



+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 925-257-2940

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, 2024

**TONE 8 / EOTHINON 9; NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
& NINTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW**

RETURN OF THE RELICS OF THE APOSTLE BARTHOLOMEW; THE HOLY APOSTLE TITUS OF THE SEVENTY



The Return of the Holy Relics of the Apostle Bartholomew and the Holy Apostle Titus of the Seventy

On August 25 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the return of the holy relics of the holy glorious Apostle Bartholomew.

When Bartholomew was crucified in Albanopolis (Derbend) in Armenia, Christians removed his body and honorably buried it in a lead sarcophagus. When numerous miracles and healings occurred over the grave of the apostle—because of which the number of Christians increased—the pagans then took the sarcophagus containing the relics of Bartholomew and tossed it into the sea. They did the same to the sarcophagi of four other martyrs. However, by God's providence, none of them sank and the current carried them to separate but safe shores. Agathon, bishop of the island of Lipara, mystically learned of Bartholomew's approaching relics and, with the clergy and people, came to the shore to receive them with great joy. On that occasion, many healings of the sick occurred from the relics of the holy Bartholomew.

On this day, we commemorate the holy Apostle Titus of the Seventy, bishop of Gortynia in Crete. Titus was born in Crete and educated in Greek philosophy and poetry. Following a dream, he began reading the Prophet Isaiah and doubted all the wisdom of the Hellenes. Hearing about Christ the Lord, Titus traveled to Jerusalem with other Cretans and personally heard the words of the Savior and witnessed His mighty works. His young heart completely adhered to Christ. Later, he was baptized by the Apostle Paul whom he served as a son to a father in evangelization. Titus was present at the suffering and death of Paul in Rome and honorably buried his body. After that, Titus returned to Crete where, with great success, he baptized the pagans and prudently governed the Church of God until his repose at age 94.

By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

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.

الرسالة.

صَلُّوا وَأَوْفُوا الرَّبَّ إِلَيْنَا،

اللَّهُ مَعْرُوفٌ فِي أَرْضِ يَهُودَا.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولْسِ الرِّسُولِ الْأُولَى إِلَى أَهْلِ كورنثوس.

يَا إِخْوَةُ، إِنَّا نَحْنُ عَامِلُونَ مَعَ اللَّهِ، وَأَنْتُمْ حَزَبْتُمْ اللَّهَ وَبَنَاءَهُ اللَّهُ. أَنَا بِحَسَبِ نِعْمَةِ اللَّهِ الْمُعْطَاةِ لِي، كِتَابًا حَكِيمًا وَصَعْتُ الْأَسَاسَ وَأَخَّرُ بَيْنِي عَلَيْهِ. فَلْيَنْظُرْ كُلُّ وَاحِدٍ كَيْفَ يَبْنِي عَلَيْهِ. إِذْ لَا يَسْتَطِيعُ أَحَدٌ أَنْ يَضَعَ أُسَاسًا غَيْرَ الْمَوْضُوعِ، وَهُوَ يَسُوعُ الْمَسِيحُ. فَإِنْ كَانَ أَحَدٌ يَبْنِي عَلَى هَذَا الْأَسَاسِ ذَهَبًا أَوْ فِضَّةً أَوْ حِجَارَةً ثَمِينَةً أَوْ خَشْبًا أَوْ حَشِيشًا أَوْ تِينًا. فَإِنَّ عَمَلَ كُلِّ وَاحِدٍ سَيَكُونُ بَيِّنًا، لِأَنَّ يَوْمَ الرَّبِّ سَيُظْهِرُهُ لِأَنَّهُ يُعْلَنُ بِالنَّارِ، وَسَتَمْتَحِنُ النَّارُ عَمَلَ كُلِّ وَاحِدٍ مَا هُوَ. فَمَنْ بَقِيَ عَمَلُهُ الَّذِي بَنَاهُ عَلَى الْأَسَاسِ، فَسَيُنَالُ أَجْرَهُ. وَمَنْ اخْتَرَقَ عَمَلُهُ، فَسَيُخَسَّرُ، وَسَيُخْلَصُ هُوَ وَلَكِنْ كَمَنْ يَمُرُّ فِي النَّارِ. أَمَا تَعْلَمُونَ أَنَّكُمْ هَيْكَلُ اللَّهِ وَأَنَّ رُوحَ اللَّهِ سَاكِنٌ فِيكُمْ؟ مَنْ يُفْسِدُ هَيْكَلَ اللَّهِ يُفْسِدُهُ اللَّهُ لِأَنَّ هَيْكَلَ اللَّهِ مُقَدَّسٌ، وَهُوَ أَنْتُمْ.

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.

الإنجيل

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ مَتَّى الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ.

فِي ذَلِكَ الزَّمَانِ، اضْطَرَّ يَسُوعُ تَلَامِيذَهُ أَنْ يَدْخُلُوا السَّفِينَةَ وَيَسْبِقُوهُ إِلَى الْعَبْرِ حَتَّى يَصْرِفَ الْجُمُوعَ. وَلَمَّا صَرَفَ الْجُمُوعَ، صَعِدَ وَخَذَهُ إِلَى الْجَبَلِ لِيُصَلِّيَ. وَلَمَّا كَانَ الْمَسَاءَ، كَانَ هُنَاكَ وَخَذَهُ. وَكَانَتِ السَّفِينَةُ فِي وَسْطِ الْبَحْرِ تَكْدُّهَا الْأَمْوَاجُ، لِأَنَّ الرِّيحَ كَانَتْ مُضَادَّةً لَهَا. وَعِنْدَ الْهَجْعَةِ الرَّابِعَةِ مِنَ اللَّيْلِ، مَضَى إِلَيْهِمْ مَاشِيًا عَلَى الْبَحْرِ. فَلَمَّا رَأَى التَّلَامِيذُ مَاشِيًا عَلَى الْبَحْرِ، اضْطَرَبُوا وَقَالُوا "إِنَّهُ خَيَالٌ"، وَمِنْ الْخَوْفِ صَرَخُوا. فَلِلْوَقْتِ كَلَّمَهُمْ يَسُوعُ قَائِلًا: "تَقُؤا، أَنَا هُوَ، لَا تَخَافُوا." فَأَجَابَهُ بَطْرُسُ قَائِلًا: "يَا رَبِّ، إِنْ كُنْتَ أَنْتَ هُوَ، فَمُرْنِي أَنْ آتِيَ إِلَيْكَ عَلَى الْمِيَاهِ." فَقَالَ: "تَعَالَ." فَنَزَلَ بَطْرُسُ مِنَ السَّفِينَةِ، وَمَشَى عَلَى الْمِيَاهِ آتِيًا إِلَى يَسُوعَ. فَلَمَّا رَأَى شِدَّةَ الرِّيحِ، خَافَ، وَإِذْ بَدَأَ يَغْرَقُ، صَاحَ قَائِلًا: "يَا رَبِّ نَجِّنِي!" وَلِلْوَقْتِ مَدَّ يَسُوعُ يَدَهُ وَأَمْسَكَ بِهِ، وَقَالَ لَهُ: "يَا قَلِيلَ الْإِيمَانِ، لِمَاذَا شَكَّكْتَ؟" وَلَمَّا دَخَلَ السَّفِينَةَ، سَكَنَتِ الرِّيحُ. فَجَاءَ الَّذِينَ كَانُوا فِي السَّفِينَةِ وَسَجَدُوا لَهُ قَائِلِينَ: "بِالْحَقِيقَةِ أَنْتَ ابْنُ اللَّهِ." وَلَمَّا عَبَرُوا، جَاءُوا إِلَى أَرْضِ جَنِّيَسَارَتِ.

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.

Resurrection, Castro Valley Looking to Hire Parish Secretary

Resurrection Greek Orthodox Church in Castro Valley is currently looking for a new church secretary, after our secretary of 12 years retired this summer. The hours are currently Monday- Friday, 9 AM – 3 PM, but are flexible, and someone with specific skills as an office manager and receptionist would be preferred. Some medical benefits are included with the position. If interested, please feel free to contact Christine Psefteas at christine.psefteas@gmail.com, or Fr. Niko Bekris at fatherniko@resurrectiongoc.com.

Fellowship Hall contributions

Thank you so much for your generous donations to the Fellowship Hall. Your contributions allowed us to reach to this point in our project.

However, some of us neglected our obligation and commitment to the church. We are behind on our pledges to the operation of the church by \$16,000 to date. I'm counting on your faith, love and commitment to Christ and his church to make up for the deficit. I'm confident of your generosity.

In Christ,
Fr. Nicholas Borzghol

Upcoming Events

Every Sunday at 7pm	St. Anastasia Fellowship Meeting.
Saturday, August 24	Grape leaf rolling at 9:30 am in the church hall
September 28-29	Annual Middle Eastern Festival

Coffee Hours

August 25th	Elias and Samia Shaheen in memory of Mary Shaheen Bekhaazi. May her memory be eternal!
September 1st	Daniel and Mona Thayer and family

Holy Oblations

This week, Holy Oblations are offered by:

- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Nick Nicola, George Messih, Daniel Romley, Henriette Hilal and Aida Youakeem**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Sam Nassab**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family in memory of **Souhail Kawar**. May his memory be eternal!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Fairouz Freij**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Naim Nazzal**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Nabil Wakileh**. Many years!
- † Rocky and Nada Dudum for the good health of **Sandy Dudum Bennett**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish family for the good health of **Karen Mashi**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish family in memory of **Hanna (john) Theodosi**. May his memory be eternal!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of Hala Mitry. Many years!
- † Joana Van Hulle in memory of her father, **Charles Alfred Van Hulle**. May his 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!



-
- † 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 and Maron Juha

LET'S GET ROLLING



We need all hands on deck to help roll grape leaves for the upcoming festival on Saturday, 8/24 starting at 9:30 am in the church hall. Many hands make light work!!! We'll have coffee and treats and always enjoy our time working together. Please let Rula A. or Fadwa know if you can help.

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:

As you can see, the exterior of the fellowship hall is nearing completion. The doors and windows are in and exterior tiles are being applied. Inside the hall insulation is being installed and drywall is going up. Additionally, the preschool playground area is being mapped out and final designs for equipment are being determined. Final details for the hardscape from the new parking to the entrance of the hall is being finalized and will begin soon.

There is still much to be done on the interior before we complete the project such as the kitchen, restrooms, some lighting, and floor, wall and ceiling treatments, but we are nearing the point where building funds are being depleted. The parish council, building committee, contractor and fundraising committee are meeting to strategize next steps for the final fundraising push to complete the project. With God's help, we will be able to raise the funds to bring the building to completion soon.

LORE
COFFEE ROASTERS



**10% FROM ALL SALES
GOES TO YOUR PARISH!**

**SCAN ME TO ORDER
OR USE**

www.loreroasters.com/94563StJohn

Lore Coffee Roasters is a specialty coffee roastery owned and operated by two Orthodox families in Bonners Ferry, Idaho.

We focus on sourcing and roasting the highest quality coffee from all over the earth, striving to glorify Christ by treating our craft with respect and serving excellent coffee!

@LORECOFFEEROASTERS

BRINGING YOU INTO THE STORY BEHIND GOOD COFFEE.

See's CANDIES

St John Orthodox Church Storefront



Help Us
Reach Our Goal!

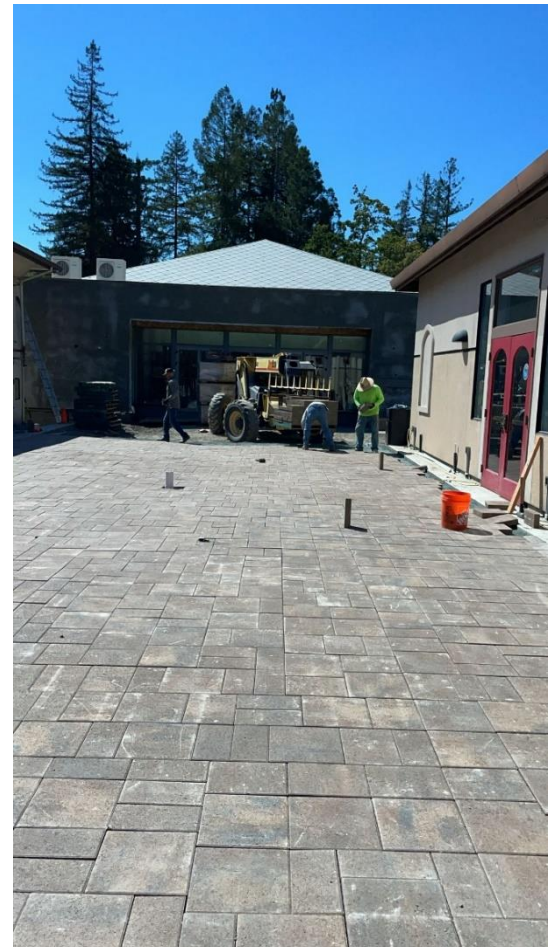


See's Candies

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 .





Antiochian Orthodox Church of the Redeemer
PRESENTS



Our 41st Annual

Mediterranean Food Festival

September 7th | 1pm - 10pm

September 8th | 1pm - 8pm

*Join us for food, games, music,
live entertainment, raffle, and more!*

All proceeds will go to the matching gift fund
for our building project.

380 Magdalena Avenue, Los Altos Hills

FREE ADMISSION

*1st Prize = \$1,000 Cash | 2nd Prize = \$500 Cash | 3rd Prize = TV
Gift cards, baskets, and more!*



SATURDAY



SUNDAY




Sami
Ihsan

BOTH DAYS



DJ
George

For the latest festival updates, go to facebook.com/orthodoxredeemer



All Saints Orthodox Church



Summer
ANNUAL BBQ

Join us for fun and games at the park!

AUGUST 24TH

12 NOON

Adult \$25 - Children \$15

Twin Creeks Park - 'K Park'

5530 Kerry Road

Rohnert Park CA 94928

For Tickets Call

Fefe Asfour: 707.328.4258 or

Mousa Husary: 707.529.5384





SUNDAY SCHOOL
KICK OFF GATHERING

PACK A PICNIC,
CHAIRS AND
ANY PARK NEEDS
SEPTEMBER 8, 2024
AFTER SUNDAY SCHOOL
MORAGA COMMONS PARK



Antiochian Charities

Website: www.antiochian.org/charities

Email: childrensrelieffund@gmail.com

“Whoever receives one little child like this in my name receives me.” (Matthew 18:5)

August 5, 2024

TO BE READ FROM THE PULPIT AND DISTRIBUTED TO ALL PARISHIONERS

For over forty years the Children’s Relief Fund has provided financial support to help defray the cost of education for children in Lebanon and Palestine. Requests for such support have increased significantly in recent years. As a result of dire circumstances in Lebanon, many parents have become unable to pay tuition to send their children to Orthodox Christian schools. Our Orthodox schools are at risk of closing, and consequently many of our children will now have to attend a public school or to discontinue their schooling altogether.

With the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan SABA, we are seeking your help. We have approximately forty Lebanese children from the Archdioceses of Beirut, Koura, Tripoli, Akkar, and Zahle who need assistance to continue their education at an Orthodox Christian school this coming school year. The tuition cost per student varies from \$750 to \$1200 per school year, depending on the school and the student’s grade level.

Donated funds will be wired directly to the Orthodox school in the child’s name. The child and their family will receive a notice of your support, and you will receive contact information so that you can communicate directly with the child if you wish. Children receiving a tuition scholarship will not receive any other funding from the Children’s Relief Fund. Sponsorship in any amount will be appreciated.

School begins in a few weeks, so if you can help, please contact CFR Administrator Amy Stiffler at: childrensrelieffund@gmail.com.

Children’s Relief Fund Scholarship Program

Antiochian Village
140 Church Camp Trail
Bolivar, PA 15923

God bless you for your consideration of this urgent request.

In Christ’s work,

Amy Stiffler, CRF Administrator & Executive Director
Anne Bourjaily Thomas, Charitable Outreach Chair

cc: His Eminence Metropolitan SABA

A charity of the ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA

Amy Stiffler, CRF Administrator – (724) 238-3677 Ext: 402

Mailing Address: Antiochian Village, 140 Church Camp Trail, Bolivar, PA 15923

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 Fasheh	
Patron \$100,000-249,000	Rick and Sandra Dudum	Jack and Sylvia Dudum
Benefactor \$50,000 - 99,999	The McClintic Family Fuad and Nadia Sweiss	Joseph Sweis and Family
Provider \$25,000 - 49,999	Rocky and Nada Dudum Nick and Deena Farrah Anonymous	Dr. Jon and Larissa Geleris Stephen and Angela Kreta Elias and Samia Shaheen
Supporter \$10,000-24,999	Dcn. Nicolas and Rula Adranly George and Samar Adranly Sami and Kathy Adranly George and Freida Cawog Jim and Denise Dudum Lisa and David Hanna and Family Phillip and Gina Jaber Anonymous	Jawad and Violet Jaber Sam Khoury Ron and Nancy Nicola The Potts Family Raymond and Georgianna Rishwain Raif and Sonya Rihani ADOBE – matching gift for Hanna Family
Partner \$5,000-9,999	Charles and Marilee Ajalat Leila Farradj Lynn and Usama Farradj Ibrahim Fasheh Health of the Freij Family	Fady and Joumana Najjar Ernest and Noha Shulze and Family Munah Terazi Daniel and Mona Thayer George Theodosy

Friend
\$1,000-4,999

William and Judith Bosl
Jack and Sylvia Dudum
Jordis Fasheh
Fadi and Rana Feghali
Alex and Helen Ghantous
Khalil and Leila
Miranda Halaby
Mary Karadsheh
Maha Kuri-Peterson
Azmie and Melanie Madanat
Chris and Eva Malki
Margaret Mas
George Najjar
Samer Nassar
Ray and Jane Nassief
Ramzi and Marina Nassoura

Nick Jr. and Najat Nicola and Family
Antone Nino
Sami and Alia Sahouria
Fawda Samara
Jeanne Shikany
Hakeem Samir and Caroline Syriani
Andrew Thayer
Steven Thayer
John and Jan Theodosy
Samir and Abla Toubassy
In Memory of Dwight Underhill
Robert and Katrina Waddell
George and Afaf Wahbeh
Nabil and Suhaila Wakileh
Hala Yowakeem
Ramsey Zacharia

Builder
\$100-999

The Kabob Shop Restaurant
Zzane & Irene Guajardo
Rocco's Restaurant & Pizza
Kimberly Nicola
Norma Khalil
Siham Mitry
Daryl & Katherine Dudum
Saleem & Samya Abudawood
Matthew Simon
Christina Tast
Elia Khalilieh
Alan & Dale Morgan
Naim & Helen Nazzal
Ziad & Charlene Nassoura
Herb & Tania DeGroot
Khalil Mounzer
Maureen Nelson
Naim & Nadia Frangieh
Jack's
Suzanne & Nabil Taovil
Eddie & Evleen Salem
Bahij & Yardena Hanhan
Christina Thabit
Anthony & Kimberly Bailey
Eman Baalbaki
John & Dina Freij
Wanda & Leonard Sarkissian
Fairouz Freij

Neezar Samara
Kamal & Samar Wahbe
Rima Kashou
Khalil Yowakeem
Howard & Marilyn Ashcraft
Michelle Nicola
Ibrahim Munayer
Sam & Nelly Nassif
George E. Adranly
Sam & Nevine Yowakim
Mendocino Farms Restaurant
Jabra & Rania Shuheiber
Jacob Ritter
Daniel & Amy McLellan
Elizabeth Kreta
Fuad & Mary Farradj
Julianna Greensides
Marie Simon
Mark & Alisha Nicola
Mary Cubeisy
Mary Lodge
Randy & Barbara Bray
Raymond Hilal
Ronald Isaac
Sami Tawasha
Sandra Gedeon
Tania & Daniel Bajada

St. John Financial Snapshot

Year to Date Actual Finances as of 07/31/2024

INCOME	2024 Year To Date	% of Total Income	2023 Year to Date	
Membership Pledges	\$ 88,585	30%	\$ 110,437	
Tray Collections	\$ 8,057	3%	\$ 6,673	
Preschool Contribution*	\$ 159,628	55%	\$ 174,392	Includes transfer of preschool net income in October 2022 to date, to support hall loan payments
Crab Feed and Festival	\$ 22,149	8%	\$ 17,166	
Ladies Contribution	\$ -	0%	\$ -	
Other**	\$ 14,182	5%	\$ 15,420	
Total Income	\$ 292,601	100%	\$ 324,087	
Total Expenses	\$ 240,844		\$ 153,611	
YTD Net Income	\$ 51,757	18%	\$ 170,476	

* In addition to the above, preschool payments to the church include \$400 per month to offset expenses paid by the church and \$4,883.33 per month towards the building fund (deposited directly into building fund)

**Other includes bookstore, candles, flowers, palms, coffee hour, memorials, Amazon Smile program, weddings, prior year pledges

Building Fund Balance **\$ 902,998.29**

Those who wish to see the full financial statement should contact Parish Council Treasurer Matthew Simon