

كنيسة مار نقولا الانطاكية الارثوذكسية

St. Nicholas Weekly Bulletin

Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church

Antiochian Archdiocese of North America

Diocese of Los Angeles and the West

5200 Diamond Hts. Boulevard, San Francisco, CA 94131

Tel: (415) 648-5200

Email: info@stnicholas-sf.com--website: stnicholas-sf.com

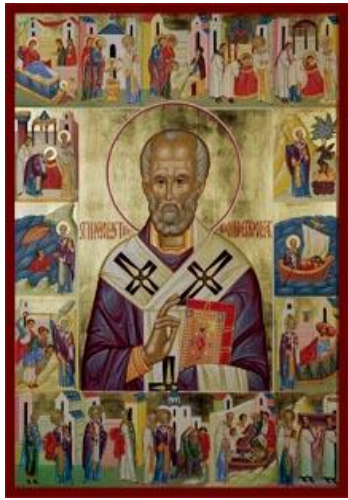
Pastor, V. Rev. Fr. George Baalbaki

(586) 214-4428- revbaalbaki@yahoo.com

Pastor Emeritus, V. Rev. Fr. Gregory Ofiesh

Sub-Dn. Michel Khoury

Parish Council Chairman: Suheil Azar



Sunday, March 27th 2016

Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas/أحد القديس غريغوريوس بالاماس



This Sunday (3rd & 9th -Days) Memorial Service for the Handmaiden of God

Nawal Modawar offered by her family

May her memory be eternal!

THE EPISTLE: St. Paul to the Hebrews. (1:10-2:3)

“In the beginning, Thou, O Lord, didst found the earth, and the heavens are the work of Thy hands; they will perish, but Thou remainest; they will all grow old like a garment, like a mantle Thou wilt roll them up, and they will be changed. But Thou art the same, and Thy years will never end.” But to what angel has He ever said, “Sit at My right hand, until I make Thine enemies a stool for thy feet”? Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to serve, for the sake of those who are to obtain salvation? Therefore, we must pay closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. For if the message, declared by angels, was valid and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard Him.

الرسالة: عبرانيين 3:2-10:1

انت يا رب في البدء أسست الأرض والسموات، هي صُنْعُ يديك، وهي تزول وانت تبقى، وكلها تبلى كالثوب وتطويها كالرداء فتتغير، وانت انت وسنوك لن تفنى. ولمن من الملائكة قال قط: اجلس عن يميني حتى أجعل اعداءك موطناً لقدميك؟ أليسوا جميعهم ارواحا خادمة تُرسل للخدمة من اجل الذين سيرثون الخلاص؟ فلذلك يجب علينا ان نُصغي الى ما سمعناه إصغاء اشد لئلا يسرب من اذهاننا. فانها ان كانت الكلمة التي نُطبق بها على ألسنة ملائكة قد ثَبَّتَتْ، وكل تعد ومعضية نال جزاء عدلاً، فكيف نُفلت نحن إن أهملنا خلاصاً عظيماً كهذا قد ابتدأ النطق به على لسان الرب ثم ثَبَّتَه لنا الذين سمعوه؟

THE GOSPEL: St. Mark. (2:1-12) At that time, when Jesus returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that He was at home. And many were gathered together, so that there was no longer room for them, not even about the door; and He was preaching the Word to them. And they came, bringing to Jesus a paralytic carried by four men. And when they could not get near Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above Him; and when they had made an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic lay. And when Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven.” Now, some of the scribes were sitting there, reasoning in their hearts, “Why does this man speak thus? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?” And immediately Jesus, perceiving in His spirit that they thus reasoned within themselves, said to them, “Why do you reason thus in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Rise, take up your pallet and walk’? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins” – He said to the paralytic – “I say to you, rise, take up your pallet and go home.” And he rose, and immediately took up the pallet and went out before them all. So that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, “We never saw anything like this!”

الإنجيل: مرقس 12:1-2

في ذلك الزمان دخل يسوع كفرناحوم وسَمِعَ انه في بيت. فللوقت اجتمع كثيرون حتى انه لم يعد موضع ولا ما حول الباب يسع، وكان يخاطبهم بالكلمة. فأتوا اليه بمخلع يحمله أربعة، واذ لم يقدروا ان يقتربوا اليه لسبب الجمع، كشفوا السقف حيث كان، وبعدما نقبوه دلّوا السرير الذي كان المخلع مضطجعا عليه. فلما رأى يسوع إيمانهم، قال للمخلع: يا بني، مغفورة لك خطاياك. وكان قوم من الكتبة جالسين هناك يفكّرون في قلوبهم: ما بال هذا يتكلم هكذا بالتجديف؟ من يقدر ان يغفر الخطايا الا الله وحده؟ فللوقت علم يسوع بروحه انهم يفكّرون هكذا في انفسهم فقال لهم: لماذا تفكرون بهذا في قلوبكم؟ ما الأيسر، أن يقال مغفورة لك خطاياك، أم ان يقال قم واحمل سريرك وامش؟ ولكن لكي تعلموا ان ابن البشر له سلطان على الأرض ان يغفر الخطايا، قال للمخلع: لك أقول قم واحمل سريرك واذهب الى بيتك. فقام للوقت وحمل سريره وخرج امام الجميع حتى دهش كلهم ومجّدوا الله قائلين: ما رأينا مثل هذا قط.

Holy Bread of oblation offered by:

- ❖ St. Nicholas church for the good health of those who have celebrated their birthdays this week: Tariq Rantisi ,Manal Nakhleh,Margarett Qaqish, Claudia Rantisi, Maureen Hanhan, Rema Seoud, Firas Alahwal, Samantha Saoud, May Halteh, Muna Batshon, Lana Dabeet. Happy Birthdays. Many Years!
- ❖ St. Nicholas parish family in loving memory of **Nawal Modawar**. May her memory be eternal!

Alter Candles offered by:

- ❖ Abdallah and Clemence Shami in loving memory of **Anthony, Anna, Jasmen & Jamelleh Shami** .May their memory be eternal!

Announcements:

MARCH IS LADIES' MONTH

In keeping with the tradition in our Archdiocese, ladies will show their involvement in the life of the church in the most visible way during the month of March.

They will usher, collect trays, read the Epistle and deliver sermonette...

Our ladies Auxiliary usually prepare a Lenten Luncheon on Sundays. This year they are asking of your help by Donating or preparing food for that purpose.

Sunday, March 27th: Sermonette: Janet Baqleh, Epistle Readers Arabic: Nadia Rantisi
Epistle Readers English: Natalie Aho



The Feast of the Annunciation (عيد البشارة): Friday March 25th we will have a Fish dinner after the Akathist Service (صلاة المدائح) @ 8:00pm.

2016 Great Lent Period

(March 14th – May 1st , Strict Fast - NO Dairy, Meat, Cheese, Eggs, and Fish)

Friday March 25 th	Annunciation of the Theotokos (Only Fish Allowed)
Sunday April 3 rd	Sunday of the Holy Cross
Sunday April 24 th	Palm Sunday (Only Fish Allowed)
Friday April 29 th	Great and Holy Friday
Sunday May 1 st	Great and Holy Pascha

The Services program during the period of Great Lent 2016			برنامج الصلوات خلال فترة الصوم الأربعيني المقدس لعام 2016		
Wednesdays	Great Compline Service Choir Practice after the service	7:00 PM	٧ مساءً	صلاة النوم الكبرى	الأربعاء
Fridays	Akathist Service Bible Study after the service	7:00 PM	٧ مساءً	خدمة مديح والدة الإله	الجمعة
Sundays	Matins	10:00 AM	١٠ صباحاً	صلاة السحرية	الأحد
	The Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great	10:55 AM	١٠:٥٥ صباحاً	القداس الإلهي	

Bouquets To Icon Event:

You are cordially invited to join us for an afternoon where floral designers will present an array of arrangements inspired by beautiful icons.

In creating these arrangements, the designers pay tribute and draw their inspiration from the selected icons.

SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 2016, 11:00 AM.

Donation \$55.00 per person

All proceeds benefit the Patriarch Athenagoras Institute. Complete details are on the attached flyer or contact Marilyn Habeeb, mhabeeb692@gmail.com, or [650-692-1966](tel:650-692-1966).

To all ladies: Save the date: April 16th ladies Auxiliary workshop event at St. Nicholas Hall @ 11:00 am. Everyone is invited. More info to follow....

Sunday school Announcements:

1. 2016 Creative Arts Festival

2016 Creative Arts Festival Theme: "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

Main Website: <http://www.antiochian.org/festivals/cf>

Due Date for Submission: Sunday, April 10th to the Sunday School teachers.

📌Attention Sunday School Students and Parents,

We've started preparing arts submissions for the Creative Arts Festival for the 2016 Parish Life Conference. It is important that ALL students be present in Sunday School every Sunday during the months of March and April to participate and complete their projects. Students may take their projects and work on them on their own time as well.

2. Sunday School students and staff participation in the Processions during Lent Season

Sunday school students and staff are asked to stay in church after communion to participate in the following processions. Classes would resume as normal after the procession.

Sunday, April 3rd - Holy Cross Procession

SAVE THE DATE:

2016 St. NICHOLAS SUMMER CAMP: From Monday, June 20th till Friday, June 24th at St. Sava Camp in Jackson, CA. More details to come in the following weeks!

Second Sunday of the Great Leant (Fr. Ihor Kutash)

Today's Gospel reading (Mark 2:1-12) invites us to find inspiration and direction for our lives in the example of the four friends of the paralyzed man who were exceedingly determined to help their friend. They were not discouraged when they could not get into the crowded house where Jesus was speaking. They made an opening in the roof to let their friend down on his pallet. The Lord recognized the amazing faith expressed by their unflagging determination, and healed the sick man, first proclaiming that his sins were forgiven.

Note that determination, persistence and resourcefulness are linked to faith! We may fail at times in our efforts to achieve something worthwhile because of a lack of precisely these things. See what happens when there is faith! Because the four men believed that Jesus could and would help their friend, they did not give up. They found a way to get the man to Jesus. We can see that faith is also linked to desire. Their intense desire to help their sick friend helped them find faith and guided them in acting upon that faith. We, too, can find answers to our problems and challenges by looking through the eyes of faith. Just think of all that has been achieved by faith! Recall last Sunday's Epistle with its litany of faith (Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2).

It is also important that we place our faith in something truly worthy of it. The last century has shown over and over again that faith placed in unworthy objects not only disappoints but ultimately destroys. Think of all the people who have suffered because of faith in political ideologies such as Communism and Nazism. Even religion can easily degenerate into an ideology whereby its adherents persecute and even kill other people in the belief that this will enhance the cause of their faith community. That is why some people avoid religious institutions like the plague, all the while professing spirituality outside such institutions. They say: "I don't have to go to Church to believe in God". But ultimately, every spirituality that is followed by a group of people will produce an institution with all its complexity and paradoxes.

Christians are called upon to put their faith in God as revealed in the words and deeds of Jesus. It is true that some have claimed the authority of their particular branch of Christianity as they persecuted and oppressed others. But what they really did was turn their faith into an ideology by ignoring and/or wrongly interpreting those words and deeds. How else could someone, a follower of Jesus, hurt anyone in the name of the One Who refused to let His followers defend Him by force, and Who prayed for His persecutors with the unforgettable words: "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do".

Faith in this Person, the Lord Jesus Christ, gives life. It awakens love and concern for others. It inspires confidence and persistence. It gives courage to not only endure hardships but also to overcome those hardships believing that the best lies always before us. The time of Lent reminds us that our main goal is to grow in a faith relationship with God through Jesus Christ. St. Gregory Palamas whom we remember today bore a victorious testimony that such a relationship can truly be achieved and developed. Let's do it together!

THE MICHAEL LAW FIRM

ISSA J. MICHAEL, Esq.

Trial Attorney since 1996

(415) 447-2833

issa@michaellawsf.com

1648 Union St., Suite 201

San Francisco, CA 94123

REPRESENTING VICTIMS OF SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURY/WRONGFUL DEATH

- › Auto Accidents
 - › Pedestrians
 - › Bicycles
 - › Motorcycles
 - › Taxi
 - › Buses
 - › Trucking
 - › Airplane & Train Crashes
 - › Construction Site Accidents
 - › Explosions, Fires & Burns
 - › Product Defects
 - › Defective Medical Devices & Drugs
 - › Medical Malpractice
 - › Elderly Abuse
 - › Falls (Slip & Trip)
 - › Dog Attacks
 - › Assault/Battery & Homicides
- Millions of dollars recovered for clients.
 - No fees unless recovery.
 - San Francisco Bay Area, the State & Across the Nation.
 - Members of the State Bar of California, Consumer Attorneys of California, & San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association.



***PASSION, SENSITIVITY &
ZEALOUS ADVOCACY***

www.MichaelLawSF.com

THE MICHAEL LAW FIRM

PERSONAL
INJURY

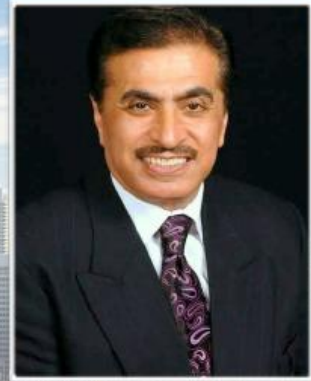


WRONGFUL
DEATH

TRIAL LAWYERS

REXSI
REAL ESTATE

ONE MARKET STREET, 36TH FLOOR | San Francisco CA
433 Airport Blvd, Suite 126 | Burlingame CA
2901 West Coast Highway | Newport Beach CA



JERIES TANNOUS

Commercial and Residential Real Estate
BRE # 00550532
Cell: (650)740-9263

Looking to...

- **Purchase a home?**
- **Sell your business?**
- **Purchase a new business?**
- **Purchase commercial property?**
- **Lease a location for your business?**

We are here to help you!
CALL ON US

Specializing in:
Business Brokerage
Commercial Real Estate
Sales & Leasing
Residential Real Estate

St. John of San Francisco Orthodox Academy

Christian Hearts • Classical Minds • Community Spirits



**ENROLLMENT
NOW OPEN FOR
2014-2015**

We Are:

**Pan-Orthodox
K-12 and Fully Accredited**

We Provide:

A Loving Orthodox Environment
College Preparatory Classical Curriculum
5:1 Student to Teacher Ratio
Dedicated and Qualified Teaching Staff
Hot Lunch Program
Convenient San Francisco Location

CALL TO SCHEDULE A VISIT TODAY!

St. John of San Francisco Orthodox Academy
6210 Geary Boulevard San Francisco, CA 94121
Administration (415) 221-3484
information@stjohnsacademysf.org - www.stjohnsacademysf.org

**Offering a Quality K-12
Education in a Loving
Orthodox Environment**

The mission of St. John's Academy is to bring the light of Christ to our community through providing an education that unites intellectual, spiritual, and cultural growth.

The Academy is a pan-Orthodox institution which represents the diversity of Orthodoxy in America. We welcome students from all ethnic backgrounds.

The Saint John of San Francisco Orthodox Academy
Classical Mind • Christian Heart • Community Spirit

St. Nicholas Banquet Room

5200 Diamond Heights Blvd.
San Francisco, CA 94131



Come visit us for Weddings, Baptisms,
Birthdays, Anniversaries & All Other Occasions
We are located in the heart of San Francisco
Please call us to make an appointment at (415) 648-5200.