

ST. NICHOLAS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

كنيسة القديس نيقولاوس الانطاكية الأرثوذكسية

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

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

514-270-9788 office@stnicholasmtl.org www.stnicholasmtl.com

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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: MARCH 20, 2016 A.D.



Pastoral Message for the Great Fast from Metropolitan JOSEPH

"Thy grace hath risen, O Lord and the illumination of our souls hath shown forth. Lo, now is the acceptable time; the season of repentance hath come. Let us cast down the works of darkness, and put on the works of light, that we may pass the great tempest of fasting and reach the summit of the third day Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the Savior of our souls." (from the Aposticha of the Vesper Service for the Evening of Cheese Fare)

We greet you with anticipation as we embark on the Holy Season of the Great Fast in preparation for the Glorious Resurrection of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ. The beautiful verse above embodies the true spirit of the Lenten Season as we begin our journey to draw nearer to God so that we may worthily rejoice in His Resurrection. We are called to "cast down the works of darkness, and put on the works of light". We are all aware that the world in which we live presents us many opportunities to participate in darkness, that is, all pursuits which draw us away from God and are displeasing to Him. These are the works of Satan and his followers who despise the light, for the light shines brightly and reveals them as pure evil. But our Lord Jesus Christ is the True Light, and He has declared that we are "the light of the world." (Matthew 5:14). Why does the verse above refer to this season as the "great tempest of fasting"? A tempest is defined to be a violent and windy storm, and that is what we expect to experience if we truly follow a path of sincere repentance during this season. If we are sincere in this journey we will find ourselves tested in sometimes severe ways, since Satan will not let go of us without a serious battle. If we do not feel weary during this journey, then we are not trying hard enough. But this not a weariness of despair, but a weariness of hope, for we know that at the end of this journey, we will bask in the glory of the Light of the Empty Tomb. We convey our most heartfelt love to you as we stand on the threshold of this most solemn season and we ask our loving God to bless you and grant to you a most spiritually rewarding journey of repentance.

THE HOLY EPISTLE (Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-40)

Brethren, by faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to share ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets -- who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign enemies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated -- of whom the world was not worthy -- wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

يَا إِخْوَةَ، بِالْإِيمَانِ مُوسَى لَمَّا كَبِرَ أَبِي أَنْ يُدْعَى ابْنَ ابْنَةِ فِرْعَوْنَ، مَفْضُلاً بِالْأَحْرَى أَنْ يُذَلَّ مَعَ شَعْبِ اللَّهِ عَلَى أَنْ يَكُونَ لَهُ تَمَتُّعٌ وَقَتِيٌّ بِالْخَطِيئَةِ، حَاسِباً عَارَ الْمَسِيحِ غِنَى أَعْظَمَ مِنْ خَزَائِنِ مِصْرَ، لِأَنَّهُ كَانَ يَنْظُرُ إِلَى الْمَجَازَاةِ وَمَاذَا أَقُولُ أَيْضاً؟ لِأَنَّهُ يُعَوِّزُنِي الْوَقْتُ إِنْ أَخْبَرْتُ عَنْ جِدْعُونَ، وَبَارَاقَ، وَشَمْشُونَ، وَيِفْتَاحَ، وَدَاوُدَ، وَصَمُوئِيلَ، وَالْأَنْبِيَاءَ، الَّذِينَ بِالْإِيمَانِ قَهَرُوا مَمَالِكَ، صَنَعُوا بَرّاً، نَالُوا مَوَاعِيدَ، سَدُّوا أَفْوَاهَ أَسْوَدٍ، أَطْفَأُوا قُوَّةَ النَّارِ، نَجَّوْا مِنْ حَدِّ السَّيْفِ، تَقَوَّوْا مِنْ ضَعْفٍ، صَارُوا أَشِدَاءَ فِي الْحَرْبِ، هَزَمُوا جُيُوشَ غُرَبَاءَ، أَخَذَتْ نِسَاءٌ أَمْوَاتَهُنَّ بِقِيَامَةٍ. وَآخَرُونَ عَذَّبُوا وَلَمْ يَقْبَلُوا النَّجَاةَ لِكَيْ يَنَالُوا قِيَامَةً أَفْضَلَ. وَآخَرُونَ تَجَرَّبُوا فِي هَزْءٍ وَجَلْدٍ، ثُمَّ فِي قَيْودٍ أَيْضاً وَحَبْسٍ. رُجِمُوا، نُشِرُوا، جُرِّبُوا، مَاتُوا قَتلاً بِالسَّيْفِ، طَافُوا فِي جُلُودٍ غَنَمٍ وَجُلُودٍ مِعْزَى، مُعْتَازِينَ مَكْرُوبِينَ مُذَلِّينَ، وَهُمْ لَمْ يَكُنِ الْعَالَمُ مُسْتَحِقّاً لَهُمْ. تَابَهُنَّ فِي بَرَارِيٍّ وَجِبَالٍ وَمَغَايِرَ وَشُقُوقِ الْأَرْضِ. فَهَؤُلَاءِ كُلُّهُمْ، مَشْهُوداً لَهُمْ بِالْإِيمَانِ، لَمْ يَنَالُوا الْمَوْعِدَ، إِذْ سَبَقَ اللَّهُ فَنظَرَ لَنَا شَيْئاً أَفْضَلَ، لِكَيْ لَا يُكْمَلُوا بِدُونِنَا.

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 elevator room next to the Narthex, and it will also be set-up downstairs during the Coffee Hour. For more information, please contact Hana Abou Assaleh Rahhal (514-953-4220).

Mid-Lenten Luncheon

Sunday, April 3, 2016 at 1:00pm

A Generous Variety of Delicious Lenten Food & an
Afternoon of Great Fellowship!

Limited amount of tickets are remaining!

Tickets: \$25/Adult — \$10/Children 12 & under

Contact: Sylvia Mefrige (514-344-0550)

\$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. John 1:43-51)

At that time, Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And he found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael, and he said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."

في ذلك الزمان كان فيلبس من بيت صيدا، من مدينة أندراوس وبطرس. فيلبس وجد نثنائيل وقال له: ((وجدنا الذي كتب عنه موسى في الناموس والأنبياء يسوع ابن يوسف الذي من الناصرة)). فقال له نثنائيل: ((أمن الناصرة يمكن أن يكون شيء صالح؟)) قال له فيلبس: ((تعال وانظر)). ورأى يسوع نثنائيل مقبلاً إليه، فقال عنه: ((هوذا إسرائيلي حقا لا غش فيه)). قال له نثنائيل: ((من أين تعرفني؟)) أجاب يسوع وقال له: ((قبل أن دعاك فيلبس وأنت تحت التينة، رأيته)). أجاب نثنائيل وقال له: ((يا معلم، أنت ابن الله! أنت ملك إسرائيل!)) أجاب يسوع وقال له: ((هل آمنت لأنني قلت لك إنني رأيته تحت التينة؟ سوف ترى أعظم من هذا!)) وقال له: ((الحق الحق أقول لكم: من الآن ترون السماء مفتوحة، وملائكة الله يصعدون وينزلون على ابن الإنسان)).

Today is **SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY**, and we will have our annual indoor Procession with Icons involving all our Youth. Hold up our favourite Icon from home and encourage our youth!

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

- * Jo-Ann Moufrage Saulters (1st year). Offered by the Family
- * Ernest Habib (14th year); Nelly Habib, Michel, Helene and Mireille Matouk. Offered by Emy and Joseph Matouk.
- * Hanna Rahhal (25th year); Georgette, Dalal, Violette & Michael. Offered by his son Imad and Family.
- * Ibrahim Salloum (2nd year); Almas Salloum. Offered by the Family.
- * Philip Aziz (13th year); Fouad Shaheen & Nabeeha Shaar. Offered by Elaine Aziz.

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS - SCHOLARSHIPS:

- Antiochian Orthodox Union of Canada -

Instructions: You have to be a full time student in a Quebec university approved by the Ministère de l'Éducation du Québec; Be a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident; You or your parents are members of on Antiochian Orthodox parish; A copy of this completed application (on the St. Nicholas Church Website - www.stnicholasmtl.com); Your application has to be submitted with the following documents: Copy of the document proving your status in Canada; Copy of a proof of admission to a full time university program; Copy of the academic results during the last two years; Copy of the latest Revenue Canada assessment.

The completed documents should be mailed to the Union before March 31, 2016

The Application Form can be found on the St. Nicholas Church Website.

+ 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 & Mid-Lenten Luncheon)
- * 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 Russia: Healing Spring of St. Seraphim
- * 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 the Life-Giving Font in Constantinople
- * 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 - Bright Monday & Feast of St. George - Divine Liturgy with Bishop Alexander & Montreal Clergy at St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church. (Exact morning time will be announced later)
- * **NOTE: the above Anointings & Holy Water will ONLY be administered at those times, book the dates from now!**