

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

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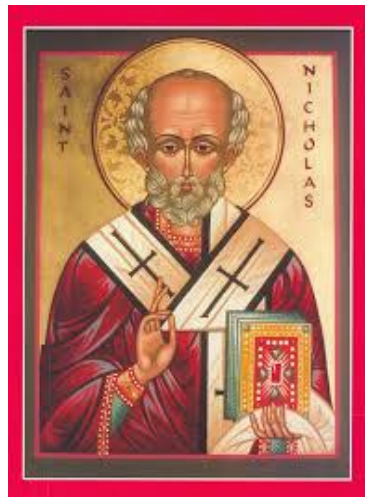
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Parish Council Chairman: Suheil Azar



Sunday, August 21st, 2016



This Sunday: **One-Year** Memorial Service for the handmaiden of God **Rifka Martha**.

Offered by her family. May her memory be eternal!



✠ Condolences ✠

✠ We would like to offer our sincere condolences and sympathy to Rodi and Janet Baqleh on the passing of **Ajeah Baqleh Halteh** (Rodi's sister) in Jordan. May her soul rest in peace. Memory eternal!

✠ Also our sincere condolences and sympathy to Emad, Lana and Lara Habash on the passing of their mother **Georgiet Ayoub Habash** in Jordan. May her memory be eternal!

THE EPISTLE: 1 Corinthians. (3:9-17)

Brethren, we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and another man is building upon it. Let each man take care how he builds upon it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any one builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay or straw, each man's work will become manifest; for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work which any man has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire. Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him; for God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.

فصل من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول الأولى إلى أهل كورنثس
يا أخوة! إننا نحن عاملون مع الله وانتم حرث الله وبناء الله* أنا بحسب نعمة الله المعطاة لي كبناء حكيم وضعت الأساس وآخر يبني عليه. فلينظر كل واحد كيف يبني عليه* إذ لا يستطيع أحد أن يضع أساساً غير الموضوع وهو يسوع المسيح* فإن كان أحد يبني على هذا الأساس ذهباً أو فضةً أو حجارةً ثمينةً أو خشباً أو حشيشاً أو تبناً* فإن عمل كل واحد سيكون بيئاً لأن يوم الرب سيظهره لأنه يعلن بالنار وستمتحن النار عمل كل واحد ما هو* فمن بقي عمله الذي بناه على الأساس فسينال أجره* ومن احترق عمله فسيخسر وسيخلص هو ولكن كمن يمر في النار* أما تعلمون أنكم هيكل الله وأن روح الله ساكن فيكم* من يفسد هيكل الله يفسده الله لأن هيكل الله مقدس وهو أنتم.

THE GOSPEL: St. Matthew. (14:22-34)

At that time, Jesus made the Disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He dismissed the crowds. And after He had dismissed the crowds, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. When evening came, He was there alone, but the Disciples' boat by this time was many furlongs distant from the land, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea. But when the Disciples saw Jesus walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately He spoke to them, saying, "Take heart, it is I; have no fear." And Peter answered Him, "Lord, if it is Thee, bid me come to Thee on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out His hand and caught him, saying to him, "O man of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped Him, saying, "Truly, Thou art the Son of God." And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.

الانجيل: متى 14: 22-34

في ذلك الزمان اضطرب يسوع تلاميذه أن يدخلوا السفينة ويسبقوه إلى العبر حتى يصرف الجموع ولما صرّف الجموع صعد وحده إلى الجبل ليصلي. ولما كان المساء كان هناك وحده وكانت السفينة في وسط البحر تكادها الأمواج لأن الرياح كانت مضادة لها وعند الهجعة الرابعة من الليل مضى إليهم ماشياً على البحر فلما رآه التلاميذ ماشياً على البحر اضطربوا وقالوا إنه خيال ومن الخوف صرخوا فللوقت كلمهم يسوع قائلاً ثقوا أنا هو لا تخافوا فأجابهُ بطرس قائلاً يا رب إن كنت أنت هو فمُرني أن آتي إليك على المياه فقال تعالى. فنزل بطرس من السفينة ومشى على المياه آتياً إلى يسوع فلما رأى شدة الرياح خاف وإذ بدأ يغرق صاح قائلاً يا رب نجني. وللوقت مد يسوع يده وأمسك به وقال له يا قليل الإيمان لماذا شككت ولما دخلا السفينة سكنت الرياح فجاء الذين كانوا في السفينة وسجدوا له قائلين بالحقيقة أنت ابن الله ولما عبروا جاءوا إلى ارض جنيسارت

Holy Bread of Oblation offered by:

- ❖ St. Nicholas church for the good health of those who have celebrated their birthdays this week: Simon Tannous, Jennifer Massis, Nadeem Hanhan, Azar Azar and Grace Nasser. Happy Birthday. Many Years!
- ❖ St. Nicholas church for the good health of **Father George Baalbaki** on the occasion of his birthday August 20th. May God grant him many years!

Alter candle offered by:

- ❖ Basma Howell and family for the good health of Nadim Howell and Fr. George Baalbaki on the occasion of their birthday August 17th and August 20th. Many Years!
- ❖ Abdallah and Clemance Shami, and children: Johnny, Naifeh, and Jamilleh Shami in loving memory of **Anthony Anna, Jasmin and Jamilleh**. May their memory be eternal!

Upcoming Events:

Save the Date: 2016 Annual Festival:

St. Nicholas Church Annual Food Festival will be held on Saturday & Sunday, October 1st & 2nd. More info to follow...

Car Raffle: This year we will have a raffle for 2016 Honda Accord LX. Hurry up and buy your ticket for \$50 to win the car.



Fashion Show:

St. Nicholas Annual Fashion Show will be held on Sunday, November 6th at St. Nicholas Banquet Hall. More info to follow....

These Items Are Needed for Our Festival. Please Donate to purchase these items.

Thank you for your continuous support

يرجى التبرع لشراء هذه الحاجيات. شكراً لدعمكم الدائم.

100 foil trays with cover	10 kinds of spices
2 cases of lamb	10 cases of “to go” containers
4-10 cases of garbanzo beans	1-25 lbs salt
4 lighting fluid	200 pieces of ½ chicken
100 lbs of chicken breast	5 cases of paper plates
1 case of plastic knives	2 large foil 18”
5 cases of napkins	2 cases of 4oz containers
50 large foil trays	12 gallons olive oil
50 lbs bulgur	5 cases of lemon juice
3 cases of plastic forks	2 large saran wrap
1-75 lbs sugar	100 dozens of pita bread
15 large bags of charcoal	3 cases of plastic spoons
30 lbs of Tahini sauce	2 cases of vermicelli
5 cases of lettuce	5 cases/ yellow onion
2 jars of peeled garlic	500 pieces of Knafee
4 cases of parsley	1 case of lemon
1 case of green onion	500 pieces of Hilbeh
5 cases of cucumber	500 pieces Ghribeh
500 pieces of Baklava	500 pieces “Ka’ek”
500 pieces Maamool	500 pieces of Namura
500 pieces Barazik	

AT THE HEART OF THE STORM

The Apostles left Christ to cross the sea of Genesareth. The weather was good, the sea was calm, they hoped for a safe crossing. And then the wind came down, and the storm abated, and the waves rose, and they felt that the little skiff in which they were crossing the Lake had become a possible grave for them, a cold, watery grave. They fought as they could; but they could do nothing against the raging sea and the furious wind.

And at that moment they saw Christ walking on the sea, walking on the waters, at the very heart of the storm, in the eye of the hurricane. And they cried out in horror because they thought, This could be nothing but a ghost — God could not be in the midst of the storm, a storm that spelt death to them, destruction. If God was there, there should be peace, stillness, safety for themselves... And yet, God was at the heart of the storm, as He is at the heart of all the historical storm which rages all around us and tosses us about, and frightens us so much, and brings us to the brink of death.

And they cried in terror. And then, they heard a voice; a voice that unmistakably that of Christ: It is I! — don't be afraid !And a degree of peace came upon them; and Peter turned to Christ, and said, If it is Thou — let me come to You on the waves!... And Christ said, ‘Come! Enter into the storm, don’t try to escape it, don’t look for safety in this small, frail skiff that can be broken to pieces by the waves, drowned — don't count on that! Walk into the storm, walk on the raging waves..!

And as long as Peter was looking at nothing but Christ, to be with Him wherever Christ found Himself, he could walk. But he became aware of himself; at that moment he became aware of the storm, he was aware of the fact that he could die in a moment, helpless, drowned. And terror seized him, and he cried to Christ again, ‘Lord, save me !’— and the Lord stretched out His hand.

In another passage of the Gospel we are told, 'And at that moment they discovered that they were all near the shore' — they were at the end of the journey, while terror made them think that they were in the power of death...

Isn't that something which we can learn, each of us, from the circumstances of life? Let us ask ourselves whether on the unshakeable foundation of Christ we are building of stone, of gold, of silver — or only of perishable things? Let us ask ourselves whether it is with Christ, with God that we want to be in the midst of the storm, at the heart of the storm, fearless, because there is the place where He is — or whether we look for salvation in the little boat that is being drowned.

Let us reflect on this; and let us walk again into life with new hope, with a new sense of responsibility, but with the certainty that all things are possible unto us in the power of Christ Who sustains us. Amen .

Metropolitan Anthony of Sourozh

كلمة الراعي

مُرني أن آتي إليك

يسوع يصلي وحده في الليل. أما الناس فتنام في الليل لترتاح، أو تسلك في الظلمة وظلال الموت ظناً منها أنها تترتاح فيها. يسوع يصلي. تتقوى طبيعته الإنسانية إذ يزداد التصاقها بالآب، وترتاح فيه. وبعض المسيحيين ما زالوا لا يصلون لأنهم لم يعرفوا بعد بنوتهم لله الآب، ولا عرفوا قوة الصلاة ولا حلاوة أن يتكئوا أحبباء على صدر حبيب الآب. في الليل، الصلاة وحدها نور. هي التي تبث عتمة خطايانا وتتغلب على يأسنا. الصلاة مفتاح الفرج إذ بها رجوعنا إلى رحم أبينا السماوي واستقرارنا هناك في الرحمة الآن. والتلاميذ وحدهم في السفينة. طلبهم لكي يُعدهم إلى لقاء، إلى لقاء الإيمان به. مشى على البحر. يمشي السيد على بحر كل إنسان. هو فوق كل تخبط، هو على سطح وجوهنا وفي أعماق قلوبنا. إنه هو الوجود. حسبوه خيالاً. أليس الله خيالاً عند الأكثرين؟ أليس هو كلمة تُلَفظ؟ أليس عندهم حروفاً مرصوفة؟ ظنوه خيالاً لأنهم كانوا خائفين. قد علمنا الرسول في ما بعد أن الناس كانوا طيلة حياتهم تحت العبودية مخافةً من الموت. الخطيئة تحديدًا هي الخوف، الخوف من الحياة. الخطيئة هي عدم الحس. وإن خلا الإنسان من الحس، من الحس بحقيقة الله وحقيقة الإنسان، ليس أمامه سوى الأشباح. ولذلك يضطرب، وكذلك البحر. بطرس في شكّه يقول للمعلم: «مُرني أن آتي إليك». فأمره. وبعد قليل لما رأى شدة الرياح أخذ يرجع. والرياح لا تُرى. إنها تُسمع. ولكن الكتاب أراد أن يقابل بين الريح وبين المسيح، ولذلك قال: «رأى شدة الريح». استطاع أن يعبر إلى يسوع وحده. لما كانت ألحاظ الرسول مسمرة على ألحاظ المعلم، لما كان بطرس يأخذ نوره من وجه السيد، كان قادرًا أن يغلب الريح والمياه وذاته وأعماقه وسطح الوجود. لكنّه عاد، عاد إلى ضعفه لما جاءت أقدار العالم، فنأى وذهب وغرق في ذاته. نحن الذين نحاول أن نؤمن نستطيع أن نحيا إن صار المسيح الكون. وأما إذا كان عندنا من هنا مسيح ومن هناك وجود آخر نستلذه، طعام وشراب ومال وأمجاد، فنحن كلا شيء وليس عندنا مسيح. إما أن يكون السيد كل الوجود أو ليس هو بشيء. شيء من دينك وشيء من دنياك، ساعة لك وساعة لربك، هذا ليس بالإيمان. أنت وساعاتك وجسدك وروحك وفكرك ونشاطك، كل هذا مخصص للسيد ومليء به. أما ما خلا ذلك فعتمات. والسيد وسط العتمة يصلي.

المطران جورج خضر

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