

"Struggle with all your power to gain Paradise. And do not listen to those who say that everyone will be saved. This is a trap of Satan so that we won't struggle"

St. Paisios of Mt. Athos

BALAMAND  
MONASTERY

## ST. NICHOLAS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



كنيسة القديس نيقولاوس  
الانطاكية الأرثوذكسية

**His Beatitude Patriarch JOHN X** صاحب الغبطة البطريرك يوحنا العاشر

Greek Orthodox Patriarch of Antioch and all the East

**The Most Reverend Metropolitan JOSEPH** صاحب السيادة المتروبوليت جوزيف

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of All North America  
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

**The Right Reverend Bishop ALEXANDER** صاحب السيادة الأسقف الكسندر

Diocese of Ottawa, Eastern Canada and Upstate New York

**The Reverend Father Mark Wyatt** قدس الأب مارك ويات

Pastor of St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Church

### Contact us:

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

514-270-9788 office@stnicholasmtl.org

[www.stnicholasmtl.com](http://www.stnicholasmtl.com)

Follow us on FACEBOOK!

**Saturdays:** Great Vespers

7:00pm-8:00pm

Confessions by Appointment

**Sundays:** Orthros & Divine Liturgy

9:00am-12:00pm

SUNDAY BULLETIN: SEPTEMBER 18, 2016 A.D.

لنصلي من  
أجلهما

For Metropolitan Boulos, Archbishop John, and for their quick release from captivity and safe return, let us pray to the Lord.

## THE HOLY EPISTLE (Galatians 2:16-20)

Brethren, you know that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

يَا إِخْوَةَ، نَعْلَمُ أَنَّ الْإِنْسَانَ لَا يَتَبَرَّرُ بِأَعْمَالِ النَّامُوسِ، بَلْ بِإِيْمَانِ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ، أَمَّا نَحْنُ أَيْضًا بِيسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ، لِنَتَبَرَّرَ بِإِيْمَانِ يَسُوعَ لَا بِأَعْمَالِ النَّامُوسِ. لِأَنَّهُ بِأَعْمَالِ النَّامُوسِ لَا يَتَبَرَّرُ جَسَدٌ مَا. فَإِنْ كُنَّا وَنَحْنُ طَالِبُونَ أَنْ نَتَبَرَّرَ فِي الْمَسِيحِ نَوْجِدُ نَحْنُ أَنْفُسَنَا أَيْضًا خُطَاةً، أَفَالْمَسِيحُ خَارِمٌ لِلْخَطِيئَةِ؟ حَاشَا! فَإِنِّي إِنْ كُنْتُ أَبْنِي أَيْضًا هَذَا الَّذِي قَدْ هَدَمْتُهُ، فَإِنِّي أَظْهَرُ نَفْسِي مُتَعَدِّيًا. لِأَنِّي مِتُّ بِالنَّامُوسِ لِلنَّامُوسِ لِأَحْيَا لِلَّهِ. مَعَ الْمَسِيحِ صُلِبْتُ، فَأَحْيَا لَا أَنَا بَلِ الْمَسِيحُ يَحْيَا فِيَّ. فَمَا أَحْيَاهُ الْآنَ فِي الْجَسَدِ فَإِنَّمَا أَحْيَاهُ فِي الْإِيْمَانِ، إِيْمَانِ ابْنِ اللَّهِ، الَّذِي أَحْبَبَنِي وَأَسْلَمَ نَفْسَهُ لِأَجْلِي.

## THE HOLY GOSPEL (St. Mark 8:34-38; 9:1)

The Lord said: "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."

فِي ذَلِكَ الزَّمَانِ دَعَا يسوعُ الْجَمْعَ مَعَ تَلَامِيذِهِ وَقَالَ لَهُمْ: ((مَنْ أَرَادَ أَنْ يَأْتِيَ وَرَائِي فَلْيُنْكِرْ نَفْسَهُ وَيَحْمِلْ صَلِيبَهُ وَيَتَّبِعْنِي. فَإِنَّ مَنْ أَرَادَ أَنْ يَخْلُصَ نَفْسَهُ يُهْلِكُهَا، وَمَنْ يُهْلِكُ نَفْسَهُ مِنْ أَجْلِ وَمِنْ أَجْلِ الْإِنْجِيلِ فَهُوَ يُخَلِّصُهَا. لِأَنَّهُ مَاذَا يَنْتَفِعُ الْإِنْسَانُ لَوْ رَجَحَ الْعَالَمَ كُلَّهُ وَخَسِرَ نَفْسَهُ؟ أَوْ مَاذَا يُعْطِي الْإِنْسَانُ فِدَاءً عَن نَفْسِهِ؟ لِأَنَّ مَنْ اسْتَحَى بِي وَبِكَلَامِي فِي هَذَا الْجِيلِ الْفَاسِقِ الْخَاطِئِ، فَإِنَّ ابْنَ الْإِنْسَانِ يَسْتَحِي بِهِ مَتَى جَاءَ بِمَجْدِ أَبِيهِ مَعَ الْمَلَائِكَةِ الْقَدِيسِينَ)). وَقَالَ لَهُمْ: ((الْحَقُّ أَقُولُ لَكُمْ: إِنَّ مِنَ الْقِيَامِ هَهُنَا قَوْمًا لَا يَدُوقُونَ الْمَوْتَ حَتَّى يَرَوْا مَلَكُوتَ اللَّهِ قَدْ أَتَى بِقُوَّةٍ)).

THANK YOU! To our Antiochian Women for hosting a fabulous Lenten Supper on the eve of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, in honour of the first visit of H.E. Metropolitan JOSEPH to our parish. We enjoyed a 4-hour long Church service with Sayedna Joseph and 8 Priests! The Church was full and all 3 of our Church Choirs chanted beautifully together. H.E. Metropolitan Joseph is in Montreal for a 10-day Archpastoral visit to our 3 parishes. He leaves tomorrow back to the Archdiocese headquarters in New Jersey and we wish him safe travels and ask for his prayers. Thank you also to ALL parishioners who contributed & participated that evening and to those who made the effort to come out and be with us! Thank you all! (Fr. Mark)

NOTE: Next Saturday only, September 24 – Vespers @ 6:00pm

**NEW ARRIVALS TO OUR LITTLE CHURCH BOUTIQUE!  
PRAYER ROPE BRACELETS, ICON BRACELETS & MORE!**

# The Problem of Evil in God's Creation

By: Abbot Tryphon of All Merciful Saviour Orthodox Monastery - Washington

We've all read news reports of horrid cases of people being imprisoned for long periods of time by perverted individuals who have been later diagnosed as classic psychopaths. By definition, psychopaths are individuals who are hateful towards others, and incapable of empathy. Sometimes known as Dissocial Personality Disorder, or Narcissistic Personality Disorder (alternate terms for sociopathic behaviour), these people are callous individuals, who are unconcerned for the feelings of others. There is a lot of clinical evidence that points to a biological grounding for the uncaring nature of the psychopath. Since caring is a largely emotion-driven enterprise, it has been found that the brains of psychopaths have weak connections among the components of the brain's emotional systems. Such disconnects make it impossible for the psychopath to feel emotions deeply. Disgust, as an emotion, plays an important role on our sense of ethics, and normal people find certain types of unethical actions disgusting, something that keeps them from engaging in cruel treatment of other people. But psychopaths, when shown disgusting photos of mutilated faces and when exposed to foul odors, have extremely high thresholds for disgust. In rarer cases, the psychopathic personality can be the result of having suffered an extremely abusive childhood. Psychopaths, because they have an inability to empathize with others, are unable to feel the emotion of love. Simply put, psychopaths are not able to participate in normal, loving relationships that bound people together, as family, friends, and fellow human beings. Thus the question arises for the Christian, how can a person who does not have the ability to love, love God? And, if such a person is incapable of loving God, how can they escape eternal hell fire, since it is in this life that we are expected to prepare ourselves for an eternity in the presence of an All Holy God. If a psychopath is incapable of loving God, can we even say such a person was created in the image and likeness of God, Who is love? How can God have even allowed such a person be born, for does not this birth give life to someone who is totally incapable of gaining salvation? Wouldn't such a birth be a violation of free will? This question can equally be posed regarding the child born without a brain, or someone born without any cognitive abilities. Such abnormalities in God's creation are ultimately the result, not of God's will, but the result of the fall. The Scriptures identify sociopathic and psychopathic behavior as among the severest moral and spiritual effects of man's fall into sin. Jesus described such sins as arising from evil hearts (Mark 7:20-23), and the holy apostle Paul identified godlessness as the root of such a deadly heart (Romans 1:28-32). In the psychopath we see the worst characteristics of sinful man's nature, the worst effects of both genetic and environmental moral degradation. The New Testament does not offer specifics on how a Christian society should deal with such serious problems. The Church's teachings about morality and immorality of every kind, and her hopeful appeals and invitations to repentance, conversion, and transformed life in Christ, certainly apply to a psychopath as to any sinner. Saint Paul, describing conduct that included psychopathic characteristics, wrote to one congregation of believers in Jesus Christ, "Such were some of you" (1 Corinthians 6:9-11). As Orthodox Christians, we know that God is able to rescue and restore to righteousness the most corrupt heart. Because of this, it is possible for even a psychopath to be healed, and to come into a transformational relationship with the Living God. Yet, ultimately, much of this will remain a mystery to us, until that great day when we stand in the presence of God, and all is revealed to us. I believe culpability is the primary factor. God will not damn someone for things outside of their control.

# UPCOMING CHURCH FUNDRAISERS

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

Sylvia Mefrige  
514-344-0550  
Salwa Abouassaly  
514-337-6779  
Hala Zakaib  
514-748-0882  
Hana Rahhal  
514-953-4220  
Church Office  
514-270-9788

NOTE: Children 12 & under \$25.00

\*\*\*\*\*

**To purchase tickets for the Fashion Show please contact:  
Carol Maker  
514-335-4372  
cmaker33@gmail.com  
or the Church Office**

## 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  
present  
**A Cocktail Fashion Show and After Party Dance**  
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

**Le Loft Hotel**  
314 Sherbrooke St. East,  
Montreal H2X 1E6  
Free Parking on Street

#000