

St Nicholas Orthodox Cathedral of Los Angeles
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America



Beloved in Christ,

I pray this finds you all in good health.

As the coronavirus infections have continued to rise, straining our healthcare system, many of our community are rightly concerned.

Even though we are exercising precautions at the Cathedral and keeping good order—actually far better distancing and sanitizing than is found in a crowded Costco or other big box store, where people are on top of each other and touching merchandise to examine it and then leaving it—some of our folks are concerned about indoor services. Others are concerned about outdoor services on cold mornings, where they could get sick from being in the cold.

Thus, we are providing both options. While we will continue to have services inside the Cathedral, you may choose to attend either indoors or outdoors.

- Starting this Sunday, we will set up chairs under the tents, in the plaza in front of the main doors. A large screen TV will show the livestream of the service. For Communion, I will send one of the chalices outdoors to serve those who are participating from there.



- Also this Sunday, we are pleased to welcome Dr. Andrew Geleris as our special guest speaker. He will help us, as we continue through this month to reflect on what should be our Christian response for all that God has done for us. I will introduce him to you more personally on Sunday morning. For now, however, I ask you to read, below, what His Eminence, Metropolitan Joseph, wrote about Andy and about his book, entitled ***Money and Salvation***.

With love and blessings in Christ,

+Fr. Nabil



ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA

Since arriving here to serve as a bishop of the Antiochian Archdiocese of North America, I have been consistently perplexed by the wealth we see in the wider society and the scarcity of resources we find in our churches. The strength of the American economic system does not seem to translate into the financial stability of our parishes or their ability to reach out to their communities.

Paradoxically, most of our people come from places of relative poverty in the Near East, where their churches were financially self-sufficient. When our people achieve personal financial success here, the necessity of funding the Church and Her ministries is, therefore, not an obvious one. This dilemma has long concerned me, and I found a wonderful conversation partner in Dr. Andrew Geleris, a neurologist and faithful member of our parish of St. Raphael in Palm Desert, California. After many conversations about the need to teach our people of the God-given command to give generously to the Church and to the needy, Dr. Geleris discussed with me his plans for this wonderful book, and I recommended to him the title: *Money and Salvation*.

In seeing the fruit of Dr. Geleris' many years of prayerful study of this vital issue, I wholeheartedly endorse this work. Too often, we as hierarchs, clergy, and lay leaders speak to our people about giving to meet the needs of the church or the needs of the poor, and we forget to teach that the true need is for each and every one of us is simply to give. God did not recommend that we give only when there is some perceived need or a capital campaign for a project. God commands that we give for our salvation.

One of the more powerful images he offers is that of the whole burnt offering we see in the Old Testament. Dr. Geleris points out that in an agricultural society, the people of God were commanded to offer the first fruits of their crops or livestock to be burned completely. This kind of offering would be akin in our capitalist society to piling cash in the Altar and burning it. The point was not where the sacrificial gift was to be used but whether the sacrificial gift was given.

I recommend to all parish clergy and lay leaders to prayerfully read *Money and Salvation* and work to teach and exhort our faithful to give generously as

commanded by Our Lord - not only for the building up of our churches but for their own salvation.

With gratitude to Dr. Geleris for this well-written and well-researched work and prayers that it will be the good of the Holy Church and the salvation of Her faithful children, I remain,

Yours in service of Christ,

+JOSEPH

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

*"What shall I render to the Lord,
for All His Bounty to Me?"*

*I will offer to Thee the sacrifice of
Thanksgiving, and I will call
upon the Name of the Lord.*

(Psalm 116.2, 17)



Upcoming Schedule and Links





Remember to sign up for each service at www.stnicholasla.org/schedule

Date	Time	Event or Service (click link for service text)	How to Participate
Friday, Jan. 15	7:00 pm	Church School Classes	See links for each class, below
	7:00 pm	Arabic Bible Study درس الكتاب بالعربي	Sign up with Dn. Eliya at Louia@hotmail.com
Saturday, Jan. 16	6:00 pm	Great Vespers	Livestream only (church closed)

Sunday, Jan. 17	7:45 am	Divine Liturgy in Spanish	In person AND livestream
	9:15 am	Matins	Sign up to attend in Cathedral; service also livestreamed
	10:30 am	Divine Liturgy	Sign up to attend in Cathedral; service also livestreamed
Wednesday, Jan. 20	7:00 pm	Church School Staff meeting	Link to be sent
Friday, Jan. 22	7:00 pm	Church School Classes	See links for each class, below
	7:00 pm	Arabic Bible Study درس الكتاب بالعربي	Sign up with Dn. Eliya at Louia@hotmail.com
Saturday, Jan. 23	6:00 pm	Great Vespers	Livestream only (church closed)
Sunday, Jan. 24	7:45 am	Divine Liturgy in Spanish	In person AND livestream
	9:15 am	Matins	Sign up to attend in Cathedral; service also livestreamed
	10:30 am	Divine Liturgy	Sign up to attend in Cathedral; service also livestreamed

Please note that you do NOT need to have a Facebook account to join our services via livestreaming. Also, if you cannot join the services live, it remains on the Facebook site, so you can participate when your schedule allows.

Church School 7 pm Friday, January 15

Class	Zoom Link	Meeting ID and Password	Text and Discussion Material
Preschool & Kindergarten	None – discuss at home	None	 View or print for Preschool
1 st – 4 th Grades	Join 1st – 4th Class	950 0406 4284 602971	 View or print for Grades 1-4
5 th – 8 th Grades	Join 5th – 8th Class	966 6787 2317 283692	 View or print for Grades 5-8
High School	Join High School Class	964 9146 2720 439263	 View or print for High School

Arabic Bible Study on the Parables –

درس الكتاب بالعربي - الامثال

Fridays at 7PM

Classes will be led by Dn. Eliya Ammari

Contact him at (818) 433 5523 or Louia@hotmail.com to sign up.

He will then send you an invitation for a Zoom meeting one day before the discussions.

Date	Topic of Discussion	Bible Readings
1/15/2021	مثل العبد القاسي	مت (١٨ : ٢٣ - ٣٥)
1/22/2021	مثل السامري الصالح	لو (١٠ : ٢٥ - ٣٧)
1/29/2021	مثل الوزنات المختلفة	مت (٢٥ : ١٤ - ٣٠)
2/5/2021	مثل الغني ولعازر	لو (١٦ : ١٩ - ٣١)

Holy Oblations and Prayer Requests

- By Lucy Hanna and Fr. Nabil and Kh. Elaine Hanna, for the repose of husband/father Lotfy Hanna (1-year memorial).
- By Raymond Elias and the Maalouf family, for the repose of beloved wife/godmother Olga Elias (40-day memorial).
- By Ehab Dahabreh and family and Mariam Beshara.
- Asking for the Lord's blessings and good health of our beloved St. Nicholas Family. Thank you for all your prayers and concern for us during our illness. With Love in Christ, Ron and Rose Samore.

Cathedral Prayer List:

Please include in your daily prayers the following—those struggling with acute illness and those newly departed this life—from our parishioners and those for whom they have requested our prayers. (Names are kept for 40 days, until the date indicated after the name, and may be renewed upon request.)

Living

Victoria Faria, home, 2/19

Marilyn Nassif, hospital, 2/8

Poulos Samaan, home, 2/7

John Jr. and John III Samore, home, 1/27

Clemence Gedeon, rehab., 1/22

Ronald Samore, home, 1/22

Mary Rose Grim, nursing home, 1/18

-

Fr. John, Kh. Christina, Anastasia and Elizabeth Reimann, 2/8

Conner Capata grandson of Julian Jr. and Shirley, home, 2/8

Metropolitan Kallistos (Timothy Ware), 1/27

Patricia, Alex Cajeme's sister, 1/19

Physicians, nurses and all the healthcare professionals on the front lines of the pandemic

All those suffering from illness, violence and want in this country and throughout the world

Departed

Henry Roum, 2/13

Lila Awad, 2/5

-

George Ghattas, Elie's father, 1/25

Odette George, 1/25

Norma "Pilar," Alex Cajeme's sister, 1/21

Victims of the pandemic and of violence everywhere

To offer Holy Oblations and Memorials and for any announcements to be included in the bulletin, please email Cathedral@stnicholasla.com or contact the Cathedral office at (213) 382-6269 by **Wednesday noon**.



Jeanette's Virtual Baby Shower

If you haven't come into the Cathedral office during the week, surely at least you've spoken on the phone with our hard-working secretary, Jeanette Guzman. She has kept everything running in our office for the last eleven years.

Jeanette and her husband, Marcos, are expecting their first child around February 13. *It's a girl!*

Of course, circumstances do not allow us to throw a baby shower, so we are giving them a modest gift from the Cathedral community collectively, to help them get ready for their daughter's arrival.

Furthermore, we invite any of you who are so inclined to participate in a *virtual* shower. The links, below, show what they still need.

[Jeanette & Marcos Baby Registry \(target.com\)](#)

[Jeanette & Marcos Baby Registry \(Amazon\)](#)



Remember to sign up for every service

It is important so that:

- You won't drive all the way to church and find we're already at capacity.
- We will know who was here and so we will notify you if it turns out—God forbid—that someone who came down with CoViD was in church the same day you were.
- If you get sick, please be sure to let us know, so that we will pray for you and can help you and your family with whatever you may need as well as alerting others.

Summary of Our Plan for Indoor Worship

We will keep doors and windows open, and we'll have the HVAC fans going continuously.

Part of the price of going back inside is that we need to adhere *strictly* to procedures.

- **You must sign up in advance to attend services.** We need to limit capacity, and we also don't want anyone to drive all the way to church and be turned away because we reached our limit. [Sign up for Services at St Nicholas Cathedral \(stnicholasla.org\)](http://stnicholasla.org) up until 7 am the day of the service.
- **Please stay home if you have a fever, cough, sneezing, runny nose, etc.,** have tested positive for the coronavirus, or been exposed to someone who might have coronavirus within the last 10 days.
- **Elderly, infirm, diabetics, and those who have asthma, heart conditions or compromised immune systems or any chronic illness are strongly advised NOT to come to Liturgy** but to participate via livestream services and then to schedule an appointment to come and partake of holy Communion privately.
- Those who have **children who might be hard to control**, who might run around and touch people or surfaces, are also advised to participate via livestream and then to schedule an appointment to come and partake of holy Communion.
- We will do a very quick **screening of everyone who comes to church**, including taking your temperature without touching you.
- **The faithful are required to wear face masks** at all times, except when partaking of communion and except for children under 5 years of age.
- **We will practice distancing in the church building.**
 - Come in only through the narthex; exit only via the chapel door.
 - We will maintain only one-way movement, so you never have to cross anyone else's path.
 - Enter and be seated via the center aisle. The center aisle will be used only for movement *toward* the altar. Westward movement (*away* from the altar) will be via the outside aisles.

- Members of the same household may sit together. Ushers will seat you, one household per pew. To maintain maximum distance, they will seat you in alternate ends of the pews, from row to row.
- Please leave your tithes and offerings in the box in the narthex, as we will not pass any collection baskets.
- We will have our cleaning crew sanitize the building thoroughly before each service.
- Call or email Fr. Nabil directly (at fnabilh@stnicholasla.com) for an appointment to come privately for Communion.
- **Please use a provided Clorox towel to wipe down surfaces before AND after you use the bathrooms.**
- Note that coffee hour and all non-liturgical gatherings are not resuming at this point. Organizational meetings, Bible studies, etc., will continue online.

Do You Need Books or Icons?

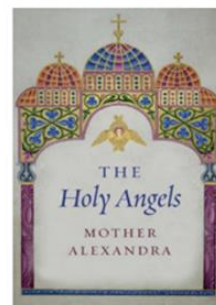
See Diane Brooks or Isabel Elac for anything from the Cathedral bookstore. While we can't have you go into the bookstore to peruse the stock at this time, they will be happy to bring out to you what you would like.

St. Nicholas Antiochian Women Book Club

Our Chaplain, Lauren Malouf, is organizing a book club for us! Our first book is one recommended by the Antiochian Women of the Archdiocese. More information about meetings to discuss the book will follow. Order at <https://store.ancientfaith.com/the-holy-angels/>

Join St. Nicholas Cathedral's
Antiochian Women's

Book Club!



Learn more about our faith and enjoy time
with your sister's in Christ!

Order at: <https://store.ancientfaith.com/the-holy-angels/>

For all details, contact Lauren Malouf
(818) 687-0406
lmalouf@hchc.edu



Antiochian Village

worship | fellowship | education | love

VIRTUAL
WINTER FAMILY CAMP

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 2-4PM

KEYNOTE:
“HOW TO KEEP YOUR FAMILY IN CHURCH”
Tune in as our guest speakers, Fr. Don, Kh. Janet & Dr. Stephen Shadid discuss this year's theme. You won't want to miss this!

2-3PM

Q & A
Following the keynote presentation, join us for a Q & A session with our guest speakers.

3-4PM

FREE EVENT!
ZOOM LINK AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE!

[CLICK HERE TO ACCESS THE ZOOM LINK](#)

St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Christian Cathedral

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ATTACHED CLERGY CONTACTS

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frnabilh@stnicholasla.com

V. Rev. Father Paul Marji, *Attached*
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fathershahermj@yahoo.com

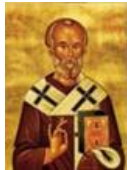
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