

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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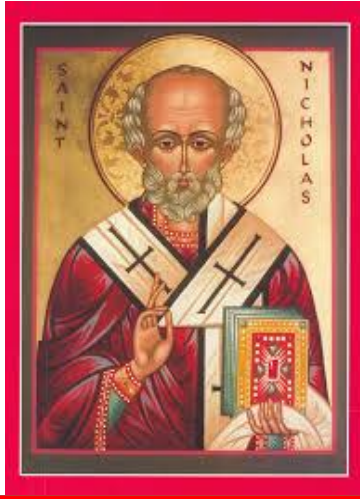
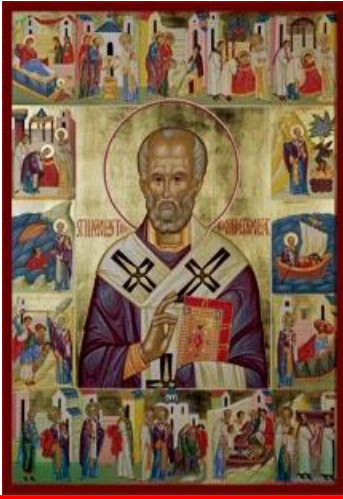
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Sub-Dn. Michel Khoury

Parish Council Chairman: Suheil Azar



Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016

John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople

✠ **Condolences:** We would like to offer our sincere condolences and sympathy to Peter and Basma Tannous on the passing into eternal life of SIREEN IMSEEH (Basma's sister) in Ramallah/ Palestine. May God rest her soul in peace!



**This Sunday (3<sup>rd</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Days) Memorial Service for the Handmaiden of God SIREEN IMSEEH.**  
Offered by Peter and Basma Tannous. May her memory be eternal!

**THE EPISTLE: St. Paul to the Hebrews. (7:26-8:2)**

Brethren, it was fitting that we should have such a High Priest, holy, blameless, unstained, separated from sinners, exalted above the heavens. He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people; He did this once for all when He offered up Himself. Indeed, the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son Who has been made perfect forever. Now the point in what we are saying is this: we have such a High Priest, one Who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, a minister in the sanctuary and the true tent which is set up not by man but by the Lord.

**الرسالة:** يا إخوة! إننا يلائمنا رئيس كهنة مثل هذا بار بلا شر ولا دنس متنزّه عن الخطاة قد صار أعلى من السماوات لا حاجة له أن يُقرب كل يوم مثل رؤساء الكهنة ذبائح عن خطاياهم أو لا ثم عن خطايا الشعب. لأنه قضى هذا مرة واحدة حين قرب نفسه فإنّ الناموس يُقيم أناساً بهم الضعف رؤساء كهنة. أما كلمة القسم التي بعد الناموس فتقيم الابن مكملاً إلى الأبد ورأس الكلام هو أن لنا رئيس كهنة مثل هذا قد جلس عن يمين عرش الجلال في السماوات وهو خادم الأقداس والمسكن الحقيقي الذي نصبه الرب لا إنساناً.

**الإنجيل:** في ذلك الزمان دنا إلى يسوع ناموسي وقال مجرباً له يا معلم ماذا أعمل لأرث الحياة الأبدية فقال له ماذا كتبت في الناموس. كيف تقرأ فأجاب وقال أحب الرب الهك من كل قلبك ومن كل قدرتك ومن كل ذهنك وقربك كنفسك فقال له بالصواب أحببت. أعمل ذلك فتحيا فأراد أن يتركه يسوع وقال كان إنساناً منحدرًا من اورشليم إلى أريحا فوق بين لصوص فعروه وجرحوه وتركوه بين حي وميت فاتفق أن كاهنًا كان منحدرًا في ذلك الطريق فأبصره وجزّاه من أمامه وكذلك لاوي وأتى إلى المكان فأبصره وجزّاه من أمامه ثم إن سامرياً مسافراً مرّ به فلما رآه تحنّ فدنا إليه وضمد جراحاته وصبّ عليها زيتاً وخمراً وحمله على دابته وأتى به إلى فندق واعتنى بأمره وفي الغد فيما هو خارج أخرج دينارين وأعطاهما لصاحب الفندق وقال له اعتن بأمره. ومهما تنفق فوق هذا فأنا أدفعه لك عند عودتي فأى هؤلاء الثلاثة تحسب صار قريباً للذي وقع بين اللصوص قال الذي صنع إليه الرحمة. فقال له يسوع امض فاصنع أنت أيضاً كذلك.

**THE GOSPEL: St. Luke. (10:25-37)** At that time, a lawyer stood up to put Jesus to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "What is written in the Law? How do you read?" And the lawyer answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And Jesus said to him, "You have answered right; do this, and you will live." But the lawyer, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion, and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; then he set him on his own beast and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" The lawyer said, "The one who showed mercy on him." And Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

***Holy Bread of Oblation offered by:***

- ❖ St. Nicholas church for the good health of those who have celebrated their birthdays this week: Mary Khoury, Ihab Marji, Grace Redman, Georgina Paolino Salamy, Nariman Hanhan, Nicole Hanhan, Anna Marie Alhaj, Marybeth Jaghab. Happy Birthday. Many Years!
- ❖ St. Nicholas Parish family for the good health of all who are named; Michael, Michelle, Mike, Gabriel, Gabi, Gabriela... etc after Archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael (November 8th), on the occasion of their Names's Day! Many years!

***Altar candles offered by:***

Nadia, Yousef, Tariq, and Rami Rantisi for the good health of **Michael Rantisi** on the occasion on his Name's Day. Many Years

***Upcoming Events:***

❖ **Friday November 18th : Metropolitan JOSEPH Visit / Family Night**

His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH is going to bless us by presiding in a Vespers Service ( صلاة الغروب ) at 6:00 PM. His Eminence is also going to join us by attending our **Family Night event** which is sponsored by the Rantisi Families. Please join us in welcoming His Eminence accompanied by the Northern California Deanery Clergy and their families, and share in the beautiful evening filled with spiritual benefits, Arabic Music, and a wonderful and delicious dinner.  
Admission: Adults: \$20.00, Children: \$10.00, Kids under 10 free.

❖ **Parish Council Election December 11<sup>th</sup> after the Divine Liturgy**

On Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, there will be a parish council election meeting for the sole purpose of electing some members of the Parish Council for the coming term. Three are to be elected and one to be appointed by the Pastor.



**Anyone interested in serving or nominating someone to serve on the Parish Council must be fully pledged and spiritually qualified.**

***Please submit your candidate's name to the pastor by Dec 4<sup>th</sup>.***

In order to vote in the elections, members must be spiritually qualified and in a good standing with the church.

- ❖ **Christmas Party:** St. Nicholas Church Christmas Party will be held on Saturday December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016. More info to follow...

## **THE PARABLE OF THE MERCIFUL SAMARITAN**

Today's Gospel in short, contains everything which is the way of the Christian. The first commandment is that we should love our God with all our heart, with all our mind, with all our strength, with all our being, and our neighbour as ourselves. To love means to prefer all that is dear to the beloved person, to what is dear to us. To love God means that we should live, and indeed be such that He could rejoice in what we are, that there should be nothing alien to Him in our lives.

And here comes the second commandment, which the lawyer did not understand: that we should love our neighbour as ourselves. To love again our neighbour, forgetting ourselves. Very often we think that we are worthy Christians if we feel that we have in our hearts a warmth, that we love God. But this is not enough. The test of this love is to share God's own love for every one of our neighbours. I remember a sad moment in my own life, when my father asked me: what was the dream of my life? I was young then, and I said, 'To be with God alone.' And he looked sadly at me and said, 'You have not begun to be a Christian.' Because if we love God we must share with Him all His concerns for the whole world and for each person in this world. Let us, therefore, take this short event in the life of Christ and the parable as a rule. We will never be able to know how much we love God. It is difficult, because it is so easy to delude oneself. Even when we say that we love someone, a moment may come when selfishness, indifference, a quarrel may make an end, at least for a time, to our mutual friendship and closeness. But there is a criterion which is objective. How do you treat your neighbour? What does he mean to you? If he means nothing, if he is a passer-by, if he is only someone in your way, or if he is someone to whom you can pay attention when you are in the right mood, then we have not begun to love God and to love the world together with Him. Let us therefore think of it, ask ourselves pertinent questions, and redress our lives. Amen.

**Metropolitan Anthony of Sourozh**

تقيم الكنيسة في 8 تشرين الثاني من كل عام تذكارا لقديس غير منظور هو الملاك ميخائيل، وقد مثّله الأيقونات كائنًا مجنّحًا لتشير إلى سرعة خدمته لله، وتدلّ أنه كالطائر يحلّق فوق العالم في خدمة الرب الذي أرسل ملائكته لخدمتنا وحراستنا. وقد فوّض الله إليه أمر الكائنات والكواكب والنبات والحيوان وبنوع خاص أمر الإنسان الذي نؤمن أن له ملاكًا يحرسه في نضاله في العالم وفي الحوادث التي يتعرّض لها.

في عيد الملائكة، علينا أن نقدّم شهادة، أن نقول للذين يؤمنون بالمادة فقط أن هناك كائنات غير منظورة، وأن الجسد ليس كل شيء، العيون والأذان والأيدي والأرجل ليست كل شيء في الحياة، فهناك مخلوقات ليس لها أجساد ولكنها قائمة أمام الله هو أهمّ من المحسوس والمسموع والمنظور، انها قائمة في الصلاة أمام الله، وكأن الإنسان يجيء إلى العالم من الصلاة، فإذا هو ترسخ فيها، واستقى من ربّه قوّة بها، فإنّه يأتي إلى العالم ويتحرّك فيه بدافع من صلاته.

نحن قادرون على الصلاة إن آمنا أنها أقوى من أي شيء آخر. ولكن إن ظننا انها تُقام في أوقات الفراغ فقط، إن خصّصنا لها ساعة في الأحاد فهذا ليس بشيء. الصلاة ليست كابوسا ملقى علينا أو نيرا موضوعا على أكتافنا حتى نتخلّص منها بنصف ساعة في الأحاد ونحسب أننا قمنا بواجب مفروض. الصلاة ليست واجبا مفروضا. انها الحياة والنفحة والروح.

فمن اعتبر الدعاء قوة إلهية في نفسه ونورا يشعّ من ذاته، من اعتبر الدعاء محرّكا يحرك به نفسه والعالم، فهذا يصلّي في سرّه وعلانية، في بيته وفي الكنيسة، في الشارع وفي كل مكان. انه يصلّي في كل حين. القلب المحبّ لله يُحدّث الحبيب. اللسان ينطق من فضلة القلب. من صلّى بحقّ فقلبه مليء من حضرة الله، ومن لا يصلّي فلا إله له يؤمن به ويريد أن يتحدّث إليه. من يصلّي فهو شبيه بالملائكة الحاضرين دوماً أمام ربّهم.

الصلاة التي تجعلنا ملائكة هي آخر دواء للعالم الضاحّ. نسمع ضجيجا هنا وهناك. العالم كله ضجيج وسرعة وثرثرة. العالم يتقلّب ويقهر الإنسان الغاضب والمشتج والتعب. تبقى الصلاة آخر دواء في هذا العالم المجنون. الله هو الذي يعطي الانسان الهدوء.

متى أدركنا ذلك نتابع الصلاة وسط الضجيج، فلا يسحقنا العالم ولا ننتيه، بل نبقى شبيهين بالملائكة، حاضرين دوماً أمام الله، ملازمين سلامه وهدوءه، مقيمين في قداسته.

# THE MICHAEL LAW FIRM

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