some equipment has been delivered, some is on order and custom countertops and workspaces are being fabricated.

We are looking at majority completion in just a few weeks, and then working with city and county officials for inspections. The timing of inspections is out of our complete control, but we are hoping to complete these soon to acquire occupancy certificates.

Of course there will still be some work to complete that has not yet been budgeted or contracted such as trellises and landscaping.





## Support St. John Church with Krispy Kreme Digital Dozens





Price Per Dozen: \$15



# Krispy Kreme Digital Dozens to Support St. John Church



grouprai.se/krispykreme60225o



\$15 per order



#### St John Fellowship Hall Donor Recognition

The St John Fellowship Hall Building and Fundraising Committees along with the Parish Council would like to thank and recognize those donors who have given over the years to the Building Fund. The contributions shown below include cumulative donations to the initial \$2 Million in the building fund at the start of construction, in addition to those donations to the current fundraising effort. Please note that our very generous Cornerstone Donor, as well as several of the Partner and Friend level donors have donated prior to the beginning of our current campaign. All donors will be recognized on a plaque or donor wall feature located in the reception area (foyer) of the hall at the levels shown below. If you would like your contribution recognized in another way, or if you have questions regarding your donation level, please contact the church office.

Recognition level	Names of Donors	
Cornerstone \$500,000 +	Hanada I. Fasheh	
Patron \$100,000-249,000	Rick and Sandra Dudum Jack and Sylvia Dudum	Jason and Lena Dudum Fuad and Nadia Sweiss
Benefactor \$50,000 - 99,999	Keith Dudum Joseph Sweis and Family	The McClintic Family
Provider \$25,000 - 49,999	Sami and Kathy Adranly James and Denise Dudum Rocky and Nada Dudum Nick and Deena Farrah	Jon and Larissa Geleris Stephen and Angela Kreta Elias and Samia Shaheen
Supporter		
\$10,000-24,999	Dn. Nicolas and Rula Adranly George and Samar Adranly ADOBE — matching gift for Hanna Family Anonymous Dominick and Joby Aranda George and Freida Cawog Nick and Deena Farrah Ibrahim Fasheh Jordis Fasheh Lisa and David Hanna and Family Phillip and Gina Jaber	Jawad and Violet Jaber Ron and Ruth Jeha, in Memory of Michael Elias Jeha Sam Khoury Ron and Nancy Nicola Fady and Joumana Najjar Orthodox Vision Foundation The Potts Family Raymond and Georgianna Rishwain Raif and Sonya Rihani Ernest and Noha Shulze and Family Daniel and Mona Thayer Ramsay Zacharia

Partner \$5,000-9,999

Anonymous

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Leila Farradi

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\$1,000-4,999 Saleem & Samya Abudawood

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JDO Dakota Ventures Mary Karadsheh Maha Kury-Peterson Brandon Laidlaw Lieman Properties

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Chris and Eva Malki Margaret Mas Fred and Tania Milkie

Siham Mitry

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Dn George and Jane Nassief Ramzi and Marina Nassoura Ziad & Charlene Nassoura Naim and Helen Nazzal

Susan Nazzal

Nicholas Luengo Construction Nick Jr. and Najat Nicola and Family

Antone Nino

Fawda Samara Jeanne Shikany

Samir and Caroline Syriani Sami and Alia Sahouria

Andrew Thayer Steven Thayer

The Kebab Shop Restaurant John and Jan Theodosy Samir and Abla Toubassy In Memory of Dwight Underhill Robert and Katrina Waddell George and Afaf Wahbeh

Kamal and Samar Wahbe Nabil and Souhila Wakileh William Wood Architects

Hala Yowakeem

Samir and Nadia Zeidan

#### Builder \$100-999

George E. Adranly Felice and Eric Ajluni Howard & Marilyn Ashcraft

Eman Baalbaki

Tania & Daniel Bajada Randy and Barbara Bray Ken Bullock Ins & Fin Services Robert and Renee Crawford

Mary Cubeisy

Dn. John and Irena Dibs Herb & Tania DeGroot

**Tony Dudum** 

Fuad and Mary Farradj Naim & Nadia Frangieh John & Dina Freij Fairouz Freij

Fred and Sue Gedeon

Sandra Gedeon

Benjamin and Ashley Geleris Zzane & Irene Guajardo Julianna Greensides Bahij & Yardena Hanhan

Raymond Hilal

Mounir and Muna Hobaika

Angela Husary Jack's Restaurant Carol Jeha Samir Juha Andreas Kamlot David Kashou Rima Kashou

Norma Khalil Elia Khalilieh Elizabeth Kreta Mary Lodge

William and Mary Massarweh Daniel & Amy McLellan Mendocino Farms Restaurant Paul and Arwa Mogannam Alan & Dale Morgan Khalil Mounzer

Marwan Mukhar William and Jida Nasser Maureen Nelson Mark Nicola

Michelle Nicola

Ibrahim Munayer

Pacer Physical Therapy

Jacob Ritter Alexis Robbins

Rocco's Restaurant & Pizza

Neezar Samara

Eddie and Evleen Salem Wanda and Leonard Sarkissian

See's Candies

Jabra & Rania Shuheiber

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