

+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, JANUARY 07, 2024

SYNAXIS OF THE HOLY PROPHET, FORERUNNER & BAPTIST JOHN

NEW-MARTYR ATHANASIOS OF ATTALIA; VENERABLE BRANNOCK OF BRAUNTON



The Synaxis of the Holy and Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John

On January 7 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we celebrate the Synaxis (Gathering) of the holy and glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John. On the same day is also commemorated the translation of his most precious and holy right hand unto the city of Constantinople.

Because John's main role in his life was played out on the day of Theophany (Epiphany), the Church from earliest times dedicated the "day after" to his memory. Among the Gospel personalities who surround the Savior, John the Baptist occupies a totally unique place by his roles in baptizing the Messiah and in baptizing people for repentance. John prepared himself in the wilderness of the desert for 30 years for his great service by a strict life, by fasting, prayer and sympathy for the fate of God's people. John was of such moral purity that, in truth, he could be called an angel (messenger) as Holy Scripture calls him rather than a mortal man. He appeared on the banks of the Jordan, to prepare the people by his preaching to accept the Savior of the world. In church hymnology, the Baptist is called a "bright morning star," whose gleaming outshone the brilliance of all the other stars, announcing the coming

dawn of the day of grace, illumined with the light of the spiritual Sun, our Lord Jesus Christ. John differs from all other prophets especially in that he had that privilege of being able, with his hand, to show the world Him about Whom he prophesied. As the holy Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord—whom the Lord called the greatest of the prophets—John concludes the history of the Old Testament and opens the era of the New Testament. He bore witness to the Only-Begotten Son of God, incarnate in the flesh. John was accounted worthy to baptize Him in the waters of the Jordan, and he was a witness of the Theophany of the Most Holy Trinity at the Savior's Baptism.

THE EPISTLE

The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord.

O God, hear my prayer.

The Reading from the Acts of the Apostles. (19:1-8)

In those days, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the upper country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples. And he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said, "No, we have never even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They said, "Into John's baptism." And Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the One Who was to come after him, that is, Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them; and they spoke with tongues and prophesied. There were about twelve of them in all. And he entered the synagogue and for three months spoke boldly, arguing and pleading about the Kingdom of God.

الرسالة

يَفْرَحُ الصِّدِّيقُ بِالرَّبِّ. اسْتَمِعْ يَا اللَّهُ لِصَوْتِي.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ أَعْمَالِ الرُّسُلِ الْقَدِيسِينَ الْأَطْهَارِ.

فِي تِلْكَ الْأَيَّامِ حَدَّثَ إِذْ كَانَ أَبْلُوسُ فِي كُورِنْثُوسَ، أَنَّ بُولُسَ اجْتَارَ فِي النَّوَاحِي الْعَالِيَةِ وَجَاءَ إِلَى أَفْسَسَ، فَوَجَدَ بَعْضًا مِنَ التَّلَامِيذِ فَقَالَ لَهُمْ: «هَلْ نِلْتُمُ الرُّوحَ الْقُدُسَ لَمَّا آمَنْتُمْ؟» قَالُوا لَهُ: «لَا، حَتَّى إِنَّا لَمْ نَسْمَعْ بِوُجُودِ الرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ». قَالَ: «فَبِأَيِّ مَعْمُودِيَّةٍ اعْتَمَدْتُمْ؟» فَقَالُوا: «بِمَعْمُودِيَّةٍ يُوحَنَّا». فَقَالَ بُولُسُ: «إِنَّ يُوحَنَّا عَمَدَ بِمَعْمُودِيَّةِ النَّوْبَةِ قَائِلًا لِلشَّعْبِ أَنْ يُؤْمِنُوا بِالَّذِي يَأْتِي بَعْدَهُ أَيْ بِالْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ». فَلَمَّا سَمِعُوا اعْتَمَدُوا بِاسْمِ الرَّبِّ يَسُوعَ، وَوَضَعَ بُولُسُ يَدَيْهِ عَلَيْهِمْ فَحَلَّ الرُّوحُ الْقُدُسُ عَلَيْهِمْ، فَطَفِقُوا يَتَكَلَّمُونَ بِلُغَاتٍ وَيَتَنَبَّأُونَ. وَكَانُوا كُلُّهُمْ نَحْوَ اثْنَيْ عَشَرَ رَجُلًا. ثُمَّ دَخَلَ الْمَجْمَعُ، وَكَانَ يُجَاهِرُ مُدَّةَ ثَلَاثَةِ أَشْهُرٍ يُفَاوِضُهُمْ وَيُنْفَعُهُمْ بِمَا يَخْتَصُّ بِمَلَكُوتِ اللَّهِ.

THE GOSPEL

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (1:29-34)

At that time, John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sin of the world! This is He of Whom I said, 'After me comes a man Who ranks before me, for He was before me.' I myself did not know Him; but for this I came baptizing with water, that He might be revealed to Israel." And John bore witness, "I saw the Spirit descend as a dove from heaven, and it remained on Him. I myself did not know Him; but He Who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on Whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is He Who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."

الإنجيل

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ يُوحَنَّا الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ.

فِي ذَلِكَ الزَّمَانِ رَأَى يُوحَنَّا يَسُوعَ مُقْبِلًا إِلَيْهِ، فَقَالَ: «هُوَذَا حَمَلُ اللَّهِ الَّذِي يَرْفَعُ حَطِيئَةَ الْعَالَمِ! هَذَا هُوَ الَّذِي قُلْتُ عَنْهُ: إِنَّهُ يَأْتِي بَعْدِي رَجُلٌ قَدْ صَارَ قَبْلِي، لِأَنَّهُ كَانَ مُتَقَدِّمِي. وَأَنَا لَمْ أَكُنْ أَعْرِفُهُ. لَكِنْ لِكَيْ يُظَهَرَ لِإِسْرَائِيلَ، جِئْتُ أَنَا أَعْمَدُ بِالْمَاءِ». وَشَهِدَ يُوحَنَّا قَائِلًا: «إِنِّي رَأَيْتُ الرُّوحَ مِثْلَ حَمَامَةٍ قَدْ نَزَلَتْ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ وَاسْتَقَرَّتْ عَلَيْهِ. وَأَنَا لَمْ أَكُنْ أَعْرِفُهُ، لَكِنَّ الَّذِي أَرْسَلَنِي لِأَعْمَدَ بِالْمَاءِ، هُوَ قَالَ لِي: إِنَّ الَّذِي تَرَى الرُّوحَ يَنْزِلُ وَيَسْتَقَرُّ عَلَيْهِ، هُوَ الَّذِي يُعْمَدُ بِالرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ. وَأَنَا قَدْ عَانَيْتُ وَشَهِدْتُ أَنَّ هَذَا هُوَ ابْنُ اللَّهِ».

Love Your Neighbor

January – St John's Community Fund/Special offering

The St John's Community fund is a special fund that will allow our priest to help, anonymously, anyone in our parish throughout the year that may need temporary financial help.

Update from the Building Committee:

We want to thank everyone for their generous donations to the building fund this past year, and of course look forward to continued support in 2024!

Q: If we have already donated or pledged, can we still dedicate our commitments to something specific on the donation list?

A: Yes, all donations and pledges, new and continuing can be applied to specific items on the attached donation list. And again, please let the church office know if we can include your names on future donation list updates.

Upcoming Events

Every Sunday at 7pm	St. Anastasia Fellowship Meeting. No meeting until Sunday, January 14th.
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Coffee Hours

January 7 th	Luncheon provided by Sonia Rihani, Samia Abu Daoud and Fadwa Samara.
January 14 th	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




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FUNDRAISER FOR

St John's Orthodox Church

January 18, 2024 | 2PM - close

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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.

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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.

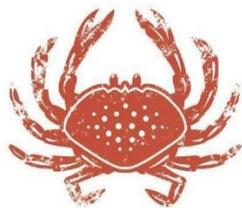
Items for the Hall that can be Donated by Individuals or Families

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	Rocky and Nada Dudum
SPECIAL SYSTEMS - SECURITY	\$	15,000	
SPECIAL SYSTEMS - AUDIO	\$	15,000	David and Lisa Hanna
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 collection, etc	\$	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	Steve and Angie Kreia
- 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 by Nickand Deena Farrah
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