

+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

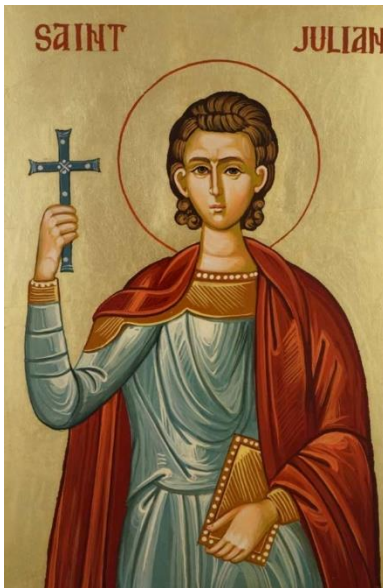
www.stjohnorinda.org email: st.john.evangelist.orinda@gmail.com

SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 2026; TONE 2 / EOTHINON 3

MARTYR JULIAN OF TARSUS

MARTYR APHRODISIUS OF CILICIA; NEW-MARTYR NIKITA OF NISYROS NEAR RHODES

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On June 21 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the holy Martyr Julian of Tarsus. Of a noble senatorial family, Julian was only 18 years old when he was taken to trial for the Faith. But Julian was already educated and resolute in Christian faith and devotion. The imperial governor took him from city to city for a whole year, torturing him all the while and attempting to persuade him to renounce Christ. The governor seized Julian's mother and sent her to urge her son to renounce Christ. She spent three days in prison with him, giving him precisely the opposite advice, teaching him to go to his death with courage and gratitude to God. His torturers then sewed Julian into a sack of sand with scorpions and snakes and threw him into the sea, and his mother also died under torture. The waves carried Julian's body onto the shore, and the faithful took it to Alexandria, where they buried it in 290. His relics were later taken to Antioch.

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THE EPISTLE

The Lord is my strength and my song.

With chastisement hath the Lord chastened me.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans. (5:1-10)

Brethren, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him also we have obtained our access by faith to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in hope of the glory of God. And not only so, but we also boast in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces patience; and patience produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put to shame, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us. For while we were still weak, in due season Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die, though perhaps for a good man one would even dare to die. But God shows his own love toward us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, through him shall we be saved from the wrath. For if we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, while we were enemies, much more, being reconciled, we will be saved by his life.

قُوتِي وَتَسَبِّحْتِي الرَّبَّ. أَدَباً أَدَّبَنِي الرَّبُّ.

فَصْلٌ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولُسِ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى أَهْلِ رومية. (10-1:5)

يا إِخْوَةُ، إِذْ قَدْ بُرِّرْنَا بِالْإِيمَانِ، فَلَنَا سَلَامٌ مَعَ اللَّهِ بِرَبَّنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ، الَّذِي بِهِ حَصَلَ أَيْضاً لَنَا الدُّخُولُ بِالْإِيمَانِ إِلَى هَذِهِ النِّعْمَةِ الَّتِي نَحْنُ فِيهَا مُقِيمُونَ وَمُفْتَخِرُونَ فِي رَجَاءِ مَجْدِ اللَّهِ. وَلَيْسَ هَذَا فَقْطاً، بَلْ أَيْضاً نَفْتَخِرُ بِالشَّدَائِدِ، عَالِمِينَ أَنَّ الشِّدَّةَ تُنْشِئُ الصَّبْرَ، وَالصَّبْرُ يُنْشِئُ الْامْتِحَانَ، وَالْامْتِحَانُ الرَّجَاءَ، وَالرَّجَاءُ لَا يُخْزِي. لِأَنَّ مَحَبَّةَ اللَّهِ قَدْ أَفِيضَتْ فِي قُلُوبِنَا بِالرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ الَّذِي أُعْطِيَ لَنَا. لِأَنَّ الْمَسِيحَ، إِذْ كُنَّا بَعْدُ ضُعَفَاءَ، مَاتَ فِي الْأَوَانِ عَنِ الْمُنَافِقِينَ. وَلَا يَكَادُ أَحَدٌ يَمُوتُ عَنْ بَارٍّ، فَلَعَلَّ أَحَدًا يُقَدِّمُ عَلَيَّ أَنْ يَمُوتَ عَنْ صَالِحٍ. أَمَّا اللَّهُ فَيَدُلُّ عَلَى مَحَبَّتِهِ لَنَا بِأَنَّهُ، إِذْ كُنَّا خُطَاةً بَعْدُ، مَاتَ الْمَسِيحُ عَنَّا. فَبِالْأُخْرَى كَثِيراً، إِذْ قَدْ بُرِّرْنَا بِدَمِهِ، نَخْلُصُ بِهِ مِنَ الْغَضَبِ. لِأَنَّا إِذَا كُنَّا قَدْ صَوَّلْنَا مَعَ اللَّهِ بِمَوْتِ ابْنِهِ وَنَحْنُ أَعْدَاءُ، فَبِالْأُخْرَى كَثِيراً نَخْلُصُ بِحَيَاتِهِ وَنَحْنُ مُصَالِحُونَ.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (6:22-33)

The Lord said, "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is sound, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is evil, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore, I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink; nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not the soul more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of heaven: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his stature? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon himself in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O men of little faith? Therefore, do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek all these things; and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well."

فَصْلٌ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ مَتَّى الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ. (33-22:6)

قَالَ الرَّبُّ: سِرَاجُ الْجَسَدِ الْعَيْنُ. فَإِنْ كَانَتْ عَيْنُكَ بَسِيطَةً، فَجَسَدُكَ كُلُّهُ يَكُونُ نَيِّرًا. وَإِنْ كَانَتْ عَيْنُكَ شَرِيرَةً، فَجَسَدُكَ كُلُّهُ يَكُونُ مُظْلِمًا. وَإِذَا كَانَ النُّورُ الَّذِي فِيكَ ظُلَامًا، فَالظُّلَامُ كَمْ يَكُونُ؟ لَا يَسْتَطِيعُ أَحَدٌ أَنْ يَعْبُدَ رَبَّيْنِ، لِأَنَّهُ إِمَّا أَنْ يُبَغِضَ الْوَاحِدَ وَيُحِبَّ الْآخَرَ، أَوْ يِلَازِمَ الْوَاحِدَ وَيَرْذُلَ الْآخَرَ. لَا تَقْدِرُونَ أَنْ تَعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ وَالْمَالَ. فَلِهَذَا أَقُولُ لَكُمْ، لَا تَهْتَمُّوا لِأَنْفُسِكُمْ بِمَا تَأْكُلُونَ وَبِمَا تَشْرَبُونَ، وَلَا لِأَجْسَادِكُمْ بِمَا تَلْبَسُونَ. أَلَيْسَتْ النَّفْسُ

أَفْضَلَ مِنَ الطَّعَامِ، وَالْجَسَدُ أَفْضَلَ مِنَ اللِّبَاسِ؟ انْظُرُوا إِلَى طُيُورِ السَّمَاءِ، فَإِنَّهَا لَا تَزْرَعُ وَلَا تَحْصُدُ وَلَا تَخْزُنُ فِي الْأَهْرَاءِ، وَأَبْوَكُمُ السَّمَاءِيُّ يَقْوَتُهَا. أَفَلَسْتُمْ أَنْتُمْ أَفْضَلَ مِنْهَا؟ وَمَنْ مِنْكُمْ، إِذَا اهْتَمَّ، يَقْدِرُ أَنْ يَزِيدَ عَلَى قَامَتِهِ ذِرَاعاً وَاحِدَةً؟ وَلِمَاذَا تَهْتَمُّونَ بِاللِّبَاسِ؟ اعْتَبِرُوا زَنَايِقَ الْحَقْلِ كَيْفَ تَنْمُو. إِنَّهَا لَا تَتْعَبُ وَلَا تَغْزِلُ. وَأَنَا أَقُولُ لَكُمْ إِنَّ سُلَيْمَانَ نَفْسَهُ، فِي كُلِّ مَجْدِهِ، لَمْ يَلْبَسْ كَوَاحِدَةً مِنْهَا. فَإِذَا كَانَ عُشْبُ الْحَقْلِ، الَّذِي يُوجَدُ الْيَوْمَ وَفِي غَدٍ يُطْرَحُ فِي التُّوْرِ، يُلْبِسُهُ اللَّهُ هَكَذَا، أَفَلَا يُلْبِسُكُمْ بِالْآخِرَى أَنْتُمْ يَا قَلِيلِي الْإِيمَانِ؟ فَلَا تَهْتَمُّوا قَائِلِينَ "مَاذَا نَأْكُلُ؟" أَوْ "مَاذَا نَشْرَبُ؟" أَوْ "مَاذَا نَلْبَسُ؟" فَإِنَّ هَذَا كُلَّهُ تَطْلُبُهُ الْأُمَمُ. لِأَنَّ أَبَاكُمْ السَّمَاءِيَّ يَعْلَمُ أَنَّكُمْ تَحْتَاجُونَ إِلَى هَذَا كُلِّهِ. فَاطْلُبُوا أَوَّلًا مَلَكُوتَ اللَّهِ وَبِرَّهُ، وَهَذَا كُلُّهُ يُزَادُ لَكُمْ.

Holy Oblations

This week, Holy Oblations are offered by:

- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Nick Nicola, Sandy Dudum, George Messih, George Adranly, Fred Addes, Henriette Hilal, Souhad Halaka, George Cawog, Rocky Dudum and Norma Khalil**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family in memory of **Daniel McLellan**. May his memory be eternal!
- † St. John Parish Family in memory of **Laila Mashy**. May her memory be eternal!
- † St. John Parish Family in memory of **David Romley**. May his memory be eternal!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Jean Harb**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Fairouz Freij**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Violet Jaber**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Laila Adranly**. 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

Upcoming Events

June 21st	Father's Day Picnic
June 22nd	The funeral service for the handmaiden of God Laila Mashy. Details in announcements
June 27th	Ladies meeting Saturday June 27 after finishing rolling grape leaves, your attendance is appreciated
June 27th	Potluck and viewing the Jordan vs. Argentina World Cup game at 6:30 PM in the hall
July 19th	One year memorial service for the handmaid of God Aida Yowakeem
July 19th	40 day memorial for David Romley.
1st and 3rd Sundays	St. Anastasia's Fellowship for those struggling with substance abuse. 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. 6pm meeting; 7pm Readers Paraklesis at St. John's. Contact Joseph: (310) 227-9848

Coffee Hour

June 21st	Father's Day Picnic in lieu of coffee hour
June 28th	Samara Family to celebrate our mother, Fadwa's birthday

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

You could use this QR code for your donation



Announcements

Ladies Meeting

Saturday June 27th after finishing rolling grape leaves, your attendance is appreciated.

Laila Mashy Funeral

The funeral service for the handmaiden of God Laila Mashy: Mon., 6/22, 11:30 am at Sunset mortuary and cemetery in El Cerrito. May her memory be eternal!

World Cup Watchparty and Potluck

Join us in the hall on June 27th at 6:30 PM for a potluck and viewing of the World Cup game between Jordan and Argentina!

Family Trip to the Zoo Postponed

Due to low participation, we have decided to postpone our family trip to the zoo. We would love for more families to have the opportunity to join us, so we will be working on selecting a new date that allows for greater participation, most likely after summer.

Thank you for your understanding, and we look forward to planning this fun outing with a larger group in the near future. Stay tuned for updates! Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Please forward this to anyone.

Kindly, Rania Kashou

Organizing Items in the Hall

We are beginning an important project to organize and improve the kitchen and storage areas in our hall. Our goal is to label all storage rooms, cabinets, shelves, and kitchen areas so that items can be easily returned to their proper place after use and the space can remain clean, organized, and well-maintained.

With the help of Joby, a professional organizer by trade, we will be starting this process on Sunday, July 19th at 1:00 PM, immediately following coffee hour. Please plan on dedicating at least 4+ hours. This project will take place in 2–3 phases, and we would greatly appreciate all volunteers who are willing to lend a hand. If you would like to help, please let Rania K know. Thank you in advance for your support as we work together to improve and maintain our shared space!

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St. John's Church FATHER'S DAY PICNIC Sunday, June 21st



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

Salmon burgers are available for anyone who is observing the Apostle's Fast!

Immediately following Divine Liturgy on the church grounds

\$20/adult minimum donation

Kids 12 & under – FREE

Organized by the St. John Ladies

All proceeds to benefit the Playground Rebuilding project!!



RSVP to Rula Adranly at rulaadranly@comcast.net so we can have plenty for everyone to enjoy!!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

FESTIVAL PREP WORKSHOPS: Saturdays at 9:30 AM in our new kitchen!

June 27th	Grape leaves	July 11th	Spinach & Cheese Pies
August 1st	Sfeiha & Zatar Pies	September 12th	Knafeh & Date Mamoul



Please sign up for **any or all** workshops with Rula Adranly at rulaadranly@comcast.net or 510-508-0929

We're accepting pre-orders for grape leaves - will be available at the festival on September 25th & 26th or as early as June 27th. Delicious for your family to enjoy, for summer parties, graduations and more!!

- Large Tray - (approximately 180 leaves) \$200	- Small Tray - (approximately 90 leaves) \$100
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Ecclesiastes 4:9 Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil

ST. JOHN ORTHODOX CHURCH

MIDDLE EASTERN FOOD FESTIVAL



MUSIC



FOOD



CULTURE



SEPTEMBER 26 - 27

501 MORAGA WAY, ORINDA, CA

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

FREE ADMISSION



Save the date

★ **AUGUST 15TH** ★

St. John
DINNER DANCE

★ *Under the stars* ★

\$75.00
PER PERSON

*Hope to
see you there!*

★ **KIDS 12 AND UNDER \$40.00** ★

★ **5:30 PM – Cocktails (No Host Bar)** ★

**RSVP by August 2nd to
Evleen Salem (925) 788-6775**

Congratulations Class of 2026

This year, we are honoring our graduates by putting their names and photos in the bulletin. We are very proud of them! We ask the Lord Jesus Christ to be with them in the next step in their lives.



Ella Potts, daughter of Jim and Nadine Potts and granddaughter of Very Reverend Father Emile and Khouryi Claudette Hanna is graduating from the University of California Los Angeles with a Political Science degree and a minor in philosophy. Ella is currently working as a legal assistant at an LA law firm and plans to apply to law school in the fall of 2027. We couldn't be more proud!

Lilly Potts, daughter of Jim and Nadine Potts and granddaughter of Very Reverend Father Emile and Khouryi Claudette Hanna, is graduating from Las Lomas High School in Walnut Creek. She is excited to be pursuing her undergraduate degree at the University of Washington in Seattle. We couldn't be more proud!



Blake Underhill, son of Dwight Underhill and Jill Norgaard, graduated from Dominican University in San Rafael, CA with an M.S. degree in Biology. He just accepted a job offer from a company here in the bay area and will be working in the bio tech industry. I am so happy for Blake and so pleased and thankful that God has rewarded his hard work and talents – Glory to God! And I pray that his dad is smiling down on him from Heaven. Congratulations, Blake!

Congratulations Class of 2026

This year, we are honoring our graduates by putting their names and photos in the bulletin. We are very proud of them! We ask the Lord Jesus Christ to be with them in the next step in their lives.



Dr. Conner Ganjavi, grandson of Sue Gedeon and son of Sandra Gedeon, graduated on May 16, 2026 from the Keck School of Medicine - University of Southern California. He earned a Doctor of Medicine (MD) and Master of Public Health. Dr. Ganjavi will be a Urology Resident at the University of Washington in Seattle.

Jason Samuel Burt, son of Lillian (Mitry) Burt and grandson of Siham Mitry, graduated from Ponderosa High School in Cameron Park, CA. He plans to attend culinary school to become a chef.



Ramzi Hanna is the grandson of Helene Gbantous. He graduated from De La Salle High school. He is heading to Gonzaga University to study accounting.

GRAD