



+St. John the Evangelist Orthodox Church

Antiochian Archdiocese of North America

His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH,

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of 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 11, 2022

TONE 4 / EOTHINON 2

SUNDAY BEFORE THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

AFTER-FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS

VENERABLE THEODORA OF ALEXANDRIA; RIGHTEOUS EUPHROSYNOS THE COOK

Mother Theodora of Alexandria



On September 11 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we continue to celebrate the Nativity of the Most-holy Theotokos, and we commemorate our righteous Mother Theodora of Alexandria.

Urged on by a fortune-teller, Theodora committed adultery with another man. Her conscience immediately began to trouble her, and she cut off her hair and dressed in men's garb, then went off to the men's monastery of Octodecatos under the man's name of Theodore. Her labors, fasts, vigils, meekness and tearful repentance were a source of wonder to all the brethren. Driven out of the monastery, she spent seven years wandering in the forests and deserts, caring for a harlot's child. Theodora overcame all devilish illusions by making the sign of the Cross; they all vanished like smoke. After seven years, the abbot of the monastery received her back, and she lived there in asceticism a further two years and then entered into rest in the Lord in the year 490. Only then did the monks learn that Theodora was a woman, when an angel appeared and explained everything. Thus God glorified this true penitent, who, with heroic endurance, spent nine years repenting of one sin.

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.

يا إخوة، انظروا ما أعظم الكتابات التي كتبتها إليكم بيدي. إن كل الذين يريدون أن يرضوا بحسب الجسد يلزمونكم أن تختنوا، وإنما ذلك لئلا يضطهدوا من أجل صليب المسيح. لأن الذين يختنوا هم أنفسهم لا يحفظون الناموس بل إنما يريدون أن تختنوا ليفتخروا بأجسادكم. أما أنا، فحاشى لي أن افتخر إلا بصليب ربنا يسوع المسيح، الذي به صلب العالم لي وأنا صلبت للعالم. لأنه في المسيح يسوع ليس الختان بشيء ولا القلف بل الخليقة الجديدة. وكل الذين يسلكون بحسب هذا القانون، فعليهم سلام ورحمة وعلى إسرائيل الله. فلا يجلب علي أحد أتعاباً فيما بعد، فإني حامل في جسدي سمات الرب يسوع. نعمة ربنا يسوع المسيح مع روحكم أيها الإخوة. آمين.

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 بشارة القديس يوحنا الإنجيلي البشير والتلميذ الطاهر.

قال الرب: لم يصعد أحد إلى السماء إلا الذي نزل من السماء، ابن البشر الذي هو في السماء. وكما رفع موسى الحية في البرية، هكذا ينبغي أن يرفع ابن البشر. لكي لا يهلك كل من يؤمن به، بل تكون له الحياة الأبدية. لأنه هكذا أحب الله العالم حتى بذل ابنه الوحيد لكي لا يهلك كل من يؤمن به بل تكون له الحياة الأبدية. فإنه لم يرسل الله ابنه الوحيد إلى العالم ليدين العالم، بل ليخلص به العالم.

"Love your Neighbor"- A Ministry of St John the Evangelist Orthodox Church

As we enjoy our last few weeks of the summer vacation and look forward to the beginning of a Fall school year, our parish will join other parishes in our Archdiocese in supporting youth, our seminarians, and those wishing to continue studies in Theology and Church History. Please consider gifts for the next few months supporting these three Antiochian Archdiocese Programs.

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.

October – (Youth Month) SOYO Special Olympics

This ministry is sponsored by the North American Council of Teen SOYO and is the second longest running program of Special Olympics Pennsylvania, serving over 340 Special Olympics athletes, coaches, and staff each season. It is the premier SOYO outreach program, now in its 38th year of service. Each year SOYO teens raise the funds on Special Olympics Awareness Day.

Sunday School Year

'22/'23 School year:

- Sept. 11, 2022: 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. 18, 2022: First legitimate day of class! Children go to regularly assigned classrooms. See below.
- Sept. 25, 2022: Church Festival. **No Sunday School**
- Dec. 11, 2022: Christmas Play. **No Sunday School**
- Dec. 18, 2022: Christmas break. **No Sunday School**
- Dec. 25, 2022: Christmas break. **No Sunday School**
- Jan. 1, 2022: Sunday before Epiphany. Children stay at the front of the Church for the Blessing of Water. **No Sunday School**
- Jan. 29, 2023: Creative Arts Project. Children go to admin building for arts and crafts for the 2022 Creative Festival. **No Sunday School.**
- February 27, 2023: First Day of Lent
- March 5, 2023: Sunday of Orthodoxy. Commemoration of the Restoration of the Holy Icons. **No Sunday School.** Children participate in a procession around the Church
- March 19, 2023: Sunday of the Holy Cross. Children participate in a procession around the Church. **No Sunday School.**
- April 9, 2023: Palm Sunday: **No Sunday School**
- April 16, 2023: Easter Sunday: **No Sunday School**
- May 21, 2023: Last Day of Sunday School
- May 28, 2023: Sunday School Graduation. **No Sunday School**

In Christ,

Paula

FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Our festival is fast approaching, on 9/24 & 9/25. We need volunteers to help in the following areas:

BBQ - 2 people needed each day for 4 hour shifts - contact George Adranly at gadranly@sbcglobal.net

Shawerma - 1 person needed each day for 4 hour shifts - contact David Kashou at kashou23@gmail.com

Sandwich Making (outdoor grill) - 2 people needed each day for 4 hour shifts - contact Suzanne Taovil at suenabil@hotmail.com

Beverage Booth - 2 people needed for 4 hour shifts - contact Nabil Taovil at nabil.taovil@sbcglobal.net

Volunteers also needed for set-up & making kifta on Friday, 9/23, starting at noon. You can sign up with Rula at church or rulaadranly@comcast.net. A BIG thanks to all the committee heads for their hard work in planning a return to our traditional festival.

Groundbreaking Ceremony and Prayers

Sunday, September 11, 2022

On behalf of the St John Fellowship Hall Building Committee and the Parish Council, we are thrilled to announce the official Groundbreaking Ceremony and Prayers to be held immediately after the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, September 11, 2022. While you may notice some placement of fencing, and beginning stages of land excavation before that, we will celebrate the hard work of everyone involved in getting us to this point and offer prayers for the safe and successful completion of the project in the not-too-distant future! Please join us for this special recognition.

Final meeting for the festival: Sunday, September 18th after liturgy

Booth leaders, please be present so that we can make sure that you are ready.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, September 11th	Ground breaking ceremony
Sunday, September 11th	Procession in celebration of the elevation of the cross
Saturday, September 17th	Preparation for the festival at 9:30 am.
Sunday, September 18th	40 days memorial service for the servant of God Nabil Wahbeh. May his memory be eternal!
Sunday, September 18th	Final meeting for the festival
September 24th – 25th	Festival

Coffee Hours

September 11th	Jill Norgaard and Jordis Fasheh in memory of Hanada
September 18th	George and Afaf Wahbeh
September 25th	Church Festival
October 2nd	Siham Mitry for the good health of her family
October 9th	The Farradj and Silva families

Holy Oblations

This week, Holy Oblations are offered by:

- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Noha Schulze, George Messih** and **Aida Youakeem**. Many years!
- † Also, for the good health of their family!
- † St. John Parish Family in memory of of **Nabil Wahbeh**. May his memory be eternal!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Ibtisam Haddad**. Many years!
- † Fr. Nicholas Borzghol and family in memory of his aunt **Souhila Borzghol Abdalh**. May her memory be eternal!
- † Fairouz Freij and family for the good health of **Michael Shuheiber**. Many years!
- † George and Samar Adranly and family for the good health of **Farida Harb**. 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 Swiess, Clayton Morgan, Elias Freij, Angelo Freij, Andrew Freij, Mazyn Haddadin

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- † Flowers for the feast of the elevation of the cross offered by Nick Je, Najat Nicola and family in loving memory of **Stephen and Pauline Belavich**.



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





28th Annual Middle Eastern Food Festival



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

Sat. Sep 24, 2022 11am-8pm
Sun. Sep 25, 2022 12pm-7pm

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

All Hands on Deck!!!

All Hands on Deck!!! Let's Get Rolling!!! Saturday, September 17th 9:30 am in the Church hall. Please let Rula know if you can help: rulaadranly@comcast.net or 510-508-0929.



ST. JOHN MIDDLE EASTERN FESTIVAL – 2022 PRE-ORDER FORM

ITEM	PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
Spinach 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		
Baklava (1 dozen)	\$ 36.00		
Name:			
Date Paid:			
ORDERS DUE TO RULA ADRANLY BY 9/11/22 rulaadranly@comcast.net			