



+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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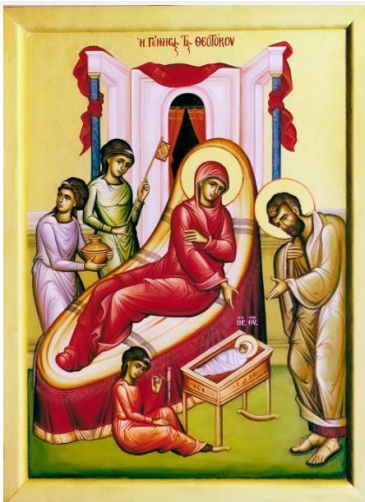
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 08, 2024

TONE 2 / EOTHINON 11

SUNDAY BEFORE THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS

The Nativity of the Theotokos



On September 8 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.

الرسالة.

خَلِّصْ يَا رَبُّ شَعْبَكَ وَبَارِكْ مِيراثَكَ .

إِلَيْكَ يَا رَبُّ أَصْرُخُ الْهَي .

فصلٌ من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول إلى أهل غلاطية.

يا إخوة، أنظروا 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 يختنون هم أنفسهم لا يحفظون الناموس بل إنما يريدون أن تختنوا ليفتخروا بأجسادكم. أمّا أنا، فحاشى لي أن أفتخر 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 أتعباً فيما بعد، فأني 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."

الإنجيل

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

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.

Fellowship Hall contributions

Thank you so much for your generous donations to the Fellowship Hall. Your contributions allowed us to reach to this point in our project.

However, some of us neglected our obligation and commitment to the church. We are behind on our pledges to the operation of the church by \$16,000 to date. I'm counting on your faith, love and commitment to Christ and his church to make up for the deficit. I'm confident of your generosity.

In Christ,

Fr. Nicholas Borzghol

Upcoming Events

Every Sunday at 7pm	St. Anastasia Fellowship Meeting.
September 28-29	Annual Middle Eastern Festival

Coffee Hours

September 8 th	Sponsor Needed
September 15 th	Anthony, Kimberly, Julia and Brie Bailey in memory of Nick and Helen Nicola.
September 22 nd	Sponsor Needed
September 29 th	Festival

Holy Oblations

This week, Holy Oblations are offered by:

- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Nick Nicola, George Messih, Daniel Romley, Henriette Hilal** and **Aida Youakeem**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Sam Nassab**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family in memory of **Souhail Kawar**. May his memory be eternal!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Fairouz Freij**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Naim Nazzal**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Nabil Wakileh**. Many years!
- † Rocky and Nada Dudum for the good health of **Sandy Dudum Bennett**. Many years!
- † St. John Parish family in memory of **Karen Mashi**. May her memory be eternal!
- † St. John Parish family in memory of **Hanna (john) Theodosi**. May his memory be eternal!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Issam and Rania Freij** on the occasion of their anniversary. 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, David Evans, Evan Kawar, Mason Kawar, Jonathan Juha and Maron Juha

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- † Nick and Najat Nicola and family will be donating the flowers on September 15th in memory of Steven and Pauline Belavich.

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

You could use this QR code for your donation



Fellowship Hall News

Fundraising Committee Update:

So close - yet so far, but how far are we from hall completion?

When we started the construction of the project, we did so knowing that we had about \$2 Million in the building fund, and had secured a \$2.5 Million equity loan from the bank. We undertook a very ambitious plan to raise another \$2.5 Million that would bring us to the approximately \$7 million hall project. (Contract was \$6.8 M - not including kitchen equipment and amenities) We knew that if we did not raise the needed funds, we would need to slow or halt construction. To date, we have raised about one-third of our goal (a bit over \$800,000), and have also added some additional funds from the overall church budget. We have paid the contractor (Petra Construction) about \$5.3M, and are stopping all invoices until more funding can be obtained.

However - that does not mean we are stopping all work! Construction work will continue on the following parts of the project: Completion of the tile siding of the hall, completion of the pavers on the plaza, completion of the concrete stairs from the parking lot to the plaza and the plaza to the lower plaza, completion of the new exit stairwell from the church, grading of the preschool playground, and the fencing around that playground. It is anticipated that this work will be completed before the festival.

The Parish Council, building committee and fundraising committee, along with other interested members of the community are working together to determine next steps forward for closing the funding gap and completing the project. There are several ideas being explored, such as loans from parishioners, a loan from a bank, and a fundraising gala. More information will be forthcoming as soon as it is available, and of course, any loan taken with a bank will be brought to the entire parish for approval.

As always if you have any questions, concerns, or ideas, please see Steve Kreta - Building Committee Chair, Raif Rihani - Parish Council Chair, David Hanna - Fundraising Committee Chair, or Father Nicholas.

See's CANDIES

St John Orthodox Church Storefront



Help Us
Reach Our Goal!



See's Candies

Who doesn't love chocolate? Please order your See's Candies. 20% of the proceeds will support our building fund.

- Own a business and need to gift?
- Any gift?
- Easter chocolate??
- SEE'S just because it's SEE'S??

ANYONE can purchase!! Please scan the QR code, find the link on our Facebook, or ask anyone in the fundraising committee .

LORE
COFFEE ROASTERS



**10% FROM ALL SALES
GOES TO YOUR PARISH!**

**SCAN ME TO ORDER
OR USE**

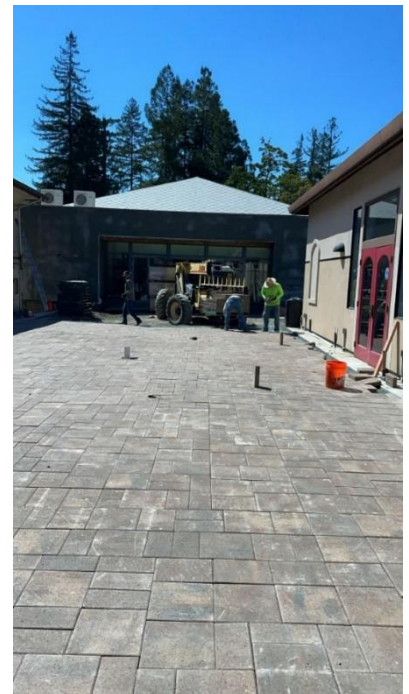
www.loreroasters.com/94563StJohn

Lore Coffee Roasters is a specialty coffee roastery owned and operated by two Orthodox families in Bonners Ferry, Idaho.

We focus on sourcing and roasting the highest quality coffee from all over the earth, striving to glorify Christ by treating our craft with respect and serving excellent coffee!

 @LORECOFFEEROASTERS

BRINGING YOU INTO THE STORY BEHIND GOOD COFFEE.



ST. JOHN MIDDLE EASTERN FESTIVAL – 2024 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 9/3/24 rulaadranly@comcast.net			



Antiochian Orthodox Church of the Redeemer
PRESENTS



Our 41st Annual

Mediterranean Food Festival

September 7th | 1pm - 10pm

September 8th | 1pm - 8pm

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

All proceeds will go to the matching gift fund
for our building project.

380 Magdalena Avenue, Los Altos Hills

FREE ADMISSION

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



SATURDAY



SUNDAY



Sami
Ihsan

BOTH DAYS



DJ
George

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



SUNDAY SCHOOL
KICK OFF GATHERING

PACK A PICNIC,
CHAIRS AND
ANY PARK NEEDS
SEPTEMBER 8, 2024
AFTER SUNDAY SCHOOL
MORAGA COMMONS PARK



Antiochian Charities

Website: www.antiochian.org/charities

Email: childrensrelieffund@gmail.com

“Whoever receives one little child like this in my name receives me.” (Matthew 18:5)

August 5, 2024

TO BE READ FROM THE PULPIT AND DISTRIBUTED TO ALL PARISHIONERS

For over forty years the Children’s Relief Fund has provided financial support to help defray the cost of education for children in Lebanon and Palestine. Requests for such support have increased significantly in recent years. As a result of dire circumstances in Lebanon, many parents have become unable to pay tuition to send their children to Orthodox Christian schools. Our Orthodox schools are at risk of closing, and consequently many of our children will now have to attend a public school or to discontinue their schooling altogether.

With the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan SABA, we are seeking your help. We have approximately forty Lebanese children from the Archdioceses of Beirut, Koura, Tripoli, Akkar, and Zahle who need assistance to continue their education at an Orthodox Christian school this coming school year. The tuition cost per student varies from \$750 to \$1200 per school year, depending on the school and the student’s grade level.

Donated funds will be wired directly to the Orthodox school in the child’s name. The child and their family will receive a notice of your support, and you will receive contact information so that you can communicate directly with the child if you wish. Children receiving a tuition scholarship will not receive any other funding from the Children’s Relief Fund. Sponsorship in any amount will be appreciated.

School begins in a few weeks, so if you can help, please contact CFR Administrator Amy Stiffler at: childrensrelieffund@gmail.com.

Children’s Relief Fund Scholarship Program

Antiochian Village
140 Church Camp Trail
Bolivar, PA 15923

God bless you for your consideration of this urgent request.

In Christ’s work,

Amy Stiffler, CRF Administrator & Executive Director

Anne Bourjaily Thomas, Charitable Outreach Chair

cc: His Eminence Metropolitan SABA

A charity of the ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA

Amy Stiffler, CRF Administrator – (724) 238-3677 Ext: 402

Mailing Address: Antiochian Village, 140 Church Camp Trail, Bolivar, PA 15923

Advertisement Form for 2024 Festival Ad Book
30th 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 28th & Sunday, September 29th

Advertiser: _____

Contact: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Advertisement (circle one)

Premium Page AD	Full Page AD	1/2 Page AD	1/4 Page AD
\$400 Plus	\$250	\$125	\$75

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

The 2024 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; welcome letters; information about St. John the Evangelist Orthodox Church; a program of Festival events, attractions and exhibits; food menu; and listings of event donors and contributions.

On behalf of the parishioners of St. John the Evangelist Orthodox Church and members of the 2024 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

St. John Antiochian Orthodox Church

501 Moraga Way, Orinda, CA 94563

30th Annual Middle Eastern Food Festival

Saturday, September 28, 2024 (11 am – 8 pm)

Sunday, September 29, 2024 (12 pm – 7 pm)



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



Live Entertainment
Featuring
California Superstar

Nader Zaki



Music by
Maestro Radwan

