

+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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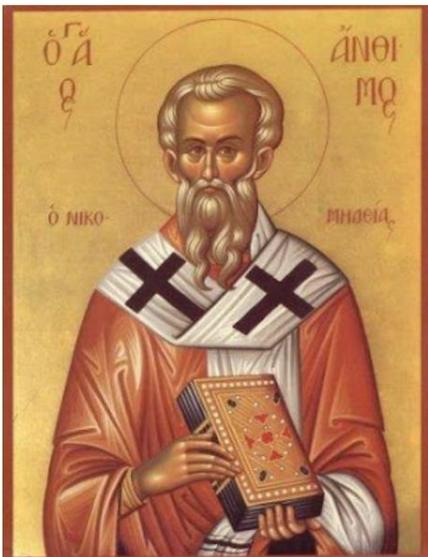
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 03, 2023

TONE 4 / EOTHINON 2; THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

& THIRTEENTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

HIEROMARTYR ANTHIMOS OF NICOMEDIA & VENERABLE

THEOKTISTOS, FELLOW ASCETIC WITH EUTHYMIOS THE GREAT



Hieromartyr Anthimos of Nicomedia

On September 3 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the holy Hieromartyr Anthimos of Nicomedia.

Anthimos governed as Bishop during the cruel and violent persecution of Christians under the villainous Emperors Diocletian and Maximian. He retreated to the village of Semana to continue encouraging his flock in the feat of martyrdom, so that no one would fall away out of fear. Maximian eventually dispatched twenty soldiers to find Anthimos and bring him to court. When they found him, Anthimos welcomed them into his home. The soldiers encouraged him to run for his life, saying they would lie to the emperor to cover him. However, Anthimos would not transgress God's commandment against falsehood to save his life, and he went with the soldiers, whom he baptized on the journey back to the emperor. Anthimos was beheaded and returned to the Lord in the fourth century.

On this day, we also commemorate our righteous father Theoktistos, fellow ascetic with Euthymios the Great. The pursuit of the same ideal and communal labors united their hearts in a very strong friendship in the Pharan Lavra just outside of Jerusalem. Their souls were blended in such a great spiritual affection that each was, so to speak, in the soul of the other. Considerable crowds would come to Euthymios for spiritual nourishment. The great anchorite shared the care of all who came to him with the blessed Theoktistos, who never having known disobedience, gave himself at once to the assistance of his master and disposed of everything material. Both holy monks served the flocks of Christ in the fifth century.

THE EPISTLE

O Lord, how marvelous are Thy works. In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

Bless the Lord, O my soul!

The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (16:13-24)

Brethren, be watchful, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, and be strong. Let all that you do be done in love. Now, brethren, you know that the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints; I urge you to be subject to such men and to every fellow worker and laborer. I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus, because they have made up for your absence; for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours. Give recognition to such men. The churches of Asia send greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, send you hearty greetings in the Lord. All the brethren send greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss. I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. If anyone has no love for the Lord, let him be accursed. Our Lord, come! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

الرسالة

ما أعظم أعمالك يا ربُّ كُلِّها بِحِكْمَةٍ صَنَعْتَ
باركي يا نَفْسِي الرَّبِّ.

فصلٌ مِنَ رسالةِ القديسِ بولسِ الرسولِ الأولى إلى أهلِ كورنثوس.

يا إِخْوَةَ، إِسْهَرُوا، أَنْبُتُوا عَلَى الْإِيمَانِ، كُونُوا رِجَالًا، تَشَدَّدُوا. وَلَتَكُنْ أُمُورُكُمْ كُلُّهَا بِالْمَحَبَّةِ. وَأَطْلُبْ إِلَيْكُمْ أَيُّهَا الْإِخْوَةُ: تَعْرِفُونَ أَنَّ إِسْتِفَانَسَ وَفِرْتِنَانَسَ وَأَكَائِكُسَ هُمْ بَاكُورَةُ أَخَائِيَّةٍ وَقَدْ خَصَّصُوا أَنْفُسَهُمْ لِحِدْمَةِ الْقَدِيسِينَ. فَعَلَيْكُمْ، أَنْ تَخَضَعُوا أَنْتُمْ أَيْضًا لِمِثْلِ هَؤُلَاءِ وَلِكُلِّ مَنْ يُعَاوَنُ وَيَتَعَبُّ. إِنِّي فَرِحْتُ بِحُضُورِ إِسْتِفَانَسَ وَفِرْتَانوسَ وَأَخَائِكُوسَ فَقَدْ قَامُوا مَقَامَكُمْ فِي غِيَابِكُمْ، فَأَرَاخُوا رُوحِي وَأَزْوَاحَكُمْ. فَقَدَّرُوا أَمْثَالَهُمْ. تُسَلِّمُ عَلَيْكُمْ كَنَائِسُ آسِيَّةٍ. يُسَلِّمُ عَلَيْكُمْ فِي الرَّبِّ كَثِيرًا أَكِيلاً وَبِرِسْكَالَةَ وَالْكَنِيسَةَ الَّتِي فِي بَيْتِهِمَا. يُسَلِّمُ عَلَيْكُمْ جَمِيعُ الْإِخْوَةِ. سَلِّمُوا بَعْضُكُمْ عَلَى بَعْضٍ بِقُبْلَةٍ مُقَدَّسَةٍ. السَّلَامُ بِيَدِي أَنَا بُولُسَ. إِنْ كَانَ أَحَدٌ لَا يُحِبُّ رَبَّنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحَ فَلْيَكُنْ مَفْرُوزًا. مَارَانِ أَثًا. نِعْمَةٌ رَبَّنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ مَعَكُمْ. مَحَبَّتِي لَكُمْ جَمِيعًا فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ. آمِينَ.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (21:33-42)

The Lord spoke this parable: "There was a householder who planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a wine press in it, and built a tower, and let it out to tenants, and went into another country. When the season of fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants, to get his fruit; and the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first; and they did the same to them. Afterward he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' And they took him and cast him out of the vineyard, and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: 'The very stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?'"

الإنجيل

فصلٌ شَرِيفٌ مِنَ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ مَتَّى الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ.

قَالَ الرَّبُّ هَذَا الْمَثَلُ: إِنْسَانٌ رَبُّ بَيْتٍ غَرَسَ كَرْمًا وَحَوَّطَهُ بِسِيَاجٍ، وَحَفَرَ فِيهِ مَعَصْرَةً، وَبَنَى بُرْجًا، وَسَلَّمَهُ إِلَى عَمَلَةٍ وَسَافِرٍ. فَلَمَّا قَرَبَ أَوَانُ الثَّمَرِ، أَرْسَلَ عَبِيدَهُ إِلَى الْعَمَلَةِ لِيَأْخُذُوا ثَمَرَهُ * فَأَخَذَ الْعَمَلَةُ عَبِيدَهُ، وَجَدَلُوا بَعْضًا، وَقَتَلُوا بَعْضًا، وَرَجَمُوا بَعْضًا. فَأَرْسَلَ عَبِيدًا آخَرِينَ أَكْثَرَ مِنَ الْأَوَّلِينَ، فَصَنَعُوا بِهِمْ كَذَلِكَ. وَفِي الْآخِرِ، أَرْسَلَ إِلَيْهِمْ ابْنَهُ قَائِلًا "سِيَهَابُونَ ابْنِي." فَلَمَّا رَأَى الْعَمَلَةُ الْإِبْنَ قَالُوا فِيمَا بَيْنَهُمْ "هَذَا هُوَ الْوَارِثُ. هَلُمَّ نَقْتُلْهُ وَنَسْتَوْلِي عَلَى مِيرَاثِهِ." فَأَخَذُوهُ وَأَخْرَجُوهُ خَارِجَ الْكَرْمِ وَقَتَلُوهُ. فَمَتَى جَاءَ رَبُّ الْكَرْمِ مَاذَا يَفْعَلُ بِأَوْلِيكِ الْعَمَلَةِ؟ فَقَالُوا لَهُ: إِنَّهُ يُهْلِكُ أَوْلِيكَ الْأَرْدِيَاءَ أَرْدَاءً هَالِكًا، وَيُسَلِّمُ الْكَرْمَ إِلَى عَمَلَةٍ آخَرِينَ يُؤَدُّونَ لَهُ الثَّمَرَ فِي أَوَانِهِ. فَقَالَ لَهُمْ يَسُوعُ: أَمَا قَرَأْتُمْ قَطُّ فِي الْكُتُبِ إِنَّ الْحَجَرَ الَّذِي رَدَلَهُ الْبَنَاءُونَ هُوَ صَارَ رَأْسًا لِلزَّوَايَةِ. مِنْ قِبَلِ الرَّبِّ كَانَ ذَلِكَ وَهُوَ عَجِيبٌ فِي أَعْيُنِنَا؟

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.

Questions From Parishioners

Question: Will donors be recognized for their contributions to the Fellowship Hall Building Fund? If so, how?

Yes, the names of those who make direct donations to the Fellowship Hall Building Fund will be recognized on a large wall plaque that will be permanently displayed in the hall foyer. The design of the plaque is being researched as construction continues. When construction work moves into the interior finishings phase, the "Recognition Wall," in the foyer space will be installed.

Current planning calls for the design of the wall to include these ten giving levels:

- Founder, one million dollars and more
- Cornerstone, five-hundred thousand dollars and more
- Pillar, two-hundred and fifty thousand dollars and more
- Patron, one-hundred thousand dollars and more
- Benefactor, fifty-thousand dollars and more (1)
- Provider, twenty-five thousand dollars and more (4)
- Supporter, ten-thousand dollars and more (9)
- Partner, five-thousand dollars and more (2)
- Friend, one-thousand dollars and more (3)
- Builder, one-hundred dollars and more (17)

The numbers in parenthesis next to each category represents the number of commitments received in each category to date. The Fund-Raising Committee is confident the August 27 event will have encouraged more parishioners to join the 36 individuals and families who have stepped forward in support of this project. In addition, the committee is continuing efforts to reach out to all parishioners to join their fellow St. John faithful in making this dream a reality. All pledges and contributions are valued, needed, and appreciated.

Monthly Lunches for the Fellowship Hall

The Ladies' Committee would like to revive our monthly sponsored lunches to help raise funds for the new fellowship hall! The idea is to have two families pick a date and together provide a meal to serve after Sunday liturgy. The Ladies' Committee will sponsor a lunch at the church on Father's Day, but would love to have volunteers lined up for the months following. Please contact Fadwa Samara with any questions or to sign up at 510.909.0119 or fvsamara@gmail.com. Thank you!!

Festival News:

Rolling Grapeleaves - Mark your calendars for September 9th starting at 10:00 am in the Church hall & let's get ready to roll!!! Sign up to help with Rula Adranly rulaadranly@comcast.net.

Cooking Demo recordings - we want to put together videos of our parishioners making their favorite middle eastern dishes. Record yourself or a loved one (on your camera phone) and send to Reem Munakash at rmunakash@comcast.net. The videos will be shown on a monitor in the Culture Room during the festival. No need to share a detailed recipe, just show us how it's done!!

Fashion Show Organizer needed to put together a 10-15 minute show for each day of the festival. Let's show off our beautiful traditional clothing to the community. Contact Samir Yoakim at syowakim@sbcglobal.net if you're interested.

Getting Ready for Sunday School

Dear Parents,

The 2023-2024 Sunday School Year starts on Sunday, September 10th and I need to be sure we have an accurate list of students and their grades before assigning students to each class.

If you did not receive my email to the parents 2 weeks ago or you are new to St. John the Evangelist and have a child/children ages 4 to 18, please contact me to sign them up for Sunday School (paulakassouf25@gmail.com or (951)662-9387).

Below you will find important dates for the upcoming school year.

I look forward to a fruitful and faith-filled school year.

In Christ, Paula Kassouf

Classroom locations:

- Pre-K and Kindergarten: The first room in the hall across from the kitchen
- 1-3: in the second room in the hall across from the bathrooms
- Gr. 4-8: in the admin building, center room
- Gr. 9-12: in the admin building, teen room

'23/'24 School year schedule- important dates to note:

- Sept. 10, 2023: First Day of Sunday School and [The Elevation of the Venerable and Life-Giving Cross](#) (Sept. 14) Children will sit at the front of the Church for a special homily.
- Sept. 17, 2023: **First day of class!** Children go to assigned classrooms.
- Dec. 3, 2023: Christmas Cars Event after Sunday School
- Dec. 17, 2023: Christmas Play. **No Sunday School**
- Dec. 24, 2023: Christmas break. **No Sunday School**
- Jan 7, 2024: Sunday after Epiphany. Children stay at the front of the Church for the Blessing of Water. **No Sunday School**
- Feb 11, 2024: Creative Arts Project. Children go to admin building for arts and crafts for the 2024 Creative Festival. **No Sunday School.**
- March 18, 2024: First Day of Lent
- March 24, 2024: [Sunday of Orthodoxy](#), Commemoration of the Restoration of the Holy Icons. **No Sunday School.** Children participate in a procession around the Church
- April 7, 2024: [Sunday of the Holy Cross](#). Children participate in a procession around the Church. **No Sunday School.**
- April 28, 2024: [Palm Sunday](#): **No Sunday School**
- May 5, 2024: [Easter Sunday](#): **No Sunday School**
- May 26, 2024: Last Day of Sunday School
- June 2, 2024: Sunday School Graduation. **No Sunday School**

Items Needed for the Festival

We are accepting monetary donations to purchase items for the festival such as oil, foil trays, paper plates, containers, etc. Thank you for your donation.

Thank You for Coming to the Fellowship Hall Party!

Our first event of many, was successful! By God's glory, our awesome community with several generations being under one roof is something we have dreamt about for decades. Thank you for everyone's enthusiastic participation, every single person filled the room, every single donation, every single helping hands made our event successful. We are all making our hall come to life. We are all family, all under God's home, our home!

Upcoming Events

Every Sunday at 7pm	St. Anastasia Fellowship Meeting (see flyer)
September 10	First day of Sunday School
September 13th at 6:00pm	Divine Liturgy to celebrate the feast of the Elevation of the Cross عيد رفع الصليب!
September 23-24	Our annual St. John's Middle Eastern Festival!

Coffee Hours

September 3	Abe, Amal, Joe, and Stephanie Munayer in memory of mother Mariam Munayer. May her memory be eternal!
September 10	Siham Mitry and family in memory of Elaine Samara

Memorial Services

September 3rd - Abe, Amal, Joe, and Stephanie Munayer in memory of **Mariam Munayer** (6 Months). May her memory be eternal!

Holy Oblations

This week, Holy Oblations are offered by:

- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Nick Nicola, Nadia Frangieh, Souhila Swies, Noha Schulze, George Messih** and **Aida Youakeem**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Vivian Frangieh**. Many years!
- † Ron and Ruth Jeha for the good health of **Michael Jeha**. Many years!
- † Abe, Amal, Joe and Stephanie in memory of **Mariam Munayer**. May her memory be eternal!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Nick Nicola**. 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!

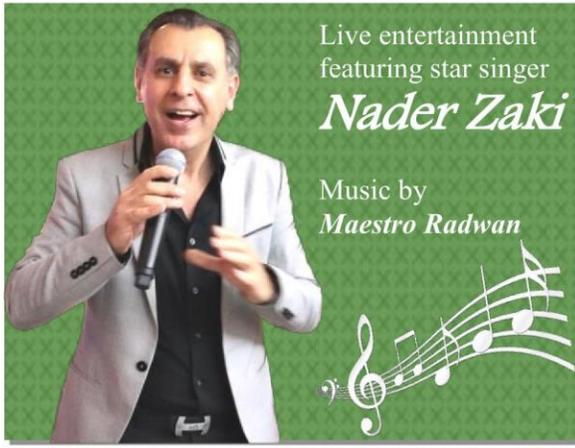


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- † Altar Servers: Nathan Sweis, Clayton Morgan, Elias Freij, Angelo Freij, Andrew Freij, Mazyn Haddadin, James Dudum, John Dudum and David Evans

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

You could use this QR code for your donation





29th Annual Middle Eastern Food Festival



St. John Antiochian Orthodox Church
501 Moraga Way in Orinda, CA

Sat. Sep 23, 2023 11am-8pm
Sun. Sep 24, 2023 12pm-7pm

Live music ~ Grand Prize Drawing ~ Delicious Food
Authentic Sweets ~ Children's Activities ~ Cultural Center
Vendor Booths



Antiochian Orthodox Church of the Redeemer

PRESENTS



Two days of fun in the sun at our annual

Mediterranean Food Festival

September 9th | 1-10 pm

September 10th | 1-8 pm

*Join us for food, games, music,
live entertainment, raffle, and more!*

380 Magdalena Avenue, Los Altos Hills, CA

FREE ADMISSION!

*1st Prize = \$1,000 Cash | 2nd Prize = \$500 Cash | 3rd Prize = TV
Gift cards, baskets, and more!*



DJ Music

Music by Radwan Shakshir

Nader Zaki



SATURDAY



SUNDAY



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

ST. JOHN MIDDLE EASTERN FESTIVAL – 2023 PRE-ORDER FORM

ITEM	PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
Spinach Pies (1 dozen)	\$ 48.00		
Cheese Pies (1 dozen)	\$ 48.00		
Meat Pies (1 dozen)	\$ 48.00		
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 9/3/23 rulaadranly@comcast.net			

St. Anastasia's Fellowship

A 12-Step Fellowship for Orthodox Christians seeking recovery from alcoholism and addiction in its many forms



Every Sunday @ 7pm

St. John the Evangelist Orthodox Church

**501 Moraga Way
Orinda, CA 94563**

Contact Joseph: (310) 227-9848