



+St. John the Evangelist Orthodox Church

Antiochian Archdiocese of North America

Metropolitan Saba of New York and all North America

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SUNDAY, JULY 02, 2023

TONE 3 / EOTHINON 4

THE PLACING OF THE THEOTOKOS' ROBE IN BLACHERNAE & FOURTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

JUVENALY, ARCHBISHOP OF JERUSALEM; THE NEW-MARTYRS OF SAMOTHRACE;
ARCHBISHOP JOHN MAXIMOVITCH OF SHANGHAI AND SAN FRANCISCO



Deposition of the Precious Raiment of the Most Holy Theotokos

On July 2 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Deposition of the Precious Raiment (Robe) of the Most Holy Theotokos in her holy shrine at Blachernae in Constantinople, during the reign of Leo the Great and Berina his wife.

In the fifth century, two noblemen from Constantinople named Galibus and Candidus traveled throughout the Holy Land to venerate and to worship before the holy shrines. In Nazareth, they stopped for a while at the home of a Jewish maiden who kept the girdle of the All-Holy Mother of God in a secret room. Many who were ill and in need received healing from their sufferings through prayer and by touching the vesture. Galibus and Candidus received this sacred article and brought it to Constantinople and reported it to Emperor Leo and Patriarch Gennadius. This brought

about great joy in the imperial city. The vesture was solemnly translated and placed in the Church of Blachernae.

THE EPISTLE

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.

For He hath regarded the humility of His servant.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (9:1-7)

Brethren, even the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly sanctuary. For a tent was prepared, the outer one, in which were the lamp stand and the table and the bread of the Presence; it is called the Holy Place. Behind the second curtain stood a tent called the Holy of Holies, having the golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, which contained a golden urn holding the manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant; above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail. These preparations having thus been made, the priests go continually into the outer tent, performing their ritual duties; but into the second only the high priest goes, and he but once a year, and not without taking blood which he offers for himself and for the errors of the people.

الرسالة.

تَعْظِمُ نَفْسِي الرَّبِّ، وَتَبْتَهِّجُ رُوحِي بِاللَّهِ مُخَلِّصِي،
لَأَنَّهُ نَظَرَ إِلَى تَوَاضَعِ أُمَّتِهِ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولَسِ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى الْعِبْرَانِيِّينَ.

القارئ: يا إخوة، إِنَّ الْعَهْدَ الْأَوَّلَ كَانَتْ لَهُ أَيْضاً فَرَائِضُ الْعِبَادَةِ وَالْقُدُسِ الْعَالَمِيِّ. لِأَنَّهُ نُصِبَ الْمَسْكَنُ الْأَوَّلُ الَّذِي يُقَالُ لَهُ الْقُدُسُ، وَكَانَتْ فِيهِ الْمَنَارَةُ وَالْمَائِدَةُ وَخُبْزُ التَّقْدِيمَةِ. وَكَانَ وَرَاءَ الْحِجَابِ الثَّانِي، الْمَسْكَنُ الَّذِي يُقَالُ لَهُ قُدُسُ الْأَقْدَاسِ. وَفِيهِ مُسْتَوَقَّدُ الْبَخُورِ مِنَ الذَّهَبِ وَتَابُوتُ الْعَهْدِ الْمُعَشَّى بِالذَّهَبِ مِنْ كُلِّ جِهَةٍ، فِيهِ قِسْطُ الْمَنِّ مِنَ الذَّهَبِ، وَعَصَا هَارُونَ الَّتِي أَفْرَحَتْ وَلَوْحَا الْعَهْدِ. وَمِنْ فَوْقِهِ كَارُوبَا الْمَجْدِ الْمُظْلِلَانِ الْغِطَاءِ. وَلَيْسَ هُنَا مَقَامُ الْكَلَامِ فِي ذَلِكَ تَفْصِيلاً. وَحَيْثُ كَانَ ذَلِكَ مُهَيَّأً هَكَذَا، فَالْكَهَنَةُ يَدْخُلُونَ إِلَى الْمَسْكَنِ الْأَوَّلِ كُلِّ حِينٍ فَيُتِمُّونَ الْخِدْمَةَ. وَأَمَّا الثَّانِي، فَإِنَّمَا يَدْخُلُهُ رِئِيسُ الْكَهَنَةِ وَحْدَهُ مَرَّةً فِي السَّنَةِ، لَيْسَ بِلَا دَمٍ يُقْرَبُهُ عَنْ نَفْسِهِ وَعَنْ جَهَالَاتِ الشَّعْبِ.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (8:5-13)

At that time, as Jesus entered Capernaum, a centurion came forward to him, beseeching Him and saying, "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, in terrible distress." And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him." But the centurion answered Him, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and he does it." When Jesus heard him, He marveled, and said to those who followed him, "Truly, I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such faith. I tell you, many will come from east and west and sit at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the Kingdom of Heaven, while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth." And to the centurion Jesus said, "Go; be it done for you as you have believed." And the servant was healed at that very moment.

الإنجيل

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ مَتَّى الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتِّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ.

فِي ذَلِكَ الزَّمَانِ، دَخَلَ يَسُوعُ كَفَرْنَاحُومَ، فَدَنَا إِلَيْهِ قَائِدُ مِئَةٍ، وَطَلَبَ إِلَيْهِ قَائِلاً: يَا رَبُّ إِنَّ فَتَايَ مُلْقَى فِي الْبَيْتِ مُخَلَّعاً يُعَذَّبُ بِعَذَابٍ شَدِيدٍ. فَقَالَ لَهُ يَسُوعُ: أَنَا آتِي وَأَشْفِيهِ. فَأَجَابَ قَائِدُ الْمِئَةِ قَائِلاً: يَا رَبُّ، لَسْتُ مُسْتَحِقّاً أَنْ تَدْخُلَ تَحْتَ سَقْفِي، وَلَكِنْ قُلْ كَلِمَةً لَا غَيْرُ، فَيَبْرَأَ فَتَايَ. فَإِنِّي أَنَا إِنْسَانٌ تَحْتَ سُلْطَانٍ، وَلِي جُنْدٌ تَحْتَ يَدِي، أَقُولُ لِهَذَا "اذهب"، فَيَذْهَبُ، وَلِلْآخِرِ "أنتِ"، فَيَأْتِي، وَلِعِبْدِي "اعْمَلْ هَذَا"، فَيَعْمَلُ. فَلَمَّا سَمِعَ يَسُوعُ، تَعَجَّبَ وَقَالَ لِلَّذِينَ يَتَّبِعُونَهُ: الْحَقُّ أَقُولُ لَكُمْ، إِنِّي لَمْ أَجِدْ إِيمَاناً بِمِقْدَارِ هَذَا وَلَا فِي إِسْرَائِيلَ. أَقُولُ لَكُمْ، إِنَّ كَثِيرِينَ سَيَأْتُونَ مِنَ الْمَشَارِقِ وَالْمَغَارِبِ وَيَتَّكِنُونَ مَعَ إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَاسْحَقَ وَيَعْقُوبَ فِي مَلَكُوتِ السَّمَاوَاتِ. وَأَمَّا بَنُو الْمَلَكُوتِ فَيُلْقَوْنَ فِي الظُّلْمَةِ الْبَرَانِيَّةِ. هُنَاكَ يَكُونُ الْبُكَاءُ وَصَرِيْفُ الْأَسْنَانِ. ثُمَّ قَالَ يَسُوعُ لِقَائِدِ الْمِئَةِ: اذهب، وَلْيَكُنْ لَكَ كَمَا آمَنْتَ. فَشَفِي فَتَاهُ فِي تِلْكَ السَّاعَةِ.

Love your Neighbor

July - Holy Assumption Monastery in Calistoga, CA

An Orthodox Christian Monastery for Women, with its home on the banks of the Napa River in Calistoga, California, Holy Assumption Monastery welcomes faithful pilgrims and visitors of all backgrounds. Mother Melania, the Abbess of the Monastery has given talks at our church and many other groups.

Questions From Parishioners

Question: "What is the current status of construction of our Fellowship Hall?"

Answer: "On June 22 the concrete pad was poured which will become the floor of the Hall. This week, construction of the walls begins."

Beginning this week, we are launching this new feature in our St. John Weekly Bulletin. Each week, a question we have heard from parishioners will be printed and answered. These questions come from either notes taken at the two recent events, one at Waterbar Restaurant in San Francisco, and the other at 1515 Restaurant in Walnut Creek, or from questions parishioners submit to St. John parishioner, Ron Nicola, who has offered to prepare this weekly question and answer feature. Please send your question to Ron's email address, rnlm@aol.com.

Members of the Construction and Fund-Raising Committees will also be using a number of other communication tools in the coming weeks and months to keep St. John parishioners informed about the Fellowship Hall Project.

Winners for the Creative Festivals

The winners from our Parish for the Creative Festivals are listed below. They will be presented their awards at the Brunch with Metropolitan Saba on Saturday, July 1 at the Parish Life Conference. Congratulations!

Sophia Gujardo
Julia Bailey
Xenia Christine Ritter
Wolfgang James Ritter
Yacoub Khalilieh
Joanna Zarour
Islay Guajardo
Malak Khalilieh

Monthly Lunches for the Fellowship Hall

The Ladies' Committee would like to revive our monthly sponsored lunches to help raise funds for the new fellowship hall! The idea is to have two families pick a date and together provide a meal to serve after Sunday liturgy. The Ladies' Committee will sponsor a lunch at the church on Father's Day, but would love to have volunteers lined up for the months following. Please contact Fadwa Samara with any questions or to sign up at 510.909.0119 or fvsamara@gmail.com. Thank you!!

A Request for Pictures

Our community has many years of memorial moments. We are requesting pictures from you. These pictures will be put together in a picture collage that will be display at our FIRST parish hall event. Please send or give a copy of any pictures you have that display St. John throughout the years! Submit pictures by July 30th to raniamariekashou@gmail.com or personally hand her a photo copy.

Also, if you would like to donate and/volunteer to this event please contact Rania Kashou. We are also in need of Silent auction items.

Thank you for your support!

Many Blessings,

The Fundraising Committee

Upcoming Events

September 23-24	Our annual St. John's Middle Eastern Festival!
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Coffee Hours

July 2 nd	Yardena and Bahij Hanhan in memory of Victor Hanhan (one year). Also in memory of Afdokia Hanhan and George Dahoud Hanhan.
July 9 th	Salim and Samia Abu DAwood.
July 16 th	Community Lunch hosted by the Farradj and Silva families and Miranda Halaby and Laila Lawyer.

Holy Oblations

This week, Holy Oblations are offered by:

- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Nick Nicola, Nadia Frangieh, Souhila Swies, 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 **Nick Nicola**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Henriette Hilal**. Many years!
- † Issa and Alexandra Samara in memory of **George Samara**. May his memory be eternal!
- † Ron and Nancy Nicola for the good health of **Jane Nassief** and for the good health of her family. 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 Sweis, Clayton Morgan, Elias Freij, Angelo Freij, Andrew Freij, Mazyn Haddadin, James Dudum, John Dudum and David Evans

St. John Orthodox Church
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OUR FIRST

PARISH HALL

Party

SUNDAY AUGUST 27TH AT 4PM-7PM
ON THE CEMENT FLOOR
ENJOY TIME WITH OUR COMMUNITY
OPEN WINE BAR, HORS D'OEUVRES,
LIGHT MUSIC, KIDS CRAFTS

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