

# 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-1:00pm

BULLETIN: MARCH 6, 2016 A.D.

## BIRTH CONTROL & THE ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN COUPLE

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

Marriage, for the Orthodox Christian, is to have as it's foundation, Jesus Christ, and a commitment to live in full communion with the Church. When a couple are joined together in this mystical (sacramental) union with one another, they become one flesh, and begin their relationship as one. The crowning ceremony in the Orthodox service symbolizes martyrdom of self and a commitment to sacrifice self-will for the good of the marriage.

Marriage is not about sexual gratification, although sexual intimacy is an important component of any healthy marriage. But the intimacy of the marriage bed must be open to the possibility of having children. **The Church allows no form of contraception that is abortifacient**, and the Fathers of the Church, such as Ss. Athanasius the Great, John Chrysostom, Epiphanius, Jerome, Ambrose, Augustine of Hippo, Caesarius, Gregory the Great, Augustine of Canterbury and Maximus the Confessor, all explicitly condemned abortion as well as the use of abortifacients. The bottom line is that a Christian couple must be open to having children. A couple who would choose to have no children, or limit the number of children based on a desire for financial and lifestyle security, forgo the joy that only children can bring to a Christian marriage. Birth control should never be based on selfish motives, or the desire to live a more comfortable lifestyle. This life is not meant for personal gratification, nor personal gain, but that we might give glory and worship to God in all we do.

## THE HOLY EPISTLE (1 Corinthians 8:8-13, 9:1-2)

Brethren, food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. Only take care lest this liberty of yours somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if any one sees you, a man of knowledge, at table in an idol's temple, might he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? And so by your knowledge this weak man is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. Thus, sinning against your brethren and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of my brother's falling, I will never eat meat, lest I cause my brother to fall. Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are not you my workmanship in the Lord? If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

يَا إِخْوَةَ، إِنَّ الطَّعَامَ لَا يُقَدِّمُنَا إِلَى اللَّهِ لِأَنَّنا إِنَّا أَكَلْنَا لَا نَزِيدُ وَإِنْ لَمْ نَأْكُلْ لَا نَنْقُصُ. وَلَكِنْ انظُرُوا لئَلَّا يَصِيرَ سُلْطَانُكُمْ هَذَا مَعْتَرَةً لِلضَّعْفَاءِ. لِأَنَّهُ إِنْ رَأَى أَحَدٌ يَا مَنْ لَهُ عِلْمٌ مَتَّكِنًا فِي هَيْكَلٍ وَثِنْ أَفْلا يَتَّقَوِي ضَمِيرَهُ إِذْ هُوَ ضَعِيفٌ حَتَّى يَأْكُلَ مَا ذُبِحَ لِلْأَوْثَانِ؟ فَيَهْلِكُ بِسَبَبِ عِلْمِكَ الْأَخِ الضَّعِيفِ الَّذِي مَاتَ الْمَسِيحُ مِنْ أَجْلِهِ. وَهَكَذَا إِذْ تُخْطِئُونَ إِلَى الْإِخْوَةِ وَتَجْرَحُونَ ضَمِيرَهُمْ الضَّعِيفِ تُخْطِئُونَ إِلَى الْمَسِيحِ. لِذَلِكَ إِنْ كَانَ طَعَامٌ يُعْزِرُ أَخِي فَلَنْ أَكُلَ لَحْمًا إِلَى الْأَبَدِ لئَلَّا أُعْزِرَ أَخِي. أَلَسْتُ أَنَا رَسُولًا؟ أَلَسْتُ أَنَا حُرًّا؟ أَمَا رَأَيْتَ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحَ رَبَّنَا؟ أَلَسْتُمْ أَنْتُمْ عَمَلِي فِي الرَّبِّ؟ إِنْ كُنْتُ لَسْتُ رَسُولًا إِلَى آخَرِينَ فَإِنَّمَا أَنَا إِلَيْكُمْ رَسُولٌ لِأَنَّكُمْ أَنْتُمْ حَتْمَ رِسَالَتِي فِي الرَّبِّ.

## MARCH IS ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN'S MONTH!

### 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](http://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.**

### \* Gourmet Lamb Lunch \*

Braised Lamb with Fingerling Potatoes, a Salad and Ice Cream - Hosted by our Young Adult Ministry (YAM) on Meat-Fare Sunday, March 6, 2016 — Ticket \$20/each — Contact Rudy Tabcharani (514-813-0696) or Carol Maker (514-335-4372)

## *Annual Mid-Lenten Luncheon*

**Sunday, April 3, 2016 at 1:00pm**

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

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

Contact: Sylvia Mefrige (514-344-0550)

## **\$100 RAFFLE**

Tuesday, May 31 2016

**500 Tickets**

**& More Cash Prizes.**

Call the Church Office  
or Sylvia Mefrige (514-344-0550)

## THE HOLY GOSPEL (St. Matthew 25:31-46)

The Lord said, "When the Son of man comes in his glory and all the holy angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will place the sheep at his right hand, but the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to me.' And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

قال الرب متى جاء ابن الإنسان في مجده وجميع الملائكة القديسين معه، فحينئذ يجلس على كرسي مجده. ويجمع أمامه جميع الشعوب، فيميز بعضهم من بعض كما يميز الراعي الخراف من الجداء، فيقيم الخراف عن يمينه والجداء عن اليسار. ثم يقول الملك للذين عن يمينه: تعالوا يا مباركي أبي، رثوا الملكوت المعد لكم منذ تأسيس العالم. لأنني جعت فأطعمتموني. عطشت فسقيتموني. كنت غريباً فأويتموني. عزياناً فكسوتموني. مريضاً فرزتموني. محبوساً فأتيتم إلي. فيجيبه الأبرار حينئذ قائلين: يا رب، متى رأيناك جائعاً فأطعمناك، أو عطشاناً فسقيناك؟ ومتى رأيناك غريباً فأويتنا، أو عزياناً فكسوناك؟ ومتى رأيناك مريضاً أو محبوساً فأتينا إليك؟ فيجيب الملك ويقول لهم: الحق أقول لكم: بما أنكم فعلتموه بأحد إخوتي هؤلاء الأصاغر، فبني فعلتم. ((ثم يقول أيضاً للذين عن اليسار: اذهبوا عني يا ملاعين إلى النار الأبدية المعدة لإبليس وملائكته، لأنني جعت فلم تطعموني. عطشت فلم تسقوني. كنت غريباً فلم تأوؤني. عزياناً فلم تكسوني. مريضاً ومحبوساً فلم تزوروني. حينئذ يجيبونهم أيضاً قائلين: يا رب متى رأيناك جائعاً أو عطشاناً أو غريباً أو عزياناً أو مريضاً أو محبوساً ولم نخدمك؟ فيجيبهم قائلًا: الحق أقول لكم: بما أنكم لم تفعلوه بأحد هؤلاء الأصاغر فبني لم تفعلوا. فيمضي هؤلاء إلى عذاب أبدي والأبرار إلى حياة أبدية)).

### - LENTEN GIFT TO THE ALTAR (2ND REQUEST) -

**IN OUR CHRISTMAS MAILING WE SENT OUT A FORM TO BECOME A 2016 SPONSOR FOR THE ALTAR. DON'T MISS OUT! CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE TO ARRANGE YOUR \$200 SPONSORSHIP & THE PUBLICATION OF YOUR FAMILY MEMBERS' NAMES (LIVING & DEPARTED). THANK YOU!**

"... Christ said, 'Whoever shall say to his brother "You fool" shall be guilty enough to go to the hell of fire' (Mt. 5:22). If, then, you can eradicate this evil, calling down upon your soul the benediction of gentleness, then glorify Christ, the teacher and ministrant of every virtue, without whom, as we have been taught, we can do nothing good. But if you are unable to bridle your temper, censure yourself whenever you lose it, and repent before God and before anyone to whom you have spoken or have acted evilly. If you repent at the inception of sin you will not commit the sin itself; but if you feel no pang in committing minor offences you will through them fall into major transgressions."

+ St. Gregory Palamas

# + 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!**