



ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN  
ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA  
Diocese of Los Angeles and the West

**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF  
THE REDEEMER**  
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**V. REV. FR. SAMER YOUSSEF, D. MIN**  
**REV. FR. THEODORE SAKELLAR, MTS**



**JULY 20, 2025**

**PROPHET ELIAS (ELIJAH) THE THESBITE**  
**& SIXTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW**  
RIGHTEOUS ILIYA CHAVCHAVADZE OF GEORGIA

الأحد السادس من القديس متى الانجيلي البشير  
وتذكّار النّبِيّ إيلِيَّا

## **RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE FIVE**

Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

### **أبوليتيكيون القيامة بالحن الخامس**

لِنُسَبِّحْ نَحْنُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَنَسْجُدْ لِلْكَلِمَةِ، الْمُسَاوِي لِأَبِ الرُّوحِ فِي الْأَزَلِيَّةِ وَعَدَمِ الْإِبْتِدَاءِ، الْمَوْلُودِ مِنَ الْعَذْرَاءِ لِخَلَاصِنَا، لِأَنَّهُ سَرَّ بِالْجَسَدِ أَنْ يَغْلُقَ عَلَى الصَّلِيبِ، وَيَحْتَمِلَ الْمَوْتَ، وَيُنْهَضَ الْمَوْتَى بِقِيَامَتِهِ الْمَجِيدَةِ.

## **APOLYTIKION OF PROPHET ELIAS IN TONE FOUR**

The incarnate Angel, and the Prophets' summit and boast, the second forerunner of the coming of Christ our God, Elias, the glorious, from above sent down his grace upon Elisseus; he doth cast out sickness and doth also cleanse lepers; and unto all that honor him, he poureth forth streams of cures.

### **أبوليتيكيون للنبي إيليا بالحن الرابع**

أَيُّهَا الْمَلَائِكَةُ بِالجِسْمِ قَاعِدَةُ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ وَرُكْنُهُمْ، السَّابِقُ الثَّانِي لِحُضُورِ الْمَسِيحِ، إِيلِيَّاسُ الْمَجِيدُ الْمُوقَّرُ. لَقَدْ أَرْسَلْتَ النِّعْمَةَ مِنَ الْعُلَى لِأَلِيشَع، لِيَطْرُدَ الْأَسْقَامَ وَيُطَهِّرَ الْبُرْصَ، لِذَا يُفِيضُ الْأَشْفِيَّةَ لِمُكْرَمِيهِ دَائِمًا.

## **TROPARION OF TRANSFIGURATION – TONE SEVEN**

When Thou was Transfigured on the mountain top, O Christ our God. Thou didst reveal thy glory to thy disciples as they could bear it. Enlighten us poor sinners as well with thine everlasting light through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Thou Giver of light, glory to Thee.

### **طروبارية التجلي على اللحن السابع**

لما تجليت أيها المسيح الإله في الجبل، أظهرت مجدك للتلاميذ بحسبما استطاعوا. فأشرق لنا نحن الخطاة نورك الأزلي، بشفاعته والدّة الإله، يا مانح النور المجد لك.

## ORDINARY KONTAKION IN TONE TWO

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

### قَتْدَاقُ بِالْحَنِّ الثَّانِي

يَا شَفِيعَةَ الْمَسِيحِيِّينَ غَيْرِ الْخَازِيَةِ، الْوَسِيطَةَ لَدَى الْخَالِقِ غَيْرِ الْمَرْذُودَةِ، لَا تُعْرِضِي عَنْ أَصْوَاتِ  
طَلِبَاتِنَا نَحْنُ الْخَطَاةَ، بَلْ تَدَارِكِينَا بِالْمَعُونَةِ بِمَا أَنَّكَ صَالِحَةٌ، نَحْنُ الصَّارِخِينَ إِلَيْكَ بِإِيمَانٍ: بِادْرِي إِلَى  
الشَّفَاعَةِ وَأُسْرِعِي فِي الطَّلِبَةِ، يَا وَالِدَةَ الْإِلَهِ، الْمُتَشَفِّعَةَ دَائِمًا بِمُكْرَمِيكَ.

## THE EPISTLE

*Thou art a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.*

*The Lord said unto my Lord: Sit Thou on my right hand, until I make Thine  
enemies Thy footstool.*

### **The Reading from the Epistle of St. James. (5:10-20)**

Brethren, take as an example of suffering and patience the prophets who spoke in the Name of the Lord. Behold, we call those blessed who were steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful. But above all, my brethren, do not swear, either by Heaven or by earth or with any other oath; but let your yes be yes and your no be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation. Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is any cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man has great power in its effects. Elias was a man of like nature with ourselves and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again and the heavens gave rain, and the

earth brought forth its fruit. My brethren, if any one among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

### الرسالة

أَنْتَ الْكَاهِنُ إِلَى الدَّهْرِ عَلَى رُتَبَةِ مَلَكِيصَادَق.

قَالَ الرَّبُّ لِرَبِّي: اجْلِسْ عَنْ يَمِينِي، حَتَّى أَجْعَلَ أَعْدَاءَكَ مَوْطِنًا لِقَدَمَيْكَ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ يَعْقُوبَ الرِّسُولِ الْجَامِعَةِ. (20-10:5)

يَا إِخْوَةُ، اتَّخِذُوا الْأَنْبِيَاءَ، الَّذِينَ تَكَلَّمُوا بِاسْمِ الرَّبِّ، قُدُوةً فِي اخْتِمَالِ الْمَشَقَّاتِ وَفِي طُولِ الْأَنَاءَةِ، فَإِنَّا نَطُوبُ الصَّابِرِينَ. وَقَدْ سَمِعْتُمْ بِصَبْرِ أَيُّوبَ، وَرَأَيْتُمْ عَاقِبَةَ الرَّبِّ. لِأَنَّ الرَّبَّ مُنَحْنٍ جِدًّا وَرَوْوْفٌ. وَقَبْلَ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ، يَا إِخْوَتِي، لَا تَخْلِفُوا لَا بِالسَّمَاءِ وَلَا بِالْأَرْضِ وَلَا بِقَسَمٍ آخَرَ. وَلَكِنْ لِيَكُنْ كَلَامُكُمْ نَعَمَ نَعَمَ وَلَا لَا، لِئَلَّا تَقْعُوا فِي الدِّينُونَةِ. هَلْ فِيكُمْ أَحَدٌ فِي مَشَقَّاتٍ؟ فَلْيُصَلِّ؛ أَوْ فِي سُورٍ؟ فَلْيُرْتَلِّ. هَلْ فِيكُمْ مَرِيضٌ؟ فَلْيَدْعُ قُسُوسَ الْكَنِيسَةِ وَلْيُصَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَيَدْنُوهُ بِرَبِّي بِاسْمِ الرَّبِّ. فَإِنَّ صَلَاةَ الْإِيمَانِ تُخَلِّصُ الْمَرِيضَ، وَالرَّبُّ يَنْهَضُهُ. وَإِنْ كَانَ قَدْ اِزْتَكَبَ خَطَايَا، تُعْفَرْ لَهُ. اعْتَرِفُوا بَعْضُكُمْ لِبَعْضٍ بِالزَّلَّاتِ، وَصَلُّوا بَعْضُكُمْ لِأَجْلِ بَعْضٍ لِكَيْ تُبْرَأُوا. إِنَّ طَلِبَةَ الْبَارِّ تَقْتَدِرُ كَثِيرًا فِي فِعْلِهَا. كَانَ إِبِلِيَّا إِنْسَانًا قَابِلَ الْآلَامِ مِثْلَنَا، وَقَدْ صَلَّى أَنْ لَا يَنْزِلَ الْمَطَرُ، فَلَمْ يَنْزِلْ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ مُدَّةَ ثَلَاثِ سِنِينَ وَسِتَّةِ أَشْهُرٍ. ثُمَّ عَادَ وَصَلَّى فَأَمْطَرَتِ السَّمَاءُ وَأَخْرَجَتِ الْأَرْضُ ثَمَرَهَا. أَيُّهَا الْإِخْوَةُ، إِنْ صَلَّ أَحَدٌ بَيْنَكُمْ عَنِ الْحَقِّ فَرَدَّهُ أَحَدٌ، فَلْيَعْلَمْ أَنَّ الَّذِي رَدَّ خَاطِئًا عَنْ ضَلَالِ طَرِيقِهِ، قَدْ خَلَّصَ نَفْسًا مِنَ الْمَوْتِ، وَسَتَرَ جَمًّا مِنَ الْخَطَايَا.

### THE GOSPEL

**The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (9:1-8)**

At that time, Jesus got into a boat, crossed over and came to His own city. And behold, they brought to Him a paralytic, lying on his bed; and when Jesus saw their faith He said to the paralytic, "Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven." And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man is blaspheming." But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are

forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—He then said to the paralytic—"Rise, take up your bed and go home." And he rose and went home. When the crowds saw it, they marveled, and they glorified God, Who had given such authority to men.

### الإنجيل

**فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ مَتَّى الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ. (8-1:9)**

فِي ذَلِكَ الزَّمَانِ، دَخَلَ يَسُوعُ السَّفِينَةَ وَاجْتَاَزَ وَجَاءَ إِلَى مَدِينَتِهِ. فَإِذَا بِمُخْلَعٍ مُلقًى عَلَى سَرِيرٍ قَدَّمُوهُ إِلَيْهِ. فَلَمَّا رَأَى يَسُوعُ إِيمَانَهُمْ، قَالَ لِلْمُخْلَعِ: "ثِقْ يَا بُنَيَّ، مَغْفُورَةٌ لَكَ خَطَايَاكَ." فَقَالَ قَوْمٌ مِنَ الْكَتَبَةِ فِي أَنْفُسِهِمْ "هَذَا يُجَدِّفُ." فَعَلِمَ يَسُوعُ أَفْكَارَهُمْ، فَقَالَ: "لِمَاذَا تُفَكِّرُونَ بِالشَّرِّ فِي قُلُوبِكُمْ؟ مَا الْأَيْسَرُ أَنْ يُقَالَ، مَغْفُورَةٌ لَكَ خَطَايَاكَ، أَمْ أَنْ يُقَالَ قُمْ فَاْمَشْ؟ وَلَكِنْ لِكَيْ تَعْلَمُوا أَنَّ ابْنَ الْبَشَرِ لَهُ سُلْطَانٌ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ أَنْ يَغْفِرَ الْخَطَايَا. حِينَئِذٍ قَالَ لِلْمُخْلَعِ "قُمْ، احْمِلْ سَرِيرَكَ وَاذْهَبْ إِلَى بَيْتِكَ." فَقَامَ وَمَضَى إِلَى بَيْتِهِ. فَلَمَّا نَظَرَ الْجُمُوعُ، تَعَجَّبُوا وَمَجَّدُوا اللَّهَ الَّذِي أَعْطَى النَّاسَ سُلْطَانًا كَهَذَا.



### **HOLY BREAD OF OBLATION**

**OFFERED BY:** Fr. Samer, the Clergy and the parishioners for the good of the parish council members, the building committee and the Ladies Auxiliary and their families. Many Years!

**OFFERED BY:** Fr. Samer, the Clergy and the parishioners for the good health of all the families in Gaza, Palestine, Syria, Lebanon and Ukraine and all the countries has the unrest in the world. Many Years!

**OFFERED BY:** Sana Eideh for the good health of her parents, Hanna and Suad Eideh on the occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary (July 11) and their birthdays (Suad on July 20 and Hanna on July 29). For the good health of Sana, Imad Eideh, Lena and Nick Khoury and family. Many Years!

**OFFERED BY:** Jehan Batmani for the good health of her husband Spir on the occasion of his 86<sup>th</sup> birthday (July 13), and the good health of the Batmani, Bari, Sunstrum and Joseph families. Many Years!

**OFFERED BY:** Osama and Hala Elmasu on the occasion of their 49<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary (July 18), the good health of Inez Elmasu on the occasion of her birthday (July 20), Zayden Zuniga on the occasion of his birthday (July 27) and Samia Zuniga's birthday (July 31). For the good health of their children and their grandchildren. Many Years!

**OFFERED BY:** Johnny and Juliana Khamis for the good health of their son Costantine on the occasion of his birthday (July 13) and the good health of their son Alexander and the Khamis family. Many Years!

**OFFERED BY:** John and Linda Salah for the good health of Linda on the occasion of her birthday (July 18) and the good health of their daughter Jenna on the occasion of her birthday (July 19) and the good health of her husband Jesus Mendoza. For the good health of their daughter Andrea and her husband Edward Pulido and the Salah family. Many Years!

**OFFERED BY:** Esai Madriz on the occasion of his birthday (July 20) and the good health of Cynthia, Gabrielle, Juvenal, Isaiah, Diana, Sandra, Dom, Hector, and Lydia. Many Years!

**OFFERED BY:** Nicolas Elsousou and family for the good health of the Elsousou and Azar family. Many Years!

**OFFERED BY:** Nicolas Elsousou in remembrance of John Elsousou and Nicola Anis Elsousou. Memory Eternal!

### **COFFEE HOUR**

Offered By: Sana Eideh

*(To host the Coffee Hour, please contact Wardeh Asfour @408-718-3339)*

[office@orthodoxredeemer.org](mailto:office@orthodoxredeemer.org)

Online Link: [www.orthodoxredeemer.org/sponsor-coffee-hour](http://www.orthodoxredeemer.org/sponsor-coffee-hour)

## **Services Schedule Every Week**

**Matins @ 9:00 AM**

**Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM**

**Vespers: Every Saturday @ 5:00 PM**

*Fr. Samer will be out of town July 21-28th attending the Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese Convention in Chicago.  
Fr. Theodor will do the service on Sunday July 27<sup>th</sup>.*

### **PARISH COUNCIL 2025**

The Parish Council members' of 2025. Chair President; Bassam Khoury, Vice-Chair; Linda Salah, Treasurer; Dania Amireh Baker, Secretary; Maria Segal, Jad Bateh, Sana Eideh, Johnny Khamis, Didi Kreitem, Maher Fasheh and Rowida Barghouth. Sheila Veizades will represent the Antiochian Women Committee and Salem Aweiss will represent the Men Fellowship Committee.

### **ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN 2025**

The Antiochian Women Committee Leaders of 2025. Wardeh Asfour, Rowida Barghouth, Rima Gannage, Diana Khoury, Sheila Veizades and Hala Aboujudom (Sunshine).

### **CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER YOUNG ADULTS**

Young adults (college age and up to 39-1/2) meet on the first Sunday of the month and organize social, educational, and volunteer activities. For more information, please contact Fr. Theodor Sakellar @ 408-455-8145

### **SOYO (YOUTH GROUP 12-18 YEARS)**

Our SOYO (Youth Group) is active through the leadership of the Advisors: Dominic Youssef and Caesar Haddad. The officers are: President; Isabella Zarzar, Vice-President; Riad Akery, Secretary; Adriana Ajlouni, Treasurer; Breanna Zarzar, Social Media Coordinator; Eliana Halteh.

*2025 Daily Lives, Miracles, and Wisdom of the Saints  
and Fasting Calendar available to purchase during the  
coffee hour*

**VALLEY OF OPPORTUNITY:**  
**A TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH ELIAS LOUIS**



*There will be a book signing for our parishioner, Joseph Louis, on August 10<sup>th</sup> as we celebrate the Feast of the Transfiguration. Fish Luncheon will be sponsored by the Parish Council members on Sunday August 10<sup>th</sup> on the occasion of the Feast of the Church, The Transfiguration.*



**DABKEH PRACTICE**

In preparation for our annual food festival, we are calling all children of all ages who love to do Dabkeh Dance to come and join our amazing group of teachers who are experts in our cultural dance. We invite you to learn, have fun and present our culture to the whole community.

First practice starts on Sunday August 3, 2025 after the Divine Liturgy at the Sunday School Yard.

**We will be meeting every Sunday after Divine Liturgy.**

Please contact Mona Awad at [monaawad432@gmail.com](mailto:monaawad432@gmail.com) for any questions.



## **UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE CHURCH**

**Please save the date**

### **FESTIVAL WORKSHOPS:**

- **Wednesday, July 30<sup>th</sup>**: *Grape Leaves Workshop at 10:00am*
- **Wednesday, August 20**: *Kubbeh Workshop at 10:00am*
- **Wednesday, September 3**: *Spinach workshop at 10:00am*
- **Thursday & Friday, September 4 & 5**: *Food Preparations at 10:00am. Please see Wardeh Asfour to sign up and let her know of your attendance*
- **August 10**: *Feast of the Transfiguration. Fish Luncheon sponsored by the Parish Council*
- **Food Festival Sept 6 & 7**: *Our annual Food Festival will be on September 6 & 7. Please see Jad Bateh to help*

### **THE DISMISSAL**

**Priest:** May He Who rose from the dead, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother; by the might of the Precious and Life-giving Cross; by the protection of the honorable Bodiless Powers of Heaven; at the supplication of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable apostles; of our father among the saints, John Chrysostom, archbishop of Constantinople, whose Divine Liturgy we have now celebrated; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers; *of Saint N., the patron and protector of this holy community*; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; **of the holy and glorious Prophet Elias (Elijah) the Thesbite**, whose memory we celebrate today, and of all the saints: have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as He is good and loveth mankind.

**Priest:** Through the prayers of our holy fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us.

**Choir:** Amen.

**Join Us for our Annual Food Festival!**

**September 6 & 7, 2025**

*Donations toward the food festival are now accepted. To donate or volunteer, please contact: Church Office at [office@orthodoxredeemer.org](mailto:office@orthodoxredeemer.org), Feastiva Chair Jad Bateh @ (408)472-1467, Co-Chair Linda Salah @ (408)234-2952 or Donation Coordinator Wardeh Asfour @ (408)718-3339  
Any Cash Donations Accepted, or Please Choose Items from List.*



**Antiochian Orthodox Church of the Redeemer**  
PRESENTS



## Our 42nd Annual Mediterranean Food Festival

**September 6th | 1pm - 9pm**  
**September 7th | 12pm - 8pm**

*Get ready for two unforgettable days of fun, delicious food,  
family entertainment, music, culture, dancing, crafts,  
church tours, kids' zone, and more!*

**380 Magdalena Avenue, Los Altos Hills, CA**

**\* FREE ADMISSION BEFORE 3PM \***

**Don't miss the raffle!** (Tickets - 1 for \$20, 3 for \$50, 7 for \$100)  
1st = \$1,000 Cash | 2nd = \$500 Cash | 3rd = 75" 4K TV | 4th = 49ers Tickets (2)  
...and more great prizes!



PARKING AND SHUTTLE AVAILABLE AT  
BRIDGES COMMUNITY CHURCH | 625 MAGDALENA AVE.

For the latest festival updates, go to [facebook.com/orthodoxredeemer](https://facebook.com/orthodoxredeemer) or call 650.941.1570

## **2025 PLEDGE MEMBERS**

Thank you to all the members who submitted their pledges. 2025 pledges will roll into 2026. Please if you are able to increase your pledges to inform the office/ treasurer. **These names are not the final list, if you do not see your name please submit your pledge online.** For questions contact the treasure, Dania Amireh-Baker at [treasurer@orthodoxredeemer.org](mailto:treasurer@orthodoxredeemer.org). We are encouraging all parishioners to pledge online at [www.orthodoxredeemer.org](http://www.orthodoxredeemer.org). Thank you for your love to Christ and His Church.

**(If you want your name to be Anonymous, Please notify the office).**

<b>Members pledging</b>	<b>Members pledging</b>	<b>Members pledging</b>
Aboujudom, David & Hala Aboujudom, Edmond Ajuni, Richard & Karen Akery, Philipbia Akra, Ibrahim & Nadia Amireh, Daad Amireh, Nahida Appelton, Lovette Asfour, Jeannette Asfour, Salim & Wardeh Awad, Marwan & Mona Aweiss, Salem & Samia Azar, Nicholas & Sonia Baker, Jonathan & Dania Bargouth, George & Rowida Barghash, Hadi & Suzan Bateh, Jad & Elaine Bateh, Nawal Bateh Dougherty, Anne Batmani, Nabil & Basma Batmani, Spir & Jehan Bechwati, Nicolas & Jihane Daya, Anis & May Dimes, Violette Dziuba, Robert Eideh, Hanna & Suad, Sana Elmasu, Osama & Hala Elsousou, Nicholas Fasheh, Diana Fasheh, Hiyam Fasheh, Maher & Dimah Gannage, Michel & Rima Godfrey, Richard & Nancy Goitom, Tsegie Green, David Habib, Yousif & Amal Haddad, Roula Haddad Bashour & Jane	Haddad, Francois & Maya Hadaya, William Hage, Samuel & Maya Hanani, Elias & Wardia Hanani, Fadi & Rana Hanani, Maher & Randa Hanhan, Sal & Laila Hanhan, Yvonne Hanna, David & Marta Hanna, Margaret Horn, Bobby & Mihaela Houcheime, Soulaïma, Mona Jaber, Nawal Jaber, Najla Jammal, Mary Jammal, Michel & Therese Jammal, Peter & Maria Joudy, Evon Jarrouche, Yacoub & Therese Kakunda, Bishara & Marlene Karanas, Catherine Kassis, Samer & Rana Kattuah, Suad Kawwas, Charlie & Carol Sara Kerba, Nabil Khamis, Johnny & Joulyana Khinno, Edmund & Maria Khoury, Bassam & Dima Khoury, Sami & Kamilia Knittel, Carl & Diana Kreitem, George & Adele Kreitem, Ibtisam Labban, George & Ghazal Laza, Marioara Liwi, Adrena Liwi, Doglas Lomeli, Scott & Vivian Louis, Joseph & Najah	Lutton, Chip & Jennifer Mawla, Nathera Michael, Rizik & Sylvia Mitri, George & Mona Mogannam, John & Norma Naser, Nuha Nunu, George Omran, George & Jeanette Saah, Abdallah & Hala Saah, Najwa Sakellar, Virginia Sakkab, Hilda Salah, Andrea Salah, John & Linda Salah, Mary Salah, Paul Salameh, Elias & Wissam Saoud, Suzan Sara, Msalam & Mimi Sayigh, Sonia Segal, Mitch & Maria Simonovich, Heather Sleiman, Nayla Srouji, Almaza Stroud, Joseph & Luisa Sousou, Nicola Skaff, George Tarazi, Mark Tarazi, Raja & Fadwa Theologides, Athanasios & Maria Timothy, Jake & Caitlin Tysver, Robert Vaisberg, Victor & Inessa Veizades, Tancho Veizades, Henry & Sheila Youssef, Dimitry Youssef, Fr. Samer and Julianna



## **Project Update: Moving Forward Together**

We're happy to share that the County of Santa Clara Planning Department has officially approved our project after a thorough review process. With this important milestone behind us, we completed the architectural design and submitted it for plan check late last year.

The Building Department has since reviewed our plans and provided some feedback. We are currently making the required revisions and expect to resubmit them within the next couple of weeks. Once we receive final approval of our plans, we'll move forward with the permit application. Following permit approval, we'll begin soliciting construction bids from several contractors and prepare to make key decisions—including when to begin demolition and start building.

Our current timeline is very much dependent on having enough funds to allow us to build the initial structure (or "shell") and receiving approval from the bank for additional financing.

Thanks to the generosity of our parishioners and major donors, our Fundraising Committee has raised an impressive \$3.5 million so far and continues working hard to reach the amount needed to begin construction. Our next goal is to reach \$5 million, which will allow us to begin construction of the shell—and we need your help to reach this important milestone. Once the shell is complete, we'll be able to lease the daycare (school) space, secure a mortgage, and complete the rest of the project. The lease payments are expected to cover the mortgage, helping ensure the long-term sustainability of our efforts.

**Thank you for your continued support, generosity, and prayers as we move forward with this exciting new chapter for our parish!**

Building committee:

V. Rev. Fr. Samer Youssef  
Mitch Segal

Reyad Katwan  
William Hadaya

John Mogannam  
Bassam Khoury

Joe Louis