

# 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: AUGUST 7, 2016 A.D.

## Fasting for the right reasons!

By: Abbot Tryphon, All-Merciful Orthodox Monastery, Vashon Island - Washington

The Lord condemned the Pharisee, not because he fasted, but because his motivation was based on pride. The Pharisee wished to be seen by men, and he had no fear of God. He dared to stand before the Lord in pride and arrogance, while the Publican stood afar off, beating his breast, begging for the Lord's mercy. Whereas the Publican saw his sins, and repented, the Pharisee stood before the Lord in arrogance, thinking he was better than other men. He did not desire to commune with God, but to be honored by men. **As we who observe the Dormition Fast (August 1-15)**, let us imitate the Publican, who saw himself as the worst of sinners, and who begged God's forgiveness. Let us keep the fast, not to be seen by others, but to make way for the Lord. Let us shun meat, dairy, and fish, because we love God, and desire to be drawn closer to Him, emptying ourselves of earthly pleasures. Let us embrace the Fast as an opportunity for self-limitation, abstinence and self-emptying. Let us bear the cross in self-crucifixion, dying to self as we put on Christ. We dare not think we are Christians if we refuse to fast, for bearing our cross is the only way we can be true followers of Christ. Let us embrace the fast, knowing, "fasting appears gloomy until one steps into its arena. But begin and you will see what light it brings after darkness, what freedom from bonds, what release after a burdensome life... (Saint Theophan the Recluse)." Finally, let us be mindful that, "fasts and vigils, the study of Scripture, renouncing possessions and everything worldly are not in themselves perfection, as we have said; they are its tools. For perfection is not to be found in them; it is acquired through them. It is useless, therefore, to boast of our fasting, vigils, poverty, and reading of Scripture when we have not achieved the love of God and our fellow men. Whoever has achieved love has God within himself and his intellect is always with God (St John Cassian)."

## THE HOLY EPISTLE (Romans 15:1-7)

Brethren, we who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves; let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to edify him. For Christ did not please himself; but, as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached thee fell on me." For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of your Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

يَا إِخْوَةَ، يَجِبُ عَلَيْنَا نَحْنُ الْأَقْوِيَاءُ أَنْ نَحْتَمِلَ أَوْعَافَ الضُّعَفَاءِ وَلَا نُرْضِيَ أَنْفُسَنَا. فَلْيُرْضِ كُلُّ وَاحِدٍ مِنَّا قَرِيبَهُ لِلْخَيْرِ لِأَجْلِ الْبُنْيَانِ. لِأَنَّ الْمَسِيحَ أَيْضًا لَمْ يُرْضِ نَفْسَهُ بَلْ كَمَا هُوَ مَكْتُوبٌ: ((تَغْيِيرَاتُ مُعِيرِكَ وَقَعَتْ عَلَيَّ)). لِأَنَّ كُلَّ مَا سَبَقَ فَكُتِبَ كُتِبَ لِأَجْلِ تَعْلِيمِنَا حَتَّى بِالصَّبْرِ وَالتَّعْزِيَةِ بِمَا فِي الْكُتُبِ يَكُونُ لَنَا رَجَاءٌ. وَلْيُعْطِكُمْ إِلَهُ الصَّبْرِ وَالتَّعْزِيَةِ أَنْ تَهْتَمُّوا اهْتِمَامًا وَاحِدًا فِيمَا بَيْنَكُمْ بِحَسَبِ الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ لِكَيْ تُمَجِّدُوا اللَّهَ أَبَا رَبَّنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ بِنَفْسٍ وَاحِدَةٍ وَفَمٍ وَاحِدٍ. لِذَلِكَ اقْبَلُوا بَعْضُكُمْ بَعْضًا كَمَا أَنَّ الْمَسِيحَ أَيْضًا قَبِلَنَا لِمَجْدِ اللَّهِ.

## THE HOLY GOSPEL (St. Matthew 9:27-35)

At that time, as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed him, crying aloud, "Have mercy on us, Son of David." When he entered the house, the blind men came to him; and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to him, "Yes, Lord." Then he touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly charged them, "See that no one knows it." But they went away and spread his fame through all that district. As they were going away, behold, a dumb demoniac was brought to him. And when the demon had been cast out, the dumb man spoke; and the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel." But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons." And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people.

فِي ذَلِكَ الزَّمَانِ فِيمَا يَسُوعُ مُجْتَازًا، تَبِعَهُ أَعْمِيَانِ يَصْرَخَانِ وَيَقُولَانِ: ((ارْحَمْنَا يَا ابْنَ دَاوُدَ!)). وَلَمَّا جَاءَ إِلَى الْبَيْتِ تَقَدَّمَ إِلَيْهِ الْأَعْمِيَانِ ، فَقَالَ لَهُمَا يَسُوعُ: ((أَتُؤْمِنَانِ أَنِّي أَفْعَلُ هَذَا؟)) قَالَا لَهُ: ((نَعَمْ ، يَا سَيِّدُ!)). حِينَئِذٍ لَمَسَ أَعْيُنَهُمَا قَائِلًا: ((بِحَسَبِ إِيمَانِكُمَا لِيَكُنْ لَكُمَا)). فَانْفَتَحَتْ أَعْيُنُهُمَا. فَانْتَهَرَهُمَا يَسُوعُ قَائِلًا: ((انظُرَا ، لَا يَعْلَمُ أَحَدٌ!)) وَلَكِنَّهُمَا خَرَجَا وَأَشَاعَاهُ فِي تِلْكَ الْأَرْضِ كُلِّهَا. وَفِيمَا هُمَا خَارِجَانِ ، إِذَا إِنْسَانٌ أَحْرَسُ مَجْنُونٌ قَدَمُوهُ إِلَيْهِ. فَلَمَّا أَخْرَجَ الشَّيْطَانُ تَكَلَّمَ الْأَحْرَسُ ، فَتَعَجَّبَ الْجُمُوعُ قَائِلِينَ: ((لَمْ يَظْهَرْ قَطٌ مِثْلُ هَذَا فِي إِسْرَائِيلَ!)) أَمَّا الْفَرِيسِيُّونَ فَقَالُوا: ((بِرَبِّيسِ الشَّيَاطِينِ يُخْرِجُ الشَّيَاطِينَ!)). وَكَانَ يَسُوعُ يَطُوفُ الْمَدِينِ كُلِّهَا وَالْقُرَى يُعَلِّمُ فِي مَجَامِعِهَا ، وَيَكْرِزُ بِبِشَارَةِ الْمَلَكُوتِ ، وَيَشْفِي كُلَّ مَرَضٍ وَكُلَّ ضَعْفٍ فِي الشَّعْبِ.

Paraklisis to the Mother of God

Wednesdays & Fridays at 7:30pm (August 3, 5, 10, 12)

Dormition Fast: August 1-15

## - SUMMER REFLECTIONS -

By: Fr. Stephen Allen - Pastor of Sts. Peter & Paul Antiochian Orthodox Church, Charlottetown, PEI

**Today is the day that the Lord has made:** There is a gift from God that awaits us every morning—it is the gift of a new day. If we do not take it for granted, running thoughtlessly from one thing to the next, this new day has the potential to bring us peace, joy and closer to our Lord Jesus and those around us. Jesus and heaven are with us here and now. His powerful presence is in His Church and on earth. By His becoming Man and through His saving work (The Cross, the Grave, the Resurrection) He has sanctified the whole of creation. As we say in the Anaphora in the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil, "...He shall be all things and the first in all...". So He is present in ourselves and in everything we say and do, and in all of creation. We don't have to go anywhere to find Him. Look! He is here with us and surrounds us just like the air we breathe. Jesus is in every breath we take and every step we make—so smile—a smile shows that we are aware of God's presence. We spend so much of our time getting all the things we need to live, but then we forget to live. We work hard to move up at work or make our business a success; we work hard to put food on the table and a roof over our heads and so on. These are blessings from God but at the same time we are very poor at appreciating them in the here and now—we are always getting ready to live but then we fail to be alive in Christ. The only moment we can be with God is now—He is in the food we eat and the person we meet on the corner; He is in the sunset, moon and stars; He is in you. Christ is in every breath we take and every step we make. If we realize His presence how could we not be filled with His peace, His joy and His love. We only need to be awake and aware of His presence which "is in all places and fillest all things..." Let's stop for a moment! Right now! Stop what you are doing and breathe in "Lord Jesus Christ" breathe out "Have mercy on me"—feel that you are alive and that God is with you.

**Praying Anywhere:** The Church is a beautiful place to pray and the Sunday service gives us the strength and nourishment needed to get through the week. We need it—that is why the Bible tells us "And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together..." (Hebrews 10:24-25). But many times during the day we need to slow down and come back to God in prayer. We don't have to run to the Church or home to our Icon Corner in order to pray. We can pray anywhere, just sitting on our chair at the office or in our cars or on a park bench. Even standing in the line at the grocery store if we begin to feel the pressure of the world and need a few moments with God. Wherever we are we can pray. We all need to come back to God throughout the day in order to confront the difficulties of life. We can do it in any position—standing, sitting, lying down, or walking. We do not have to be conspicuous about praying—but St. Paul tells us, "I desire therefore that everyone pray everywhere..." (1 Timothy 2:8). Take a moment and try it. Take a deep breath and say a few words to God from your heart--do it whenever and wherever, and you will see the benefits.

St. Paisios said: "In the past our nation lived spiritually, so God blessed her, and the saints helped us in miraculous fashion. And we were victorious against our enemies, who always outnumbered us. Today we continue to call ourselves Orthodox Christians, but we don't live Orthodox lives."

# UPCOMING CHURCH FUNDRAISERS

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Please contact:**

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Church Office  
514-270-9788

NOTE: Children  
12 & under \$25.00

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**To purchase tickets for the  
Fashion Show please contact:  
Carol Maker  
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cmaker33@gmail.com  
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## Grand Hafli

Presented by: St. Nicholas Antiochian Church  
Date: Saturday, November 5th 2016  
Time: 6:30 p.m.  
Price: \$50/ per person

**New Location! New Location !**

**Nuits de Beyrouth  
965 Curé-Labelle Suite K  
Laval, Quebec**



Mezza  
Supper

Ticket #-----

100\$



Diane Majdell and St. Nicholas Church  
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**A Cocktail Fashion Show and After Party Dance**  
To benefit  
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Sunday, September 25, 2016  
5:00 pm Cocktails/Hors D'oeuvres  
6:30 pm Fashion Show  
Followed by After Party Dance and Sweet Table

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