



+St. John the Evangelist Orthodox Church

Antiochian Archdiocese of North America

V. Rev. Fr. Nicholas Borzghol, Pastor

Dn. Nicholas Adranly

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DECEMBER 04, 2022

TONE 8 / EOTHINON 3

GREAT-MARTYR BARBARA OF SYRIA & TENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE

VENERABLE JOHN OF DAMASCUS

MARTYR JULIANA; NEW-HIEROMARTYR SERAPHIM, BISHOP OF PHANARION IN GREECE



Great-martyr Barbara of Heliopolis, her fellow Martyr Juliana and John of Damascus

On December 4 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the contest of the holy Great-martyr Barbara of Heliopolis in Syria, and her fellow Martyr Juliana.

The pagan Dioscorus locked up his only daughter Barbara in a high tower. Once, while her father was away, she came down from the tower and met some Christian women who revealed the true Faith of Christ to her. Learning of his daughter's faith, Dioscorus beat her severely. However, the Lord Himself appeared to her with His angels and healed her. A certain woman, Juliana, upon seeing this, desired martyrdom for herself. They were ultimately led to the place of execution, where Dioscorus himself slaughtered his daughter, and Juliana was killed by the soldiers in the year 306. That same day, lightning struck the house of Dioscorus, killing him.

On this day, we also commemorate our Righteous Father John of Damascus, Monk and Presbyter of Mar Sabbas Monastery. Because of his ardent defense of the veneration of icons during the reign of the iconoclastic Emperor Leo, John was maligned by the emperor to the Caliph, who cut off his right hand. John prayed before the icon of the Most-holy Theotokos, and his hand was rejoined and miraculously healed. John withdrew to St. Sabbas Monastery, where he was a model to the monks in humility, obedience and asceticism. John composed the Funeral Hymns and compiled the Octoechos, the Irmologion, the Menologion, a Christmas canon, the Paschal Canon and many theological works. John died peacefully in about the year 776 at the age of 104.

THE EPISTLE(For St. Barbara)

God is wondrous in His saints. Bless God in the congregations.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians. (3:23-4:5)

Brethren, before faith came, we were confined under the Law, kept under restraint until faith should be revealed. So that the Law was our custodian until Christ came, that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a custodian; for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise. I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no better than a slave, though he is the owner of all the estate; but he is under guardians and trustees until the date set by the father. So with us; when we were children, we were slaves to the elemental spirits of the universe. But when the time had fully come, God sent forth His Son, to redeem those who were under the Law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

الرسالة (للقديسة بربارة)

عجيب هو الله في قديسيه. باركوا الرب يا جميع الأمم.

فصل من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول إلى أهل غلاطية.

يا إخوة، قَبَلْ أَنْ يَأْتِيَ الْإِيمَانُ كُنَّا مَحْرُوسِينَ تَحْتَ النَّامُوسِ، مُعْلَقًا عَلَيْنَا إِلَى الْإِيمَانِ الْعَتِيدِ أَنْ يُعْلَنَ. إِذَا قَدْ كَانَ النَّامُوسُ مُؤَدَّبَنَا إِلَى الْمَسِيحِ، لِكَيْ نَتَبَرَّرَ بِالْإِيمَانِ. وَلَكِنْ بَعْدَ مَا جَاءَ الْإِيمَانُ، لَسْنَا بَعْدُ تَحْتَ مُؤَدَّبٍ. لِأَنَّكُمْ جَمِيعًا أَبْنَاءُ اللَّهِ بِالْإِيمَانِ بِالْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ. لِأَنَّ كُلَّكُمْ الَّذِينَ اعْتَمَدْتُمْ بِالْمَسِيحِ قَدْ لَبَسْتُمْ الْمَسِيحَ: لَيْسَ يَهُودِيٌّ وَلَا يُونَانِيٌّ. لَيْسَ عَبْدٌ وَلَا حُرٌّ. لَيْسَ ذَكَرٌ وَأُنْثَى، لِأَنَّكُمْ جَمِيعًا وَاحِدٌ فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ. فَإِنْ كُنْتُمْ لِلْمَسِيحِ، فَأَنْتُمْ إِذَا نَسَلْتُمْ إِبْرَاهِيمَ، وَحَسَبَ الْمَوْعِدِ وَرِثَتَهُ. وَأَقُولُ: مَا دَامَ الْوَارِثُ قَاصِرًا لَا يَفْرُقُ شَيْئًا عَنِ الْعَبْدِ، مَعَ كَوْنِهِ صَاحِبَ الْجَمِيعِ. بَلْ هُوَ تَحْتَ أَوْصِيَاءِ وَوُكَلَاءِ إِلَى الْوَقْتِ الْمُوجَلِ مِنْ أَبِيهِ. ³ هَكَذَا نَحْنُ أَيْضًا: لَمَّا كُنَّا قَاصِرِينَ، كُنَّا مُسْتَعْبِدِينَ تَحْتَ أَرْكَانِ الْعَالَمِ. وَلَكِنْ لَمَّا جَاءَ مِلءُ الزَّمَانِ، أَرْسَلَ اللَّهُ ابْنَهُ مَوْلُودًا مِنْ امْرَأَةٍ، مَوْلُودًا تَحْتَ النَّامُوسِ، لِيَقْتَدِيَ الَّذِينَ تَحْتَ النَّامُوسِ، لِنَنَالَ النَّبِيَّ.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Tenth Sunday of Luke)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (13:10-17)

At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And there was a woman who had had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, He called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And He laid His hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrite! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his ass from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?" As Jesus said this, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by Him.

الإنجيل (للأحد العاشر من لوقا)

فصل شريف من بشارة القديس لوقا الإنجيلي البشير والتلميذ الطاهر. (13:10-17)

في ذلك الزمان، كان يسوع يعلم في أحد المجامع يوم السبت. وإذا بإمرأة بها روح مرض منذ ثماني عشرة سنة، وكانت منحنية لا تستطيع أن تنتصب البتة. فلما رآها يسوع، دعاها وقال لها: إنك مُطلقة من مرضك. ووضع يديه عليها، وفي الحال استقامت، ومجدت الله. فأجاب رئيس المجمع، وهو مغتاظ لإبراء يسوع في السبت، وقال للمجمع: هي ستة أيام ينبغي العمل فيها. ففيها تآتون وتستشفون، لا في يوم السبت. فأجاب الرب وقال: يا مرأي! أليس كل واحد منكم يحل ثوره أو حماره في السبت من المدود وينطلق به فيسقيه؟ وهذه، وهي ابنة إبراهيم التي ربطها الشيطان منذ ثماني عشرة سنة، أما كان ينبغي أن تطلق من هذا الرباط يوم السبت؟ ولما قال هذا، حزى كل من كان يقاومه، وفرح الجمع بجميع الأمور المجيدة التي كانت تصدر منه.

"Love your Neighbor"- A Ministry of St John the Evangelist Orthodox Church

As we participate in Advent and come to the end of our first calendar year of the Love your Neighbor Campaign, we would like to thank everyone for their support of our local, Archdiocesan and international charities over this past year. This month, we will again be looking locally, and are asking your support for the families in need in our church county, especially during this wonderful holiday season.

December – Contra Costa Food Bank

Project Mexico 2023

Commit. Prepare. Serve.

God willing, we're planning to get a group together for a homebuilding trip next summer through Project Mexico <https://www.projectmexico.org/homebuilding>.

As you may know, our parish has participated in this amazing program for many years by taking groups of teens, college students and adults to build homes for impoverished families in northern Mexico. **Would you like to join us in 2023?** Your commitment is needed and planning starts now. This year we're working with our sister Church of the Redeemer in Los Altos, to coordinate one joint group. Tentative dates are June 8 - June 14, 2023. If you're interested, please contact Rula Adranly at 510-508-0929 or email rulaadranly@comcast.net.

Hebrews 13:16 "And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."



Support St. John's Church through Amazon Smile


Just in time for your Christmas shopping!! Simply click on the link below and start shopping - Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of all eligible purchases to the church. Please share with family and friends. Thank you for your support!!

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7045466>

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, November 15th	Beginning of the Nativity fast/Advent
Sunday, December 4th	The annual Jolly Christmas Car event
Sunday, December 11th	Ladies Meeting
Sunday, December 18th	Rose Bake Sale. Please let Denise know if you are planning to help and bake sweets.
Sunday, December 18th	Sunday school Christmas program
Saturday, December 24th	Nativity of Christ (Christmas) services: 4:00pm: Royal hour, Orthros/Matins 5:30pm: Divine Liturgy
Sunday, February 12th	One year memorial service for the servant of God Fred Gedeon. May his memory be eternal!

Coffee Hours

December 4th		Fairouz Freij in memory of Angel Freij, Emily, Issa, Fuad and George. Also for the good health of Rania Shuhaiber and family. Borbara بربارة pudding in celebration of the feast of St. Barbara.
December 11th		Carol and Samir Syriani
December 25th		Christmas

Holy Oblations

This week, Holy Oblations are offered by:

- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Noha Schulze, George Messih** and **Aida Youakeem**. Many years!
- † Also, for the good health of their family!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Souhila Swies**. Many years!
- † Also, for the good health of their family!
- † St. John Parish Family in memory of **Afdokia Hanhan** (Yardena's mother). May her memory be eternal!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Nadia Frangieh**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Nick Nicola**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Fr. Andrew Andrews, Andrew Thayer, Andrew Freij, Andre Jildeh** and all who are named after St. Andrew the apostle on his feast day. 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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- † Altar Servers: Nathan Swiess, Clayton Morgan, Elias Freij, Angelo Freij, Andrew Freij, Mazyn Haddadin



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- † Poinsettias to adorn the Royal Doors in loving memory of **Nick Sr. and Helen Nicola** by Raymond and Georgianna Rishwain, Nick Jr. and Najat Nicola and Ronald and Nancy Nicola and families

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





Jolly Christmas Cars



**DECORATE THE TRUNK OF YOUR
CAR FOR ALL TO ENJOY**

After Liturgy on 12/04/2022

Bring goodies to share with all the kids



There will be a prize for the most festive car

**If you would like participate, donate and/or need
more information please contact**



Rania Kashou 415.722.0774



Canva

Project Mexico & St. Innocent Orphanage



Join Us This Summer 2023!

What

Home building for an impoverished family, all the while growing together in faith and fellowship with Orthodox Christians from across the globe

When

June 8 - June 14 2023

Where

Rosarito, Mexico

Deadlines

- December 1st: Early bird registration, \$100 discount
- You can still register after this deadline, but the cost will be full price. Inquire for details



IF INTERESTED, PLEASE CONTACT:

LAILA KREITEM (408-771-4090)

RULA ADLANLY (510-508-0929)



YAM

**Winter
Retreat**

~2023~

Big Bear, CA



**MLK Weekend
Jan 13-16th!**

**Early Bird: \$225
(Register by Dec. 3)**

Guest speaker TBA

**Optional Snowboarding
and Skiing**

*~Housing, Food,
Drink, etc.
included!!!~*

**Lift tickets and
rentals are available
for purchase!**

Link to Sign up in Instagram
Bio!