

+St. John the Evangelist Orthodox Church

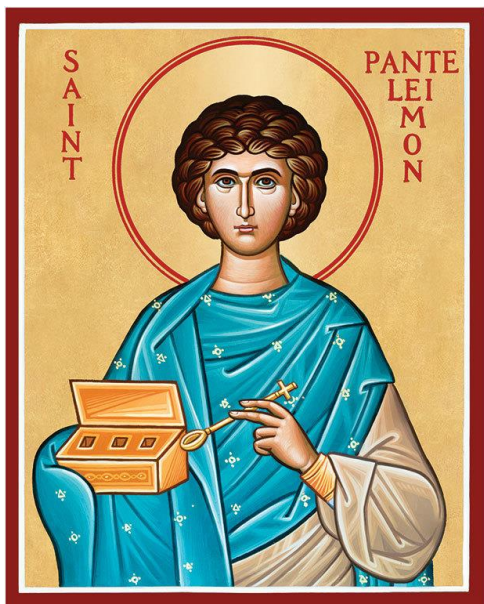
Antiochian Archdiocese of North America
Metropolitan Saba of New York and all North America
V. Rev. Fr. Nicholas Borzghol, Pastor
Dn. Nicholas Adranly

501 Moraga Way, Orinda, California 925-258-4255
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SUNDAY, JULY 27, 2025

GREAT-MARTYR AND HEALER PANTELEIMON

THE MARTYRED BLIND MAN HEALED BY PANTELEIMON



On July 27 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the holy and glorious Great-Martyr and Healer Panteleimon, and the martyred blind man whom Panteleimon healed.

Panteleimon means “all merciful” in Greek. He was born in third-century Nicomedia of a Christian mother, Eubula, and a pagan father, Eustorgius. As a young man he studied medicine. The priest, Hermolaus, invited Panteleimon to be with him and taught him the Faith of Christ and baptized him.

Panteleimon miraculously cured a blind man by the power of Christ whom the other doctors treated in vain. The blind man was later martyred and we also commemorate him today. Out of envy the doctors accused Panteleimon of being a Christian and he went before the Emperor Maximian to stand trial. Before the emperor, he freely declared that he was a Christian and he also healed a long-time paralytic. This miracle drew many pagans to the Faith of Christ. Sentenced to death, Panteleimon knelt for prayer. At that moment the executioner struck him on the neck with a sword, and it broke. The executioner was unable to execute him until the saint completed his prayer and until Panteleimon told him to behead him, which he then did. His relics possessed the ability to heal. Panteleimon is invoked in prayers at the time of the “Blessing of Waters” and in the blessing of the holy oils used in the “The Sacrament of Holy Unction,” together with Hermolaus and the other unmercenary saints and wonderworkers.

THE EPISTLE

The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord. O God, hear my prayer.

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to St. Timothy. (2:1-10)

Timothy, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus; and what you have heard from me before many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier on service gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to satisfy the one who enlisted him. An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. Think over what I say, for the Lord will grant you understanding in everything. Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descended from David, as preached in my gospel, the gospel for which I am suffering and wearing fetters like a criminal. But the word of God is not fettered. Therefore, I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain salvation in Christ Jesus with its eternal glory.

يَفْرَحُ الصَّدِيقُ بِالرَّبِّ. اِسْتَمِعْ يَا اللَّهُ لِمِصَوْتِي.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولْسِ الرَّسُولِ الثَّانِيَةِ إِلَى تِيْمُوثَاوَس. (2:1-10)

وَمَا سَمِعْتُهُ مِنِّي لَدَى شُهَدَاءٍ كَثِيرِينَ، اسْتَوْدَعُهُ أَنَا سَأَ أَمْنَاءَ أَكْفَاءَ. يَا وَلَدِي تِيْمُوثَاوَس، تَقَوَّ فِي النِّعْمَةِ الَّتِي فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ لَيْسَ أَحَدٌ يَتَجَنَّدُ فَيَرْتَبِكُ بِهِمْومِ الْحَيَاةِ، وَذَلِكَ . احْتَمِلِ الْمَشَقَّاتِ كَجُنْدِيٍّ صَالِحٍ لِيَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ. لِأَنَّ يُعْلِمُوا آخَرِينَ أَيْضاً وَيَجِبُ أَنَّ الْحَارِثَ الَّذِي . وَأَيْضاً، إِنْ كَانَ أَحَدٌ يُجَاهِدُ، فَلَا يَنَالُ الْإِكْلِيلَ مَا لَمْ يُجَاهِدْ جِهَاداً شَرْعِيّاً. لِيَرْضَى الَّذِي جَنَّدَهُ أَذْكُرُ أَنَّ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحَ، الَّذِي مِنْ نَسْلِ . إِفْهَمْ مَا أَقُولُ. فَلْيُؤْتِكَ الرَّبُّ فَهْمًا فِي كُلِّ شَيْءٍ. يَتَعَبُ أَنْ يَشْتَرِكَ فِي الْأَثْمَارِ أَوَّلًا . الَّذِي احْتَمِلَ فِيهِ الْمَشَقَّاتِ حَتَّى الْقُبُودِ كَمُجْرِمٍ، إِلَّا أَنَّ كَلِمَةَ اللَّهِ لَا تُقَيَّدُ. دَاوَدَ، قَدْ قَامَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ عَلَى حَسَبِ إِنْجِيلِي فَلِذَلِكَ أَنَا أَضْبِرُّ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ مِنْ أَجْلِ الْمُخْتَارِينَ، لِكَيْ يَحْصُلُوا هُمْ أَيْضاً عَلَى الْخَلَاصِ الَّذِي فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ، مَعَ الْمَجْدِ الْأَبَدِيِّ.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (9:27-35)

At that time, as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed him, crying aloud: "Have mercy on us, Son of David." When He entered the house, the blind men came to Him; and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to Him, "Yes, Lord." Then He touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly charged them, "See that no one knows it." But they went away and spread His fame through all that district. As they were going away, behold, a dumb demoniac was brought to Him. And when the demon had been cast out, the dumb man spoke; and the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel." But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons." And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity.

فَصْلٌ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِّيسِ مَتَّى الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ. (35-27:9)

فَلَمَّا دَخَلَ النَّبِيُّ، دَنَا إِلَيْهِ الْأَعْمَيَانِ، فِي ذَلِكَ الزَّمَانِ، فِيمَا يَسُوعُ مُجْتَازٌ، تَبِعَهُ أَعْمَيَانِ يَصِيحَانِ وَيَقُولَانِ: اِرْحَمْنَا يَا ابْنَ دَاوُدَ فَقَالَ لَهُمَا يَسُوعُ: هَلْ تُؤْمِنَانِ أَنِّي أَقْدِرُ أَنْ أَفْعَلَ ذَلِكَ؟ فَقَالَا لَهُ: نَعَمْ، يَا رَبُّ. حِينَئِذٍ لَمَسَ أَعْيُنُهُمَا قَائِلًا: كَايْمَانِكُمَا فَلْيَكُنْ وَبَعْدَ خُرُوجِهِمَا، . فَلَمَّا خَرَجَا، شَهِرَاهُ فِي تِلْكَ الْأَرْضِ كُلِّهَا. لَكُمَا. فَانْفَتَحَتْ أَعْيُنُهُمَا. فَانْتَهَرَهُمَا يَسُوعُ قَائِلًا: انْظُرَا، لَا يَعْلَمُ أَحَدٌ فَلَمَّا أُخْرِجَ الشَّيْطَانُ، تَكَلَّمَ الْأَخْرَسُ. فَتَعَجَّبَتِ الْجُمُوعُ قَائِلِينَ: لَمْ يَظْهَرْ قَطُّ مِثْلُ هَذَا فِي. قَدَّمُوا إِلَيْهِ أَخْرَسَ بِهِ شَيْطَانٌ وَكَانَ يَسُوعُ يَطُوفُ الْمُدُنَ كُلِّهَا وَالْقُرَى، يُعَلِّمُ فِي. أَمَّا الْفَرِّيسِيُّونَ فَقَالُوا: إِنَّهُ بِرَأْسِ الشَّيَاطِينِ يُخْرِجُ الشَّيَاطِينِ. إِسْرَائِيلَ مَجَامِعِهِمْ، وَيَكْرِزُ بِبَشَارَةِ الْمَلَكُوتِ، وَيَشْفِي كُلَّ مَرَضٍ وَكُلَّ ضَعْفٍ فِي الشَّعْبِ.

Donations for Heritage Booth at Festival

During the past few Festivals, there were multiple inquiries about purchasing used Middle Eastern items/ souvenirs at the Heritage Booth. We would like to gather unwanted items from our parish. If you have anything to donate, please contact Dn. Nicholas Adranly at 510-207-1796 for more information.

Visiting Priest Fr. John Christianson

The St. John's community would like to welcome visiting priest, Fr. John Christianson, on July 27th, who will celebrate the Divine Liturgy in the absence of Fr. Nicholas who will be in Chicago attending the archdiocese convention.

Festival Dance Group for Kids

We are trying to put together a small group to dance at our up coming festival. Children between the ages of 5-10 (around that age) and willing to learn and be dedicated. Please contact Rania Kashou 415.722.0774. (Text is fine) or Irene Guajardo.

Couple of rules:

- * You must come to church every Sunday starting August 3rd September 14th.
- * You must ready to stay at lease 30-45 minutes after church for practice.
- * You must be available on both festival days (performance in the earlier part -time TBD)

Krispy Kreme Fundraising Campaign

Another exciting fundraiser! Campaign is good until December 31.

How it works!

1. Order place an order using the link or QR code.

<https://www.groupraise.com/offer-campaigns/60225-st-john-church-krispy-kreme-digital-dozens>

2. Support 50% of each Original Glazed Dozen you order is donated back to the organization.

3. EnjoyVisit your local Krispy Kreme to pick up your Original Glazed Dozens!

Dave & Buster's Fundraising Campaign

We have something new and exciting!!

Dave & Buster's fundraising campaign will begin NOW until December 31, 2025. Get Your Power Cards through St. John link.

How it works!

1. Place an order using St. John fundraising link. Here is the link:

https://www.groupraise.com/offer-campaigns/59958-st-john-church-dave-busters-fundraising-campaigns?utm_source=sendgrid&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=o_offers_day_1

And/or ask: Rania Kashou

2. 50% of each Dave & Buster's Power Card purchased is donated back to the organization.
3. Visit any Dave & Buster's location to pick up your Power Card and start playing!

Awesome gift for kids, grand kids, parents, even yourself. Who doesn't like to play??

This link can be forwarded to friends, families, neighbors, coworkers, businesses, anyone!!

Upcoming Events

July 27th	Prison Ministry Card Workshop after Liturgy
August 6th	Feast of the Transfiguration Divine Liturgy at 11:00 AM at 380 Magdalena Avenue, Los Altos Hills. Agape meal afterwards.
August 7th	Paraklises for the Virgin Mary at 6 pm.
August 13th	Paraklises for the Virgin Mary at 6 pm.
August 14th	Vespers Divine Liturgy for the feast the Dormition of the Theotokos at 6 pm.
August 17th	Six months memorial service for the servant of God George Wahbeh, offered by Afaf Wahbeh and family. May his memory be eternal!
September 20th-21st	St. John's annual Middle Eastern Food Festival

Coffee Hour

July 27	Zzane and Irene Guajardo
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Holy Oblations

This week, Holy Oblations are offered by:

- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Nick Nicola, Sam Nassab, Sandy Dudum Bennett, Fairouz Freij, George Adranly, Fred Addas Henriette Hilal and Aida Youakeem**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family in memory of **Najat Nicola**. May her memory be eternal!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Hala Youakeem**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Norma Khalil**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Souhad Halaka**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **George Messih**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Rocky and Nada Dudum**. 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!



- † Altar Servers:
Nathan Sweis, Clayton Morgan, Elias Freij, Angelo Freij, Andrew Freij, Mazyn Haddadin, James Dudum, John Dudum, David Evans, Evan Kavar, Mason Kavar, Jonathan Juha, Maron Juha and Zaiden Karanikola

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

You could use this QR code for your donation



Dear Nick, Mark, Kristen, Kimberly, Anthony, Hudson, Julia, Brie and to the entire Saliba and Nicola Family,

On behalf of the ladies of St. John, we are deeply saddened with broken and shattered hearts for the passing of our beautiful sister in Christ, Najat. Her death came as a shock to all of us and Najat will always be cherished and her memory will be held close to our hearts.

Najat was a woman full of love and dedication to her whole family, to our Parishioners and ladies of St. John and to her entire community. She was a true jewel who shined with integrity, faith and love. When you were greeted by Najat, the first thing you noticed was her beautiful, smiling face. It was then followed with a warm hug reminding you of how much she cared for you and everyone around her.

She had a beautiful reputation of being a lady with top notch class which showed in everything that she was passionate about. We have learned so much from her talents, whether it was how she decorated our church for Easter and Christmas, to her hand crafted paintings and especially her flower arrangements and classes that seemed to flow so gracefully.

We all sometimes catch ourselves asking the very simple question: Why God? Why take such a beautiful soul at such a young age? As painful as this is, we as Orthodox Christians are called to trust the Lord, live in the moment and keep His praises in our hearts. Najat's life was the perfect example of this. As she has walked through the valleys of her own life, she has remained faithful and served those around her with a heart of gold. She has set an example for us all.

Nick and family we love you and we are praying for you to feel God's comfort, grace and love as you all embark on a new season in life without our dear Najat. We, as a family and body of Christ, are here for you, your children and grandchildren. May you always hold dear the beautiful memory of our beloved Najat close to your hearts. We will all continue to pray that God will place her soul in his heavenly kingdom, a place of brightness, a place of repose along with her parents and the departed family souls.

May God bless you and shine his face upon you all.

ST. JOHN ORTHODOX CHURCH

MIDDLE EASTERN FOOD FESTIVAL



MUSIC



FOOD



CULTURE

CELEBRATING
31
YEARS

SEPTEMBER 20 & 21

501 MORAGA WAY ORINDA, CA

SAT 11AM - 8PM | SUN NOON - 7PM

FREE ADMISSION



LET'S GET ROLLING & BAKING...in our new kitchen!!

Saturday, 8/9 and 8/23



Saturday, August 9th at 9:30

Saturday, August 23rd at 9:30

We need all hands on deck to help roll grape leaves and make spinach pies for the upcoming festival. We'll have coffee and treats and always enjoy our time working together. Please let Rula A. know if you can help. It's a blessing to work together. **Ecclesiastes 4:9 Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil.**

Building Committee Update

It's punch list time! Believe it or not, we are nearing the finish line. The Building Committee and the architect have met with the contractor to review a preliminary punch list of items that need to be completed prior to the building inspection for occupancy. These items include things like acoustic wall panels, signage, HVAC grills, fire extinguishers, etc.

Additionally, outside the scope of the original contract with Petra, we have ordered the major kitchen equipment. Some equipment has been delivered, some is on order and custom countertops and workspaces are being fabricated.

We are looking at majority completion in just a few weeks, and then working with city and county officials for inspections. The timing of inspections is out of our complete control, but we are hoping to complete these soon to acquire occupancy certificates.

Of course there will still be some work to complete that has not yet been budgeted or contracted such as trellises and landscaping.

St. John Fellowship Hall Donor Recognition Levels

Founder
\$1,000,000

Cornerstone
500,000

Pillar
250,000

Patron
100,000

Benefactor
50,000

Provider
25,000

Supporter
10,000

Partner
5,000

Friend
1,000

Builder
100

Donor recognition wall will be in the foyer of the Fellowship Hall.

Donations and pledges can be made from stock and annuities

For more information about the Fellowship Hall and ways to participate, please contact:

Fr. Nicholas Borzghol – Pastor

Steve Kreta – Building Committee Chair

David Hanna – Fundraising Committee Chair

Project Mexico 2025!

Featuring Nick Farrah, Nadine Potts, Lilly Potts, and Herman (the owner of the new home) and his son.







Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry



Orthodox ChristianTM
PRISON MINISTRY

PRISON MINISTRY AWARENESS SUNDAY

Did you know that there are Orthodox Christians practicing their faith in prison? Or that there are prisoners who are ready to repent of their crimes and embrace the Orthodox Church? **Who will minister to them?**

As the national prison ministry of the Orthodox Church, Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry (OCPM) supports prisoners' unique spiritual needs through longterm case management and provides resources and training to parishes and clergy, enabling them to offer local solutions and fulfill Christ's command to visit Him in prison. As a result, families are reunited, marriages are healed, and thousands of incarcerated men and women have a new sense of peace and restored order in their lives.



4,845

TOTAL PRISONERS MINISTERED TO

55,059

BIBLE STUDIES, DAILY READINGS, AND SPIRITUAL REFLECTIONS SENT IN 2023

*"I was in prison,
and you visited Me."*

Matthew 25:36

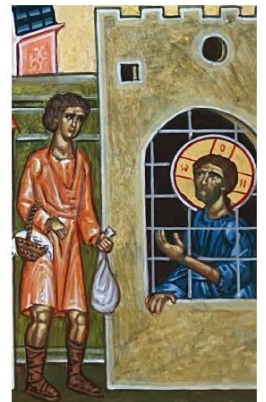


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LEARN MORE AT theocpm.org
PHONE: +1.347.868.6957



ASSEMBLY OF CANONICAL
ORTHODOX BISHOPS
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry (OCPM) is the national prison ministry of the Orthodox Church and an agency of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States.

LEARN MORE AT theocpm.org
PHONE: +1.347.868.6957



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Orthodox Christian
PRISON MINISTRY

**WHO
WE
ARE**

Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry is the national prison ministry of the Orthodox Church in the US and an agency of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops.



OUR MISSION

Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry serves those who are incarcerated and their families, and provides resources, training, and support to our ministry partners so that lives are transformed and God is glorified.

WHAT WE DO

RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT - Through our Correspondence Ministry, OCPM case managers maintain relationships with Orthodox and non-Orthodox prisoners over years and decades at a time.

CERTIFICATE PROGRAM IN PRISON MINISTRY - We rigorously train Orthodox clergy and laity through a one-year academic program, in partnership with St. Tikhon's Seminary.

CHURCH PROGRAMS - We train, inspire, and partner with churches to establish parish-based prison ministries and implement OCPM's religious education and spiritual formation programs, like Early Christian History, Stories of Faith: The Parables of Jesus, and the PenPal Ministry.

STORYBOOK CONNECTIONS™ - Storybook Connections™ is an OCPM program that enables volunteers to enter a jail to record incarcerated parents reading a storybook for their child. The recording along with the book is then sent to the child, who now has a tangible connection to his or her parent.

YOUR 2024 IMPACT

1,268 people in prison who corresponded with OCPM
236 new case files of people in prison opened
55,059 spiritual books, study courses, Bible studies, daily readings, and spiritual reflections sent
93 Orthodox parishes participated in OCPM Church Program
517 prison facilities served by OCPM

CONTACT US

276 5th Avenue, Ste. 704-3183
New York, NY 10001

(347) 868-6957

LEARN MORE

WWW.THEOCPM.ORG



St. John Sunday Funday
Dave and Busters
2075 Diamond Blvd Ste.
H180, Concord, CA 94520
August 24th @ 1:30pm



Support St. John Church with Krispy Kreme Digital Dozens



Price Per Dozen: \$15



Krispy Kreme Digital Dozens to Support St. John Church



grouprai.se/krispykreme60225o



\$15
per order



50%
donated back



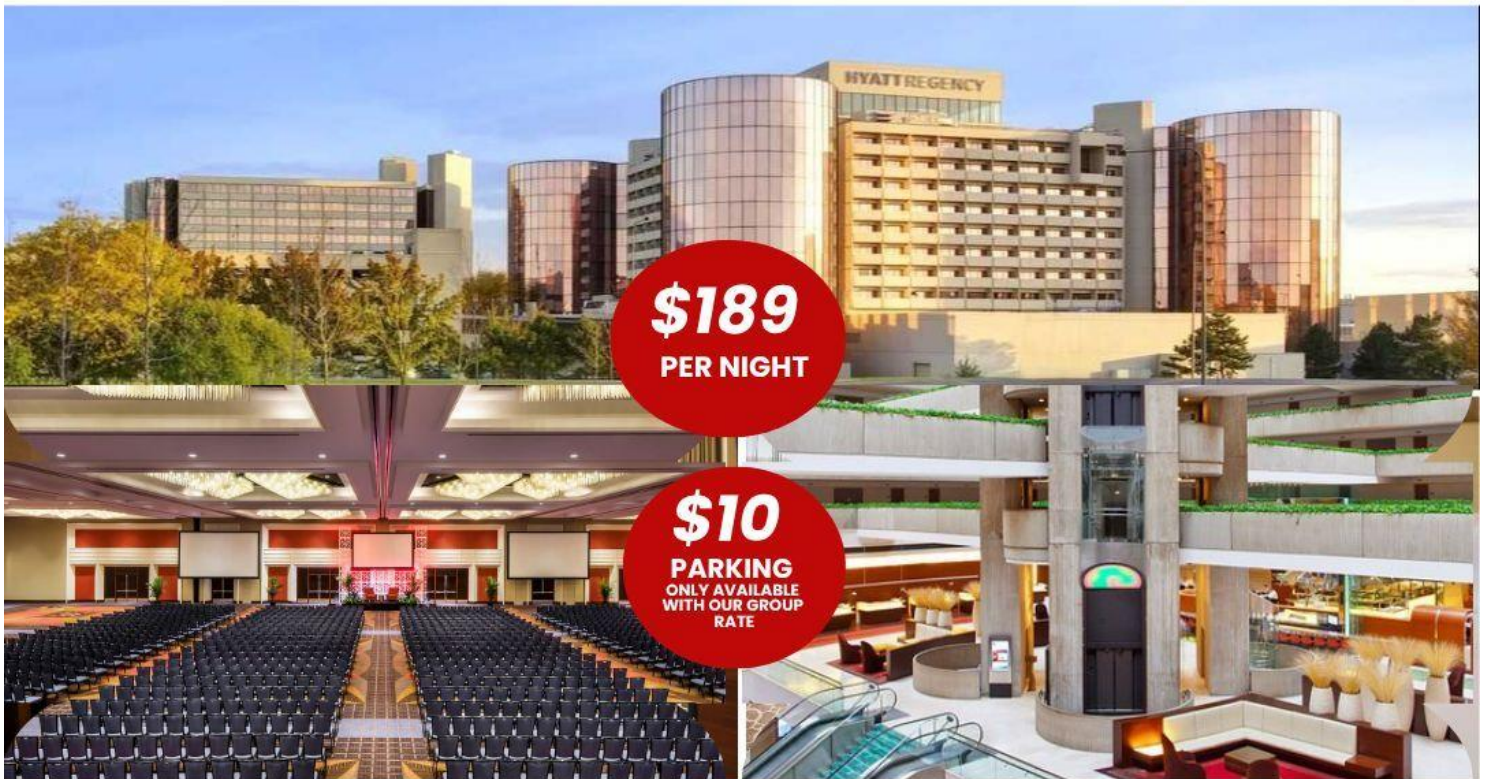
57TH BIENNIAL ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN *Archdiocese Convention*

July 20 – 27, 2025



Hotel Deadline Is Almost Here!

**Rates are only guaranteed through June 21!
Rooms are selling FAST don't wait!**



Book your room before it's too late!

**Reserve now at:
www.ac2025chicago.org/hotel**

St John Fellowship Hall Donor Recognition

The St John Fellowship Hall Building and Fundraising Committees along with the Parish Council would like to thank and recognize those donors who have given over the years to the Building Fund. The contributions shown below include cumulative donations to the initial \$2 Million in the building fund at the start of construction, in addition to those donations to the current fundraising effort. Please note that our very generous Cornerstone Donor, as well as several of the Partner and Friend level donors have donated prior to the beginning of our current campaign. All donors will be recognized on a plaque or donor wall feature located in the reception area (foyer) of the hall at the levels shown below. If you would like your contribution recognized in another way, or if you have questions regarding your donation level, please contact the church office.

Recognition level	Names of Donors	
Cornerstone \$500,000 +	Hanada I. Fasheh	
Patron \$100,000-249,000	Rick and Sandra Dudum Jack and Sylvia Dudum	Jason and Lena Dudum Fuad and Nadia Sweiss
Benefactor \$50,000 - 99,999	Keith Dudum Joseph Sweis and Family	The McClintic Family
Provider \$25,000 - 49,999	Sami and Kathy Adranly James and Denise Dudum Rocky and Nada Dudum Nick and Deena Farrah	Jon and Larissa Geleris Stephen and Angela Kreta Elias and Samia Shaheen
Supporter \$10,000-24,999	Dn. Nicolas and Rula Adranly George and Samar Adranly ADOBE – matching gift for Hanna Family Anonymous Dominick and Joby Aranda George and Freida Cawog Nick and Deena Farrah Ibrahim Fasheh Jordis Fasheh Lisa and David Hanna and Family Phillip and Gina Jaber	Jawad and Violet Jaber Ron and Ruth Jeha, in Memory of Michael Elias Jeha Sam Khoury Ron and Nancy Nicola Fady and Joumana Najjar Orthodox Vision Foundation The Potts Family Raymond and Georgianna Rishwain Raif and Sonya Rihani Ernest and Noha Shulze and Family Daniel and Mona Thayer Ramsay Zacharia

Partner
\$5,000-9,999

Anonymous
Charles and Marilee Ajalat
Miranda Halaby
Sandy Hodges
John and Sylvia Jaber
Leila Farradj

Lynn and Usama Farradj
Issam and Rania Freij
Salem and Antoinette Mufarreh
Darrin Rishwain
George Theodosy

Friend
\$1,000-4,999

Saleem & Samya Abudawood
Jack Ajluni
Anonymous
Richard and Joyce Ayooob
Anthony and Kimberly Bailey
Sandy Bennett
William and Judith Bosl
Fr. Nicholas Borzghol
Challenger Enterprises
Daryl and Katherine Dudum
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F&M Bank
Fadi and Rana Feghali
Alex and Helen Ghantous
Khalil and Leila Hakeem
Ronald Issac
JDO Dakota Ventures
Mary Karadsheh
Maha Kury-Peterson
Brandon Laidlaw
Lieman Properties
Azmi and Melanie Madanat
Chris and Eva Malki
Margaret Mas
Fred and Tania Milkie
Siham Mitry
Myers Restaurant Supply
George Najjar

Samer Nassar
Sam & Nelly Nassif
Dn George and Jane Nassief
Ramzi and Marina Nassoura
Ziad & Charlene Nassoura
Naim and Helen Nazzal
Susan Nazzal
Nicholas Luengo Construction
Nick Jr. and Najat Nicola and Family
Antone Nino
Fawda Samara
Jeanne Shikany
Samir and Caroline Syriani
Sami and Alia Sahouria
Andrew Thayer
Steven Thayer
The Kebab Shop Restaurant
John and Jan Theodosy
Samir and Abla Toubassy
In Memory of Dwight Underhill
Robert and Katrina Waddell
George and Afaf Wahbeh
Kamal and Samar Wahbe
Nabil and Souhila Wakileh
William Wood Architects
Hala Yowakeem
Samir and Nadia Zeidan

Builder
\$100-999

George E. Adranly
Felice and Eric Ajluni
Howard & Marilyn Ashcraft
Eman Baalbaki
Tania & Daniel Bajada
Randy and Barbara Bray
Ken Bullock Ins & Fin Services
Robert and Renee Crawford
Mary Cubeisy
Dn. John and Irena Dibs
Herb & Tania DeGroot
Tony Dudum
Fuad and Mary Farradj
Naim & Nadia Frangieh
John & Dina Freij
Fairouz Freij
Fred and Sue Gedeon
Sandra Gedeon
Benjamin and Ashley Geleris
Zzane & Irene Guajardo
Julianna Greensides
Bahij & Yardena Hanhan
Raymond Hilal
Mounir and Muna Hobaika
Angela Husary
Jack's Restaurant
Carol Jeha
Samir Juha
Andreas Kamlot
David Kashou
Rima Kashou
Norma Khalil
Elia Khalilieh

Elizabeth Kreta
Mary Lodge
William and Mary Massarweh
Daniel & Amy McLellan
Mendocino Farms Restaurant
Paul and Arwa Mogannam
Alan & Dale Morgan
Khalil Mounzer
Ibrahim Munayer
Marwan Mukhar
William and Jida Nasser
Maureen Nelson
Mark Nicola
Michelle Nicola
Pacer Physical Therapy
Jacob Ritter
Alexis Robbins
Rocco's Restaurant & Pizza
Neezar Samara
Eddie and Evleen Salem
Wanda and Leonard Sarkissian
See's Candies
Jabra & Rania Shuheiber
Marie Simon
Matthew Simon
Summit Landscape Development
Christina Tast
Suzanne & Nabil Taovil
Sami Tawasha
Christina Thabit
TP Wolf
Khalil Yowakeem
Sam & Nevine Yowakim

His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan SABA



Archbishop of New York
and Metropolitan of
All North America

**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA**

Prot. no.: 344/2025

July 1, 2025

Beloved in Christ,

I pray you had a blessed celebration of the patrons and protectors of our Holy See of Antioch, Saints Peter and Paul. Our group of pilgrims was blessed to celebrate this important occasion in our spiritual home this year at the Patriarchal Monastery of Balamand, Lebanon.

Since the terrorist bombing of our Prophet Elias Church in Dweilaa, Damascus, Syria a week ago, we have received many inquiries from people and organizations asking how they can help the survivors and the families of those who lost their lives.

We have set up a special charitable account at the Archdiocese Headquarters for this purpose. All the proceeds will be forwarded to His Beatitude Patriarch John X for distribution to the survivors and families. Needless to say, after this traumatic and life-changing event, they need counseling, medical help and the basic necessities of life as they will not be able to function for some time.

In many cases, the families who lost their loved ones lost their main financial providers. Others will need long-term financial support as they have sustained the loss of bodily parts, making them permanent dependents unable to work to sustain their families.

Here is how you can donate to help the survivors and surviving family members:

- Online through the “[2025 Prophet Elias Church of Damascus, Syria Relief Fund.](#)”
- By check, either personally or through your parish that will, in turn, send the collected funds to the Archdiocese Headquarters, P.O. Box 5238, Englewood, NJ 07631-5238. Make checks payable to the Antiochian Archdiocese with “Prophet Elias Church Relief Fund” in the memo.

Thank you for helping to alleviate the suffering of our brothers and sisters in Christ. Wishing you God’s every blessing, I remain,

Your Father in Christ,

+SABA

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

“The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch” (Acts 11: 26)

358 Mountain Road, P.O. Box 5238, Englewood, NJ 07631-5238
(201) 871-1355 T Archdiocese@antiochian.org (201) 871-7954 F