



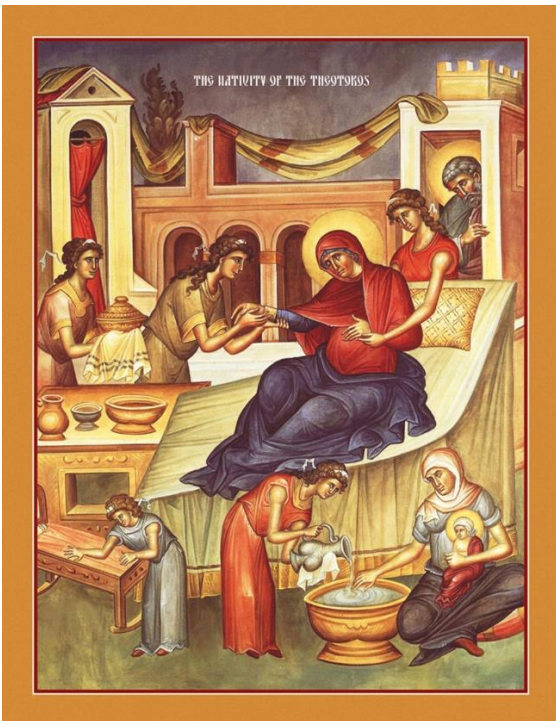
+St. John the Evangelist Orthodox Church

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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SEPTEMBER 07, 2025

TRANSFER OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS



Today in the Holy Orthodox Church, we celebrate the Nativity of our Most-holy Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary. The Holy Virgin Mary was born of aged parents, Joachim and Anna. Her father was of the lineage of David, and her mother of the lineage of Aaron. Thus, she was of royal birth by her father and of priestly birth by her mother. In this, she foreshadowed Him Who would be born of her as King and High Priest. Her parents were quite old and had no children. Because of this they were ashamed before

men and humble before God. In their humility they prayed to God with tears, to bring them joy in their old age by giving them a child, as He had once given joy to the aged Abraham and his wife Sarah by giving them Isaac. The Almighty and All-seeing God rewarded them with a joy that surpassed all their expectations and all their most beautiful dreams; for He gave them not just a daughter, but the Mother of God. She was Mary, Full of grace, Blessed among women, the Temple of the Holy Spirit, the Altar of the Living God, the Table of the Heavenly Bread, the Ark of God's Holiness, the Tree of the Sweetest Fruit, the Glory of the race of man, the Praise of womanhood, and the Fount of virginity and purity.

THE EPISTLE

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.

Unto Thee, O Lord, will I cry, O my God.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians. (6:11-18)

Brethren, see how large a letter I have written to you with my own hand. As many as desire to make a fair show in the flesh, they compel you to be circumcised, only that they may not be persecuted for the Cross of Christ. For not even those who are circumcised do themselves keep the Law; but they desire to have you circumcised, that they may boast in your flesh. But God forbid that I should boast, except in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through Whom the world is crucified to me, and I to the world. For in Christ Jesus, neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. Henceforth, let no one trouble me; for I bear in my body the brand-marks of the Lord Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

خَلِّصْ يَا رَبُّ شَعْبَكَ وَبَارِكْ مِيرَاثَكَ.

إِلَيْكَ يَا رَبُّ أَصْرُخُ إِلَهِي.

فصلٌ من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول إلى أهل غلاطية (6:11-18)

يَا إِخْوَةَ، أَنْظُرُوا مَا أَعْظَمَ الْكِتَابَاتِ الَّتِي كَتَبْتُهَا إِلَيْكُمْ بِيَدِي. إِنَّ كُلَّ الَّذِينَ يُرِيدُونَ أَنْ يُرْضُوا بِحَسَبِ الْجَسَدِ يُلْزِمُونَكُمْ أَنْ تَخْتَنُوا، وَإِنَّمَا ذَلِكَ لِئَلَّا يُضْطَهُدُوا مِنْ أَجْلِ صَلَيبِ الْمَسِيحِ. لِأَنَّ الَّذِينَ يَخْتَنُونَ هُمْ أَنْفُسُهُمْ لَا يَحْفَظُونَ النَامُوسَ بَلْ إِنَّمَا يُرِيدُونَ أَنْ تَخْتَنُوا لِيَفْتَخَرُوا بِأَجْسَادِكُمْ. أَمَّا أَنَا، فَحَاشَى لِي أَنْ أَفْتَخَرَ إِلَّا بِصَلِيبِ رَبِّنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ، الَّذِي بِهِ صَلُوبَ الْعَالَمُ لِي وَأَنَا صَلُوبْتُ لِلْعَالَمِ. لِأَنَّهُ فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ لَيْسَ الْخَتَانُ شَيْءٌ وَلَا الْقَلْفُ بَلْ الْخَلِيقَةُ الْجَدِيدَةُ. وَكُلُّ الَّذِينَ يَسْلُكُونَ بِحَسَبِ هَذَا الْقَانُونِ، فَعَلَيْهِمْ سَلَامٌ وَرَحْمَةٌ وَعَلَى إِسْرَائِيلَ اللَّهِ. فَلَا يَجْلِبُ عَلَيَّ أَحَدٌ أَتْعَاباً فِيمَا بَعْدُ، فَإِنِّي حَامِلٌ فِي جَسَدِي سِمَاتِ الرَّبِّ يَسُوعَ. نِعْمَةٌ رَبِّنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ مَعَ رُوحِكُمْ أَتِيهَا الْإِخْوَةَ. آمِينَ.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (3:13-17)

The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but He who descended from heaven, the Son of man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent His Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him."

فصلٌ شريفٌ من بشارَةِ القديس يوحنا الإنجيليِّ البشيرِ والتلميذِ الطاهرِ (3:13-17)

قَالَ الرَّبُّ: لَمْ يَصْعَدْ أَحَدٌ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ إِلَّا الَّذِي نَزَلَ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ، ابْنُ الْبَشَرِ الَّذِي هُوَ فِي السَّمَاءِ. وَكَمَا رَفَعَ مُوسَى الْحَيَّةَ فِي الْبَرِّيَّةِ، هَكَذَا يَنْبَغِي أَنْ يُرْفَعَ ابْنُ الْبَشَرِ. لِكَيْ لَا يَهْلِكَ كُلُّ مَنْ يُؤْمِنُ بِهِ، بَلْ تَكُونُ لَهُ الْحَيَاةُ الْأَبَدِيَّةُ. لِأَنَّهُ هَكَذَا أَحَبَّ اللَّهُ الْعَالَمَ حَتَّى بَدَّلَ ابْنَهُ الْوَحِيدَ لِكَيْ لَا يَهْلِكَ كُلُّ مَنْ يُؤْمِنُ بِهِ بَلْ تَكُونُ لَهُ الْحَيَاةُ الْأَبَدِيَّةُ. فَإِنَّهُ لَمْ يُرْسِلِ اللَّهُ ابْنَهُ الْوَحِيدَ إِلَى الْعَالَمِ لِيُدِينَ الْعَالَمَ، بَلْ لِيُخَلِّصَ بِهِ الْعَالَمَ.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, September 7th	Yowakeem and Kashou families 40 day memorial service for the handmaiden of God Aida Yowakeem. May her memory be eternal!
September 13	Vespers at 5:30 for the feast of the elevation of the cross with artoklasi (five loaves prayer) صلاة غروب رفع الصليب مع صلاة الخمس خبزات
Sat-Sun, Sept. 20th-21st	St. John's annual Middle Eastern Food Festival

Coffee Hour

September 7	Yowakeem and Kashou families in memory of Aida Yowakeem
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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, Fred Addas, Henriette Hilal, Souhad Halaka.** and **Norma Khalil.** Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family in memory of **Aida Youakeem.** May her Memory be Eternal!
- † Farradj and Toubassy family in memory of **Samira Baroudi.** May her memory be eternal!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **George Messih.** Many years!
- † 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 Kawar, Mason Kawar, Jonathan Juha, Maron Juha and Zaiden Karanikola

Krispy Kreme Fundraising Campaign

Another exciting fundraiser! Campaign is good until December 31.

How it works!

1. Order place an order using the link or QR code.

<https://www.groupraise.com/offer-campaigns/60225-st-john-church-krispy-kreme-digital-dozens>

2. Support 50% of each Original Glazed Dozen you order is donated back to the organization.

3. Enjoy Visit your local Krispy Kreme to pick up your Original Glazed Dozens

Dave & Buster's Fundraising Campaign

We have something new and exciting!!

Dave & Buster's fundraising campaign will begin NOW until December 31, 2025. Get Your Power Cards through St. John link.

1. Place an order using St. John fundraising link. Here is the link:

https://www.groupraise.com/offer-campaigns/59958-st-john-church-dave-busters-fundraising-campaigns?utm_source=sendgrid&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=o_offers_day_1

And/or ask: Rania Kashou

2. 50% of each Dave & Buster's Power Card purchased is donated back to the organization.

3. Visit any Dave & Buster's location to pick up your Power Card and start playing!

Awesome gift for kids, grand kids, parents, even yourself. Who doesn't like to play??

This link can be forwarded to friends, families, neighbors, coworkers, businesses, anyone!!

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

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

You could use this QR code for your donation



ST. JOHN MIDDLE EASTERN FESTIVAL – 2025 PRE-ORDER FORM

ITEM	PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
Spinach Pies (baker's dozen)	\$ 60.00		
Cheese Pies (baker's dozen)	\$ 60.00		
Meat Pies (baker's dozen)	\$ 60.00		
Grape Leaves – 1 large tray (approx. 180 leaves)	\$200.00		
Grape Leaves – 1 small tray (approx. 90 leaves)	\$100.00		
Name: Date Paid:			
ORDERS DUE TO RULA ADRANLY 8/17/25 rulaadranly@comcast.net			

Advertisement Form for 2025 Festival Ad Book

31st 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 20th & Sunday, September 21st

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	\$125	\$75

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

The 2025 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 2025 Festival Committee, we thank you for your support.

Checks payable to St. John Church Festival Mail to:

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



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Kick off Gathering

SEPTEMBER 7TH
AFTER SUNDAY SCHOOL

PACK A PICNIC, CHAIRS AND ANY
OTHER PARK NEEDS

@MORAGA COMMONS

ENJOY SOMETIME WITH OTHER
SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSMATES

ST. JOHN ORTHODOX CHURCH

MIDDLE EASTERN FOOD FESTIVAL



MUSIC



FOOD



CULTURE



SEPTEMBER 20 & 21

501 MORAGA WAY ORINDA, CA

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

FREE ADMISSION





Antiochian Orthodox Church of the Redeemer
PRESENTS



Our 42nd Annual

Mediterranean Food Festival

September 6th | 1pm - 9pm

September 7th | 12pm - 8pm

*Get ready for two unforgettable days of fun, delicious food,
family entertainment, music, culture, dancing, crafts,
church tours, kids' zone, and more!*

380 Magdalena Avenue, Los Altos Hills, CA

*** FREE ADMISSION BEFORE 3PM ***

Don't miss the raffle! (Tickets - 1 for \$20, 3 for \$50, 7 for \$100)

1st = \$1,000 Cash | 2nd = \$500 Cash | 3rd = 75" 4K TV | 4th = 49ers Tickets (2)
...and more great prizes!



PARKING AND SHUTTLE AVAILABLE AT
BRIDGES COMMUNITY CHURCH | 625 MAGDALENA AVE.

For the latest festival updates, go to facebook.com/orthodoxredeemer or call 650.941.1570

Dave & Busters Campaign

This past Sunday a group of us went joined an outting that raised \$390.00 and that's just a start. Everyone's participation is a true reflection of God's love at work, and together we are building something greater for His glory. Dave & Busters campaign is good until the end of the year. Please stay tuned for another outting.





Krispy Kreme Digital Dozens to Support St. John Church



grouprai.se/krispykreme60225o



\$15
per order



50%
donated back