

+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, DECEMBER 31, 2023

TONE 5 / EOTHINON 8

**SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY OF CHRIST,
(LEAVE-TAKING) OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST**

VENERABLE MELANIA THE YOUNGER OF ROME



David the Prophet and King, Joseph the Betrothed and James, the brother of our Lord

On the Sunday after the Nativity of Christ, we commemorate the holy and just Ancestors of God: Joseph the Betrothed of the Holy Virgin, our Lady the Theotokos; James the Brother of the Lord and the First Bishop of Jerusalem; and David the Prophet and King.

David committed adultery and murder, yet God forgave him and glorified him above all the kings of Israel. He gave him the great grace to compose the most beautiful penitential

prayers (the Psalms) and to prophesy the coming of Christ. Thus, God was not ashamed to take upon Himself flesh from David's seed. God designated Joseph to protect the Most-holy Virgin, and imparted to him great honor in the plan of the salvation of mankind. Although Joseph was of the royal lineage of David, he was a humble carpenter in Nazareth. At the age of 80, Joseph took the Most-holy Virgin from the Temple in Jerusalem and into his home. He entered into rest at the age of 110. The Apostle James is called the "Brother of the Lord" because he was the son of the righteous Joseph the Betrothed. James greatly loved Jesus and, according to tradition, he traveled to Egypt with the Most-holy Virgin and Joseph, when Herod sought to slay the newborn King.

THE EPISTLE

Let all the earth worship Thee, and sing to Thee. Shout with joy to God, all the earth

The reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to St. Timothy. (4:5-8)

Timothy, my son, always be steady, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. For I am already on the point of being sacrificed; the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved His appearing.

الرسالة

لَيْسَجُدُّ لَكَ كُلُّ أَهْلِ الْأَرْضِ وَيُرْتَلُوا لَكَ.

هَلِّلُوا لِلَّهِ يَا جَمِيعَ أَهْلِ الْأَرْضِ

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولُسِ الرَّسُولِ الثَّانِيَةِ إِلَى تِيموثَاوَسَ.

يا وُلْدِي تِيموثَاوَسَ، نَتَقَطُّ فِي كُلِّ شَيْءٍ وَاحْتَمَلِ الْمَشَقَّاتِ، وَاعْمَلْ عَمَلَ الْمُبَشِّرِ، وَأَوْفِ خِدْمَتَكَ. أَمَّا أَنَا فَقَدْ أَرِيقَ السَّكِيبُ عَلَيَّ وَوَقْتُ انْحِلَالِي قَدْ اقْتَرَبَ. وَقَدْ جَاهَدْتُ الْجِهَادَ الْحَسَنَ، وَأَتَمَمْتُ شَوْطِي، وَحَفَظْتُ الْإِيمَانَ. وَأَمَّا يَبْقَى مَحْفُوظًا لِي إِكْلِيلُ الْعَدْلِ الَّذِي يَجْزِينِي بِهِ فِي ذَلِكَ الْيَوْمِ الرَّبِّ، الَّذِي يُعَادِلُ، لَا إِيَّايَ فَقَطْ، بَلْ جَمِيعَ الَّذِينَ يُحِبُّونَ ظُهُورَهُ أَيْضًا.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (1:1-8)

The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, who shall prepare thy way; the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight." John the Baptizer appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes He Who is mightier than I, the strap of Whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water; but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

الإنجيل

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ مَرْقَسِ الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّمْلِيذِ الطَّاهِرِ.

بَدَأَ إِنْجِيلَ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ ابْنِ اللَّهِ كَمَا هُوَ مَكْتُوبٌ فِي الْأَنْبِيَاءِ "هَاءَ نَذَا مُرْسَلٌ مَلَائِكِي أَمَامَ وَجْهِكَ يُهَيِّئُ طَرِيقَكَ قُدَّامَكَ. صَوْتُ صَارِخٍ فِي الْبَرِّيَّةِ: أَعِدُّوا طَرِيقَ الرَّبِّ وَاجْعَلُوا سُبُلَهُ قَوِيَّةً." كَانَ يوحنا يُعَمِّدُ فِي الْبَرِّيَّةِ وَيَكْرُرُ بِمَعْمُودِيَّةِ التَّوْبَةِ لِعُفْرَانِ الْخَطَايَا. وَكَانَ يَخْرُجُ إِلَيْهِ جَمِيعُ أَهْلِ بَلَدِ الْيَهُودِيَّةِ وَأُورُشَلِيمَ فَيَعْتَمِدُونَ جَمِيعُهُمْ مِنْهُ فِي نَهْرِ الْأُرْدُنِّ، مُعْتَرِفِينَ بِخَطَايَاهُمْ. وَكَانَ يوحنا يَلْبَسُ وَبَرَّ الْإِبِلِ وَعَلَى حَقْوِيهِ مَنطِقَةٌ مِنْ جِلْدٍ، وَيَأْكُلُ جَرَادًا وَعَسَلًا بَرِّيًّا. وَكَانَ يَكْرُرُ قَائِلًا: إِنَّهُ يَأْتِي بَعْدِي مَنْ هُوَ أَقْوَى مِنِّي، وَأَنَا لَا أَسْتَحِقُّ أَنْ أُنْحَنِيَ وَأَحُلَّ سَيْرَ حِذَائِهِ. أَنَا عَمَدْتُكُمْ بِالْمَاءِ، وَأَمَّا هُوَ فَيَعَمِدُكُمْ بِالرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ.

Love Your Neighbor

December – Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano

Leading the fight to end hunger, in partnership with our community and in service of our neighbors in need. We distribute food directly to low-income people at community sites and make food available for other nonprofit organizations serving the ill, needy and infants.

Update from the Building Committee:

For this year we have raised almost \$600,000 toward our goal. It's not too late to donate or pledge for this year to the building fund in general or to a specific item on the attached list (pages 6 and 7). Thank you all for your support as we look to continue progress toward the completion of our parish fellowship hall.

We will soon be preparing the next recognition list of donors, but will only include donors at this time who have granted permission. If you have made a donation to the building fund, please let the church office know if you would like or would not like your names and donation level mentioned at this time.

Upcoming Events

Friday, January 5th at 6 pm	Evening Divine Liturgy to celebrate the feast of Epiphany عيد العطاس.
Every Sunday at 7pm	St. Anastasia Fellowship Meeting. No meeting until Sunday, January 14th.

Coffee Hours

December 31st	Samia Shaheen in memory of her father, Badi Ibrahim
January 7th	Luncheon provided by Sonia Rihani, Samia Abu Daoud and Fadwa Samara.
January 14th	Jill Norgaard, Jordis Fasheh, Margaret Mas and Rula Adranly in memory of Dwight Underhill. May his memory be eternal!

Memorial Services

Sunday, January 14th: One year memorial for the servant of God Dwight Underhill. May his memory be eternal!

Holy Oblations

This week, Holy Oblations are offered by:

- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Nick Nicola, George Messih** and **Aida Youakeem**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Nick Nicola**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Haseeb Keileh**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Ghassan** and **Vivian Sruji**. Many years!
- † Leila Adranly and family in memory of **Eva Al Amash**. May her memory be eternal!
- † The Dudum, Dietzmann, and Morgan Families for the beloved memory of **Jimi** and **Rose Romley, Sig Dietzmann, Ray, Gloria** and **Brad Zachariah**. May their memories be eternal!
- † Jim and Denise Dudum for the birth of **McCovey James**, son of **JD** and **Jessie Dudum** and for the good health of the entire **Dudum family**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Fairouz Freij**. Many years!
- † Ghounwa and Salem Sadikni and family in memory of **Norma Slibi**. May her memory be eternal!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Conner Ganjavi**. 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!



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- † The poinsettia plants at church were donated by Georgianna and Ray Rishwain, Nick and Najat Nicola and Ron and Nancy Nicola in memory of their parents. God Rest their Souls.

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- † 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

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

You could use this QR code for your donation




Mendocino Farms

EAT HAPPY. GIVE BACK.



FUNDRAISER FOR

St John's Orthodox Church

January 18, 2024 | 2PM - close

1895 Ygnacio Valley Rd #28, Walnut Creek, CA 94598

Order online for pickup or delivery using the promo code or show this flyer in restaurant, and we'll donate **20%** back to your cause.

promo code:

GIVEBACK

Discounts, coupons or offers are not valid during the fundraiser. For orders to count towards fundraiser, supporters must show flyer at register or enter code at checkout for online orders at order.mendocinofarms.com. Gift cards, catering, and 3rd party delivery orders are not eligible. Tax, tip, and delivery fee will not be included in donation. \$250 minimum event net sales required to receive any donation. All orders must be placed for pickup between 2PM - close on event date.

DIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES & THE WEST
THE YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Winter Retreat

January 12-15, 2024
@ Camp St Nicholas ~ Frazier Park, CA

Building Relationships through Christ

Keynote Speakers:

Rev Fr George & Kh Miray Katrib

Early Bird Registration (ends 11/28) ~ \$225

General Registration (ends 12/29) ~ \$260



register with
QR Code



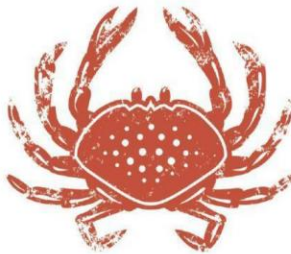
Items for the Hall that can be Donated by Individuals or Families

EXTERIOR			
SITE LIGHTING	\$	50,000	
LANDSCAPING - Hardscape	\$	110,000	
LANDSCAPING - Plants	\$	75,000	
EXTERIOR WOOD TRELLIS	\$	32,000	
EXTERIOR BUILDING LIGHTING	\$	50,000	
FELLOWSHIP HALL INTERIOR			
SKYLIGHTS	\$	25,000	
FINISHES - Interior walls	\$	75,000	
FINISHES - Flooring - Main Hall and Foyer	\$	60,000	
FINISHES - Flooring - Kitchen	\$	24,000	
FINISHES - Wood ceiling, main hall	\$	200,000	
FINISHES - Acoustic panels	\$	40,000	
FINISHES - Interior paint	\$	18,000	
LIGHTING - Chandeliers - 4@ \$5,000 each	\$	20,000	Donated
SPECIAL SYSTEMS - SECURITY	\$	15,000	
SPECIAL SYSTEMS - AUDIO	\$	15,000	Donated
SPECIALTIES - Custom Casework	\$	45,000	
KITCHEN			
- Hood	\$	45,000	
- Convection oven	\$	15,000	
- Ice Machine, bin, and ice caddy	\$	12,500	
- Gas range - 36"	\$	6,000	
- Gas range - 48" w/ griddle	\$	15,000	
- Brazing pan/skillet	\$	30,000	
- Banquet carts 2@ \$7,500 ea	\$	15,000	
- Work table - 2@ \$4,000 ea	\$	8,000	
- Coffee urn	\$	4,500	
- Beverage cabinet	\$	6,500	
- Reach in refrigerator - 2@ \$7,500 ea	\$	15,000	
- Food slicer	\$	3,500	
- Food Processor(s)	\$	2,000	
- Counter top	\$	10,000	
-Hand sink - 3 @ \$2,000 ea	\$	6,000	
- 3 compartment dish table	\$	7,000	
- Dishwasher	\$	12,000	
- Misc; including taxes, installation, flooring, wiring, shelving, filtration systems, waste	\$	87,000	
Kitchen Total	\$	300,000	

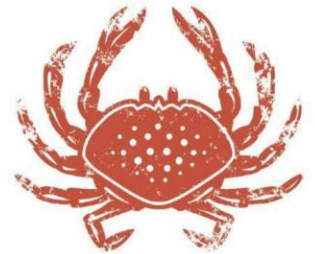
WINDOWS AND DOORS			
- Main Entrance	\$	90,000	
- Side glass door and window units (2@30K ea)	\$	60,000	
- Rear corner window	\$	10,000	
- Rear glass exit door by kitchen	\$	15,000	
- folding glass doors between hall and foyer	\$	25,000	
- Entry doors from foyer to hall (2@ 25K ea)	\$	50,000	
Windows and door Total	\$	250,000	
FURNISHINGS			
Tables	\$	15,000	
Chairs	\$	10,500	
Dishes - plates, cups, silverware	\$	15,000	
Portable bar(2@\$25,000 each)	\$	50,000	1 donated
SUM OF ABOVE ITEMS	\$	1,494,500	

THE MEN'S FELLOWSHIP OF
ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX
CHURCH

~THE 45 TH ANNUAL CRAB FEED~



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH, 2024
COCKTAILS 6:00 PM
DINNER 7:00 PM
HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH
1700 SCHOOL STREET, MORAGA, CA



ALL ~ YOU ~ CAN ~ EAT

APPETIZERS, PASTA, CRAB, SALAD, CHICKEN, GARLIC BREAD AND
DESSERT

FEATURING GREAT RAFFLE PRIZES

ADULTS \$ 70

CHILDREN (UNDER 13) \$ 25

For information, tickets, or to volunteer please call: Parish Office (925) 258-4255, Or

Dn Nicholas (Najeeb) (510) 207-1796

YOUR DONATIONS ARE A HUGE PART OF EACH SUCCESS

Crab Feed Placemat Donation For 2024: feature Business Card size ads for \$70,
Medium size ads for \$150, Large size ads for \$250, and Premium Ads for \$450.
Please make your Checks payable to St. John Orthodox Church. Or Contact Dn Nicholas
at (510)207-1796