



+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, JULY 09, 2023

TONE 4 / EOTHINON 5; FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

& FIFTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

HIEROMARTYR PANKRATIOS, BISHOP OF TAORMINA IN SICILY; MARTYRS ANDREW AND PROBUS



Hieromartyr Pankratios

On July 9 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Hieromartyr Pankratios, bishop of Taormina in Sicily, and disciple of the Holy Apostle Peter.

This saint was born in Antioch during the time when the Lord Jesus Christ walked as a man on earth. Hearing about the miracles of Christ, the parents of Pankratios desired to see the Lord. Together with Pankratios, they traveled to Jerusalem where they saw Jesus, heard His words and witnessed His miracles. While there, Pankratios met the Apostle Peter. After the Ascension of the Lord, both parents and Pankratios were baptized in Antioch. Later, the Apostles Peter and Paul appointed Pankratios as the Bishop of Taormina in Sicily. There

he worked many miracles, destroyed the idols, baptized the unbaptized, strengthened the baptized and governed well the Church of God. A heathen commander, Aquilinus, heard that the entire city of Taormina became Christian and set out with an army to destroy it. Pankratios went with the clergy outside the city carrying the invincible weapon, the Honorable Cross. When the army approached the city, darkness befell them and the soldiers were overcome with great fear. Confused, the attackers turned against one another and slaughtered each other. In the end, Pankratios was stoned to death by envious and evil heathens and found rest in the Lord.

THE EPISTLE

How great are Thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

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

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that it may be saved. I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but it is not enlightened. For, being ignorant of the righteousness that comes from God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. For Christ is the end of the law, that everyone who has faith may be justified. Moses writes that the man who practices the righteousness which is based on the law shall live by it. But the righteousness based on faith says: Do not say in your heart, "Who will ascend into Heaven?" (that is, to bring Christ down) or "Who will descend into the abyss?" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart (that is, the word of faith which we preach); because, if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For man believes with his heart and so is justified, and he confesses with his lips and so is saved.

الرسالة.

ما أَعْظَمَ أَعْمَالِكَ يَا رَبُّ! كُلُّهَا بِحِكْمَةٍ صَنَعْتَ. بَارِكِي يَا نَفْسِي الرَّبَّ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولْسِ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى أَهْلِ رُومِيَّةِ. (10:1-1)

يا إِخْوَةَ، إِنَّ مَسَرَّةَ قَلْبِي وَطَلْبَتِي إِلَى اللَّهِ لِأَجْلِ إِسْرَائِيلَ هِيَ لِلخَّلَاصِ. لِأَنِّي أَشْهَدُ لَهُمْ أَنَّ لَهُمْ غَيْرَةَ لِلَّهِ، وَلَكِنْ لَيْسَ حَسَبَ المَعْرِفَةِ. لِأَنَّهُمْ إِذْ كَانُوا يَجْهَلُونَ بِرَّ اللَّهِ، وَيَطْلُبُونَ أَنْ يُشْبِثُوا بِرَّ أَنْفُسِهِمْ، لَمْ يَخْضَعُوا لِلْبِرِّ لِلَّهِ. لِأَنَّ غَايَةَ التَّامُّوسِ هِيَ المَسِيحُ لِلْبِرِّ لِكُلِّ مَنْ يُؤْمِنُ. لِأَنَّ مُوسَى يَكْتُوبُ فِي البِرِّ الَّذِي بِالتَّامُّوسِ: «إِنَّ الإِنْسَانَ الَّذِي يَفْعَلُهَا سَيَحْيَا بِهَا». وَأَمَّا البِرُّ الَّذِي بِالإِيمَانِ فَيَقُولُ هَكَذَا: «لَا تَقُلْ فِي قَلْبِكَ: مَنْ يَصْعَدُ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ؟» أَيْ لِيُخَدِّرَ المَسِيحَ، أَوْ: «مَنْ يَهْبِطُ إِلَى الهَاوِيَةِ؟» أَيْ لِيُصْعِدَ المَسِيحَ مِنَ الأَمْوَاتِ. لَكِنْ مَاذَا يَقُولُ؟ «الكَلِمَةُ قَرِيبَةٌ مِنْكَ، فِي فَمِكَ وَفِي قَلْبِكَ»، أَيْ كَلِمَةُ الإِيمَانِ الَّتِي نَكْرُرُ بِهَا؛ لِأَنَّكَ إِنْ اعْتَرَفْتَ بِفَمِكَ بِالرَّبِّ يَسُوعَ، وَأَمَنْتَ بِقَلْبِكَ أَنَّ اللَّهَ أَقَامَهُ مِنَ الأَمْوَاتِ، خَلَّصْتَ. لِأَنَّ القَلْبَ يُؤْمِنُ بِهِ لِلْبِرِّ، وَالْفَمَ يُعْتَرِفُ بِهِ لِلخَّلَاصِ..

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (8:28-9:1)

At that time, when Jesus came to the country of the Gergesenes, two demoniacs met Him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce that no one could pass that way. And behold, they cried out, "What have we to do to Thee, O Son of God? Art Thou come here to torment us before the time?" Now a herd of many swine was feeding at some distance from them. And the demons begged Him, "If Thou castest us out, send us away into the herd of swine." And He said to them, "Go." So they came out and went into the swine; and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and perished in the waters. The herdsmen fled, and going into the city they told everything, and what had happened to the demoniacs. And behold, all the city came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw Him, they begged Him to leave their neighborhood. And getting into a boat He crossed over and came to His own city.

الإنجيل

فصلٌ شريفٌ من بشارَةِ القديسِ متى الإنجيلي البشير والتلميذِ الطاهر. (1:9-28:8)

في ذلكَ الزمانِ، لَمَّا أتى يَسوعُ إلى كورَةِ الحَرْجَسِيِّينَ اسْتَقْبَلَهُ مَجْنُونَانِ خَارِجَانِ مِنَ القُبُورِ، شَرِسَانِ جِدًّا، حَتَّى إِنَّهُ لَمْ يَكُنْ أَحَدٌ يَقْدِرُ أَنْ يَجْتَازَ مِنْ تِلْكَ الطَّرِيقِ. فَصَاحَا قَائِلِينَ: "مَا لَنَا يَا يَسوعُ ابْنَ اللَّهِ؟ أَجِئْتَ إِلَى هَهُنَا قَبْلَ الزَّيْمَانِ لِتُعَذِّبَنَا؟" وَكَانَ بَعِيدًا مِنْهُمْ قَطِيعُ خَنَازِيرَ كَثِيرَةٍ تَرْعَى. فَأَخَذَ الشَّيَاطِينُ يَطْلُبُونَ إِلَيْهِ قَائِلِينَ: "إِنْ كُنْتَ تُخْرِجُنَا، فَأَنْذِرْ لَنَا أَنْ نَذْهَبَ إِلَى قَطِيعِ الخَنَازِيرِ." فَقَالَ لَهُمْ: "أَذْهَبُوا." فَخَرَجُوا وَذَهَبُوا إِلَى قَطِيعِ الخَنَازِيرِ. فَإِذَا بِالقَطِيعِ كُلِّهِ قَدْ وَثَبَ عَنِ الجُرْفِ إِلَى البَحْرِ وَمَاتَ فِي المِيَاهِ. أَمَّا الرُّعَاةُ فَهَرَبُوا وَمَضَوْا إِلَى المَدِينَةِ، وَأَخْبَرُوا بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ وَبِأَمْرِ المَجْنُونِينَ. فَخَرَجَتِ المَدِينَةُ كُلُّهَا لِلِقَاءِ يَسُوعَ. وَلَمَّا رَأَوْهُ، طَلَبُوا إِلَيْهِ أَنْ يَتَحَوَّلَ عَنْ تَحْوِمِهِمْ. فَدَخَلَ السَّفِينَةَ وَاجْتَازَ وَأَتَى إِلَى مَدِينَتِهِ.

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.

Vacation Church School Info

Sonshine Kids Camp is a free Vacation Church School Camp for Kindergarten - 6th grade hosted by St. Christina's. The day camp will include prayers, crafts, faith-based lessons, singing, and games.

Details: July 24-28 from 9am - 12pm @ St. Christina Orthodox Church, 3721 Parish Ave, Fremont, CA

Theme: The Fruits of the Spirit and the Saints

Registration Deadline: July 17, 2023

See the flyer in the bulletin to request a registration form.

Questions From Parishioners

Question: " How much in donations and pledges have we received in recent months?"

Answer: " During and since Pascha, a variety of fund raising events, as well as donations from individuals, have resulted in just over \$285,000 in pledges and donations to the Building Fund. We are thankful and blessed for this amount and for the commitment of parishioners who have organized and participated in these events. More fund raising events are in the works, as well as outreach to individual parishioners in the ongoing effort to raise the over two million additional dollars needed to complete the construction and furnishing of our Fellowship Hall. Since 1978, our parish has sought to build a social hall and ultimately a church. Now that God has blessed us with the ability to realize this dream, our parishioners are responding. While it takes time to grasp the need to donate not only hundreds or thousands of dollars, but tens and hundreds of thousands of dollars in thanksgiving for the blessings God has showered upon us, our wonderful parishioners are responding. Watch this space for more news about construction progress and new initiatives on the fund raising front. Continue to forward questions you have to rnlm@aol.com."

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

Family Salad Bar Luncheon



We will be having a luncheon on Sunday, July 16 following Divine Liturgy. Please join us for fellowship, fun and great food. Proceeds benefit the building fund for our new Hall! It will be hosted by the Farradj, Silva, Halaby and Lawyer families. You can host a family luncheon to help raise money for our new hall as well. Please contact Fadwa Samara for details.

Condolences to Deacon George Nassif and his Family

St. John Parish Family expresses its deepest condolences to Deacon George (Ray) Nassif and his family on the passing into eternal life of his wife Jane Nassif. 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

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

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 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!



-
- † 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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BENEFITTING: ST JOHN ORTHODOX CHURCH
WHEN: JULY 13TH ALL DAY
WHERE: WALNUT CREEK and CONCORD

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

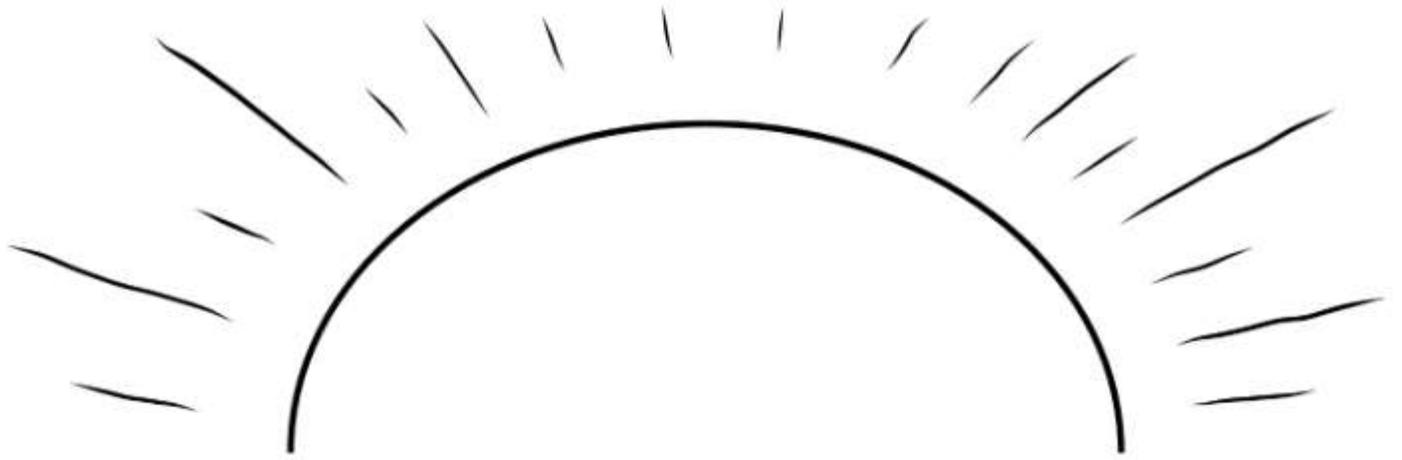
*** SILENT AUCTION ***

PLEASE RSVP BY 8/15

TO RANIA KASHOU

415.722.0774

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



SONSHINE KIDS DAY CAMP

CHILDREN GRADES K-6TH ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR A DAY CAMP, WHICH WILL INCLUDE PRAYERS, CRAFTS, FAITH-BASED LESSONS, SINGING, AND GAMES.

- DATES:** JULY 24-28, 2023
- TIME:** 9 AM – 12 PM
- THEME:** THE SAINTS OF THE CHURCH (FOCUSING ON STS. CHRISTINA, ANNA & PANTELEIMON)
- LOCATION:** ST CHRISTINA ORTHODOX CHURCH
3721 PARISH AVE, FREMONT, CA

**REGISTRATION IS OPEN. TO REQUEST A REGISTRATION FORM,
PLEASE EMAIL MAIL@STCHRISTINAORTHODOX.ORG.
PLEASE EMAIL COMPLETED FORMS ASAP TO THE SAME EMAIL ADDRESS.**
