

# The Heavenly Host

Church Phone: (818) 994-2313  
Church Fax: (818) 994-2352  
newsletter@stmichaelvannuys.com  
www.stmichaelvannuys.com

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Independence  
Day  
4<sup>th</sup> of July



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## Letter from Parish Council Chairman by John Khouri

As summer comes upon us in full swing, I hope this newsletter finds you and your family in the best of health. Fresh from the success of this year's golf tournament, we are already looking ahead to what the second half of the year has in store for us. Forgive the length and the somewhat random nature of what's below, but, thanks be to God, we are doing so much as a parish!

Our first "An Evening With Father", graciously hosted by Father Timothy and Gretchen in their complex's community center in Valencia last month, has inspired us to plan another in late summer. Over 30 parishioners and friends listened to Father and Gretchen talk of their experiences in the Holy Land and what perspective they bring to the current crisis there. And, it was a wonderful opportunity to learn more about our spiritual father, and each other, and something that, without such a forum, we could not do so easily. Our goal is to have 50 people attend the next "Evening With Father", which will be in late August in a new location. Please let Father Timothy know if you have any suggestions for topics.

Next, we have a series of special Coffee Hours coming up:

**July 28<sup>th</sup>** is New Members Recognition Day. Come and meet the newest members of the St. Michael family!

**August 25<sup>th</sup>** is our "Picnic on the Lawn". (OK, in the parking lot, but either way it'll be fun for the whole family!)

**October 6<sup>th</sup>** is Grandparents' & Godparents' Recognition Day. Whether you have 'em or you are 'em, this day is for you!

**December 8<sup>th</sup>** is Founders' Recognition Day.

We have a series of lay sermons between now and the fall in which a few of our parishioners will share with the rest of us what it means to them to be a committed member of St. Michael. I know that we will all take something away from their messages.

Last month, the Parish Council hosted a coffee hour to honor our Khouryrie who works tirelessly behind the scenes in a variety of roles. Well, I am very

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## Andrews Family Reunites at the Ghostbar in the Palms Hotel by John E. Andrews

The Andrews Family Reunion was held at the Palms Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada over Father's Day weekend, June 14-16, 2002. About 130 family members dined in the Ghostbar on Saturday evening, June 15<sup>th</sup>, to share memories and review twelve generations in their family tree.

Hanna and Aminee Andrawos, now Andrews, raised ten children, five brothers and five sisters, beginning in 1877 in Lebanon. Their business was farming. In 1900, two brothers, Charles and Abraham, emigrated from Lebanon to the United States and opened a retail fruit and confectionery store in Ohio. Andrews Brothers Company was formed adopting the slogan of "The House of Quality." Most of the family followed and the produce business expanded to West Virginia, Michigan, Pennsylvania and California.

June 14, 2002 was also Flag Day, which was an appropriate time to celebrate the Andrews family's proud heritage. More than five hundred names were listed in the family tree dating back to 1700 well before Hanna and Aminee Andrawos, including over 375 living descendants. The family currently lives in 25 U.S. States, British Columbia, Canada and Lebanon.

The weekend began with a hospitality party on Friday night. Over eighty cousins greeted and visited with old friends as well as met many of the younger family. The last reunion was held 12 years ago in Tucson, Arizona. Saturday was a day by the pool or golf or spa. By Saturday evening, the family gathered for a portrait and then enjoyed cocktails on the top of the Palms Hotel inside the Ghostbar. Dinner was followed by a program where each family segment (only eight of the original ten had descendants) spoke and introduced those cousins in attendance. The following song was printed in the dinner booklet which was adapted from a version written by the Nader family.

### The Kibbie Nayee Song

Music: "The Battle Hymn of the Republic"

Chorus (sing between each verse):

Glory, glory, kibbie nayee; glory, glory, kibbie nayee;  
Glory, glory, kibbie nayee; and coosa, mehshee too.

Verse 1: Our parents come from a land across the ocean far away;  
They brought wheat and meat and salt and pepper with them all the way  
They crack the wheat, they grind the meat, they mix it up so fine;  
They call it kibbie nayee, and we eat it all the time.

Verse 2: They take the squash and cut a hole; they clean it inside out;  
And then they put the stuffing in, it's great there is no doubt;  
Now coosa mehshee's hard to beat, with that we all agree;  
But the number one dish in the whole wide world is still kibbie nayee.

Verse 3: They say ya albi and ya ani and speak of words of love;  
They talk of moon and June and spoon and the heavens up above;  
Now love is great, it can't be beat, with that we all agree;  
But the second best thing in the whole wide world is still kibbie nayee.

Verse 4: We're crazy 'bout our pita bread, our hoomus and tabooley;  
It's great to eat fatayer or a plate of sheik il mihshee;  
But sweeter words I've never heard when Sitti said to me;  
Tonight we're having our number one dish, good old kibbie nayee.

Verse 5: And when I'm called to leave this world, to the dear Lord I will say;  
I thank you for my heritage until my dying day;  
For the Andrews Family Reunion, my friends and the family;  
And a very special thank you for good old kibbie nayee.

Our family is important to all of us. Remembering our roots strengthens us and provides comfort in knowing who we are.

# St. Michael Church

[www.stmichaelvannuys.com](http://www.stmichaelvannuys.com)

## JULY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			Western Region Conference—St. Anthony (San Diego)			
			Independence Day			
	1	2	3	4	5	6
St. Michael Closed						
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the Ecumenical Councils 14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

St. Michael will be closed for services due to the Parish Life Conference in San Diego. St. Nicholas in Los Angeles will begin their Divine Liturgy at 10:30 am.

*Regular Services*

*Saturdays:*  
Great Vespers at 5 pm in the Church.

*Sundays:*  
Orthos at 8:45 am & Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am in the Church.

*Confessions are arranged by appointment or prior to services.*

# Mortgage Update

Our original loan was for \$850,000.

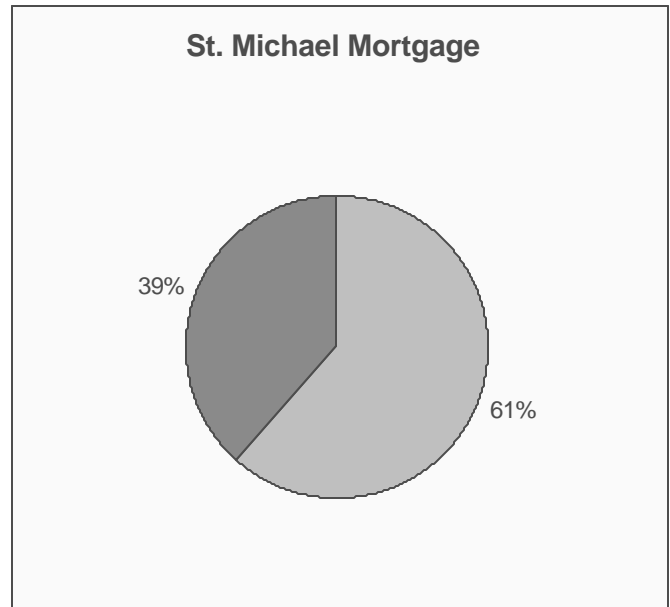
We have paid down  
\$328,712.70 or 39%.

As of this month we owe  
\$521,287.30.



Most of the drop in our loan balance was due to the \$20,000 payment made from the proceeds of our annual golf tournament.

Keep it up!



*(Continued from page 1)*

happy to announce the bookstore will be under new management – Gretchen’s! Many, many thanks to Andy and Bobbi Monsue who have managed the bookstore for quite some time. A children’s section, gift section, seasonal items, music and books are just some of the new ideas being employed. A Summer Red Tag Sale has already begun, and we will announce the Grand Reopening, with a completely new look and many new items for sale, sometime in the fall.

I’m sure by now, you’ve noticed the new carpet in the Community Center, and within the next few months, we’ll have much needed new carpeting in the church. It’s important to note that we’re hoping not to make too many capital improvements on the church, as that money is better spent on an entirely new structure in the near future.

Planning is underway to celebrate St. Michael’s Feast Day in November, and of course, our Holiday Festival, which you’ll be hearing about in more detail very soon.

On a final note, our continued success with the golf tournament on many levels is due primarily to the hard work of a handful of dedicated individuals, led this year by Gloria Mittry, and of course, to all those who participated by golfing or attending the always-fun barbecue dinner. Next year, we plan to expand the team that organizes the tournament to include a larger constituency of young adults. This helps us fulfill our goal to encourage mentoring and inclusion of “new blood” in various aspects of parish life. New people and new ideas help keep our parish thriving!

There is such a richness of activity within our parish family. If you’re not currently involved, contact Fr. Timothy or me, or those in charge of various groups, about participating. There is something for everyone, no role is insignificant, and *I promise* you will get more out of it than you put into it.

Your brother in Christ,

John Khouri  
(310) 526-4286  
jkhouri@yahoo-inc.com

Fr. Timothy  
(818) 994-2313  
pastor@stmichaelvannuys.com

## Scholarship Fund Applications Available

The *Raies-Murr Educational Trust Scholarship* applications are now available for any graduating or graduated high school senior who is a member of St. Michael Church or St. Nicholas Cathedral, and who has been accepted or is currently enrolled in a publicly supported institution of higher learning, including eligible vocational, technical and trade schools. In awarding scholarships, consideration is given to: participation in church and church related activities, extra-curricular and civil activities, financial need and academic record. The amount of each scholarship will vary, based on need and availability of funds. For further information, please speak with Sondra Love (818/996-0271) or contact Evelyn Raies-Murr (818/242-9545).

The *American Arab Scholarship Foundation Scholarship* applications are now available in the Church Office. Plan to attend this year's Awards Luncheon, which will be held on Sunday, August 4, 2002, at the Sheraton-Universal Hotel, beginning at 12:30 p.m. Save the date!

## BEAUTY, MYSTERY & ART

Yvonne Palese has donated to St. Michael her original watercolor on paper entitled *The Christ*, painted as a memorial to September 11th. She is also donating the profits from the sale of 500 limited edition signed prints, several of which have already been sold through her gallery representatives. We thank Yvonne sincerely for this wonderful gesture, and also for providing an example of how one can use her/his individual talents and interests as an offering to the Church.

**If you are interested in purchasing one of the limited edition prints,  
please contact Yvonne Palese at (818) 343-7535**

## From the Ladies Guild

Gift certificates are available each Sunday in the Community Center. A portion of each dollar is donated to our Church and is applied to our mortgage. Buy your scrip today!

You're all invited to sign up for Holy Bread & to host a coffee hour. Please call Leila Abu-Ghazaleh for more information on open dates at (805) 522-4797.

Spiritual Bouquets: Donations are offered in memory of the deceased in lieu of flowers. If you wish to participate, please see Jeannette Aboud.

Pageant of the Masters: 45 people attended this year's event in Laguna. Make your reservations now for next year's event. Please contact Carrie Skaff at (818) 501-3477. The festival is on Saturday, August 10.

**Dates to Remember (please change your calendars since some dates are different):** *Church School Awards Luncheon* is Sunday, September 22. *Chili Cook-off and Backgammon Tournament* is Sunday, October 13. *St. Michael Feast Day Coffee Hour* is Sunday, November 10. *Second Annual Christmas Festival* is Saturday, November 23. *Church School Christmas Program* is Sunday, December 15.

ST. MICHAEL ANTIOCHIAN  
ORTHODOX CHURCH  
OF THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY

V. Rev. Fr. Timothy Baclig, Pastor

16643 Vanowen Street  
Van Nuys, CA 91406-4622

Phone: (818) 994-2313

Fax: (818) 994-2352

newsletter@stmichaelvannuys.com



## Recipe of the Month

### Antioxidant Stew

2 Tbsp. olive oil  
1 large onion, chopped  
2 to 3 garlic cloves, minced  
2 cups peeled and cubed sweet potatoes  
(2 to 3 medium potatoes)  
3 cups chicken broth  
1 bay leaf  
2 tsp. minced fresh basil or 1 tsp. dried basil  
1 tsp. fresh thyme leaves or ½ tsp. dried thyme  
¼ teaspoon paprika  
Salt and pepper to taste  
1 large, ripe tomato, chopped  
10 ounces fresh green beans, trimmed and cut into  
2 inch pieces or 1 (10 ounce) package  
frozen green beans, thawed and cut into  
2 inch pieces  
1 (15 to 16 ounce) can garbanzo beans, drained  
5 ounces spinach, washed and roughly chopped

Heat oil in large saucepan or Dutch oven over medium heat. Add onion, garlic and sweet potatoes. Cook for 5 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add broth, bay leaf, basil, thyme and paprika. Stir and add salt and pepper to taste. Cover and reduce heat to a simmer.

Simmer until vegetables are tender, about 10 to 15 minutes. Stir in tomato, green beans and garbanzo beans. Simmer for 15 to 20 more minutes or until green beans are tender. Add spinach and cook for 1 to 2 minutes more. Taste and add more salt and pepper if needed. Remove bay leaf.

Makes 4 large servings.

Serve with warm, crusty bread.