



+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, OCTOBER 05, 2025

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST & SECOND SUNDAY OF LUKE

HOLY MARTYR CHARITINA OF AMISOS; JOHN, BISHOP OF EUCHAÏTA;
EUDOKIMOS OF VATOPEDI MONASTERY ON ATHOS



On October 5 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Martyr Charitina of Amisos.

Orphaned young, Charitina was adopted by an eminent Christian man called Claudius, who brought her up as his own daughter. Charitina studied the law of God, day and night, and vowed to live in perpetual virginity as a true bride of Christ. The governor Dometius wanted to kill Charitina because she led many to the Lord. A judge ordered that her hair be cut off and live coals put on her head, but the maiden was preserved by God's power. She was bound to a wheel which began to turn, but an angel of God stopped the wheel and Charitina remained unharmed. Then the wicked judge sent some dissolute youths to take her virginity. Fearing this attack, Charitina knelt in prayer to God to receive her soul before that could happen. At that moment, her soul soared to the immortal Kingdom of Christ in 290.

On this day, we also commemorate Venerable John, bishop of Euchaïta; and Venerable Eudokimos of Vatopedi monastery on Athos.

THE EPISTLE

Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them.

God is known in Judah; His Name is great in Israel.

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (6:16-7:1)

Brethren, we are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will live in them and move among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. Therefore, come out from them, and be separate from them," says the Lord, "and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you, and I will be a father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty." Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, and make holiness perfect in the fear of God.

صَلُّوا وَأَوْفُوا الرَّبَّ إِلَهَنَا.

اللهُ معروفٌ في أرضِ يهوذا. اِسْمُهُ عَظِيمٌ في إِسْرَائِيلَ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِّيسِ بُولُسِ الرَّسُولِ الثَّانِيَةِ إِلَى أَهْلِ كُورِنْثُوسَ. (1:7-16:6)

يَا إِخْوَةُ، أَنْتُمْ هَيْكَلُ اللَّهِ الْحَيِّ، كَمَا قَالَ اللَّهُ، "إِنِّي سَأَسْكُنُ فِيهِمْ، وَأَسِيرُ فِيهِمْ، وَأَكُونُ لَهُمْ إِلَهًا وَهُمْ يَكُونُونَ لِي شَعْبًا. فَلِذَلِكَ اخْرُجُوا مِنْ بَيْنِهِمْ وَاعْتَزِلُوا"، يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ "وَلَا تَمَسُّوا نَجِسًا. فَأَقْبَلَكُمْ وَأَكُونُ لَكُمْ أَبًا وَتَكُونُوا أَنْتُمْ لِي بَنِينَ وَبَنَاتٍ، يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ الْقَدِيرُ. "وَإِذْ لَنَا هَذِهِ الْمَوَاعِدُ، أَيُّهَا الْأَحِبَّاءُ، فَلْنُطَهِّرْ أَنْفُسَنَا مِنْ كُلِّ أَدْنَسِ الْجَسَدِ وَالرُّوحِ، وَنُكَمِّلِ الْقَدَاسَةَ بِمَخَافَةِ اللَّهِ.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (6:31-36)

The Lord said: "As you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful."

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِّيسِ لُوقَا الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ. (36-31:6)

قَالَ الرَّبُّ: كَمَا تُرِيدُونَ أَنْ يَفْعَلَ النَّاسُ بِكُمْ، كَذَلِكَ افْعَلُوا أَنْتُمْ بِهِمْ. فَإِنَّكُمْ إِنْ أَحْبَبْتُمْ الَّذِينَ يُحِبُّونَكُمْ، فَأَيَّةُ مِنَّةٍ لَكُمْ؟ فَإِنَّ الْخَطَاةَ أَيْضًا يُحِبُّونَ الَّذِينَ يُحِبُّونَهُمْ. وَإِذَا أَحْسَنْتُمْ إِلَى الَّذِينَ يُحْسِنُونَ إِلَيْكُمْ، فَأَيَّةُ مِنَّةٍ لَكُمْ؟ فَإِنَّ الْخَطَاةَ أَيْضًا هَكَذَا يَصْنَعُونَ. وَإِنْ أَقْرَضْتُمْ الَّذِينَ تَرْجُونَ أَنْ تَسْتَوْفُوا مِنْهُمْ، فَأَيَّةُ مِنَّةٍ لَكُمْ؟ فَإِنَّ الْخَطَاةَ أَيْضًا يُقْرِضُونَ الْخَطَاةَ لِكَيْ يَسْتَوْفُوا مِنْهُمْ الْمِثْلَ. وَلَكِنْ، أَحِبُّوا أَعْدَاءَكُمْ، وَأَحْسِنُوا وَأَقْرِضُوا غَيْرَ مُؤَمِّلِينَ شَيْئًا، فَيَكُونَ أَجْرُكُمْ كَثِيرًا، وَتَكُونُوا بَنِي الْعَلِيِّ. فَإِنَّهُ مُنْعَمٌ عَلَى غَيْرِ الشَّاكِرِينَ وَالْأَشْرَارِ. فَكُونُوا رُحَمَاءَ كَمَا أَنَّ أَبَاكُمْ هُوَ رَحِيمٌ.

Thank You, Festival Workers!

Thank you to all the festival workers who dedicated their time and their God-given gifts to serve our parish community. Big thanks from the bottom of my heart to all who chaired, labored, cooked, served, donated, and participated before during and after our great festival. We could not have done it without you. Thank you and God bless you and your families!

Fr. Nicholas Borzghol

Upcoming Events

Coffee Hour

Oct 5	Jordis Fasheh
Oct 26	Siham Mitry for the 6 th month memorial in honor of Donna Potter

Youth Month in our Archdiocese!!

October is here and we are about to start *Youth Month* across our Antiochian Archdiocese. During the month of October, we give our teens more opportunities to serve in Church, including: Epistle reading, taking the collections, serving as ushers, and other additional activities in serving the parish community.

October is also a time for us, clergy and parishioners, to share our love and concern for the youth of our parish. Let us take a moment to thank a teenager for being present in Church. Thank them for their good works. Let them know that they are welcome and wanted in our parish!

Sun. October 5th:

Epistle Reader: Ian McClellan

Ushers/ Tray Passers: All the teens



Holy Oblations

This week, Holy Oblations are offered by:

† St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Nick Nicola, Sam Nassab, Sandy Dudum, George Messih, Fairouz Freij, George Adranly, Fred Addas, Henriette Hilal, Souhad Halaka, George Cawog, Rocky Dudum and Norma Khalil**. Many years!

† St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Blanche Manneh**. Many years!

† St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Sue Gideon**. 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 Kavar, Mason Kavar, Jonathan Juha, Maron Juha and Zaiden Karanikola

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

You could use this QR code for your donation



Building Committee Update – September 25 2025

The following inspections and approvals have been completed in the last couple of weeks:

City Public Works

County Health Inspector – all clear but will return again once custom tables in kitchen are delivered and installed (expected 9/26/25)

County Fire Marshal – fire and life safety systems good

Orinda Planning Director (signed off on 5 permits – hall, trash enclosure, retaining walls)

County approved and signed off on all electrical, mechanical and plumbing work

Last piece is grading inspector who asked for paving the front parking, bids are out and this could take up to two weeks.

Thank you all again for your patience as we finalize the hall and seek occupancy.

Building Fund Update - September 2025

We passed another fundraising milestone this past month, bringing our contributions to more than \$1.1 Million in direct donations to the hall! Thank you all so much for keeping this project alive and on-going. The donor list attached shows contributions so far. Please check the spelling of your names, as this will be the list from which we design the donor plaque for the hall. if you have any changes, please contact the church office.

There are a few donors who have not yet completed their pledges for the hall, and we ask that you do so as soon as possible, or contact the church office if you need to lower your pledge for whatever reason. The current donor list is based on pledges but may need to be adjusted if pledges are not met.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Children's Dance Group

Thank you for embracing our little dance group with your kind cheers and support during our annual St. John Festival. Everyone's presence made our performance truly special. A heartfelt thank you to all the parents for your dedication, love, and encouragement.



INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES

IOCC FOOD & WINE TOUR

Hosted by the IOCC Metropolitan Committee of Northern California and St George Orthodox Cathedral

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2025

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

ST GEORGE ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

1617 Southgate Ave | Daly City, CA 94015

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**





St. Nicholas Church Presents

29TH ANNUAL MIDDLE EASTERN FOOD FESTIVAL

📍 5200 DIAMOND HEIGHTS BLVD | SF

AUTHENTIC FOOD, SWEET
DELIGHTS, LIVE MUSIC &
PERFORMANCES, LOCAL
VENDORS, KIDS CORNER,
HOOKAH AND MORE!

SAT 12-9 PM | SUN 1-7 PM

OCTOBER

4 - 5

2025

SUNDAY FUNDAY

DAVE & BUSTER'S

AFTER
LITURGY

NOVEMBER 9TH

2075 Diamond Blvd Ste.
H180, Concord, CA 94520



USE OUR
ST. JOHN LINK



Christmas Event

DECORATE THE TRUNK OF
YOUR CAR FOR ALL TO ENJOY

7 | 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



Krispy Kreme Digital Dozens to Support St. John Church



grouprai.se/krispykreme60225o



\$15
per order



50%
donated back

St John Fellowship Hall Donor Recognition

The St John Fellowship Hall Building and Fundraising Committees along with the Parish Council would like to thank and recognize those donors who have given over the years to the Building Fund. The contributions shown below include cumulative donations to the initial \$2 Million in the building fund at the start of construction, in addition to those donations to the current fundraising effort. Please note that our very generous Cornerstone Donor, as well as several of the Partner and Friend level donors have donated prior to the beginning of our current campaign. All donors will be recognized on a plaque or donor wall feature located in the reception area (foyer) of the hall at the levels shown below. If you would like your contribution recognized in another way, or if you have questions regarding your donation level, please contact the church office.

Recognition level	Names of Donors	
Cornerstone \$500,000 +	Hanada I. Fasheh	
Patron \$100,000-249,000	Rick and Sandra Dudum Jack and Sylvia Dudum	Jason and Lena Dudum Fuad and Nadia Sweiss
Benefactor \$50,000 - 99,999	Keith Dudum Joseph Sweis and Family	The McClintic Family
Provider \$25,000 - 49,999	Sami and Kathy Adranly James and Denise Dudum Rocky and Nada Dudum Nick and Deena Farrah	Jon and Larissa Geleris Stephen and Angela Kreta Elias and Samia Shaheen
Supporter \$10,000-24,999	Dn. Nicolas and Rula Adranly George and Samar Adranly ADOBE – matching gift for Hanna Family Anonymous Dominick and Joby Aranda George and Freida Cawog Ibrahim Fasheh Jordis Fasheh Lisa and David Hanna and Family Phillip and Gina Jaber Jawad and Violet Jaber	and Ruth Jeha, in Memory of Michael Elias Jeha Sam Khoury Ron and Nancy Nicola Fady and Joumana Najjar Orthodox Vision Foundation The Potts Family Raymond and Georgianna Rishwain Raif and Sonia Rihani and Family Eddie and Evleen Salem Ernest and Noha Shulze and Family Daniel and Mona Thayer Ramsay Zacharia

Partner
\$5,000-9,999

Anonymous
Charles and Marilee Ajalat
John and Dina Freij
Miranda Halaby
Sandy Hodges
John and Sylvia Jaber
Leila Farradj
Lynn and Usama Farradj

Issam and Rania Freij
Salem and Antoinette Mufarreh
Darrin Rishwain
George Theodosy
Suzanne & Nabil Taovil
In Memory of Najat Nicola,
Ghada, Nassif and Yasmina Malouf

Friend
\$1,000-4,999

Saleem & Samya Abudawood
Jack Ajluni
Anonymous
Richard and Joyce Ayooob
Anthony and Kimberly Bailey
Sandy Bennett
William and Judith Bosl
Fr. Nicholas Borzghol
Challenger Enterprises
Dana Dietzmann
Daryl and Katherine Dudum
J.D. and Jessie Dudum
F&M Bank
Fadi and Rana Feghali
Alex and Helen Ghantous
Khalil and Leila Hakeem
Ronald Issac
JDO Dakota Ventures
Mary Karadsheh
Maha Kury-Peterson
Brandon Laidlaw
Lieman Properties
Azmie and Melanie Madanat
Chris and Eva Malki
Margaret Mas
Fred and Tania Milkie
Siham Mitry
Myers Restaurant Supply

George Najjar
Samer & Maram Nassar
Sam & Nelly Nassif
Dn George and Jane Nassief
Ramzi and Marina Nassoura
Ziad & Charlene Nassoura
Naim and Helen Nazzal
Susan Nazzal
Nicholas Luengo Construction
Nick Jr. and Najat Nicola and Family
Antone Nino
Fawda Samara
Jeanne Shikany
Samir and Caroline Syriani
Sami and Alia Sahouria
Andrew Thayer
Steven Thayer
The Kebab Shop Restaurant
John and Jan Theodosy
Samir and Abla Toubassy
In Memory of Dwight Underhill
Robert and Katrina Waddell
George and Afaf Wahbeh
Kamal and Samar Wahbe
Nabil and Souhila Wakileh
William Wood Architects
Hala Yowakeem
Samir and Nadia Zeidan

Builder
\$100-999

George E. Adranly
Felice and Eric Ajluni
Howard & Marilyn Ashcraft
Eman Baalbaki
Tania & Daniel Bajada
Randy and Barbara Bray
Ken Bullock Ins & Fin Services
Robert and Renee Crawford
Mary Cubeisy
Dn. John and Irena Dibs
Herb & Tania DeGroot
Tony Dudum
Fuad and Mary Farradj
Naim & Nadia Frangieh
John & Dina Freij
Fairouz Freij
Fred and Sue Gedeon
Sandra Gedeon
Benjamin and Ashley Geleris
Zzane & Irene Guajardo
Justin and Julianna Karanikola
Bahij & Yardena Hanhan
Raymond Hilal
Mounir and Muna Hobaika
Angela Husary
Jack's Restaurant
Carol Jeha
Marc Johnston and Monica Mikhail
Samir Juha
Andreas Kamlot
David Kashou
Rania Kashou
Rima Kashou
Sandy Kashou

Norma Khalil
Elia Khalilieh
Elizabeth Kreta
Mary Lodge
William and Mary Massarweh
Daniel & Amy McLellan
Mendocino Farms Restaurant
Paul and Arwa Mogannam
Alan & Dale Morgan
Khalil Mounzer
Ibrahim Munayer
Marwan Mukhar
William and Jida Nasser
Maureen Nelson
Mark Nicola
Michelle Nicola
Pacer Physical Therapy
Jacob Ritter
Alexis Robbins
Rocco's Restaurant & Pizza
Neezar Samara
Wanda and Leonard Sarkissian
See's Candies
Jabra & Rania Shuheiber
Marie Simon
Matthew Simon
Summit Landscape Development
Christina Tast
Sami Tawasha
Christina Thabit
TP Wolf
Khalil Yowakeem
Sam & Nevine Yowakim

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.: 482/2025

October 5, 2025

Beloved clergy and faithful of our God-protected Archdiocese,

Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We pray that you enjoyed a peaceful and refreshing summer and that you are diligently engaged as we begin a new ecclesiastical year.

This year marks the 130th anniversary of the arrival of St. Raphael of Brooklyn in North America and the establishment of our Antiochian presence on this continent. The seeds he planted have blossomed, thanks in large part to our dedicated clergy. While most of the early clergy were pious and faithful men whose Orthodox ethos was formed by their families in their homelands without formal theological education, today's clergy are a diverse mixture of men: some who embraced the Orthodox faith as adults, some who immigrated from overseas, and others who were born into Orthodox families here in North America. The common thread among our contemporary clergy is the spiritual formation they receive from their families, parishes, and educational institutions.

With that in mind, we remind you that October in the Antiochian Archdiocese is observed as "Youth Month and Seminary Month." This year, we are blessed with 22 seminarians, most—if not all—of whom will serve this Archdiocese as priests. They will baptize and/or chrismate catechumens, raise up the youth in the faith, educate the laity, comfort the sorrowful, visit the sick, restore the penitent, and heal the broken-hearted. Supporting our future clergy and the institutions that provide their education and formation is vital to the spiritual health of our parishes and ministries. St. Vladimir's, St. Tikhon's, Holy Cross, and our own Antiochian House of Studies need our help to equip these future priests with the tools necessary for proper education and formation.

We live in a pluralistic society where our faith and values are constantly under attack and scrutiny. We need soldiers of Christ to confront the negative trends that affect our youth by instilling in them an Orthodox ethos and a distinctly Orthodox way of life and thinking. Likewise, as we welcome more inquirers thirsting for the truth, we must have competent and educated clergy and lay leaders who can answer their questions and guide them into the faith. To that end, we humbly ask for your generous support of our seminarians and the institutions that educate them.

May our Lord continue to bless you and your families.

Your Father in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Saba", is written over a stylized blue line that resembles a cross or a large letter 'T'.

+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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