

ST. NICHOLAS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

كنيسة القديس نيقولاوس الانطاكية الأرثوذكسية

80 de Castelnau Est, Montreal, QC, H2R 1P2

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

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REGULAR SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP:

Saturdays: Great Vespers 7:00pm-8:00pm

Confession 8:00pm-9:00pm (by Appointment only)

Sundays: 9:00am-12:00pm

(9:00am Orthros & 10:30am Divine Liturgy)

Agape Coffee Hour 12:00pm-2:00pm

BULLETIN: APRIL 10, 2016 A.D.



The Purpose of the Church is for the Cure of Humankind: The heart is not simply a natural operation that serves as a pump circulating blood. According to Orthodox Patristic teaching the heart is the center of our self-awareness, and the place wherein resides the “nous” (the eye of the soul). Humankind’s mishandling of the memory of God led to the fall, and the reactivation of that memory through the healing of the nous is necessary for the restoration of that memory. We must be made holy (whole) for communion with God to be restored. Saint Nicodemus of the Holy Mountain (+1809) calls the heart a natural and supernatural center, wherein resides “noetic” memory. Tapping into this noetic memory is manifested as the “incessant prayer” of the Holy Spirit inside the heart. The vehicle of “noetic prayer” leads to “glorification”, which is the revelation of “all truth” from the Holy Spirit. The Ancient Church taught that knowledge of God comes only through the noetic science of the heart. From the standpoint of Orthodox theology, the mind and logic are not the same thing, since logic functions within the brain, while the mind functions within the heart. Thus, the noetic faculty of the heart is the energy of the mind inside the heart. This important distinction results in the Eastern Church seeing herself not as a religious institution, but rather a hospital of the soul, wherein one comes for therapeutic procedures that restore the health of the soul, and allow for the ultimate goal of union with God (theosis). For those who wish further understanding of these ancient Christian teaching, the writings of my favorite modern theologian, Metropolitan Hierotheos of Nafpaktos, are a worthy read. It is within the life of this hospital that is the Church, that we enter into ascetic struggle, “working out” like an athlete, through fasting, prayer and the reception of the Holy Mysteries (Holy Communion), to be made well. We are restored to health within the walls of the Church, and receive training for this athletic/ascetic dimension of living. Our mishandling of the memory of God that led to the fall, is now corrected and reactivated through the healing of the “nous”, and that memory is restored. This memory is not the reclamation of something of an historical nature, but rather the opening up of a knowledge that has always been there. This healing is not of a juridical nature whereby an angry God has decided to overlook the evil and fallen nature of our souls by the bloodletting of His Son, but by the cleansing of the nous that has been darkened, and restoring us to health and wholeness. The memory of God is thus restored, and we are again in full communion with the Most High, freed from the permanency of death by the trampling down of the power of death through Christ’s Holy Resurrection.

+ **Abbot Tryphon** - *All Merciful Saviour Monastery, Vashon Island, Washington.*

THE HOLY EPISTLE (Hebrews 6:13-20)

Brethren, when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore to himself, saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Men indeed swear by a greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he interposed with an oath, so that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God should prove false, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

يَا إِخْوَةَ، لَمَّا وَعَدَ اللهُ إِبْرَاهِيمَ، إِذْ لَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ أَعْظَمُ يُقْسِمُ بِهِ، أَقْسَمَ بِنَفْسِهِ، قَائِلًا: ((إِنِّي لَأُبَارِكُنَّكَ بَرَكَةً وَأَكْثِرُنَّكَ تَكْثِيرًا)). وَهَكَذَا إِذْ تَأَنَّى نَالَ الْمُوعِدَ. فَإِنَّ النَّاسَ يُقْسِمُونَ بِالْأَعْظَمِ، وَنِهَائِيَهُ كُلِّ مُشَاجِرَةٍ عِنْدَهُمْ لِأَجْلِ التَّثْبِيتِ هِيَ الْقِسْمُ. فَلِذَلِكَ إِذْ أَرَادَ اللهُ أَنْ يُظْهَرَ أَكْثَرَ كَثِيرًا لِرِثَّةِ الْمُوعِدِ عَدَمَ تَغْيِيرِ قَضَائِهِ، تَوَسَّطَ بِقِسْمِ، حَتَّى بِأَمْرَيْنِ عَدِيمِي التَّغْيِيرِ، لَا يُمْكِنُ أَنْ اللهُ يَكْذِبُ فِيهِمَا، تَكُونُ لَنَا تَعْزِيَةٌ قَوِيَّةٌ، نَحْنُ الَّذِينَ التَّجَانُّا لِنَمْسِكَ بِالرَّجَاءِ الْمَوْضُوعِ أَمَامَنَا، الَّذِي هُوَ لَنَا كَمِرْسَاةٍ لِلنَّفْسِ مُؤْتَمِنَةً وَثَابِتَةً، تَدْخُلُ إِلَى مَا دَاخِلِ الْحِجَابِ، حَيْثُ دَخَلَ يَسُوعُ كَسَابِقٍ لِأَجْلِنَا، صَائِرًا عَلَى رُتْبَةِ مَلِكِي صَادِقٍ، رَّبِّيسَ كَهَنَةِ إِلَى الأَبَدِ.

+ The Memorial Service today is for the Departed Servants of God +

* Itaf Sabe Ayoub (40th day). Offered by the Ayoub Family and her children Colette, Elvir, Charles and Maggie.

* Rosanna David Koury (2nd year) & George Koury. Offered by the Koury Family.

For Your Information: The notice of solicitation of names of individuals who wish to stand for election to the Parish Council is available on our Church website and a hard copy can be obtained from the Church Office. It was also emailed to all registered parishioners along with this bulletin.

PALM SUNDAY CANDLES

Our Antiochian Women are working on decorating a variety of nice Palm Sunday Candles. They will be decorated and made available EVERY Sunday starting today until Orthodox Palm Sunday (April 24) while supplies last. Today, there is a selection available in the Church Hall during the Coffee Hour. For more information, please contact Hana Abou Assaleh Rahhal (514-953-4220).

FOR RENT: ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH HALL

Our newly renovated Church Hall is available for rent. Suitable for private receptions and family gatherings, such as Birthday parties, Baptism/Wedding receptions, Anniversary celebrations, Funeral Mercy Meals, and more! Contact the Church Office for details.

**ORTHODOX CHARITIES LENTEN COIN BOXES
ARE AVAILABLE FOR YOU
TO TAKE HOME IN THE NARTHEX.**

\$100 RAFFLE - May 31st

500 Tickets

10 Draws (instead of 5)

More Cash Prizes

& More Chance to Win!

Call the Church Office

or Sylvia Mefrige (514-344-0550)

Delicious Food at 6:00pm

Ticket Drawing at 8:00pm

THE HOLY GOSPEL (St. Mark 9:17-31)

At that time, a man came to Jesus kneeling and saying: "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit; and wherever it seizes him it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." And they brought the boy to him; and when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you can do anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting." They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he would not have any one know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and when he is killed, after three days he will rise."

في ذلك الزمان دنا إلى يسوع انسان وسجد له قائلاً: ((يَا مُعَلِّمُ، قَدْ قَدَّمْتُ إِلَيْكَ ابْنِي بِهِ رُوحٌ أَخْرَسٌ، وَحَيْثُمَا دَرَكَهُ يَمْرُقُهُ فَيَزِيدُ وَيَصِرُ بِأَسْنَانِهِ وَيَبْيَسُ. فَقُلْتُ لِتَلَامِيذِكَ أَنْ يُخْرِجُوهُ فَلَمْ يَقْدِرُوا)). فَأَجَابَ وَقَالَ لَهُمْ: ((أَيُّهَا الْجِيلُ غَيْرِ الْمُؤْمِنِ، إِلَى مَتَى أَكُونُ مَعَكُمْ؟ إِلَى مَتَى أَحْتَمِلُكُمْ؟ قَدِّمُوهُ إِلَيَّ!)). فَقَدِّمُوهُ إِلَيْهِ. فَلَمَّا رَأَاهُ لِلْوَقْتِ صَرَعهُ الرُّوحُ فَوَقَعَ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ يَتَمَرَّعُ وَيَزِيدُ. فَسَأَلَ أَبَاهُ: ((كَمْ مِنَ الزَّمَانِ مُنْذُ أَصَابَهُ هَذَا؟)) فَقَالَ: ((مُنْذُ صِبَاهُ. وَكَثِيرًا مَا أَلْقَاهُ فِي النَّارِ وَفِي الْمَاءِ لِيُهْلِكَهُ. لَكِنْ إِنْ كُنْتَ تَسْتَطِيعُ شَيْئًا فَتَحْنَنْ عَلَيْنَا وَأَعِنَّا)). فَقَالَ لَهُ يَسُوعُ: ((إِنْ كُنْتَ تَسْتَطِيعُ أَنْ تُؤْمِنَ. كُلُّ شَيْءٍ مُسْتَطَاعٌ لِلْمُؤْمِنِ)). فَلِلْوَقْتِ صَرَخَ أَبُو الْوَلَدِ بِدُمُوعٍ وَقَالَ: ((أُؤْمِنُ يَا سَيِّدُ، فَأَعِنُ عَدَمَ إِيْمَانِي)). فَلَمَّا رَأَى يَسُوعُ أَنَّ الْجَمْعَ يَتَرَكَضُونَ، انْتَهَرَ الرُّوحَ النَجِسَ قَائِلًا لَهُ: ((أَيُّهَا الرُّوحُ الْأَخْرَسُ الْأَصْمُ، أَنَا أَمْرُكَ: اخْرُجْ مِنْهُ وَلَا تَدْخُلْهُ أَيْضًا!)) فَصَرَخَ وَصَرَعهُ شَدِيدًا وَخَرَجَ فَصَارَ كَمَيْتٍ، حَتَّى قَالَ كَثِيرُونَ: ((إِنَّهُ مَاتَ!)). فَامْسَكَهُ يَسُوعُ بِيَدِهِ وَأَقَامَهُ، فَقَامَ. وَلَمَّا دَخَلَ بَيْتًا سَأَلَهُ تَلَامِيذُهُ عَلَى انْفِرَادٍ: ((لِمَاذَا لَمْ نَقْدِرْ نَحْنُ أَنْ نُخْرِجَهُ؟)) فَقَالَ لَهُمْ: ((هَذَا الْجِنْسُ لَا يُمَكِّنُ أَنْ يُخْرِجَ بِشَيْءٍ إِلَّا بِالصَّلَاةِ وَالصَّوْمِ)). وَخَرَجُوا مِنْ هُنَاكَ وَاجْتَازُوا الْجَلِيلَ، وَلَمْ يُرَدْ أَنْ يَعْلَمَ أَحَدٌ، لِأَنَّهُ كَانَ يَعْلَمُ تَلَامِيذُهُ وَيَقُولُ لَهُمْ: ((إِنَّ ابْنَ الْإِنْسَانِ يُسَلِّمُ إِلَى أَيْدِي النَّاسِ فَيَقْتُلُونَهُ. وَبَعْدَ أَنْ يُقْتَلَ يَقُومُ فِي الْيَوْمِ الثَّلَاثِ)).

2016 Holy Friday Flowers Sponsorships

Your generous donations are needed to sponsor the flowers used to decorate the Holy Tomb of Christ for Holy Friday this year. You can sponsor them for the good health and/or the eternal memory of your loved ones. All sponsorships will be printed in the Holy Friday Special Bulletin. The Sponsorship is a generous minimum donation of \$25.00 to our Church. Please return the Sponsorship form found on the website and attached to this bulletin to the Church no later than Sunday, April 24th 2016 (Palm Sunday), or simply contact the Church Office before the deadline to guarantee it is published in the bulletin. Thank you!

+ 2016 LENTEN SCHEDULE OF PRAYERS & BLESSINGS +

- * Sunday, March 13 - Cheesefare Sunday & Ceremony of Mutual Forgiveness
- * Wednesday, March 16 at 7:30pm - Presanctified Divine Liturgy
- * Thursday, March 17 at 7:30pm - Great Compline
- * Friday, March 18 at 7:30pm - 1st Akathist, Anointing with miraculous **Myrrh** from the Holy Relics of St. Demetrios
- * Saturday, March 19 at 7:00pm - Great Vespers & Confessions by Appointment
- * Sunday, March 20 - Sunday of Orthodoxy (Procession with Icons)
Evening: Pan-Orthodox Vespers - 7:00pm at St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church
- * Wednesday, March 23 at 7:30pm - Presanctified Divine Liturgy
- * Thursday, March 24 at 7:00pm - VIGIL for Feast of the Annunciation at St. Mary's Church with the Montreal Clergy.
- * Friday, March 25 at 7:30pm - 2nd Akathist, Anointing with **Holy Oil** from Mt. Athos: PARAMYTHIA Miraculous Icon
- * Saturday, March 26 at 7:00pm - Great Vespers & Confessions by Appointment
- * Sunday, March 27 - Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas, **Holy Water** from Mt. Athos: Miraculous Spring of IVIRON
- * Wednesday, March 30 at 7:30pm - Presanctified Divine Liturgy
- * Thursday, March 31 at 7:30pm - Great Compline
- * Friday, April 1 at 7:30pm - 3rd Akathist, Anointing with **Holy Oil** from Mt. Athos: PORTAITISSA Miraculous Icon
- * Saturday, April 2 at 7:00pm - Great Vespers & Confessions by Appointment
- * Sunday, April 3 - Sunday of the Holy Cross (Procession with Crosses)
- * Wednesday, April 6 at 7:30pm - Presanctified Divine Liturgy
- * Thursday, April 7 at 7:30pm - Great Compline
- * Friday, April 8 at 7:30pm - 4th Akathist, Anointing with **Holy Oil** from Mt. Athos: ST. NICHOLAS Miraculous Icon
- * Saturday, April 9 at 7:00pm - Great Vespers & Confessions by Appointment
- * **Sunday, April 10 - Sunday of St. John Climacus, Holy Water from the Life-Giving Font in Constantinople**
- * Wednesday, April 13 at 7:30pm - Small Compline & Canon of St. Andrew (and Life of St. Mary of Egypt)
- * Thursday, April 14 at 7:30pm - Presanctified Divine Liturgy
- * Friday, April 15 at 7:30pm - 5th Akathist, Anointing with **Holy Oil** from Mt. Athos: ST. ANNA Miraculous Icon
- * Saturday, April 16 at 7:00pm - Great Vespers & Confessions by Appointment
- * Sunday, April 17 - Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt, **Holy Water** from Mt. Athos: St. Anna Skete (Relics of St. Anna)
- * Tuesday, April 19 at 7:30pm - Great Compline
- * Wednesday, April 20 at 7:30pm - Presanctified Divine Liturgy
- * Friday, April 22 at 7:30pm - Small Compline & Canon of St. Lazarus
- * Saturday, April 23 at 10:00am - Orthros & Divine Liturgy for St. Lazarus
Evening at 7:00pm - Great Vespers & Confessions by Appointment
- * Sunday, April 24 - Palm Sunday (Outdoor Procession & Bake Sale)
Evening at 7:30pm - 1st Bridegroom Service
- * Monday, April 25 at 7:30pm - 2nd Bridegroom Service
- * Tuesday, April 26 at 7:30pm - 3rd Bridegroom Service
- * Wednesday, April 27 at 7:30pm - Holy Unction Service
- * Thursday, April 28 at 10:30am - Vespereal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil (Mystical Supper)
Evening at 7:30pm - Holy Passion Gospels Service
- * Friday, April 29 at 10:00am - Holy Paramon
Evening at 7:30pm - Lamentation Service with outdoor Procession
- * Saturday, April 30 at 10:00am - Vespereal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil (Saturday of Light)
Evening at 10:00pm - Paschal Vigil
- * Sunday, May 1 at 1:00pm - Agape Vespers (Indoor Candle Procession)
- * Monday, May 2 at 10:30am - Bright Monday & Feast of St. George - Divine Liturgy with Bishop Alexander & Montreal Clergy at St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church.
- * **NOTE: the above Anointings & Holy Water will ONLY be administered at those times, book the dates from now!**