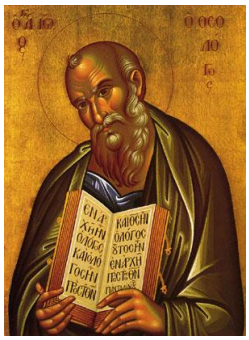


+St. John the Evangelist Orthodox Church

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 925-257-2940
www.stjohnorinda.org email: st.john.evangelist.orinda@gmail.com

Sunday, March 10, 2024
Tone 7 / Eothinon 7
Sunday of the Last Judgment (Meat Fare)

Martyr Kodratos of Corinth and his five companions; Anastasia the patrician of Alexandria

Sunday of the Last Judgement.
Today, we commemorate the Second and impartial Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
It is the Sunday of the Last Judgment—known also as Meat Fare Sunday—the lesson of which occurs in today's Holy Gospel. Jesus illustrates to us God's ineffable goodness and His great love for mankind. And so lest some who are lazy should loiter and spend the time appropriate to their salvation in the pursuit of sin, and be suddenly overtaken by death, the divine Fathers decree that on this day the remembrance of the Second Appearance of Christ may be celebrated. The intention is to remind them that, as God is good and loving to mankind, He is also a very righteous Judge Who recompenses each according to his deeds. Our Lord teaches us that when we minister to our brother or sister, we really minister to Him. This brings us righteousness and life eternal.

THE EPISTLE

The Lord will give strength to His people.
Ascribe to the Lord, O sons of God, ascribe to the Lord glory and honor.

The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (8:8-9:2)

Brethren, food will not bring us closer to God; for neither if we eat, are we the better, nor if we do not eat, are we the worse. But take heed lest by any means this authority of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak. For if any one sees you, as someone who has knowledge, reclining at a table in an idol's temple, will not the conscience of the one who is weak be emboldened to eat of the things sacrificed to idols, and through your knowledge the weak brother perishes, for whom Christ died? And thus, sinning against the brethren, and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food causes my brother to stumble, I will not eat meat forever, lest I cause my brother to stumble. Am I not an apostle? Am I not free? Have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? Are not you my work in the Lord? If to others I am not an apostle, yet at least I am to you; for the seal of my apostleship are you in the Lord.

الرسالة

الرَّبُّ يُعْطِي قُوَّةً لِشَعْبِهِ.

قَدِّمُوا للرَّبِ يا أَبْنَاءَ الله. قَدِّمُوا للرَّبِ مَجْداً وكَرامَة.

فَصْلٌ مِنْ رِسالَةِ القِدّيسِ بولُسَ الرَّسولِ الأولى إلى أَهْلِ كورِنْثُوس.

يا إِخْوَةُ، إِنَّ الطَّعامَ لا يُقَرِّبُنا إلى الله، لأَنَّا إِنْ أَكَلْنا لا نَزيدُ وإِنْ لَمْ نَأكُلْ لا نَنْقُصُ. ولَكِنِ انْظُروا أَنْ لا يَكونَ سُلْطانُكُمْ هذا مَعْثَرَةً للضُّعَفَاءِ. لأَنَّهُ إِنْ رَآكَ أَحَدٌ يا مَنْ لَهُ العِلْمُ مُتَّكِئاً في بيتِ الأَوْثانِ، أَفَلا يَتَقَوَّى ضَمِيرُهُ، وهو ضَعيفٌ، على أكلِ ذبائحِ الأَوْثانِ. فَيَهلِكَ بسبَبِ عِلْمِكَ الأَخُ الضَّعِيفُ الذي ماتَ المَسِيحُ لأجلِهِ؟ وهَكَذا إِذْ تُخْطِئونَ إلى الإِخْوَةِ وتَجرَحُونَ ضَمائِرَهُمْ، وهِيَ ضَعِيفَةٌ، إِنَّما تُخْطِئُونَ إلى المسيحِ. فَلِذلِكَ إِنْ كانَ الطَّعامُ يُشَكِّكُ أخي، فَلا آكُلُ لَحماً إلى الأبَدِ لئَلاَّ أُشَكِّكَ أخي. أَلَسْتُ أنا رَسولاً؟ أَلَسْتُ أنا حُرّاً؟ أَما رأَيتُ يسوعَ المسيحَ رَبَّنا؟ أَلَسْتُمْ أَنْتُمْ عَمَلي في الرَّبِّ؟ وإِنْ لَمْ أَكُنْ رسولاً إلى آخَرِينَ، فإِنّي رَسولٌ إليكُم. لأَنَّ خاتَمَ رِسَالتي هوَ أَنْتُمْ في الرَّبّ.

THE GOSPEL

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (25:31-46)

The Lord said, “When the Son of man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. Before Him will be gathered all the nations, and He will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and He will place the sheep at His right hand, but the goats at the left. Then the King will say to those at His right hand, ‘Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed Me, I was naked and you clothed Me, I was sick and you visited Me, I was in prison and you came to Me.’ Then the righteous will answer Him, ‘Lord, when did we see Thee hungry and feed Thee, or thirsty and give Thee drink? And when did we see Thee a stranger and welcome Thee, or naked and clothe Thee? And when did we see Thee sick or in prison and visit Thee?’ And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.’ Then He will say to those at his left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave Me no food, I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome Me, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see Thee hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to Thee?’ Then He will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to Me.’ And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

الإنجيل

فَصْلٌ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بِشارَةِ القِدّيس متى الإنْجيلِيّ البَشير والتلْميذِ الطاهِر.

قالَ الرَّبُّ: مَتى جاءَ ابْنُ البَشَر في مَجْدِهِ وجميعُ المَلائكةِ القِدّيسينَ مَعَهُ، فَحينئِذٍ يَجلِسُ على عَرشِ مَجْدِهِ. وتُجمَعُ إليهِ كُلُّ الأُمَم، فَيُمَيِّزُ بَعضَهُمْ مِنْ بَعضٍ، كما يُمَيِّزُ الراعي الخِرافَ منَ الجداءِ. ويُقيمُ الخِرافَ عَنْ يَمِينِهِ والجِداءَ عَنْ يَسارِهِ. حينَئِذٍ يَقولُ المَلِكُ للذينَ عن يَمينِهِ: تَعالَوْا يا مُبَارَكي أبي رِثوا المُلكَ المُعَدَّ لَكُمْ مُنْذُ إنْشاءِ العَالَم. لأَنّي جُعتُ فأَطْعَمتُموني، وعَطِشْتُ فسَقَيْتُموني، وكُنتُ غَريباً فآوَيْتُموني، وعُرياناً فكَسَوْتُموني، ومَريضاً فَعُدْتُموني، ومَحْبوساً فأَتَيْتُمْ إليَّ. حينَئِذٍ يُجيبُهُ الصِّدّيقونَ قائلينَ: يا ربُّ مَتى رأَيناكَ جائِعاً فأَطعَمناكَ، أو عَطشانَ فَسَقَيْناكَ؟ ومَتى رَأَيْناكَ غَريباً فآوَيْناكَ، أو عُرْياناً فَكَسَوناكَ؟ ومَتى رأَيناكَ مَريضاً أَوْ مَحْبوساً فأَتَيْنا إليكَ؟ فيُجيبُ المَلِكُ ويَقولُ لَهُمْ: الحَقَّ أقولُ لَكُمْ، بِما أَنَّكُمْ فَعَلتُمْ ذَلِكَ بأَحَدِ إخْوَتي هؤُلاءِ الصِّغار فَبي فَعَلتُمُوهُ. حينئِذٍ يَقولُ أيضاً للذيّنَ عَنْ يَسارِهِ: إذْهَبوا عنّي يا مَلاعِينُ إلى النارِ الأَبَديَّةِ المُعَدَّةِ لإبليسَ وملائِكَتِهِ. لأني جُعْتُ فَلَمْ تُطْعِمُوني، وعَطِشْتُ فَلَمْ تَسْقُوني، وكُنْتُ غَريباً فَلَمْ تُؤووني، وعُرْياناً فَلَمْ تَكْسُوني، ومَريضاً ومَحْبوساً فَلَمْ تَزورُوني. حينئِذٍ يُجيبُونَهُ هُمْ أيْضاً قائلينَ: يا رَبُّ، مَتى رَأَيْناكَ جائِعاً أَوْ عَطْشاناً أَوْ غَريباً أَوْ عُرْياناً أَوْ مَريضاً أَوْ مَحْبوساً ولَمْ نَخدِمْكَ؟ حينَئِذٍ يُجِيبُهُمْ قائِلاً: الحَقَّ أقولُ لَكُمْ، بِما أَنَّكُمْ لَمْ تَفعَلوا ذَلِكَ بأَحَدِ هؤُلاءِ الصِّغار، فَبي لَمْ تَفعَلُوهُ. فَيَذْهَبُ هؤُلاءِ إلى العَذابِ الأَبَديّ، والصِّديقونَ إلى الحياةِ الأبَدِيَّة.

Love Your Neighbor

March – Archdiocese Collection for Seminarian Fund on Sunday of Orthodoxy (March 24, 2024)

Each year the Archdiocese asks all parishes to contribute to help the Antiochian students studying on the various seminaries of the United States. In March, these students will be our neighbors.

House Blessing

Fr. Nicholas will be visiting parishioners for house blessings. You will receive a call from Fr. Nicholas or Evan to schedule. You may also call Fr. To schedule. God bless you all!

Upcoming Events

Every Sunday at 7pm	St. Anastasia Fellowship Meeting.
Saturday May 4th	Egg hunt after Divine Liturgy
September 28-29	Annual Middle Eastern Festival

Coffee Hours

March 10th	Munayer family in memory of Mariam Munayer (one year). May her memory be eternal!
March 17th	Mona Thayer in memory of Matilda & Nicola Messih. May their memory be eternal!
March 24th	The Atallah, Khalil, Issa, Shahin Awwad families in memory of John Atallah. May his memory be eternal!

Memorial Services

March 10th: One year Memorial for the handmaiden of God Mariam Khalil Munayer, offered by her children and family. May her memory be eternal!

March 24th: Six-month memorial for John Atallah. May his memory be eternal!

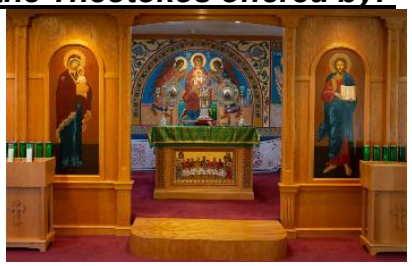
Holy Oblations

This week, Holy Oblations are offered by:

- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Nick Nicola, George Messih, Vivian Srouji** and **Aida Youakeem**. Many years!
- † Nino family in memory of husband, father, father-in-law and grandfather **Elias Nino** (20 yr.) May his memory be eternal!
- † Gina Jaber and family in memory of **Charles Zayed**. May his memory be eternal!
- † St. John Parish Family in memory of **Nuha Adranly,** the beloved sister of our Deacon Nicholas and our chanter George. Our condolences to the entire Adranly family. May her memory be eternal!
- † Dudum, Dietzmann, and Morgan Families in beloved memory of **Jim** and **Rose Romley**, **Sig Dietzmann**, **Ray**, **Gloria** and **Brad Zachariah**. May their memory be eternal! Also for the continued good health of their brother **Daniel**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family in memory of **Nabil Kawar**. 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

† Epistle readers:
Raghda Khalileh - Arabic
Margaret Mas - English

FALAFEL & KA'AK SALE

Sunday, March 24TH
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 $8

Pre-orders are appreciated – by 3/20
Fadwa Samara at 510-909-0119 or Samar Wahbeh 510-909-2882

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:

This is going to be a time where we can see some major changes to the exterior of the Hall. We will be starting on the final phase of the roofing which is the zinc roof. You will also see scaffolding around the building as they complete this project and then move to the siding on the exterior walls. Some additional hardscape will be poured around the building as well showing the full footprint of the deck around the building.

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!

Putting Zinc Shingles on the Roof!

LORE
COFFEE ROASTERS

10% FROM ALL SALES
GOES TO YOUR PARISH!

SCAN ME TO ORDER
OR USE
www.loreroasters.com/94563StJohn

Lore Coffee Roasters is a specialty coffee roastery owned and operated by two Orthodox families in Bonners Ferry, Idaho.

We focus on sourcing and roasting the hightest quality coffee from all over the earth, striving to glorify Christ by treating our craft with repect and serving excellent coffee!

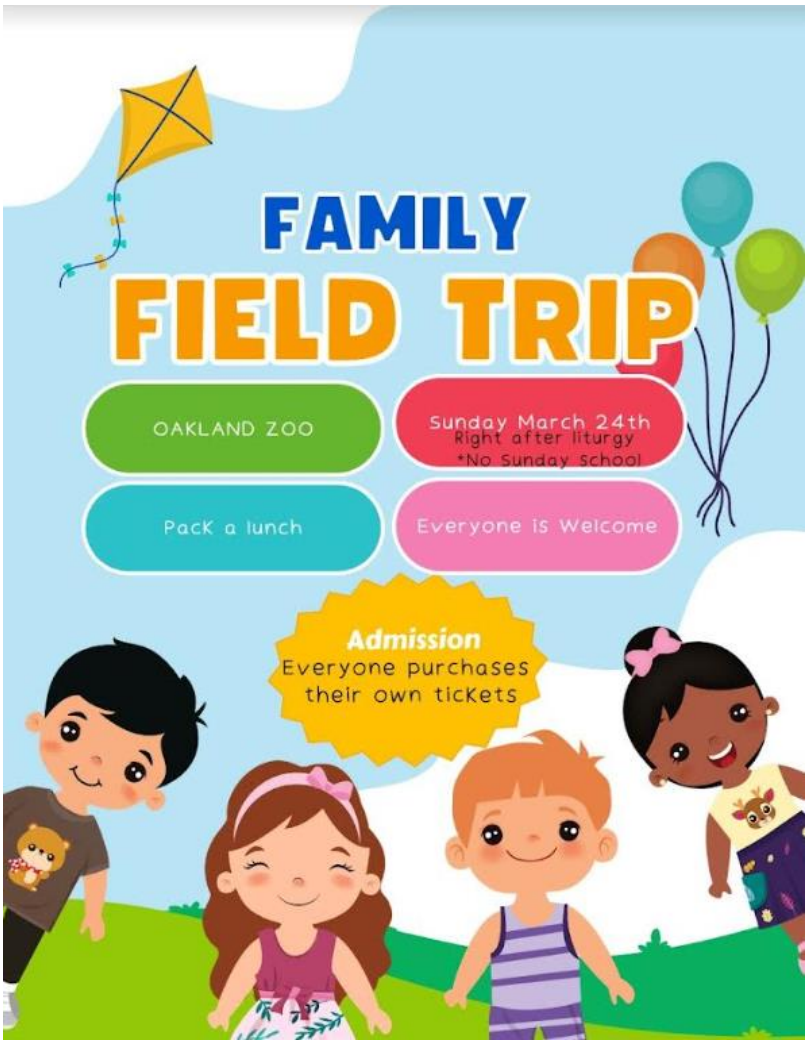
@LORECOFFEEROASTERS

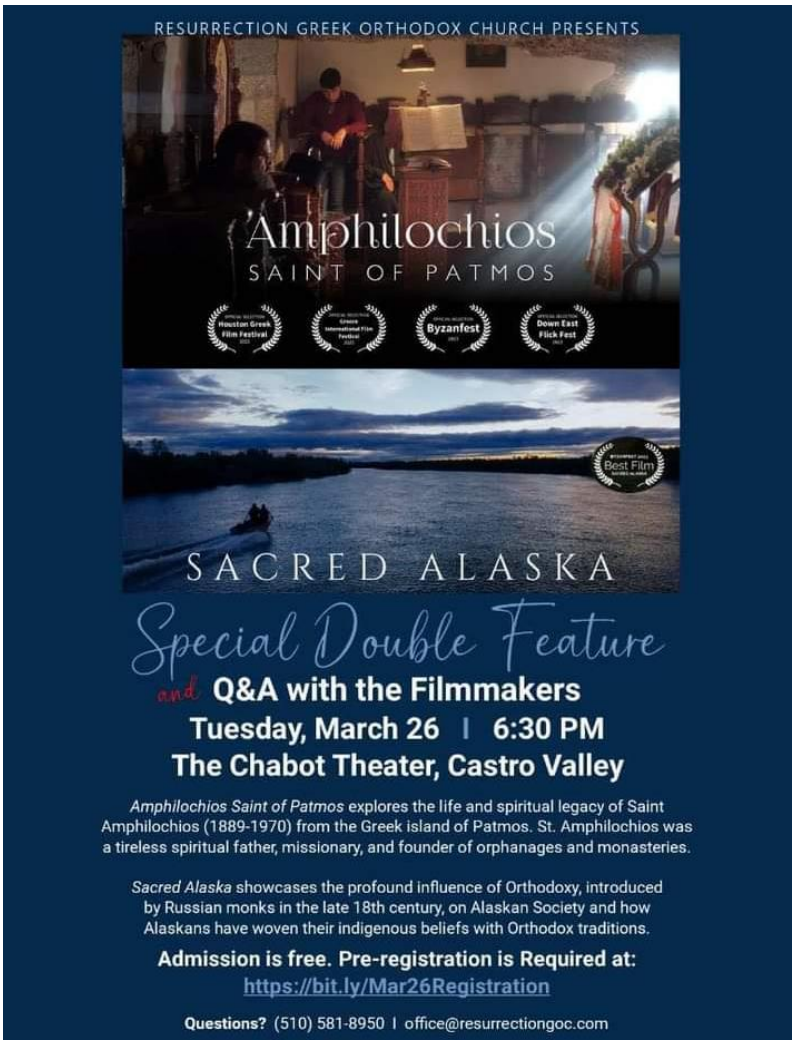
BRINGING YOU INTO THE STORY BEHIND GOOD COFFEE.

Meeting Urgent Needs and Planning for the Future

Active in the Middle East since the 1990s, IOCC is using its deep experience and relationships to provide aid during the ongoing conflict in the Holy Land. Since conflict began in October, IOCC has remained in close contact with partners and staff on the ground.

From food and water to baby formula and medicine, IOCC has supplied essential support to thousands of displaced refugees in Gaza. Read more about how IOCC is providing emergency relief while planning for long-term needs.





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.: 049/2024

Great Lent, 2024

TO BE READ FROM THE PULPIT AND PRINTED IN THE BULLETIN

Beloved Hierarchs, Clergy, and Faithful of our Archdiocese,

Greetings in the name of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ!

During this holy season of repentance, we strive with renewed focus to live rightly, being "doers of the word and not just hearers" (James 1:22). Along with increasing our prayers and abandoning self-indulgence, we especially focus on caring for the needs of others. As we hear on Meatfare Sunday, we will be judged by God on how we have responded to the sufferings of the "least of these" (Matthew 25), so we must strive to give attention to their needs as we would to Christ's.

Although our Lord Jesus Christ taught and exemplified this law of love in the most perfect way, it is also beautifully stated in the Old Law, where God commands, "If one of your brothers happens to be in need . . ., you will not harden your heart nor shut your hand to your needy brother. You will surely open your hands to him" (Deuteronomy 15:7–8). Such giving is not just some humanitarian project but a relational act: opening our hearts and hands to our brothers and sisters. It is a determination to actually see the homeless woman we pass on the street and to remember the friend or acquaintance who has fallen on hard times. Although the magnitude of suffering in the world tempts us to insulate ourselves against the needs of others, the law of love reminds us that each person is a treasure and that his need is not a problem but an opportunity to embrace him.

As we have for 50 years now, we again encourage you to open your hearts and hands to the needy by contributing to our Food for Hungry People program this Lent. We appeal to your well-known generosity and ask the blessing of Almighty God on all who participate in this worthy effort.

With prayers for an edifying and enriching Great Lent and a glorious celebration of Pascha, I remain,

Your Father in Christ,

✠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