

+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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SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 2023

TONE 2 / EOTHINON 11; ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

& ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

AFTER-FEAST OF THE DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS

PROPHET SAMUEL; MARTYR PHOTEINI OF BLACHERNAE; MARTYRS HELIODOROS AND DOSAI OF PERSIA

The Holy and Glorious Prophet Samuel



On August 20 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we continue to celebrate the Dormition of the Most-holy Theotokos, and we commemorate the holy and glorious Prophet Samuel.

Samuel, the fifteenth and last judge of Israel, lived eleven hundred years before the birth of Christ in Shiloh near the Ark of the Covenant. Samuel, in his twelfth year, had a true revelation from God concerning the punishments which were pending before the house of the high priest Eli because of the immorality of his sons Hophni and Phineas. That revelation soon materialized: The Philistines defeated the Israelites, slew both of Eli's sons and captured the Ark of the Covenant. When the messenger informed Eli of this tragedy, Eli fell dead to the ground. The same thing occurred to his daughter-in-law, the wife of Phineas. For twenty years the Israelites were the slaves of the Philistines. After this period of time, God sent Samuel to the people to preach repentance if they wished to be saved from their enemies. The people repented and rejected the foreign idols that they served and recognized Samuel as a prophet, priest and judge. Then Samuel set out with an army against the Philistines and with God's help confused and defeated them, thus liberating the land and the people. After that, Samuel peacefully judged his people until old age.

THE EPISTLE

The Lord is my strength and my song.

With chastisement hath the Lord chastened me.

The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (9:2-12)

Brethren, the seal of my apostleship are you in the Lord. My defense to those who would examine me is this: Do we have no authority regarding what to eat and what to drink? Do we have no authority to lead about a wife, who is a sister, as the rest of the apostles, even as the brethren of the Lord, and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no authority to refrain from working? Which soldier ever served at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat the fruit thereof? Or who shepherds a flock and does not eat from the milk of the flock? Do I speak of these things according to human nature? Or does not the Law say the same also? For it is written in the Law of Moses: "Thou shalt not muzzle an ox which treads out the grain." Is it for oxen that God cares, or does He say it altogether for our sakes? Indeed, for our sakes it was written: because he who plows ought to plow in hope, and he who threshes in hope, so that the same might partake in hope. If we have sown in you spiritual things, is it a great matter if we should reap your carnal things? If others are partakers of this authority over you, are we not even more? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this authority, but we endure all things, in order that we may cause no hindrance to the gospel of Christ.

الرسالة

فُوتِي وَتَسْبَحْتِي الرَّبُّ. أَدْبَاباً أَدَّبْتَنِي الرَّبُّ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولُسِ الرَّسُولِ الْأُولَى إِلَى أَهْلِ كورنثوس.

يا إخوة، إن خاتمة رسالتي هو أنتم في الرب. وهذا هو احتجاجي عند الذين يفحصونني. أعلنا لا سلطان لنا أن نأكل ونشرب؟ أعلنا لا سلطان لنا أن نجول بامرأة أخت كسائر الرسل، وإخوة الرب وصفا؟ أم أنا وبرنابا وخذنا لا سلطان لنا أن لا نشعل؟ من يتجند قط والنفقة على نفسه؟ من يغرس كزماً ولا يأكل من ثمره؟ أو من يرعى قطيعاً ولا يأكل من لبن القطيع؟ ألعلى أتكلّم بهذا بحسب البشرية؟ أم ليس الناموس أيضاً يقول هذا؟ فإنه كتب في ناموس موسى "لا تكلم ثوراً دارساً." ألعلى الله تُهمه الثيران؟ أم قال ذلك من أجلنا لا محالة؟ بل إنما كتب من أجلنا. لأنه ينبغي للحارث أن يحزث على الرجاء، وللدارس على الرجاء أن يكون شريكاً في الرجاء. إن كنا نحن قد زرعنا لكم الروحيات، أفينكون عظيماً أن نحصد منكم الجسديات؟ إن كان آخرون يشتركون في السلطان عليكم، أفلسنا نحن أولى؟ لكنا لم نستعمل هذا السلطان، بل نحتمل كل شيء لئلا نسبب تعويقاً ما لبشارة المسيح.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (18:23-35)

The Lord spoke this parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents; and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you besought me; and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. So also My heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

الإنجيل

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ مَتَّى الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتِّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ.

قال الرب هذا المثل: يشبه ملكوت السماوات إنساناً ملكاً أراد أن يحاسب عبده. فلما بدأ بالمحاسبة، أحضر إليه واحد عليه عشرة آلاف وزنة. وإذ لم يكن له ما يوفي، أمر سيده أن يباع هو وامرأته وأولاده وكل ما له ويوفي عنه. فخر ذلك العبد ساجداً له قائلاً: تمهل علي فأوفيك كل ما لك. فرق سيده ذلك العبد وأطلقه، وترك له الدين. وبعد ما خرج ذلك العبد، وجد عبداً من رفاقه مديوناً له بمئة دينار، فأمسكه وأخذ يخنقه قائلاً: أوفني ما لي عليك. فخر ذلك العبد على قدميه، وطلب إليه قائلاً: تمهل علي، فأوفيك كل ما لك. فأبى، ومضى وطرحه في السجن حتى يوفي الدين. فلما رأى رفاقه ما كان، حزنوا جداً وجاءوا فأعلموا سيدهم بكل ما كان. حينئذ دعاه سيده وقال له: أيها العبد الشرير! كل ما كان عليك تركته لك لأنك طلبت إلي. أفما كان ينبغي لك أن ترحم أنت أيضاً رفيقك كما رحمتك أنا؟ وغضب سيده، ودفعه إلى المعدبين حتى يوفي جميع ما له عليه. فهكذا أبي السماوي يصنع بكم إن لم تتركوا من قلوبكم كل واحد لأخيه زلاته.

Love your Neighbor

August – Orthodox Christian Missions Center – OCMC

As the official missions agency of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States it is OCMC's mission to make disciples of all nations by bringing people to Christ and His Church.

Questions From Parishioners

Question: How will having a Fellowship Hall change parish life at St. John Orthodox Church?

The most obvious answer involves our Crab Feed and Middle East Festival. After all these years, having the Crab Feed in our own hall would boost parish morale. Better kitchen facilities and a large indoor space would upgrade and enhance the festival experience for everyone. Additional parish wide social activities and gatherings of various types will be possible once the Fellowship Hall is a reality. How about weekly seminars/social gatherings for parishioners who share common characteristics? Retired people, newly married couples, teenage interests, and young family needs are but a few examples. These thoughts about how parish life at St. John will be enhanced with the addition of a social hall only scratch the surface of possibilities. Keep the faith, stay the course, and, if you have not done so already, join the growing list of parishioners who are making the pledges and donations necessary to reach the \$2.5 million goal.

Monthly Lunches for the Fellowship Hall

The Ladies' Committee would like to revive our monthly sponsored lunches to help raise funds for the new fellowship hall! The idea is to have two families pick a date and together provide a meal to serve after Sunday liturgy. The Ladies' Committee will sponsor a lunch at the church on Father's Day, but would love to have volunteers lined up for the months following. Please contact Fadwa Samara with any questions or to sign up at 510.909.0119 or fvsamara@gmail.com. Thank you!!

Festival News:

Rolling Grapeleaves - Mark your calendars for September 9th starting at 10:00 am in the Church hall & let's get ready to roll!!! Sign up to help with Rula Adranly rulaadranly@comcast.net.

Cooking Demo recordings - we want to put together videos of our parishioners making their favorite middle eastern dishes. Record yourself or a loved one (on your camera phone) and send to Reem Munakash at rmunakash@comcast.net. The videos will be shown on a monitor in the Culture Room during the festival. No need to share a detailed recipe, just show us how it's done!!

Fashion Show Organizer needed to put together a 10-15 minute show for each day of the festival. Let's show off our beautiful traditional clothing to the community. Contact Samir Yoakim at syowakim@sbcglobal.net if you're interested.

Upcoming Events

August 27	Our first Parish Hall party!
September 23-24	Our annual St. John's Middle Eastern Festival!

Coffee Hours

August 20	Fairouz Freij and family in memory of Khalid Haddad. May his memory be eternal!
September 3	Abe, Amal, Joe, and Stephanie Munayer in memory of mother Mariam Munayer. May her memory be eternal!
September 10	Siham Mitry and family in memory of Elaine Samara

Memorial Services

August 20th- Fairouz Freij and family in memory of **Khalid Haddad**. May his memory be eternal!

September 3rd - Abe, Amal, Joe, and Stephanie Munayer in memory of **Mariam Munayer** (6 Months). May her memory be eternal!

Holy Oblations

This week, Holy Oblations are offered by:

- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Nick Nicola, Nadia Frangieh, Souhila Swies, Noha Schulze, George Messih** and **Aida Youakeem**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Maron Juha**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Vivian Frangieh**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Henriette Hilal**. Many years!
- † Ron and Nancy Nicola in memory of **Jane Nassief**. May her memory be eternal!
- † Ron and Ruth Jeha for the good health of **Michael Jeha**. Many years!
- † Abe, Amal, Joe and Stephanie in memory of **Mariam Munayer**. May her memory be eternal!

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!



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- † Altar Servers: Nathan Sweis, Clayton Morgan, Elias Freij, Angelo Freij, Andrew Freij, Mazyn Haddadin, James Dudum, John Dudum and David Evans

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

You could use this QR code for your donation





OUR FIRST

PARISH HALL

Party

SUNDAY AUGUST 27TH AT 4PM-7PM
ON THE CEMENT FLOOR
ENJOY TIME WITH OUR COMMUNITY
OPEN WINE BAR, HORS D'OEUVRES,
LIGHT MUSIC, KIDS CRAFTS

*** SILENT AUCTION ***

PLEASE CONTACT
RANIA KASHOU
415.722.0774

**\$50 DONATION
PER PERSON
KIDS ARE
FREE**



All Saints Orthodox Church



Annual Summer BBQ Party

Join us for a fun day with
Swimming ,Volleyball & Bocce Ball !!

Adult \$25 - Children \$15

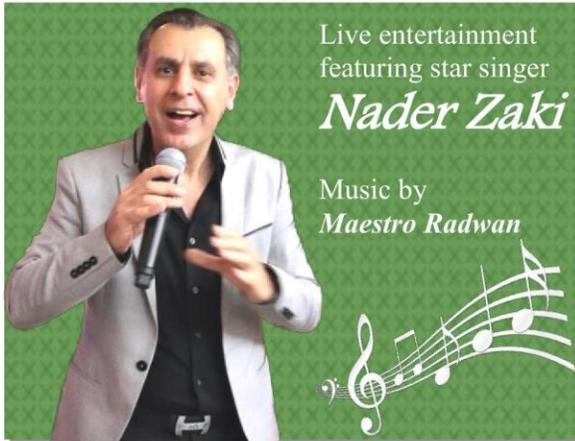
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19
August

6098 Bennett Valley Rd
Santa Rosa



For Tickets Call
Fefe Asfour: 707.328.4258



29th Annual Middle Eastern Food Festival



St. John Antiochian Orthodox Church
501 Moraga Way in Orinda, CA

Sat. Sep 23, 2023 11am-8pm

Sun. Sep 24, 2023 12pm-7pm

Live music ~ Grand Prize Drawing ~ Delicious Food
Authentic Sweets ~ Children's Activities ~ Cultural Center
Vendor Booths

ST. JOHN MIDDLE EASTERN FESTIVAL – 2023 PRE-ORDER FORM

ITEM	PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
Spinach Pies (1 dozen)	\$ 48.00		
Cheese Pies (1 dozen)	\$ 48.00		
Meat Pies (1 dozen)	\$ 48.00		
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 9/3/23 rulaadranly@comcast.net t			
