

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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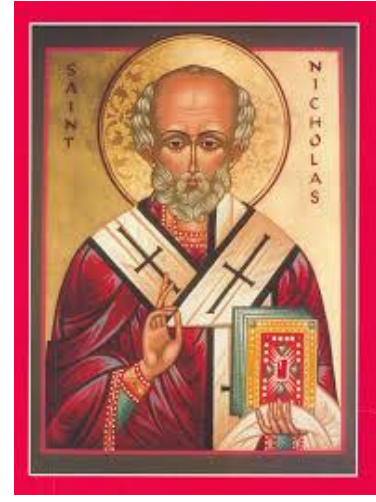
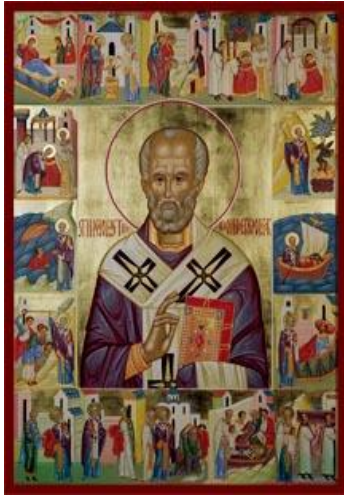
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Sunday, April 30th 2017 Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women,

أحد حاملات الطيب والقديس يوسف الذي من الرامة (يوسف الرامي)

Pious Joseph of Arimathea & Righteous Nicodemus

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

المسيح قام! حقا قام كل عام وأنتم بخير

This Sunday (40-Day) Memorial Service for the Servant of God **Philip Hawawini** offered by his daughter Roula Hawawini and family. May his memory be eternal!

THE EPISTLE the Acts of the Saintry and Pure Apostles. (6:1-7)

In those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. And the Twelve summoned the body of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaos, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them. And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

الرسالة: أعمال الرسل 6:1-7 في تلك الأيام لما تكاثرت التلاميذ حدث تذمر من اليونانيين على العبرانيين بأن أرامهم كنّ يهملن في الخدمة اليومية، فدعا الإثنا عشر جمهور التلاميذ وقالوا: لا يحسن أن نترك نحن كلمة الله ونخدم الموائد، فانتخبوا ايها الإخوة منكم سبعة رجال مشهود لهم بالفضل ممثلين من الروح القدس والحكمة فنقيمهم على هذه الحاجة ونواظب نحن على الصلاة وخدمة الكلمة. فحسن الكلام لدى جميع الجمهور، فاختاروا استقانس رجلا ممثلنا من الايمان والروح القدس وفيلبس وبروخورس ونيكانور وتيمن وبرمناس ونيقولوس دخيلاً أنطاكيًا. وأقاموهم أمام الرسل فصلوا ووضعوا عليهم الأيدي. وكانت كلمة الله تنمو وعدد التلاميذ يتكاثر في أورشليم جدا. وكان جمع كثير من الكهنة يطيعون الإيمان.

الإنجيل: مرقس 15:43-16:8 في ذلك الزمان جاء يوسف الذي من الرامة، مشيرٌ تقِيّ، وكان هو أيضا منتظرا ملكوت الله. فاجترأ ودخل على بيلاطس وطلب جسد يسوع. فاستغرب بيلاطس أنه قد مات هكذا سريعا، واستدعى قائد المئة وسأله: هل له زمان قد مات؟ ولما عرف من القائد، وهب الجسد ليوسف، فاشتري كتانا وأنزله ولفّه في الكتان ووضع في قبر كان منحوتا في صخرة ودرج حجرا على باب القبر. وكانت مريم المجدلية ومريم أم يوسي تنظران أين وضع. ولما انقضى السبت اشترت مريم المجدلية ومريم أم يعقوب وسالومة حنوطا لياثين ويدهنه. وبكرن جدا في أول الأسبوع وأثين القبر وقد طلعت الشمس، وكئن يقفن في ما بينهن: من يدحرج لنا الحجر عن باب القبر؟ فطلعن فرأين الحجر قد دُحرج لأنه كان عظيما جدا. فلما دخلن القبر رأين شابا جالسا عن اليمين لابس حلة بيضاء فانذهلن. فقال لهن: لا تنذهلن. أتظلمن يسوع الناصري المصلوب؟ قد قام، ليس هو ههنا. هوذا الموضع الذي وضعوه فيه. فاذهبين وقلن لتلاميذه ولبطرس إنه يسبقكم الى الجليل، هناك ترونه كما قال لكم. فخرجن سريعا وفررن من القبر وقد أخذتهن الرعدة والدهش، ولم يقفن لأحد شيئا لأنهن كنّ خائفات.

THE GOSPEL Mark. (15:43-16:8) At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the Kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if He were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether Jesus was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that He was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking Him down, wrapped Him in the linen shroud, and laid Him in a tomb, which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph saw where He was laid. And when the Sabbath was passed, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices so that they might go and anoint Him. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back—it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, Who was crucified. He has risen, He is not here; see the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His Disciples and Peter that He is going before you to Galilee; there you will see Him, as He told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Holy Bread of oblation offered by:

- ❖ St. Nicholas church for the good health of those who have celebrated their birthdays this week: Cynthia Rantisi, Fadi Hanani and Jaber Hanhan. Happy Birthday. Many Years!
- ❖ Michael, Nadia, Tariq, and Rami Rantisi for the good health of **Yousef Rantisi** on the occasion of his Name's Day. Many Years!
- ❖ St. Nicholas Parish for the good health of all those who named: Joseph, Yousif, Joe, Josephine... on the occasion of their Name's Day. Many Years!
- ❖ **Fr. George Baalbak, Parish Council and St. Nicholas Parish Family** extend our prayers and love to our Father in Christ and Chief Shepherd His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH on the occasion of His Name's Day (St. Joseph of Arimathea, Second Sunday after Pascha). May God Grant Him many years as our Father and Chief Shepherd. الى اعوام عديده يا سيد

Alter Candle offered by:

- ❖ Nadia Shatara for the good health of her son Joseph Shatara on the occasion of his Name's Day. Happy Name's Day. Many Years!

Mark your calendar for our upcoming events:



Charity Luncheon:

This Sunday we will have a delicious luncheon offered by **Jiries & Suhair Hanhan** for the benefit of our needy people in **SYRIA**. Many Thanks. We hope that all of you support our charity activities.

- ❖ **Ladies Auxiliary meeting** will be held this Sunday April 30th after the service.
- ❖ **Mother's Day Family Night:** St. Nicholas Church will have a Mother's Day "Family- Night" on May 13th @7:00 pm in our Hall. Music by Najeeb Haddad. Tickets: Adult: \$25, Children: \$10.
- ❖ **Three Holy Youths Camp: June 19th – June 23rd 2017**
Medical Forms must be completed at your parish in person.
For more info, please contact Ilyan Baalbaki : (586) 604-5331.
- ❖ **2017 PLC:** 2017 Parish Life Conference will be held on **July 5-9, 2017** hosted by St. Michael Church in Van Nuys, CA.

- ❖ **2017 Antiochian Archdiocese Convention** will be held on **July 23-30, 2017** hosted by St. George Cathedral. Florida.
 - ❖ **Save the date: October 22nd, 2017 Ball Dance Contest:** We are having our first Ball Dance Contest in October 22nd and we need young men and young women to participate. For further information please call **Gladys Maalouf @ [4158320316](tel:4158320316)**
 - ❖ **Food for Hungry People Boxes** Please return your boxes for the “Food for Hungry People” soon. You may give them to any of our ushers. Thank you!
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FEAST OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN, ST JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA AND ST NICODEMUS

We remember today the Myrrh-bearing women, Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus, people who in the course of the Gospel are hardly mentioned, yet who, when Christ was seemingly defeated, when death, rejection, betrayal and hatred had conquered, proved to be people of faithfulness and courage, the faithfulness of the heart and the courage that can be born only of love. At the moment of the Crucifixion all the Apostles had fled save one, John, who stood at the foot of the Cross

with the Mother of God. Everyone else had abandoned Christ, only a small group of women stood at a short distance from the Cross, and when He had died, they came to anoint His Body which Joseph of Arimathea had sought from Pilate, unafraid of being recognised as a disciple, because in life and in death love and faithfulness had conquered.

Let us reflect on this. It is easy to be Christ's disciples when we are on the crest of the wave, in the security of countries where no persecution, no rejection is endured, no betrayal can lead us to martyrdom, or simply to becoming the victims of mockery and rejection.

Let us think of ourselves not in regard to Christ alone but with regard to one another, because Christ has said that what we have done to any one of us, to the smallest, to the most insignificant, we have done to Him.

Let us ask ourselves how we behave when someone is rejected, mocked, ostracised, condemned by public opinion or by the opinion of those who mean something to us, whether at that moment our heart remains faithful, whether at that moment we find courage to say, ‘He was, and he remains my friend whether you accept or reject him’. There is no greater measure of faithfulness than that faithfulness which is made manifest in defeat. Let us consider this, because we all are defeated, we are defeated in so many ways. We all strive, with whatever energy we have - a little or much, to be what we should be, and we are defeated at every moment. Should we not look at one another not only with compassion, but with the faithfulness of friends who are prepared to stand by a person who falls, falls away from grace, falls away from his own ideal, frustrates all hopes and expectations which we have set on him or her. At that time let us stand by, at that time let us be faithful and prove that our love was not conditioned by the hope of victory but was a wholehearted gift, gratuitous, joyful, wonderful.

Metropolitan Anthony Sourozh

قام المسيح

وليس من ميت في القبور

لا نزال في بركات العيد، ضياء الفصح، وقد أرادت الكنيسة المقدّسة أن نتمتّع بكلّ وجه من وجوه الفصح، فجعلت الأحد الثاني من بعد العيد أحد حاملات الطيب. لذلك يُقرأ اليوم فصل من إنجيل مرقس متعلّق بالنسوة حاملات الطيب وبيوسف الراميّ الذي كان عضوًا في مجلس مشايخ اليهود في الرامة. وكان يوسف من أولئك الذين ينتظرون لإسرائيل خلاصًا حقيقيًا، خلاصًا بالمخلص، يُنقذ من الخطيئة وحكم الشيطان، ينقذ الإنسان في داخله، في قلبه.

أرادت النساء ويوسف الراميّ، تطبيقًا للشريعة وحبًا بيسوع أن يُدفن جسد يسوع. وكان قد اقترب يوم السبت، ولا يجوز لليهود تعاطي أيّ عمل في السبت، كما لا يجوز أن تبقى الأجساد معلّقة على الصليب، لذلك، قبل أن تغيب الشمس وبيدئ يوم السبت، تجرّأ يوسف الراميّ وطلب جسد يسوع مُعلنًا بذلك أنّه من التلاميذ. دُفن جسد يسوع بسرعة ولم يسمح الوقت بأن يُحنط على عادة اليهود.

لذلك ذهبت النساء إلى القبر صباح الأحد، من بعد طلوع الشمس، ليكلمن التطيب بعد أن انقضى يوم السبت. ولكنهنّ رأين ملاكًا له صورة شابّ قال لهنّ: «لماذا تطلبن الحيّ مع الأموات؟ أنتنّ تطلبن يسوع الناصريّ المصلوب، ليس هو ههنا». جنن يطلبن ميتًا فقالت لهنّ السماء: لم يبق ميتًا ولكنه حيّ إلى الأبد. أنتنّ خرجتنّ معه من الشقاء ومن المرض ومن الخطيئة، وها الإنسانية تخرج معه أيضًا من ويلاتها، وليس للمؤمنين بعد اليوم علاقة مع الموت.

بعد أن أميت الموت دخلت الحياة كلّها، حياة الله، في مملكة الموت وبتنا أحياء. هذا معنى ما قاله القدّيس يوحنا الذهبيّ الفم في عظة الفصح: «قام المسيح وليس من ميت في القبور». قام المسيح ولا يجوز أن نتحدّث عن الموت أو أن نلتفت إليه، ولا يجوز أن نشقى أو تعذبنا الخطيئة، فإذا ارتكبناها نتوب ونجوزها لأنها لا تتحكّم في المؤمن. الخطيئة تعبر عبورًا والمؤمن يفوقها، يدوسها إذا أدرك أنّ المسيح حيّ وأنه يحييه.

صعب علينا أن نتصوّر ذلك لأنّ الموت قائم في النظر. الناس كلّهم يصبحون جثثًا، البشر يوضعون في نعوش، ومع ذلك يقول الكتاب إنهم أحياء، أي أنّنا رغم ما نرى قد دخلنا في مملكة الحياة لأنّ الموت لا يدوقه المؤمن كما قال ربنا في حديثه في بيت عنيا. السيّد عنى بذلك أنّ الموت لا يمرر المؤمن وأنّه لا يبقى فيه. المؤمن وإن مات فسيحيا. ليس أنّه يحيا في ما بعد عند القيامة العامّة، هذا حاصل، ولكنه يحيا منذ الآن. لما انتشل من حوض المعمودية تسرّبت حياة الله إليه وحضنته وأبقته فيها. فلو رأيتموه ميتًا إلا أنّه في سرّ المسيح أخذ يحيا ويمشي إلى الحياة الأبدية.

نحن مشدودون إلى الحياة الأبدية وبها نفكرّ لا بالموت، وإياها ندوق ولا ندوق الموت. يعبر هذا الجسم ويؤخذ الكيان إلى المسيح كيانًا قياميًا. هذا هو السرّ الذي يجب أن نألفه بالإيمان وبالأسرار المقدّسة. فإذا أخذنا جسد المسيح نخبر أنّنا بدأنا ندوق الحياة الكبرى، وإذا أقمنا ذكرى لمن نحبّ فنحن لا ننقل إلى الأحزان التي جاءتنا ولا نبقى أسرى فيها، ولكننا نشدّد بإيمان متجدّد، نشدّد إلى رؤية الحياة الأبدية التي هبطت عليهم وأخذتهم وتأخذنا نحن أيضًا كلّما أقمنا الذبيحة الإلهية وكنا إلى المسيح شاخصين.

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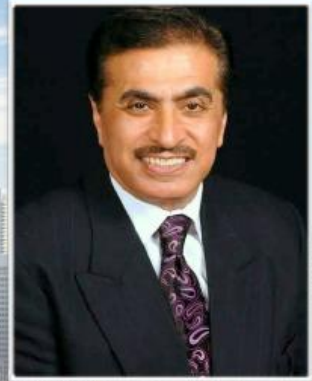


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