

#### كنيسة مار نقولا الأنطاكية الأرثوذكسية St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

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His Beatitude Patriarch JOHN X, Patriarch

of Antioch and All of East

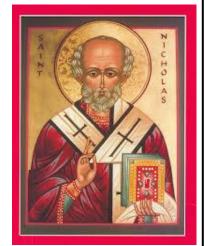
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Sub-Dn. **Ilyan Baalbaki** Sub-Dn. **Tariq Rantisi** 

Parish Council Chairman: Salim Qaru

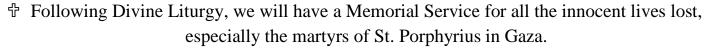
Parish Council Vice Chairman: Azar Azar



Sunday, October 22, 2023



### MEMORIAL SERVICE



Along with a special petition for immediate ceasefire and peace.

#### THE EPISTLE: 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 :غلاطِيَة

يا إخْوة، أُعْلِمُكُمْ أَنَّ الإنجيلَ الذي بَشَّرْتُ بِهِ، لَيْسَ بِحَسَبِ الإنسانِ. لأنّي لَمْ أَتَسَلَّمُهُ أَوْ أَتَعَلَّمُهُ مِنْ إنسانٍ، بَلْ بِإعْلانِ يسوعَ المَسيحِ. فَإِنَّكُمْ قَدْ سَمِعْتُمْ بِسِيرتي قَديماً في مِلَّةِ اليهودِ أَنِّي كُنْتُ أَضْطُهِدُ كَنيسَةَ الله بِإفْراطٍ وأُدَمِّرُها. وأَزيدُ تَقَدُّماً في مِلَّةِ اليهودِ على كَثيرينَ مِنْ أَثْرابي في جِنْسي، بِكُوني أَوْفَرَ مِنْهُمْ غَيْرةً على تقليداتِ آبائي. فَلْمًا ارْتَضَى الله، الذي أَفْرَزني مِنْ جَوْفِ أُمِّي ودَعاني بِنِعْمَتِهِ. أَنْ يُعلِنَ ابْنَهُ في لأَبَشِرَ بهِ بينَ الأُمْمِ، لِساعَتي لَمْ أُصْعِ إلى لَحْمٍ ودَمٍ. ولا صَعِدْتُ إلى أورَشَليمَ إلى الرُسُلِ الذينَ قَبْلي، بَلِ انْطَلَقْتُ إلى دِيارِ الْعَرَب، وبَعْدَ ذلِكَ رَجَعْتُ إلى دِمَشْقَ. ثُمَّ إنِّي بَعْدَ ثَلاَّثِ سِنِينَ، صَعِدتُ إلى أورَشَليمَ لِأَزورَ بُطْرُسَ، فَأَقَمْتُ عِنْدَهُ خَمْسَةً عِشَرَ يَوْماً. ولَمْ أَرَ غَيْرَهُ مِنَ الرُّسُلِ سِوى يَعْقُوبَ أَخي الرَّبّ.

#### **THE GOSPEL: 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

#### **THE GOSPEL: Luke. (8:26-39)**

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.

#### الإنجيل: لوقا

في ذلك الزمان، أتى يَسوعُ إلى كورَةِ الحِرْجِسِيينَ، فَاسْتَقْبَلَهُ رَجُلٌ مِنَ المَدينَةِ بِهِ شَياطينُ مُنْذُ زَمانٍ طَويلٍ، ولَمْ يَكُنْ يَلْبَسُ ثَوْباً ولا يَأْوِي إلى بَيْتٍ، بَلْ إلى القُبور. فَلَمَّا رأى يَسوعَ، صاحَ وخَرَّ لَهُ، وقالَ بِصَوْتٍ عَظيم: "ما لي ولَكَ يا يسوعُ ابْنَ اللهِ العَلِيِّ؟ أَطْلُبُ إليكَ أَلاَ تُعَذَّبَنِي." فإنَّهُ أَمَرَ الرَّوحَ النَجِسَ أَنْ يَخْرُجَ مِنَ الإنْسانِ، لأنَّهُ كَانَ قَدِ اخْتَطَفَّهُ مُنْذُ زَمانٍ طَويلٍ، وكانَ يُرْبَطُ بِسَلَاسِلَ، ويُحْبَسُ بِقُيودٍ، فَيَقْطَعُ الرُّبُطَ ويُسَاقُ مِنَ الشَيْطانِ إلى البررري. فَسَأَلَهُ يَسوعُ قائِلاً: "ما اسْمُكَ؟" فقالَ لَهُ: "لَجِيُون"، لأنَّ شَياطينَ ويُحْبَسُ بِقُيودٍ، فَيَقْطَعُ الرُّبُطَ ويُساقُ مِنَ الشَيْطانِ إلى البرري. فَسَأَلَهُ يَسوعُ قائِلاً: "ما اسْمُكَ؟" فقالَ لَهُ: "لَجِيُون"، لأنَّ شَياطينَ مَثَلِهُ البراري كَثيرَةٍ قَطْيعُ خَنازير كَثيرَةٍ قَالَ لَهُ: "لَجِيُون"، لأنَّ شَياطينَ فَطَلِهُ الْ يَأْمُرَهُم بالذَهابِ إلى الهاويةِ. وكانَ هُنَاكَ قَطيعُ خَنازير كَثيرَةٍ قَلْكَ الجَالِ. فَطَلِهُ الْنَابُ الْمُوا الْمِيهِ عَنْ الجُرْفِ إلى يَسوعُ الجُنونُ وَعَى الجُولُ اللهُ مَنْ الإنسانَ الذي خَرَجَتْ مِنْهُ الشَياطينُ جَالِساً عِنْدَ قَدَمَى يَسوعُ لائنَّهُ اعْتَلَ اهُمْ خَوْفٌ عَظيمٌ. فَدَخَلَ السَقينَةَ وَرَجَعَ. فَسَأَلَهُ اللهُ الذي خَرَجَتْ مِنْهُ الشَياطينُ أَنْ يَكُونَ مَعَهُ. فَصَرَفَهُ يَسوعُ قائِلاً: "إرجَعْ إلى بَيْتِكَ وحَدِّثْ بِمَا صَنَعَ اللهُ النافِيكَ." فَذَهَبَ وهُو اللهُ الذي خَرَجَتْ مِنْهُ الشَياطينُ أَنْ يَكُونَ مَعَهُ. فَصَرَفَهُ يَسوعُ قائِلاً: "إرجَعْ إلى بَيْتِكَ وحَدِّثْ بِمَا صَنَعَ اللهُ النافِيكَ." فَذَهَبَ وهُو يُلكَ وَالمَدينَةِ كُلِها بِما صَنَعَ اللهُ النافِيكَ." فَرَحَتْ وهُو يَلكُ في المُدينَةِ كُلِها بِما صَنَعَ اللهُ النافِيكَ." فَرَجَعْ فَاللهُ الذي في المُدينَةِ كُلِها بِما صَنَعَ اللهُ إليْكَ." وَمَا مَنَعَ اللهُ النافِي في المُدينَةِ كُلِها بما صَنَعَ اللهُ النافِي عَلَى المُدينَةِ كُلِها اللهُ الذي اللهُ الذي اللهُ الذي اللهُ الذي اللهُ الذي المُهُ المُنْ اللهُ الذي اللهُ الذي اللهُ المُنْ اللهُ الذي اللهُ الذي اللهُ المُنْ المُنْ اللهُ المُنْ اللهُ اللهُ المُنْ المُنْ الم

#### **Holy Bread of Oblation**

♣ Offered by David Hanhan and his family, in loving memory of his mother Afdokia Hanhan and his son Joseph David Hanhan.

May Their Memories Be Eternal!

#### **ALTAR CANDLE OFFERING:**

† Offered by **Faten Elgelda** in Loving Memory of **Salim Fashho** on the occasion of his 2 year Memorial. *May his Memory be Eternal!* 

#### PRAYERS FOR GAZA AT ST. GEORGE CATHEDRAL, DALY CITY:

We request your presence as we pray for the tragedies happening in Gaza.

Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 7PM

October is Youth Month in our Archdiocese. During this month, we encourage our youth to Read the Epistles in Church, Take the Collections, Usher in Church, Chant and Sing in Church and Take Part in Church Activities. Please encourage and help our youth participate in the life of the Church during October and throughout the year.

#### **CONGRATULATIONS:**

- ◆ Congratulations and best wishes to **Issa & Jenin (Kari) Kaleh** on their holy matrimony. *God Bless and Many Years!*
- ◆ Congratulations and best wishes to **Spiro**, **Annette** and **Aria Hanhan** for the churching of **George Spiro Hanhan**. Also to the grandparents, **George & Evon Hanhan**, **Jamal & Muna Saleh** and the entire Hanhan and Saleh Families. *God bless and many years!*
- ◆ Congratulations and best wishes to Raied Simon, Evelyn, Sofie and Zayne Azar for the churching of Amir Ray Azar. Also to the grandparents, Simon & Fadwa Azar, Jamal & Muna Saleh and the entire Azar and Saleh Families. God bless and many years!

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS:**

ST. NICHOLAS ANNUAL FAMILY NIGHT: Saturday, November 18th, sponsored by the Rantisi Families.

#### **Metropolitan Anthony: ON COMMUNION AND LIFE**

We hear week after week the Lord saying, "Do this in remembrance of Me", and we always apply these words, and rightly so, to the celebration of the Last Supper, to the breaking of the bread, to the sharing of the cup, to the holy meal which Christ had with His disciples.

And we are right to do so because it was the prefiguration of the Banquet of the Lamb, of the great feast of eternity, because all of us we have been created by God in order to be His companions for eternity; and a companion is one who breaks the bread with us, who is received at the host's table, who is made an equal to his host by this law of hospitality and of love. And the Last Supper was this; Christ broke the bread and shared the cup, He made His disciples unto His companions and, as this bread and wine were Him, He united His companions to Himself in an unspeakable way to be one body and one life.

But the words which Christ told, "Do this in remembrance of Me" do not apply only to the last Supper, to the holy and divine Liturgy which we celebrate. What He was doing in the Upper Room was also an image of what His life and death were. The breaking of the bread was the breaking of His body, the sharing of the cup was the shading of His blood, and what was signified in the last Supper was the Garden of Gethsemane with the anguish and the horror of the coming death upon Him Who was free of evil and yet chose to share with us our destiny of dereliction and mortality, and of Calvary, the actual dying for the salvation of others, - more than this: the dying of their death so that they should share and possess His life.

And if we are to take in earnest what we do here, week after week, feast after feast, celebrating the Last Supper of the Lord, breaking the bread together and sharing the cup, we must remember that this act makes us one with each other, because we become so one with Christ, but also that all that is true of the life and the sacrificial death of Christ must become true for us and in us. We must so live as Christ lived for others, we must so die as Christ died, that others may live. We must so ascend from life into this sacrificial generous life-giving death Christ did, and this lays upon us a heavy, a stern and glorious responsibility. Let us take it earnestly, because otherwise our celebration is empty of meaning. We cannot come day after day and ask Christ to let us become

partaker of what happens in the Upper Room if we accept to be estranged, to be alien to what it stood for His life, His incarnation, His teaching, His facing the coming death, His dying our death that we may live. Let us think about it and reconsider all our relationships with others, rethink all our attitude to those who are around us. Do we live for their sake? Is our life an offering? Are we like the Apostles of whom Paul spoke in today's Epistle, like men sent in the last times to bring a witness of love and pay the cost for it, so that life should be theirs, should belong to those who surround us whether they love or hate us, and death should be ours, the death of Christ, sacrificial, holy, an offering of love, brought not only to God, but to each person who needs it.

رسول الغربة المزدوجة: غربة الإنسان وغربة يسوع

في شفاء الرجل من كورة الجرجسيين، الذي سكنته شياطين كثيرة، تنكشف لنا الحال التي وصلت إليها خليقتا الله، الشيطان والإنسان على حدّ سواء، وتأثير الأوّل على الثاني، وحياة الثاني من دون تأثير الأوّل وتسلّطه عليه.

خرج الرجل الممسوس من الشركة الطبيعيّة مع أترابه، فبات غصبًا عنه معزولًا عنهم. اتّخذ مكان إقامة غريبًا عن مظاهر الحياة، حيث سكن القبور. حتّى شكله ما كان يدعو إلى الاطمئنان، إذ كان عريانًا. هذا كلّه أتى بداعي غربته عن الله، وليس من أجله. فالغربة التي أقام فيها، والفقر الذي كان يعيشه، ما كانا بدافع الاستعداد والتهيئة للقاء الله واحتضان للمخلوق على صورته، بل تأكيدًا على غياب الألفة مع الله والتآخي مع أترابه. نعم، كان مسلكه مصدر خطر على الأخرين فكان يُربط بسلاسل لدرء شرّه

على مقلب آخر من الحادثة، نرى يسوع في تلك الكورة يُظهر لنا وجهَين مميِّزَين للإنسان الجديد، تواضعه ومحبّته، وما يعني ذلك من سلطة وقدرة وفعل وحياة جديدة. هذا برز في تعاطيه مع الإنسان الممسوس ومع الشياطين التي كانت تسكنه.

أذن يسوع للشياطين بأن تغادر الممسوس إلى قطيع الخنازير، فقد آثرت ألّا تذهب إلى الهاوية منذ تلك الساعة، بينما لمست في حضور يسوع مصدر عذاب لها. بالفعل، انفصل الشيطان عن الله، ففقد التواضع والمحبّة. ما عاد يلتمس الله، وما عادت حضرة الله مصدر فرح، ولا اللقاء به مصدر حياة. باتت محبّة الله له مصدر عذاب أليم. في سياق تدبيره الإلهيّ، هكذا تصرّف يسوع في هذه الحادثة مع خليقته، الشيطان.

من جهة أخرى، يرفع تواضع يسوع ومحبّته الإنسانَ الممسوس إلى مستوى الوجود الطبيعيّ لكلّ إنسان، حيث يوضح النصّ أنّه بات مرتديًا لباسًا، وصار صحيح العقل، وأصبح بإمكانه أن يجالس أترابه. هذا كان من وجهة نظر اجتماعيّة وإنسانيّة. وفي هذا دخولٌ في معركة التآخي الطويلة والمحيية مع الإنسان أخيه. ولكنّ النصّ يشي بأمر آخر، وهو أنّ ما جرى لهذا الإنسان كان له انعكاس على الكيان. والمقصود بالطبع خبرته الجديدة مع يسوع نفسه، وطبيعة الحياة الجديدة التي أخذها منه بعد أن تحرّر من فعل الشياطين وتسلّطها عليه.

ربّ قائلٍ إنّها أعجوبة باهرة، فنتوقّف عند هذه الصفة، أي صفة ما هو باهر، ولا ننفذ إلى ما تشير إليه وتكشفه بآن. من السهل أن نبقى على مستوى قدرة الله وما يمكن لهذه القدرة أن تفعله لصالحنا ومن أجلنا. هكذا نبقى أسرى أنفسنا في التعاطي مع ذواتنا. ولكنّ الرجل الصحيح العقل انطلق إلى مكان أبعد من ذاته عندما طلب إلى يسوع أن يصحبه معه وأن يكون معه. بالفعل، قادنا إلى ما هو أبعد من نصير أو بطلٍ أو ما هو أبعد من نصير أو بطلٍ أو مقتدر. قادنا إلى حيث يسوع موجود، إلى حيث يرغب يسوع في أن يكون موجودًا، إلى حيث يسوع ما يزال غريبًا ومنسيًا ومتروكًا. نعم، قادنا إلى تلك الغربة التي يقيم فيها يسوع طالما اخترنا سكنى القبور، والعريّ، والعنف، والعزلة، وأشكال الموت في الحياة، والانقياد إلى الشيطان وأعماله وغاياته.

هكذا سريعًا ما اختفت الأعجوبة من مجال انتباهنا لتتركز على رسول يسوع الجديد وما لديه ليخبرنا به من عظائم الله التي صنعها به. فهذا أرسله يسوع إلى خاصته وبيته ليكون رسوله إليهم، رسوله في بيئة حاضنة للخنازير والشياطين، أي لما يمثّل الوجهة المعاكسة لأمر الله والصلة به والتعاطي معه. إنّه إرسال إلى المكان، لا بل إلى الجماعة وإلى كلّ إنسان غريب عن الله، ليصيروا أقرباء وأحرارًا بفعل هذه القربي من الله. ما كان هذا ممكنًا لو أنّ هذا الإنسان لم يلمس في كيانه تواضع يسوع ومحبّته حتّى تكون لديه البوصلة الصحيحة والحقيقيّة في تعاطيه مع أترابه، الذين عادوه لمّا كان ممسوسًا بالأمس وبات عليه أن يكون خادمهم اليوم وكانّ به م

أَوليس في هذا الاستعداد تكمن الأعجوبة الحقيقية في هذه الحادثة: أن يعود الإنسان الجديد الذي يرسله المسيح إلى مَن جعلوا أنفسهم أعداء ليصيروا إخوة له وأصدقاء لله؟ هلا رجعنا إذًا إلى بيوتنا على هذا الأساس، بحال كان هذا الاستعداد موجودًا فينا، وحدّثنا بما صنع الله بنا؟ هلا طلبنا إلى الله أن يقودنا إلى أن يتكوّن فينا هذا الاستعداد بحال خلا منّا؟ في كلتا الحالتين، فلنشكر الله الذي أعطانا هذه الفرصة، ولنشكر الذين قادونا من العداوة لله ولأخينا إلى الشركة الأخويّة بالمسيح.

+ سلوان متروبوليت جبيل والبترون وما يليهما (جبل لبنان)

## Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church

Banquet Hall





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venue for your next wedding
reception, baptism, graduation,
birthday, or conference. We offer
a range of professional banquet
and catering services with a vast
and eclectic menu, showcasing a
variety of catering options and
premium beverages. Our friendly
and professionally trained staff will
work with you to identify your
needs within your budget to create
a personal and memorable event.

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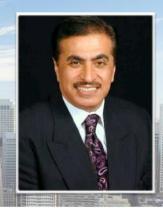


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