



+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

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SUNDAY, JUNE 01, 2025

TONE 6 / EOTHINON 10

SUNDAY OF THE AFTER-FEAST OF THE ASCENSION

COMMEMORATION OF THE HOLY FATHERS OF THE FIRST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

MARTYR JUSTIN THE PHILOSOPHER & COMPANIONS AT ROME; ARCHIMANDRITE JUSTIN POPOVIC OF SERBIA



Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

On June 01 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate Martyr Justin the Philosopher and his companions at Rome; and Archimandrite Justin Popovic of Serbia.

On this day, the seventh Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate the first Ecumenical Council of the 318 God-bearing Fathers, which took place in Nicaea in Bithynia.

Arius, the notorious heretic, began to blaspheme against God and His Son the Word, saying that the latter was not God consubstantial with the Father, but that He was created as a stranger to the Substance of the Father and His glory. Alexander, the Archbishop of Alexandria, tried to constrain Arius from disturbing the faithful with this teaching; even though Alexander excommunicated him, Arius did not cease his blasphemy, which spread throughout the Church in all nations. Thus, Emperor Constantine the Great called the First Ecumenical Council, which gathered bishops and teachers in the Church from all lands. They all proclaimed, as by one mouth, the equality of the Son of God with the Father in Substance, thus laying down the noble Confession of Faith, *The Creed*, which we Orthodox Christians recite to this day. The Church regards these divine Fathers as preachers of the Faith next to the holy Apostles.

Room for Rent is Needed

There is a wonderful Medical Resident moving to Oakland to start work at Highland Hospital. He and his family are active members at St Mark's Church in Irvine, CA.

They are asking for help in finding a room or apartment to rent 10-20 minute drive to the hospital.

If you have any suggestions, or know of someone looking for a roommate, please contact:

Mary Farradj (925) 437-0872.

Don't go Into the Fellowship Hall

Dear Parishioners,

Please refrain from going to the new Fellowship Hall for the next 2 weeks. The workers are doing the flooring. The Hall will be blocked.

Thank you for your understanding!

THE EPISTLE

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers. For Thou art just in all Thou hast done to us.

The Reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles. (20:16-18, 28-36)

In those days, Paul was determined to sail past Ephesus, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hastening, if possible, to be at Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost. And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called to him the priests of the church. And when they came to him, he said to them: "Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you bishops, to shepherd the church of the Lord and God, which He purchased with His own blood. For I know that after my departure ravenous wolves will enter among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore, remain watchful, remembering that for three years I did not cease to admonish every one, night and day with tears. And now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities, and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by such laboring we ought to help the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He Himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" And when he had spoken thus, he knelt down on his knees with them all, and prayed.

يَفْرَحُ الصِّدِّيقُ مُبَارَكُ أَنْتَ يَا رَبُّ إِلَهَ آبَائِنَا
فَإِنَّكَ عَدَلْتَ فِي كُلِّ مَا صَنَعْتَ بِنَا
فُصِّلَ مِنْ أَعْمَالِ الرُّسُلِ الْقَدِيسِينَ الْأَطْهَارِ
(20: 16-18, 28-36)

فِي تِلْكَ الْأَيَّامِ، ارْتَأَى بُولُسُ أَنْ يَتَجَاوَزَ أَفَسُسَ فِي الْبَحْرِ لِئَلَّا يَعْصُرَ لَهُ أَنْ يُبْطِئَ فِي أَسِيَةِ. لِأَنَّهُ كَانَ يَعْجَلُ حَتَّى يَكُونَ فِي أُورُشَلِيمَ يَوْمَ الْعُنْصَرَةِ إِنْ أُمَكَّنَهُ. فَمِنْ مِيلَيْتُسَ بَعَثَ إِلَى أَفَسُسَ، فَاسْتَدْعَى قُسُوسَ الْكَنِيسَةِ. فَلَمَّا وَصَلُوا إِلَيْهِ قَالَ لَهُمْ: اخْذَرُوا لَأَنْفُسِكُمْ وَلِجَمِيعِ الرِّعِيَةِ الَّتِي أَقَامَكُمُ الرُّوحُ الْقُدُسُ فِيهَا أَسَاقِفَةً، لِتَرْعُوا كَنِيسَةَ اللَّهِ الَّتِي افْتَتَاهَا بِدَمِهِ فَإِنِّي أَعْلَمُ هَذَا، أَنَّهُ سَيَدْخُلُ بَيْنَكُمْ بَعْدَ ذَهَابِي ذُنَابٌ خَاطِفَةٌ لَا تُشْفِقُ عَلَى الرِّعِيَةِ وَمِنْكُمْ أَنْفُسُكُمْ سَيَقُومُ رَجَالٌ يَتَكَلَّمُونَ بِأُمُورٍ مُلْتَوِيَةٍ لِيَجْتَذِبُوا التَّلَامِيذَ وَرَاءَهُمْ لِذَلِكَ اسْهَرُوا، مُتَذَكِّرِينَ أَنِّي مُدَّةَ ثَلَاثِ سِنِينَ لَمْ أَكْفُفُ لَيْلاً وَنَهَاراً أَنْ أَنْصَحَ كُلَّ وَاحِدٍ بِدُمُوعٍ. وَالْآنَ أَسْتَوْدِعُكُمْ، يَا إِخْوَتِي، اللَّهَ وَكَلِمَةَ نِعَمَتِهِ الْقَادِرَةَ أَنْ تَبْنِيَكُمْ وَتَمْنَحَكُمْ مِيرَاثاً مَعَ جَمِيعِ الْقَدِيسِينَ. إِنِّي لَمْ أَشْتَهَ فِضَّةً أَوْ ذَهَباً أَوْ لِبَاسَ أَحَدٍ. وَأَنْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ أَنَّ حَاجَاتِي وَحَاجَاتِ الَّذِينَ مَعِيَ خَدَمْتُهَا هَاتَانِ الْيَدَانِ. فِي كُلِّ شَيْءٍ بَيَّنْتُ لَكُمْ أَنَّهُ هَكَذَا يَنْبَغِي أَنْ نَتَعَبَ لِنُسَاعِدِ الضُّعَفَاءَ، وَأَنْ نَتَذَكَّرَ كَلَامَ الرَّبِّ يَسُوعَ. فَإِنَّهُ قَالَ: إِنَّ الْعَطَاءَ هُوَ مَغْبُوطٌ أَكْثَرَ مِنَ الْاِخْذِ. وَلَمَّا قَالَ هَذَا، جَثَا عَلَى رُكْبَتَيْهِ مَعَ جَمِيعِهِمْ وَصَلَّى.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading of the Holy Gospel according to Saint John. (17:1-13)

At that time, Jesus lifted up His eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify Thy Son that the Son may glorify Thee, since Thou hast given Him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom Thou hast given Him. And this is eternal life, that they know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ Whom Thou hast sent. I glorified Thee on earth, having accomplished the work which Thou gavest Me to do; and now, Father, glorify Thou Me in Thy own presence with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was made. I have manifested Thy Name to the men whom Thou gavest Me out of the world; Thine they were, and Thou gavest them to Me, and they have kept Thy word. Now they know that everything that Thou hast given Me is from Thee; for I have given them the words which Thou gavest Me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from Thee; and they have believed that Thou didst send Me. I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom Thou hast given Me, for they are Thine; all Mine are Thine, and Thine are Mine, and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to Thee. Holy Father, keep them in Thy Name, which Thou hast given Me, that they may be one, even as We are one. While I was with them, I kept them in Thy Name, which Thou have given Me; I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to Thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves.

فَصْلٌ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ يوحنا الإنجيليِّ البَشِيرِ والتلميذِ الطاهر. (13-1:17)

كما أُعْطِيَتْهُ سُلْطَاناً عَلَى كُلِّ بَشَرٍ لِيُعْطِيَ. فِي ذَلِكَ الزَّمَانِ، رَفَعَ يَسُوعُ عَيْنَيْهِ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ وَقَالَ: يَا أَبَتِ قَدْ أَتَتْ السَّاعَةُ، مَجِّدِ ابْنَكَ لِيُجَدِّدَكَ ابْنُكَ أَيْضاً عَلَى الْأَرْضِ. أَنَا قَدْ مَجَّدْتُكَ. وَهَذِهِ هِيَ الْحَيَاةُ الْأَبَدِيَّةُ، أَنْ يَعْرِفُوكَ أَنْتَ الْإِلَهَ الْحَقِيقِيَّ وَحْدَكَ، وَالَّذِي أَرْسَلْتَهُ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحَ. كُلُّ مَنْ أُعْطِيَتْهُ لَهُ حَيَاةٌ أَبَدِيَّةٌ قَدْ أَعْلَنُتْ اسْمَكَ لِلنَّاسِ الَّذِينَ. وَالْآنَ مَجِّدْنِي أَنْتَ يَا أَبَتِ عِنْدَكَ بِالْمَجْدِ الَّذِي كَانَ لِي عِنْدَكَ مِنْ قَبْلِ كَوْنِ الْعَالَمِ. قَدْ أَتَمَمْتُ الْعَمَلَ الَّذِي أُعْطَيْتَنِي لِأَعْمَلُهُ لِأَنَّ الْكَلَامَ الَّذِي أُعْطِيَتْهُ. وَالْآنَ قَدْ عَلِمُوا أَنَّ كُلَّ مَا أُعْطِيَتْهُ لِي هُوَ مِنْكَ. أُعْطَيْتَهُمْ لِي مِنَ الْعَالَمِ. هُمْ كَانُوا لَكَ، وَأَنْتَ أُعْطَيْتَهُمْ لِي، وَقَدْ حَفَظُوا كَلَامَكَ لِي أُعْطِيَتْهُ لَهُمْ. وَهُمْ قَبِلُوا وَعَلِمُوا حَقّاً أَنِّي مِنْكَ خَرَجْتُ، وَأَمَنُوا أَنَّكَ أَرْسَلْتَنِي. أَنَا مِنْ أَجْلِهِمْ أَسْأَلُ. لَا أَسْأَلُ مِنْ أَجْلِ الْعَالَمِ، بَلْ مِنْ أَجْلِ الَّذِينَ أُعْطَيْتَهُمْ وَلَسْتُ أَنَا بَعْدُ فِي الْعَالَمِ، وَهَؤُلَاءِ هُمْ فِي الْعَالَمِ، وَأَنَا آتِي إِلَيْكَ. أَيُّهَا. كُلُّ شَيْءٍ لِي هُوَ لَكَ، وَكُلُّ شَيْءٍ لَكَ هُوَ لِي، وَأَنَا قَدْ مُجِّدْتُ فِيهِمْ. لِي، لِأَنَّهُمْ لَكَ حِينَ كُنْتُ مَعَهُمْ فِي الْعَالَمِ، كُنْتُ أَحْفَظُهُمْ بِاسْمِكَ. إِنَّ الَّذِينَ أُعْطَيْتَهُمْ لِي قَدْ. الْأَبُ الْقُدُّوسُ أَحْفَظُهُمْ بِاسْمِكَ، الَّذِينَ أُعْطَيْتَهُمْ لِي، لِيَكُونُوا وَاحِداً كَمَا نَحْنُ أَمَّا الْآنَ فَإِنِّي آتِي إِلَيْكَ. وَأَنَا أَتَكَلَّمُ بِهَذَا فِي الْعَالَمِ لِيَكُونَ قَرَحِي كَامِلاً فِيهِمْ...حَفَظْتُهُمْ، وَلَمْ يَهْلِكْ مِنْهُمْ أَحَدٌ إِلَّا ابْنُ الْهَلَاكِ، لِيَتِمَّ الْكِتَابُ

Dear Parents of Graduates, We at St. John's, would like to recognize our graduates by publishing their names, photos and biographies in the church bulletin. This way, we can all know who they are and what is next for them in life. We are proud of them. Please help us to do this by submitting their pictures and bio via email

Financial Pledges

Dear Parishioners,

I would like to thank you for your generosity in supporting the church and its projects. I'm asking you to fulfill your primary responsibility in meeting your financial pledges before your contributions to any project such as the Hall .. etc.!

In the Risen Christ,

Fr. Nicholas Borzghol

Upcoming Events

June 1st	Memorial service for Anwar Nassar by Samir Nassar and family In memory of his brother. May his memory be eternal!
June 8th	40 days memorial service by Siham Mitry and family in memory of Donna Mitry Potter . May her memory be eternal!
June 25th - 29th	Parish Life Conference: Hyatt Regency San Francisco Airport 2025 Host Parish: St. Nicholas Church (San Francisco, CA)
September 20th-21st	St. John's annual Middle Eastern Food Festival

Coffee Hour

June 1st	Luncheon hosted by Fadwa Samara, Nelly Nassif and Samia Shaheen. \$20 per person.
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Holy Oblations

This week, Holy Oblations are offered by:

- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Nick Nicola, George Messih, Sam Nassab, Sandy Dudum Bennett, Fairouz Freij, Henriette Hilal** and **Aida Youakeem**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish family for the good health of **Samir** and **Pat Jeha**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **George Adranly**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family in memory of **Donna Potter**. May her memory be eternal!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Fred Addas**. Many years!
- † Rocky & Nada **Dudum** for the good health of their **children, grandchildren and great grandchildren**. 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



Congrats Graduates!

Dominic Farradj earned his Master of Science degree in Data Science from University of San Francisco

Mason Walter Burt, son of Lillian (Mitry) Burt and grandson of Siham Mitry, graduated from Ponderosa High School in Cameron Park, CA. He will be attending Folsom Community College to start his studies in music appreciation

**Joseph David Rodrigues
MA in Theology and MA in Philosophy from the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology in Berkeley, CA.**

Thesis title: "Lessons from the Tombs: A Pragmatic Analysis of the Asceticism of St. Antony the Great and the 12-Step Program"



St. John's Church
FATHER'S DAY PICNIC
Sunday, June 18th



Let's treat all the Fathers, Grandfathers, Godfathers & Uncles to a delicious BBQ Lunch complete with burgers, hot dogs, salad, chips, cold drinks & a delectable homemade dessert bar!!!

Immediately follow ing Divine Liturgy on the church grounds

\$15/adult

Kids 12 & under – FREE

Organized by the St. John Ladies

All proceeds to benefit the Building Fund!!



For more information contact Rula Adranly at rulaadranly@comcast.net

🌐 www.campstnicholas.org
✉ office@campstnicholas.com



CAMP ST. NICHOLAS

**Camper spots are still available for Week 3!
July 20th-26th**

What is Camp?

Camp St. Nicholas
nurtures faith in Jesus
Christ through Orthodox
Christian community,
living, worship, education,
fellowship, and love.

Who is it for?

Week 3 is for ages 7-17.

Where is it?

Camp is located at
11770 Frontier Rd
Frazier Park, CA 93225

Want More Information?

Join the "Meet the
Directors" Google Meet on
Monday, June 9th @ 7pm





Fellowship Hall Update

The hall project is moving along well, floors throughout the building are nearing completion and restroom partitions will be completed soon. Chandeliers are in and look fantastic against the beautiful ceiling in the hall. HVAC equipment is being completed as well as water heating systems. We have a kitchen inspection next week for fire and safety issues and will be ordering the kitchen equipment right afterwards.

Great news on the fundraising side. We have been approached with some generous pledges to help complete the kitchen equipment. You may recall that the actual kitchen equipment was not scoped in the construction contract, and these donations will help us to get to full use of the hall sooner.

These and other new donations bring us well over the \$1Million mark for parishioner donations, and will help us complete ancillary parts of the project that might have had to be deferred until a later date. Of course donations are still welcomed and again, we ask that any donations to the hall be designated as such, and do not detract from your regular pledges to the church operating fund.

As we are approaching hall completion and occupancy, we are resuming work on our donor recognition plaque. The list attached shows the names of the donors to the hall that have donated \$1,000 or more since 2013. We ask that you let us know soon if we have inadvertently misspelled any names, or if you would like to change the way your donation is recognized on the plaque. Also, if you would like to know your exact contribution amount that we have on record, please contact the church office.

We thank you all for your contributions of time, talents and resources to this project, for your patience as we approach the finish line, and we look forward to a wonderful celebration in the new fellowship hall soon!

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 Fasheh	
Patron \$100,000-249,000	Rick and Sandra Dudum Fuad and Nadia Sweiss	Jack and Sylvia Dudum
Benefactor \$50,000 - 99,999	The McClintic Family	Joseph Sweis and Family
Provider \$25,000 - 49,999	Sami and Kathy Adranly James and Denise Dudum Jason and Lena 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 Anonymous 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	Sam Khoury Ron and Nancy Nicola Fady and Joumana Najjar The Potts Family Raymond and Georgianna Rishwain Raif and Sonya Rihani Ernest and Noha Shulze and Family Daniel and Mona Thayer ADOBE – matching gift for Hanna Family Orthodox Vision Foundation
Partner \$5,000-9,999	Charles and Marilee Ajalat Dominick and Joby Aranda Leila Farradj Lynn and Usama Farradj Health of the Freij Family	Miranda Halaby John and Sylvia Jaber Darrin Rishwain Munah Terazi George Theodosy Ramsay Zacharia

Friend

\$1,000-4,999

Saleem & Samya Abudawood
Jack Ajlumi
Richard and Joyce Ayoob
Anthony and Kimberly Bailey
William and Judith Bosl
Challenger Enterprises
Daryl & Katherine Dudum
J.D. and Jessie Dudum
F&M Bank
Fadi and Rana Feghali
Alex and Helen Ghantous
Khalil and Leila Hakeem
Ronald Issac
JDO Dakota Ventures
Ronald and Ruth Jeha
Mary Karadsheh
Maha Kuri-Peterson
Brandon Laidlaw
Lieman Properties
MCC Realty
Azmi and Melanie Madanat
Chris and Eva Malki
Margaret Mas
Siham Mitry
Myers Restaurant Supply

George Najjar
Samer Nassar
Dn George and Jane Nassief
Ramzi and Marina Nassoura
Ziad & Charlene Nassoura
Naim and Helen 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
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
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
Sam & Nelly Nassif
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
Kamal & Samar Wahbe
TP Wolf
Khalil Yowakeem
Sam & Nevine Yowakim

Rev: May 14, 2025