

# OUR PARISH

Our Lady of Lebanon Co-cathedral - Harris Park



"50 Year Jubilee - From Generation to Generation"

Issue 5 | Sunday 4 December 2022 | Birth of John the Baptist

"He asked for a writing-tablet and wrote, 'His name is John.' " Lk 1: 57-66

## Message from the Bishop

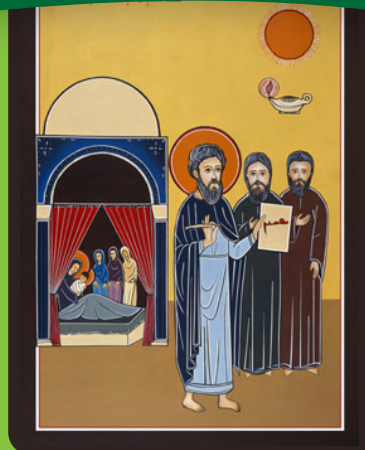
Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This Sunday, the Maronite Church guides us to reflect on the Birth of John. The Church ordinarily celebrates or marks the birth of saints in Heaven. The only persons whose birthdays on earth we also celebrate are Our Lord, His Mother and John the Baptist. Reflecting on the birth of John, the Precursor, underlines the extraordinary gift that God the Father has given us through him and his place in the history of salvation.

John had been destined to be, after Mary, the great servant of God's plan for humanity. He is called from the womb of his mother, to bring his people back to the Lord, and become the light of the nations. He announces the Coming of Christ. His mission is explained in the Gospel of Luke.

The promised child is named John, or Yo-Hanan in Hebrew, meaning "God is gracious". This name given to him by the Angel was the announcement of his vocation, of the marvellous plan of the Lord for him. In the history of salvation, the names are often significant and carry a meaning revealing various facets of what God's mission for that person was. But in His love, the Lord entrusts the honour and the choice of fulfilling this mission to the person. It is completely our choice to accept God's love and take part in His plan and work.

The Lord called John and appointed him for a very special mission, but isn't that what He accomplishes in a more discreet manner for each of us, for every child who is born? Our names are not chosen by God himself but by our parents at the time of our birth. Each one of us is unique, we know that. Each one of us is invaluable in God's eyes and has been granted different gifts and entrusted with a mission. In the example of Zechariah and Elizabeth, it is important that parents accept and support the vocation of their child. This implies that,



Birth of John the Baptist

Lk 1: 57-66 | Gal 4: 21-5:1

from conception, the child is to be welcomed as a gift from God, as a messenger from God at the heart of our life, at the heart of our world.

A few weeks separate us from Christmas and the question posed to us by this Sunday's Gospel is: do we accept the plan of love that God has for us, for our whole life? Are we ready to fulfil our part in the history of salvation? Let us give thanks for our gifts and ask the Holy Spirit to make them bear fruit in us and help prepare the way of the Lord.

+ Antoine-Charbel Tarabay

## QUESTION

What can spouses do when they do not have children?

Should the gift of a child not be given to them, after exhausting all legitimate medical options, spouses can show their generosity by way of foster care or adoption or by performing meaningful services for others. In this way they realise a precious spiritual fruitfulness

## ANSWER

### SUNDAY HOLY LITURGIES

OLOL Co-Cathedral, Harris Park

8am (Arabic)  
9:30am (English)  
11am (Ar/Eng)  
5pm (Ar/Eng)  
7pm (English)

Live Streaming  
Through Social Media

### WEEKLY HOLY LITURGIES

Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri  
7am, 9am & 6pm

Wed 7am, 9am & 5:30pm(Ar)  
7pm (English Youth)  
Sat 7:30am & 6pm (Ar/Eng)

### CONFESSIONS

Before and during Saturday  
6pm and Sunday Masses or by  
appointment on weekdays

### WEEKDAY DEVOTIONS

Rosary:  
Mon - Sat  
8:30am (Arabic) | 7pm(English)

Divine Mercy followed by  
Rosary Fri 7:30pm

Adoration Hour & Confessions  
Thur 8 pm - 9 pm

24 Hour Adoration  
Every first Friday of the month  
from 9:30 a.m - Saturday 7:30

### CONTACT

Fr Tony Sarkis (Dean): 0433 211 248  
Fr Youwakim Noujaim: 0406 060 445  
Fr Charbel Dib: 0410 759 795  
Fr John-Paul Bassil: 0401 545 454  
Fr Youssef Matta: 0427 922 092  
Fr Yuhanna Azize: 0435 764 824  
Fr Bernard Assi: 0411 811 807  
Fr Pierre Khoury: 0411 735 258  
Fr Paul Joubeir: 0414 900 016  
Fr Robert-Pio Al Bayeh: 0414 447 883  
Dcn Ron Hassarati: 0403 504 384  
SubDcn Ghassan Nakhoul: 0410 524 335

Parish Office:  
9689 2899

### Opening Hours:

Monday to Friday  
9am - 4:30pm  
Saturday  
9am - 1pm

Fax: 9689 2068

Email: info@olol.org.au

Website: www.olol.org.au

## "Destined for Greatness"

When my children were born, all I felt was inexplicable love for each of them, and a strong desire to protect them from harm. I didn't think about their future career path or education, only about how much I loved them and how grateful I was to God for this gift of life. If someone had said to me "this child is destined for greatness" it would have been overlooked, just a comment in passing, as I didn't know then, what I know now. Yes, every child is destined for greatness, as we all are, in God's plan of salvation.

Admittedly, we can't all be like John the Baptist, but we are all called to be holy, to be saints, and that my friends is the definition of 'greatness'. Not the same success that the world looks for, or admires, but the highest achievement of all...to be a saint and to spend eternity in the presence of the Blessed Trinity. Who among us would not desire that? Who among us would prefer temporary recognition on earth at the price of losing eternity in Heaven? Unfortunately, there are many among us who are leading lives that do not seek such a destination, as they have been blinded by the temporal

attachments and vices that give them momentary pleasure on earth. This is not what God has planned for us, if we but surrender to His Holy Will and not our own will.

God the Father made us in His own image and likeness. He breathed His Holy Spirit into each one of us. He sent His only begotten Son to die on the Cross to save us from everlasting death. God did this so that we may know Him, love Him, serve Him on earth, and one day be with Him in Heaven. For God so loved the world that He gave His Only Son (John 3:16) and that is why each and every one of us is surely "destined for greatness" my brothers and sisters! Embrace your purpose in life – to be a saint – and allow yourself to be happy, filled with the love and peace and joy of Christ. We all have a calling, so don't hold back from answering God's Call for you today...you too are destined to do great things!

Salwa Elias



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### *Christmas is the story of Joy, Peace and Love.*

The Joy of Christmas is an outpouring from Heaven to earth. All of creation rejoices with our Creator in this perfect Joy. Like the Magi Who presented their gifts to the newborn Messiah, let us share this joy through our generosity to the children of Lebanon so that they too can experience the true meaning of Christmas. Your small gift of \$20 will bring much joy, peace and love to a child's heart and to those in need this Christmas. Anything you can donate is greatly appreciated. Please use the donations box at the door of the church for your generous offering, Christ is Born! Thank you for your generosity.

### *"الميلاد قصة حب وفرح"*

فرح الميلاد هو فرح السماء على الأرض، وفرح الأرض مع خالقها. هذا الفرح هو لجميع الناس، ونحن كمؤمنين علينا ان نجسده عملياً. بأن تكونوا انتم المجوس وتقدموا هداياكم لأطفال لبنان حتى يعيشوا قصة الفرح والحب بالميلاد. هدية منك بقيمة ٢٠ دولار بتفرح قلب طفل ومحتاج بعيد الميلاد. إذا كنت قادر الصندوق على مدخل الكنيسة. وشكراً لمساهمتكم.





# PARISH NOTICE BOARD

## Sunday 4 December:

Birth of John the Baptist – St Barbara

**8:00am** Sodality Mass

**11:00am** 40 Day Mass for the late Adele Gerges Bayssari widow of the late Naim Hanna Raad from Hadchit

**5:00pm** 40 Day Mass for the late George Maroun Nkoula Abou Kassam from Baysour-Jezzine

## Monday 5 December:

St Saba the Hermit

**6:00pm** The late Therese Hamid El-Rizzi widow of the late Kenaan Elias Kenaan from Ardeh (died in Lebanon)

## Thursday 8 December:

Immaculate Conception

**10:30am** Seniors Christmas Mass followed by Lunch

### Parish Announcement

Father Tony Sarkis, Dean of Our Lady of Lebanon Co-Cathedral, is currently on administrative leave until further notice. All pastoral matters at Our Lady of Lebanon Parish are to be referred to Father Youwakim Noujaim.

## Friday 9 December:

**6:00pm** The late Amal Elias Roumanos widow of the late Louis Lattouf from Saïda (died in Lebanon)

## Saturday 10 December:

**6:00pm** Mass for the Golden Jubilee of the First Liturgy celebrated at Our Lady of Lebanon Church, celebrated by His Excellency Bishop Antoine-Charbel Tarabay

**8:00pm** Carols by Candlelight

## Sunday 11 December:

Revelation to Joseph

**8:00am** Seniors Committee Mass

**5:00pm** One Year Mass for the late Therese Saghabi from Kfarlidakos widow of the late Khalil Khoury from Mazraat Al Teffah

### PARISH WEEKLY COLLECTION & LOANS REPAYMENTS

**WEEKLY COLLECTIONS** For week ending: 27/11/2022

**Plates:** \$10,823 | **Donations:** \$- | **Candles:** \$449

#### PARISH LOANS

**CYPC:** \$3,550,352

**UNITS:** \$1,170,514

#### MONTHLY LOAN REPAYMENTS

**CYPC:** \$31,673 POST-COVID INTEREST + PRINCIPAL

**UNITS:** \$10,054 POST-COVID INTEREST + PRINCIPAL

## KIDS CORNER

### THE STORY OF ELIZABETH

Spot 8 differences between the two pictures.



## WHAT HAPPENED IN YOUR PARISH

**What's happening in your parish?** Well, it only takes a few small steps into our doors (& social media pages) to find out!

### Saturday 19/11/22

Kindergarten and Year 1 Fersen Al Adra learnt about Forgiving Others. Their Fersen leaders Miss Belinda, Mr Anthony, Miss Ann & Miss Joya had a group discussion with Kindergarten & Year 1 about how we should Forgive Others through Jesus' last words to God His father looking up saying "Forgive them father for they don't know what they are doing". Another blessed person was Saint Charbel how his brothers the monk priests wanted to fight back but Saint Charbel said to his brothers the monks "We should pray for them and Forgive them as they don't know what they are doing".

### On Tuesday

the youth held their regular sports and games night. It was a fun and enjoyable night with some friendly competition.

### Last Saturday

Year 4 Fersen students were decoding the difference between Good and Evil with their leaders Stephanie and James. Year 1 enjoyed receiving an end of year treat from leaders Belinda and Anthony. The MYO also travelled to the Hunter Valley for a day trip. The day was spent enjoying each other's company visiting wineries, breweries and distilleries.

### On Friday night

we met with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament with 24-hour Adoration for the first Friday of December. There are many opportunities to spend some time with Jesus with our first Friday of the month and weekly Adoration on Thursdays at 8pm. Please join us next time!

Keep up to date with all spiritual and social initiatives of your parish by checking our social media platforms, keeping your ears peeled to the latest parish announcements and being subscribed to our newsletter.

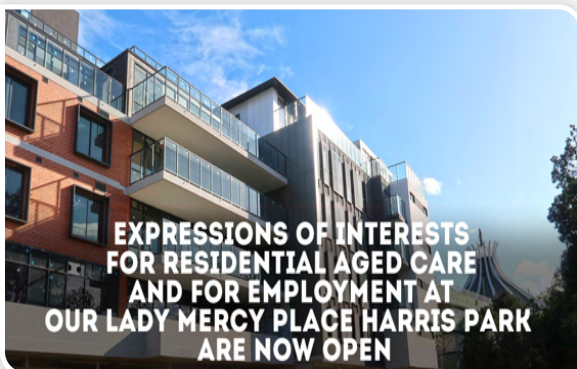




# PARISH CAMERA







**EXPRESSIONS OF INTERESTS  
FOR RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE  
AND FOR EMPLOYMENT AT  
OUR LADY MERCY PLACE HARRIS PARK  
ARE NOW OPEN**

Our Maronite Eparchy and Our Lady Aged Care Centre (OLACC) are pleased to announce that Our Lady Mercy Place Harris Park is expected to officially open in April 2023. The facility, which is adjacent to Our Lady of Lebanon Co-Cathedral, will be managed by well-respected national health and aged care provider, Mercy Health. Anyone who has already expressed an interest and provided their details will be contacted by Mercy Health directly in the coming weeks.

Expressions of interests for residential aged care and for employment at the facility are now open. For more information click the link:  
<https://bit.ly/3UOARZh>

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



"50 Year Jubilee - From Generation to Generation"

### اليوبيل الذهبي للقداس الأول لتأسيس كاتدرائية سيدة لبنان

يوم السبت ١٠ كانون الأول

٦:٠٠ مساءً قداس يحتفل فيه صاحب السيدة المطران أنطوان شربل طريه السامي الإحترام.  
الرجاء ممن حضر القداس الأول الإتصال بمكتب الرعية.

٨:٠٠ مساءً سهرة مع الأناشيد الميلادية Christmas Carols يليها تجسيد حي لقصة الميلاد  
Live Nativity. نختم السهرة بحضور Santa Claus وتوزيع الهدايا

### The Golden Jubilee of the First Liturgy for the Founding of Our Lady of Lebanon

On Saturday, December 10th

6:00 pm Mass celebrated by His Excellency Bishop Antoine-Charbel Tarabay.

We invite all those who attended the first Mass at OLOL in 1972 to provide us with their photos of that day.

Please email your photos to [media@olol.org.au](mailto:media@olol.org.au)

8:00 pm An evening with Christmas carols, live nativity, live animals, live show (Boskar the polar bear saves Christmas), food stalls and drinks, Christmas lights and toys. The evening will include a visit from Santa Claus and distribution of gifts.

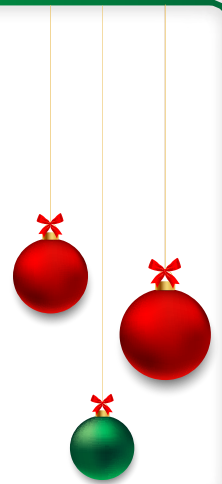


### Seniors Christmas Party 8th of December 2022

Starting with Mass at 10:30am  
followed by lunch & entertainment.

For more info call

0402 657 924





# لوحة إعلانات الرعية

## الأحد ٤ كانون الأول:

أحد مولد يوحنا المعمدان - عيد الشهيذة بربارة  
٨٠٠ قداس على نية أبناء الأخوية أحياء ومرضى وأموات  
١١٠٠ أربعون المرحومة أдал جرجس بيسري أرملة المرحوم نعيم حنا  
رعد من حدشيت  
٥٠٠ أربعون المرحوم جورج مارون نقولا أبو كسم من بيبور قضاء  
جزين

## السبت ١٠ كانون الأول:

٦٠٠ قداس بمناسبة اليوبيل الذهبي للقداس الأول لتأسيس  
كنيسة سيدة لبنان يحتفل فيه صاحب السيادة المطران أنطوان -  
شريل طريه السامي الإحترام  
٨٠٠ ريسيتال ميلادي

## الأحد ١١ كانون الأول:

أحد البيان ليوسف  
٨٠٠ قداس على نية أعضاء لجنة المسنين وكبارنا  
٥٠٠ السنة للمرحومة تريز الصغابي من كفر دلاقوس أرملة المرحوم  
خليل الخوري من مزرعة التفاح

## الاثنين ٥ كانون الأول:

مار سابا الناسك  
٦٠٠ المرحومة تريز حميد الرزي أرملة المرحوم كنعان الياس كنعان  
من أردة (متوفاة في لبنان)

## الخميس ٨ كانون الأول:

عيد الحبل بلا دنس  
١٠٣٠ قداس للمسنين بمناسبة عيد الميلاد يليه غداء

## تأمل

كُلُّ وَلَدَةٍ هِيَ حَذَتْ مُنْتَظَر، يَزْرَعُ الْفَرْحَ لَدَى الْأَهْلِ وَالْأَصْدِقَاءِ  
وَالْمَعَارِفِ، فَالْوَلَدَةُ عَلَامَةٌ لِلْحَيَاةِ الَّتِي هِيَ أَوَّلًا عَطِيَّةٌ مِنَ اللَّهِ  
وثنائياً تَجَاوُبُ مِنَ الْإِنْسَانِ الَّذِي يَضَعُ كُلَّ إِمْكَانَاتِهِ فِي تَصَرُّفِ  
الرَّبِّ.

وَالْوَلَدُ - الْعَطِيَّةُ يَنْطَلُبُ إِهْتِمَامًا خَاصًّا عَلَى الْمُسْتَوِيَّاتِ  
الصَّحِيَّةِ وَالْغَذَائِيَّةِ، وَلَكِنْ أَيْضًا عَلَى الْمُسْتَوِيَّاتِ الثَّقَافِيَّةِ  
وخاصَّةً الرُّوحِيَّةِ.

قال أَحَدُهُمْ: " نَحْنُ لَا نَرِثُ أَرْضَ آبَائِنَا وَإِنَّمَا نَسْتَعِيرُ أَرْضَ  
أَوْلَادِنَا".

إِنْ فَكَّرْنَا بِهَذَا الْمَنْطِقِ، يَجِبُ أَنْ نُعِيدَ النَّظَرَ فِي طَرِيقَةِ تَعَامُلِنَا  
مَعَ أَوْلَادِنَا:

- ١- بَدَلُ أَنْ نُعْطِيَهُمُ الْحَيَاةَ فَقَطْ، لِنُعَلِّمَهُمْ كَيْفَ يَعِيشُونَ،
- ٢- بَدَلُ أَنْ نُوَرِّثَهُمُ الْأَرْضَ الْفَانِيَةَ فَقَطْ، لِنُعَلِّمَهُمُ الْقِيَمَ  
التي تُكْسِبُهُمُ الْوِطْنَ الْأَبَدِيَّ،
- ٣- بَدَلُ أَنْ نُوَرِّثَهُمُ الْأَسْمَ وَالْعَائِلَةَ فَقَطْ، لِنَجْعَلَهُمْ فُخُورِينَ  
بِمَا يَشْهَدُونَ مِنْ تَصَرُّفَاتِنَا،
- ٤- بَدَلُ إِرْثِ الْخَلَافَاتِ الَّذِي نَتْرُكُهُ لَهُمْ، لِنَجْعَلَهُمْ يُدْرِكُونَ أَنَّ  
الْحَيَاةَ قَصِيرَةٌ جِدًّا لِنُمِضِهَا فِي خَلَافَاتٍ تَبْقَى سَخِيفَةً أَمَامَ  
حَقِيقَةِ الْمَوْتِ وَالْحَيَاةِ.

أَتَى يوحنا لِيَشْهَدَ لِحَمَلِ اللَّهِ الَّذِي سَيَحْمِلُ السَّلَامَ الْحَقِيقِيَّ  
إِلَى الْعَالَمِ. وَنَحْنُ بِدَوْرِنَا مَدْعُوْنَ لِنُجَدِّدَ، مَعَ كُلِّ وَلَدَةٍ، إِيْمَانِنَا  
بِالْحَيَاةِ وَبِقِيَمِ الْعَائِلَةِ الَّتِي بَدَأَتْ تَتَعَرَّضُ لِلْاِهْتِزَازِ، مَعَ مَا  
يَشْهَدُهُ عَالَمُ الْيَوْمِ مِنْ اعْتِدَائَاتٍ وَانْتِهَاطَاتٍ لِأَبْسِطِ حُقُوقِ  
الْإِنْسَانِ: الإِجْهَاضِ، مُحَاوَلَاتِ الْاِسْتِنْسَاحِ الْبَشَرِيِّ، قَتْلِ  
الأَبْرِيَاءِ...

جَمَعَ يوحنا بَوْلَادَتِهِ الْأَقْرَبَاءَ وَالْأَبْعَدِينَ، لِنُضِلَّ لِنَعُودَ عَائِلَاتُنَا،  
خَاصَّةً الْمُفَكِّكَةِ، وَتَجْتَمِعَ مِنْ جَدِيدٍ بِنِعْمَةِ طِفْلِ الْمَغَارَةِ الْآتِي.

## بين الأمس واليوم

### كما في الأمس

... وَلَمَّا تَمَّ زَمَانُ أَلْيَصَابَاتٍ، وَلَدَتْ ابْنًا، وَغَمِرَتْ الْفَرَحَةَ أَهْلُ الدَّارِ وَالْجَارِ حَتَّى  
عَقَّتْ كُلُّ "جَبَلٍ يَهُودِيَّةٍ". فَرَحَةٌ، أَزَالَتْ عَارَ الْعَقْمِ عَنِ الْوَالِدَيْنِ، فِي آيَةٍ لَا  
تُشَبِّهُ إِلَّا رَحْمَةَ اللَّهِ لِشَيْخَيْنِ طَاعَتَيْنِ فِي السَّنِّ، بِوَلَدَةٍ ذَكَرٍ حَتَمَ مِنَ الرَّبِّ  
مِذْكَانَ فِي خِشَاءِ أُمِّهِ.

تَهَافَتَ الْجَمِيعُ مُزْعَرِدًا، مُهْتَنِّيًا بِالْمَوْلُودِ، مُتَسَائِلًا عَنْ سَبَبِ تَسْمِيَّتِهِ  
يُوحَنَّا بَدَلَ زَكَرِيَّا، خَلَاقًا لِلْعَادَاتِ وَالتَّقَالِيدِ. وَخَذَهُ زَكَرِيَّا كَانَ يَعْلَمُ أَنَّ اللَّهَ  
أَرَادَ أَنْ يُعْبِّرَ بِنَا مِنْ عَهْدِ التَّذَكُّرِ (زَكَرِيَّا تَعْنِي "اللَّهُ تَذَكَّرَ")، إِلَى عَهْدِ التَّحْنُنِ  
وَالْإِنْعَامِ (يُوحَنَّا تَعْنِي "اللَّهُ تَحَنَّنَ وَأَنْعَمَ). أَضَفَ إِلَى ذَلِكَ، إِنْ مَا مِنْ أَحَدٍ  
تَنَبَّهَ إِلَى وَلَدَةٍ زَكَرِيَّا الْجَدِيدَةِ عِنْدَمَا نَطَقَ "بِحَنَانِ اللَّهِ".

أَلَمْ يُفَضِّضْ هُوَ أَيْضًا، تِسْعَةَ أَشْهُرٍ، صَامِتًا فِي رَحِمِ النَّاقِلِ الْحَقِيقِيِّ، فِي  
بِسْرِ اللَّهِ وَأَمَانَتِهِ لِعَوْدِهِ؟ أَلَمْ يُعِيدِ النَّظَرَ فِي بَدْءِ تَكْوِينِ عِلَاقَةٍ جَدِّيةٍ مَعَ  
اللَّهِ، نَابِعَةٍ مِنْ أَعْمَاقِ الْإِيْمَانِ الدَّاجِضِ لِلشَّكِّ؟

### كذلك اليوم

واليوم، حَوْلَ أَيِّ شَيْءٍ تَتَمَحَوَّرُ إِهْتِمَامَاتُنَا؟ هَلْ نُوْمِنُ أَنَّ شَعْبَ اللَّهِ وَأَنَّا  
نَنْتَمِي إِلَى مَشْرِوعِهِ الْخَلَاصِيِّ؟ هَلْ نَمَارِسُ الْمَحَبَّةَ وَنُكْرَ شَرِيعَةِ الْعَيْنِ  
بِالْعَيْنِ وَالسَّنِّ بِالسَّنِّ؟ هَلْ نَحْنُ مِنْ أَتْبَاعِ "الْمُؤَلَّهَيْنِ" التَّقَالِيدِ الْحَدِيثَةِ  
عَلَى حِسَابِ فَيْضِ نِعْمَةِ الْآبِ وَمَحَبَّتِهِ؟

زَكَرِيَّا آمَنَ بِأَنَّ وَلَدَهُ مُرْسَلٌ مِنَ عِنْدِ اللَّهِ، فَمَجَّدَهُ عَلَى كَرَمِهِ وَخَنَانِهِ، وَكَانَ  
أَمِينًا فِي تَرْبِيَّتِهِ عَلَى الْإِيْمَانِ بِالْخَالِقِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَفَتَحَ قَلْبَهُ عَلَى الْحَقِّ كُلِّهِ.  
وَنَحْنُ، كَيْفَ نَرْبِّي أَوْلَادِنَا؟ مَاذَا نَقْدِّمُ لَهُمْ مِنْ "أَطْبَاقٍ" رُوحِيَّةٍ وَأَخْلَاقِيَّةٍ؟  
رَبَّمَا ظَنَّنَاهُمْ شَجَرَةً عِيدٍ فَاهْتَمَمْنَا بِزِينَتِهِمْ مِنْ مَلْبَسٍ، وَجَزْفَةِ الْكَلَامِ...  
، دُونَ أَنْ نَنْتَبِهَ إِلَى جَذْوَرِهِمُ الَّتِي مَا تَزَالُ خَارِجَ التَّرَابِ، وَالَّتِي لَا بَدَّ لَهَا مِنْ  
أَنْ تَجِفَّ لِانْعِدَامِ الْغِذَاءِ، مُؤَدِّيَةً إِلَى يِيَّاسِ الْأَغْصَانِ!

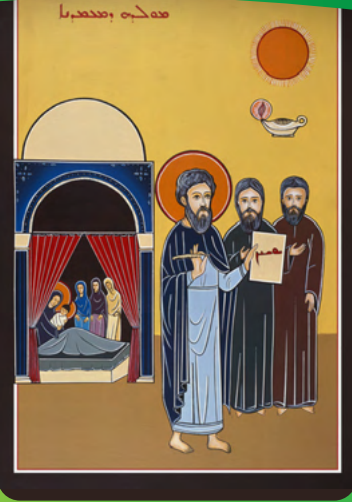
فَهَلَّا وَقَفْنَا مَعَ ذَوَاتِنَا لِلْخَطَا، وَأَمَرْنَا بِجَرَأَةٍ بِأَنَّ شُحُوبَ الْإِيْمَانِ بِاللَّهِ  
وَصِدْقِهِ يَقُودُنَا إِلَى عَدَمِ الْوَثُوقِ بِالْآخِرِ، مَا يُؤَدِّي إِلَى عَدَمِ الْقَبُولِ بِهِ كَمَا  
هُوَ، فَالضَّعْفِ، فَالْاِسْقُوطِ... وَإِنْ كَانَ الرَّبُّ قَدْ "أَتَانَا الْعِظَائِمَ" فِي ضَعْفِنَا،  
وَوَضَعَ الْحَيَاةَ فِي عَقْمِ حَبْنَا لَهُ وَبِلْعَبْضِنَا، أَفَلَا نَتَّقُ بِهِ بَعْدَ الْآنِ، وَنَكُونُ  
شُهُودًا لِحَنَانِهِ، أَمْنَاءَ عَلَى مَحَبَّةٍ وَتَرْبِيَةٍ أَوْلَادِنَا، أَمَانَتِهِ الْغَالِيَةِ؟

# عَيْتِنَا

كاتدرائية سيدة لبنان - هاريس بارك

"50 Year Jubilee - From Generation to Generation"

عدد ٥ | الأحد ٤ كانون الأول ٢٠٢٢ | ولادة يوحنا المعمدان  
فَلْتَلَبْ لَوْحًا وَكُتِّبَ: «إِسْمُهُ يُوحَنَّا!» "لو ١: ٥٧-٦٦"



ولادة يوحنا المعمدان  
لو ١: ٥٧ - ٦٦ | غل ٤: ٢١ - ١: ٥

## "ماضٍ نحو العظمة"

عندما ولد أطفالي ، كل ما شعرت به هو حب لا يمكن تفسيره لكل واحد منهم ، ورغبة قوية في حمايتهم من الأذى. لم أفكر في مسارهم المهني أو تعليمهم في المستقبل ، فقط حول مدى حبي لهم وكم كنت ممتنا لله على هذه الهبة من الحياة. إذا قال لي أحدهم "هذا الطفل مقدر للعظمة" لكان قد تم التغاضي عنه ، مجرد تعليق عابر ، كما لم أكن أعرف حينها ، ما أعرفه الآن. نعم ، كل طفل متجه إلى العظمة ، كما نحن جميعًا ، في خطة الله للخلاص.

باعتراف الجميع ، لا يمكننا جميعًا أن نكون مثل يوحنا المعمدان ، لكننا جميعًا مدعوون لنكون مقدسين ، لنكون قديسين ، وأن أصدقائي هو تعريف "العظمة". ليس نفس النجاح الذي يحدث عنه العالم ، أو يعجب به ، بل هو أعظم إنجاز على الإطلاق ... أن تكون قديسًا وأن تقضي الأبدية في حضرة الثالوث الأقدس. من منا لا يرغب في ذلك؟ من منا يفضل الاعتراف المؤقت على الأرض على حساب خسارة الأبدية في الجنة؟ لسوء الحظ ، هناك الكثير منا ممن يعيشون حياة لا يسعون إلى مثل هذه الوجهة ، حيث أعمتتهم الارتباطات والردائل الزمنية التي تمنحهم متعة مؤقتة على الأرض. ليس هذا ما خطط له الله لنا، إذا استسلمنا لمشيئته المقدسة وليس لإرادتنا.

خلقنا الله الآب على صورته ومثاله. نفخ روحه القدوس في كل واحد منا. أرسل ابنه الوحيد ليموت على الصليب لينقذنا من الموت الأبدي. لقد فعل الله هذا لكي نعرفه ونحبه ونخدمه على الأرض ونكون معه يومًا ما في السماء. لأن الله أحب العالم لدرجة أنه بذل ابنه الوحيد (يوحنا ٣: ١٦) وهذا هو السبب في أن كل واحد منا بالتأكيد

"متجه إلى العظمة" إخوتي وأخواتي! احتضن هدفك في الحياة - أن تكون قديسًا - واسمح لنفسك أن تكون سعيدًا ، مليئًا بحب وسلام وفرح المسيح. لدينا جميعًا دعوة ، لذلك لا تتردد في الاستجابة لنداء الله من أجلك اليوم ... أنت أيضًا مصمم على القيام بأشياء عظيمة!

ملوكي الياس



## صلاة

نرفع قلوبنا إليك أيها الكلمة الإلهي كي ننهي صمتنا عن البشارة بك ونسألك القوة بالروح القدس لنعود ونشهد لك في كل ما نقوم به في حياتنا فيتمجد بنا وبكل شيء أسمك القدوس مع إسم أبيك وروحك القدوس. آمين

## IN OUR PRAYERS

Lord, may all the faithful departed whom we entrust to Your care, be held securely in Your Loving embrace for all eternity especially those we Pray for: (A) All the departed souls, All the lost souls, All the faithful departed, All the souls in Purgatory, All souls who have no one to pray for them (B) Youssef Boutros, Milia Bou Raidan (C) (D) (E) Tanos Elias Elkazzi and all his faithful departed, Matthew Essey (F) (G) Helen George, Majid George (H) Maurice & Martha Jamil Haddad, Paul & Madeline Haddad & son Joseph & daughter Colleen George (I) (J) Youssef & Ghanajeh Joseph (K) Sarkis Chucri Khoudair, Genevieve Khoury & all the departed of Khoury & El-Zahou Families (L) (M) Youssef Maroon & his wife Ghsoun, Therese Melhem, Betty Merhi, Bachara Botrous Moussa, Robert Bachara Moussa, Hesne Malkoun & her family (N) (O) (P) (Q) (R) Raymond & Atour and their son Joe Romanos, Jamil & Labibi Roumanos and all the deceased from their family (S) Boutros & Therese Sassine and their son Kenny Sassine, Youssef Mikhael Shaheen, Nabih Saad & his sons Kevin & Emille (T) Kemil & his wife Ghorra Tanna & their son Jamil Tanna (U) (V) (W) (X) (Y) (Z)