

# 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 17, 2016 A.D.

## THE ROLE OF THE SAINTS IN OUR LIVES AS CHRISTIANS:

Growing up Lutheran I always believed the veneration of saints by Roman Catholics and Orthodox Christians was a form of idolatry. They were idolaters because they "worshipped saints". This worship of the saints was a major stumbling block for most protestants, since worship was only to be offered to God. The distinction between veneration and adoration was unknown to us. Adoration is reserved for God alone, while veneration is the respect we show to the saints. The historic Church has always venerated the saints because the Church is undivided. The Church Triumphant (in heaven) and the Church Militant (on earth) is one, undivided. When the Church is at worship the cloud of witnesses (those who've won the battle and are in heaven with God) are united in this worship before the Throne of God with those on earth. When we enter into the communal worship of the Church here on earth, we are mystically united with the saints in heaven. Death does not separate us from those who've gone on before us, for in Christ, there is no death. The saints being alive in Christ are not dead. When we venerate the saints we are showing love and respect to those who've gone on before us. Kissing an icon of a saint is much the same as kissing a bible. We show our love and respect for the Word of God by offering a kiss, just as we do when expressing our love of our mother or grandmother. When we kiss a photo of a loved one we are not worshiping the person, but demonstrating in a concrete way our love for the person. This is the very thing we are demonstrating when we kiss the icon of a saint. When we are in need of prayer we don't head for the nearest tavern and ask the man slumped over the bar to pray for us (God may not have heard from this fellow for a very long time), rather we ask for prayers of those who are close to God. No one is closer to God than those who've lived holy lives, or who have died as martyrs, so we know they are alive in Christ, and have His ear. We don't just ask a friend, we ask a saint to pray for us because, Christ is glorified in His saints (2 Thessalonians 1:10).

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

# 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).

## THE HOLY EPISTLE (Hebrews 9:11-14)

Brethren, when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the Holy Place, taking not the blood of goats and calves but his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify your conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

ذَلِكَ أَنَّ الْبَرَكَاتِ السَّمَاوِيَّةِ قَدْ تَحَقَّقَتْ فِي الْمَسِيحِ. فَهُوَ الْآنَ كَاهِنُنَا الْأَعْلَى الَّذِي يُؤَدِّي مُهِمَّتَهُ فِي الْخَيْمَةِ الْحَقِيقِيَّةِ، وَهِيَ أَعْظَمُ وَأَكْمَلُ مِنَ الْخَيْمَةِ الْأَرْضِيَّةِ. إِنَّهَا فِي السَّمَاءِ. لَمْ تَصْنَعْهَا يَدُ بَشَرِيَّةٍ، وَلَيْسَتْ مِنْ هَذَا الْعَالَمِ سَادِي. 12 فَأَلَى «قُدُسِ الْأَقْدَاسِ» فِي هَذِهِ الْخَيْمَةِ، دَخَلَ الْمَسِيحُ مَرَّةً وَاحِدَةً، حَامِلًا دَمَ نَفْسِهِ، لَا دَمَ نِيُوسٍ وَعُجُولٍ. وَذَلِكَ بَعْدَمَا سَفَكَ دَمَهُ عِوَضًا عَنَّا. فَحَقَّقَ فِدَاءً أَبَدِيًّا. 13 وَلَا عَجَبًا! فَوْقًا لِلنِّظَامِ السَّابِقِ، كَانَ دَمُ النِّيرَانِ وَالنُّيُوسِ يُرْسُ عَلَى الْمُنَجِّسِينَ، مَعَ رَمَادِ عَجَلَةٍ مَحْرُوقَةٍ، فَيَصِيرُونَ طَاهِرِينَ طَهَارَةً جَسَدِيَّةً. 14 فَكَمْ بِالْأَحْرَى دَمُ الْمَسِيحِ الَّذِي قَدَّمَ نَفْسَهُ لِلهِ بِرُوحِ أَرْكَلِي ذَبِيحَةً لَا عَيْبَ فِيهَا، يُطَهِّرُ ضَمَائِرَنَا مِنَ الْأَعْمَالِ الْمِيْتَةِ لِتَعْبُدَ اللَّهُ الْحَيَّ

On this same day, the Fifth Sunday of Great Lent, it was ordained that we make remembrance of our Godly Mother **St. Mary of Egypt**. Once, during the Honorable Fast, the priest-monk Zosimas withdrew into the wilderness. He caught sight of a withered woman named Mary; her hair was white as snow. Mary then told Zosimas that she was born in Egypt and at the age of 12 began to live a life of debauchery in Alexandria for 17 years. One day, she went to Jerusalem to enter the Church to venerate the Honorable Cross of Christ. However, some invisible force restrained her. In great fear, she gazed upon the Icon of the Theotokos in the vestibule and prayed that she be allowed to enter the Church, all the while confessing her sinfulness. She was then permitted to enter the Church. Having venerated the Cross she again entered the vestibule and, before the Icon, gave thanks to the Mother of God. At that very moment she heard a voice saying: "If you cross the Jordan, you will find glorious rest!" Mary left for the wilderness and remained there for 47 years in repentance. She bade Zosimas to come back in one year with Holy Communion, which he did. The following year, on Holy Thursday, April 1, 522, Zosimas discovered Mary's lifeless body, and buried her. Thus, the Lord glorifies penitent sinners. The Church exalts and exemplifies Mary to the faithful in Great Lent as an incentive for repentance that brings entry into the Heavenly Kingdom. Through her intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

### 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

## 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!

### THE HOLY GOSPEL (St. Mark 10:32-45)

At that time, Jesus taking the twelve again, he began to tell them what was to happen to him, saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death, and deliver him to the Gentiles; and they will mock him, and spit upon him, and scourge him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise." And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him, and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." And he said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" And they said to him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant of James and John. And Jesus called them to him and said to them, "You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

في ذلك الزمان أخذ يسوع تلاميذه الاثني عشر ايضاً وابتدأ يقول لهم عما سيحدث له: ((ها نحن صاعدون الى اورشليم، وابن الانسان يسلم الى رؤساء الكهنة والكتبة، فيحكمون عليه بالموت، ويسلمونه الى الامم، فيهزأون به ويجلدونه ويتقلون عليه ويقتلونه، وفي اليوم الثالث يقوم)). وتقدم اليه يعقوب ويوحنا ابنا زبدي قائلين: ((يا معلم، نريد ان تفعل لنا كل ما طلبنا)). فقال لهما: ((ماذا تريدان ان افعل لكما؟)) فقالا له: ((اعطنا ان نجلس واحد عن يمينك والآخر عن يسارك في مجدك)). فقال لهما يسوع: ((لستم تعلمان ما تطلبان. اتستطيعان ان تشربا الكأس التي اشربها انا، وان تصطبغا بالصبغة التي اصطبغ بها انا؟)) فقالا له: ((نستطيع)). فقال لهما يسوع: ((اما الكأس التي اشربها انا فتشربانها، وبالصبغة التي اصطبغ بها انا تصطبغان. واما الجلوس عن يميني وعن يساري فليس لي ان اعطيه الا للذين اعد لهم)). ولما سمع العشرة ابتدأوا يعْتَاطون من اجل يعقوب ويوحنا. فدعاهم يسوع وقال لهم: ((انتم تعلمون ان الذين يحسبون رؤساء الامم يسودونهم، وان عظماءهم يتسلطون عليهم. فلا يكون هكذا فيكم. بل من اراد ان يصير فيكم عظيماً، يخدمهم، ومن اراد ان يصير فيكم اولاً، يكون للجميع عبداً. 45 لان ابن الانسان ايضاً لم يات ليخدم بل ليخدم وليبذل نفسه فدية عن كثيرين)).

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

\* Peter, Cecile, Richard & Mark Shatilla. Offered by Susan Shatilla & Family.

# + 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~~ \*CANCELLED\*
- \* 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!