



# +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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**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 03, 2024**

**TONE 2 / EOTHINON 8; NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
& FIFTH SUNDAY OF LUKE**

MARTYRS AKEPSIMAS, JOSEPH AND AEITHALAS OF PERSIA; DEDICATION OF ST. GEORGE CHURCH IN LYDDA OF PALESTINE; HIEROMARTYR GEORGE OF NEAPOLIS; THEODORE THE CONFESSOR, BISHOP OF ANCYRA

## **Consecration of the Church of St. George in Palestine**

On this day, we also commemorate the Consecration of the Temple of the holy Great-Martyr George in Lydda in Palestine, as well as the deposition of his holy body therein. George's relics came from Nicomedia, where he suffered at the time of Emperor Diocletian. Anticipating his martyrdom, George begged his servant to take his relics to Palestine, where his mother had been born, and where he had distributed his large estate to the poor. The servant did so. During the reign of Emperor Constantine, pious Christians built the beautiful church to house the miracle-working relics of the Great Martyr.



### **THE EPISTLE**

*The Lord is my strength and my song.  
The Lord has chastened me severely.*

#### **The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (11:31-12:9)**

Brethren, the God and Father of the Lord Jesus Christ, the One who is blessed for evermore, knows that I do not lie. In Damascus, the governor under Arétas the king guarded the city of the Damascenes, willing to seize me, and through a window I was let down in a basket by the wall, and escaped his hands. I must boast, though it is not expedient; but I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord. I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—whether in the body, I do not know, or whether out of the body, I do not know; God knows—who was caught up to the third heaven. And I know that this man—whether in the body or out of the body, I do not know; God knows—was caught up into Paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which no person is allowed to utter. On behalf of this one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my infirmities. For if I would desire to boast, I shall not be foolish, for I shall speak the truth. But I refrain from it, lest anyone should think of me above that which he sees me to be, or hears from me. And to keep me from being exalted above measure through the abundance of revelations, I was given a thorn in the flesh, an angel of Satan to buffet me, to keep me from being exalted above measure. For this thing I beseeched the Lord three times, that it might depart from me. And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for thee, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Most gladly therefore will I rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

## الرسالة

قُوْتِي وَتَسْبِحَتِي الرَّبُّ. أَدْبَاباً أَتَّبِنِي الرَّبُّ.

### فصلٌ من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول الثانية إلى أهل كورنثوس.

يا إخوة، قد علم الله أبو ربنا يسوع المسيح، المبارك إلى الأبد أنني لا أكذب. كان بدمشق الحاكم تحت إمرة الملك الحارث، يحرس مدينة الدمشقيين ليقبض عليّ. فدلّيت من كوة في زنبيل من السور، ونجوت من يديه. إنه لا يوافقني أن أفتخر، فأتي إلى رؤي الرب وإعلاناته. إنني أعرف إنساناً في المسيح منذ أربع عشرة سنة (أفي الجسد، لست أعلم، أم خارج الجسد لست أعلم، الله يعلم) اختطف إلى السماء الثالثة. وأعرف أن هذا الإنسان (أفي الجسد أم خارج الجسد لست أعلم، الله يعلم) اختطف إلى الفردوس، وسمع كلمات سرّية لا يحلُّ لإنسان أن ينطق بها. فمن جهة هذا أفتخر، وأمّا من جهة نفسي فلا أفتخر إلا بأوهاني. فإني لو أردت الإفتخار، لم أكن جاهلاً لأنني أقول الحق، لكنني أتحاشى لئلا يظن بي أحد فوق ما يراني عليه أو يسمعه مني. ولئلا أستكبر بفرط الإعلانات، أعطيت شوكة في الجسد، ملاك الشيطان ليأطمني لئلا أستكبر. ولهذا طلّبت إلى الرب ثلاث مرّات أن تفارقني. فقال لي تكفيك نعمتي، لأن قوتي في الضعف تكمل. "فبكل سرور أفتخر بالحرّي بأوهاني، لئلا تستقرّ في قوة المسيح.

## THE GOSPEL

### The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (16:19-31)

The Lord said, "There was a rich man, who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, full of sores, who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table; moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried; and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes, and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus in his bosom. And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy upon me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in anguish in this flame.' But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.' And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.' But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.' And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.'"

## الإنجيل

### فصلٌ شريفٌ من بشارة القديس لوقا الإنجيلي البشير.

قال الرب: كان إنسانٌ غنيٌّ يلبس الأرجوان والبرّ، ويتنعم كل يوم تنعماً فاخراً. وكان مسكينٌ اسمه لعازرٌ مطروحاً عند بابهِ مصاباً بالفروح. وكان يشتهي أن يشبع من الفتات الذي يسقط من مائدة الغني. بل كانت الكلاب تأتي وتلحس فروجه. ثم مات المسكين، فنقلته الملائكة إلى حضن إبراهيم. ومات الغني أيضاً، فدفن فرقع عينيه في الجحيم وهو في العذاب، فرأى إبراهيم من بعيدٍ ولعازرٌ في حضنه. فنأدى قائلاً: "يا أبت إبراهيم ارحمني وأرسل لعازر ليغمس طرف إصبعه في الماء ويبرد لساني، لأنني معدّب في هذا اللهب." فقال إبراهيم: "تذكّر يا ابني أنك نلت خيرتك في حياتك، ولعازرٌ كذلك بلاياه. والآن فهو يتعزى وأنت تتعذب. وعلاوة على هذا كله، فبيننا وبينكم هوة عظيمة قد أُنبتت، حتى إن الذين يريدون أن يجتازوا من هنا إليكم لا يستطيعون، ولا الذين هناك أن يعبروا إلينا." فقال: "أسألك إذن يا أبت أن ترسله إلى بيت أبي. فإن لي خمسة إخوة، حتى يشهد لهم لكي لا يأتوا هم أيضاً إلى موضع العذاب هذا." فقال له إبراهيم: "إن عندهم موسى والأنبياء، فليسمعوا منهم." قال: "لا يا أبت إبراهيم، بل إذا مضى إليهم واحدٌ من الأموات يتوبون." فقال له: "إن لم يسمعوا من موسى والأنبياء، فإنهم، ولا إن قام واحدٌ من الأموات، يصدقونه."

## Love Your Neighbor

**October** – SOYO Special Olympics (we will have the collection this Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>)

This ministry is sponsored by the North American Council of Teen SOYO and is the second longest running program of Special Olympics Pennsylvania, serving over 340 Special Olympics athletes, coaches, and staff each season. It is the premier SOYO outreach program, now in its 38th year of service. Each year SOYO teens raise the funds on Special Olympics Awareness Day.

## A Big Thank You to All Who Made the Gala A Success!

Our sincere thanks to all those who *labored, donated, and supported* the Fundraising Gala. It was a real community in action under the Almighty God. May the Lord pour His blessing upon all of you.

## Thanksgiving Basket November 17<sup>th</sup>

Let's be generous and bring our good gourmet items to Rima Kashou on November 3 and 10 and if we have enough money will include \$\$ for your thanksgiving Turkey meal. The prize is 6 tickets for \$10. Thank you in advance.

## Thanks for Helping at the Festival!

BIG thanks to everyone for all the effort at our last festival!!! God bless you all. We will have a Festival Thank You Luncheon on Sunday, 11/10 Following Liturgy. Donations are gladly accepted for the building fund.

## Upcoming Events

<b>Every Sunday at 7pm</b>	St. Anastasia Fellowship Meeting.
<b>November 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Vespers at 5:00pm, followed by Bible Study
<b>November 17<sup>th</sup></b>	Prison Ministry Christmas Card writing workshop after Coffee Hour

## Coffee Hours

<b>November 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	The Najjar Family in 40-day memory of Aida Najjar.
<b>November 10<sup>th</sup></b>	Festival Thank you Luncheon
<b>November 17<sup>th</sup></b>	Fadwa Samara

## Holy Oblations

This week, Holy Oblations are offered by:

- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Nick Nicola, George Messih, Henriette Hilal and Aida Youakeem**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Sam Nassab**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Fairouz Freij**. Many years!
- † Rocky and Nada Dudum for the good health of **Sandy Dudum Bennett**. Many years!
- † Siham Mityr in memory of her sisters **Elaine, Rita**
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **George Wahbeh**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Ron Jeha**. Many years!
- † Fady and Jumana Najjar and family in memory of **Michel** (13 years) & **Aida Najjar**. May their memories be eternal!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of Rami and **Andrea Sweis** and their newly born son **Fuad Sweis**. 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!



- † 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





# JOLLY CHRISTMAS CARS

DECORATE THE TRUNK OF  
YOUR CAR FOR ALL TO ENJOY



**1** | DECEMBER  
SUNDAY | AFTER LITURGY

BRING A TREAT TO PASS TO  
ALL THE KIDS

PRIZE FOR THE MOST  
FESTIVE CAR!

TO PARTICIPATE PLEASE  
CONTACT: RANIA KASHOU



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.:** 512/2024

**TO BE READ FROM THE PULPIT**

October, 2024

“The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore, ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” (Matthew 9:37-38)

Beloved Clergy and Faithful of our Archdiocese:

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

The month of October in our God-protected Antiochian Archdiocese is designed as “Youth Month and Seminary Month.” This is intended to bring awareness to the importance of the pastoral and theological training initiative of our Archdiocese.

This year’s records of our Archdiocese show more than 25 students enrolled in three seminaries whose training supply our churches with priesthood candidates, choir directors, youth workers and Christian education leaders.

Your generous donations today in support of our seminarians and these institutions will ensure that our parishes will continue to be supplied with exemplary priests equipped to serve the needs of our parishioners, and competent staffing that will be able to perpetuate their vigorous programs. These men are preparing for the holy labors of baptizing our infants, marrying our young people, preaching the gospel, laying to eternal rest our loved ones, granting solace to those in distress, and offering guidance to those in need of direction. In other words, we are supporting them as they prepare to support all of us in our journey to the Kingdom of Heaven.

We are grateful for your invaluable and innumerable initiatives in providing financial and moral support over the many past decades toward this worthy cause, and for subsidizing the vital educational programs of these institutions, and the needs of our seminarians.

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

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Also, we appreciate the hand-on training and the financial support offered to our students by the following parishes this year: St. Anthony, Bergenfield; St. George, Allentown; St. George, Little Falls; St. George, Boston; St. George, Worcester; St. Ignatius, Florida; St. Mary, Brooklyn; St. Mary, Wilkes-Barre; St. Mary, Yonkers; St. Nicholas, Bridgeport; St. Nicholas, Brooklyn; St. Paul, Emmaus; St. Philip, Souderton; and St. Stephen, South Plainfield.

Recent studies have shown that we are facing a shortage of clergy in the coming years. We need your generous financial support to educate as many priestly candidates and their families as possible to work in the Vineyard of our Savior. May the Lord reward you accordingly for your emotional and financial support in his name and to his glory. Your thoughtfulness has made you worthy recipients of the spiritual dividends of the fruits produced through the labor of these schools and the priests they have trained.

Your Father in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "T. Saba". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "T" and a period after the name.

+**SABA**

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

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

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**SAVE  
THE DATE**

*Ukrainian refugee Danilo (not his real name) and his family found support from an IOCC cash-assistance program when they arrived in Poland.*

# IOCC FOOD & WINE TOUR

Hosted by the IOCC Metropolitan Committee of Northern California and Ascension Cathedral

**NOVEMBER 3, 2024**

VESPERS: 4:00 PM • RECEPTION: 5:00 – 8:00 PM

**Come experience a tasting menu & wine pours from around the world and learn about IOCC's latest emergency programs**

**ASCENSION GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL**

4700 Lincoln Avenue | Oakland, CA 94602

Tickets: \$60 through Oct. 15, includes food and unlimited wine pours  
\$70 after Oct. 15, includes food and wine  
\$50 includes food only  
\$35 students  
\$25 children 6–12 (free 5 and under)

Tickets and sponsorships at [iocc.org/bayarea](https://iocc.org/bayarea)



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.:** 523/2024

October 9, 2024

Dear Reverend Clergy and Esteemed Members of our Parish Councils,

Grace and peace to you in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord!

Everyone across our nation has witnessed with sadness as Hurricane “Helene” cut a path of destruction across many states in our land from Florida to Tennessee and the Carolinas. Winds, rain, and flooding in many areas led to collapse of roads, destruction of properties, loss of businesses and livelihood, much suffering and loss of human lives.

As words have been received regarding the parishes that suffered damages asking for help through our hurricane funds, we continue to monitor until after the passing of the second Hurricane “Milton” to know the full damage that our parishes have sustained, their parishioners, and their surroundings.

In response to appeals from several of our clergy and their parishes that requested a directive from the Archdiocese as to where they may direct their help, I call upon all our parishes to take a special collection for those who have suffered losses from these two unprecedented storms.

Once you have had a chance to collect all donations, please forward one check from your parish to the Archdiocese (memo: “Hurricane Relief”)— no later than the end of this month. All donations will go directly to those in need.

Please demonstrate your love in a practical way by lifting prayers and supplications to our good and saving God on behalf of all that suffered distresses, pains, and losses because of the hurricanes, that they might “find hope under His wings” (Ps. 90:4).

Give any amount of love offering in the name of Jesus Christ for the sake of the victims of these two hurricanes. Offer whatever you are able. No amount is too small. May God’s blessings come upon you and reward your generosity preserving you and your families from all harms.

Your Father in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "T. Saba".

+**SABA**

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

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

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His Eminence  
The Most Reverend  
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All North America

**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE  
OF NORTH AMERICA**

**Prot. no.:** 527/2024

October 15, 2024

“The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.” (Galatians 5:22-23)

Dear Reverend Clergy, Esteemed Members of our Parish Councils, and all the faithful parishioners of our God-protected Antiochian Archdiocese,

May the divine grace and peace of Christ Jesus our Lord come upon you and our entire world!

Our main office at the archdiocese has been receiving a considerable number of inquiries from clergy, parish council members, as well as other various organizations who have the desire to help the Antiochian Archdioceses in Lebanon.

The inquiries are related to the news and Social Media posts about events taking place in several archdioceses in the Antiochian Motherland.

In response to the aforementioned inquiry, all interested donors that want to help this humanitarian need may mail their donations to the Archdiocese noting on the memo section of their checks “Relief Fund - LB”. All donations will go directly to those in need.

During these challenging times as well as all times, love is practiced and demonstrated by prayers and supplications on behalf of all that are in pain, distress and loss of comfort.

Please pray for peace in the entire world and upon all of God’s creation so that the Lord Jesus Christ may wipe every tear of all the afflicted.

Your Father in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read '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)*

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# ◆ St. Nektarios Aegina ◆ All Night Vigil



"Rejoice, thou adornment of high priests, protector of Aegina, and ardent helper of thy flock."

Vespers  
Litia w/ Artoklasia  
Orthros  
Liturgy

Greek Orthodox  
Cathedral of the  
Ascension  
4700 Lincoln Avenue,  
Oakland, CA, 94602

November  
8th - 7PM