

+St. John the Evangelist Orthodox Church

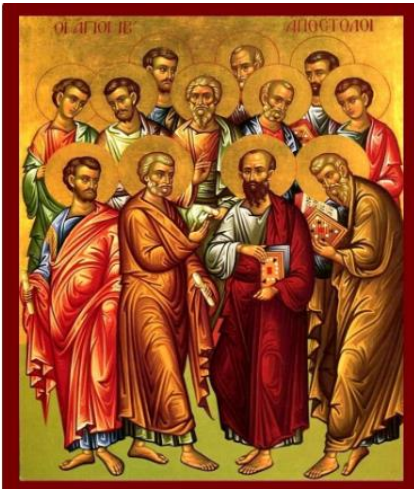
Antiochian Archdiocese of North America
Metropolitan Saba of New York and all North America
V. Rev. Fr. Nicholas Borzghol, Pastor
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SUNDAY, JUNE 30, 2024

TONE 8 / EOTHINON 1; FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:

**COMMEMORATION OF ALL SAINTS &
SYNAXIS ("GATHERING") OF THE TWELVE APOSTLES**



The Feast of All Saints and the Synaxis of the Twelve Apostles

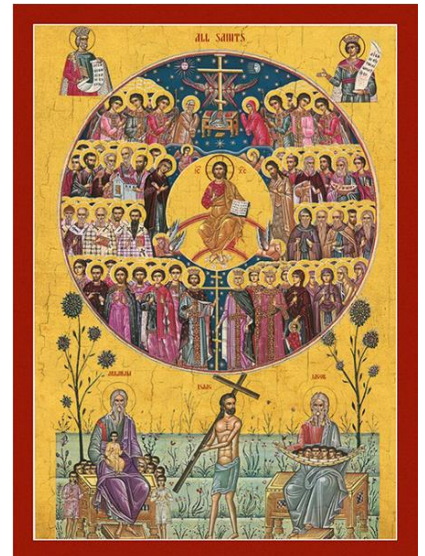
On June 30 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we celebrate the Synaxis of the holy, glorious, and all-lauded Twelve Apostles.

Even though each one of the Twelve has his own special day of celebration throughout the year, the Church has set aside this day as a festal assembly of all the apostles together and with them, Paul. These are the names and the separate celebration days of the Holy Apostles; and how each one of these most holy and beneficial men in world history ended their earthly life: Peter (June 29, January 16) was crucified upside down. Andrew (November 30) was crucified. James, the son of Zebedee (April 30) was beheaded. John the Theologian (September 26) died in a miraculous, peaceful manner, the only one of "The Twelve" to do so. Philip (November 14) was

crucified. Bartholomew (June 11, August 25) was crucified, scraped and beheaded. Thomas (October 6) was pierced with five spears. Matthew the Evangelist (November 16) was burned alive. James, the son of Alphaeus (October 9) was crucified. Thaddeus [Jude] (June 19), the Brother of James was crucified. Simon the Zealot (May 10) was crucified. Matthias (August 9) was stoned and then was beheaded after death. Paul (June 29) was beheaded.

On this day, the Sunday after Pentecost, we celebrate the Feast of All Saints who shone forth throughout all the world, North and South, East and West.

David the Prophet and king, who revered the beloved of God, and respected them because of his great piety, said in the Psalms, "How precious are Thy beloved unto me, O God" (138:17). And the Apostle Paul, in his Epistle to the Hebrews, recounted the lives of the saints, when he wrote, "Wherefore, seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin that so easily besets us; and let us run with patience the race that is set before us" (12:1). Therefore, as Orthodox Christians, we honor the beloved saints of God, respecting them as keepers of God's commandments, shining examples of virtue and benefactors of humanity. We commemorate all of the holy ones every year on this day, as the list of saints ever increases, even though some of their names escape us. Nevertheless, we honor them for their piety and strive to imitate their good works.



THE EPISTLE

God is wondrous in His saints.

In the churches, bless ye God.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (11:33-12:2)

Brethren, all the saints through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, from weakness were made strong, became mighty in war, and turned to flight armies of the aliens. Women received their dead by resurrection, and others were tortured, not accepting their deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. And others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, they were tempted, they were slain with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, being destitute, afflicted, tormented (of whom the world was not worthy), wandering in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a witness through their faith, did not receive the promise, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which does so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the Author and Perfecter of our faith.

الرسالة.

عَجِيبٌ هُوَ اللَّهُ فِي قَدِّيسِيهِ،

فِي الْمَجَامِعِ بَارِكُوا اللَّهَ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِّيسِ بُولُسَ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى الْعِبْرَانِيِّينَ. (2:12- 33:11)

يا إِخْوَةَ، إِنَّ الْقَدِّيسِينَ، بِالْإِيمَانِ قَهَرُوا الْمَمَالِكَ، وَعَمَلُوا الْبِرَّ، وَنَالُوا الْمَوَاعِدَ، وَسَدَّوْا أَفْوَاهَ الْأُسُودِ. وَأَطْفَأُوا حِدَّةَ النَّارِ وَنَجَّوْا مِنْ حِدِّ السَّيْفِ، وَتَقَوَّوْا مِنْ ضَعْفٍ، وَصَارُوا أَشِدَّاءَ فِي الْحَرْبِ، وَكَسَرُوا مُعَسْكَرَاتِ الْأَجَانِبِ. وَأَخَذَتْ نِسَاءٌ أَمْوَاتَهُنَّ بِالْقِيَامَةِ، وَعَذَّبَ آخَرُونَ بِتَوْتِيرِ الْأَعْضَاءِ وَالضَّرْبِ، وَلَمْ يَقْبَلُوا بِالنَّجَاةِ لِيَحْصَلُوا عَلَى قِيَامَةِ أَفْضَلِ. وَآخَرُونَ ذَاقُوا الْمُهْزَةَ وَالْجَلْدَ وَالْقَيْوَدَ أَيْضًا وَالسَّجْنَ. وَرَجَمُوا وَنَشَرُوا وَامْتَحَنُوا وَمَاتُوا بِحِدِّ السَّيْفِ، وَسَاحُوا فِي جُلُودِ غَنَمٍ وَمَعَزٍ وَهُمْ مُعَوَّزُونَ مُضَايِقُونَ مَجْهُودُونَ. وَلَمْ يَكُنِ الْعَالَمُ مُسْتَحِقًّا لَهُمْ، فَكَانُوا تَائِهِينَ فِي الْبَرَارِيِّ وَالْجِبَالِ وَالْمَغَاوِرِ وَكُهُوفِ الْأَرْضِ. فَهَؤُلَاءِ كُلُّهُمْ مَشْهُودًا لَهُمْ بِالْإِيمَانِ لَمْ يَنَالُوا الْمَوْعِدَ. لِأَنَّ اللَّهَ سَبَقَ فَنَظَرَ لَنَا شَيْئًا أَفْضَلَ، أَنْ لَا يَكْمَلُوا بِدُونِنَا. فَحَنُّ أَيْضًا إِذْ يُحَدِّقُ بِنَا مِثْلُ هَذِهِ السَّحَابَةِ مِنَ الشُّهُودِ فَلَنُلْقِ عَنَّا كُلَّ ثِقَلٍ وَكُلَّ خَطِيئَةٍ مُحِيطَةٍ بِنَا، وَلِنَسَابِقَ بِالصَّبْرِ فِي الْجِهَادِ الَّذِي أَمَامَنَا، نَاطِرِينَ إِلَى رَئِيسِ الْإِيمَانِ وَمُكْمَلِهِ يَسُوعَ.

THE GOSPEL (Sunday of the Holy Fathers)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (9:36-10:8)

At that time, when Jesus saw the crowds, He had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then He said to His Disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." And He called to Him His twelve Disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every infirmity. The names of the twelve Apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed Him. These twelve Jesus sent out, charging them, "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And preach as you go, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying, give without pay."

الإِنْجِيل (الأبَاء)

فصلٌ من بشارَةِ القديسِ متى الإنجيليِّ البشيرِ والتلميذِ الطاهرِ.

في ذَلِكَ الزَّمانِ، لَمَّا رَأَى يسوعُ الجُموعَ تَحَنَّنَ عَلَيَّهِمْ، إِذْ كَانُوا مُنْزَعِجِينَ وَمُنْطَرِحِينَ كَغَنَمٍ لَا رَاعِيَ لَهَا. حِينَئِذٍ قَالَ لِتَلَامِيذِهِ: «الْحَصَادُ كَثِيرٌ وَلَكِنَّ الْفَعْلَةَ قَلِيلُونَ. فَاطْلُبُوا مِنْ رَبِّ الْحَصَادِ أَنْ يُرْسِلَ فَعْلَةً إِلَى حَصَادِهِ». ثُمَّ دَعَا تَلَامِيذَهُ الْاِثْنَيْ عَشَرَ وَأَعْطَاهُمْ سُلْطَانًا عَلَى أَرْوَاحِ نَجَسَةٍ حَتَّى يُخْرِجُوهَا، وَيَشْفُوا كُلَّ مَرَضٍ وَكُلَّ ضَعْفٍ. وَأَمَّا أَسْمَاءُ الْاِثْنَيْ عَشَرَ رَسُولًا فَهِيَ هَذِهِ: الْأَوَّلُ سِمْعَانُ الَّذِي يُقَالُ لَهُ بُطْرُسُ، وَأَنْدَرَاوُسُ أَخُوهُ. يَعْقُوبُ بْنُ زَبْدِي، وَيُوحَنَّا أَخُوهُ. فِيلِبُّسُ، وَبَرْتُولِمَاوُسُ. ثُومَا، وَمَتَّى الْعَشَّارُ. يَعْقُوبُ بْنُ حَلْفَى، وَلَبَّاوُسُ الْمُلقَّبُ تَدَّاوُسَ. سِمْعَانُ الْقَانَوِيُّ، وَيَهُودَا الْإِسْحَرْيُوطِيُّ الَّذِي أَسْلَمَهُ. هُوَلاءِ الْاِثْنَا عَشَرَ أَرْسَلَهُمْ يسوعُ وَأَوْصَاهُمْ قَائِلًا: «إِلَى طَرِيقِ أُمَمٍ لَا تَمْضُوا، وَإِلَى مَدِينَةٍ لِلسَّامِرِيِّينَ لَا تَدْخُلُوا. بَلِ اذْهَبُوا بِالْحَرِيِّ إِلَى خِرَافِ بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلِ الضَّالَّةِ. وَفِيمَا أَنْتُمْ ذَاهِبُونَ اكْرِزُوا قَائِلِينَ: إِنَّهُ قَدْ اقْتَرَبَ مَلَكُوتُ السَّمَاوَاتِ. اشفُوا مَرَضَى. طَهَّرُوا بُرْصًا. أَقِيمُوا مَوْتَى. أَخْرِجُوا شَيَاطِينَ. مَجَانًا أَخَذْتُمْ، مَجَانًا أَعْطُوا.

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 challenged us to raise \$100,000 for our Fellowship Hall, and we did it! They will match our donations!

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.

Memorial Services

July 14th: By the Haddad family in memory of Khalid Haddad (one year). May his memory be eternal!

Upcoming Events

Every Sunday at 7pm	St. Anastasia Fellowship Meeting.
June 30 th	Festival committee meeting after Coffee Hour.
July 28 th	Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry Awareness Sunday. There will be a prison ministry card and letter writing workshop during coffee hour.
September 28-29	Annual Middle Eastern Festival

Coffee Hours

June 30 th	Sponsor Needed
July 7 th	Sponsor Needed
July 14 th	Luncheon/coffee hour by the Haddad family in memory of Khalil Haddad.

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!
- † St. John Parish Family in memory of **Daniel Scuiry**. May his memory be eternal!

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 Kawar, Mason Kawar, Jonathan Juha and Maron Juha

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:

As you can see, the exterior of the fellowship hall is nearing completion. The doors and windows are in and exterior tiles are being applied. Inside the hall insulation is being installed and drywall is going up. Additionally, the preschool playground area is being mapped out and final designs for equipment are being determined. Final details for the hardscape from the new parking to the entrance of the hall is being finalized and will begin soon.

There is still much to be done on the interior before we complete the project such as the kitchen, restrooms, some lighting, and floor, wall and ceiling treatments, but we are nearing the point where building funds are being depleted. The parish council, building committee, contractor and fundraising committee are meeting to strategize next steps for the final fundraising push to complete the project. With God's help, we will be able to raise the funds to bring the building to completion soon.

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. Thank you!

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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 .

Doors Installed!



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ST. JOHN'S CHURCH
TUESDAY, AUGUST 6TH 2024

JACK'S WILL DONATE 15% OF PROCEEDS

PRESENT THIS FLYER (OR SIMPLY MENTION THE ORGANIZATION ABOVE)
AND JACK'S WILL HAPPILY DONATE 15% OF FOOD AND BEVERAGE SALES.

(ALCOHOL, TAX, GRATUITY AND GIFT CARDS SALES ARE EXCLUDED)

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FUNDRAISER

JOIN US!



**IS GIVING
50% BACK TO:**

**St. John Orthodox
Church**

**Thursday, Jul 25
All day**

The Kebab Shop
2359 Oak Grove Rd Bldg H
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To participate in this fundraiser, show this flyer during checkout at the store or order online at order.thekebabshop.com using the fundraiser coupon code below.

Code for online ordering:

FUNDRAISER

This fundraiser event is between St. John Orthodox Church and The Kebab Shop. The Kebab Shop will donate 50% of qualifying food and beverage sales to St. John Orthodox Church. Additional sales exclusions may apply including: Delivery, Catering, any other promotions. Offer valid only on select date(s) and location(s). Offer void if flyer is distributed in or near the store. The Kebab Shop may impose additional terms and conditions.

**FORCE
4 GOOD**
FUNDRAISING

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.

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, flowing style.

✠ SABA

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of All North America

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

358 Mountain Road, P.O. Box 5238, Englewood, NJ 07631-5238
(201) 871-1355 T Archdiocese@antiochian.org (201) 871-7954 F

Congratulations Class of 2024!

Dear parents of graduates,

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.

Peter Sami Adranly

Sami and Kathy Adranly joyfully announce the graduation of their youngest son, Peter Sami Adranly, from Santa Clara University, where he has earned a degree in Computer Science. We celebrate his achievements and eagerly anticipate the bright future ahead for him.



Chase Dudum

Chase Dudum who is the son of Jeff and Mary Ellen Dudum recently graduated from University of Southern California (USC) with a degree in environmental studies. He also achieved Magna Cum Laude and was a part of student government. He is currently looking for his first full-time opportunity in the environmental and sustainability space.





Dominic Farradj

Dominic is graduating with a BS in Statistics from California Polytechnic San Luis Obispo. He will be starting this July at University of San Francisco for a MS in Data Science.



Grace Potts

Grace Potts, third daughter of James and Nadine Potts, graduated from Las Lomas High School this week. With more than a half dozen offers from California universities and colleges, Grace has chosen to attend San Diego State University in the fall, studying English.



Jordan Ho

We're proud to share that Jordan Ho graduated with a BS in Kinesiology from San Francisco State University. He plans to pursue an advanced degree to become a Physician Assistant.





Tyler Craner

Tyler Craner graduated with a Construction Management degree from Chico State University and will be moving to Los Angeles in the Fall to work for Pankow Builders as a Project Engineer.



GRAD

