



كنيسة مار نقولا الانطاكية الارثوذكسية

St. Nicholas Weekly Bulletin

Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church

Antiochian Archdiocese of North America

Diocese of Los Angeles and the West

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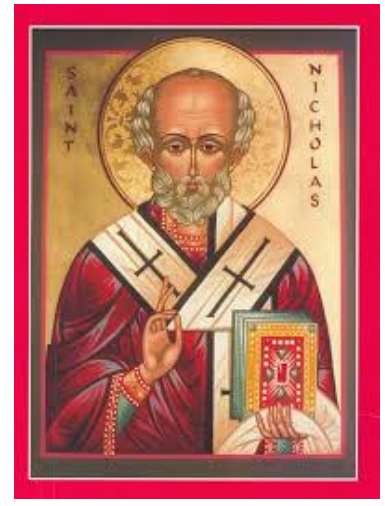
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Sunday, May 31st, 2015 The Great Feast of Pentecost / أحد العنصرة

THE EPISTLE: the Acts of the Apostles. (2:1-11) When the day of Pentecost had come, the Disciples were all together in one place. And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. And they were amazed and wondered, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians, we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God."

الرسالة: أعمال الرسل 2: 1-11 لَمَّا حَلَّ يَوْمُ الْخَمْسِينَ كَانَ الرِّسْلُ كُلُّهُمْ مَعًا فِي مَكَانٍ وَاحِدٍ. فَحَدَّثَ بَغْتَةً صَوْتٌ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ كَصَوْتِ رِيحٍ شَدِيدَةٍ تَعَسَفُ، وَمَلَأَ كُلَّ الْبَيْتِ الَّذِي كَانُوا جَالِسِينَ فِيهِ. وَظَهَرَتْ لَهُمْ أَلْسِنَةٌ مُتَقَسِّمَةٌ كَأَنَّهَا مِنْ نَارٍ فَاسْتَقَرَّتْ عَلَى كُلِّ وَاحِدٍ مِنْهُمْ. فَامْتَلَأُوا كُلُّهُمْ مِنَ الرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ وَطَفَفُوا يَتَكَلَّمُونَ بِلُغَاتٍ أُخْرَى كَمَا أَعْطَاهُمُ الرُّوحُ أَنْ يَنْطَقُوا. وَكَانَ فِي أُورُشَلِيمَ رِجَالٌ يَهُودٌ أَتَقِيَاءُ مِنْ كُلِّ أُمَّةٍ تَحْتَ السَّمَاءِ. فَلَمَّا صَارَ هَذَا الصَّوْتُ اجْتَمَعَ الْجُمْهُورُ فَتَحَيَّرُوا لِأَنَّ كُلَّ وَاحِدٍ كَانَ يَسْمَعُهُمْ يَنْطَقُونَ بِلُغَتِهِ. فَدَهَشُوا جَمِيعَهُمْ وَتَعَجَّبُوا قَائِلِينَ بَعْضُهُمْ لِبَعْضٍ: أَلَيْسَ هَؤُلَاءِ الْمُتَكَلِّمُونَ كُلُّهُمْ جَلِيلِيِّينَ؟ فَكَيْفَ نَسْمَعُ كُلُّ مَنْ لُغَتَهُ الَّتِي وُلِدَ فِيهَا؟ نَحْنُ الْفَرِثِيُّونَ وَالْمَدِّيُّونَ وَالْعِيلَامِيُّونَ وَسُكَّانُ مَا بَيْنَ النَّهْرَيْنِ وَالْيَهُودِيَّةِ وَكِبَادُوكِيَّةِ وَبَنْطُسَ وَأَسِيَّةَ وَفَرِيجِيَّةَ وَبِمَفِيلِيَّةَ وَمِصْرَ وَنَوَاحِيَ لِبْيَةِ عِنْدَ الْقَيْرَوَانِ وَالرُّومَانِيِّينَ الْمَسْتُوطِنِينَ وَالْيَهُودَ وَالْدُخْلَاءَ وَالْكِرِيتِيِّينَ وَالْعَرَبَ نَسْمَعُهُمْ يَنْطَقُونَ بِأَلْسِنَتِنَا بِعُظَامَةِ اللَّهِ.

THE GOSPEL: St. John. (7:37-52; 8:12) On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and proclaimed, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.'" Now this He said about the Spirit, which those who believed in Him were to receive; for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. When they heard these words, many of the people said, "This is really the prophet." Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Is the Christ to come from Galilee? Has not the Scripture said that the Christ is descended from David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?" So there was a division among the people over Him. Some of them wanted to arrest Him, but no one laid hands on Him. The officers then went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, "Why did you not bring Him?" The officers answered, "No man ever spoke like this man!" The Pharisees answered them, "Are you led astray, you also? Have any of the authorities or the Pharisees believed in Him? But this crowd, who do not know the Law, are accursed." Nicodemus, who had gone to Him before, and who was one of them, said to them, "Does our Law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?" They replied, "Are you from Galilee too? Search and you will see that no prophet is to rise from Galilee." Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

الإنجيل: يوحنا 7: 37-52 و 8: 12 في اليوم الآخر العظيم من العيد كان يسوع واقفا فصاح قائلا: إن عطش أحد فليأت إليّ ويشرب. من آمن بي فكما قال الكتاب ستجري من بطنه أنهار ماء حي (إنما قال هذا عن الروح الذي كان المؤمنون به مُزمعين أن يقبلوه إذ لم يكن الروح القدس بعد لأن يسوع لم يكن بعد مُجد). فكثيرون من الجمع لما سمعوا كلامه قالوا: هذا بالحقيقة هو النبي. وقال آخرون: هذا هو المسيح. وآخرون قالوا: أَلعلَّ المسيح من الجليل يأتي؟ أَلم يقلَّ الكتاب انه من نسل داود من بيت لحم القرية حيث كان داود يأتي المسيح؟ فحدث شقاق بين الجمع من أجله. وكان قوم منهم يريدون أن يُمسكوه ولكن لم يُلق أحد عليه يدا. فجاء الخُدام إلى رؤساء الكهنة والفريسيين، فقال هؤلاء لهم: لَمَ لم تأتوا به؟ فأجاب الخدام: لم يتكلم قط إنسان هكذا مثل هذا الإنسان. فأجابهم الفريسيون: أَلعلَّكم أنتم أيضًا قد ضللتهم؟ هل أحد من الرؤساء أو من الفريسيين آمن به؟ أما هؤلاء الجمع الذين لا يعرفون الناموس فهم ملعونون. فقال لهم نيقوديمس الذي كان قد جاء إليه ليلا وهو واحد منهم: أَلعلَّ ناموسنا يدين إنسانا إن لم يسمع منه أولاً ويعلم ما فعل؟ أجابوا وقالوا له: أَلعلَّك أنت أيضًا من الجليل؟ ابحت وانظر انه لم يَقم نبي من الجليل. ثم كلّمهم أيضًا يسوع قائلا: أنا هو نور العالم. من يتبعني فلا يمشي في الظلام بل يكون له نور الحياة.

Coffee hour offered by:

Sponsors for Sunday's are needed. Please make checks payable St. Nicholas Church in the amount of \$25.00 or more.

Announcements:

CONGRATULATIONS

Fr. George and Khouria Eman would like to congratulate their Son **Ilyan** for his graduation from High School, and they would like to invite all of our parishioners and friends to his **graduation party on Saturday June 6th at Church Hall from 3:00pm.**

To confirm your attendance, please contact Khouria Eman at
Cell: 586-214-7465, Home: 586-751-0581. We hope to see all of you!



Congratulations

: Jaqueline, Sam, Steve, Peter & Rita Dabai would like to congratulate **Nicholas Sami Dabai** for graduation from Medical School at the University of New England. He will be completing residency in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. God Bless him!



1. Kids Summer Camp on **June 14th till June 20th** at *St. Sava Jackson, CA.* for all our kids (Ages from 7 years old). Admission: \$150. To register your kids, the registration form will be available this Sunday at the church. Anyone who is interested in helping with counseling during the camp, please contact Fr. George.

Mark your calendar: Father's Day Picnic on June 21st at Blackberry Farm in Cupertino:

Address: 21979 San Fernando Ave, Cupertino, CA 95014

Fees: \$15 (Adults)

\$10 (Children from 6-12 years old)

Free (children under 6 years old)

Please call church office to confirm of your attendance for a head count!



- ❖ **2015 West Coast Parish Life Conference:** will be hosted by **St. Andrew Church, Riverside, California** from June 30 through July 5th. Information on the conference, the hotel and the attractions in the area can be found on the website: <http://www.laplc.org/>.
 - ❖ **Archdiocesan Convention 2015** - July 20-26, 2015. Hosted by St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cambridge, MA. For more info visit the website: <http://www.acboston2015.com/>
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Trinity Sunday: Pentecost - The Descent of the Holy Spirit

V. Re. Ihor Kutash:

“If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink”

(The Lord Jesus - John 7:37)

Anyone who has lived upon this earth for some time with some awareness has already realized that things here are not easy. In the midst of so much beauty there is so much trouble, hardship and worry. The world's beauty seems to promise that one can be truly happy on this planet - but there always seems to be something lacking. And if one goes pursuing that happiness it seems always to elude one. If only we could find it and if only it would stay with us! But is such a thing possible? Or is it just a temptation – an illusion?

Today's Feast - the Day of Pentecost, the Descent of the Holy Spirit

brings us a Gospel reading (John 7:37-52,8:12) with images which speak of a happiness that lasts and that makes other people happy, too. Jesus says: "If any one thirsts, let him come to Me and drink". It is not only water for which people thirst. Jesus offers that which responds to a spiritual thirst, a thirst for lasting happiness, a thirst for answers to our hard questions - a thirst for meaning.

There is a time when it is pleasant to be thirsty! When you know that your thirst will soon be satisfied with a nice cool drink - and when you are enjoying that drink, you are happy that you were thirsty and you look forward to being thirsty like that again! It is when you fear that your thirst will never be satisfied - that you will die without a drink - that thirst is a fearful and horrible thing.

Jesus says: “He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water”. It is not that followers of Christ never know thirst - but that we know by faith and experience which has been proven over and over again, that our thirst will be satisfied. Not only that, but we can become channels for satisfying the thirst of others as well. So rich can this experience be that it would be as though rivers of water were flowing through us - living, bright, clear, pure, cool water, the kind you want to drink, the kind you want to swim in to be refreshed and clean.

This promise of the Lord's also shows us the preconditions for receiving this kind of happiness. First we must be thirsty and be aware of our thirst. Then we must discover what it is for which we thirst. The Holy Spirit whom Jesus sent into the world from the Father after His death, resurrection and ascension is continually working to bring about this awareness. It is He who awakens in us a thirst for real happiness, the kind that is satisfied only by living in communion with God and His creation. The Holy Spirit helps us realize how thirsty we really are for that kind of life.

There is another requirement as well: we must become willing to share this happiness. The living Water which satisfies all our thirst does not flow in a selfish, cold, unforgiving, suspicious heart. If we are always worried only about ourselves and our needs, we will not notice how God continually meets our needs and points us towards lasting and true happiness - the spiritual happiness of being connected to Him by faith, mercy and kindness to others.

We might pray thus: Oh Lord, help me realize how thirsty I really am. Grant me the joy of drinking the living Water, Your Holy Spirit and of sharing this living Water with others. Amen.

معمودية الروح

كان الرسل مجتمعين في العلية خوفاً من اليهود وكان اليوم الخمسين بعد الفصح. وإذا بعاصفة غربية تهبّ في العلية المغلقة. الله يرسل روحه بشكل لسان ناريّ على كل تلميذ. جاءت العاصفة، وكانوا روحاً واحداً، فصاروا هم بدورهم عاصفة، دخلوا في عصر النار، في اللهب الإلهي حيث الكلمة محيية.

لما حلّ الروح القدس على التلاميذ أصبحوا هم أيضاً أناساً يحركهم الروح وكأنهم روح الله في الكون. أي أنهم استطاعوا في ذلك اليوم أن يعيشوا المسيح بحيث اتحدوا به اتحاداً كلياً. صاروا ناراً تضيء فانطلقوا إلى أقطار المسكونة حاملين في أجسادهم نوراً وناراً.

دعوة العنصرة لنا هي في هذا: كلام المسيح مكتوب، ولكن لا بدّ له أن ينتقل إلى كل نفس نارا ونورا. لا بد لمياه المعمودية التي بها اعتمدنا أن تصبح في كل منا ناراً تضيء. لا بد للمسيح أن يحولنا إليه بروحه المحيي، فيصبح هو فينا حياة شخصية، ونصبح نحن «رسالة المسيح... مكتوبة لا بحبر بل بروح الله الحيّ. لا في ألواح حجرية بل في ألواح قلب لحمية» (2كورنثوس ٣: ٣). هكذا يصبح الإله الخالق إلهي أنا.

الروح القدس هو ذلك الأفتوم، ذلك الوجه الذي يجعل كلام الإنجيل ذا نسمة، كلاماً محرّكاً، كلاماً مُحْيِياً، والمسيح لا يبقى مُخَلَّص العالم فقط ولكنه يصبح مُخَلَّصي أنا.

الانتقال من الإله الكوني الذي يقول به الفلاسفة إلى إله يُواجهني وأواجهه، صاحب كلام يُحرّك قلبي فيصبح قلبي مقرّ الله. الوجه الذي يفعل كل ذلك هو الروح القدس.

كل منا بحاجة إلى أن يصبح المسيحُ مسيحه، ورب العالم ربّه. كل منّا بحاجة إلى أن يبطل اعتقاده في إله يسكن السماء فقط، فينتقل إلى إيمان بإله يسكن في قلوب الناس. القلب وحده هو السماء. كل منا يستطيع أن يصبح إنساناً إلهياً، أن ينير الآخرين بنور المسيح. إن أسلم هو للمسيح تربّع المسيح وحده في قلبه.

صلاتنا اليوم (أي صلاة السجدة) صلاة توبة، صلاة تحوّل إلى المسيح، صلاة عودة إلى بيت الأب، صلاة التماس للروح المحيي. والروح يأتي، يأتي لأنه يحب، لأنه هو الذي يقذف الصلوات في نفوسنا. صلواتنا كلها تبقى مجرد كلمات إن لم يقذفها الروح إلى نفوسنا فتحيا وتصبح قطرات من كلمات الله في نفوس حيّة.

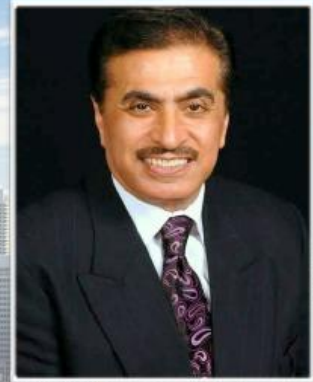
الله فينا. هذا هو الروح القدس. الروح ينزل إلينا ويلتحم بنفوسنا ويصوّر المسيح فينا فتحبل كل نفس بالمسيح وتلدّه في الأرض ربّا ومُخَلَّصاً.

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