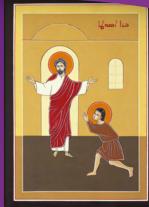




Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe the best one and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate. "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Lis



Sunday of the Prodigal Son Zech 3: 1-7 2Cor 13: 5-13 Lk 15: 11-32

Message from the Bishop

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This Sunday, the Maronite Church reads and reflects on the parable of the Prodigal Son. After hearing this parable told by Jesus, we can be confident of the infinite patience and love of God.

The infinite love of God for humanity manifests itself in His patience, His forgiveness and His joy at the return of every sinner. God, the Father, desires and waits patiently to save and forgive each one of us. No sinner is irretrievably lost and doomed. Patience, forgiveness and joy are three fundamental characteristics of divine love. These are also the characteristics of true love.

The parable tells the story of two sons and, through them, allows us to learn to live contrition and understanding. The youngest son,

called prodigal because he squandered the paternal fortune, embodies the human error of taking for happiness the satisfaction of his desires, without constraints. After spending all his money, he regrets turning away from the love that his father poured on him years. This regret pushes him towards a humble conversion: "he returned to himself".

In this time of Lent, we find ourselves in this son who needs conversion and forgiveness. We constantly need to return to the house of our Father. Our conversion of heart and desire to change and improve our lives manifests itself in works of sacrifice and self-giving.

Jesus also invites us to have the understanding and mercy of the father in the parable. By often being the prodigal sons and daughters ourselves, we are the recipient of God's divine mercy. We then must be able to be merciful to others, like the father in this parable. We will also avoid becoming like the eldest son, full of zeal for his father's business, but a bitter zeal. We would rejoice for the return of every sinner as the father rejoices.

SUNDAY HOLY LITURGIES

OLOL Co-Cathedral, Harris 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 Bassii: 0401 545 454
Fr Alain Fares: 0433 507 389
Fr Sam Wehbe: 0417 171 737
Fr Robert-Pio Al Bayeh: 0414 447 883
Fr Yuhanna Azize: 0435 764 824
Fr Bernard Assi: 0411 811 807
Fr Peierre Khoury: 0411 735 258
Fr Paul Joubeir: 0414 900 016
Dcn Ron Hassarati: 0403 504 384
SubDcn Ghassan Nakhoul: 0410 524 335
SubDcn Sayed Isaac: 0422 886 062 SubDcn Sayed Isaac: 0422 886 062

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 Let us not forget that while the younger son was still far away, his father saw him and rushed towards him. Such is the infinite love of God! No sooner does the sinner repent and set out for God than God comes quickly to meet them and welcome them.

Encountering Jesus in Adoration changes the world—starting with ourselves.

I have requested that all Eucharistic Adoration next week beginning with Monday 13 March, be dedicated specifically for the conversion of those offending the loving heart of our Lord Jesus Christ, whether knowingly or unknowingly. I will be joining in adoration at Our Lady of Lebanon, Harris Park, on Thursday evening.

When most of us are calling for action to stand up to what we see as a downward spiral in our society, prayer and adoration form key elements of our action and response. A better home, a better organisation, a better society starts with a better and holier "us". Adoration has a big role to play and one of the most beautiful elements of spending time before the Eucharist is that what we see before us is the truest version of ourselves.

Let us deliberately and resolutely return to the house of the Father, bringing our hearts closer to His Son, believing that He awaits us all with patience and will throw a feast at the return of every sinner and every prodigal child.

+ Antoine-Charbel Tarabay

Saving the lost

There are many ways of describing what it means to be lost. Whether we speak of being physically lost, spiritually lost, or emotionally lost, the common factor is the lack of direction and the feelings of abandonment, rejection, or isolation. I'm certain this is how the prodigal son must have felt after realising the error of his ways. Yet, his father literally ran to welcome him back home, without question or judgment. If only we could be so merciful to those who have caused us grief or pain.

The stories in today's Gospel remind us of the necessity to be humble and obedient in order to follow Christ and to receive God's mercy. Childlike surrender to God is not impossible when our focus is on the salvation of souls, and our faith is solid, but one of the most difficult barriers to our faith is the loss of direction....not knowing which path to follow...leading to discouragement and a sense of hopelessness.

I experienced a similar loss of direction on one of my many road trips to rural country towns, after taking a slight detour from my regular route. Setting out on a trip that I anticipated would take 5 hours, ended up taking almost 12 hours after losing network coverage. I was left without phone service or navigation, travelling on dark and empty roads through the night, with only my headlights before me. Pitch darkness surrounded and embraced my car like a heavy cloak. I felt the inevitable fear of being lost and stranded, alone in the night. This is how it feels to have no direction in one's life, searching but not knowing where to look...hoping to be found and saved from the emptiness, unable to get out of that pit of

despair. We may sometimes question why Jesus would want us to focus on those who stray and choose to **not** follow His ways. It may leave many of us questioning and rationalizing the logic in searching for those who seem to have no desire to be found. And yet, this is exactly what Mercy is all about.

Nobody wants to remain lost, but to admit that one is lost and needs direction, is more difficult than being lost. The most generous soul is one that has received the greatest mercy. The mercy of being forgiven, loved, and understood. Saving the lost soul is as easy as showing all of these attributes of Mercy to those who cannot find their way. This is what Jesus expects of those who follow Him - to imitate His Love and His Mercy when dealing with others, no matter where they've been or who you think they are; everyone deserves mercy, love, and forgiveness, especially those who are lost and cannot find the courage, or strength, to redirect their path. Pray, fast, and do penance for a lost soul to find their way today.

Salwa Elias



ANSWER

The central
mystery of Christian
faith and life is the
mystery of the Most
Blessed Trinity. Christians
are baptised in the name
of the Father and of the
Son and of the Holy
Spirit



UPCOMING EVENTS







PARISH NOTICE BOARD

Sunday 12 March:

Sunday of the prodigal Son

8:00am One Year Mass for the late Zahra Gebrael widow of the late Joseph Coorey from Kfarsghab and Seniors Committee 9:30am One Year Mass for the late Hawa Esmaayin Frangieh

widow of the late Lotfallah Geaittani from Zgharta

11:00am One Year Mass for the late Mary Boulos wife of Patrick Essey from Kfarsghab

5:00pm One Year Mass for the late Anthony Hanna Alhikrey from Meidel Koura

7:00pm One Year Mass for the late Francois Sayegh

Monday 13 March:

11:00am Rosary Prayers followed by Fatima Mass

Wednesday 15 March:

11:30am Mass followed by Lenten Lunch

Thursday 16 March:

10:30am Seniors Mass

Friday 17 March:

Masses 7:00am & 9:00am

5:45pm Stations of the Cross, Evening Prayer and Procession (Arabic)

8:00pm Stations of the Cross, Evening Prayer and Procession (English)

Saturday 18 March:

6:00pm 40 Day Mass for the late Salim Daoud Karaki from Bolonia Al Maten

Sunday 19 March:

Sunday of the Paralytic - Feast of St Joseph

8:00am All living and departed of Kahef Al Malloul for the Feast of St Joseph

9:30am All living and departed of Mazraat Al Naher for the Feast of St Joseph

5:00pm All living and departed of Hadchit

PARISH WEEKLY COLLECTION & LOANS REPAYMENTS

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS For week ending: 5/03/2023

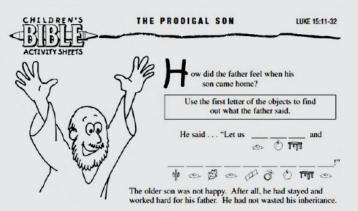
Plates: \$... | Donations: \$... | Candles: \$...

PARISH LOANS MONTHLY LOAN REPAYMENTS

CYPC: \$3,500,048 CYPC: \$35,798 POST-COVID INTEREST + PRINCIPAL

UNITS: \$1,154,374 **UNITS:** \$11,745 POST-COVID INTEREST + PRINCIPAL







NT4.3 Parable of Prodigal Son

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Dear OLOL Parishioners and visitors.

It is important that people do not park in disabled parking spaces in church carparks when they do not have a permit in particular during school drop off and pickup times. Disabled parking spaces are reserved for people who have mobility issues and require the extra space and proximity to the entrance to make it easier for them to access the church.

By parking in these spaces without a permit, you are taking away a valuable resource from those who genuinely need it, and making it more difficult for them to attend church. Additionally, it is a violation of the law and can result in fines or even have your car towed at your own expense.

Respecting the needs of others and following parking regulations are important ways to show Consideration, Kindness and Charity to all members of the community, including those with disabilities. Therefore, it is crucial that we all make an effort to avoid parking in disabled spaces without a valid permit, By doing so, you can help ensure that everyone in the community can access church services safely and comfortably.









تدعوكم أخوية كاتدرائية سيّدة لبنان كل يوم أربعاء خلال فترة الصوم الساعة ١١:٣٠ لقداس يليه غداء صيامي منوّع في قاعة الرعية أكثر من ٤٠ صنف مأكولات صيامية وجودكم يفرحنا

10\$ للشخص الواحد يعود ربع هذا العمل لمساعدة عائلات محتاجة في لبنان

The Ladies of the Sodality of Our Lady of Lebanon Co-Cathedral invite you to a Lenten Lunch of over 30 dishes every Wednesday during Lent. 11:30am Mass followed by lunch in the Church Hall

\$10 donation per person. All funds raised goes to help poor families in Lebanon











FAMILY BRUNCH This Sunday after

9:30am mass 12th March 2023

*Free Family Event



*Children's activities

Held in the Rec Room of the **Youth Centre**





Encountering Jesus in Adoration changes the world—starting with ourselves.

At the request of Bishop Antoine-Charbel Tarabay, our weekly adoration held on Thursday 16 March 2023 at 8pm will be dedicated specifically for the conversion of those offending the loving heart of our Lord Jesus Christ, whether knowingly or unknowingly.

As we reflect this week on the parable of the Prodigal Son, let us pray for our personal and community's conversion of hearts, for we must acknowledge that a better life, a better home, a better society and a better Church starts with a better and holier "us".

In the example of the Prodigal Son, let us return to the Father's house, seek forgiveness for our sins and for the sins of others, trusting in God's great mercy and His transforming grace that can change our hearts and heal our souls.

اللقاء مع الرب يسوع الحاضر في القربان يقودنا إلى تغيير العالم، بدءً من ذواتنا.

يدعو صاحب السيادة المطران أنطوان-شربل طربيه إلى تخصيص ساعة السجود في كل الرعايا المارونية خلال الأسبوع القادم من الصوم والتي تقام في رعيتنا يوم الخميس ١٦ آذار ٢٠٢٣، للصلاة من أجل توبة كل الذين يعرّضون قلب يسوع الطاهر والمحب للإهانة، عن معرفة أو بغير معرفة.

ومع تأملنا خلال هذا الاسبوع بمثل الابن الشاطر ، نصلي أيضاً لأجل ارتداد الخطأة ، كما نصلي لنعيش مسيرة توبة شخصيّة وجماعيّة، لأنّ بناء حياة أفضل ، وعائلة أفضل ومجتمع أفضل وكنيسة أفضل، لا يكون إلا من خلال السعى لتقديس ذواتنا أولاً.

وعلى مثال الابن الشاطر، نشعر جميعنا بضرورة العودة الى بيت الآب، طالبين المغفرة عن خطايانا وخطايا الاخرين، وكلنا ثقة برحمة الله العظيمة ونعمته التي تغتر القلوب وتشفى النفوس الضالة.















لوحة إعلانات الرعية

الأحد ١٢ آذار:

أحد الإبن الشاطر

- ∙۰۰۸ قداس السنة للمرحومة زهرا جبرايل أرملة المرحوم جوزيف خورى من كفرصغاب وعلى نيّة أعضاءً لُجِنّة المسنين وكبارناً
- ٩٠٣٠ السنة للمرحومة حوا إسماعين فرنجية أرملة المرحوم لطف الله الجعيتاني من زغرتا
 - سنة للمرحومة Mary بولس زوجة باتريك Essey من ••• ال كفرصغاب
 - ••• السنة للمرحوم أنطوني حنا الجِكْري من مِجْدِل الكورة
 - ••• السنة للمرحوم فرنسوا Francois صايغ

الدِثنين ١٣ آذار:

···ُا صلاة المسبحة يليه قداس على نيّة العائلات والشبيبة والمرضى لمناسبة ظهور العذّراء فّى فاطيما

الأربعاء ١٥ آذار:

القداس على نية المرضى والعائلات يليه غداء صيامى في هول

الخميس ١٦ آذار:

٣٠٠ قداس المسنين على نية كبارنا في الرعية يليه غداء

الجمعة ١٧ آذار:

القداسات ۷:۰۰ و ۹:۰۰ صباحًا

03:0 مساءً درب الصليب، صلاة المساء و الزياح (عربي)

۰۰۰۸ مساءً درب الصليب، صلاة المساء و الزياح (إنكليزي

السبت ١٨ آذار .

···**١** أربعون المرحوم سليم داوود كركي من بولونيا المتن

الأحد ١٩ آذار:

أحد شفاء المخلع – عيد مار يوسف البتول

- ٠٠٠٨ قداس على نية أحياء وأموات كهف الملول بمناسبة عيد مار
- ٩:٣٠ قداس على نية أحياء وأموات مزرعة النهر بمناسبة عيد مار يوسف
 - •••**٥** قداس على نية أحياء وأموات حدشيت

زمن الصّوم،

زَمَنُ الصَّوْمِ الكَبِيرِ، وَكَما يُشَبِّهُهُ آباؤنا القدّيسونَ، هُوَ كَالرِّحْلَةِ البَحْرِيَّةِ، حَيْثُ نُبْحِرُ عَلى مَثْنِ سَفينَةِ الكَنيسَةِ – الجَماعَةِ المُؤْمِنَةِ. نُجاهِدُ بِمَجاذيفِ الصَّلاةِ وَالصَّوْمِ وَالصَّدَقَةِ، وَنُقاومُ جَمِيعَ عَواصِفِ التَّحَدِّياتِ وَالضَّيَقاتِ وَالتَّجارِبِ. وَفي نِهَايَةِ الرِّحْلَةِ، نَصِلُ إلى ميناءِ أَسْبوع الآلام، حَيْثُ نَغْطُسُ مَعَ آلام رَبِّنا يَسوعَ المَسيح الَّذي غَطَسِ في واقِع يَوْمِّيَّاتِ حَيَاتِنا، لِيُنَقَّيَنا وَيُخَلِّصُّنا وَيَژْفَعَنا، فَنَقُّومَ مَعَهُّ وَنَحْيا

نُبْحِرُ بِمَحَبَّةِ اللهِ الآبِ، الَّذِي أَحَبَّنا فَخَلَقَنا كَما يُخْبِرُنا سِفْرُ التَّكْوينِ: " فَخَلَقَ اللهُ الإنْسَانَ عَلَى صورَتَهِ، عَلَى صورَةِ اللَّهِ خَلَقَهُ ذَكِّرًا وَأَنْثَى خَلَقَهُمْ ۗ " (تك ١/ ٢٧)، وَدَبَّرَ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ لِخَلاصِنا.

نُبْحِرُ بِنِعْمَةِ الإبْنِ الوَحيدِ يَسوعَ المَسيح، الَّذي تَجَسَّدَ لِيُحَقِّقَ تَدبيرَ اللَّهِ الخَلاصِّيَّ وَ" لِيَّهَبَ حَياةً أَبَدِيَّةً لِكُلِّ مَنْ وَهَبْتَهُمْ لَهُ. وَالحَياةُ الأَبَدِيَّةُ هِيَ أَنْ يَعْرِفُوكُّ أَنْتَ الإِلهَ الواحِدَ الحَقِّ، وَيَعْرِفُوا الَّذِي أَرْسَلْتَهُ، يَسوعَ المَسيحَ " (يو ۳ - س۲ /۱۷).

نُبْدِرُ بِشَرِكَةِ الرَّوحِ القُدُسِ المُحْيىِ، الَّذِي يَجْمَعُنا وَيُوَحِّدُنا لِنَكونَ عائِلَةً بِشَرِيَّةً وِاحِدَةًٍ، وَيُدْجِلُنا فِي شَرِكَةِ مَحَبَّةِ النَّالِوثِ الإلهِيَّةِ الواحِدَةِ." أَلحَقَّ الحَقَّ أَقُولُ لَكَ، لا أَحَدَ يَقْدِرُ أَنْ يَدْخُلَ مَلكوتَ اللهِ ما لَمْ يُولَدْ مِنَ الماءِ وَالرّوح " (يو

إِنَّ مَسيرَةَ الصَّوْمِ الَّتي هِيَ " بَدْءُ طَريقِ اللَّهِ المُقَدَّسِ، وَصَديقٌ مُلازِمٌ لِكُلِّ إِلفَضائِل" (إِسِحق الِسِّرِيانِيِّ)، تَتَطَلَّبُ مِنَا أَنْ نَفْتَقِرَ عَنْ ذَواتِنا وَنَخْرُجَ مِنَ الـ " أَنَا " الَّتَى تُكَبِّلُنا، ۖ وَتَجْعَلُنا نَّتَقَوْقَعُ عَلى ذَواتِنا، وَتَمْنِعُنا مِنْ مُلاقَاةِ الرَّبِّ، وَالمُبادَرَةِ نَحْوَ قَرِيبنا. إِنَّ الصَّوْمَ الكِّبيرَ لَمُناسَبَةٌ لِيُ نَخْتَبرَ غِني اللهِ، وَفَرَحَ لِقاءِ

إِنَّ مَسيرَةَ الصُّوْمِ الَّتِي نَعيشُها بـ " الإمْساكِ عَنْ جَمِيعِ الرَّدَائِلِ وَالتَّمَسُّكِ ـ بَجَمِيعِ الفَضائِلِ" (يُوحَنَّا الذَّهبيُّ الفَمَ)، تَجْعَلُنا نَشُعُرُ بِقيمَتِناً الإنْسانِيَّةِ، وَنُدْرِكُ دَعْوَتَنا اَلِالهِيَّةَ. فَالِصَّوْمُ يَجِدُ مَعْناهُ الحَقيقِيَّ فَي الحُبِّ؛ حُبِّ اللهِ وَحُبِّ القَرِيبِ، هَذِهِ دَعْوَتُنا أَنْ نَعِيشَ عَلاقاتِنا البَشُريَّةُ بِحُبٍّ، وَنَسْعِي لِلْحَياةِ الدلهيَّة بالكُبِّ.

تَنْتَهي مَسيرَةُ الصَّوْمِ الأَرْبَعينِيِّ الكَبيرِ، برِتْبَةِ الوُصِولِ إلى الميناءِ الَّتي نَحْتَفِلُ ا بِها ِ مُساءَ أَحَدِ الشُّعَانينِ. بَعْدُ الجِهاَدِ الَّذِي عِشْناةً فَي الكَنيسَةِ وَمَعَها، وَحَقَّقْنا مَقاصِدَ صَوْمِنا. نَصِلُ إلى ميناءِ أَسْبُوعِ الآلام لِنِّغْطُسَ مَعَ يَسوعَ ا في مَسيرَةِ آلامِهِ الخُلاصِيَّةِ وَنَصِلَ مَعَهُ إِلَى مَجَّدِ القِيامَة.

Antelias Diocese

زمن التّوبة والتّحوّل

مفردات من إنجيل هذا الأحد

صلاة

أَيُّهَا الْإِبنِ السِّماويِّ، نرفع إليك قلوبنا لتحرِّرها من عبوديَّة

الملذَّات الماديّة الَّتي أودت بالإبن الأصغر أن يبتعد عن بيت الآب.

نسألك أن تفيض رُوحك القدّوس فينا فنجدّد بنوّتنا لله ونترجم

هذه البنوّة قولاً وفعلاً، فتملك محبّتك علينا من الآن وإلى الابد

الخاتم: هو ختم الروح القدس الذي يعطيه الخالق ورّب البيت لأبنائه، خاتم الملكية والبنوةً.

الأب: هو الله نِفسه الذي ينتظر عودتنا بشوق ومحبّة ولا يخذلنا أبدًا ولا يُتخلِّي عَنَّا بِتَاتًا.

الابن الأصغر: هو كلّ واحد منّا عندما نبدد ميراث الله ونعمه بالأهواء والخَطايا والتغرّبُ والْإنفصال عنه ورفض السكني معه في البيت الأبوّى الحاضن والحامى.

الابن الأكبر: هو أيضًا كلّ واحد منّا عندما نحسد ونغار ولا نحب ولا نفرح بعودة الآخرين.

العجل المسمّن: هو عرس الحمل، الوليمة التي نحن مدعوون إليها جميعنا. إنَّه الرَّب يسوع نفسَّه المقدَّم والمقدِّم ، الذبيحة الحيَّة عن كلَّ ا

الميراث: ما أعدّه الله للإنسان قبل إنشاء العالم وخسره كلّ من إبتعد

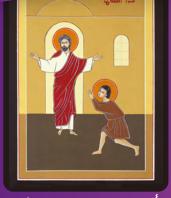
الخرنوب: نبات برّي طعمه حلو في البداية ثم بعدها يصبح خشنًا، وهكذا الخطيئة فهي من الخارج جَميلة ولكنَّهَا من الداخلُ مليئة بالمرارة والعفونة.

الحلّة الأولى: هو اللباس الأوّل الذي نلبسه كلّ مرّةٍ نتوب فيها بصدق. لباس المعمودية، لباس الطهارة.

اللباس: هو عكس العري. فالإنسان مدعو أن يلبس المسيح ويتعرّى من خطایاه.

الحذاء: علامةِ الإنسان الذي أصبح حرًّا ولم يعد عبدًا. وهكذا نحن بالرَّب يسوع أحرارٌ وأبناءٌ ندوس الحّيّات ونُسحق رُؤوسها.





أحد الابر الشاطر لو ١٥: ١١ - ٣٢ ٢قو ١٣: ٥ - ١٣ نائي ١٠: ١٠

الإنجيل

قَالَ الرَبَ يَسُوع: "كَانَ لِرَجُلِ ابْنَانَ. فَقَالَ أَضْغَرُهُمَا لَأَبِيه: يَا أَبِي، أَغْطِي حِضَّقِ مِنَ الْمِيرَاث. فَقَسَمَ لَهُمَا ثُرْوَتُهْ. وَبَعْدَ أَيَّامٍ قَلِيلَةً، جَمَعَ الابْنُ الأَصْغَرُ كُلَّ حَضَّتِهِ، وسَافَرَ إِلَى بَلْدِ بَعِيدَ. وَهْنَاكَ بَدَّدَ مَالُهُ في لَهُمَا ثُرْوَتُهْ. وَبَعْدَ أَيَا أَنْمَقَ كُلَّ شَيْء، حَمَعَ الابْنُ الأَصْغَرُ كُلَّ حَضَّتِه، وسَافَرَ إِلَى بَلْدِ بَعِيدَ. وَهْنَاكُ بَدَّدَ مَالُهُ في وَلَجَ مِنْ أَهْلِ ذِلِكَ البَلْدِ مَجَاعَةٌ شَدِيدَة، فَبَدَأُ يُحِسُّ بِالعَوْر. فَخْصَبِ وَلَجَا إِلَى خُقُولِهِ لِيَزْعِي الخَنَازِير. وَكَانَ يَشَتَهِي أَنْ يَمُلاً جَوْمَهُ مِنَ الْجَرَاءِ عِنْدَ الخَيْرُ بِلُوبُ الْخَبْرَاءِ عِنْدَ الْخَبْرُء عَنْهُم، وَإِنا هَـهُمَّا أَهْلِكُ جُوعًا! أَقُومُ وَأَمْضِي إِلَى أَبِي وَأَقُولُ لَهُ: يَا أَبِي، خَطِئْتُ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ وَأَمْامَكُ. وَلا أُسْتَحِقٌ بَعْدُ أَنْ أَدْعَى لَكَ ابْنَا. فَأَحْمَلُي كَأَحَدٍ أَجْرَائِكُ! فَقَامَ وَجَاءَ إِلَى أَبِي وَاقُولُ لَهُ: يَا أَبِي، خَطِئْتُ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ وَأَمَامَكُ. وَلا أُسْتَحِقٌ بَعْدُ أَنْ أَدْعَى لَكَ ابْنَا. فَأَيْكُ بُوهُ يَعْدُ أَنْ أَدْعَى لِكَ ابْنَا... فَقَالَ لَهُ الْبَنْ الْمَعْدُ إِلَى الْمِنْ فَقَامَ وَجَاءَ إِلَى أَبِيه. وفيمَا الشَّرَعُ وَأَنْ الْرَبِي الْمَلْخِ الْمَامِكُ . وَلا أَنْوَلَى الْمُولُ الْمُرْعَ فَأَلْقَى بِنَفْسِهِ عَلَى غُنْقِه وَقَبْلَهُ طُولِلاً. فَقَالَ لَهُ بَعْدُ أَنْ أَدْعَى لَكَ ابْنَا... فَقَالَ الْأَلْفِ لِعَلَى الْمَلَاءُ وَرَقْصًا. الْأَبْ لِلْ الْمُلَا جَاءُ وَلْقُولُ الْمُرْعِي الْمُلَاعِلَ وَلَا لَالْمُلْكُ وَلَوْلُولُ الْمُلْعُ فَلَوْلُولُ الْمُلَاعِلَا وَلَوْلُولُ الْمُلْعُلُولُ وَلَنْتُكُمُ وَلَكُ مَنْ الْوَلَالِي الْمُلَاعِلَ لَهُ عَلَى اللّهُ الْمُلَاعُلُولُ الْمُلْعُلُولُ الْمُلْعُلُ وَلَنْ الْمُلْعُ فَوْلُ الْمُولُ وَلَعُلُ الْمُلَاعِلُولُ الْمُلْعُلُ وَلَوْلُكُ وَلَيْتُ الْمُلْعُلُولُ وَلَعْلُولُ الْمُلْعُلُولُ وَلَكُولُ الْمُلْعُلُ وَلَكُولُولُ اللّهُ الْمُلِكُمُ وَلَا لَكُولُكُ مُقَالًا لَهُ أَلْمُ الْمُلِي الْمُلْعُلُولُ اللّهُ الْمُلْعُلُ وَلَكُولُ الْمُلْلُولُ الْمُلْعُلُولُ وَلَكُولُ وَلَالْمُولُ اللْمُلِي الْمُلْمُ الْمُلْم

أَقُومُ وأَرجِعُ إِلَى أَلِينٍ" (لو١٨:١٥)

لكُلِّ وَاحِدٍ مِنَّا شِعَارُهُ فِي هَذِهِ الحَيَاة وَلَكِن هَذِهِ الشِِّعَارَات رَهْنَ الظُّرُوفَ وَالْمُنَاسَبَات وَالْمَصَالِحِ وَالْأَهْوَاء، فَتَبَدَّل مَع تَبَدُّلِهَا وَأُوقَاتٍ كَثِيرَة نَعِيشُ وَالْمُنَاسَبَات وَالْمَصَالِحِ وَالْأَهْوَاء، فَتَبَدَّل وَلا يَتَغَيَّر لَأَنَّهُ شِعَارَاتِنَا. وَلَكِنَّ الله شِعَارُهُ لا يَتَبَدَّل وَلا يَتَغَيَّر لأَنَّهُ شِعَارُ مَبنِيُّ عَلَى الْمَحَبَّة الْمَجَّانِيَّة لِلإِنسَان وَالشَّعَار الَّذِي نَتَأَمَّلُ بِهِ اليَومَ مَعَ مَثَلِ الإِبنِ الشَّاطِر هُوَ "الله لا يُرِيدُ مَوتَ الخَاطِىء بَل أَن يَعُودَ عَن ضَلالِهِ وَيَحْيَا". هَذَا مَالَ اللهَّالُ يَسُوعٍ بِفُوَّة فِي هَذَا المَثَل مِن خِلالِ الأَبِ الحَنونِ: "إِبنِي هَذَا كَانَ مَيا اللهَ وَيَعْيَا للْأَبِ الحَنونِ: "إِبنِي هَذَا كَانَ مَيا اللهَ وَيَعْمَل الإِبنُ الأَضِ الخَنونِ: "إِبنِي هَذَا كَانَ مَيا اللهَ وَيَعْيَا للْأَبِ الحَنونِ: "إِبنِي هَذَا كَانَ عَنْ البَيهِ وَتَعْبَ عُمْرِهِ عَلَى الْمُورِ لا يَنْ النَّهُ مَل إِبنُ الْأَصِ الْخَنونِ: "إِبنِي هَذَا كُانَ الْبَي النَّهُ مِنْ أَكِلِ الخَنازِيرِ، وَيَفِعلِهِ هَذَا أَنْ يَمْلاً جَوْمَةُ مِن أَكِلِ الخَنازِيرِ، وَيَفِعلِهِ هَذَا أَنْ يَمُلاً مَوْرَ لا لِنَا الْمَثَقَلُ وَاشْتَهَى أَن يَمْلاً مَوْرَة بِي اليَهُودِيِّ نَجِسَةً، أَطْرَابُ لِيَعْمَل لَدَى أَلِي الْخَنَازِيرِ، وَيَفِعلِهِ هَذَا أُلْمِي وَلَكِنْ لَيسَ لِيَكُونَ ابْنَا بَلُ الْمَالِ لَيَعْمَل لَدَى أَلِي لَيْعَمَل لَدَى أَلِيهِ فَيَعِيشَ مُعْتَرِفاً بِخَودَتِهِ إِلَى أَلِيقِ وَلَكِنْ لَيسَ لِيَكُونَ النَّا بُلُ

وَقَبِلَ الآبُ أَن يَسمَعَ مِنهُ: "يا أَبِي، خَطِئتُ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ وَأَمَامَكَ وَلا أَستَدِقٌ أَن أَدعَى لَكَ ابْنَاً". وَلَكِن لَم يَدَعُهُ يُكمِل مَا كَانَ يَعتَرِمُ قُولَهُ بِأَن يَجعَلَهُ كَأَحَدٍ أَجَرَائِهِ. فَأَعَادَ هَذَا الأَبُ الحَنُونِ كُلَّ الإِمتِيَازَاتِ الَّتِي خَسِرَهَا وَأَعَادَهُ ابْناً يَفرَحُ بِهِ فَرَحاً عَظِيماً لَأَنَّهُ كَانَ مَيِّناً فَعاشٍ، ضَالاً فَوْجِد. فَلنَهُم إِذْوَتِي بِفَحصِ ضَمِيرٍ جدِّيٍّ وَصَادِقٍ وَمَسؤُول. وَنَسْأَلُ ذَوَاتَنا هَل تَرَكْنَا البَيتَ الوَالِدِي عَلَى مِثَالِ الإِبنِ الضَّال وَدَهَبنَا لِنَعِيشَ في غُربَةٍ عَنِ الأَبِ الحَنُونِ الَّذِي يُحِبُّنَا مُستَثْمِرِينَ كُرِّيَتَنَا الَّتِي أَعطَانَا إِيَّاها الله بِغَيْرٍ وَحِهِ حَقِّ فَأُوصَلَتَنَا إِلَى غُربَةٍ مُذِلَّةٍ عَنِ البَيتِ الوَالِدِي ؟ هَلَ نَعرِف بِأَنَّ الله الَّذِي خَلَقَنَا بِدُونِ إِرَادَتِنَا لا يُخَلِّضَا بِدُونِ إِرَادَتِنَا؟

هَل نَعلَم بِأَنَّ الآتَ يَنْتَظِرُنَا بِفَارِغِ الصَّبرِ لِنَعُودَ إِلَيهِ لا لِيُحَاسِبِنَا أَو يُعَاقِبَنَا أَو يُذِلِّنَا بَل لِيَرُدَّ لَنَا مَا أَضَعَنَاهُ بِاستَغَمَالِنَا حُرِّيَتَنَا لِمَا يُذِلِنَا وَيُحَقِّرَنا وَلِيَغْفِر خَطَايَانَا (لَوْ كَانَت خَطايَاكُم كَالقِرمِز ، فَأَنَا أَبْيِّضَهَا كَالثَّلجِ.) اليَّوم إِذَا سَمِعنَا صَوتَهُ فَلا نُقَسِّ قُلُوبَنَا وَلَنَا فِي هَذَا الصَّومِ دَعوَةٌ مُهِمَّةٌ لِنُخرِجَ شَيَاطِينَ الجَهلِ وَقَسَاوَةَ القُلُوبِ بِالصِّلاةِ وَالصَّومِ لأَنَّ هَذَا النَّوعِ مِنَ الشَّيَاطِينِ لا يُطرِّدُ إِلَّا بِالصَّومِ وَالصَّلاةِ. فَلنَتَشِجَّعِ وَنَأْخُذ خُطوَةَ الأَلفِ مِيلٍ بِالثِّجَاهِ بَيتِنَا الأَبَويِّ عَارِفِينَ أَنَّ مَن يَنتَظِرُنا هُوَ أَبُ حُنُون.

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, Sharban (Shirley) Boutros (C) (D) (E) Matthew Essey, Tanious Elias Kazzi & the deceased of his family (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 and all departed of Khoury & ElZahoul Families (L) (M) Youssef Maroon & his wife Ghsoun, Therese Melhem, Betty Merhi, Bachara Botrous Moussa, Robert Bachara Moussa (N) (O) (P) (Q) (R) Raymond & Atour and their son Joe Romanos, Jamil & Labibi Roumanus and all the deceased from their family, Rizk Family (S) Youssef Mikhael Shaheen, Nabih Saad & his sons Kevin & Emille, Boutros & Therese Sassine and their son Kenny, Saba Family (T) Kemil & his wife Ghorra Tanna & their son Jamil Tanna, Therese Tanna, Bernadette Tanna, Tanna Family (U) (V) (W) (X) (Y) (Z)