

+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, MARCH 03, 2024

TONE 6 / EOTHINON 6

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

MARTYRS EUTROPIOS, KLEONIKOS, AND BASILIKOS OF AMASEA; HIEROMARTYR THEODORETOS OF ANTIOCH



Sunday of the Prodigal Son.

On this day, we make remembrance of the Parable of the Prodigal Son, which occurs in the noble Gospel and which our deified Fathers reinstated in the Triodion.

In the parable our Savior tells, Jesus illustrates three things: the condition of the sinner, the canon of repentance and the knowledge of God's compassion. For in the person of the prodigal son, we view the wretched condition that sin creates for us, distant from God and His Sacraments. However, we become aware of ourselves and awaken, hastening with hope to return to Him through repentance. Our Savior wants to call back to His mansions all those who have been overtaken by despair, lacking hope of forgiveness for their grave sins. The Father encourages all of his lost children to remove the desperation from their hearts, and revive their energies for virtuous deeds.

THE EPISTLE

O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance. Unto Thee will I cry, O Lord my God.

The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (6:12-20)

Brethren, all things are lawful for me, but not all things are expedient. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the authority of anything. Foods are for the belly, and the belly for foods; but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body; and God both raised up the Lord, and will also raise us up through His power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take away the members of Christ, and make them members of a harlot? God forbid! Or, do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For, "The two," He says, "shall become one flesh." But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit. Flee fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body, but whoever commits fornication sins against his own body. Or, do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have received from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

الرسالة

خَلِّصْ يَا رَبُّ شَعْبَكَ وَبَارِكْ مِيراثَكَ.

إِلَيْكَ يَا رَبُّ أَصْرُخُ إِلَهِي.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولْسِ الرَّسُولِ الْأُولَى إِلَى أَهْلِ كورنثوس.

يا إخوة، كُلُّ شَيْءٍ مُبَاخٍ لِي وَلَكِنْ لَيْسَ كُلُّ شَيْءٍ يُوَافِقُ، كُلُّ شَيْءٍ مُبَاخٍ لِي وَلَكِنْ لَا يَتَسَلَّطُ عَلَيَّ شَيْءٌ. إِنَّ الْأَطْعِمَةَ لِلْجَوْفِ وَالْجَوْفَ لِلْأَطْعِمَةِ، وَسَيَبِيدُ اللَّهُ هَذِهِ وَذَآكَ. أَمَّا الْجَسَدُ فَلَيْسَ لِلزَّانِي بَلْ لِلرَّبِّ وَالرَّبُّ لِلْجَسَدِ، وَاللَّهُ الَّذِي أَقَامَ الرَّبَّ سَيُقِيمُنَا نَحْنُ أَيْضًا بِقُوَّتِهِ. أَمَا تَعْلَمُونَ أَنَّ أَجْسَادَكُمْ هِيَ أَعْضَاءُ الْمَسِيحِ؟ فَأَخُذْ أَعْضَاءَ الْمَسِيحِ وَأَجْعَلْ مِنْهَا أَعْضَاءَ زَنَى؟ حَاشَى. أَمَا تَعْلَمُونَ أَنَّ مَنْ اقْتَرَنَ بِزَانِيَةٍ صَارَ وَإِيَّاهَا جَسَدًا وَاحِدًا؟ لِأَنَّهُ قَدْ قِيلَ: "يَصِيرُ كِلَاهُمَا جَسَدًا وَاحِدًا." أَمَا الَّذِي يَقْتَرِنُ بِالرَّبِّ فَيَكُونُ مَعَهُ رُوحًا وَاحِدًا. أَهْرُبُوا مِنَ الزَّانِي. فَإِنَّ كُلَّ حَظِيئَةٍ يَفْعَلُهَا الْإِنْسَانُ هِيَ فِي خَارِجِ الْجَسَدِ، أَمَا الزَّانِي فَإِنَّهُ يَخْطَأُ إِلَى جَسَدِهِ. أَمَا تَعْلَمُونَ أَنَّ جَسَدَكُمْ هُوَ هَيْكَلُ الرُّوحِ الْقُدْسِ الَّذِي فِيكُمْ الَّذِي نَلْتَمُوهُ مِنَ اللَّهِ وَأَنْتُمْ لَسْتُمْ لِأَنْفُسِكُمْ؟ لِأَنَّكُمْ قَدْ اشْتَرَيْتُمْ بِثَمَنِ فَمَجِدُوا اللَّهَ فِي أَجْسَادِكُمْ وَفِي أَرْوَاحِكُمْ الَّتِي هِيَ لِلَّهِ.

THE GOSPEL

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (15:11-32)

The Lord spoke this parable: "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have fed on the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants."' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry. Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'

الإنجيل

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ لَوْقَا الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ، التَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ.

قَالَ الرَّبُّ هَذَا الْمَثَلُ: "إِنْسَانٌ كَانَ لَهُ ابْنَانِ، فَقَالَ أَصْغَرُهُمَا لِأَبِيهِ: يَا أَبَتِ، أَعْطِنِي النَّصِيبَ الَّذِي يَخْصُنِي مِنَ الْمَالِ. فَسَمَّ بَيْنَهُمَا مَعِيشَتَهُ. وَبَعْدَ أَيَّامٍ غَيْرِ كَثِيرَةٍ، جَمَعَ الْاِثْنَيْنِ الْأَصْغَرَ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ لَهُ، وَسَافَرَ إِلَى بَلَدٍ بَعِيدٍ، وَبَدَّرَ مَالَهُ هُنَاكَ عَائِشًا فِي الْخَلَاعَةِ. فَلَمَّا أَنْفَقَ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ لَهُ، حَدَّثَتْ فِي ذَلِكَ الْبَلَدِ مَجَاعَةٌ شَدِيدَةٌ، فَأَخَذَ فِي الْعَوَزِ. فَذَهَبَ وَانْضَوَى إِلَى وَاحِدٍ مِنْ أَهْلِ ذَلِكَ الْبَلَدِ، فَأَرْسَلَهُ إِلَى حَقُولِهِ يَزْعَى خَنَازِيرَ. وَكَانَ يَشْتَهِي أَنْ يَمَلَأَ بَطْنَهُ مِنَ الْخَزْنُوبِ الَّذِي كَانَتْ الْخَنَازِيرُ تَأْكُلُهُ، فَلَمْ يُعْطِهِ أَحَدٌ. فَرَجَعَ إِلَى نَفْسِهِ وَقَالَ "كَمْ لِأَبِي مِنْ أَجْرَاءٍ يَفْضُلُ عَنْهُمْ الْخُبْزُ، وَأَنَا أَهْلِكُ جُوعًا. أَقُومُ وَأَمْضِي إِلَى أَبِي وَأَقُولُ لَهُ "يَا أَبَتِ، قَدْ أَخْطَأْتُ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ وَأَمَامَكَ، وَلَسْتُ مُسْتَحِقًّا بَعْدُ أَنْ أُدْعَى لَكَ ابْنًا، فَاجْعَلْنِي كَأَحَدِ أَجْرَائِكَ." فَقَامَ وَجَاءَ إِلَى أَبِيهِ. وَفِيمَا هُوَ بَعْدُ غَيْرِ بَعِيدٍ، رَأَى أَبُوهُ، فَتَحَنَّنَ عَلَيْهِ وَأَسْرَعَ وَأَلْقَى بِنَفْسِهِ عَلَى عُنُقِهِ وَقَبَّلَهُ. فَقَالَ لَهُ الْاِثْنَيْنِ: "يَا أَبَتِ، قَدْ أَخْطَأْتُ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ وَأَمَامَكَ وَلَسْتُ مُسْتَحِقًّا بَعْدُ أَنْ أُدْعَى لَكَ ابْنًا." فَقَالَ الْاِبْنُ الْكَبِيرُ: "هَاتُوا الْخَلَّةَ الْأُولَى وَالْبَسُوهُ، وَاجْعَلُوا خَاتَمًا فِي يَدِهِ، وَجِذَاءً فِي رِجْلَيْهِ، وَأَتُوا بِالْعِجْلِ الْمُسَمَّنِ وَادْبَحُوهُ، فَتَأْكُلْ وَنَفْرَحْ، لِأَنَّ ابْنِي هَذَا كَانَ مَيِّتًا فَعَاشَ، وَكَانَ ضَالًّا فَوُجِدَ. سَمِعَ أَصْوَاتَ الْغِنَاءِ وَالرَّقْصِ. فَدَعَا أَحَدَ الْغُلَّامِ وَسَأَلَهُ مَا هَذَا. فَقَالَ لَهُ: "قَدْ قَدِمَ أَخُوكَ، فَدَبَّحَ أَبُوكَ الْعِجْلَ الْمُسَمَّنَ لِأَنَّهُ لَقِيَهُ سَالِمًا." فَغَضِبَ وَلَمْ يَرِدْ أَنْ يَدْخُلَ. فَخَرَجَ أَبُوهُ وَطَفِقَ يَتَوَسَّلُ إِلَيْهِ، فَأَجَابَ وَقَالَ لِأَبِيهِ: "كَمْ لِي مِنَ السِّنِينَ أُخْدِمُكَ، وَلَمْ أَتَّعِدْ لَكَ وَصِيَّةً قَطُّ، وَأَنْتَ لَمْ تُعْطِنِي قَطُّ جَدِيًّا لِأَفْرَحَ مَعَ أَصْدِقَائِي. وَلَمَّا جَاءَ ابْنُكَ هَذَا الَّذِي أَكَلَ مَعِيشَتَكَ مَعَ الزَّوَانِي، دَبَّحْتَ لَهُ الْعِجْلَ الْمُسَمَّنَ. فَقَالَ لَهُ: "يَا ابْنِي، أَنْتَ مَعِيَ فِي كُلِّ حِينٍ، وَكُلُّ مَا هُوَ لِي فَهُوَ لَكَ. وَلَكِنْ كَانَ يَنْبَغِي أَنْ نَفْرَحَ وَنُسَّرَ، لِأَنَّ أَخَاكَ هَذَا كَانَ مَيِّتًا فَعَاشَ، وَكَانَ ضَالًّا فَوُجِدَ."

Love Your Neighbor

February – 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.
September 28-29	Annual Middle Eastern Festival

Coffee Hours

March 3 rd	Denise Dudum, Dana Dietzmann & Dale Morgan
March 10 th	Munayer family in memory of Mariam Munayer (one year). May her memory be eternal!
March 17 th	Sponsor Needed
March 24 th	Mona Thayer in memory of Matilda & Nicola Messih. May their memory be eternal!

Memorial Services

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 and Aida Youakeem**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Nick Nicola**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Ghassan and Vivian Sruji**. 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!

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

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- † Epistle read 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

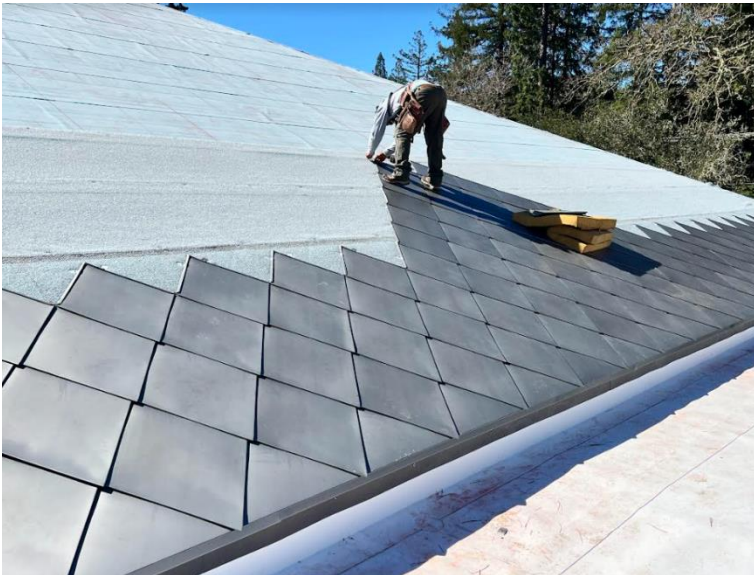
Building Committee Update:

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!



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



Meeting Urgent Needs and Planning for the Future

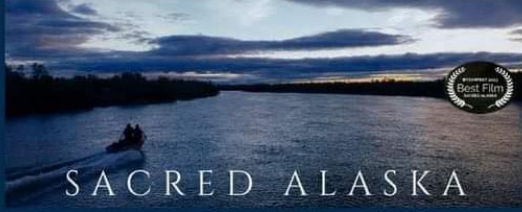
Active in the Middle East since the 1990s, IOCC is using its deep experience and relationships to provide aid during the ongoing conflict in the Holy Land. Since conflict began in October, IOCC has remained in close contact with partners and staff on the ground.

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.

RESURRECTION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH PRESENTS



Amphilochios SAINT OF PATMOS



SACRED ALASKA

Special Double Feature

and **Q&A with the Filmmakers**

Tuesday, March 26 | 6:30 PM

The Chabot Theater, Castro Valley

Amphilochios Saint of Patmos explores the life and spiritual legacy of Saint Amphilochios (1889-1970) from the Greek island of Patmos. St. Amphilochios was a tireless spiritual father, missionary, and founder of orphanages and monasteries.

Sacred Alaska showcases the profound influence of Orthodoxy, introduced by Russian monks in the late 18th century, on Alaskan Society and how Alaskans have woven their indigenous beliefs with Orthodox traditions.

Admission is free. Pre-registration is Required at:

<https://bit.ly/Mar26Registration>

Questions? (510) 581-8950 | office@resurrectiongoc.com

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FAMILY FIELD TRIP

OAKLAND ZOO

Sunday March 24th
Right after liturgy
*No Sunday School

Pack a lunch

Everyone is Welcome

Admission

Everyone purchases their own tickets



Rocco's Ristorante Pizzeria

**DINE AND DONATE
MARCH 14th.**

Dine in or take-out
ALL DAY LONG

Mention ST. JOHN & show flyer
2909 Ygnacio Valley Rd, Walnut Creek,
CA 94598