



# +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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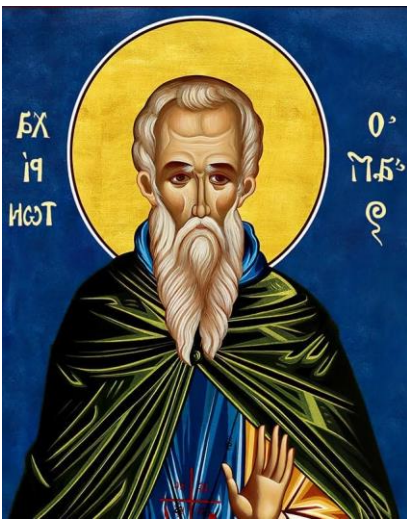
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**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2025**

**SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST & FIRST SUNDAY OF LUKE**  
**VENERABLE CHARITON THE CONFESSOR AND ABBOT OF PALESTINE**

PROPHET BARUCH; VENERABLE NEOPHYTOS AND AUXENTIOS OF CYPRUS

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On September 28 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate our righteous father Chariton the confessor, abbot of Palestine. When a harsh persecution of Christians broke out under the Emperor Aurelian, Chariton was immediately brought to trial before the governor. The judge ordered him to worship false gods, to which Chariton refused. Then the governor ordered that Chariton be so beaten and tortured that his whole body became covered with wounds until it was like one great wound. After the evil death of Aurelian, Chariton was released from torture and imprisonment. He withdrew to the wilderness of Pharan, where he founded a community and gathered a group of monks together. Chariton founded two more monasteries and died at a great age on September 28, 350. The practice of tonsuring monks is attributed to Chariton. On this day, we also commemorate the Prophet Baruch; and Venerable Neophytos and Auxentios of Cyprus.

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## **THE EPISTLE**

*The Lord will give strength to His people.*

*Bring unto the Lord, ye sons of God, bring unto the Lord glory and honor.*

**The Reading from the Second Epistle of  
St. Paul to the Corinthians. (6:1-10)**

Brethren, since we are fellow workers, we entreat you also not to receive the grace of God in vain. For He says, "At an acceptable season I hearkened unto thee, and in a day of salvation I helped thee"; behold, now is "the acceptable season"; behold, now is "the day of salvation"; giving no occasion of stumbling in anything, that the ministry is not blamed, but in everything commending ourselves, as ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in vigils, in fasts, in purity, in knowledge, in longsuffering, in kindness, in the Holy Spirit, in love unfeigned, in the word of truth, in the power of God; by the weapons of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, by glory and dishonor, by evil report and good report; as deceivers, and yet true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and, behold, we live; as chastened, and not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

الرَّبُّ يُعْطِي قُوَّةَ لِسْعِهِ.

قَدِّمُوا لِلرَّبِّ يَا أَبْنَاءَ اللَّهِ، قَدِّمُوا لِلرَّبِّ مَجْدًا وَكَرَامَةً.

### فَصْلٌ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولُسَ الرِّسُولِ الثَّانِيَةِ إِلَى أَهْلِ كُورِنْثُوسَ. (10-1:6)

يَا إِخْوَةُ، بِمَا أَنَا مُعَاوِنُونَ، نَطْلُبُ إِلَيْكُمْ أَنْ لَا تَقْبَلُوا نِعْمَةَ اللَّهِ فِي الْبَاطِلِ. لِأَنَّهُ يَقُولُ "إِنِّي فِي وَقْتٍ مَقْبُولٍ اسْتَجَبْتُ لَكَ، وَفِي يَوْمِ خَلَاصٍ أَعْنُتُكَ." فَهُوَذَا الْآنَ وَقْتُ مَقْبُولٍ. هُوَذَا الْآنَ يَوْمُ خَلَاصٍ. وَلَسْنَا نَأْتِي بِمَعْنَرَةٍ فِي شَيْءٍ لِنَلَّا يَلْحَقَ الْخِدْمَةُ عَيْبٌ بَلْ نُظْهِرُ، فِي كُلِّ شَيْءٍ، أَنْفُسَنَا كَخْدَامِ اللَّهِ، فِي صَبْرٍ كَثِيرٍ، فِي شِدَائِدٍ، فِي ضَرُورَاتٍ، فِي ضِيقَاتٍ، فِي جَلَدَاتٍ، فِي سُجُونٍ، فِي اضْطِرَابَاتٍ، فِي أَتْعَابٍ، فِي أَسْهَارٍ، فِي أَصْوَامٍ، فِي طَهَارَةٍ، فِي مَعْرِفَةٍ، فِي طَوْلِ أَنَاةٍ، فِي رَفَقٍ، فِي الرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ، فِي مَحَبَّةٍ بِلَا رِيَاءٍ، فِي كَلِمَةِ الْحَقِّ، فِي قُوَّةِ اللَّهِ، بِأَسْلِحَةِ الْبِرِّ عَنِ الْيَمِينِ وَعَنِ الْيَسَارِ، بِمَجْدٍ وَهَوَانٍ، بِسُوءِ صِيَتٍ وَحُسْنِهِ. كَأَنَّا مُضِلُّونَ وَنَحْنُ صَادِقُونَ، كَأَنَّا مَجْهُولُونَ وَنَحْنُ مَعْرُوفُونَ، كَأَنَّا مَائِتُونَ وَهَذَا نَحْنُ أَحْيَاءُ، كَأَنَّا مُؤَدَّبُونَ وَلَا نُقْتَلُ، كَأَنَّا حَزَانِي وَنَحْنُ دَائِمًا فَرِحُونَ، كَأَنَّا فَقَرَاءُ وَنَحْنُ نُغْنِي كَثِيرِينَ، كَأَنَّا لَا شَيْءَ لَنَا وَنَحْنُ نَمْلِكُ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ.

## THE GOSPEL

### The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (5:1-11)

At that time, Jesus was standing by the lake of Gennesaret. And He saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, Jesus asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the people from the boat. And when Jesus had finished speaking, He said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at Thy word I will let down the nets." And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking, they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the catch of fish, which they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men." And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed Him.

### فَصْلٌ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ لُوقَا الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ. (11-1:5)

فِي ذَلِكَ الزَّمَانِ، فِيمَا يَسُوعُ وَاقِفٌ عِنْدَ بُحِيرَةِ جَنَيْسَارَتَ، رَأَى سَفِينَتَيْنِ وَاقِفَتَيْنِ عِنْدَ شَاطِئِ الْبُحِيرَةِ، وَقَدْ انْحَدَرَ مِنْهُمَا الصِّيَادُونَ يَغْسِلُونَ الشَّبَاكَ. فَدَخَلَ إِحْدَى السَّفِينَتَيْنِ، وَكَانَتْ لِسِمْعَانَ، وَسَأَلَهُ أَنْ يَتَّبَاعَهُ قَلِيلًا عَنِ الْبَرِّ، وَجَلَسَ يُعَلِّمُ الْجُمُوعَ مِنَ السَّفِينَةِ. وَلَمَّا فَرَغَ مِنَ الْكَلَامِ، قَالَ لِسِمْعَانَ: "تَقَدَّمْ إِلَى الْعُمُقِ وَأَلْقُوا شَبَاكَكُمْ لِلصَّيْدِ." فَأَجَابَ سِمْعَانُ وَقَالَ لَهُ: "يَا مُعَلِّمُ، إِنَّا قَدْ تَعَبْنَا اللَّيْلَ كُلَّهُ وَلَمْ نُصِبْ شَيْئًا، وَلَكِنْ بِكَلِمَتِكَ أَلْقِي الشَّبَكَةَ." فَلَمَّا فَعَلُوا ذَلِكَ، اخْتَارُوا مِنَ السَّمَكِ شَيْئًا كَثِيرًا حَتَّى تَحَرَّقَتْ شَبَكَتُهُمْ. فَأَشَارُوا إِلَى شُرَكَائِهِمْ فِي السَّفِينَةِ الْآخَرَى أَنْ يَأْتُوا وَيُعَاوِنُوهُمْ. فَأَتُوا وَمَلَأُوا السَّفِينَتَيْنِ حَتَّى كَادَتَا تَغْرَقَانِ. فَلَمَّا رَأَى ذَلِكَ سِمْعَانُ بُطْرُسَ، خَرَّ عِنْدَ رُكْبَتَيْ يَسُوعَ قَائِلًا: "أَخْرِجْ عَنِّي يَا رَبُّ، فَإِنِّي رَجُلٌ خَاطِئٌ." لِأَنَّ الْإِنْذِهَالَ اعْتَرَاهُ هُوَ وَكُلُّ مَنْ مَعَهُ لِصَيْدِ السَّمَكِ الَّذِي أَصَابَهُ. وَكَذَلِكَ يَعْقُوبُ وَيُوَحْنَا ابْنَا زَبْدَى اللَّذَانِ كَانَا رَفِيقَيْنِ لِسِمْعَانَ. فَقَالَ يَسُوعُ لِسِمْعَانَ: "لَا تَخَفْ، فَإِنَّكَ مِنَ الْآنَ تَكُونُ صَيَّادًا لِلنَّاسِ." فَلَمَّا بَلَغُوا بِالسَّفِينَتَيْنِ إِلَى الْبَرِّ، تَرَكُوا كُلَّ شَيْءٍ وَتَبِعُوهُ.

### Upcoming Events

September 26	Divine Liturgy for the feast of St. John the Evangelist at 6:00 PM
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### Coffee Hour

September 28	Coffee hour sponsored by Fady & Joumana Najjar for 1-year memorial of Aida Najjar.
October 5	Jordis Fasheh

### 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 Messieh, Bennett, Fairouz Freij, George Adranly, George Messih, Fred Addas, Henriette Hilal, Souhad Halaka.** and **Norma Khalil.** Many years!

† St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Blanch Maneh.** Many years!

† Farradj and Toubassy family in memory of **Samira Baroudi.** May her memory be eternal!

† St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Sue Gideon.** Many years!

† St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Steven Thayer.** Many years!

† St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Rocky Dudum.** Many years!

† St. John Parish Family for the good health of **George Cawog.** 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



### **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

### **Ladies Announcement**

Hello dear ladies: we need to get together on the 28th to discuss our ladies account and talk about the Fall Gathering in October, I promise it will be very brief. I appreciate your presence.

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### **Building Committee Update - September 2025**

As you can see by walking around the church grounds, significant and beautiful landscaping has been completed including trees, shrubbery, planters and grounds. This was a must before final approval by the City would be granted.

As has been the case in the past, we are slowed down by scheduling issues with the Fire Marshal, the health department, the city and the county. These inspections should all show that work on the hall is substantially completed but inspections must occur in proper sequencing for the entities concerned. A number of these inspections and final approvals are expected to happen this week.

We will keep everyone informed of these final steps as soon as we can, as we are still hoping to get approval to use the hall for the festival.

### **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.



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](https://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.

<b>Recognition level</b>	<b>Names of Donors</b>	
<b>Cornerstone</b> \$500,000 +	Hanada I. Fasheh	
<b>Patron</b> \$100,000-249,000	Rick and Sandra Dudum Jack and Sylvia Dudum	Jason and Lena Dudum Fuad and Nadia Sweiss
<b>Benefactor</b> \$50,000 - 99,999	Keith Dudum Joseph Sweis and Family	The McClintic Family
<b>Provider</b> \$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
<b>Supporter</b> \$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  
Julianna Greensides  
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