



# +St. John the Evangelist Orthodox Church

Antiochian Archdiocese of North America

V. Rev. Fr. Nicholas Borzghol, Pastor

Dn. Nicholas Adranly

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**MARCH 05, 2023**

**TONE 5 / EOTHINON 5**

**FIRST SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT (SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY)**

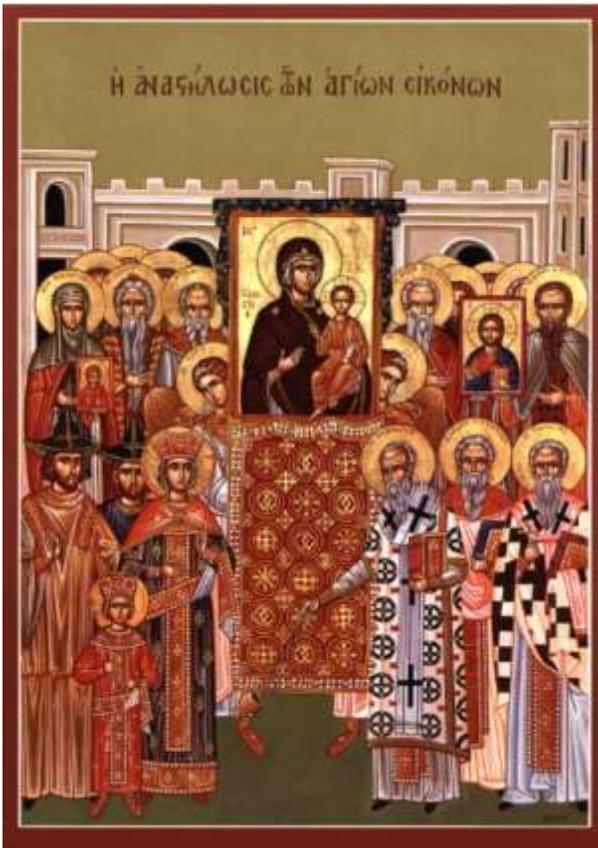
HIEROMARTYR KONON OF ISAURIA; MARTYRS ARCHELAOS AND HIS 152 COMPANIONS IN EGYPT

## Sunday of Orthodoxy

On March 5 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Hieromartyr Konon of Isauria; and Martyrs Archelaos and his 152 companions in Egypt.

On this same day, the First Sunday of the Fast, we make remembrance of the restoration of the holy and venerable Icons, which took place through the ever-memorable Sovereigns of Constantinople, Michael and his mother, Theodora, during the patriarchate of Saint Methodios the Confessor.

This restoration was accomplished in the year 843. Theodora's husband was an iconoclast. After his death, Theodora venerated an icon of the Theotokos in front of Patriarch Methodios. The other faithful in the church did the same, venerating all the icons, considering them to be representations of their original elements, not idols. Theodora prayed to God to forgive her husband during the first week of Great Lent; and on the First Sunday of the Fast, she led the way in hanging up the icons to adorn the churches.



## **THE EPISTLE (For the First Sunday of Lent)**

*Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers. For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us.*

### **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (11:24-26, 32-40)**

Brethren, by faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; choosing rather to share ill-treatment with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; esteeming the reproach of the Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he looked to the recompense of reward. And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me if I tell of Gideon, Barak, Sampson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and all the prophets, who 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.

### **الرسالة (للأحد الثالث من الصوم)**

**مُبَارَكٌ أَنْتَ يَا رَبُّ إِلَهَ آبَائِنَا . لِأَنَّكَ عَادِلٌ فِي كُلِّ مَا صَنَعْتَ بِنَا .**

### **فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولَسَ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى الْعِبْرَانِيِّينَ .**

يا إخوة، بالإيمان موسى لما كَبُرَ أبى أن يُدعى ابناً لابنة فرعون. مُختاراً الشقاء مع شعب الله على التمتع الوقتي بالخطيئة. ومُعتبراً عار المسيح غنى أعظم من كنوز مصر، لأنه نظر إلى الثواب. وماذا أقول أيضاً؟ إنه يضيق بي الوقت إن أُخبرْتُ عن جدعون وباراق وشمشون ويفتاح وداود وصموئيل والأنبياء. الذين بالإيمان قهروا الممالك، وعملوا البر، ونالوا المواعد، وسدوا أفواه الأسود. وأطفأوا حدة النار، ونجوا من حد السيف، وتغفروا من ضعف، وصاروا أشداء في الحرب، وكسروا معسكرات الأجانب. وأخذت نساء أمواتهن بالقيامة. وعذب آخرون بتوتير الأعضاء والضرَب، ولم يقبلوا بالنجاة، ليحصلوا على قيامة أفضل. وآخرون ذاقوا الهزء والجلد والقيود أيضاً والسجن. ورجموا، ونشروا، وامتحنوا، وماتوا بحد السيف، وسأخوا في جلود غنم ومعز، وهم معوزون مضايقون مجهودون، (ولم يكن العالم مستحقاً لهم) وكانوا تائهين في البراري والجبال، والمغاور وكهوف الأرض. فهؤلاء كلهم مشهوداً لهم بالإيمان، لم ينالوا الموعد. لأن الله سبق فنظر لنا شيئاً أفضل، أن لا يكملوا بدوننا.

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (1:43-51)**

At that time, Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael, and said to him, "We have found Him of Whom Moses in the Law and also the Prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming to Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" Nathanael said to Jesus, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered Him, "Rabbi, Thou art the Son of God! Thou art the King of Israel!" Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things than these." And Jesus said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."

## الإنجيل (لالأحد الثالث من الصوم)

### فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ يُوْحَنَّا الْإِنْجِيلِيّ الْبَشِيرِ، وَالتَّلْمِيذِ الطَّاهِرِ.

في ذلك الزمان، أراد يسوع الخروج إلى الجليل فوجد فيلبس فقال له: اتبعني. وكان فيلبس من بيت صيدا من مدينة أندراوس وبطرس. فوجد فيلبس نثنائيل، فقال له: إن الذي كتب عنه موسى في الناموس والأنبياء قد وجدناه، وهو يسوع بن يوسف الذي من الناصرة. فقال له نثنائيل: أمن الناصرة يمكن أن يكون شيء صالح؟ فقال له فيلبس: تعال وانظر. فرأى يسوع نثنائيل مقبلاً إليه، فقال عنه: هوذا إسرائيلي حقاً لا غش فيه. فقال له نثنائيل: من أين تعرفني؟ أجاب يسوع، وقال له: قبل أن يدعوك فيلبس وأنت تحث التينة رأيتك. أجاب نثنائيل وقال له: يا معلم، أنت ابن الله، أنت ملك إسرائيل. أجاب يسوع وقال له: لأنني قلت لك إنني رأيتك تحث التينة آمننت؟ إنك ستعطين أعظم من هذا. وقال له: الحق الحق أقول لكم، إنكم من الآن ترون السماء مفتوحة، وملائكة الله يصعدون وينزلون على ابن البشر.

### Sonshine Kids Event

Dear friends,

I hope you can make it to our **March 11th Sonshine Kids event!** We'll be participating in and teaching the children about two important Lenten traditions: praying for the departed at a Soul Saturday Liturgy and almsgiving. Here are the details!

**9am Soul Saturday Liturgy & Litya** at [Nativity of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church](#) in Menlo Park. Please bring the names of any Orthodox departed you would like to commemorate at the Litya, which will immediately follow Liturgy. Following the Litya, our friends at Holy Virgin will be graciously providing everyone lunch (sandwiches, drinks, & fruit)! Please bring anything else you would like or need (including gluten-free items if you need to). The children will also have a chance to play on their playground outside.

Then, the children will be invited back inside to participate in our **almsgiving project**. Fr. Andrew Smith will first talk with the children about almsgiving, then we will assemble care bags for the residents at [Goodness Village](#), a tiny home community for those transitioning out of chronic homelessness. Please [sign-up here](#) to purchase and bring items the non-profit has told us the residents especially need: high-quality toiletries and cleaning supplies. The children will also make cards to go inside each bag. I would like to thank Irene Guajardo for suggesting this project and helping to organize it!

**Please RSVP by March 6th** so we can plan lunch and the project accordingly, and please let me know if you have any questions.

Yours in Christ, Mka. Stephanie, [smatlak@gmail.com](mailto:smatlak@gmail.com), 435-214-9331

### Upcoming Events

<b>Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup></b>	Pre-Sanctified Liturgy القداس السابق تقديسه at 6:00pm
<b>Friday, March 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	Akathist/Salutations المديح at 6:30pm, followed by potluck
<b>Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup></b>	Great Compline صلاة النوم الكبرى at 6:00pm
<b>Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup></b>	Pre-Sanctified Liturgy القداس السابق تقديسه at 6:00pm
<b>Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup></b>	Akathist/Salutations المديح at 6:30pm, followed by potluck
<b>Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup></b>	Ladies of St. John's Kaak and Falafel sale. We appreciate your pre orders by calling Fadwa Samara at 510-909-0119 or Rula Adranly at 510 508-0929 or in person on Sundays. A Dozen Falafel: \$12. Ka'ak: \$6 (2 in a pack).
<b>Sunday, April 16, 2023</b>	Pascha/Easter

### Coffee Hours

<b>March 5<sup>th</sup></b>	Dudum, Dietzmann and Morgan family in memory of Jim and Rose Romley, Siz Dietmann, Ray, Gloria and Brad Zachariah.
<b>March 26<sup>th</sup></b>	Mona Thayer in memory of Matilda and Nicola Messih

### Holy Oblations

This week, Holy Oblations are offered by:

- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Khalid Haddad** (Fairouz Freij's nephew), **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 **Julian and Mary Farradj**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Jane Nassif**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Nick Nicola**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the **victims of the earthquake in Syria and Turkey**. For the good health of the survivors and memory eternal for the departed!
- † Steve and Angie Kreta for the good health of their son in law **Colin Roth**. Many years!
- † Dudum, Ditzman and Morgan families in memory of Jim and **Rose Romley, Sig Dietzmann, Ray, Gloria** and **Brad Zachariah**. May their memories be eternal!
- † Issa and Alexandra Samara for the good health of **George Samara**. 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

- † March 5<sup>th</sup> Epistle Readers:  
English: Deena Farrah  
Arabic: Fairouz Freij

- † Sermonette: Grace Samara

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

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# EASTER EGG HUNT

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APRIL 15TH AFTER 10AM SERVICE

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FOOD AND CANDY • EGG HUNT  
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Please bring your own baskets  
for Volunteers and/or Donations  
Please contact Rania Kashou 415.722.0774



**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE  
OF NORTH AMERICA**

**Prot. no.:** PV075/2023

The Sunday of Orthodoxy, March 5, 2023

**To be read from the pulpit and printed in the bulletin.**

Beloved Brother Hierarchs, reverend Clergy, and Christ-loving Faithful,

Greetings to you in the Name of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ.

Each year we ask for your support of our archdiocesan seminarians on the Sunday of Orthodoxy, as we celebrate those who have defended and preserved the Orthodox Faith over the centuries. The Church continues and prospers from generation to generation because of those who answer God's call and dedicate their lives to His service. In particular, its life and growth depend on men and their families responding when God calls them to the holy priesthood, so that they might care for the souls of the faithful and lead our parishes in worship and outreach.

The ability of these men to fulfill their calling depends on their being properly prepared. In the sacred scriptures, the Prophet Samuel needed Eli's help to recognize the Lord's voice calling him. The Prophets Isaiah and Jeremiah needed to experience divine grace touching their lips before they could proclaim the word of God. The holy apostles needed to spend years with our Lord Jesus Christ—following Him, listening to Him, and observing Him—before they received the Spirit and went forth to preach. Likewise, those called to the priesthood need an opportunity to step away from worldly responsibilities and immerse themselves in the Church's worship, ethos, and teaching at seminary.

To do this, they need your financial help. When they come to seminary in order to prepare to serve you—to bring the grace of God into your parish, your family, and your soul—they leave behind the secular work that supports them and their families. As an archdiocese, we have always come together to shoulder the financial burden of this preparation by providing scholarships and housing aid. Your generous gifts today will thus make their future service possible.

With prayers for all of you as we continue along the life-giving path of the Great Fast toward the glorious day of Pascha, I remain,

Yours in Christ,

✠Metropolitan ANTONIOS

Metropolitan of Zahle, Baalbek, and Dependencies  
Patriarchal Vicar of New York and All North America

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

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## FALAFEL & KA'AK SALE

Sunday, March 19TH

St. John's Church

Come get some delicious, fresh falafel for lent!! Enjoy now or stock up your freezer!!

Falafel by the dozen \$12



Ka'ak pkg. of 2 for \$6



Pre-orders are appreciated

Rula Adranly at 510-508-0929, [rulaadranly@comcast.net](mailto:rulaadranly@comcast.net) or Fadwa Samara at 510-909-0119, [fvsamara@gmail.com](mailto:fvsamara@gmail.com)

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