

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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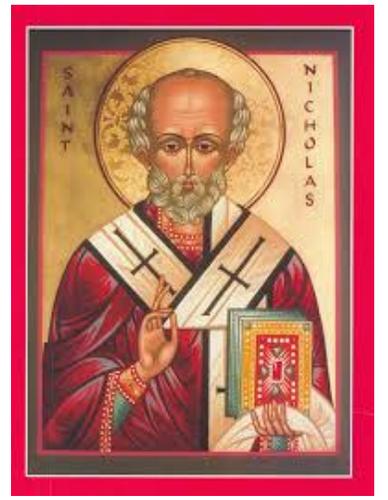
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Sub-Dn. Michel Khoury

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***Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014***

***Celebrating St. Nicholas Great Feast:***

عيد القديس نيقولاوس العجائبي، رئيس أساقفة ميرا و شفيع كنيستنا.

***Celebrating Burbara :Delicious Burbara pudding***

**THE EPISTLE St. Paul to the Ephesians. (5:8-19)** Brethren, walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it is said, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light." Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart.

الرسالة: أفسس: يا إخوة اسلكوا كأولاد النور (فإن ثمر الروح هو في كل صلاح وبرٍ وحق) مختبرين ما هو مرضي لدى الرب، ولا تشتركوا في أعمال الظلمة غير المثمرة بل بالأحرى وبخوا عليها، فإن الأفعال التي يفعلونها سرًا يقبح ذكرها أيضًا. لكن كل ما يوبخ عليه يُعلن بالنور، فإن كل ما يُعلن هو نور. ولذلك يقول: استيقظ أيها النائم وقم من بين الأموات فيضيء لك المسيح. فانظروا إذن أن تسلكوا بحذر لا كجهلاء بل كحكماء، مفتدين الوقت فإن الأيام شريرة. فلذلك لا تكونوا أغبياء بل افهموا ما مشيئة الرب، ولا تسكروا بالخمير التي فيها الدعارة بل امتلئوا بالروح، مكلمين بعضكم بعضًا بمزامير وتسابيح وأغاني روحية، مرتمين ومرتلين في قلوبكم للرب.

**THE GOSPEL St. Luke. (13:10-17)** At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And there was a woman who had had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, He called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And He laid His hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrite! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his ass from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?" As Jesus said this, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by Him.

الإنجيل: لوقا في ذلك الزمان كان يسوع يُعَلِّم في أحد المجمع يوم السبت، وإذا بامرأة بها روح مرض منذ ثماني عشرة سنة، وكانت منحنية لا تستطيع ان تنتصب البتة. فلما رآها يسوع دعاها وقال لها: انك مُطلقة من مرضك، ووضع يديه عليها، وفي الحال استقامت ومجّدت الله. فأجاب رئيس المجمع، وهو مغتاظ لإبراء يسوع في السبت، وقال للمجمع: هي ستة أيام ينبغي العمل فيها، ففيها تأتون وتستشفون، لا في يوم السبت. فأجاب الرب وقال: يا مرائي، أليس كل واحد منكم يحل ثوره أو حماره في السبت من المذود وينطلق به فيسقيه؟ وهذه، وهي ابنة ابراهيم التي ربطها الشيطان منذ ثماني عشرة سنة، أما كان ينبغي أن تُطلق من هذا الرباط يوم السبت؟ ولما قال هذا، خزي كل من كان يقاومه، وفرح الجمع بجميع الأمور المجيدة التي كانت تصدر منه.

### **Alter Candles offered by:**

- John and Ida Batshon In congratulation to proud parents **Tony and Lina Batshon** on their new born Baby girl **Naya Toni Batshon** and congratulations to the Grand-Parents John and Ida Batshon And the Grand-Mother Helene Faddoul and family. Many years!
- Rimon and Sana Jada for the good health of **Antoinette Khoury**. Many years!
- Maha Dabit and family in loving memory of husband and father **Rimon Dabit** May his memory be eternal!
- Rossete Saba and family in loving memory of **George Nicola Saba (Son) and Nicola George Saba (Husband)**. May their memories be eternal!

### **Holy Bread offered by:**

- St. Nicholas Parish family and Fr. George for the good health for all who carry the names: **Barbara, Nicholas, and Saba**. Many Years! And in loving memory of Fr. Nicholas Habib May his memory be eternal!
- Diana Batshon in loving memory of her husband **Michael Batshon**. May his memory be eternal!
- Saba families in loving memory of **Nicola Saba** and **George Saba**. May their memories be eternal!



St. Nicholas Parish family would like to thank  
**Dr. Tali and Maryanne Bashour**  
for donating the Christmas tree for our Church. May God bless you and your family!

## **Announcements:**

### ➤ **NATIVITY FAST**

**November 15<sup>th</sup> - December 25<sup>th</sup>**

Nativity Fast (Advent) is the period preceding the Christmas season in which we abstain from meat and dairy products. Eating fish is allowed except Wednesdays and Fridays, and we can eat all the regular meals like breakfasts, lunches, and dinners. The purpose of this fast is seeking the spirituality and the preparation for the feast of the advent of our Lord on December 25<sup>th</sup>.

بدء صوم الميلاد: يبدأ صوم الميلاد 11/15 وهو صوم يسمح فيه أكل السمك (عدا الأربعاء والجمع) لغاية نهار 12/20  
هذا الصوم تهيئة للاحتفال بعيد ميلاد ربنا يسوع المسيح. نتمنى للجميع صوماً مباركاً وكل عام وأنتم بخير.

## **BURBARA**



Delicious "Burbara" Pudding will be served after Liturgy on Sun; Dec 7<sup>th</sup> بربرة  
Donated by Diana Batshon In memory of her Husband **Michel Batshon**



### **St. Nicholas Great Feast**

Sunday Dec 7<sup>th</sup> Celebrating the great Feast of St. Nicholas the Patron Saint of  
our Church نيقولاًوس العجائبي، رئيس أساقفة ميرا

→ **Youth meeting:** The youth monthly meeting will take place on Dec 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at Fr. George's Home. Address: 525 Beech Ave, San Bruno.



→ **Christmas Party: Dec 20<sup>th</sup>** we will have a Christmas party at our Banquet Hall with the famous singers Suhail Bashour and Nader Zaki. Ticket \$75 per person. To buy tickets please contact:

**Sana Jada : (650) 255-1380, Maurice Kari : (650) 455-1600.**



→ **Christmas Play:** To all Sunday school's parents and students! Please attend the practice for Christmas play at church hall **EVERY Sunday** until the Christmas play on **Dec 21<sup>st</sup>**.



→ **Sunday December 21<sup>st</sup>:** Ladies will be offering a Christmas Bake Sale after the Divine Liturgy.

→ **Young Adult Winter Retreat** The Fellowship of St. John the Divine will be hosting their second annual Young Adult Winter Retreat in Big Bear, CA from January 16-18, 2015. The retreat is very inexpensive so that young adults from all over the diocese can attend. Join young adults from across the diocese for a weekend of prayer, fellowship, and fun! The speakers will be Mother Victoria from St. Barbara Monastery & Fr. David Sommer. \$50/\$75 w/ Lift Ticket. More information and registration can be found on the website [www.dlawayoungadults.com](http://www.dlawayoungadults.com). Or contact **Tariq Rantisi : (650) 290-3492**.

→ **SAVE THE DATE!** By the grace of the Holy Spirit, we are prayerfully anticipating the upcoming Enthronement of His Eminence Metropolitan Joseph. Since many will not be able to attend the event in New York, we are blessed to announce an official West Coast Diocese event celebrating the Enthronement on **Saturday, January 31, 2015** in Los Angeles, California, with the proceeds to benefit Camp St. Nicholas and Youth Education Programs. We are praying for enthusiastic participation by all churches in the Diocese to honor our beloved Metropolitan Joseph. This is the only celebration taking place on the West Coast - do not miss this historic celebration in the life of our Archdiocese. Please note that there will be a Commemorative Program Book that will include memorable images from the actual enthronement. Ticket and program book information will be available shortly. For further information, contact co-chairs: Rose Samore: [rosesamore@gmail.com](mailto:rosesamore@gmail.com) or Jasminka Gabrie: [jgabrie@earthlink.net](mailto:jgabrie@earthlink.net) CONTACT INFO: Sonia Tower : P: [310.401.9571](tel:310.401.9571) | M: [212.308.3696](tel:212.308.3696) | [stower@ovationtv.com](mailto:stower@ovationtv.com).

↻ **Note: Our dear beloved ones in Christ:** You can help in spreading the word of God by providing us the email addresses of the members of your family and your friends who do not receive our bulletin via email. Please send their emails to: [info@stnicholas-sf.com](mailto:info@stnicholas-sf.com)

#### **BARBARA THE GREAT MARTYR December 4**

Saint Barbara was from Heliopolis of Phoenicia and lived during the reign of Maximian. She was the daughter of a certain idolater named Dioscorus. When Barbara came of age, she was enlightened in her pure heart and secretly believed in the Holy Trinity. About this time Dioscorus began building a bath-house; before it was finished he was required to go away to attend to certain matters, and in his absence Barbara directed the workmen to build a third window in addition to the two her Father had commanded. She also inscribed the sign of the Cross with her finger upon the marble of the bath-house, leaving the saving sign cut as deeply into the marble as if it had been done with an iron too. (When the Synaxarion of Saint Barbara was written, the marble of the bath-house and the cross inscribed by Saint Barbara were still preserved, and many healings were worked there.) When Dioscorus returned, he asked why the third window had been added; Barbara began to declare to him the mystery of the Trinity. Because she refused to renounce her faith, Dioscorus tortured Barbara inhumanely, and after subjecting her to many sufferings he beheaded her with his own hands, in the year 290.

#### **SAVAS THE SANCTIFIED December 5**

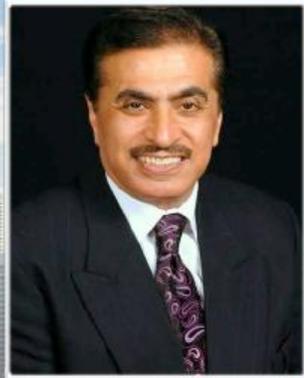
This Saint was born in 439 in Moutalaska, a small village of Cappadocia. He entered the arena of the monastic life from childhood and was under that master trainer of monastics, Euthymius, the Great, the teacher of the desert. He became the spiritual Father of many monks and an instructor for the monasteries in Palestine, and was appointed leader (archimandrite) of the desert-dwellers of Palestine by the Patriarch of Jerusalem. In his old age he went to Constantinople, to the Emperors Anastasius and Saint Justinian the Great, in behalf of the Orthodox Faith and the dogmas of the Council of Chalcedon. Having lived ninety-four years, he reposed in 533. The Typicon for the ecclesiastical services had its beginning in the monastery established by this righteous one.

#### **NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER December 6**

This Saint lived during the reign of Saint Constantine the Great, and reposed in 330. As a young man, he desired to espouse the solitary life. He made a pilgrimage to the holy city Jerusalem, where he found a place to withdraw to devote himself to prayer. It was made known to him, however, that this was not the will of God for him, but that he should return to his homeland to be a cause of salvation for many. He returned to Myra, and was ordained bishop. He became known for his abundant mercy, providing for the poor and needy, and delivering those who had been unjustly accused. No less was he known for his zeal for the truth. He was present at the First Ecumenical Council of the 318 Fathers at Nicaea in 325; upon hearing the blasphemies that Arius brazenly uttered against the Son of God, Saint Nicholas struck him on the face. Since the canons of the Church forbid the clergy to strike any man at all, his fellow bishops were in perplexity what disciplinary action was to be taken against this hierarch whom all revered. In the night our Lord Jesus Christ and our Lady Theotokos appeared to certain of the bishops, informing them that no action was to be taken against him, since he had acted not out of passion, but extreme love and piety. The Dismissal Hymn for holy hierarchs, The truth of things hath revealed thee to thy flock ... was written originally for Saint Nicholas. He is the patron of all travellers, and of sea-farers in particular; he is one of the best known and best loved Saints of all time.



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