

+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

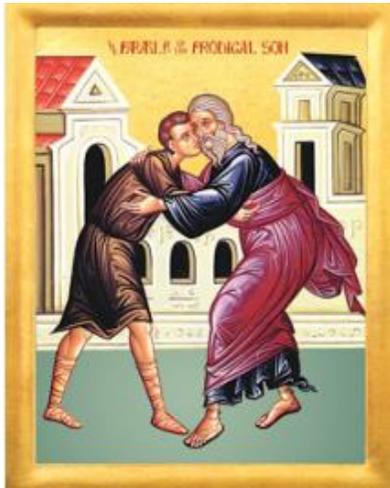
www.stjohnorinda.org email: st.john.evangelist.orinda@gmail.com

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2025

TONE 1 / EOTHINON 1

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

MARTYR PAMPHILOS, PRIEST OF CAESAREA IN PALESTINE AND HIS COMPANIONS;
VENERABLE FLAVIAN THE HERMIT



The Parable of the Prodigal Son

On this day, we make remembrance of the Parable of the Prodigal Son, which occurs in the noble Gospel and which our deified Fathers reinstated in the Triodion.

In the parable our Savior tells, Jesus illustrates three things: the condition of the sinner, the canon of repentance and the knowledge of God's compassion. For in the person of the prodigal son, we view the wretched condition that sin creates for us, distant from God and His Sacraments. However, we become aware of ourselves and awaken, hastening with hope to return to Him through repentance. Our Savior wants to call back to His mansions all those who have been overtaken by despair, lacking hope of forgiveness for their grave sins. The Father encourages all of his lost children to remove the desperation from their hearts, and revive their energies for virtuous deeds.

THE EPISTLE

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us.

Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.

The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (6:12-20)

Brethren, all things are lawful for me, but not all things are expedient. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the authority of anything. Foods are for the belly, and the belly for foods; but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body; and God both raised up the Lord, and will also raise us up through His power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take away the members of Christ, and make them members of a harlot? God forbid! Or, do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For, "The two," He says, "shall become one flesh." But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit. Flee fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body, but whoever commits fornication sins against his own body. Or, do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have received from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

الرسالة

لِتَكُنْ يَا رَبُّ رَحْمَتَكَ عَلَيْنَا.

ابْتَهَجُوا أَيُّهَا الصِّدِّيقُونَ بِالرَّبِّ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولْسِ الرُّسُولِ الْأُولَى إِلَى أَهْلِ كورنثوس. (6:12-20)

يَا إِخْوَةُ، كُلُّ شَيْءٍ مُبَاحٌ لِي وَلَكِنْ لَيْسَ كُلُّ شَيْءٍ يُوَافِقُ، كُلُّ شَيْءٍ مُبَاحٌ لِي وَلَكِنْ لَا يَتَسَلَّطُ عَلَيَّ شَيْءٌ. إِنَّ الْأَطْعِمَةَ لِلْجَوْفِ وَالْجَوْفَ لِلْأَطْعِمَةِ، وَسَيَبِيدُ اللَّهُ هَذِهِ وَذَلِكَ. أَمَّا الْجَسَدُ فَلَيْسَ لِلزَّانِي بَلْ لِلرَّبِّ وَالرَّبُّ لِلْجَسَدِ، وَاللَّهُ الَّذِي أَقَامَ الرَّبِّ سَيُقِيمُنَا نَحْنُ أَيْضًا بِقُوَّتِهِ. أَمَا تَعْلَمُونَ أَنَّ أَجْسَادَكُمْ هِيَ أَعْضَاءُ الْمَسِيحِ؟ أَفَأَخَذُ أَعْضَاءَ الْمَسِيحِ وَأَجْعَلُ مِنْهَا أَعْضَاءَ زَنَى؟ حَاشَى. أَمَا تَعْلَمُونَ أَنَّ مَنْ اقْتَرَنَ بِزَانِيَةٍ صَارَ وَإِيَّاهَا جَسَدًا وَاحِدًا؟ لِأَنَّهُ قَدْ قِيلَ: "يَصِيرُ كِلَاهُمَا جَسَدًا وَاحِدًا." أَمَا الَّذِي يَقْتَرِنُ بِالرَّبِّ فَيَكُونُ مَعَهُ رُوحًا وَاحِدًا. أَهْرُبُوا مِنَ الزَّانِي. فَإِنَّ كُلَّ حَاطِيَّةٍ يَفْعَلُهَا الْإِنْسَانُ هِيَ فِي خَارِجِ الْجَسَدِ، أَمَا الزَّانِي فَإِنَّهُ يَخْطَأُ إِلَى جَسَدِهِ. أَمَا تَعْلَمُونَ أَنَّ جَسَدَكُمْ هُوَ هَيْكَلُ الرُّوحِ الْقُدْسِ الَّذِي فِيكُمْ الَّذِي نَلْتَمُوهُ مِنَ اللَّهِ وَأَنْتُمْ لَأَنْفُسِكُمْ؟ لِأَنَّكُمْ قَدْ اشْتَرَيْتُمْ بِثَمَنٍ فَمَجِدُوا اللَّهَ فِي أَجْسَادِكُمْ وَفِي أَرْوَاحِكُمْ الَّتِي هِيَ لِلَّهِ.

THE GOSPEL

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (15:11-32)

The Lord spoke this parable: "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have fed on the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants."' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry. Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

الإنجيل

فصل شريف من بشارة القديس لوقا الإنجيلي البشير، التلميذ الطاهر. (32-11:15)

قال الرب هذا المثل: "إنسان كان له ابنان، فقال أصغرهما لأبيه: يا أبت، أعطني النصيب الذي يخصني من المال. فقسّم بينهما معيشته. وبعد أيام غير كثيرة، جمع الابن الأصغر كل شيء له، وسافر إلى بلد بعيد، وبذر ماله هناك عائشاً في الخلاعة. فلما أنفق كل شيء له، حدثت في ذلك البلد مجاعة شديدة، فأخذ في العوز. فذهب وانصوى إلى واحد من أهل ذلك البلد، فأرسله إلى حقوله يرعى خنازير. وكان يشتهي أن يملأ بطنه من الخرنوب الذي كانت الخنازير تأكله، فلم يعطه أحد. فرجع إلى نفسه وقال كم لأبي من أجراء يفضل عنهم الخبز، وأنا أهلك جوعاً. أقوم وأمضي إلى أبي وأقول له: يا أبت، قد أخطأت إلى السماء وأمامك، ولست مستحقاً بعد أن أددى لك ابناً، فأجعلني كأحد أجراءك." فقام وجاء إلى أبيه. وفيما هو بعد غير بعيد، رآه أبوه، فتحنن عليه وأسرع وألقى بنفسه على عنقه وقبله. فقال له الابن: "يا أبت، قد أخطأت إلى السماء وأمامك ولست مستحقاً بعد أن أددى لك ابناً." فقال الأب لبعيدته: "هاتوا الحلة الأولى واليسوة، واجعلوا خاتماً في يده، وخذاء في رجليه، وأتوا بالعجل المسمن وأذبوه، فأنكّل ونفّح، لأن ابني هذا كان ميّتاً فعاش، وكان ضالاً فوجد." فطفقوا يفرحون. وكان ابنه الأكبر في الحقل. فلما أتى وقرب من البيت، سمع أصوات الغناء والرقص. فدعا أحد العلمان وسأله ما هذا. فقال له: "قد قدم أخوك، فدبح أبوك العجل المسمن لأنه لقيه سالماً." فغضب ولم يرد أن يدخل. فخرج أبوه ووافق يتوسل إليه، فأجاب وقال لأبيه: "كم لي من السنين أخدمك، ولم أتعد لك وصية قط، وأنت لم تعطني قط جدياً لأفرح مع أصدقائي. ولما جاء ابنك هذا الذي أكل معيشتك مع الزواني، دبحت له العجل المسمن." فقال له: "يا ابني، أنت معي في كل حين، وكل ما هو لي فهو لك. ولكن كان ينبغي أن نفرح ونسر، لأن أخاك هذا كان ميّتاً فعاش، وكان ضالاً فوجد."

Love Your Neighbor

February – Special appeal through IOCC for LA Wildfire relief

Communication and coordination are underway with Orthodox dioceses on the west coast. Trained IOCC staff and Frontliners are on the ground and coordinating with Orthodox parishes in the affected areas to offer emotional and spiritual care (ESC), gathering information on local needs, and offering technical support to parishes who wish to assist their communities. This includes guidance on organizing and managing resources, operating as respite centers or shelters, as well as help in coordinating with FEMA, local emergency authorities, and other volunteer groups.

George Wahbeh Funeral Arrangements

Rosary:

Monday February 17th at 6:00pm

Location: Jess C. Spencer Mortuary

21228 Redwood Road, Castro Valley, CA 94546

Funeral Service:

Tuesday February 18th at 10:30am

Location: Jess C. Spencer Mortuary

21228 Redwood Road, Castro Valley, CA 94546

Burial Service:

Tuesday February 18th at 12:30pm

Location: Lone Tree Cemetery

24591 Fairview Avenue, Hayward, CA 94542

Meal of mercy to follow burial service.

House Blessing

Fr. Nicholas will be visiting parishioners for house blessings. Please contact Fr. Nicholas (415-317-2072) to schedule your house blessing. Also, Fr. Nicholas might call, text or email you if he is going to a certain area near you. God bless you all!

Parish Meeting Success

We had a great 2025 Parish Meeting and elected two new members, Andrew Thayer and Raif Rihani to the Parish council, and Fr. Nicholas appointed one member, Tania De Groot. Thank you all for your willingness to serve your church!

Upcoming Events

Every Sunday at 7pm	St. Anastasia Fellowship Meeting.
February 16th	Ladie's meeting. One year memorial service for the handmaiden of God Nuha Farraj. May her memory be eternal!
Wednesday, March 26th	Joseph Rodrigues will be speaking at Ascension Cathedral at a potluck sponsored by the Youth Council after their Presanctified Liturgy. He would love people from his parish to be there!

Coffee Hours

February 16th	The Adranly family in memory of Nuha Farraj (1 year). May her memory be eternal!
February 23rd	Dudum, Dietzmann and Morgan Families in memory of Jim & Rose Romley, Sig Dietzmann, Ray, Brad & Gloria Zachariah. May their memories be eternal!
March 2nd	In memory of Sal Freij (20 yr.) 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, Sam Nassab, Sandy Dudum Bennett, Fairouz Freij, Henriette Hilal and Aida Youakeem**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Rose Freij**. Many years!
- † Sue Gideon and Sandy Gangovi and family for the good health of grandson **Conner Gangovi**. And in memory of **Fred Gideon**, may his memory be eternal!
- † Victor and Angela Husary for the good health of **Chris Husary**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family in memory of **George Wahbeh**. 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, Maron Juha and Zaiden Karanikola

St. John Financial Snapshot

Year to Date Actual Finances as of 01/31/2025

INCOME	2025 Year To Date	% of Total Income	2024 Year to Date	
Membership Pledges	\$ 11,159	21%	\$ 18,050	-\$7K difference vs. YTD 2024. -\$4K difference vs. 2024 Budget.
Tray Collections	\$ 1,342	3%	\$ 857	
Preschool Contribution	\$ 34,471	64%	\$ 16,817	
Crab Feed and Festival	\$ -	0%	\$ -	
Ladies Contribution	\$ 5,000	9%	\$ -	Related to prior year. Add'l \$5K expected in December 2025.
Other**	\$ 1,606	3%	\$ 1,931	
Total Income	\$ 53,579	100%	\$ 37,655	
Total Expenses	\$ 61,381		\$ 32,208	
YTD Net Income	\$ (7,802)	-15%	\$ 5,447	

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

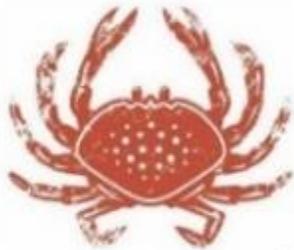
Building Fund Balance \$ 1,177,107.03

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

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

INVITES YOU, YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO

~THE 46th ANNUAL CRAB FEED~



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND, 2025
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: \$75

CHILDREN (UNDER 13): \$25

For information, tickets, or to volunteer please call: Parish Office (925) 258-4255, Deacon
Nicholas (Najeeb) (510) 237-6049

YOUR DONATIONS ARE A HUGE PART OF EACH SUCCESS!

Crab Feed Donations 2025: For the February 22nd, 2025 Crab Feed, it is not too early to
contact Dn. Nicholas Adranly (510) 237-6049 with your donations!

The Crab Feed Placemat will feature business card size ads for a standard donation of \$80,
Medium Size for \$250, Large size for \$350 and Premium size for \$500. Please make your checks
payable to St. John AOC. And give or send them with your business card to Dn. Nicholas.



Rocco's Ristorante
Pizzeria

DINE AND DONATE
THURSDAY MARCH 6th
20% Give back, Dine in or take-out
ALL DAY LONG

Mention ST. JOHN & show flyer
2909 Ygnacio Valley Rd, Walnut Creek,
CA 94598

FUNDRAISER

JOIN US!



**IS GIVING
50% BACK TO:**

**St. John Orthodox
Church**

**Thursday, Apr 24
All day**

The Kebab Shop
2359 Oak Grove Rd Bldg H
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

To participate in this fundraiser, show this flyer during checkout at the store or order online at order.thekebabshop.com using the fundraiser coupon code below.

Code for online ordering:
FUNDRAISER

This fundraiser event is between St. John Orthodox Church and The Kebab Shop. The Kebab Shop will donate 50% of qualifying food and beverage sales to St. John Orthodox Church. Additional sales exclusions may apply including: Delivery, Catering, any other promotions. Offer valid only on select date(s) and location(s). Offer void if flyer is distributed in or near the store. The Kebab Shop may impose additional terms and conditions.

**FORCE
4 GOOD**
FUNDRAISING



ST. JOHN'S
PASCHA
EGG HUNT

APRIL 19TH, 2024 | AFTER MORNING LITURGY

EGG HUNT, BRUNCH, ARTS & CRAFT, & MORE!!

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER AND/OR DONATE
PLEASE CONTACT RANIA KASHOU**

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

You could use this QR code for your donation

