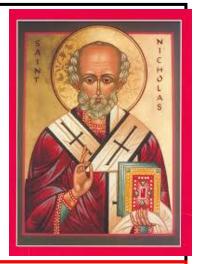


# كنيسة مار نقولا الانطاكية الارثوذكسية St. Nicholas Weekly Bulletin

Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church Antiochian Archdiocese of North America Diocese of Los Angeles and the West 5200 Diamond Hts. Boulevard, San Francisco, CA 94131 Tel: (415) 648-5200

Email: info@stnicholas-sf.com--website:stnicholas-sf.com Pastor, V. Rev. Fr. George Baalbaki (586) 214-4428- revbaalbaki@yahoo.com

Pastor Emeritus, V. Rev. Fr. **Gregory Ofiesh**Sub-Dn. **Michel Khoury**Parish Council Chairman: **Suheil Azar** 



Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016 أحد القديسة مريم المصرية/ Our Righteous Mother Mary of Egypt

This Sunday (3<sup>rd</sup> & 9-Days) Memorial Service for the Servant of God **Nasif Saliba** (brother of his Eminence late Metropolitan Philip Saliba) Father of Ghada Malouf and Najat Nicola.

Offered by Ghada Malouf and Najat Nicola

May his memory be eternal!

This Sunday (One-Year) Memorial Service for our beloved Suzanne Malek offered by her

Husband: John, Daughters: Julia, Sabrina

Parents: Ebrahim & Suhad Brother Fadi & family Sister: Nancty and family



#### Condolences: ROBERT NAIFY ENTERS ETERNAL LIFE

The Parish Family is deeply saddened by the passing into eternal life of ROBERT NAIFY. He was the son of Michael and Hannah Naify, founding members of St. Nicholas Church. He was the brother of Marshall Naify and Georgette Naify Rosekrans. We extend our sympathies to his beloved wife, Jan Van De Bos Naify; his children, Leslie Naify, Christine Naify Stadnick, and Mark Naify, his grandchildren and great grandchildren. Memory eternal!

THE EPISTLE: **St. Paul to the Hebrews.** (9:11-14)Brethren, when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), He entered once for all into the Holy Place, taking not the blood of goats and calves but His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, Who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, purify your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

الرسالة عبرانيين: يا إخوة، ان المسيح اذ قد جاء رئيس كهنة للخيرات المستقبلة، فبمسكن أعظم وأكمل غير مصنوع بأيدٍ اي ليس من هذه الخليقة. وليس بدم تيوس وعجول بل بدم نفسه دخل الأقداس مرة واحدة فوجد فداء أبديا، لأنه ان كان دم ثيران وتيوس ورماد عجلة يُرَش على المنجسين فيقدّسهم لتطهير الجسد، فكم بالأحرى دم المسيح الذي بالروح الأزلي قرّب نفسه لله بلا عيب يطهّر ضمائركم من الأعمال الميتة لتعبدوا الله الحي.

THE GOSPEL: **St. Mark.** (10:32-45)At that time, Jesus took His twelve Disciples, and began to tell them what was to happen to Him, saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem. And the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn Him to death, and deliver Him to the Gentiles. And they will mock Him, and scourge Him, and spit upon Him, and kill Him; and after three days He will rise." And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Him, and said to Him, "Teacher, we would that thou shouldest do for us whatsoever we shall desire" And Jesus said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?"

And they said to Him, "Grant us to sit, one at Thy right hand and one at Thy left, in Thy glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" And they said to Him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized. But to sit at My right hand or at My left is not Mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. And Jesus called them to Him and said to them, "You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them

الإنجيل: مرقس في ذلك الزمان اخذ يسوع تلاميذه الاثني عشر وابتدأ يقول لهم ما سيعرض له: هوذا نحن صاعدون إلى أورشليم وابن البشر سيسلم إلى رؤساء الكهنة والكتبة، فيحكمون عليه بالموت ويسلمونه إلى الأمم فيهزأون به ويبصقون عليه ويجلدونه ويقتلونه، وفي اليوم الثالث يقوم. فدنا اليه يعقوب ويوحنا ابنا زبدى قائلين: يا معلم، نريد ان تصنع لنا مهما طلبنا. فقال لهما: ماذا تريدان ان أصنع لكما؟ قالا له: أعطنا ان يجلس احدنا عن يمينك والآخر عن يسارك في مجدك. فقال لهما يسوع: انكما لا تعلمان ما تطلبان. أتستطيعان ان تشربا الكأس التي أشربها انا، وان تصطبغا بالصبغة التي أصطبغ بها انا؟ فقالا له: نستطيع. فقال لهما يسوع: اما الكأس التي اشربها فتشربانها وبالصبغة التي أصطبغ بها فتصطبغان، اما جلوسكما عن يميني وعن يساري فليس لي ان أعطيه الالذين أعد المم المع العشرة ابتدأوا يغضبون على يعقوب ويوحنا. فدعاهم يسوع وقال لهم: قد علمتم ان الذين يُحسَبون رؤساء الأمم يسودونهم، وعظماءهم يتسلطون عليهم. واما انتم فلا يكون فيكم هكذا. ولكن من أراد ان يكون فيكم كبيرا فليكن لكم خادما، ومن أراد ان يكون فيكم اول فليكن للجميع عبدا. فان ابن البشر لم يأت ليُخدَم بل ليَخدم وليبذل نفسه فداء عن كثيرين.

### Holy Bread of oblation offered by:

❖ St. Nicholas church for the good health of those who have celebrated their birthdays this week: Ghassan Rantisi, Sammy Madanat, Hala Khoury, Fouad Saoud, Rita Saoud, Grace Rantisi, Khamis Jada, Nader Zaki, Jamileh Martha, Angelica Fadayel. Happy Birthday. Many Years!

#### Alter candle offered by:

- ❖ Maha Dabit for the good health of her family. Many Years! And in loving memory of **Nakleh Aho and Rimon Dabit.** May their memory be eternal!
- \* Renee Khoury and family in loving memory of beloved Father and Grandfather **Fouad Khoury** and Brother **Rimon Turujman**. May their memory be eternal!

## Sunday Lenten Luncheon

Join us downstairs for Luncheon offered by: **Olga Azar and Sons** in loving memory of Mitri and Salim Azar. Memory eternal!

Many Thanks. God Bless you and your family

### Ladies:

You and your families are invited to celebrate the Spirit of Palm Sunday (شعنینة) and the Resurrection (Easter) by joining our workshop event which will include:

- Egg coloring,
- Baking,
- Cookie's design,
- Children's Craft, and much more fun activities ...

### Saturday, April 16th 2016

St. Nicholas Banquet Hall

5200 Diamond Heights Blvd.

San Francisco CA 94131

Workshop starts at 11:00 a.m. followed by Lenten Luncheon provided by the ladies. All are welcome! Free admission

## 2016 SCHEDULE OF SERVICES GREAT AND HOLY WEEK OF OUR LORD'S PASSION AND HIS GLORIOUS RESURRECTION

#### (سبت اليعازر<u>) Saturday, April 23<sup>th</sup></u>

Lazarus Saturday Divine Liturgy 11:00AM

#### (أحد الشعانين) Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>

Palm Sunday: Entrance of Our Lord into Jerusalem Matins at 10:00 AM

Divine Liturgy & Procession with Palms at 11:00 AM

#### Holy and Great Monday, April 25th & Tuesday April 26th

Bridegroom Matins 7:00 PM (صلاة الختن)

#### Holy and Great Wednesday, April 27th

(صلاة مسحة المرضى بالزيت المقدس) Holy Oil Service 7:00 PM

Confession Before & after the service

## Holy and Great Thursday, April 28th

1- Divine Liturgy 10:30 AM (خميس الأسرار)

Breakfast after liturgy

2- Matins with 12 Passion Gospels 7:00 PM (صلاة اناجيل الآلام)

#### Holy and Great Good Friday, April 29th

The Royal Hours & Vespers Service At 11:00 AM(صلاة الغروب) Matins with the Lamentations at the Tomb at 7:00 PM (تقاريظ جناز السيد المسيح)

### Holy and Great Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> (خدمة الفصح المجيد)

Starting Service (بداية الخدمة)
Rush Hour (صلاة الهجمة)
Rush Hour (صلاة الهجمة)

Divine Liturgy 12:00 AM (القداس الالهي) Followed by breakfast

Holy and Great Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup> Vespers 12:00 PM (صلاة الباعوث)

### PASCHA (EASTER) BREAKFAST ITEMS NEEDED

As our custom, the Family of St. Nicholas Parish enjoys breaking the Fast together on the dawn of the Resurrection day. All the parishioners of St. Nicholas will have their breakfast together in celebration of the feast of the Resurrection of our Lord. Call church office if you would like to donate these items or money toward purchasing these items:

Feta Cheese	Cheese	Labneh	Olives	Ham
Orange Juice	Turkey	Pickles	Fruits	Napkins
Pita Bread	Tahini	Milk	Foam Cups	Olive Oil
Eggs	Sausage	Bacon	Potatoes	Coffee

Pancakes Knives Forks

#### **SAVE THE DATE:**

**2016 St. NICHOLAS SUMMER CAMP**: From Monday, June 20th till Friday, June 24th at St. Sava Camp in Jackson, CA. More details to come in the following weeks!

#### Fifth Sunday of Great Lent

The church service for this Sunday is devoted to the memory and glorification of the spiritual efforts of Saint Mary of Egypt, who "has cut down with the sword of abstinence the desires of your soul and the passions of your flesh. You have choked your sinful thoughts with the silence of the ascetic life, and you have watered all the wilderness with the streams of your tears, and caused the fruits of repentance to spring up for us" and "with works of Lenten fasting", "as the sun she shines revealed as a guide to all who have sinned".

In her life the Holy Church pays attention to two contrasts: on the depth of her sinful falling and on the height of her graceful rising, that it points out that true repentance wipes away the very heaviest sins, and can uplift the repenting trespasser to a high degree of spiritual perfection.

The Odes of the Canon opens the parable about "the rich man and Lazarus". This parable through its imagery gives a lesson on the efforts of fasting that they, fasting physically, fasted also spiritually, that is, they helped their needy brothers and eased the portion of the suffering; but the suffering and the deprived are inspired by patience and magnanimity, by the example of Lazarus who for these virtues "was worthy of Paradise of sweetness". Inspiring those who fast with the necessity of charity, the Holy Church hymns: "The Kingdom of God is not food and drink, but righteousness and abstinence with holiness; therefore the rich shall not enter into it, but those who entrust their treasures into the hands of the needy. This is what David the prophet teaches us saying: the righteous man shows mercy all day, his delight is in the Lord, and walking in the light he will not stumble. All this was written for our admonition, that we should fast and do good, and the Lord will reward us with heavenly things instead of earthly things".

The Resurrection gospel proclaims the approaching time of the coming Passion of Christ, and the Epistle reading explains the saving actions of the offering of the Savior on the cross. With these reminders of the parable about the rich man and Lazarus and suffering, death and resurrection of the Savior, the Holy Church relates the fifth Sunday to a relationship of the coming end of the Lenten effort with the memory connected to Him.

مريم المصرية (+522)

اذًا فتحت في اول نيسان السنكسار، وهو الكتاب الذي يحتوي سير القديسين، ترى في العنوان سيرة امنا البارة مريم المصرية، واذا قرأت القصة تراها قصتين، واحدة عن الراهب زوسيما وواحدة عن مريم. غير ان التوبة المذهلة لمريم حجبت زوسيما فخُصص لها الى يوم عيدها في اول نيسان هذا الأحد الخامس من الصوم. ويقول القديس صفرونيوس واضع السيرة انه استقاها بالتواتر من رهبان دير القديس يوحنا المعمدان في الأردن.

زوسيما حاول روح الشر ان يقنعه ان ليس من يفوقه في النسك في برية الأردن. فذهب والتقى مريم التي بعد توغلها في فسق كبير بلغت درجة من القداسة اعلى من التي رغب فيها الراهب لنفسه. الحوار بينهما أخاذ. زوسيما وهو كاهن يطلب منها البركة، وهي تذكّره، لكونه كاهنا، انه هو الذي يعطي البركة. سألها من تكون. هنا تأتي السيرة المعروفة. حدثته عن الدعارة التي تعاطتها في الاسكندرية ليس رغبة في الكسب ولكن لاعتبارها تعاطى الجسد مصدرا للحياة.

مرة رأت جمهورا يتراكض باتجاه البحر قاصدا الحج الى اورشليم. لا تقول السيرة انها سافرت لمحبتها الأماكن المقدسة. مارست الخطيئة في السفينة مع الركاب الذين سافروا بقصد الزيارات. حاولت دخول الكنيسة. منعتها قوة غير منظورة. شعرت بالتناقض بينها وبين كنيسة القيامة. استفاقت وسجدت. دخلت. تابت. قال لها صوت إلهي: اعبري الأردن. بقيت هناك 47 سنة. لازمتها التجربة 17 عاما. قاومت حتى بلغت الهدوء. قاومت ذكرياتها.

بعد حديث شائق طلبت الى الراهب ان يأتيها بجسد الرب. عاد اليها بالقدسات في الصيام. رغبت اليه ان يعود في السنة القادمة. رآها قد رقدت بالرب وكان هذا في اول نيسان.

تقول السيرة ان أسدًا اتى وحفر قبرا فآواها زوسيما فيه. هناك ايقونة تملأها هي بقامتها والى يسارها زوسيما منحن، وهو اياه عن يمينها يحمل الكأس المقدسة ولكنه يبقى اقصر منها. النصوص الطقوسية تقول لنا ما مفاده ان التحرك الشهواني الذي كان فيها تحول الى تحرك نحو المسيح. التوبة ليست ان تصير باردا، بليدا بل ان تُحوّل احتراقك من اجل الجسد او الدنيا او المال او السلطة احتراقا من اجل يسوع. لذلك اعتبرت الكنيسة هذه المرأة نموذجا عن كل نفس تائبة. ووضعت ذكراها في الأحد الخامس وهو الأخير من الصوم لندخل - بهذه التوبة المحققة - مع الرب اورشليم في احد الشعانين مطهّرين لاستقبال الأسبوع العظيم.

من احد الفريسي والعشار مرورا بالابن الشاطر حتى يوحنا السلمي وذكر الفضائل انتهاء بمريم المصرية نرى قمم توبة الى جانب آحاد هي ادنى الى التأمل اللاهوتي. انما تكمن اهمية مريم المصرية في ان نذكر اننا نحمل عبء الجسد ثقيلا والقلة تنعتق من هذا العبء. غير ان حضور زوسيما في السيرة يذكرنا بأن الذين تحرروا من وطأة الجسد قد لا يتحررون مما هو افتك اعني الكبرياء. كل منا له ضعفه الخاص او ضعفات متعددة، وامام كل هذه الضغوط وداعة المسيح وطراوته. وازاء كل التجارب التي تنتابنا تنتصب صورة مريم المصرية مذكرة بأن الله قادر ان ينشلك من كل نجاسة ويريحك من كل خطيئة مهما ثقلت. المهم الا تستسلم الى اليأس والا تحالف الخطيئة، ان تقول ان المعاصى هي ضد المشيئة الإلهية وان محبة الله معي لكي أفيد منها حتى أخلص حور حبوس مطران حبيل واليترون وما بلبهما

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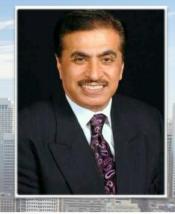


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