

Welcome: Guests, Visitors and New Members

On Holy Communion at The Sign: We welcome everyone joining us in worship today. One of those sad results of the schisms among Christians is that we can offer Holy Communion only to Orthodox Christians. We believe that the Eucharist is a final sign of union among Christians (and not a way that such unity might be achieved). We are glad that you attended, and invite you to partake of the antidoron (the blessed bread) offered at the conclusion of the Liturgy.

The Daily Offering by St. George Orthodox Church of Montreal is a brief weekday email sent Monday through Friday providing you with strength and hope. Each edition is based on the daily Gospel and Epistle readings appointed by the Orthodox Church and includes a short reflection. To subscribe http://bit.ly/Daily_Offering

Coffee Hour: Volunteers needed!! Sunday's available are now in-May 2020. If no one signs up Anna will make the coffee hours pot luck, bring one item per person- Please call Anna for any details and/or confirmation at 514-241-4500

Household Volunteers: Please consider volunteering to clean the premises. There are 3 areas to choose from. Chapel-Altar, Stairwells- Bathrooms and downstairs Hall. Sign-up list is by the kitchen and ask for a key!! Contact person is **Adriana Gutierrez**

Donations: can be made through new 2020 envelopes, found at the door or PayPal on the website <https://signorthodoxchurch.ca>

The Building Fund of The Sign of the Theotokos Orthodox Church has \$ 10,306.56

Make The Sign one of the beneficiaries in your Last Will and Testament soon!

Sunday Offerings

Last Sunday.....	\$ 0,000.00
Two Weeks Ago.....	\$ 1,810.00
Three Weeks Ago.....	\$ 2,055.00

Donations:

Even though the church services have temporarily stopped do not forget that the day-to-day expenses of the church will not stop, simply because we are not gathering. For information on methods of providing your financial support please click the **donate button** on the [website](https://signorthodoxchurch.ca). <https://signorthodoxchurch.ca> But don't forget that you can still send cheques by mail, to the church, as long as postal services are functioning. (Please see the mailing address on the front page)

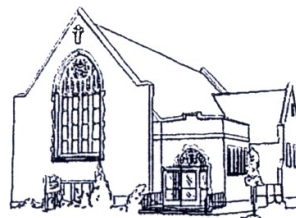
PLEASE FILL-IN, and place in collection basket, if you would like to:

- ___ have your name/address/phone added/corrected on our mailing list
- ___ have the pastor call or visit the person named below
- ___ volunteer your time to help our parish fulfill its mission

Name _____ Phone (____) _____ - _____

Address _____

City _____ Postal Code _____



The Sign of the Theotokos Orthodox Church

750 St Joseph East in Montréal, QC
Mailing Address: 4829 rue Resther, Montréal H2J 2V6
Archpriest Gregory Nimijean

No. 2073 "The Lord Himself will give you a sign..."

March 29, 2020

**4th Sunday of GREAT LENT— Tone 8
St. John Climacus (of The Ladder)**

Tone 8 Troparion (Resurrection)

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One!
Thou didst endure the three day burial to free us from our sufferings!//
O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to Thee!

Tone 1 Troparion (St. John of the Ladder)

O dweller of the wilderness and angel in the body!
You were a wonder-worker, O our God-bearing Father John!
You received heavenly gifts
through fasting, vigil, and prayer:
healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to you by faith.
Glory to Him who gave you strength!
Glory to Him who granted you a crown!//
Glory to Him who through you grants healing to all.

Tone 8 Kontakion (Resurrection)

By rising from the tomb, Thou didst raise the dead and resurrected Adam.
Eve exults in Thy Resurrection,
and the world celebrates Thy rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One!

Tone 4 Kontakion (St. John of the Ladder)

The Lord truly set you
on the heights of abstinence
to be a guiding star,
showing the way to the universe,//
O our Father and Teacher John.

Tone 8 Prokeimenon

Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God! (Ps 75:72)
vs. In Judah God Is known; His Name is great in Israel. (Ps 75:2)

Tone 7 Prokeimenon (St. John):

Let the Saints be exalted in glory; let them sing for joy on their couches. (Ps 149:6)

Hebrews 6:13-20 (Epistle)

For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, saying, “Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you.” And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise. For men indeed swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute. Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us. This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil, where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

Ephesians 5:9-19 (Epistle, Saint)

for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. Therefore He says: “Awake, you who sleep, arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light.” See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,

Lecture de l'épître du saint apôtre Paul aux Hébreux (Hb VI,13-20)

Frères, lorsque Dieu fit promesse à Abraham, il ne pouvait jurer par un plus grand que lui ; il jura donc par lui-même en disant : « Certes, je te comblerai de bénédictions et je te multiplierai grandement. » Et c'est ainsi qu'Abraham, ayant persévéré, obtint ce qui lui était promis. Les hommes, en effet, jurent par un plus grand ; et, entre eux, la garantie du serment met un terme à toute contestation. C'est en ce sens que Dieu, voulant bien davantage montrer aux héritiers de la promesse l'immuable fermeté de son dessein, fit intervenir le serment, afin que par un engagement doublement infaillible, puisqu'il est impossible à Dieu de mentir, nous soyons puissamment encouragés, comme y trouvant refuge, à saisir fortement l'espérance qui nous est proposée. Et nous la tenons comme l'ancre de notre âme, cette espérance sûre et solide, qui au-delà du voile a pénétré, là où pour nous, en précurseur, est entré Jésus, devenu « selon l'ordre de Melchisédech grand prêtre à jamais ».

St Jean climaque (Ep V,9-19)

Frères, conduisez-vous en fils de lumière, car le fruit de l'Esprit, c'est tout ce qui est bonté, justice et vérité. Sachez reconnaître ce qui plaît au Seigneur, et ne prenez aucune part aux œuvres stériles des ténèbres ; démasquez-les plutôt. Ce qui s'y fait en cachette, on rougit même d'en parler. Mais, quand ces choses-là sont démasquées, leur réalité se révèle au grand jour, car ce qui révèle tout, c'est la lumière. C'est pourquoi l'on chante : « Toi qui dors, éveille-toi, d'entre les morts relève-toi, et le Christ t'illuminera ». Prenez donc bien garde à votre conduite : ne vivez pas comme des insensés, mais comme des sages ; tirez parti du temps présent, car nous traversons des jours mauvais. Ne

soyez donc pas irréfléchis, mais comprenez bien quelle est la volonté du Seigneur. Ne buvez pas jusqu'à l'ivresse, car le vin porte à la débauche : laissez-vous plutôt remplir par l'Esprit saint. Dites entre vous des psaumes, des hymnes et des cantiques spirituels, chantez pour le Seigneur et psalmodiez de tout cœur. En tout temps et pour toutes choses, rendez grâces à Dieu le Père, au nom de notre Seigneur Jésus Christ. Soyez soumis les uns aux autres, dans la crainte de Dieu.

Alleluia, Tone 8

Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior! (Ps 94:1)

v. Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise! (ps 94:2)

Tone 4 (St. John)

They that are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God (Ps 91:13)

Mark 9:17-31 (Gospel)

Then one of the crowd answered and said, “Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit. And wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; he foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth, and becomes rigid. So I spoke to Your disciples, that they should cast it out, but they could not.” He answered him and said, “O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him to Me.” Then they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth. So He asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?” And he said, “From childhood. And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.” Jesus said to him, “If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.” Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, “Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!” When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it: “Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!” Then the spirit cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, “He is dead.” But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when He had come into the house, His disciples asked Him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?” So He said to them, “This kind can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting.” Then they departed from there and passed through Galilee, and He did not want anyone to know it. For He taught His disciples and said to them, “The Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him. And after He is killed, He will rise the third day.”

Matthew 4:25-5:12 (Gospel, Saint)

Great multitudes followed Him – from Galilee, and from Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and beyond the Jordan. And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be

shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Lecture de l'Évangile selon Saint Marc (Mc IX,17-31)

En ce temps-là, quelqu'un de la foule dit à Jésus : « Maître, je t'ai amené mon fils ; qui est possédé d'un esprit muet. En quelque lieu qu'il le saisisse, il le jette par terre ; l'enfant écume, grince des dents, et devient tout raide. J'ai prié tes disciples de chasser l'esprit, et ils n'ont pas pu ». « Race incrédule », leur dit Jésus, « jusques à quand serai-je avec vous ? Jusques à quand vous supporterez-vous ? Amenez-le-moi ». On le lui amena. Et dès que l'enfant vit Jésus, l'esprit l'agita avec violence ; il tomba par terre, et se roula en écumant. Jésus demanda au père : « Depuis combien de temps cela lui arrive-t-il ? » « Depuis son enfance », répondit-il, « et souvent l'esprit l'a jeté dans le feu et dans l'eau pour le faire périr. Mais, si tu peux quelque chose, aide-nous, aie pitié de nous. » Jésus lui dit : « Si tu peux !... Tout est possible à celui qui croit. » Aussitôt le père de l'enfant s'écria : « Je crois ! Seigneur, aide-moi dans mon incrédule ! » Jésus, voyant accourir la foule, menaça l'esprit impur, lui disant : « Esprit muet et sourd, je te l'ordonne, sors de cet enfant, et n'y rentre plus ». Et il sortit, en poussant des cris, et en l'agitant avec une grande violence. L'enfant devint comme mort, de sorte que plusieurs disaient qu'il était mort. Mais Jésus, l'ayant pris par la main, le fit lever. Et il se tint debout. Quand Jésus fut entré dans la maison, ses disciples lui demandèrent en particulier : « Pourquoi n'avons-nous pu chasser cet esprit ? » Il leur dit : « Cette espèce-là ne peut sortir que par la prière [et par le jeûne] ». Ils partirent de là, et traversèrent la Galilée. Jésus ne voulait pas qu'on le sût. Cependant, il enseignait ses disciples, et il leur dit : « Le Fils de l'homme sera livré entre les mains des hommes ; ils le feront mourir, et, trois jours après qu'il aura été mis à mort, il ressuscitera ».

St Jean climaque (Mt IV,25-V,12)

Des foules nombreuses se mirent à le suivre, de la Galilée, de la Décapole, de Jérusalem, de la Judée, et d'au delà du Jourdain. Voyant la foule, Jésus monta sur la montagne ; et, après qu'il se fut assis, ses disciples s'approchèrent de lui. Puis, ayant ouvert la bouche, il les enseigna, et dit : « Heureux les pauvres en esprit, car le royaume des cieux est à eux ! Heureux ceux qui pleurent, car ils seront consolés ! Heureux les doux, car ils hériteront la terre ! Heureux ceux qui ont faim et soif de la justice, car ils seront rassasiés ! Heureux les miséricordieux, car ils obtiendront miséricorde ! Heureux ceux qui ont le cœur pur, car ils verront Dieu ! Heureux ceux qui procurent la paix, car ils seront appelés fils de Dieu ! Heureux ceux qui sont persécutés pour la justice, car le royaume des cieux est à eux ! Heureux êtes-vous, lorsque l'on vous insulte, que l'on vous persécute et que l'on dit faussement de vous toute sorte de mal, à cause de moi. Réjouissez-vous et soyez dans l'allégresse, car votre récompense est grande dans les cieux ; c'est ainsi en effet qu'on a persécuté les prophètes qui vous ont précédés ».

