

- ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN'S MONTH -

Message from Sylvia Mefrige, President - Lent 2010

Antiochian Women are remembered and honoured year round, but March is particularly special in the Antiochian Women's Calendar. In order to be a member of this organization, women must be baptized in the Orthodox Church. Their tradition goes back a long way in the history of the Church. Many Biblical figures such as Ruth and Rachel, also the Myrrh-Bearing Women, as well as many others, have been faithful servants to their Church. When the present St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox was founded in Montreal, it was the women of the Church who had the task of making sure that it survived. These women, many of which still have female relatives who are active Antiochian Women, undertook many events to raise funds. These activities involved such things as baking, hosting special events, and at an earlier time, collecting coal to heat the Church. Today, the Antiochian Women still carry on many of these traditions. Some teach in the Church School, others are members of the Choir, while many bake and host special events. Their ultimate goal in the year 2010 is to Preserve and Promote Good Will, Unity and Fellowship. Each and every Antiochian Woman has much to offer to her Church and her Community. The North American Board is a group of these women representing all the Dioceses. They meet at Archdiocesan Conventions and Conferences where programs are formulated in Religious and Humanitarian areas. We encourage each woman who can contribute to our cause to do so, in whatever capacity she can. The schedule for the Antiochian Women follows below. It is an extremely full schedule, but has in the past been most successful, thanks to the participation and dedication of these women.

- **February 2, 2010 - Deli Night:** Chairperson & Ticket Convener Laurie Maalooof (514) 494-2079 – Note: no tickets sold at door (\$15.00/person)
- **February 19, 2010 – 1st Madayeh Lenten Supper (6pm):** Chairperson Mrs. Pat Kouri (514) 697-4312
- **Ladies Month (March) -** Chairperson Dorothy Makarios (514) 351-3240
- **March 7, 2010 - Mid Lenten Lunch:** Chairperson Sanaa Shamy (514) 295-1110 & Ticket Convener Sylvia Mefrige (514) 344-0550 (\$15.00/person)
* **Surprise*** - At this event we will also be celebrating the 60th Birthday of our Choir Director (of 43 years!) **Miss Mary Jane Puiu.** Anyone wishing to commemorate her birthday with a monetary gift to help with her medical treatments, *which will be greatly appreciated*, is asked to please contact Sylvia Mefrige (514-344-0550).
- **March 19, 2010 - Last Madayeh Lenten Supper (6pm):** Chairperson Fawzia Makarios (Zahle Restaurant: 514-336-3013)
- **March 28, 2010 - Palm Sunday Bake Sale:** Co-Chairs Hala Zakaib (514) 748-0882 & Salwa AbouAssaleh (514) 337-6779
- **April 3 2010 (late night) - Pascha (Easter) Agape Breakfast:** Chairs - The Mansour Family: Ibtissam, Amal & Nada (514) 336 0811, (514) 336-5944, (514) 745-2354.