

+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

501 Moraga Way, Orinda, California 925-258-4255

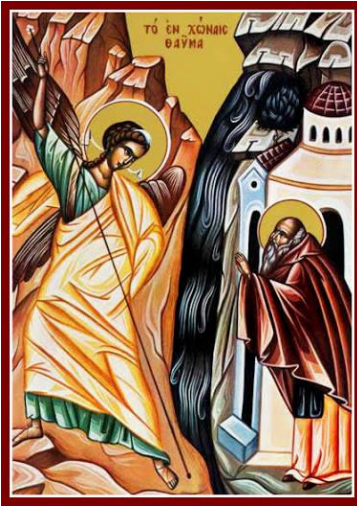
www.stjohnorinda.org email: st.john.evangelist.orinda@gmail.com

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 06, 2026; TONE 5 / EOTHINON 3

THE MIRACLE OF THE ARCHANGEL MICHAEL IN COLOSSAE

ARCHIPPOS OF HIERAPOLIS; MARTYRS EUDOXIOS, ZENO, ROMULUS AND MAKARIOS AT MELITENE IN ARMENIA

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On September 6 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the dread miracle of the Chief Commander Michael that took place in Colossae of Phrygia; and we also commemorate Saint Archippos of Hierapolis. The Archangel Michael delivered from destruction a church and a holy, miraculous spring named for him. The pagans, moved by malice, sought to turn the course of two rivers against the church and the spring. But the Archangel appeared by the prayers of the holy Archippos and, by means of the Cross and a great earthquake that shook the entire area, diverted the waters into an underground course. Henceforth, the name of that place changed from Colossae to Chonae, which means “funnels” in Greek. Archippos lived there until age 70, when he entered peacefully into Heaven.

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THE EPISTLE

Thou, O Lord, wilt keep and preserve us.

Save me, O Lord, for the godly man hath disappeared.

The Reading from the Second Epistle of

St. Paul to the Corinthians. (1:21-2:4)

Brethren, it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has commissioned us; He has put his seal upon us and given us His Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. But I call God to witness against me—it was to spare you that I refrained from coming to Corinth. Not that we lord it over your faith; we work with you for your joy, for you stand firm in your faith. For I made up my mind not to make you another painful visit. For if I cause you pain, who is there to make me glad but the one whom I have pained? And I wrote as I did, so that when I came, I might not suffer pain from those who should have made me rejoice, for I felt sure of all of you, that my joy would be the joy of you all. For I wrote you out of much affliction and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to cause you pain but to let you know the abundant love that I have for you.

أَنْتَ يَا رَبُّ تَحْفَظُنَا وَتَسْتُرُنَا مِنْ هَذَا الْجِيلِ.

خَلِّصْنِي يَا رَبُّ، فَإِنَّ الْبَارَّ قَدْ فَنِيَ.

فَصْلٌ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِّيسِ بُولُسَ الرَّسُولِ الثَّانِيَةِ إِلَى أَهْلِ كورِنْثُوسَ. (2:4-1:21)

يَا إِخْوَةُ، إِنَّ الَّذِي يُثَبِّتُنَا مَعَكُمْ فِي الْمَسِيحِ، وَقَدْ مَسَحَنَا، هُوَ اللَّهُ، الَّذِي خَتَمَنَا أَيْضاً وَأَعْطَى عُرْبُونَ الرُّوحِ فِي قُلُوبِنَا. وَإِنِّي أَسْتَشْهَدُ اللَّهَ عَلَى نَفْسِي، أَنِّي لِإِشْفَاقِي عَلَيْكُمْ، لَمْ آتِ أَيْضاً إِلَى كورِنْثُوسَ. لَا لِأَنَّا نَسُودُ عَلَى إِيْمَانِكُمْ، بَلْ نَحْنُ أَعْوَانُ سُرُورِكُمْ، لِأَنَّكُمْ ثَابِتُونَ عَلَى الْإِيْمَانِ، وَقَدْ جَزَمْتُ بِهِذَا فِي نَفْسِي أَنْ لَا آتِيَكُمْ أَيْضاً فِي غَمٍّ. لِأَنِّي إِنْ كُنْتُ أُغْمِكُمْ، فَمَنْ الَّذِي يَسْرُنِي غَيْرُ مَنْ أَسَبِّبُ لَهُ الْغَمَّ؟ وَإِنَّمَا كَتَبْتُ إِلَيْكُمْ هَذَا بَعِيْنِهِ لئَلَّا يَنَالَنِي عِنْدَ قَدُومِي غَمٌّ مِمَّنْ كَانَ يَنْبَغِي أَنْ أَفْرَحَ بِهِمْ، وَإِنِّي لَوَاتِقٌ بِجَمِيعِكُمْ أَنَّ فَرَحِي هُوَ فَرَحُ جَمِيعِكُمْ. فَإِنِّي مِنْ شِدَّةِ كَاِبَةِ وَكَرْبِ قَلْبِي، كَتَبْتُ إِلَيْكُمْ بِدُمُوعٍ كَثِيرَةٍ، لَا لِتَغْتَمُّوا، بَلْ لِتَعْرِفُوا مَا عِنْدِي مِنَ الْمَحَبَّةِ بِالْأَكْثَرِ لَكُمْ.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (22:2-14)

The Lord spoke this parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a marriage feast for his son, and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the marriage feast; but they would not come. Again he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, Behold, I have made ready my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves are killed, and everything is ready; come to the marriage feast.' But they made light of it and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore to the thoroughfares, and invite to the marriage feast as many as you find.' And those servants went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment; and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and cast him into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

فَصْلٌ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِّيسِ لَوْقَا الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ. (14-2:22)

قَالَ الرَّبُّ هَذَا الْمَثَلُ: يُشَبِّهُ مَلَكُوتُ السَّمَاوَاتِ إِنْسَاناً مَلِكاً صَنَعَ عُرْساً لِابْنِهِ. فَأَرْسَلَ عَبِيدَهُ لِيَدْعُوا الْمَدْعُوعِينَ إِلَى الْعُرْسِ، فَلَمْ يُرِيدُوا أَنْ يَأْتُوا. فَأَرْسَلَ أَيْضاً عَبِيداً آخَرِينَ وَقَالَ: قُولُوا لِلْمَدْعُوعِينَ: هُوَذَا غَدَائِي قَدْ أَعَدَدْتُهُ، ثِيرَانِي وَمُسَمَّنَاتِي قَدْ ذُبِحَتْ، وَكُلُّ شَيْءٍ مُهَيَّأٌ فَهَلُمُّوا إِلَى الْعُرْسِ. وَلَكِنَّهُمْ تَهَاوَنُوا. فَذَهَبَ بَعْضُهُمْ إِلَى حَقْلِهِ، وَبَعْضُهُمْ إِلَى تِجَارَتِهِ وَالْبَاقُونَ قَبَضُوا عَلَى عَبِيدِهِ وَشَتَمُوهُمْ وَقَتَلُوهُمْ. فَلَمَّا سَمِعَ الْمَلِكُ، غَضِبَ وَأَرْسَلَ جُنُودَهُ، فَأَهْلَكَ أَوْلَئِكَ الْقَتْلَةَ وَأَحْرَقَ مَدِينَتَهُمْ. حِينَئِذٍ قَالَ لِعَبِيدِهِ: أَمَّا الْعُرْسُ فَمُعَدَّةٌ، وَأَمَّا الْمَدْعُوعُونَ فَلَمْ يَكُونُوا مُسْتَحَقِّينَ. فَاذْهَبُوا إِلَى مَفَارِقِ الطَّرِيقِ، وَكُلُّ مَنْ وَجَدْتُمُوهُ، فَادْعُوهُ إِلَى الْعُرْسِ. فَخَرَجَ أَوْلَئِكَ الْعَبِيدُ إِلَى الطَّرِيقِ، فَجَمَعُوا كُلَّ مَنْ وَجَدُوا مِنْ أَشْرَارٍ وَصَالِحِينَ، فَحَفَلَ الْعُرْسُ بِالْمُتَكِّينَ. فَلَمَّا دَخَلَ الْمَلِكُ لِيَنْظُرَ الْمُتَكِّينَ، رَأَى هُنَاكَ

إِنْسَاناً لَمْ يَكُنْ لَابِساً لِبَاسَ الْعُرْسِ. فَقَالَ لَهُ: يَا صَاحُ، كَيْفَ دَخَلْتَ إِلَى هَهُنَا وَلَيْسَ عَلَيْكَ لِبَاسَ الْعُرْسِ؟
فَصَمَّتْ حِينَئِذٍ قَالَ الْمَلِكُ لِلْخُدَّامِ: أَوْثِقُوا يَدَيْهِ وَرِجْلَيْهِ، وَخُذُوهُ وَاطْرَحُوهُ فِي الظُّلْمَةِ الْبَرَانِيَّةِ. هُنَاكَ يَكُونُ الْبُكَاءُ
وَصَرِيفُ الْأَسْنَانِ. لِأَنَّ الْمَدْعُوعِينَ كَثِيرُونَ، وَالْمُخْتَارِينَ قَلِيلُونَ.

Coffee Hour

Sept 6th	Sponsor Needed
Sept 13th	Guajardo Family
Sept 20th	Khalil Mounzer in memory of Carlos Suarez
Sept 27th	Festival!

Upcoming Events

Sept 14th	Divine Liturgy to celebrate the feast of the Elevation of the Cross عيد رفع الصليب المقدس at 6:00 pm!
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Holy Oblations

This week, Holy Oblations are offered by:

- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Nick Nicola, Sandy Dudum, George Messih, George Adranly, Fred Addes, Henriette Hilal, Souhad Halaka, George Cawog, Rocky Dudum** and **Norma Khalil**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Violet Jaber**. Many years!
- † The Nino family in memory of **Maramize Nino**. May her memory be eternal!
- † Khalil Mounzer in memory of **Carlos Suarez**. May his memory be eternal!
- † Afaf Wahbeh in memory of **Seliman Manusour**. May his memory be eternal!
- † Lisa Hanna for the good health of **David Hanna** following his knee surgery. 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, Luke and Timothy Ernst, Maron Juha and Zaiden Karanikola

† Elevation of the Cross:



Flowers donated in loving memory of Stephen and Pauline Belevich, by Nick Nicola Jr. and Family

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

You could use this QR code for your donation



Announcements

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The start of Sunday School is approaching quickly! To prepare for this new year, please take a moment to register your child(ren) for this year asap [using this link](#) to our google form.

Upcoming Important Dates:

Sunday, September 6th: First Day of Sunday School. Children and teachers line up first and then proceed to assigned classrooms following communion.

Youth Group Events at St. Innocent in Pleasanton:

September 12th: Teens - Minigolf before Vespers

IOCC FOOD & WINE TOUR

Sunday November 1. This year, our parish is hosting the 34th annual IOCC Food & Wine Tour, one of IOCC's biggest fundraising events of the year. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Larissa Geleris by email lkgeleris@gmail.com or text 925-323-4924

Love your Neighbor: September – Archdiocese collection for Seminarian Fund

Each year in the Fall, the Archdiocese asks parishes to take a collection to help support the Antiochian Orthodox students studying at the seminaries in our country, including St Vladimir's, St Tikhon's and Holy Cross Seminary.

Donations for Heritage Booth at Festival

During the past few Festivals, there were multiple inquiries about purchasing used Middle Eastern items/ souvenirs at the Heritage Booth. We would like to gather unwanted items from our parish. If you have anything to donate, please contact Dn. Nicholas Adranly at 510-207-1796 for more information.

Festival Volunteers Needed

Our Annual Food Festival is just around the corner on Saturday, September 26, and Sunday, September 27! Whether you can volunteer for a few hours or a full shift, every helping hand makes a difference. The more hands we have, the lighter the work—and the more enjoyable the weekend will be! There are **500+ volunteer slots** for the weekend. It's a wonderful opportunity to serve alongside one another, build friendships, and support our church community. Please consider signing up using the link:

<https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/60B0C4FA8A729A0F94-64807921-copy?useFullSite=false>

Thank you in advance for your generosity and willingness to serve. We can't wait to see everyone there! God bless you all!

Talent Show 2027

Calling all Talent Show participants for our 2027 Talent Show on Saturday, March 6, in our hall. A rehearsal will be Saturday February 27. Please add this to your calendars! Last year's show was an amazing success you won't want to miss it!! Please contact Lynn Farradj if you want to be in it. 925-323-5746

By Lynn Farradj: Memorial Wheat Tutorial

Several people have asked me to teach them how to make the memorial wheat, so if you would like to learn please join me on the revised date: Sunday **September 6th** after Liturgy in the hall. We will go through every step. Please give me a call if you would like to learn so I know how many to prepare for. Lynn Farradj - 925-323-5746

🌲 Save the Date! 🌲

Mark your calendars! Our Annual Christmas Party is scheduled for Saturday, December 12. More info to follow.

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS
FESTIVAL PREP WORKSHOPS: Saturdays at 9:30 AM in our new kitchen!

August 1st Sfeiha & Zatar Pies

September 12th Knafeh & Date Mamoul



Please sign up for **any or all** workshops with Rula Adranly at rulaadranly@comcast.net or 510-508-0929

We're accepting pre-orders for grape leaves - will be available at the festival on September 25th & 26th or as early as June 27th. Delicious for your family to enjoy, for summer parties, graduations and more!!

- Large Tray - (approximately 180 leaves) \$200

- Small Tray - (approximately 90 leaves) \$100

Ecclesiastes 4:9 Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil

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Advertisement Form for 2026 Festival Ad Book
32nd Annual Middle Eastern Festival
Sponsored by St. John the Evangelist Orthodox Church

Festival Location: St. John the Evangelist Orthodox Church Grounds,
501 Moraga Way, Orinda, CA 94563

Dates: Saturday, September 26th & Sunday, September 27th

Advertiser: _____
Contact: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____

Advertisement (circle one)

Premium Page AD	Full Page AD	1/2 Page AD	1/4 Page AD
\$500 Plus	\$250	\$130	\$75

Note: If you wish to include a logo or special typeface, it's best to email it.

The 2026 Middle Eastern Festival will feature the finest Middle Eastern entertainment, delicious food, exotic desserts, live music, folk dancing, bazaar, Middle Eastern heritage exhibits, children's games & activities, and more.

The Festival Book, given to attendees, will include advertisements from local businesses and community supporters;

On behalf of the parishioners of St. John the Evangelist Orthodox Church and members of the 2026 Festival Committee, we thank you for your support.

Checks payable to St. John Church Festival.
Earmark 2026 Festival Mail to:

St. John the Evangelist Orthodox Church Office,
501 Moraga Way, Orinda, CA
Email: st.john.evangelist.orinda@gmail.com

INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES

IOCC FOOD & WINE TOUR

Hosted by St. John the Evangelist Antiochian Orthodox Church
& the IOCC Metropolitan Committee of Northern California

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2026

VESPERS: 4:00 P.M. • DINNER: 5:00 – 8:00 P.M.

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

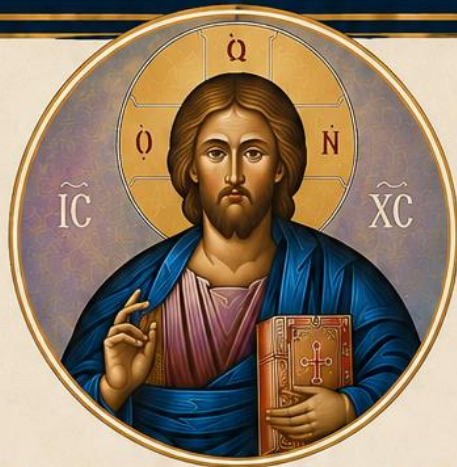
ST. JOHN'S FELLOWSHIP HALL

501 Moraga Way | Orinda, CA 94563

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

Tickets and sponsorships at iocc.org/bayarea





ST. JOHN

THE EVANGELIST ORTHODOX CHURCH

Youth Group

KICK-OFF MEETING

AGES 11+



MEET AT CHURCH ON
SEPTEMBER 12TH
AT **5PM** FOR VESPERS



FOLLOWED BY
pizza in the hall!



WE WILL GET TO KNOW
EACH OTHER WITH
GAMES AND OTHER ACTIVITIES!

RSVP AND
JOIN OUR
WHATSAPP GROUP

→ *for more info!* ←



PARENTS CAN
DROP OFF OR STAY

FAITH + FRIENDSHIP + FUN

ST. JOHN ORTHODOX CHURCH

MIDDLE EASTERN FOOD FESTIVAL



MUSIC



FOOD



CULTURE

CELEBRATING
32
YEARS

SEPTEMBER 26 - 27

501 MORAGA WAY, ORINDA, CA

SAT 11AM - 8PM | SUN NOON - 7PM

FREE ADMISSION

ORTHODOX *Thanksgiving* KIDS AND TEENS RETREAT

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;
His mercy endures forever.

— Psalm 107:1



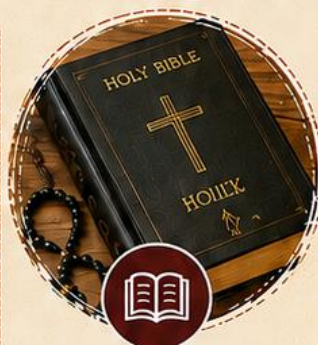
SUNDAY, NOV 15
1:30 PM – 5:00 PM



A fun and faith-filled afternoon for
kids and teens and their families to grow
closer to Christ and give thanks together!



WE WILL BE
MAKING
Holy Bread



BIBLE
STUDY



TEAM
BUILDING



DINNER
will be
PROVIDED

SUGGEST
\$40
DONATION 
per family

RSVP BY NOV. 1
— TO —
Rania Kashou
or
Irene Guajardo 

DONATIONS AND
VOLUNTEERS
ARE WELCOMED!



FAITH. FELLOWSHIP. THANKSGIVING.
Come grow in Christ and gratitude together! 

