

# 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: JULY 24, 2016 A.D.**

## **POLICE: The Courageous Men & Women who Serve and Protect our Communities**

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

With the recent deaths attributed to police shootings of unarmed black men, the nation is once again focused on what is perceived by many as overt racism within our nation's police departments. As a priest who has served my community as a police and fire chaplain for the past fifteen years, my allegiance, and my heart, are with the police departments all over the country, as they are collectively facing huge demonstrations, with all police as the focus of so much anger and resentment. At the same time, I have worked for racial equality most of my adult life, and have count many black people among my friends, over the past fifty years. During one of the regional trainings of the International Conference of Police Chaplains, a former police officer presented a seminar called "Tears Behind the Badge." This seminar was six hours long, and was designed to help chaplains spot potential suicides among police officers, and be prepared to step in and give them the help they need. As startling as it is to hear, twice as many police officers die from suicides each year, than from line of duty death. They face traumatic incidences that would drive most of us to despair, sometimes on a daily basis, and they see, in their work to protect the rest of us, the worst that society has to offer. They intervene in family disputes, rescuing women and children who are being abused, and take children into their protective arms, whose parents have died in traffic accidents. They help the old man with dementia who has wandered away from the care center. And they kiss their spouses and children goodbye before a shift, not knowing if they will ever return. They stop speeders and drunk drivers, not knowing if they will encounter a gun pointed in their direction. Police officers are, by necessity, good actors, able to mask the pain and trauma that comes with their jobs. It has been a blessing for me, as well as an honor, to work up close with these courageous men and woman who put their lives on the line, each and every day, to make our communities safe places to live and work. It has also been a source of personal pain and sorrow, for I've had to attend far too many funerals for officers who have died in the line of duty.

**(continued inside the bulletin)**

## THE HOLY EPISTLE (Romans 10:1-10)

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that it may be saved. I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but it is not enlightened. For, being ignorant of the righteousness that comes from God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. For Christ is the end of the law, that every one who has faith may be justified. Moses writes that the man who practices the righteousness which is based on the law shall live by it. But the righteousness based on faith says, Do not say in your heart, "Who will ascend into heaven?" (that is, to bring Christ down) or "Who will descend into the abyss?" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart (that is, the word of faith which we preach); because, if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For man believes with his heart and so is justified, and he confesses with his lips and so is saved.

يَا إِخْوَةَ، إِنَّ مَسْرَّةَ قَلْبِي وَطَلْبَتِي إِلَى اللَّهِ لِأَجْلِ إِسْرَائِيلَ هِيَ لِلْخَلَاصِ. لِأَنِّي أَشْهَدُ لَهُمْ أَنَّ لَهُمْ غَيْرَةَ لِلَّهِ وَلَكِنْ لَيْسَ حَسَبَ الْمَعْرِفَةِ. لِأَنَّهُمْ إِذْ كَانُوا يَجْهَلُونَ بِرِ اللَّهِ وَيَطْلُبُونَ أَنْ يُثْبِتُوا بِرَّ أَنْفُسِهِمْ لَمْ يَخْضَعُوا لِبِرِّ اللَّهِ. لِأَنَّ غَايَةَ النَّامُوسِ هِيَ: الْمَسِيحُ لِلْبِرِّ لِكُلِّ مَنْ يُؤْمِنُ. لِأَنَّ مُوسَى يَكْتُبُ فِي الْبِرِّ الَّذِي بِالنَّامُوسِ: ((إِنَّ الْإِنْسَانَ الَّذِي يَفْعَلُهَا سَيَحْيَا بِهَا)). وَأَمَّا الْبِرُّ الَّذِي بِالْإِيمَانِ فَيَقُولُ هَكَذَا: ((لَا تَقُلْ فِي قَلْبِكَ مَنْ يَصْعَدُ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ؟)) أَيْ لِيُحْدِثَ الْمَسِيحَ، أَوْ ((مَنْ يَهْبِطُ إِلَى الْهَوَايَةِ؟)) أَيْ لِيُصْعِدَ الْمَسِيحَ مِنَ الْأَمْوَاتِ لَكِنْ مَاذَا يَقُولُ؟ ((الْكَلِمَةُ قَرِيبَةٌ مِنْكَ فِي فَمِكَ وَفِي قَلْبِكَ)) أَيْ كَلِمَةُ الْإِيمَانِ الَّتِي نَكْرُزُ بِهَا لِأَنَّكَ إِنْ اعْتَرَفْتَ بِفَمِكَ بِالرَّبِّ يَسُوعَ وَآمَنْتَ بِقَلْبِكَ أَنَّ اللَّهَ أَقَامَهُ مِنَ الْأَمْوَاتِ خَلَصْتَ. لِأَنَّ الْقَلْبَ يُؤْمِنُ بِهِ لِلْبِرِّ وَالْفَمَ يُعْتَرِفُ بِهِ لِلْخَلَاصِ.

## THE HOLY GOSPEL (St. Matthew 8:28-34, 9:1)

At that time, when Jesus came to the other side, to the country of the Gergesenes, two demoniacs met him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce that no one would pass that way. And behold, they cried out, "What have you to do with us, O Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?" Now a herd of many swine was feeding at some distance from them. And the demons begged him, "If you cast us out, send us away into the herd of swine." And he said to them, "Go." So they came out and went into the swine; and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and perished in the waters. The herdsmen fled, and going into the city they told everything, and what had happened to the demoniacs. And behold, all the city came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw him, they begged him to leave their neighbourhood. And getting into a boat he crossed over and came to his own city.

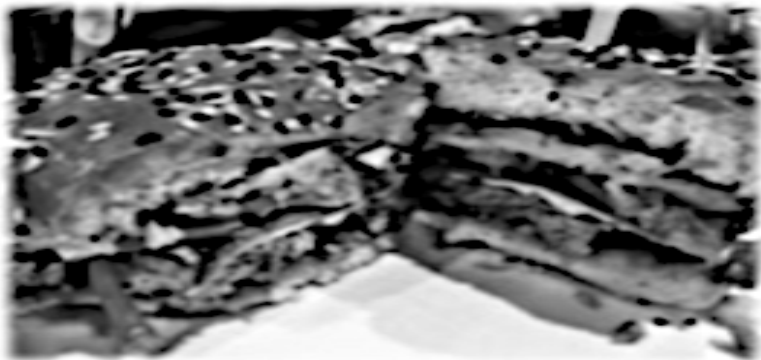
فِي ذَلِكَ الزَّمَانِ لَمَّا جَاءَ يَسُوعُ إِلَى الْعَبْرِ إِلَى كُورَةِ الْجِرْجَسِيِّينَ، اسْتَقْبَلَهُ مَجْنُونَانِ خَارِجَانِ مِنَ الْقُبُورِ هَائِجَانِ جِدًّا، حَتَّى لَمْ يَكُنْ أَحَدٌ يَقْدِرُ أَنْ يَجْتَازَ مِنْ تِلْكَ الطَّرِيقِ. وَإِذَا هُمَا قَدْ صَرَخَا قَائِلِينَ: ((مَا لَنَا يَا يَسُوعَ ابْنِ اللَّهِ؟ أَجِئْتَ إِلَى هُنَا قَبْلَ الْوَقْتِ لِتُعَذِّبَنَا؟)) وَكَانَ بَعِيدًا مِنْهُمْ قَطِيعُ خَنَازِيرَ كَثِيرَةٍ تَرَعَى. فَالشَّيَاطِينُ طَلَبُوا إِلَيْهِ قَائِلِينَ: ((إِنْ كُنْتَ تُخْرِجُنَا، فَادْنُ لَنَا أَنْ نَذْهَبَ إِلَى قَطِيعِ الْخَنَازِيرِ)). فَقَالَ لَهُمْ: ((امْضُوا)). فَخَرَجُوا وَمَضُوا إِلَى قَطِيعِ الْخَنَازِيرِ، وَإِذَا قَطِيعُ الْخَنَازِيرِ كُلُّهُ قَدْ اندَفَعَ مِنْ عَلَى الْجُرْفِ إِلَى الْبَحْرِ وَمَاتَ فِي الْمِيَاهِ. أَمَّا الرُّعَاةُ فَهَرَبُوا وَمَضُوا إِلَى الْمَدِينَةِ، وَأَخْبَرُوا عَنْ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ، وَعَنْ أَمْرِ الْمَجْنُونِينَ. فَإِذَا كُلُّ الْمَدِينَةِ قَدْ خَرَجَتْ لِمُلَاقَاةِ يَسُوعَ. وَلَمَّا أَبْصَرُوهُ طَلَبُوا أَنْ يَنْصَرِفَ عَنْ تَحُومِهِمْ. فَدَخَلَ السَّفِينَةَ وَاجْتَازَ وَجَاءَ إِلَى مَدِينَتِهِ.

“The person who loves God, cannot help loving every man as himself”

St. Maximos the Confessor - 7th century AD

**(continuing)** Like police officers, chaplains minister to people whose lives have been turned upside down, with the loss of a child, the death of a spouse, the trauma of a fatal car accident, or a homicide. Like police officers, chaplains hold children whose parents have been killed, and comfort the old woman whose husband of sixty years has died. We chaplains suffer, as do police officers, when one of them makes a mistake in judgement that leaves an innocent person dead. The recent shooting deaths of five officers in Texas has brought home the innate danger of this profession, and the children and spouses of police officers are now overwhelmed with the fear their precious loved one will not come home, all because they all stand accused when one officer makes a bad judgement call, and shoots an innocent person. The pain, sorrow, anger and outrage felt by so many black people following the death of innocent members of their community is understandable. Who among us wouldn't want to lash out in anger at the perceived source of a racism that would target members of the black community. Who among us, if we be serious about our common bond as humans, can refrain from lashing out at injustice in a country that has battled racist roots yet to be uprooted? Yet we must be careful not to paint a whole profession of men and women with one brush stroke, and thus turn them all into racist killers. To do so would be no different than to paint all clergy as pedophiles, for the sins of a few. At the heart of this problem is the fact that human beings working in the most difficult of professions, can make terrible, life changing errors of judgement, and in a moment of time, leave a grieving family without a beloved son, husband, father, all the while depriving another family (that of the police officer) of their loved one as well. The answer, I believe, is for all of us to step out of our comfort zones, and learn to respect, even love, those who are of a different culture or skin tone. I am reminded of the time I was walking in downtown Seattle, and saw three young black men approaching from the opposite direction. That they were all wearing "hoodies" marked them as a danger to an old white man such as myself, yet I know the absurdity of such thinking. Just as we were parallel with one another, I looked directly at them, and with a big smile I said, "isn't this a beautiful day?". One of them tried to come up with a polite way of asking me what I was, and, noting he was wearing a Seahawks hat, I said, "are you asking if I am a Seahawks fan? Well yes, I am". Hearing these words from the old man, they all laughed, and one of them gave me a hug. Let us all try to reach out to others we encounter, be they a black person, or a police officer. Let us make it a habit of letting others know by our actions that we regard them as family, regardless of their color or religion. Let us make it a practice to thank police officers for their service to the community. Let us learn to smile at everyone we encounter, and not allow ourselves to remain aloof from others who share God's image and likeness. And, let us pray for our police officers, our fire fighters, our military personnel, our nation, and all good people who struggle for the pursuit of happiness.

**St Nicholas SOYO & YAM Present**



**Gourmet  
Burger**

**BBQ**

**\$15**

**Sunday July 31<sup>st</sup> at 12:30 PM**

**80 de Castelnau St. East, Montreal, QC H2R 1P2**

# UPCOMING CHURCH FUNDRAISERS

**To purchase tickets for the Grand Hafli Please contact:**

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514-344-0550  
Salwa Abouassaly  
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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**  
**514-335-4372**  
**cmaker33@gmail.com**

## 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  
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Mezza  
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To benefit  
**St. Nicholas Orthodox Church**  
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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