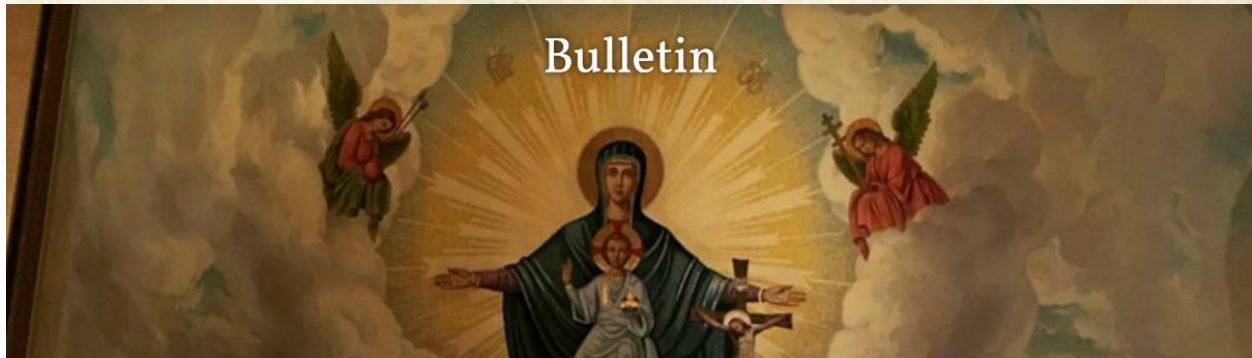


St Nicholas Orthodox Cathedral of Los Angeles
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America



See the full calendar and the latest additions and updates to our [schedule on our website](#).

Beloved in our Risen and Ascended Lord,

I offer thanks to God that we will be able to put most of the coronavirus restrictions behind us in a few days. I am also profoundly grateful to the civil authorities (whether we agreed with their methods or not), to the physicians, nurses and all the healthcare professionals, who worked heroically to care for the sick, and to funeral directors and cemetery workers, who had the unsung job of laying to rest with dignity the unprecedented number of people who passed away. They were doing the Lord's work; may He reward them all with mercy!

It is now time to get back together for κοινωνία!

Koinonia (pronounced *kee-no-nee-yah*) is central to our Christian Faith. Unfortunately, this Greek term is translated inconsistently in our English Bibles; sometimes it is rendered "Communion," and sometimes it is translated as "fellowship."

We need to get back to Church; we need to get back to Holy Communion and the Sacramental Life, *and* we need to get back to fellowship activities. These all go together.



We read in the Acts of the Apostles about the first Christians converts at Pentecost,

So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls. And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. (2:41-42)

فَقَبِلُوا كَلَامَهُ بِفَرَحٍ، وَاعْتَمِدُوا، وَأَنْضَمَّ فِي ذَلِكَ الْيَوْمِ نَحْنُ ثَلَاثَةَ آلَافٍ نَفْسٍ. وَكَانُوا يُوَاظِبُونَ عَلَى تَعْلِيمِ الرُّسُلِ، وَالشَّرَكَةِ، وَكَسْرِ الْخُبْزِ، وَالصَّلَوَاتِ.

We need to emerge from the pandemic and to rededicate ourselves to this *koinonia*.

While we were able to reopen the Cathedral partially, after the initial lockdowns last year, we have been prohibited from all in-person fellowship activities for over fifteen months. That is an important part of our communion that we've missed. Indeed, the coffee hour has often been called "The liturgy after the Liturgy." The coffee hour and all our fellowship events are thus extensions of Holy Communion, essential parts of our community life. (You see how Communion is in community?!)

St. Hilary of Poitiers explained, "Our Communion is with the whole Christ, Head and Body." That is, in Holy Communion, we are united with Christ, the Head of the Body, and with one other, the other parts of the Body of Christ. When we gather together in His Name, then He is in our midst. Thus, we have fellowship with Christ and one another in a Communion of love. The coffee hour and other activities should thus be extensions of this fellowship, where we have opportunity to ask about one another's well being and needs, because we care about each other and support each other.

In fact, in the Liturgy, our fellowship/Communion extends even to those who have departed this life, because they are alive as members of the Living Body of Christ. This is why icons of the saints surround us in church, and this is why we have Souls Saturdays and Liturgy at the cemeteries. In Christ, not even death can separate us, when we are united in the Body of Christ and love one another!



Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:38-39)

أَنَّهُ لَا مَوْتَ وَلَا حَيَاةَ، وَلَا مَلَائِكَةَ وَلَا رُؤْسَاءَ وَلَا قُوَّاتٍ، وَلَا أُمُورَ حَاضِرَةً وَلَا مُسْتَقْبَلَةً، وَلَا عُلُوَّ وَلَا عُمُقَ، وَلَا خَلِيقَةَ أُخْرَى، تَقْدِرُ أَنْ تَفْصِلَنَا عَنِ مَحَبَّةِ اللَّهِ الَّتِي فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ رَبِّنَا.

Thus, our first post-pandemic Communion/fellowship gatherings will be:

1. Divine Liturgy and All Souls memorial at Valhalla Cemetery – a concelebration with clergy of our neighboring parishes. (10 am Saturday, June 19. See details below.)
2. Matins and Liturgy for Pentecost on Sunday, June 20. (At the normal time. See schedule below.)
3. An *agape* (love-feast) lunch on Sunday, June 20, in the Cathedral Heritage Hall right after the Divine Liturgy. (Please let us know you're coming. See details below.)

Furthermore, as we reopen Heritage Hall, because we so believe in the importance of fellowship, the Cathedral Council just stepped out in faith and committed that we will have *no more outside hall rentals*. We are forgoing that income, because we want our beautiful hall to be available for our community activities and to you, our members (and members of the smaller Orthodox parishes that often have their sacraments at St. Nicholas).

In fact, we went further, and we absolutely slashed the rental cost for our members. Going forward, St. Nicholas pledged members may use the hall for \$500 for small functions and \$1500 for large functions (such as large wedding receptions), and there will be no set price for use of the hall for mercy meals and for small functions in conjunction with sacraments (though free-will offerings are appreciated). In this way, sacraments become community events that we encourage, and we make sure that members have access to the hall regardless of their financial situation (just a first-come-first served basis for reservations).

With the reopening, I look forward to seeing many more of you regularly, getting to you all better and building our *koinonia*.

With love and blessings in Christ,

+Fr. Nabil

Upcoming Schedule and Links

Remember to sign up for services at www.stnicholasla.org/schedule (only until June 15)

| Date | Time | Event or Service (click link for service text) | How to Participate |
|--|----------|--|---|
| Sunday, June 13 | 7:45am | Divine Liturgy in Spanish | In person; service also livestreamed |
| Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council | 9:15 am | Matins | Sign up to attend at Cathedral; service also livestreamed |
| | 10:30 am | Divine Liturgy | Sign up to attend at Cathedral; service also livestreamed |
| Saturday, June 19 Day before Pentecost – All-souls Saturday | 10:00 am | Divine Liturgy and All-souls Memorial | St. Nicholas section at Valhalla Memorial Park (10621 Victory Blvd, North Hollywood) |
| | 6:00 pm | Great Vespers | In person (<i>NO sign-up needed</i>); service also livestreamed |
| Sunday, June 20 Great Feast of Pentecost | 7:45am | Divine Liturgy in Spanish | In person (<i>NO sign-up needed</i>); service also livestreamed |
| | 9:15 am | Matins | In person (<i>NO sign-up needed</i>); service also livestreamed |
| | 10:30 am | Divine Liturgy | In person (<i>NO sign-up needed</i>); service also livestreamed |
| | | Celebration Lunch | RSVP for Lunch |

Confessions heard during Sunday Matins and any time by appointment.

See the full calendar and the latest additions and updates, [available on our website](#).

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

Holy Oblations and Prayer Requests Offered

- By her children and grandchildren, for the health of Agnes Kuncar on the occasion of her birthday.
- By the Bshara family: George, Marian, Mark and Antonio.
- By Ehab, Rania, Anthony and Selena Dahabreh.

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

Michel Assaf, to undergo surgery, 7/22

Makaela Nicola, home, 7/20

Photini Sherry Buchman, hospice, 7/18

Carl Fred Milke Sr., home, 7/15

Mark Bshara, home, 7/15

Denise Naccache, home, 7/8

Kh. Patricia Romley, 6/25

Albert and Nancy Malouf, home, 6/20

-

Anna Acevedo, wife of custodian Armando Cano, 7/20

Ragai Zarif, brother-in-law of Fred Ashkar, 7/17

Agnes Dabbour, Arsenios' grandmother, 7/15

Connor Capata, Eli and Shirley's grandson, 7/13

Genevieve Maria Vine, child from Indiana here for surgery, 7/8

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

Jean Matar, 7/9

-

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**. Note that oblations should just list who is offering and for whom and the occasion.*

GRAND AFTER-PANDEMIC REOPENING

Saint Nicholas Cathedral invites you to an informal luncheon following Divine Liturgy on Sunday, June 20, in celebration of the Great Feast of Pentecost. In addition, as it is also Father's Day, let us join in fellowship to celebrate all fathers of our community.



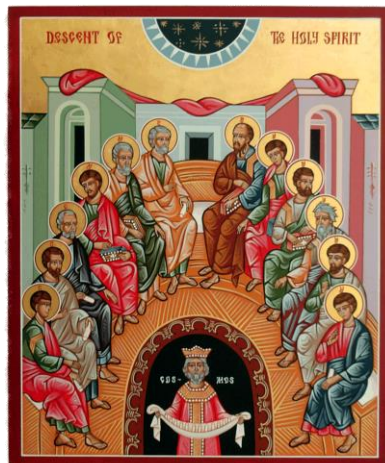
With the ending of COVID-19 restrictions, it will be the first opportunity for the community to come together to welcome Fr. Nabil and Fr. Andrew to the Cathedral in the Heritage Ballroom.

There will be no charge to attend this event, but [Please Reply via Eventbrite](#), so we can plan accordingly and gather in joyous fellowship.

Pentecost Souls Saturday Liturgy: June 19, 2021

Valhalla Memorial Park, 10 am (10621 Victory Blvd, North Hollywood)

- Divine Liturgy and Memorial Service at Altar in St. Nicholas Section
- Concelebration by LA-area Antiochian Clergy
- *Kollyva* will be provided
- Bring with You a List of the Names of Your Departed (wherever they may be buried) – *you may print and use the attached form*
- Suggestion: Bring a folding chair and a parasol
- Refreshments will be provided after Liturgy



Calling All Young Adults

As we begin to emerge from the restrictions of the recent pandemic, St Nicholas Cathedral is anxious to reestablish programs directly focused on our “Young Adult Community.” By that, we mean those who are in the approximate age range of 20 to 40.



In order to better understand the needs of this group and some sort of prioritization of interests, we have prepared a simple survey that you can complete on line. We want to know your interests and priorities and to update our mailing list.

Please take a moment to complete the survey which is located at: <https://forms.office.com/r/ymzXTKKF2D>.

Please contact Fr. Andrew for any questions by calling the Cathedral office or emailing frandrewa@stnicholasla.com



CAMP ST. NICHOLAS

Sign up for Camp at [Home \(campstnicholas.com\)](http://campstnicholas.com) ASAP.

St. Nicholas Cathedral will pay half the cost for our campers. If you need additional help, just ask Fr. Nabil privately. Just pay the deposit for now.

There are currently more openings in session 1 than session 2, but we will be adding slots in session 2 shortly. Be sure to register on the waiting list.

It takes a lot of supplies and planning to have a quality camping program. If you would like to help, please see the Amazon wish list that is set up for people to donate specific items the summer camp needs.

https://smile.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1KEXVJVMYD2K3?ref=wl_share

Raies Murr Scholarship

Members in good standing of St. Michael Antiochian Orthodox Church (Van Nuys) or St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Cathedral (Los Angeles) and who have been accepted to or are currently enrolled in a publicly supported (not private) institution of higher learning, including eligible publicly supported vocational, technical and trade schools, are eligible to apply for a Raies-Murr Scholarship. Applications can be obtained by e-mailing Mallory Murr and Vanessa Obenhaus at: RaiesMurrScholarship@gmail.com. The applications must be returned by July 19, 2021.

مركز موييز خيرالله
لدراسات الانتشار اللبناني

NC STATE
UNIVERSITY

Moise A. Khayrallah Center for
Lebanese Diaspora Studies

The Khayrallah Prize 2021

The Khayrallah Center is now accepting applications for its 2021 Khayrallah Prize competition.

The Khayrallah Prize recognizes the best artistic expressions about Lebanon and the Lebanese Diaspora.

Whether in visual art, written work, performance or electronic medium, the Khayrallah Prize identifies, awards and publicly honors those whose original work focuses on any aspect of life in Lebanon, or among Lebanese immigrants, in the past or present.

The winner will receive a monetary prize of \$10,000, and will be invited to receive the prize at a public ceremony with a presentation of their winning contribution. [Apply Here](#)

St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Christian Cathedral

2300 W. Third Street
Los Angeles, CA 90057
(213) 382-6269 office
www.stnicholasla.org

ATTACHED CLERGY CONTACTS

V. Rev. Father Nabil L. Hanna, *Dean*

(213) 915-6269 or (317) 919-0841 *mobile*
frnabilh@stnicholasla.com

V. Rev. Father Paul Marji, *Attached*
661-755-5363 *mobile*
fathershahermj@yahoo.com

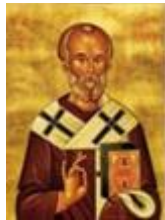
Rev. Father Paul Olson, *Assistant Pastor*
714-651-6151 *mobile*
rev.paul.olson@gmail.com

Rev. Father Andrew Andrews, *Assistant Pastor*
(925) 323-6787 *mobile*
frandrewa@stnicholasla.com

Rev. Archdeacon George Shishim
(818) 891-6211
gshishim@verizon.net

Rev. Deacon Eliya Ammari
(818) 433-5523
louia@hotmail.com

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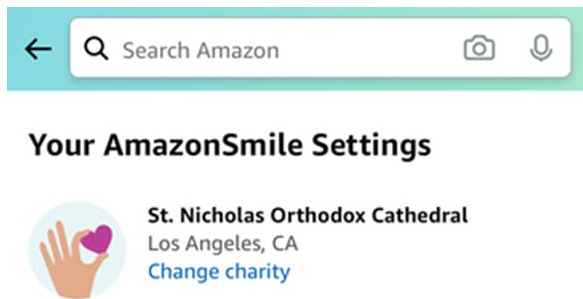
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First, [click here to log in to your existing Amazon account](#) and select **St. Nicholas Orthodox Cathedral** as your charity of choice before you start your Amazon shopping. That way, a percentage of your eligible purchases will automatically be contributed directly to St. Nicholas Orthodox Cathedral. There are no

additional fees or costs to you.

Then make sure to bookmark smile.amazon.com and continue shopping there to make an even bigger difference to our Cathedral.

You can also use AmazonSmile through the Amazon app! Just open the app, tap **Programs & Features** and then **AmazonSmile** and follow the instructions. See sample screenshot below.



Thank you for your continued support!