



# +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 30, 2023**

**TONE 7/EOTHINON 8**

## **APOSTLES SILAS, SILVAN, CRESCENS, EPENETOS AND ANDRONIKOS OF THE SEVENTY**

JULITTA OF CAESAREA



### **Holy Apostles Silas, Silvan, Crescens, Epenetos and Andronikos of the Seventy**

On July 30 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the holy Apostles Silas, Silvan, Crescens, Epenetos and Andronikos of the Seventy.

Silas was sent from Jerusalem to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas to settle the dispute between the faithful there regarding circumcision: namely, that it was not necessary to circumcise pagans when they convert to Christianity (Acts 15:22). After that, Silas traveled with Paul throughout Asia and Macedonia and was appointed as the bishop in Corinth, where he peacefully died. Silvan assisted both of the Chief Apostles. His Godly works are found in the Apostolos (I Peter 5:12; II Cor. 1:19). As the bishop of Thessalonica, Silvan labored and suffered much until he finally exchanged this earthly life for the heavenly life. Crescens was a companion of the Apostle Paul. He became the bishop in Galatia and a missionary in Gaul, where he died as a martyr for Christ during the reign of Trajan (II Timothy 4:10). Epenetos, the bishop in Carthage, is mentioned by the Apostle Paul as “the first-fruits of Achaia unto Christ” (Romans 16:5). Paul calls Andronikos, the bishop of Pannonia, his “kinsman, and fellow prisoner, who is of note among the apostles” (Romans 16:7).

### **THE EPISTLE**

*The Lord will give strength to His people. Ascribe to the Lord, O sons of God, ascribe to the Lord honor and glory.*

### **The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (1:10-17)**

Brethren, I appeal to you, by the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no dissension among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. For it has been reported to me by Chloe’s people that there is quarreling among you, my brethren. What I mean is that each one of you says, “I belong to Paul,” or “I belong to Apollos,” or “I belong to Cephas,” or “I belong to Christ.” Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispos and Gaius; lest anyone should say that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the Gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

الرَّبُّ يُعْطِي قُوَّةَ لَشَعْبِهِ.

قَدِّمُوا لِلرَّبِّ يَا أَبْنَاءَ اللَّهِ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولْسِ الرَّسُولِ الْأُولَى إِلَى أَهْلِ كورِنْثوس.

يا إِخْوَةٌ، أَطْلُبُ إِلَيْكُمْ بِاسْمِ رَبِّنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ أَنْ تَقُولُوا جَمِيعَكُمْ قَوْلًا وَاحِدًا، وَأَنْ لَا يَكُونَ بَيْنَكُمْ شِقَاقَاتٌ، بَلْ تَكُونُوا مُكْتَمِلِينَ بِفِكْرٍ وَرَأْيٍ وَاحِدٍ. فَقَدْ أَخْبَرَنِي عَنْكُمْ، يَا إِخْوَتِي، أَهْلُ خُلُوي، أَنَّ بَيْنَكُمْ خُصُومَاتٍ. أَعْنِي أَنَّ كُلَّ وَاحِدٍ مِنْكُمْ يَقُولُ "أَنَا لِبُولْسٍ أَوْ أَنَا لِابْلُوسِ، أَوْ أَنَا لِصَفَا أَوْ أَنَا لِلْمَسِيحِ." أَلَعَلَّ الْمَسِيحَ قَدْ تَجَزَّأ؟ أَلَعَلَّ بُولْسَ صُلْبٍ لِأَجْلِكُمْ؟ أَوْ بِاسْمِ بُولْسِ اعْتَمَدْتُمْ؟ أَشْكُرُ اللَّهَ أَنِّي لَمْ أَعْمِدْ مِنْكُمْ أَحَدًا سِوَى كْرِسْبُسِ وَغَايُوسِ. لِئَلَّا يَقُولَ أَحَدٌ إِنِّي عَمَدْتُ بِاسْمِي. وَعَمَدْتُ أَيْضًا أَهْلَ بَيْتِ اسْتِفَانَسِ. وَمَا عَدَا ذَلِكَ، فَلَا أَعْلَمُ، هَلْ عَمَدْتُ أَحَدًا غَيْرَهُمْ. لِأَنَّ الْمَسِيحَ لَمْ يُرْسَلْنِي لِأَعْمَدِ، بَلْ لِأُبَشِّرَ لَا بِحِكْمَةِ كَلَامٍ لِئَلَّا يُبْطَلَ صَلِيبُ الْمَسِيحِ.

### THE GOSPEL

**The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (14:14-22)**

At that time, when Jesus went ashore he saw a great throng; and he had compassion on them, and healed their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to Him and said, "This is a lonely place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They said to Him, "We have only five loaves here and two fish." And He said, "Bring them here to Me." Then He ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass; and taking the five loaves and the two fish He looked up to Heaven, and blessed, and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children. Then Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He dismissed the crowds.

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ مَتَّى الْإِنْجِيلِي الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ.

فِي ذَلِكَ الزَّمَانِ، أَبْصَرَ يَسُوعُ جَمْعًا كَثِيرًا، فَتَحَنَّنَ عَلَيْهِمْ وَأَبْرَأَ مَرْضَاهُمْ. وَلَمَّا كَانَ الْمَسَاءُ، دَنَا إِلَيْهِ تَلَامِيذُهُ وَقَالُوا: "إِنَّ الْمَكَانَ قَفْرٌ، وَالسَّاعَةَ قَدْ فَاتَتْ. فَاصْرِفِ الْجُمُوعَ لِيَذْهَبُوا إِلَى الْقَرْيِ وَيَبْتَاعُوا لَهُمْ طَعَامًا." فَقَالَ لَهُمْ يَسُوعُ: "لَا حَاجَةَ لَهُمْ إِلَى الذَّهَابِ. أَعْطُوهُمْ أَنْتُمْ لِيَأْكُلُوا." فَقَالُوا لَهُ: "مَا عِنْدَنَا هَهُنَا إِلَّا خَمْسَةٌ أَرْغِفَةٌ وَسَمَكَتَانِ." فَقَالَ لَهُمْ: "هَلُمَّ بِهَا إِلَيَّ إِلَى هَهُنَا." وَأَمَرَ بِجُلُوسِ الْجُمُوعِ عَلَى الْعُشْبِ. ثُمَّ أَخَذَ الْخَمْسَةَ الْأَرْغِفَةَ وَالسَّمَكَتَيْنِ، وَنَظَرَ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ، وَبَارَكَ، وَكَسَرَ، وَأَعْطَى الْأَرْغِفَةَ لِتَلَامِيذِهِ، وَالتَّلَامِيذُ لِلْجُمُوعِ. فَأَكَلُوا جَمِيعُهُمْ وَشَبِعُوا، وَرَفَعُوا مَا فَضُلَ مِنَ الْكِسْرِ اثْنَتَيْ عَشْرَةَ قَفَّةً مَمْلُوءَةً. وَكَانَ الْأَكِلُونَ خَمْسَةَ آلَافِ رَجُلٍ، سِوَى النِّسَاءِ وَالصِّبْيَانِ. وَلِلْوَقْتِ اضْطَرَّ يَسُوعُ تَلَامِيذَهُ أَنْ يَدْخُلُوا السَّفِينَةَ وَيَسْبِقُوهُ إِلَى الْعَبْرِ، حَتَّى يَصْرِفَ الْجُمُوعَ.

### **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.

#### **August – Orthodox Christian Missions Center – OCMC**

As the official missions agency of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States it is OCMC's mission to make disciples of all nations by bringing people to Christ and His Church.

### **Questions From Parishioners**

**Question:** What and when is the Topping Out ceremony for the church hall?

**Answer:** St John will celebrate the "Topping Out" ceremony for the Fellowship Hall on Monday July 31st. The Topping ceremony is one of the four building highlights celebrated on a construction project:

1. Ground Breaking - September 11, 2022
2. Pouring concrete foundation and slab - June 26, 2023
3. Topping Out - July 31, 2023
4. Certificate of Occupancy - To be determined!

This week, the contractor will be installing four huge ridge beams in the main function hall. This will physically showcase the highest elevation of the building. The installation of the fourth beam is the Topping Out of the Building and it deserves a special celebration. We will attach the American Flag, perhaps a cross, along with a bucket that has an olive tree all attached to and raised together with the beam to its final place as part of the building roof. Father will lead us all in a prayer, thanking the Good Lord for reaching this point in the project and asking for His continued Blessings for its safe completion. Then the Olive tree is lowered and planted at the site as a symbol and reminder of this important event. Of course, this is a great photo opportunity to promote the project and ensure that all parishioners feel they are part of making this project happen

We hope that many parishioners will be able to join us for this exciting celebration. Parishioners serving on the construction and fundraising committees, as well as the Parish Council, are constantly monitoring both construction and fundraising progress. As these Q/A features in the Weekly Bulletin continue, additional details about construction and fundraising progress will be reported. Keep your questions coming to [rnlm@aol.com](mailto:rnlm@aol.com) about all aspects of this historic project in the life of our parish."

### **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](mailto:fvsamara@gmail.com). Thank you!!

### **Condolences to Deacon George Nassief and his Family**

St. John Parish Family expresses its deepest condolences to Deacon George (Ray) Nassief and his family on the passing into eternal life of his wife Jane Nassief. May her memory be eternal! The family has expressed that in lieu of flowers, those who would like to donate in Jane's memory should contribute to the building fund.

### **Upcoming Events**

<b>Wednesday, August 2 and August 9</b>	Paraklesis service at 6 pm
<b>September 23-24</b>	Our annual St. John's Middle Eastern Festival!

### **Coffee Hours**

<b>July 30</b>	No sponsor
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<b>August 6</b>	Sponsor Needed
<b>August 13</b>	Luncheon by Samia Shaheen, Carole Syriani, and Joumana Najjar

**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!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Henriette Hilal**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Maron Juha**. Many years!
- † Issa and Alexandra Samara in memory of **George Samara**. May his memory be eternal!
- † Ron and Nancy Nicola in memory of **Jane Nassief**. May her memory be eternal!
- † Ron and Ruth Jeha for the good health of **Michael Jeha**. 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**  
**501 Moraga Way**  
**Orinda, CA 94563**

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OUR FIRST

# PARISH HALL

## Party

SUNDAY AUGUST 27TH AT 4PM-8PM

ON THE CEMENT FLOOR

ENJOY TIME WITH OUR COMMUNITY

OPEN WINE BAR, HORS D'OEUVRES,

LIGHT MUSIC, KIDS CRAFTS

\*\*\* SILENT AUCTION \*\*\*

PLEASE RSVP BY 8/15

TO RANIA KASHOU

415.722.0774

**\$50 DONATION  
PER PERSON  
KIDS ARE  
FREE**