

+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

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THIRD SUNDAY OF PASCHA

SUNDAY, MAY 19; TONE 2 / EOTHINON 4

SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN,

PIOUS JOSEPH OF ARIMATHAEA & RIGHTEOUS NICODEMUS

الْقُدَّاسُ لِلأَحَدِ الثَّالِثِ بَعْدَ الْفِصْحِ

حَامِلَاتِ الطَّيِّبِ، يَوْسُفَ الرَّامِيِّ الْمُتَّقِي، وَالْبَارِ نِيقُودِيمُوسِ

Christ is Risen / Χριστός Ανέστη / المسيح قام

Sunday of the Myrrh-bearing Women

On the third Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate the feast of the holy Myrrh-bearing women. And we also commemorate Joseph of Arimathaea, the secret disciple, and Nicodemus, the disciple by night.

The women went to Christ's tomb on Holy Pascha to anoint His body, only to discover it empty. We know the names of only eight of these women: Mary the Theotokos, the "mother" of James and Joses, who were the sons of Joseph the Betrothed from his previous marriage (Matt. 27:56 and Mark 15:40); Mary Magdalene; Mary, the wife of Cleopas; Joanna the wife of Chuza; Salome the mother of the sons of Zebedee; Susanna; and Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus. Joseph was a rich and noble man, and a member of the Privy Council of Jerusalem. He dared to ask Pilate for the undefiled body of our Savior, which he took and buried in his own new tomb. Accompanying Joseph to the sepulcher was Nicodemus, a Jerusalemite who

was one of the leaders of the Pharisees. Nicodemus brought 100 pounds of myrrh and aloes to scent and embalm the body of Christ.

THE EPISTLE

The Lord is my strength and my song.

With chastisement has the Lord chastened me.

The Reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles. (6:1-7)

In those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily ministry. And the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said: "It is not right that we should forsake the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good report, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. And we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And the saying pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Próchoros, and Nikánor, and Tímon, and Parmenás, and Nikólaos a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them. And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem exceedingly, and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

الرسالة.

فُوتِي وَتَسْبِحْتِي الرَّبُّ. أَدْبَاباً أَدْبَانِي الرَّبُّ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ أَعْمَالِ الرُّسُلِ الْقَدِيسِينَ الْأَطْهَارِ. (7-1:6)

في تلك الأيام، لما تكاثرت التلاميذ، حدثت تدمر من اليونانيين على العبرانيين بأن أراملهم كنن يهملن في الخدمة اليومية. فدعا الإثنا عشر جمهور التلاميذ وقالوا: "لا يحسن أن نترك نحن كلمة الله ونخدم الموائد. فانتخبوا أيها الإخوة منكم سبعة رجال، مشهوداً لهم بالفضل، ممتلئين من الروح القدس والحكمة، فنقيمهم على هذه الحاجة. ونواظب نحن على الصلاة وخدمة الكلمة." فحسن الكلام لدى جميع الجمهور. فاختاروا إستفانوس، رجلاً ممتلئاً من الإيمان والروح القدس، وفليبي وبروخورس ونيكانور وتيمن وبرمناس ونيقولأوس دخیلاً أنطاكياً. وأقاموهم أمام الرسل. فصلوا ووضعوا عليهم الأيدي. وكانت كلمة الله تنمو، وعدد التلاميذ يتكاثر في أورشليم جداً. وكان جمع كثير من الكهنة يطيعون الإيمان.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (15:43-16:8)

At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the Kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if He were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether Jesus was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that He was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking Him down, wrapped Him in the linen shroud, and laid Him in a tomb, which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James saw where He was laid. And when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Jesus. And very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb at the rising of the sun. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back – it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a long white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, Who was crucified. He is risen; He is not here; see the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples and Peter that He is going before you to Galilee; there you will see Him, as He told you." And they went out quickly and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

الإنجيل

فصل شريف من بشارة القديس مرقس الإنجيلي البشير والتلميذ الطاهر. (16:8- 43:15)

في ذلك الزمان، جاء يوسف الذي من الرامة، مشير تقي، وكان هو أيضاً منتظراً ملكوت الله. فاجترأ ودخل على بيلاطس وطلب جسد يسوع. فاستغرب بيلاطس أنه قد مات هكذا سريعاً. واستدعى قائد المئة وسأله هل له زمان قد مات. ولما عرف من القائد، وهب الجسد ليوسف. فاشترى كتاناً، وأنزله، ولفه في الكتان، ووضعته في قبر كان منحوتاً في صخرة، ودحرج حجراً على باب القبر. وكانت مريم المجدلية ومريم أم يوسى تنظران أين وضع. ولما انقضى السبت، اشترت مريم المجدلية ومريم أم يعقوب وسالومة حنوطاً ليأتين ويدهنه. وبكرن جداً في أول الأسبوع وأتت القبر وقد طلعت الشمس. وكن يقطن فيما بينهن "من يدحرج لنا الحجر عن باب القبر؟" فتطلعن، فرأين الحجر قد دحرج، لأنه كان عظيماً جداً. فلما دخلن القبر، رأين شاباً جالساً عن اليمين، لابساً حلة بيضاء، فاندهلن. فقال لهن: "لا تندهلن. أنتن تطلبن يسوع الناصري المصلوب. قد قام، ليس هو ههنا. هوذا الموضع الذي وضعوه فيه. فاذهبن وقلن لتلاميذه ولبطرس إنه يسبقكم إلى الجليل، هناك ترونه كما قال لكم." فخرجن سريعاً وفررن من القبر وقد أخذتهن الرعدة والدهش. ولم يقطن لأحد شيئاً لأنهن كن خائفات.

Love Your Neighbor

May – Project Mexico/ St Innocent Orphanage

Project Mexico is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that performs works of mercy in the name of Jesus Christ, building homes for the poor in Mexico and by providing education and shelter for orphaned boys through St. Innocent Orphanage.

Thanks for a Great Easter Egg Hunt!

Thank you enough for all who participated in our Egg Hunt Event. Everyone's presence lighted up our fellowship areas. About **45-50** kids of all ages running around with family and friends all around was great to see.

Collectively we raised **\$900** to contribute to Gaza Tent Sponsorship held by Basicilia of St. Mary's Orthodox Church in Livonia, MI.

We also contributed to our local communities but making a **150** homeless packages that are going to be given to shelters nearby.

Happy Pascha!! TRULY He is Risen!



Thank You to All Who Helped During Holy Week!

Thanks to all who labored, chanted, cooked, served, donated and participated during this Holy Week. We could not have done it without you. Thank you.

Fr. Nicholas

\$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.

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

June 9th: 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 23rd: 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

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Every Sunday at 7pm | St. Anastasia Fellowship Meeting. |
| May 19th | Festival committee meeting after Coffee Hour. |
| September 28-29 | Annual Middle Eastern Festival |

Coffee Hours

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| May 19th | Lunch (Thai Food), hosted by Maureen and Jeane in thanksgiving for her conversion to Holy Orthodoxy. |
| May 26th | Sponsor Needed |
| June 2nd | Women's ministry coffee hour for Clergy Wives |
| June 9th | Sponsor Needed |

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 **Karim Nino**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Sam Nassab**. Many years!
- † Siham Mitry and family in memory of **Elaine Samara**. May her memory be eternal!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Henriette Hilal**. Many years!
- † Paula Kassouf and family for the good health of **Yasmeen Rafeedie**. 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

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. Thank you!

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| <p>Lore Coffee Roasters is a specialty coffee roastery owned and operated by two Orthodox families in Bonners Ferry, Idaho.</p> | <p>We focus on sourcing and roasting the highest quality coffee from all over the earth, striving to glorify Christ by treating our craft with respect and serving excellent coffee!</p> |
|---|--|

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BRINGING YOU INTO THE STORY BEHIND GOOD COFFEE.

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 16th

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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 so we can have plenty for everyone to enjoy!!

St. John Financial Snapshot

Year to Date Actual Finances as of 04/30/2024

| INCOME | 2024 Year To Date | % of Total Income | 2023 Year to Date | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|--|
| Membership Pledges | \$ 54,739 | 32% | \$ 84,724 | |
| Tray Collections | \$ 5,116 | 3% | \$ 3,912 | |
| Preschool Contribution* | \$ 83,109 | 48% | \$ 96,114 | Includes transfer of preschool net income in October 2022 to date, to support hall loan payments |
| Crab Feed and Festival | \$ 22,149 | 13% | \$ 17,166 | |
| Ladies Contribution | \$ - | 0% | \$ - | |
| Other** | \$ 7,606 | 4% | \$ 11,186 | |
| Total Income | \$ 172,719 | 100% | \$ 213,102 | |
| Total Expenses | \$ 134,028 | | \$ 79,217 | |
| YTD Net Income | \$ 38,692 | 22% | \$ 133,884 | |

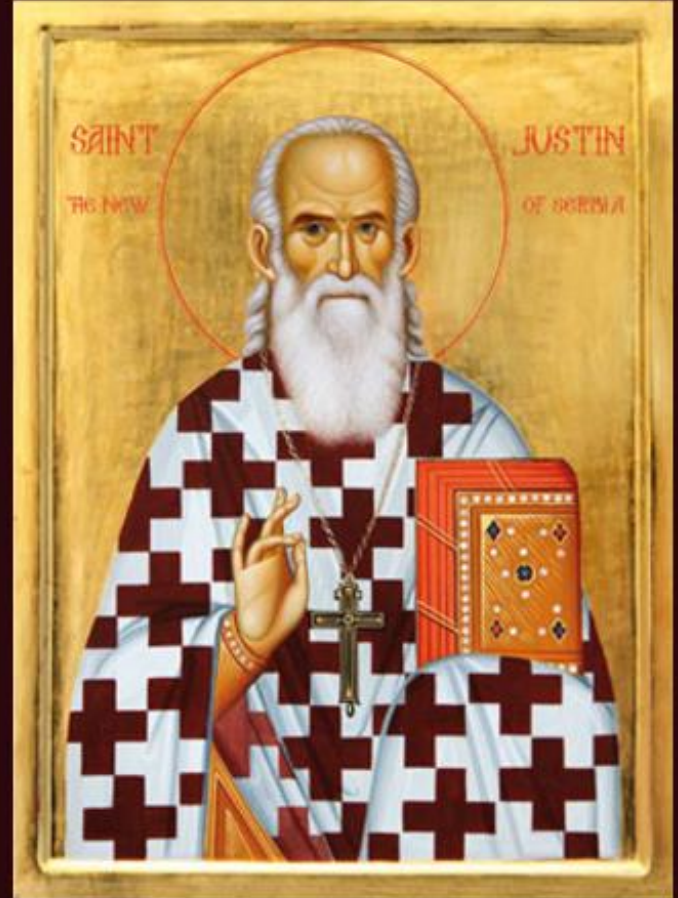
* In addition to the above, preschool payments to the church include \$400 per month to offset expenses paid by the church and \$4,883.33 per month towards the building fund (deposited directly into building fund)

**Other includes bookstore, candles, flowers, palms, coffee hour, memorials, Amazon Smile program, weddings, prior year pledges

Building Fund Balance **\$ 1,298,269.30**

Those who wish to see the full financial statement should contact Parish Council
Treasurer Matthew Simon

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.**

FUNDRAISER

JOIN US!



**IS GIVING
50% BACK TO:**

**St. John Orthodox
church**

**Thursday, May 16
All day**

The Kebab Shop
2359 Oak Grove Rd Bldg H
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

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.

Fundraiser Code:

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.

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4 GOOD**
FUNDRAISING