

+ St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Church +

+ June 9th 2013 A.D. – Sunday of the Blind Man +



الإنسان المسيحي الحي
ليس من يحفظ الكتاب المقدس
بل من يفعل الكتاب المقدس
ويحيا من خلاله.

المتربوليت بولس - حلب

لن ننساكم... مهما تناسوكم

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 on April 22 by terrorists in Syria. Please keep them and the other 2 abducted Priests and all Christians of the Middle East in your prayers!

Above Arabic text is a quote by Metropolitan Boulos Yazigi

"The true Christian person is not one who memorizes the Holy Bible, but one who does according to the Holy Bible and lives by it."

All registered Parishioners in good standing are asked to please attend the AGM, which will be held today following the Divine Liturgy, in the Church Hall.

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

The Holy Epistle (Acts 16:16-34): And it came to pass as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed by a spirit of divination met us. She had brought her masters much gain by soothsaying. The same followed Paul and us, crying out and saying, "These men are the servants of the Most High God, who show unto us the way of salvation." And this she did many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, "I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And he came out that same hour. And when her masters saw that the hope of their gain was gone, they caught Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace unto the rulers, and brought them to the magistrates, saying, "These men, being Jews, trouble our city exceedingly, and teach customs which are not lawful for us to receive nor to observe, being Romans." And the multitude rose up together against them, and the magistrates rent off their clothes and commanded that they be beaten. And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely. He, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison and made their feet fast in the stocks. And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed and sang praises unto God, and the prisoners heard them. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's bands were loosed. And the keeper of the prison, awakening out of his sleep and seeing the prison doors open, drew out his sword and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had fled. But Paul cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Do thyself no harm, for we are all here!" Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling and fell down before Paul and Silas, and brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house." And they spoke unto him the Word of the Lord, and to all who were in his house. And he took them that same hour of the night and washed their stripes, and was baptized, he and all his, straightway. And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house.

وَحَدَّثَ بَيْنَمَا كُنَّا ذَاهِبِينَ إِلَى الصَّلَاةِ أَنَّ جَارِيَةَ بِهَا رُوحَ عِرَاقَةَ اسْتَقْبَلَتْنَا. وَكَانَتْ تُكْسِبُ مَوَالِيهَا مَكْسَبًا كَثِيرًا بِعِرَاقَتِهَا. هَذِهِ اتَّبَعَتْ بُولُسَ وَإِيَانَا وَصَرَخَتْ قَائِلَةً: «هَؤُلَاءِ النَّاسُ هُمْ عِبِيدُ اللَّهِ الْعَلِيِّ الَّذِينَ يُنَادُونَ لَكُمْ بِطَرِيقِ الْخَلَاصِ». وَكَانَتْ تَفْعَلُ هَذَا أَيَّامًا كَثِيرَةً. فَضَجَرَ بُولُسَ وَالتَّقَتْ إِلَى الرُّوحِ وَقَالَ: «أَنَا أَمْرُكَ بِاسْمِ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ أَنْ تَخْرُجَ مِنْهَا». فَخَرَجَ فِي تِلْكَ السَّاعَةِ. فَلَمَّا رَأَى مَوَالِيهَا أَنَّهُ قَدْ خَرَجَ رَجَاءً مَكْسِبِهِمْ أَمْسَكُوا بُولُسَ وَسَيلاً وَجَرَوْهُمَا إِلَى السُّوقِ إِلَى الْحُكَّامِ. وَإِذْ أَتَوْا بِهِمَا إِلَى الْوَلَاةِ قَالُوا: «هَذَانِ الرَّجُلَانِ يُبْلِغَانِ مَدِينَتَنَا وَهُمَا يَهُودِيَانِ وَيُنَادِيَانِ بِعَوَائِدٍ لَا يَجُوزُ لَنَا أَنْ نَقْبَلَهَا وَلَا نَعْمَلَ بِهَا إِذْ نَحْنُ رُومَانِيُونَ». فَقَامَ الْجَمْعُ مَعًا عَلَيْهِمَا وَمَرَّقَ الْوَلَاةُ نِيَابَهُمَا وَأَمَرُوا أَنْ يُضْرَبَا بِالْعِصِيِّ. فَوَضَعُوا عَلَيْهِمَا صُرَبَاتٍ كَثِيرَةً وَأَلْفُوهُمَا فِي السَّجْنِ وَأَوْصُوا حَافِظَ السَّجْنِ أَنْ يَحْرُسَهُمَا بِضَبْطٍ. وَهُوَ إِذْ أَخَذَ وَصِيَّةً مِثْلَ هَذِهِ أَلْقَاهُمَا فِي السَّجْنِ الدَّاخِلِيِّ وَضَبَطَ أَرْجُلَهُمَا فِي الْمِقْطَرَةِ. وَتَحَوَّ نِصْفَ اللَّيْلِ كَانَ بُولُسُ وَسَيلاً يُصَلِّيَانِ وَيُسَبِّحَانِ اللَّهَ وَالْمَسْجُونُونَ يَسْمَعُونَهُمَا. فَحَدَّثَتْ بَعْتَهُ زَلْزَلَةٌ عَظِيمَةٌ حَتَّى تَرَعَزَعَتْ أَسَاسَاتُ السَّجْنِ فَأَنْفَتَحَتْ فِي الْحَالِ الْأَبْوَابُ كُلُّهَا وَأَنْفَكَّتْ قُبُودُ الْجَمِيعِ. وَلَمَّا اسْتَيْقِظَ حَافِظُ السَّجْنِ وَرَأَى أَبْوَابَ السَّجْنِ مَفْتُوحَةً اسْتَلَّ سَيْفَهُ وَكَانَ مُرْمِعًا أَنْ يَقْتُلَ نَفْسَهُ ظَانًّا أَنَّ الْمَسْجُونِينَ قَدْ هَرَبُوا. فَنَادَى بُولُسَ بِصَوْتٍ عَظِيمٍ قَائِلًا: «لَا تَفْعَلْ بِنَفْسِكَ شَيْئًا رَدِيًّا لِأَنَّ جَمِيعَنَا هَهُنَا». فَطَلَبَ ضَوْءًا وَأَنْدَفَعَ إِلَى دَاخِلٍ وَخَرَّ لِبُولُسَ وَسَيلاً وَهُوَ مُرْتَعِدٌ ثُمَّ أَخْرَجَهُمَا وَقَالَ: «يَا سَيِّدِي مَاذَا يَنْبَغِي أَنْ أَفْعَلَ لِكَيْ أُخْلَصَ؟» فَقَالَا: «أَمِنْ بِالرَّبِّ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ فَتَخْلُصَ أَنْتَ وَأَهْلُ بَيْتِكَ». وَكَلَّمَاهُ وَجَمِيعَ مَنْ فِي بَيْتِهِ بِكَلِمَةِ الرَّبِّ. فَأَخَذَهُمَا فِي تِلْكَ السَّاعَةِ مِنَ اللَّيْلِ وَعَسَلَهُمَا مِنَ الْجِرَاحَاتِ وَاعْتَمَدَ فِي الْحَالِ هُوَ وَالَّذِينَ لَهُ أَجْمَعُونَ. وَلَمَّا أَصْعَدَهُمَا إِلَى بَيْتِهِ قَدَّمَ لَهُمَا مَائِدَةً وَتَهَلَّلَ مَعَ جَمِيعِ بَيْتِهِ إِذْ كَانَ قَدْ آمَنَ بِاللَّهِ.

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)

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

- * For Darren Michael Zacard (28th year). Remembered also all departed loved ones of the Chacra & Zacard Families. Offered by Michael, June & Cheryl Zacard (Layton).
- * For Maurice Wakim. Remembered also Badih, Mariam, Joseph, Renée, Hanneh & Youssef. Offered by Jocelyne Wakim.
- * For Nelson Ayoub (24th year). Remembered also: Jamile Ayoub. Offered by his wife Doreen & Family.

The Holy Gospel (St. John 9:1-38): And as Jesus passed by, He saw a man who was blind from his birth. And His disciples asked Him, saying, “Master, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither hath this man sinned nor his parents, but that the works of God should be made manifest in him. I must work the works of Him that sent Me while it is day; the night cometh when no man can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the Light of the world.” When He had thus spoken, He spat on the ground and made clay with the spittle; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay and said unto him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which interpreted means, “Sent”). He went his way therefore and washed, and came back seeing. The neighbors therefore, and those who before had seen that he was blind, said, “Is not this he that sat and begged?” Some said, “This is he.” Others said, “He is like him.” But he said, “I am he!” Therefore they said unto him, “How were thine eyes opened?” He answered and said, “A man who is called Jesus made clay, and anointed mine eyes, and said unto me, ‘Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.’ And I went and washed, and I received sight.” Then they said unto him, “Where is he?” He said, “I know not.” They brought to the Pharisees him that beforehand was blind. And it was the Sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. Then again the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. He said unto them, “He put clay upon mine eyes, and I washed and do see.” Therefore some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not of God, because he keepeth not the Sabbath day.” Others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such miracles?” And there was a division among them. They said unto the blind man again, “What sayest thou of him, that he hath opened thine eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.” But the Jews did not believe concerning him that he had been blind and received his sight, until they called the parents of him that had received his sight. And they asked them, saying, “Is this your son, who ye say was born blind? How then doth he now see?” His parents answered them and said, “We know that this is our son and that he was born blind; but by what means he now seeth we know not, or who hath opened his eyes we know not. He is of age; ask him. He shall speak for himself.” These words spoke his parents, because they feared the Jews; for the Jews had agreed already that if any man confessed that He was Christ, he should be put out of the synagogue. Therefore said his parents, “He is of age; ask him.” Then they again called the man who was blind and said unto him, “Give God the praise! We know that this man is a He answered and said, “Whether he be a sinner or not, I know not. One thing I know, that whereas I was blind, now I see.” Then said they to him again, “What did he do to thee? How opened he thine eyes?” He answered them, “I have told you already, and ye did not hear. Why would ye hear it again? Will ye also be his disciples?” Then they reviled him and said, “Thou art his disciple, but we are Moses’ disciples. We know that God spoke unto Moses. As for this fellow, we know not from whence he is.” The man answered and said unto them, “Why, herein is a marvelous thing: that ye know not from whence he is, and yet he hath opened mine eyes. Now we know that God heareth not sinners, but if any man be a worshiper of God and doeth His will, him He heareth. Since the world began it was not heard that any man opened the eyes of one who was born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” They answered and said unto him, “Thou wast altogether born in sins, and dost thou teach us?” And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out. And when He had found him, He said unto him, “Dost thou believe in the Son of God?” He answered and said, “Who is he, Lord, that I might believe in him?” And Jesus said unto him, “Thou hast both seen Him, and it is He that talketh with thee.” And he said, “Lord, I believe!” And he worshiped Him.

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

Elie Abboud (Rita), Howard Abboud (Kimberly, Anthony, Kenneth, Norman), Jihad Abboud (Sandra), Therese Abboud (Eugenie), Tony Abboud (Louise), Andrew Abdalla (Marie, Rachel, Patrick), William Abdalla (Virginia), Chucrallah Abdallah (Claire), Gordon Abdelhay, Gregory Abdelhay (Wendy, Jodi, Sean), Sandra Abdelhay, Amber Abou Assaleh (Joseph, Skyler), Elias Abou Assaleh, Fadi Abou Assaleh (Ivana), Jamal Abou Assaleh, Kamil Abou Assaleh (Diane, Moussa, Nicolas), Mounir Abou Assaleh, (Jean, Kimberley), Nasser Abou Assaleh (Pamela, Kiara), Youssef Abou Assaleh (Najat, Lucy, Rosine, Christine), Zouhier Abou Assaleh, Georgette Abouassali (Jamil, Peter), Daher Abouassaly (Salwa, Robert), Fouad Abouassaly (Amal, Marcel, George, Marlene), Michel Abouassaly (Helene, Gabriel, Robert, Noemie), René Abouassaly (Amanda), Rima Abouassaly, Rola Abouassaly, Nahia Aboud.

وَفِيمَا هُوَ مُجْتَازٌ رَأَى إِنْسَانًا أَعْمَى مُنْذُ وِلَادَتِهِ فَسَأَلَهُ تَلَامِيذُهُ: «يَا مُعَلِّمَ مَنْ أَخْطَأَ: هَذَا أَمْ أَبَوَاهُ حَتَّى وُلِدَ أَعْمَى؟» أَجَابَ يَسُوعُ: «لَا هَذَا أَخْطَأَ وَلَا أَبَوَاهُ لَكِنْ لِنَظَرِ أَعْمَالِ اللَّهِ فِيهِ. يَنْبَغِي أَنْ أَعْمَلَ أَعْمَالَ الَّذِي أَرْسَلَنِي مَا دَامَ نَهَارٌ. يَأْتِي لَيْلٌ جِينٌ لَا يَسْتَطِيعُ أَحَدٌ أَنْ يَعْمَلَ. مَا دُمْتُ فِي الْعَالَمِ فَأَنَا نُورُ الْعَالَمِ». قَالَ هَذَا وَتَقَلَّ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ وَصَنَعَ مِنَ التَّفَلِّ طِينًا وَطَلَى بِالطِّينِ عَيْنَيْ الْأَعْمَى. وَقَالَ لَهُ: «أَذْهَبِ اغْتَسِلْ فِي بَرْكَةِ سِلْوَامَ». الَّذِي تَفْسِيرُهُ مُرْسَلٌ. فَمَضَى وَاغْتَسَلَ وَآتَى بَصِيرًا. فَالْجِيرَانُ وَالَّذِينَ كَانُوا يَرُونَهُ قَبْلًا أَنَّهُ كَانَ أَعْمَى قَالُوا: «أَلَيْسَ هَذَا هُوَ الَّذِي كَانَ يَجْلِسُ وَيَسْتَعْطِي؟» آخَرُونَ قَالُوا: «هَذَا هُوَ». وَآخَرُونَ: «إِنَّهُ يُشْبِهُهُ». وَأَمَّا هُوَ فَقَالَ: «إِنِّي أَنَا هُوَ». فَقَالُوا لَهُ: «كَيْفَ انْفَتَحَتْ عَيْنَاكَ؟» أَجَابَ: «إِنْسَانٌ يُقَالُ لَهُ يَسُوعُ صَنَعَ طِينًا وَطَلَى عَيْنَيْ وَقَالَ لِي: اذْهَبْ إِلَى بَرْكَةِ سِلْوَامَ وَاغْتَسِلْ. فَمَضَيْتُ وَاغْتَسَلْتُ فَأَبْصَرْتُ». فَقَالُوا لَهُ: «أَيْنَ ذَاكَ؟» قَالَ: «لَا أَعْلَمُ». فَأَتَوْا إِلَى الْفَرِيسِيِّينَ بِالَّذِي كَانَ قَبْلًا أَعْمَى. وَكَانَ سَبْتُ جِئِنَ صَنَعَ يَسُوعُ الطِّينَ وَفَتَحَ عَيْنَيْهِ. فَسَأَلَهُ الْفَرِيسِيُّونَ أَيْضًا كَيْفَ أَبْصَرَ فَقَالَ لَهُمْ: «وَضَعَ طِينًا عَلَى عَيْنَيْ وَاغْتَسَلْتُ فَأَنَا أَبْصِرُ». فَقَالَ قَوْمٌ مِنَ الْفَرِيسِيِّينَ: «هَذَا الْإِنْسَانُ لَيْسَ مِنَ اللَّهِ لِأَنَّهُ لَا يَحْفَظُ السَّبْتَ». آخَرُونَ قَالُوا: «كَيْفَ يَفْذُرُ إِنْسَانٌ خَاطِيٌّ أَنْ يَعْمَلَ مِثْلَ هَذِهِ الْآيَاتِ؟» وَكَانَ بَيْنَهُمْ انشِقَاقٌ. قَالُوا أَيْضًا لِلْأَعْمَى: «مَاذَا تَقُولُ أَنْتَ عَنْهُ مِنْ حَيْثُ إِنَّهُ فَتَحَ عَيْنَيْكَ؟» فَقَالَ: «إِنَّهُ نَبِيٌّ». فَلَمْ يُصَدِّقِ الْيَهُودُ عَنْهُ أَنَّهُ كَانَ أَعْمَى فَأَبْصَرَ حَتَّى دَعَا أَبِي الَّذِي أَبْصَرَ. فَسَأَلُوهُمَا: «أَهَذَا ابْنُكُمَا الَّذِي تَقُولَانِ إِنَّهُ وُلِدَ أَعْمَى؟ فَكَيْفَ يُبْصِرُ الْآنَ؟» أَجَابَهُمْ أَبَوَاهُ: «نَعْلَمُ أَنَّ هَذَا ابْنُنَا وَأَنَّهُ وُلِدَ أَعْمَى وَأَمَّا كَيْفَ يُبْصِرُ الْآنَ فَلَا نَعْلَمُ. أَوْ مَنْ فَتَحَ عَيْنَيْهِ فَلَا نَعْلَمُ. هُوَ كَامِلُ السِّنِّ. اسْأَلُوهُ فَهُوَ يَتَكَلَّمُ عَن نَفْسِهِ». قَالَ أَبَوَاهُ هَذَا لِأَنَّهُمَا كَانَا يَخَافَانِ مِنَ الْيَهُودِ لِأَنَّ الْيَهُودَ كَانُوا قَدْ تَعَاهَدُوا أَنَّهُ إِنْ اعْتَرَفَ أَحَدٌ بِأَنَّهُ الْمَسِيحُ يُخْرَجُ مِنَ الْمَجْمَعِ. لِذَلِكَ قَالَ أَبَوَاهُ: «إِنَّهُ كَامِلُ السِّنِّ اسْأَلُوهُ». فَدَعَا ثَانِيَةً الْإِنْسَانَ الَّذِي كَانَ أَعْمَى وَقَالُوا لَهُ: «أَعْطِ مَجْدًا لِلَّهِ. نَحْنُ نَعْلَمُ أَنَّ هَذَا الْإِنْسَانَ خَاطِيٌّ». فَأَجَابَ: «أَخَاطِيٌّ هُوَ؟ لَسْتُ أَعْلَمُ. إِنَّمَا أَعْلَمُ شَيْئًا وَاحِدًا: أَنِّي كُنْتُ أَعْمَى وَالْآنَ أَبْصِرُ». فَقَالُوا لَهُ أَيْضًا: «مَاذَا صَنَعَ بِكَ؟ كَيْفَ فَتَحَ عَيْنَيْكَ؟» أَجَابَهُمْ: «قَدْ قُلْتُ لَكُمْ وَلَمْ تَسْمَعُوا. لِمَآذَا تُرِيدُونَ أَنْ تَسْمَعُوا أَيْضًا؟ أَلَعَلَّكُمْ أَنْتُمْ تُرِيدُونَ أَنْ تَصِيرُوا لَهُ تَلَامِيذٌ؟» فَتَسَمَّوْهُ وَقَالُوا: «أَنْتَ تَلْمِذٌ ذَاكَ وَأَمَّا نَحْنُ فَإِنَّا تَلَامِيذُ مُوسَى. نَحْنُ نَعْلَمُ أَنَّ مُوسَى كَلَّمَهُ اللَّهُ وَأَمَّا هَذَا فَمَا نَعْلَمُ مِنْ أَيْنَ هُوَ». أَجَابَ الرَّجُلُ: «إِنَّ فِي هَذَا عَجَبًا! إِنَّكُمْ لَسْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ مِنْ أَيْنَ هُوَ وَقَدْ فَتَحَ عَيْنَيْ. وَنَعْلَمُ أَنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يَسْمَعُ لِلْخَطَاةِ. وَلَكِنْ إِنْ كَانَ أَحَدٌ يَنْقِي اللَّهُ وَيَفْعَلُ مَشِيئَتَهُ فَلِهَذَا يَسْمَعُ. مُنْذُ الدَّهْرِ لَمْ يَسْمَعْ أَنْ أَحَدًا فَتَحَ عَيْنَيْ مَوْلُودٍ أَعْمَى. لَوْ لَمْ يَكُنْ هَذَا مِنَ اللَّهِ لَمْ يَفْذُرْ أَنْ يَفْعَلَ شَيْئًا». قَالُوا لَهُ: «فِي الْخَطَايَا وُلِدْتَ أَنْتَ بِجُمْلَتِكَ وَأَنْتَ نَعْلَمْنَا!» فَأَخْرَجُوهُ خَارِجًا. فَسَمِعَ يَسُوعُ أَنَّهُمْ أَخْرَجُوهُ خَارِجًا فَوَجَدَهُ وَقَالَ لَهُ: «أَتُؤْمِنُ بِأَنَّ اللَّهَ؟» أَجَابَ: «مَنْ هُوَ يَا سَيِّدُ لِأَوْمِنَ بِهِ؟» فَقَالَ لَهُ يَسُوعُ: «قَدْ رَأَيْتَهُ وَالَّذِي يَنْكَلُمُ مَعَكَ هُوَ هُوَ». فَقَالَ: «أَوْمِنُ يَا سَيِّدُ». وَسَجَدَ لَهُ.

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