

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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Sunday, October 23rd , 2016

The Holy Apostle James the "Brother of God"

This Sunday Memorial Services:

- ❖ (6-Months) Memorial Service for the Servant of God **Basem Ibrahim Theodory**
(Nina Azar's brother) Offered by Theodory & Azar families. May his memory be eternal!
- ❖ (One-Week) Memorial Service for the Servant of God **Nicola Bouri** offered by his daughters' families: Adel and Rana Rantisi & Attallah and Samar Qura. May his memory be eternal.



THE EPISTLE: St. Paul to the Galatians. (1:11-19)

Brethren, I would have you know that the Gospel which was preached by me is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the Church of God violently and tried to destroy it; and I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people; so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. But when He Who had set me apart before I was born, and had called me through His grace, was pleased to reveal His Son to me, in order that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were Apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia; and again I returned to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other Apostles except James the Lord's brother.

الرسالة: غلاطية 1:11-19

يا إخوة، أعلمكم أن الإنجيل الذي بشرت به ليس بحسب الإنسان لأني لم أتعلمه وأتعلّمه من إنسان بل بإعلان يسوع المسيح. فإنكم قد سمعتم بسيرتي قديما في ملة اليهود أنني كنت اضطهد كنيسة الله بإفراط وأزید تقدما في ملة اليهود على كثيرين من أتباعي في جنسي بكوني أوفر منهم غيرة على تقاليدات آبائي. فلما ارتضى الله الذي أفرزني من جوف أمي ودعاني بنعمته أن يعلن ابنه فيّ لأبشر به بين الأمم، لساعتي لم أصغ إلى لحم ودم، ولا صعدت إلى أورشليم إلى الرسل الذين قبلي، بل انطلقت إلى ديار العرب، وبعد ذلك رجعت إلى دمشق. ثم إنني بعد ثلاث سنين صعدت إلى أورشليم لأزور بطرس فأقمت عنده خمسة عشر يوما، ولم أر غيره من الرسل سوى يعقوب أخي الرب.

الانجيل: لوقا 8:27-39

في ذلك الزمان أتى يسوع إلى كورة الجرجسيين فاستقبله رجل من المدينة به شياطين منذ زمان طويل ولم يكن يلبس ثوبا ولا يأوي إلى بيت بل إلى القبور. فلما رأى يسوع صاح وخر له بصوت عظيم: مالي ولك يا يسوع ابن الله العلي، أطلب إليك ألا تعذبني. فإنه أمر الروح النجس أن يخرج من الإنسان لأنه كان قد اختطفه منذ زمان طويل وكان يُربط بسلاسل ويحبس بقيود فيقطع الربط ويساق من الشيطان إلى البراري فسأله يسوع قائلا: ما اسمك؟ فقال: لجيون، لأن شياطين كثيرين كانوا قد دخلوا فيه. وطلبوا إليه ألا يأمرهم بالذهاب إلى الهاوية. وكان هناك قطيع خنازير كثيرة ترعى في الجبل. فطلبوا إليه أن يأذن لهم بالدخول إليها فأذن لهم. فخرج الشياطين من الإنسان ودخلوا في الخنازير. فوثب القطيع عن الجرف إلى البحيرة فاقتنق. فلما رأى الرعاة ما حدث هربوا فأخبروا في المدينة وفي الحقول، فخرجوا ليروا ما حدث وأتوا إلى يسوع، فوجدوا الإنسان الذي خرجت منه الشياطين عند قدمي يسوع لابسا صحيح العقل فخافوا. وأخبرهم الناظرون أيضا كيف أبرئ المجنون. فسأله جميع جمهور كورة الجرجسيين أن ينصرف عنهم لأنه اعتراهم خوف عظيم. فدخل السفينة ورجع. فسأله الرجل الذي خرجت منه الشياطين أن يكون معه، فصرفه يسوع قائلا: ارجع إلى بيتك وحدّث بما صنع الله إليك. فذهب وهو ينادي في المدينة كلها بما صنع إليه يسوع.

THE GOSPEL: St. Luke. (8:26-39)

At that time, Jesus arrived at the country of the Gadarenes, which is opposite Galilee. And as He stepped out on land, there met Him a man from the city who had demons; for a long time he had worn no clothes, and he lived not in a house but among the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him, and said with a loud voice, "What hast Thou to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beseech Thee, do not torment me." For Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. [For many a time it had seized him; he was kept under guard, and bound with chains and fetters, but he broke the bonds and was driven by the demon into the desert.] Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. And they begged Jesus not to command them to depart into the abyss. Now a large herd of swine was feeding there on the hillside; and they begged Jesus to let them enter these. So He gave them leave. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned. When the herdsmen saw what had happened, they fled, and told it in the city and in the country. Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. And those who had seen it told them how he who had been possessed with demons was healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gadarenes asked Jesus to depart from them; for they were seized with great fear; so He got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with Jesus; but Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return to your home, and declare all that God has done for you." And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city all that Jesus had done for him.

Holy Bread of Oblation offered by:

- ❖ St. Nicholas church for the good health of those who have celebrated their birthdays this week: Mourice Kari, Ramzy Halteh, Renee Khoury, Georgette ElHinn, Joel Haddad, Hilda Herrera. Happy Birthday. Many Years!

Alter candle offered by:

- ❖ Nadim, Basma, Janan, Jim, Ivette, Brandon, Jennifer Howell. Jane and Oscar Moran for the good health of **Matthew Howell** on the occasion of his birthday Oct 26th. Many Years!
- ❖ Sub-Dn. Michel and Judy & Zackary Khoury for the good health of **Gregory Khoury** on the occasion of his birthday Oct 21st. Many Years!

Upcoming Events:

- ❖ **Youth Meeting:** Our Next Youth meeting will take place on Wednesday October 26th 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at Church Hall. Looking forward to seeing everyone! As always, all are welcome so if you're a first time attendee don't be shy. Also, please feel free to invite your friends
- ❖ **ORTHODOXY IN THE VINEYARD - YOUNG ADULT RETREAT**
Meet and hangout with Orthodox Christian Young Adults from all over in Napa, CA at a Young Adult Fall Retreat - Hosted by the Young Adult Ministry within the Antiochian Diocese of Los Angeles and the West. We've planned a day of spiritual discussion lead by Jacob Saylor - Youth Directory at Assumption Greek Orthodox Church. The day will include time at Holy Assumption Monastery in Calistoga, CA (just outside of Napa), lunch, wine tasting at the local vineyard and dinner. Our topic will be focused on "In the world, but not of the world - How to be an Orthodox Christian in a materialistic and sometimes superficial world." 21+ Young Adult Event.
Date: Saturday, November 5, 2016
Time: 8:30am - 7:30pm.
Cost: \$50 Per Person (includes Lunch, Wine Tasting and Dinner)
More information and registration can be found on website www.dlawyoungadults.com.
Please if you have any questions or if you need any more information, contact:
Charlie John Kassaseya [858-761-1720](tel:858-761-1720)



Fashion Show “A Walk on My Shoes”

St. Nicholas Annual Fashion Show will be held on Sunday, November 6th at St. Nicholas Banquet Hall @ 1:30pm
Donation: Adult \$50, Children (12 year and under) \$20.

Family Night: Friday, November 18th we will have a family night at St. Nicholas Banquet hall sponsored by **Rantisi families**. More info to follow...

Christmas Party: St. Nicholas Church Christmas Party will be held on Saturday December 17th, 2016. More info to follow...

Apostle James, the Brother of the Lord

Holy Apostle James, the Brother of God was the son of Righteous Joseph the Betrothed of the Most Holy Theotokos (December 26). From his early years James was a Nazarene, a man especially dedicated to God. The Nazarenes vowed to preserve their virginity, to abstain from wine, to refrain from eating meat, and not to cut their hair. The vow of the Nazarenes symbolized a life of holiness and purity, commanded formerly by the Lord for all Israel. When the Savior began to teach the nation about the Kingdom of God, St James believed in Christ and became His apostle. He was chosen as the first Bishop of Jerusalem.

St James presided over the Council of Jerusalem and his word was decisive (Acts 15). In his thirty years as bishop, St James converted many of the Jews to Christianity. Annoyed by this, the Pharisees and the Scribes plotted together to kill St James. They led the saint up on the pinnacle of the Jerusalem Temple and asked what he thought of Jesus. The holy Apostle began to bear witness that Christ is the Messiah, which was not the response the Pharisees were expecting. Greatly angered, the Jewish teachers threw him off the roof. The saint did not die immediately, but gathering his final strength, he prayed to the Lord for his enemies while they were stoning him. St James' martyrdom occurred about 63 A.D.

The holy Apostle James composed a Divine Liturgy, which formed the basis of the Liturgies of Sts Basil the Great and John Chrysostom. The Church has preserved an Epistle of St James, one of the books of the New Testament.

In 1853, Patriarch Hierotheus of Alexandria sent to Moscow a portion of the relics of St James. The Church distinguishes between the holy Apostle James the Brother of God, and St James the son of Zebedee (April 30) and St James the son of Alphaeus (October 9).

القديس يعقوب أخو الرب (من نشرة رعيتي)

تعيّد له الكنيسة في 23 تشرين الأول، وهو غير الرسول يعقوب بن حلفى احد الاثني عشر. يذكره الانجيل كواحد من اخوة الرب يسوع الأربعة، والثلاثة الباقون هم يوسي وسمعان ويهوذا (متى 13 : 55 ومرقس 6 : 3) الذين لم يؤمنوا به اولا (يوحنا 7 : 5). اما نسبة هؤلاء الاخوة الى الرب يسوع فقد كان لها، منذ البدء، اكثر من تفسير: كانوا عند بعض المفسرين اولاد اخت مريم او كانوا عند بعضهم اولاد يوسف، وهؤلاء في عرف اليهود اخوة. والتفسير الثاني - وهو الأكثر شيوعا في التراث - انهم اولاد يوسف من زواج سابق لاعتقاد القدماء ان يوسف كان ارملة عندما اقترن بمريم. أما ان يكونوا اولاد يوسف ومريم معا فهذا غير ممكن لأنه لا يوجد اي نص يقول ذلك ولأسباب أخرى منها ان اثنين منهم اولاد مريم ام يعقوب ويوسي التي كانت بين النساء اللواتي كن ينظرن من بعيد الى يسوع المصلوب "وبينهن مريم المجدلية ومريم ام يعقوب ويوسي وسالومه" (مرقس 15 : 40).

ونعلم ايضا ان كلمة اخ لها عند اليهود معاني عدة غير القرابة الجسدية، والمثال على ذلك في سفر التكوين حيث يُذكر ان ابراهيم عم لوط (11: 27) وفي مكان آخر ان ابراهيم اخ لوط (14: 16)، الاخ هو القريب بشكل عام. وفي انجيل يوحنا "وكانت واقفات عند صليب يسوع امه واخت امه مريم زوجة كليوبا ومريم المجدلية" (19: 25)، فكيف تكون اختان باسم واحد؟

يعقوب هو كاتب الرسالة الجامعة المدونة في العهد الجديد والمعروفة باسمه ومطلعها "من يعقوب عبد الله والرب يسوع المسيح الى المؤمنين...". يذكره الرسول بولس في رسالته الى اهل غلاطية 1 : 19 التي نقرأها اليوم في عيده: "...صعدت الى اورشليم لأرى بطرس، فأقمت عنده خمسة عشر يوما، وما رأيت غيره من الرسل سوى يعقوب أخي الرب". نفهم من هذا انه كانت له مكانة هامة بين الرسل.

وفي كتاب اعمال الرسل نقرأ في الاصحاح الخامس عشر لما اجتمع الرسل والشيوخ لينظروا في امر الختان والجواب عن السؤال: هل يجب ان يختتن كل من آمن بيسوع من الامم ام لا؟ يومذاك وقف يعقوب كرأس للجماعة في اورشليم، وقال كلمة الفصل وأجمع الرسل عليها.

وقد اختاره الرسل اول اسقف على اورشليم -كما نعرف من التراث- فرعاها لمدة ثلاثين عاما يبشر اليهود والامم ويأتي بهم الى المسيح. فحقد عليه اليهود، وبينما كان يعظ من مكان عال دفعه الكتبة والفريسيون فسقط ارضا وضربه ادهم فرقد شهيدا.

تُنسب اليه ايضا ليتورجيا "قداس القديس يعقوب أخي الرب" التي يظن الدارسون انها تعود إلى أواخر القرن الرابع أو أوائل القرن الخامس، وأنها تُعتبر المصدر الأساسي لقداس باسيليوس وقداس الذهبي الفم، الا انها سقطت من الاستعمال في نهايات القرن الثاني عشر. وتجدر الملاحظة أنّ هذه الخدمة تقام مرة واحدة في السنة في كنيسة اورشليم نهار عيده

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