

كنيسة مار نقولا الانطاكيه الارثوذكسيه

St. Nicholas Weekly Bulletin

Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church

Antiochian Archdiocese of North America

Diocese of Los Angeles and the West

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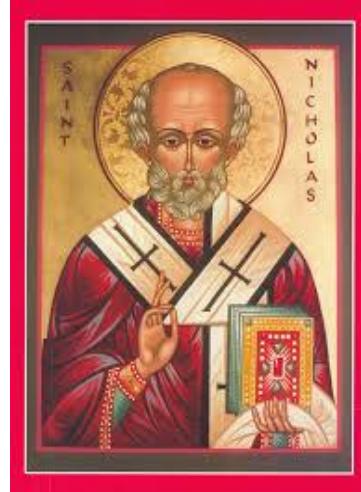
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Pastor Emeritus, V. Rev. Fr. Gregory Ofiesh

Sub-Dn. Michel Khoury

Sub-Dn. Ilyan Baalbaki

Parish Council Chairman: Maher Shami



Sunday, May 14th 2017 Sunday of the Samaritan Woman/أحد السامرية

Next Sunday May 21st (6-Month) Memorial Service for the servant of God **Fayek Rantisi** offered by his family! May his memory be eternal!

THE EPISTLE: The Reading from the Acts of the圣ly and Pure Apostles. (11:19-30)

In those days, the Disciples, who were scattered because of the persecution that arose over Stephen, traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the Word to none except Jews. But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who, upon coming to Antioch, spoke to the Greeks also, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number that believed turned to the Lord. News of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad; and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose; for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a large company was added to the Lord. So Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul; and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church, and taught a large company of people; and in Antioch the Disciples were for the first time called Christians. Now in these days prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. And one of them named Agabus stood up and foretold by the Spirit that there would be a great famine over all the world; and this took place in the days of Claudius. And the Disciples determined, every one according to his ability, to send relief to the brethren who lived in Judea; and they did so, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul.

الرسالة:

في تلك الأيام لما تَبَدَّلَ الرُّسْلُنَ من أجل الصِّيقِ الذي حَصَلَ بِسَبَبِ استفانوس اجتازوا إلى فينيقية وفِيرَصَ وإنطاكيَة وهم لا يَكُلُّونَ أحداً بالكلمة إلا اليهود فقط* ولكنَّ قوماً منهم كانوا قُبْرَصِيَّينَ وقِيرَوَانِيَّينَ. فَهُؤُلَاءِ لِمَا دَخَلُوا إِنطاكيَةَ أَخْذُوا يَكُلُّمُونَ الْيُونَانِيَّينَ مُبَشِّرِينَ بِالرَّبِّ يَسُوعَ * وكانت يَدُ الرَّبِّ مَعَهُمْ، فَامْنَ عَدَّ كَثِيرٍ وَرَجَعُوا إِلَى الرَّبِّ * فَبَلَغَ خَبْرُ ذَلِكَ إِلَى آذَانَ الْكَنْسِيَّةِ الَّتِي بِأُورُشَلَيمَ فَأَرْسَلُوا بِرَنَابَا لَكِي يَجْتَازَ إِنطاكيَةَ * فَلَمَّا أَقْبَلَ وَرَأَى نِعْمَةَ اللهِ فَرَحَ وَوَعَظَهُمْ كُلُّهُمْ بِأَنْ يَتَبَيَّنُوا فِي الرَّبِّ بِعَزِيمَةِ الْقَلْبِ * لَأَنَّهُ كَانَ رَجُلًا صَالِحاً مُمْتَنَى مِنَ الرُّوحِ الْقَدِيسِ وَالْإِيمَانِ. وَانضَمَ إِلَى الرَّبِّ جَمْعٌ كَثِيرٌ * ثُمَّ خَرَجَ بِرَنَابَا إِلَى طَرْسُوسَ فِي طَلَبِ شَاؤِلِ . وَلَمَّا وَجَدَهُ أَتَى بِهِ إِلَى إِنطاكيَةَ * وَتَرَدَّداً مَعَا سَنَةً كَاملَةً في هذه الْكَنْسِيَّةِ وَعَلَمَا جَمِيعاً كَثِيرًا وَدُعُّيَ التَّلَمِيدُ مُسِيحِيَّينَ فِي إِنطاكيَةَ أَوْ لَاَ * وَفِي تَلَكَ الأَيَّامِ انْهَرَ مِنْ أُورُشَلَيمَ أَنْبِيَاءَ إِلَى إِنطاكيَةَ * فَقَامَ وَاحِدٌ مِنْهُمْ اسْمُهُ أَغَابُوسَ فَأَنْبَأَ بِالرُّوحِ أَنْ سَتَكُونُ مَجَاعَةٌ عَظِيمَةٌ فِي جَمِيعِ الْمَسْكُونَةِ، وَقَدْ وَقَعَ ذَلِكَ فِي أَيَّامِ كَلُودِيوُسَ قِيَصَرَ * فَعَزَّمَ التَّلَمِيدُ بِحَسْبِ مَا يَتَسَبَّرُ لَكُلَّ وَاحِدٍ مِنْهُمْ أَنْ يُرْسِلُوا خِدْمَةً إِلَى الإِخْرَاءِ السَّاكِنِيَّنَ فِي أُورُشَلَيمَ * فَفَعَلُوا ذَلِكَ وَبَعْثُوا إِلَى الشُّيُوخِ عَلَى أَيْدِي بِرَنَابَا وَشَاؤِلِ .

THE GOSPEL: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (4:5-42)

At that time, Jesus came to a city of Samaria, called Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and so Jesus, wearied as He was with his journey, sat down beside the well. It was about the sixth hour. There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink." For His Disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to Him, "How is it that Thou, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and Who it is that is saying to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water." The woman said to Him, "Sir, Thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep; where do you get that living water?

Art Thou greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, and his sons, and his cattle?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst forever; the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." The woman answered Him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and he whom you now have is not your husband; this you said truly." The woman said to Him, "Sir, I perceive that Thou art a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain; and Thou sayest that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship Him. God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming [He Who is called Christ]; when He comes, He will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, "I Who speak to you am He." Just then His Disciples came. They marveled that He was talking with a woman, but none said, "What dost Thou wish?" or, "Why art Thou talking with her?" So the woman left her water jar, and went away into the city, and said to the people, "Come, see a man Who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" They went out of the city and were coming to Him. Meanwhile the Disciples besought Him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." But He said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." So the Disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought Him food?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him Who sent Me, and to accomplish His work. Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see how the fields are already white for harvest. He who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor; others have labored, and you have entered into their labor." Many Samaritans from that city believed in Him because of the woman's testimony, "He said to me all that I ever did." So when the Samaritans came to Him, they asked Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. And many more believed because of His words. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of your words that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world."

الإنجيل: يوحنا (4:5-42)

في ذلك الزمان أتى يسوع إلى مدينة من السامرية يُقال لها سُوخار بُقرب الضيعة التي أعطاها يعقوب ليوسف ابنه* وكان هناك عين يعقوب وكان يسوع قد تعب من المسير. فجلس على العين وكان نحو الساعة السادسة* فجاءت امرأة من السامرية لتستقي ماء. فقال لها يسوع أعطيتني لأشرب* فإن تلاميذه كانوا قد مضوا إلى المدينة ليتلقوا طعاماً* قالت له المرأة كيف تطلب أن تشرب متنى وأنت يهودي وأنك امرأة سامريَّة واليهود لا يخالطون السامريَّين* أجاب يسوع وقال لها لو عرفت عطية الله ومن الذي قال لك أعطيتني لأشرب لطلبتي أنت منه فأعطاك ماء حيَا* قالت له المرأة يا سيد إنَّه ليس معاك ما تستقي به والبئر عميقة. فمن أين لك الماء الحي؟* أعلق أنت أعظم من أبينا يعقوب الذي أعطانا البئر ومنها شرب هو وبنوة وماشيتة* أجاب يسوع وقال لها كُلْ مَن يشرب من هذا الماء يعطش أبداً وأما مَن يشرب من الماء الذي أنا أعطيه فلن يعطش إلى الأبد* بل الماء الذي أعطيه له يصير فيه ينبوع ماء يتبع إلى حياة أبدية* قالت له المرأة يا سيد أعني هذا الماء لكي لا أعطش ولا أجيء إلى هنا لأنستقي * فقال لها يسوع اذبهي وادعى رجلك وهلمي إلى هنا* أجبت المرأة وقالت إنه لا رجل لي. فقال لها يسوع قد أحستت بقولك إنَّه لا رجل لي * فإنه كان لك خمسة رجال والذي معك الآن ليس رجلاً. هذا فلتته بالصدق* قالت له المرأة يا سيد أرى أنك نبىٰ * آباونا سجدوا في هذا الجبل. وأنتم تقولون إنَّ المكان الذي يتبعني أن يسجد فيه هو في أورشليم* قال لها يسوع يا امرأة صدِّيقِي إنَّها تأتي ساعة لا في هذا الجبل ولا في أورشليم تَسجُدون فيها للآب* أنت تَسجُدون لما لا تعلمون ونحن نَسجُد لما نعلم. لأنَّ الخالص هو مِن اليهود* ولكن تأتي ساعة وهي الآن حاضرة إذ الساجدون الحقيقيون يَسجُدون للآب بالروح والحق. لأن الآباء إنما يطلب الساجدين له مثل هؤلاء * الله روح. والذين يَسجُدون له فالروح والحق يَنبعُي أن يَسجُدوا* قالت له المرأة قد علمت أن مسيء الذي يُقال له المسيح يأتي. فمتنى جاء ذاك فهو يُخبرُنا بكل شيء* فقال لها يسوع أنا المتكلم معك هو * وعند ذلك جاء تلاميذه فتعجبوا أنه يتكلم مع امرأة. ولكن لم يكن أحد ماذا تطلب أو لماذا تتكلم معها* فتركَت المرأة جرتها ومضت إلى المدينة وقالت للناس تعالوا انظروا إنساناً قال لي كل ما فعلت. العلَّ هذا هو المسيح* فخرجو من المدينة وأقبلوا نحوه* وفي أثناء ذلك سأله تلاميذه قائلين يا معلم كُلْ * فقال لهم إنَّ لي طعاماً لا كُلْ لست تعرفونه أنت* فقال التلاميذه فيما بينهم العلَّ أحداً جاء بما يأكل* فقال لهم يسوع إنَّ طعامي أن أعمل مشيئة الذي أرسلني وأنتم عمله* ألسْتُ تقولون أنت إنَّه يكون أربعَة أشهر ثم يأتي الحصاد. وها أنا أقول لكم ارْفَعوا عيونكم وانظروا إلى المزارع إنَّها قد ابيضت للحصاد* والذي يحصل يأخذ أجرة ويجمع ثمراً لحياة أبدية لكي يفرَّج الزارع والحاصد معاً* ففي هذا يصدق القول إنَّ واحداً يزرع وأخر يحصل* إنَّي أرسلتكم لتحقِّصُوا ما لم تتعَبُوا أنتم فيه. فإنَّ آخرين تعْبوا وأنتم دَخلْتم على ثَعْبِهم* فَامَّن به من تلك المدينة كثيرون من السامريَّين من أجل كلام المرأة التي كانت تشهد أن قد قال لي كُلَّ ما فعلت* ولما أتى إليه السامريُّون سألهُ أن يُقيم عندَهم. فمكث هناك يومين* فامَّن جمَّع أكثر من أولئك جداً من أجل كلامه* وكأنَّوا يقولون للمرأة لسنا منْ أجل كلامك نؤمنُ الآن. لأنَّا نحن قد سمعنا ونعلم أنَّ هذا هو بالحقيقة المسيح مُخلص العالم.

Holy Bread of oblation offered by:

- ❖ St. Nicholas church for the good health of those who have celebrated their birthdays this week: David Fadayel, Andrew Fadayel, Souzan Katami, Dorine Habeeb and Mandy Rantisi. Happy Birthday. Many Years!

Alter candles offered by:

- ❖ Sami and Maritsa Wahhab for the good health of their family and the graduation of their Son Rami Wahhab from Sacramento State University as a construction Engineer. Best Luck. Many Years!
- ❖ Laila Madback ,her children and grandchildren for the good health of **Sabrina Madback** on the occasion of her birthday. Happy Birthday. Many Years!

Mark your calendar for our upcoming events:

- ❖ **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.
- A delicious Fiesta Buffet will be served. Doors open at 8:00 pm.

Please note that reservation is needed. To reserve your seat, please contact Gladys Maalouf @ [415-832-0316](tel:415-832-0316)

SAVE THE DATE :

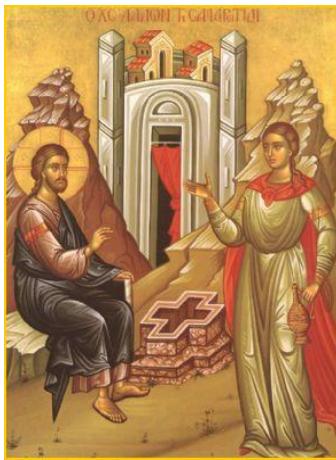


Father's Day Picnic on June 18th !

The picnic will be held at Dr. Hanna winery
Location: 5353 Occidental Rd., Santa Rosa, CA 95401
More info to follow...



- ❖ **Three Holy Youths Camp: June 19th – June 23rd 2017**
Medical Forms must be completed at your parish in person. **Registration \$100 per 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).**



SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN

When the Samaritan woman came back in haste to her town and called all those who lived around her to see Christ, she said: 'Come! Here is a Man who has told me everything I have done!' And the people flocked around, and listened to what Christ had to say.

At times we think, how easy it was for this woman to believe and how easy it was for her, from within this shattering experience to turn to others and say: Come! Listen to one who has spoken as no-one else has ever spoken, One Who, without a word of mine has seen into the depth of my heart, into the darkness of my life, has seen and known everything.

But is it not something that can happen to each of us? Christ did not tell her anything very singular; He told her who she was, what her life had been, how God saw her. But this He can tell us every day of our life, and not in a mystical experience, not as it happened to some saints, but in the simplest possible way.

If we turn to the Gospel and read it every day, or if we simply read it once in a while with an openness that we do not always possess, we may think that Christ holds before our eyes a mirror in which we see ourselves as we are: either by rejoicing at what we see, or by contrast, being shaken by the fact that we are so different from what we seem to be, or what we imagine we are.

Christ said to the Samaritan woman: Call your husband! And she said: I have no husband. Christ replied: You have spoken the truth. You have had five husbands, and the one who is your husband now indeed, is not your husband more than anyone else.

Certain spiritual writers have commented on this passage by saying that Christ was saying to her: Yes - you have been wedded to all that your five senses could give you, and you have seen that you find fulfilment, satisfaction in none. And now, what is left to you is your own self, your body, your mind, and this, no more than your five senses can fulfil you, give you that fullness without which you cannot live.

Is this not what Christ says to us when we read the Gospel, when He presents us with what we could be, when He calls us to that greatness which is ours by vocation; the greatness that Paul describes by calling us to reach the fullness of the stature of Christ - to be human as He was, in the same way as Christ is true man, fulfilled by total final, full communion with God.

So let us learn from this woman that we have turned, all of us, to so many ways in which we could receive the message of this world and be filled, and we have all discovered that nothing can fill us, because man is too deep for things material, too deep for things psychological, too vast - only God can fill this vastness and this depth. If we only could realise this, we would be exactly in the position of the woman of Samaria. We need not meet Christ at the well; the well, indeed, is the Gospel, the place from which the water of life may gush - but not a material well, that well is a symbol. The water which we are to drink is different.

And so, let us emulate this woman, let us come to our senses, let us realise that all we have been wedded to was not our fulfilment; and let us then ask ourselves "Who am I, with regard to myself in the dimension of God's vision?" And then we can go to others and say: I have met someone who has held a mirror before my eyes, and I have seen myself as I am, He has told me about myself: come and see! Come - and listen to Him!.. And others will come, others will listen, and then they will turn to us and say: It is no longer your testimony that makes us believe - we have seen for ourselves, we have heard for ourselves, we know for ourselves. We believe.

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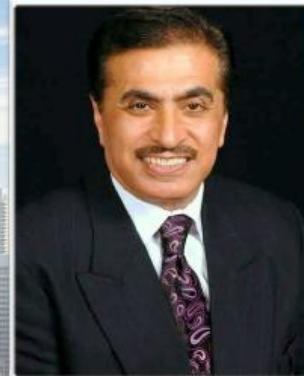


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