



# +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, JUNE 02, 2024**

**TONE 4 / EOTHINON 7**

## **FIFTH SUNDAY OF PASCHA: SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN & AFTER-FEAST OF MID-PENTECOST**

NIKEPHOROS THE CONFESSOR, ARCHBISHOP OF CONSTANTINOPLE; NEW-MARTYRS DEMETRIOS OF PHILADELPHIA,  
JOHN OF TREBIZOND, AND CONSTANTINE OF ATHOS

*Christ is Risen / Χριστός Ανέστη / المسيح قام*

### Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

On this day, the fifth Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate the feast of the Samaritan Woman.

The Samaritan woman—the holy and glorious Great-martyr Photeini—met Jesus at midday at Jacob’s Well, which was located in the city of Sychar. And being tired from travel and the heat, Jesus sat at Jacob’s Well. A little after, the Samaritan woman came to draw water, and had a long conversation with Him (it is the longest recorded discourse between Christ and a single person in the entire Bible). Photeini did not want to talk to Jesus, because the Samaritans did not have any dealings with Jews; Jews considered her people heretics because Samaritans kept only the first five books of the Old Testament. However, the Lord talked with her anyway, read her heart, revealed her secrets and gave her to drink of the “Living Water”—the grace of the Holy Spirit that leads to eternal life and flows to all humanity. Photeini immediately ran throughout the city to proclaim Christ. Through her, many other Samaritans believed in Jesus.

### THE EPISTLE

*How magnified are Thy works, O Lord. In wisdom hast Thou made them all.*

*Bless the Lord, O my soul.*

### **The Reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles. (11:19-30)**

In those days, when the apostles were scattered because of the tribulation that arose over Stephen, they traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to no one, except to Jews only. But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who upon coming to Antioch spoke to the Hellenists also, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number that believed turned to the Lord. The report concerning them reached the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas, to go as far out as Antioch. When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad; and he exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they should cleave to the Lord; for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great multitude was added unto the Lord. Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul; and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year, they were gathered together in the church, and they taught a great multitude of people, and the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch. Now in these days prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. And one of them named Agabos stood up and signified by the Spirit that there would be a great famine over the whole world; and this took place in the days of Claudius Caesar. And the disciples, every one according to his ability, determined to send relief to the brethren who dwelt in Judaea; and they did so, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul.





## الإنجيل

### فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ يوحنا الإنجيليَّ البشير والتلميذ الطاهر. (4:5-42)

في ذلك الزمان، أتى يسوعُ إلى مَدِينَةٍ مِنَ السَّامِرَةِ يُقَالُ لَهَا سُوخَارُ، بِقُرْبِ الضَّيْعَةِ الَّتِي أَعْطَاهَا يَعْقُوبُ لِيُوسُفَ ابْنِهِ. وَكَانَ هُنَاكَ عَيْنٌ يَعْقُوبُ. وَكَانَ يَسُوعُ قَدْ تَعَبَ مِنَ الْمَسِيرِ. فَجَلَسَ عَلَى الْعَيْنِ، وَكَانَ نَحْوَ السَّاعَةِ السَّادِسَةِ. فَجَاءَتِ امْرَأَةٌ مِنَ السَّامِرَةِ لِتَسْتَقِيَ مَاءً، فَقَالَ لَهَا يَسُوعُ: أَعْطِنِي لِأَشْرَبَ. فَإِنَّ تَلَامِيذَهُ كَانُوا قَدْ مَضَوْا إِلَى الْمَدِينَةِ لِيَتَبَاعُوا طَعَامًا. فَقَالَتْ لَهُ الْمَرْأَةُ: كَيْفَ تَطْلُبُ أَنْ تَشْرَبَ مِنِّي، وَأَنْتَ يَهُودِيٌّ وَأَنَا امْرَأَةٌ سَامِرِيَّةٌ؟ وَالْيَهُودُ لَا يُخَالِطُونَ السَّامِرِيِّينَ. أَجَابَ يَسُوعُ وَقَالَ لَهَا: لَوْ عَرَفْتِ عَطِيَّةَ اللَّهِ، وَمَنْ الَّذِي قَالَ لَكَ "أَعْطِنِي لِأَشْرَبَ" لَطَلَبْتَ أَنْتِ مِنْهُ فَأَعْطَاكَ مَاءً حَيًّا. قَالَتْ لَهُ الْمَرْأَةُ: يَا سَيِّدُ إِنَّهُ لَيْسَ مَعَكَ مَا تَسْتَقِي بِهِ وَالْبُيْرُ عَمِيقَةٌ. فَمِنْ أَيْنَ لَكَ الْمَاءُ الْحَيُّ؟ أَلَعَلَّكَ أَنْتِ أَعْظَمُ مِنْ أَبِيْنَا يَعْقُوبَ الَّذِي أَعْطَانَا الْبُيْرَ، وَمِنْهَا شَرِبَ هُوَ وَبَنُوهُ وَمَاشِيَّتُهُ؟ أَجَابَ يَسُوعُ وَقَالَ لَهَا: كُلُّ مَنْ يَشْرَبُ مِنْ هَذَا الْمَاءِ يَعْطَشُ أَيْضًا. وَأَمَّا مَنْ يَشْرَبُ مِنَ الْمَاءِ الَّذِي أَنَا أَعْطِيهِ، فَلَنْ يَعْطَشَ إِلَى الْأَبَدِ. بَلِ الْمَاءُ الَّذِي أَعْطِيهِ لَهُ يَصِيرُ فِيهِ يَنْبُوعٌ مَاءٍ يَنْبُعُ إِلَى حَيَاةٍ أَبَدِيَّةٍ. فَقَالَتْ لَهُ الْمَرْأَةُ: يَا سَيِّدُ، أَعْطِنِي هَذَا الْمَاءَ لِكَيْ لَا أَعْطَشَ وَلَا أَجِيءَ إِلَى هَهُنَا لِأَسْتَقِيَ. فَقَالَ لَهَا يَسُوعُ: أَذْهَبِي وَادْعِي رَجُلًا، وَهَلِّمِي إِلَى هَهُنَا. أَجَابَتِ الْمَرْأَةُ وَقَالَتْ: إِنَّهُ لَا رَجُلَ لِي. فَقَالَ لَهَا يَسُوعُ: قَدْ أَحْسَنْتِ بِقَوْلِكَ إِنَّهُ لَا رَجُلَ لِي. فَإِنَّهُ كَانَ لَكَ خَمْسَةُ رِجَالٍ، وَالَّذِي مَعَكَ الْآنَ لَيْسَ رَجُلًا. هَذَا قُلْتِهِ بِالصِّدْقِ. قَالَتْ لَهُ الْمَرْأَةُ: يَا سَيِّدُ أَرَى أَنَّكَ نَبِيٌّ. أَبَاؤُنَا سَجَدُوا فِي هَذَا الْجَبَلِ. وَأَنْتُمْ تَقُولُونَ إِنَّ الْمَكَانَ الَّذِي يَنْبَغِي أَنْ يُسَجَدَ فِيهِ هُوَ فِي أُورُشَلِيمَ. قَالَ لَهَا يَسُوعُ: يَا امْرَأَةُ صَدِّقِيْنِي، إِنَّهَا تَأْتِي سَاعَةٌ لَا فِي هَذَا الْجَبَلِ وَلَا فِي أُورُشَلِيمَ تَسْجُدُونَ فِيهَا لِلْأَبِ. أَنْتُمْ تَسْجُدُونَ لِمَا لَا تَعْلَمُونَ وَنَحْنُ نَسْجُدُ لِمَا نَعْلَمُ. لِأَنَّ الْخَلَاصَ هُوَ مِنَ الْيَهُودِ. وَلَكِنْ تَأْتِي سَاعَةٌ، وَهِيَ الْآنَ حَاضِرَةٌ، إِذِ السَّاجِدُونَ الْحَقِيقِيُّونَ يَسْجُدُونَ لِلْأَبِ بِالرُّوحِ وَالْحَقِّ. لِأَنَّ الْآبَ إِنَّمَا يَطْلُبُ السَّاجِدِينَ لَهُ مِثْلَ هَؤُلَاءِ. اللَّهُ رُوحٌ. وَالَّذِينَ يَسْجُدُونَ لَهُ، فَبِالرُّوحِ وَالْحَقِّ يَنْبَغِي أَنْ يَسْجُدُوا. قَالَتْ لَهُ الْمَرْأَةُ: قَدْ عَلِمْتُ أَنَّ مَسِيًّا، الَّذِي يُقَالُ لَهُ الْمَسِيحُ، يَأْتِي. فَمتى جَاءَ ذَاكَ فَهُوَ يُخْبِرُنَا بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ. فَقَالَ لَهَا يَسُوعُ: أَنَا الْمَتَكَلِّمُ مَعَكَ هُوَ. وَعِنْدَ ذَلِكَ، جَاءَ تَلَامِيذُهُ، فَتَعَجَّبُوا أَنَّهُ يَتَكَلَّمُ مَعَ امْرَأَةٍ. وَلَكِنْ لَمْ يَقُلْ أَحَدٌ مَادَا تَطْلُبُ؟ أَوْ لِمَادَا تَتَكَلَّمُ مَعَهَا؟ فَتَرَكَّتِ الْمَرْأَةُ جَرَّتَهَا، وَمَضَتْ إِلَى الْمَدِينَةِ، وَقَالَتْ لِلنَّاسِ: تَعَالُوا انظُرُوا إِنْسَانًا قَالَ لِي كُلُّ مَا فَعَلْتُ. أَلَعَلَّ هَذَا هُوَ الْمَسِيحُ؟ فَخَرَجُوا مِنَ الْمَدِينَةِ وَأَقْبَلُوا نَحْوَهُ. وَفِي أَثْنَاءِ ذَلِكَ سَأَلَهُ تَلَامِيذُهُ قَائِلِينَ: يَا مُعَلِّمُ كُلِّ. فَقَالَ لَهُمْ: إِنَّ لِي طَعَامًا لِأَكُلَ لَسْتُمْ تَعْرِفُونَهُ أَنْتُمْ. فَقَالَ التَّلَامِيذُ فِيمَا بَيْنَهُمْ: أَلَعَلَّ أَحَدًا جَاءَهُ بِمَا يَأْكُلُ؟ فَقَالَ لَهُمْ يَسُوعُ: إِنَّ طَعَامِي أَنْ أَعْمَلَ مَشِيئَةَ الَّذِي أَرْسَلَنِي وَأَتَمِّمَ عَمَلَهُ. أَلَسْتُمْ تَقُولُونَ أَنْتُمْ إِنَّهُ يَكُونُ أَرْبَعَةَ أَشْهُرٍ ثُمَّ يَأْتِي الْحَصَادُ؟ وَهَا أَنَا أَقُولُ لَكُمْ: اِرْفَعُوا عُيُونَكُمْ وَاَنْظُرُوا إِلَى الْمَزَارِعِ، إِنَّهَا قَدْ ابْيَضَّتْ لِلْحَصَادِ. وَالَّذِي يَحْصُدُ يَأْخُذُ أَجْرَةً، وَيَجْمَعُ ثَمَرًا لِحَيَاةٍ أَبَدِيَّةٍ، لِكَيْ يَفْرَحَ الزَّارِعُ وَالْحَاصِدُ مَعًا. فَفِي هَذَا يَصْدُقُ الْقَوْلُ إِنَّ "وَاحِدًا يَزْرَعُ، وَآخَرَ يَحْصُدُ." إِنِّي أَرْسَلْتُكُمْ لِتَحْصُدُوا مَا لَمْ تَتَّعِبُوا أَنْتُمْ فِيهِ. فَإِنَّ آخَرِينَ تَعْبُوا وَأَنْتُمْ دَخَلْتُمْ عَلَى تَعَبِهِمْ. فَامَنْ بِهِ مِنْ تِلْكَ الْمَدِينَةِ كَثِيرُونَ مِنَ السَّامِرِيِّينَ مِنْ أَجْلِ كَلَامِ الْمَرْأَةِ الَّتِي كَانَتْ تَشْهَدُ أَنْ "قَدْ قَالَ لِي كُلُّ مَا فَعَلْتُ." وَلَمَّا أَتَى إِلَيْهِ السَّامِرِيُّونَ، سَأَلُوهُ أَنْ يُقِيمَ عِنْدَهُمْ. فَكَانَتْ هُنَاكَ يَوْمَيْنِ. فَامَنْ جَمَعَ أَكْثَرَ مِنْ أَوْلَاكَ جَدًّا مِنْ أَجْلِ كَلَامِهِ. وَكَانُوا يَقُولُونَ لِلْمَرْأَةِ: لَسْنَا مِنْ أَجْلِ كَلَامِكَ نُؤْمِنُ الْآنَ. لِأَنَّا نَحْنُ قَدْ سَمِعْنَا، وَنَعْلَمُ أَنَّ هَذَا هُوَ بِالْحَقِيقَةِ الْمَسِيحُ، مُخْلِصُ الْعَالَمِ.

### Love Your Neighbor

#### **June - Fellowship of Orthodox Christians United to Serve - FOCUS North America**

The Fellowship of Orthodox Christians United to Serve exists to support the growth of Orthodox Christian service efforts by providing engagement opportunities that reveal Christ in our neighbor and serve community needs within our five ministry areas of Food, Occupation, Clothing, Understanding, and Shelter.

### \$100,000 Challenge

Dear Parishioners,

A parishioner and his family are challenging us to raise \$100,000 for our Fellowship Hall. If we raise that money, they will match it.

Let's do it and try to finish our project.

We have collected \$86,000 from all sources. We need your help to reach \$100,000.

**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.

**Sunday School Graduation**

This Sunday, June 2nd is our Sunday Graduation Ceremony immediately following Divine Liturgy. We will have an Ice Cream Social following to celebrate the hard work and dedication of our students. Hope to see you all there!

**Memorial Services**

**June 9<sup>th</sup>:** 10-year memorial service for the servant of God Fakhry Farhan Kawar, offered by Ramsey and Kian Kawar and family. May his memory be eternal!

**June 23<sup>rd</sup>:** by Fairouz Freij : one year memorial for Khalid Haddad, 30 years for Angel Freij and 20 years for Emilie Haddad . May their memory be eternal

**Upcoming Events**

<b>Every Sunday at 7pm</b>	St. Anastasia Fellowship Meeting.
<b>June 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	Festival committee meeting after Coffee Hour.
<b>September 28-29</b>	Annual Middle Eastern Festival

**Coffee Hours**

<b>June 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Women's ministry coffee hour for Clergy Wives
<b>June 9<sup>th</sup></b>	Ramsey and Kian Kawar in memory of Ramsey's father Fakhry Farhan Kawar.

**Holy Oblations**

This week, Holy Oblations are offered by:

- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Nick Nicola, George Messih, Vivian Srouji, Daniel Romley** and **Aida Youakeem**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Frida Cawog**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Sam Nassab**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Henriette Hilal**. 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, David Evans, Evan Kawar, Mason Kawar, Jonathan Juha and Maron Juha



## DELICIOUS BOX LUNCH SALE

**SUNDAY JUNE 2nd  
after Divine Liturgy**

Each year the Antiochian Women (AOWNA) hold a fundraiser for the widowed clergy wives endowment fund through each parish. This ministry is to support our dear widowed Khouria's with a supplemental monthly stipend.

This year, a generous donor in the Archdiocese has pledged a dollar-to-dollar matching donation for up to \$150,000.00.

God bless everyone's efforts and keep our clergy families in His care.

Suggested donation \$15

Please come to support this beautiful ministry!

Plan on eating your picnic lunch here or easy to take home too.

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

You could use this QR code for your donation





## Fellowship Hall News

### Building Committee Update:

Our Fellowship Hall continues to make progress. Recently the roof was completed, and two coats of stucco have gone up around the exterior walls. These need to cure for a while before the final phase of putting on the exterior tiles.

Work is continuing on the outside of the building most noticeably in the area of the corner of Moraga Way and Hall Drive. New low retaining walls and greenery will be put there allowing for some expansion of the pre-school playground area as well as a more inviting and professional first view of our property when approaching on Moraga Way. Once these walls are in place, we will install fencing and continue with the planning and moving of the preschool playground into its permanent position in the corner.

Doors, windows and cabinets are still enroute, and we will provide updates and timing once they arrive.

### Parish Help Needed

Fellow parishioners, the fundraising committee is seeking your help in finding funding for our community hall. If you or anyone you know, has any experience with grants for charitable organizations, we would love to talk with you! We would like to apply for some grants, but don't know where to begin. This is an important step in fulfilling our financial goals for the hall. If you have any information, please email David Hanna at [davidnlisah@hotmail.com](mailto:davidnlisah@hotmail.com). Thank you!

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## See's CANDIES.

St John Orthodox Church Storefront

Help Us  
Reach Our Goal!



### See's Candies

Who doesn't love chocolate? Please order your See's Candies. 20% of the proceeds will support our building fund.

- Own a business and need to gift?
  - Any gift?
  - Easter chocolate??
  - SEE'S just because it's SEE'S??
- ANYONE can purchase!! Please scan the QR code, find the link on our Facebook, or ask anyone in the fundraising committee .

## Zinc Shingles on the Roof!



**St. John's Church**  
**FATHER'S DAY PICNIC**  
**Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup>**

s



**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!!!**

Immediately following Divine Liturgy on the church grounds

**\$20/adult**

**Kids 12 & under – FREE**

Organized by the St. John Ladies

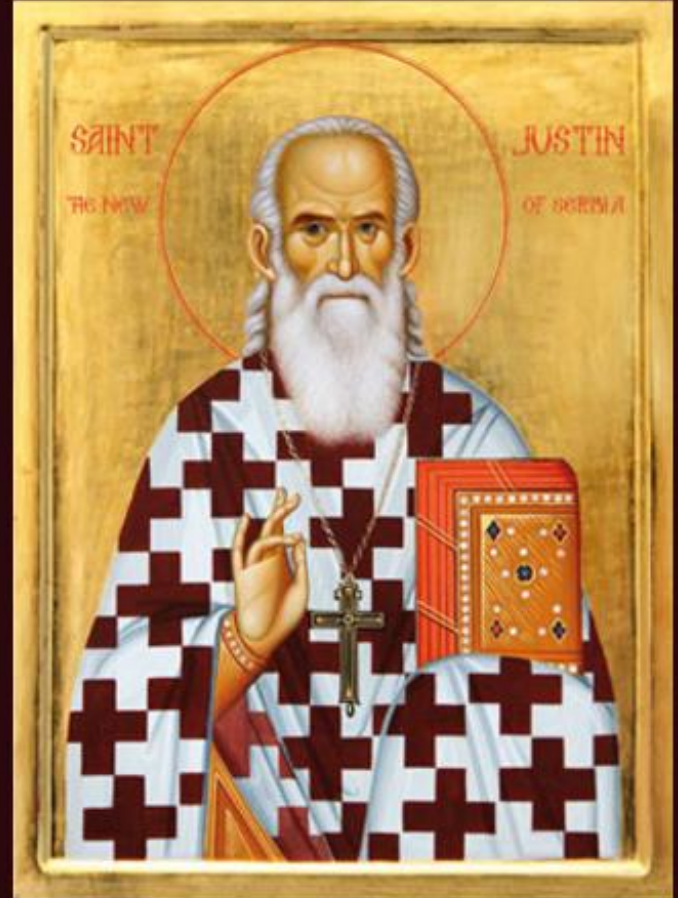
**All proceeds to benefit the Building Fund!!**



RSVP to Rula Adranly at [rulaadranly@comcast.net](mailto:rulaadranly@comcast.net) so we can have plenty for everyone to enjoy!!



Join clergy, chanters, and faithful from around the region for Vespers, Orthros and Divine Liturgy in honor of Sts. Justin Martyr and Justin Popovich.



## **ALL-NIGHT VICIL**

*Relics of the Saints will be present  
for veneration*

**Resurrection Greek Orthodox  
Church, Castro Valley  
May 31, 2024 7:00 p.m.--1:00 a.m.**



## Thoughts on the Fullness of Life, Part One

*By Metropolitan Saba (Isper)*

In man, in every human being, there is an inner longing towards that which is perfect, but often, he is not aware of what that is. Man longs for fulfillment. He has an insatiable desire to get rich from everything. He wants to grow and increase in everything he loves, or in everything he believes is useful or necessary to him. He is never satisfied with anything in this world. You see him always striving, with all his energy and ability, for what is more plentiful and more abundant, but his desire is never quenched or satisfied. He considers the quest to be his salvation, the source of the joy and reassurance for which he longs.

He considers money to be his savior, so he strives, collects, and accumulates, never reaching the point of satisfaction with what he has obtained, but rather his greed increases. He aspires to high positions, searching for proof of existence and self-realization there. This may begin as a service to others and end up being self-serving. He is captivated by the love of power; power is tempting, whether it is in the realm of the family, administration, or church. The love of power infiltrates the most sacred places and situations. A person sees it as self-protection and satisfaction of ego without limits. He sees the desires of life as the meaning of his existence. He kisses her passionately, until she possesses him and enslaves him. He moves through it from one stage to another, until he discovers that he has spent his life chasing dreams that gave him no comfort.

Man fears death. This is his biggest problem. He is familiar with life, but he fears death because he does not know what it is. What man does not know is his enemy. He runs away from it, avoids it, circumvents it, does not want to confront it, or even remember that it is coming. For him, he no longer sees anything other than the present life as the way to search for the truth, or to absorb what he imagines is the truth. The idea of immortality has accompanied man in all times and civilizations, and still does. Despite his discovery that this earthly life is unfulfilling for him, he does not want to replace it with what he does not know.

How can this limited and mortal man have this longing for the limitless and the immortal? How can he dream of immortality when he does not see an immortal being around him, when even modern scientific theories claim the very universe is not eternal? Why does it hurt him when someone else gets what he wants, making

him envious, hateful, and desperate, possessed by an inferiority complex? Why does he want fullness in everything, when there is nothing in front of him and around him except deficiency, defect, and corruption?

He longs for a better life, thinking it is about this thing or something else, but he soon discovers that he was wrong, and disappointment strikes him. Disappointment is characteristic of the modern man. He begins his youth with great enthusiasm, high ideals, and an amazing energy for change, only to discover after a number of years that he was too dreamy, and reality is full of disappointments. Even if he has reached sublimity in human thought, he still hopes he will do what is within his power. Most people will settle for small victories while losing hope of the possibility of changing the world.

Christianity interprets all of this as a yearning for the divine image within us to return to its origin. Human beings are created in God's image (which we need to constantly purify from our attachments to sinful passions). Human beings are also called to grow in His image until they reach the fullness that satisfies the soul. They are inherently drawn to their unlimited, infinite, and eternal Creator. In this pursuit, humans would find the sea insufficient, even if they were to drink it all. As long as they haven't discovered within themselves the original image of their Creator, unblemished by sin and corruption that befell it through their fall from their original paradise, they will keep seeking this origin in every other thing, field or path.

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.:** 224/2024

May 28, 2024

Venerable Hierarchs, Reverend Clergy, and Christ-loving Faithful of this Archdiocese,

Christ is risen!

Ten years ago, our young adults gathered for the first Orthodox Young Professionals Conference in San Diego. They initiated this project themselves, in order to keep our Faith at the center of their lives and to strengthen their relationships within the Church. This year, they will gather in Anaheim, California, July 25–28, for the same purpose. The weekend includes prayer, speaker sessions, and time for fellowship with one another. Father Evan and Presbytera Stacy Armatas will be the keynote speakers, focusing on “Love & Relationships—God’s Greatest Gift.” Young adults aged 21+ are welcome, whether single or married.

We are so glad when our young adults prioritize faith in Christ and make it the foundation of their lives—building their house upon the rock, as our Lord Jesus said in His parable (Matthew 7:24–25). Moreover, we are encouraged by their camaraderie and love for one another, since those networks of relationships across the archdiocese bind us all together and foster collaboration in our sacred mission. Therefore, I would love to see as many of our young adults as possible attend this year’s conference, and I urge our pastors to spread the word and encourage those in their communities to attend.

Again, this year’s conference will be held July 25–28, at the JW Marriott Resort in Anaheim, California. Find more information and register at [www.oypc.org](http://www.oypc.org).

Wishing you a joyous continuation of the Paschal season, I remain,

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "T. Saba". The signature is written in a cursive style.

✠ SABA

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of All North America

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

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