

+ St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Church +

+ June 2nd 2013 A.D. – Sunday of the Samaritan Woman +



We continue to pray for Metropolitan Boulos Yazigi (*Antiochian Orthodox Metropolitan of Aleppo, Syria*) & Metropolitan Youhanna Ibrahim (*Syriac Orthodox Metropolitan of Aleppo, Syria*) who were abducted over a month ago by terrorists in Syria. No known demands and no certified reports on their condition have been made yet. Please sign the online petition to the White House (on our website) to make their release a top priority. Abductions & ransoms are taking place all over Syria since the war began, and the minority Christians are being persecuted. And as you know, two of our own Antiochian Priests have been murdered. *We continue to tie our black ribbons on the processional Cross & Fans since Palm Sunday, when we were asked by our Patriarch to do so for that day.*

Keep the Christians of the Middle East in your prayers. In **Egypt**, Churches are being attacked and destroyed, Christian girls are being kidnapped and raped or converted by force and married against their will. Christian shop owners are terrorized and Monasteries have received death threats. In **Iraq**, Christianity is almost extinguished after the destruction of almost every Church in the country and the mass-exodus of Christians to foreign countries due to persecution since the reform of the government.

Lebanon: The terrorists who are destroying Syria have threatened to do the same in Lebanon, and with the very recent instigating terrorist attacks in different parts of Lebanon, we pray that this wave of terror does not fully make its way into Lebanon, which until today, is the only Arab country with a Christian president.

True Orthodoxy has no nationality. Our nationality is Christian! All are our brothers & sisters, and the Church is one body. When one member is injured, the whole body feels the pain and should react and help mend the wound and protect the rest of the body. The Church is no stranger to persecution all over the world, and we should do our best to help where we can. **And if you feel you cannot help, then at least give them your fervent prayers! Give them as much attention in your prayers, as you would mending a wound on your own body!**

***Assassination Plot Uncovered!!** In response to the reports in Turkish and world media about an uncovered assassination plot against His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople, Archbishop Demetrios (*Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America*) wrote to President Obama urging him to exercise his good offices to ensure the safety of the Patriarch. There has been an Orthodox Ecumenical Patriarch in Constantinople (modern-day Istanbul) for 1,700 years. The assassination was planned for May 29, which was the 560th anniversary of the fall of Constantinople, the former capital of the Eastern Roman (Byzantine) Empire, to the Ottoman Muslims. Today, Turkey is an Islamic country and Christians are a persecuted minority.

80 de Castelnau Est, Montreal, QC, H2R 1P2 – Office: 514-270-9788; Fax: 514-270-6424;
Pastoral Emergency: 514-926-7875 - www.stnicholasmtl.com/office@stnicholasmtl.org

+ **Fr. Mark-Arsenius Wyatt (Pastor)**

The Holy Epistle (Acts 9:32-42): Now those who had been scattered abroad upon the persecution that arose on account of Stephen, traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, preaching the Word to none but unto the Jews only. And some of them were men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who, when they had come to Antioch, spoke unto the Greeks, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned unto the Lord. Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem, and they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch. And when he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad and exhorted them all that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord, for he was a good man and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith. And many people were added unto the Lord. Then Barnabas departed to Tarsus to seek out Saul; and when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass that for a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught many people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch. And in these days came prophets from Jerusalem unto Antioch. And one of them named Agabus stood up, and signified by the Spirit that there would be a great dearth throughout all the world, which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar. Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren who dwelt in Judea. This also they did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

أَمَّا الَّذِينَ تَسَنَّنُوا مِنْ جَرَاءِ الضَّيْقِ الَّذِي حَصَلَ بِسَبَبِ إِسْتِفَانُوسَ فَاجْتَاؤُوا إِلَى فِينِيقِيَّةِ وَقُبْرُسَ وَأَنْطَاكِيَّةِ وَهُمْ لَا يُكَلِّمُونَ أَحَدًا بِالْكَلِمَةِ إِلَّا الْيَهُودَ فَقَطَّ. وَلَكِنْ كَانَ مِنْهُمْ قَوْمٌ وَهُمْ رِجَالٌ قُبْرُسِيُّونَ وَقَيْرَوَانِيُّونَ الَّذِينَ لَمَّا دَخَلُوا أَنْطَاكِيَّةَ كَانُوا يُخَاطِبُونَ الْيُونَانِيِّينَ مُبَشِّرِينَ بِالرَّبِّ يَسُوعَ. وَكَانَتْ يَدُ الرَّبِّ مَعَهُمْ فَأَمَّنَ عَدَدٌ كَثِيرٌ وَرَجَعُوا إِلَى الرَّبِّ. فَسَمِعَ الْخَبْرَ عَنْهُمْ فِي آذَانِ الْكَنِيسَةِ الَّتِي فِي أُورُشَلِيمَ فَأَرْسَلُوا بَرْنَابَا لِكَيْ يَجْتَازَ إِلَى أَنْطَاكِيَّةِ. الَّذِي لَمَّا آتَى وَرَأَى نِعْمَةَ اللَّهِ فَرِحَ وَوَعِظَ الْجَمِيعَ أَنْ يَنْبُتُوا فِي الرَّبِّ بِعِزِّ الْقَلْبِ لِأَنَّهُ كَانَ رَجُلًا صَالِحًا وَمُمْتَلِنًا مِنَ الرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ وَالْإِيمَانِ. فَانضَمَّ إِلَى الرَّبِّ جَمْعٌ غَفِيرٌ. ثُمَّ خَرَجَ بَرْنَابَا إِلَى طَرَسُوسَ لِيَطْلُبَ شَاوُلَ. وَلَمَّا وَجَدَهُ جَاءَ بِهِ إِلَى أَنْطَاكِيَّةِ. فَحَدَّثَتْهُمَا اجْتِمَاعًا فِي الْكَنِيسَةِ سَنَةً كَامِلَةً وَعَلَّمَا جَمْعًا غَفِيرًا. وَدُعِيَ التَّلَامِيذُ «مَسِيحِيِّينَ» فِي أَنْطَاكِيَّةِ أَوَّلًا. وَفِي تِلْكَ الْأَيَّامِ انْحَدَرَ أَنْبِيَاءٌ مِنْ أُورُشَلِيمَ إِلَى أَنْطَاكِيَّةِ. وَقَامَ وَاحِدٌ مِنْهُمْ اسْمُهُ أَغَابُوسُ وَأَشَارَ بِالرُّوحِ أَنَّ جُوعًا عَظِيمًا كَانَ عَتِيدًا أَنْ يَصِيرَ عَلَى جَمِيعِ الْمَسْكُونَةِ - الَّذِي صَارَ أَيْضًا فِي أَيَّامِ كَلُودِيُوسَ قَيْصَرَ. فَحَتَمَ التَّلَامِيذُ حَسَبَمَا تَيْسَّرَ لِكُلِّ مَنْهُمْ أَنْ يُرْسِلَ كُلَّ وَاحِدٍ شَيْئًا خِدْمَةً إِلَى الْإِخْوَةِ السَّاكِنِينَ فِي الْيَهُودِيَّةِ. فَفَعَلُوا ذَلِكَ مُرْسِلِينَ إِلَى الْمَشَايخِ بِيَدِ بَرْنَابَا وَشَاوُلَ.

Today's Memorial Prayers are offered for the Eternal Memory of the Servants of God:

- * For Mark Massad (40th day); Carole (Barbrara) Massad (10th year). Offered by the Massad, Barbara & Maker Families.
- * For Lucy Shoofey (1st year). *Remembered also Nicholas, Frank, Joseph (Shoofey), Eva (Shoofey), Mary, George, Henry, Philip, Joseph (Zacard) & all other deceased members of the Shoofey & Zacard Families.* Offered by her Children Elizabeth Shoofey Stabler (Garry) & Robert Shoofey (Eleanor).
- * For Josephine Massad (6th year). Offered by the Massad Family.
- * For Stéphane Lebeau (14th year). Offered by Michel Eid.
- * For Yvonne & Philip Zacard; Masouk & Elias Zacard; Lucy Zacard Shoofey; Mary Zacard & John Zacard. Offered by Diane Zacard Cloutier.

- June 9 **AGM (Annual General Meeting)** - to be held during the extended Coffee Hour following the D. Liturgy. All registered parishioners should attend!
- June 16 2nd Tray Collection to help cover the \$1,800.00 we are assessed by the 3 annual Archdiocese Trays, which go towards Orthodox Education & Humanitarian Relief.
- June 22 Soul Saturday: Grave Blessings at Mt. Royal Cemetery
(Call the Church Office to schedule an appointment between 12-4pm)
- August 27 **ANNUAL RAFFLE** at 6:30pm. Contact Paul Massad for tickets (514-816-5760)

A few children of our parish are in need of sponsors in order for them to go to Camp Transfiguration this summer. Please contact Fr. Mark if you can help!

- * The St. George "Get up and go Club" is planning a trip on Thursday, June 6 to Auberge Des Gallant in St. Marthe, Rigaud by Semi Coach. For more information, please call Vickie Habib 514-337-7041

The Holy Gospel (St. John 5:1-15): Then He came to a city of Samaria, which is called Sychar, near to the parcel of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied with His journey, sat thus by the well; and it was about the sixth hour. There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said unto her, "Give Me to drink." (For His disciples had gone away unto the city to buy meat.) Then said the woman of Samaria unto Him, "How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest a drink of me, who am a woman of Samaria?" For the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans. Jesus answered and said unto her, "If thou knewest the gift of God and who it is that saith to thee, 'Give Me to drink, thou wouldest have asked of Him, and He would have given thee living water.'" The woman said unto Him, "Sir, thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. From whence then hast thou that living water? Art thou greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank thereof himself, and his children and his cattle?" Jesus answered and said unto her, "Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again, but whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life." The woman said unto Him, "Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw." Jesus said unto her, "Go, call thy husband, and come hither." The woman answered and said, "I have no husband." Jesus said unto her, "Thou hast well said, 'I have no husband'; for thou hast had five husbands, and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband. In that thou saidst truly." The woman said unto Him, "Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and ye say that Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship." Jesus said unto her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour cometh when ye shall neither on this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. Ye worship ye know not what; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour cometh and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth; for the Father seeketh such to worship Him. God is a Spirit, and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth." The woman said unto Him, "I know that Messiah cometh, who is called Christ. When He has come, He will tell us all things." Jesus said unto her, "I that speak unto thee am He." And upon this came His disciples and marveled that He talked with the woman; yet no man said, "What seekest Thou?" or, "Why talkest Thou with her?" The woman then left her waterpot, and went her way into the city and said to the men, "Come, see a man who told me all things that ever I did. Is not this the Christ?" Then they went out of the city and came unto Him. Meanwhile His disciples entreated Him, saying, "Master, eat." But He said unto them, "I have meat to eat that ye know not of." Therefore the disciples said one to another, "Hath any man brought Him aught to eat?" Jesus said unto them, "My meat is to do the will of Him that sent Me, and to finish His work. Say not ye, 'There are yet four months and then cometh the harvest'? Behold, I say unto you, lift up your eyes and look on the fields, for they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages and gathereth fruit unto life eternal, that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together. And herein is that saying true, 'One soweth and another reapeth.' I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labor; other men labored, and ye have entered into their labors." And many of the Samaritans of that city believed in Him because of the saying of the woman who testified, "He told me all that ever I did." So when the Samaritans had come unto Him, they besought Him that He would tarry with them; and He abode there two days. And many more believed because of His own word, and said unto the woman, "Now we believe, not because of thy saying, for we have heard Him ourselves and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world."

Today's Holy Oblation is offered for the Good Health of the Servants of God:

Paul Zakaib (Martha, Stephanie, Kristin, Jessica), Ramona Zakaib (Nancy), Richard Zakaib (Louise, Shaun, Derek), Amelia Zakem, Ghalia Zakhour (Eskandar), Helen Zaraa, Alex Zarbatany, Donald Zarbatany (Helene, Shawn), Louise Zarbatany, Mitch Zarbatany (Magdeleine), Robert Zarbatany (Anne-Marie, Frederic), Aurore Zarbatany, Clemence Zarifeh, Andrija Zecevic (Stephanie), Mona Ziadi (Raphael, Sophia), Abdo Zoghaib (Jeanne, Nancy, Dalida), Andre Zoghaib (Zeina), Ihab Zoghaib (Maha, Marianna, Rita), Julia Zoghaib, Wyssam Zoghaib (Lucia), Grace Zoghbi (Fresnel), Issa Zoghbi (Irma, Rosaline, Christine, Nicola, Philip), Linda Zoghbi, Youssef Zughuib (Dalia, Sara, Natalie, Emmy).

فَأَتَى إِلَى مَدِينَةٍ مِنَ السَّامِرَةِ يُقَالُ لَهَا سُوخَارُ بِقُرْبِ الضَّيْعَةِ الَّتِي وَهَبَهَا يَعْقُوبُ لِيُوسُفَ ابْنِهِ. وَكَانَتْ هُنَاكَ بئرٌ يَعْقُوبُ. فَإِذْ كَانَ يَسُوعُ قَدْ تَعَبَ مِنَ السَّفَرِ جَلَسَ هَكَذَا عَلَى الْبئرِ وَكَانَ نَحْوَ السَّاعَةِ السَّادِسَةِ. فَجَاءَتْ امْرَأَةٌ مِنَ السَّامِرَةِ لَتَسْتَقِي مَاءً فَقَالَ لَهَا يَسُوعُ: «أَعْطِينِي لِأَشْرَبَ» - لِأَنَّ تَلَامِيذَهُ كَانُوا قَدْ مَضَوْا إِلَى الْمَدِينَةِ لِيَتَنَاغَوْا طَعَامًا. فَقَالَتْ لَهُ الْمَرْأَةُ السَّامِرِيَّةُ: «كَيْفَ تَطْلُبُ مِنِّي لِتَشْرَبَ وَأَنْتَ يَهُودِيٌّ وَأَنَا امْرَأَةٌ سَامِرِيَّةٌ؟» لِأَنَّ الْيَهُودَ لَا يُعَامِلُونَ السَّامِرِيِّينَ. أَجَابَ يَسُوعُ: «لَوْ كُنْتَ تَعْلَمِينَ عَطِيَّةَ اللَّهِ وَمَنْ هُوَ الَّذِي يَقُولُ لَكَ أَعْطِينِي لِأَشْرَبَ لَطَلَبْتَ أَنْتِ مِنْهُ فَأَعْطَاكِ مَاءً حَيًّا». قَالَتْ لَهُ الْمَرْأَةُ: «يَا سَيِّدُ لَا دَلْوَ لَكَ وَالْبئرُ عَمِيقَةٌ. فَمِنْ أَيْنَ لَكَ الْمَاءُ الْحَيُّ؟ أَلَعَلَّكَ أَعْظَمَ مِنْ أَبِيْنَا يَعْقُوبَ الَّذِي أَعْطَانَا الْبئرَ وَشَرِبَ مِنْهَا هُوَ وَبَنُوهُ وَمَوَاشِيهِ؟» أَجَابَ يَسُوعُ: «كُلُّ مَنْ يَشْرَبُ مِنْ هَذَا الْمَاءِ يَعْطَشُ أَيْضًا. وَلَكِنْ مَنْ يَشْرَبُ مِنَ الْمَاءِ الَّذِي أُعْطِيهِ أَنَا فَلَنْ يَعْطَشَ إِلَى الْأَبَدِ بَلِ الْمَاءِ الَّذِي أُعْطِيهِ يَصِيرُ فِيهِ بِنْبُوعٍ مَاءٌ يَنْبُعُ إِلَى حَيَاةٍ أَبَدِيَّةٍ». قَالَتْ لَهُ الْمَرْأَةُ: «يَا سَيِّدُ أَعْطِنِي هَذَا الْمَاءَ لِكَيْ لَا أَعْطَشَ وَلَا آتِي إِلَى هُنَا لِأَسْتَقِي». قَالَ لَهَا يَسُوعُ: «أَذْهَبِي وَادْعِي زَوْجَكَ وَتَعَالِي إِلَى هَهُنَا» أَجَابَتْ الْمَرْأَةُ: «لَيْسَ لِي زَوْجٌ». قَالَ لَهَا يَسُوعُ: «حَسَنًا قُلْتِ لَيْسَ لِي زَوْجٌ لِأَنَّهُ كَانَ لَكَ خَمْسَةُ أَزْوَاجٍ وَالَّذِي لَكَ الْآنَ لَيْسَ هُوَ زَوْجَكَ. هَذَا قُلْتِ بِالصِّدْقِ». قَالَتْ لَهُ الْمَرْأَةُ: «يَا سَيِّدُ أَرَى أَنَّكَ نَبِيٌّ! أَبَاؤُنَا سَجَدُوا فِي هَذَا الْجَبَلِ وَأَنْتُمْ تَقُولُونَ إِنَّ فِي أُورُشَلِيمَ الْمَوْضِعَ الَّذِي يَنْبَغِي أَنْ يُسَجَدَ فِيهِ». قَالَ لَهَا يَسُوعُ: «يَا امْرَأَةُ صَدَّقِينِي أَنَّهُ تَأْتِي سَاعَةٌ لَا فِي هَذَا الْجَبَلِ وَلَا فِي أُورُشَلِيمَ تَسْجُدُونَ لِأَبٍ. أَنْتُمْ تَسْجُدُونَ لِمَا لَسْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ أَمَا نَحْنُ فَتَسْجُدُ لِمَا نَعْلَمُ - لِأَنَّ الْخَلَاصَ هُوَ مِنَ الْيَهُودِ. وَلَكِنْ تَأْتِي سَاعَةٌ وَهِيَ الْآنَ حِينِ السَّاجِدُونَ الْحَقِيقِيُّونَ يَسْجُدُونَ لِأَبٍ بِالرُّوحِ وَالْحَقِّ لِأَنَّ الْآبَ طَالِبٌ مِثْلَ هَوْلَاءِ السَّاجِدِينَ لَهُ. اللَّهُ رُوحٌ. وَالَّذِينَ يَسْجُدُونَ لَهُ فَبِالرُّوحِ وَالْحَقِّ يَنْبَغِي أَنْ يَسْجُدُوا». قَالَتْ لَهُ الْمَرْأَةُ: «أَنَا أَعْلَمُ أَنَّ مَسِيحًا الَّذِي يُقَالُ لَهُ الْمَسِيحُ يَأْتِي. فَمَتَى جَاءَ ذَلِكَ يُخْبِرُنَا بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ». قَالَ لَهَا يَسُوعُ: «أَنَا الَّذِي أَكَلْتُ هُوَ». وَعِنْدَ ذَلِكَ جَاءَ تَلَامِيذُهُ وَكَانُوا يَتَعَجَّبُونَ أَنَّهُ يَتَكَلَّمُ مَعَ امْرَأَةٍ. وَلَكِنْ لَمْ يَقُلْ أَحَدٌ: مَاذَا تَطْلُبُ أَوْ لِمَاذَا تَتَكَلَّمُ مَعَهَا. فَتَرَكَّتِ الْمَرْأَةُ جَرَّتَهَا وَمَضَتْ إِلَى الْمَدِينَةِ وَقَالَتْ لِلنَّاسِ: «هَلُمُّوا انظُرُوا إِنْسَانًا قَالَ لِي كُلِّ مَا فَعَلْتُ. أَلَعَلَّ هَذَا هُوَ الْمَسِيحُ؟». فَخَرَجُوا مِنَ الْمَدِينَةِ وَاتَّوَا إِلَيْهِ. وَفِي انْتِثَاءِ ذَلِكَ سَأَلَهُ تَلَامِيذُهُ: «يَا مُعَلِّمُ كُنْ» فَقَالَ لَهُمْ: «أَنَا لِي طَعَامٌ لِأَكُلَ لَسْتُمْ تَعْرِفُونَهُ أَنْتُمْ». فَقَالَ التَّلَامِيذُ بَعْضُهُمْ لِبَعْضٍ: «أَلَعَلَّ أَحَدًا أَتَاهُ بِشَيْءٍ لِيَأْكُلَ؟» قَالَ لَهُمْ يَسُوعُ: «طَعَامِي أَنْ أَعْمَلَ مِثْبِيئَةَ الَّذِي أُرْسَلَنِي وَأَتَمَّ عَمَلَهُ. أَمَا تَقُولُونَ إِنَّهُ يَكُونُ أَرْبَعَةَ أَشْهُرٍ ثُمَّ يَأْتِي الْحَصَادُ؟ هَا أَنَا أَقُولُ لَكُمْ: ازْفَعُوا أَعْيُنَكُمْ وَاَنْظُرُوا الْحُقُولَ إِنَّهَا قَدْ ائْبِيضَتْ لِلْحَصَادِ. وَالْحَاصِدُ يَأْخُذُ أَجْرَهُ وَيَجْمَعُ ثَمَرًا لِلْحَيَاةِ الْأَبَدِيَّةِ لِكَيْ يَفْرَحَ الزَّارِعُ وَالْحَاصِدُ مَعًا. لِأَنَّهُ فِي هَذَا يَصْدُقُ الْقَوْلُ: إِنَّ وَاحِدًا يَزْرَعُ وَآخَرَ يَحْصُدُ. أَنَا أُرْسَلُنَاكُمْ لِتَحْصُدُوا مَا لَمْ تَتَّعَبُوا فِيهِ. آخَرُونَ تَعَبُوا وَأَنْتُمْ قَدْ دَخَلْتُمْ عَلَى تَعَبِهِمْ». فَأَمَرَ بِهِ مِنْ تِلْكَ الْمَدِينَةِ كَثِيرُونَ مِنَ السَّامِرِيِّينَ بِسَبَبِ كَلَامِ الْمَرْأَةِ الَّتِي كَانَتْ تَشْهَدُ أَنَّهُ: «قَالَ لِي كُلِّ مَا فَعَلْتُ». فَلَمَّا جَاءَ إِلَيْهِ السَّامِرِيُّونَ سَأَلُوهُ أَنْ يَمَكَّتْ عِنْدَهُمْ فَمَكَّتْ هُنَاكَ يَوْمَيْنِ. فَأَمَرَ بِهِ أَكْثَرَ جَدًّا بِسَبَبِ كَلَامِهِ. وَقَالُوا لِلْمَرْأَةِ: «إِنَّا لَسْنَا بَعْدُ بِسَبَبِ كَلَامِكَ نُؤْمِنُ لِأَنَّا نَحْنُ قَدْ سَمِعْنَا وَنَعْلَمُ أَنَّ هَذَا هُوَ بِالْحَقِيقَةِ الْمَسِيحُ مُخَلَّصُ الْعَالَمِ».

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