



Feast of the Assumption

Our Lady of Lebanon Feast Week. 4-15 August 2023

MARY CARRIES THE SAVIOR OF HUMANITY
WITH HER OBEDIENCE TO GOD

مريم تحمل مُخلص البشرية
بفضل طاعتها لله

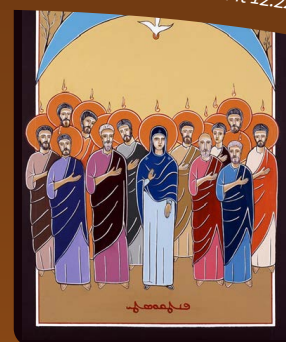


Issue 39 | Sunday 30 July 2023 | Tenth Sunday of Pentecost "Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters" Mt 12:22-32



THE GOSPEL

They brought to Jesus a demoniac who was blind and mute; and he cured him, so that the one who had been mute could speak and see. All the crowds were amazed and said, "Can this be the Son of David?" But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, "It is only by Beelzebul, the ruler of the demons, that this fellow casts out the demons." He knew what they were thinking and said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and no city or house divided against itself will stand. If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself; how then will his kingdom stand? If I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your own exorcists cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come to you. Or how can one enter a strong man's house and plunder his property, without first tying up the strong man? Then indeed the house can be plundered. Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters. Therefore I tell you, people will be forgiven for every sin and blasphemy, but blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven. Whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come. Mt 12:22-32



Tenth Sunday
of Pentecost

2Kgs 1: 2-8
1Cor 12: 1-11
Mt 12: 22-32

Message from the Bishop

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Saturday's ordination of three married men - Deacons Ron Hassarati, Joseph Maatouk, and Mekhael Gebrael - to the priesthood and to serve at the altars of our Maronite Eparchy of Australia is a momentous occasion in our Eparchy's life.

These three men are wholeheartedly embracing their call to serve God's people and live the true meaning of ministerial priesthood rooted in Christ's selfless service. The essence of priesthood lies in imitating Christ's example, humbly serving the Holy People of God. It is not about seeking prominence but about dedicating oneself entirely to the good of the community. Through the sacrament of Holy Orders, priests are entrusted with a sacred power directly from Christ, which must be exercised with love and compassion.

Priests carry a tremendous responsibility. Their thoughts, words, and actions should bear witness to this divine presence, always recognising that they are humble shepherds, and it is Jesus who leads His Church.

We celebrate this weekend the unique journeys of Ron, Joseph, and Mekhael, as newly ordained priests, who have answered the call to serve with dedication and love. Each one hails from different backgrounds, but they share a common desire to be workers in the field of the Lord.

Ron, a local from Sydney, has served as a teacher for decades, choosing the motto "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick" (Lk 5:31-32) for his ordination, reflecting his dedication to serving all, as Jesus did.



Joseph, who migrated from Lebanon and lived in Canberra, has had a remarkable journey, transitioning from being a chef to a counsellor, finding his true calling in serving those struggling with addiction, "a vocation within a vocation" as he calls it. He has chosen as his motto "You have seduced me, God, and I have let myself be seduced." (Jer 20:7)

Mekhael, after completing his studies in Lebanon, met his wife in Australia where they started a family. He has since served in various parishes, especially finding joy in pastoral work with the youth and choosing "My heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God," (Ps 84:2) as his motto.

Our priests are not alone in their ministry. They are supported by the saints, their fellow brothers in the clergy, and of course by the love and embrace of you, their parish communities.

May humility be the guiding light of all our priests, especially our newly ordained, as they administer the sacraments and journey with God's people through joys and sorrows. In times of solitude, may they find strength in their intimate relationship with Christ, who will sustain them with His boundless grace.

We thank the Lord for generously blessing our Eparchy with vocations. May He bless our new priests in their ministry, and may His love and grace flow through them, touching the lives of all the faithful they encounter on their priestly path. Please remember all our priests in your prayers today and every day.

+ Antoine-Charbel Tarabay

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 8pm - 9pm

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

PARISH CLERGY CONTACTS

Fr Youwakim Noujaim (Acting Dean):
0406 060 445
Fr Charbel Dib: 0410 759 795
Fr John-Paul Bassil: 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 Ron Hassarati: 0403 504 384
Dcn Ghassan Nakhoul: 0410 524 335
Dcn Sayed Isaac: 0422 886 062

CLERGY ON LEAVE

Fr Tony Sarkis (Dean)
Fr Pierre Khoury

RETIRED CLERGY

Br Bernard Assi
Fr Paul Joubert

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

"United we stand, divided we fall"

Let us be honest with ourselves when pondering upon the remark that Jesus made: "whoever is not with me, is against me." This is a very personal reflection to consider, especially for the baptised and those who have dedicated their lives to the service of God and to His Church, believing that all we do is right. After all, the Pharisees too believed that they were the only faithful ones who lived according to the ways of God, and anyone else who acted otherwise was not worthy of salvation, yet they saw Jesus as "evil". But Jesus proved them wrong...and He proves us wrong also, every time we judge another soul harshly, according to our own standards. Of course, there is 'right' and 'wrong' when it comes to certain behaviours, but I'm speaking about the regular everyday encounters of seeing others and immediately judging them in our hearts. In those times when we see someone offending God, pray for them and offer an act of penance on their behalf. That would be more Christ-like and meritorious on our part, as opposed to condemning them or entertaining idle conversations about their behaviour.

Jesus was always judged harshly, even when He showed many signs and wonders of His Divinity. Still there were those who did not believe in Him, and who judged Him severely, to the point of death. When we are faced with doubts and rejections, can we remain united with Christ, under those circumstances, or do we crumble and fall under pressure? We should remember that every soul has their own struggles we do not see, but we can at least try to provide each with a sense of belonging so that we don't create unnecessary barriers which may lead others away from Christ rather than closer toward Him.

There is no evil which Christ cannot remove, from our lives or from this world, as long as we trust in Him. There is no greater love than the love of God for His people, and our hearts must focus and believe in His love for each of us. We have the best opportunity in this Jubilee Year of the Maronite Church in Australia, to be united with one heart and one mind. Let us speak with words of love, think with thoughts of love, and act with hearts of love. In this way, we are showing that we are with Christ, not against Him, by our living testimony. United under the banner of our Church, let us persevere in praying for our Clergy and all vocations, so that God may continue to pour out His Graces upon our families.

Salwa Elias

QUESTION

What does the Eucharist represent in the life of the Church?

ANSWER

It is the source and summit of all Christian life. In the Eucharist, the sanctifying action of God in our regard and our worship of him reach their high point. It contains the whole spiritual good of the Church, Christ himself, our Pasch. Communion with divine life and the unity of the People of God are both expressed and effected by the Eucharist. Through the eucharistic celebration we are united already with the liturgy of heaven and we have a foretaste of eternal life.



UPCOMING EVENTS



THE MARONITE EPARCHY OF AUSTRALIA
INVITES YOU TO JOIN US FOR OUR

GOLDEN JUBILEE SOLEMN MASS

SUNDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 11 AM
KEN ROSEWALL ARENA
Sydney Olympic Park NSW

celebrated by
HIS BEATITUDE AND EMINENCE
MAR BECHARA BOUTROS CARDINAL RAI
Patriarch of Antioch and All the East





TO BOOK YOUR SEATING AT THIS FREE EVENT,
please visit www.ticketmaster.com.au
or Scan the QR Code

FOR LATEST DETAILS, PLEASE FOLLOW US ON:

 Maronite Eparchy of Australia, New Zealand and Oceania
 maronite_eparchy_australia

GOLDEN JUBILEE PARTNERS



JOIN US THIS

FEAST WEEK

6TH AUGUST 2023
AFTER 7PM MASS

FREE ENTRY
LIVE MUSIC |
FOOD | DRINK

OUR LADY OF LEBANON CO CATHEDRAL
40 ALICE STREET HARRIS PARK NSW 2160



VOLUNTEERS FOR FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION 2023 CELEBRATIONS NEEDED!

Please contact Chloe on 0432 781 179
or George on 0423 451 722 for further details

Or complete the form by scanning the QR Code



PARISH NOTICE BOARD

Sunday 30 July:

10th Sunday of Pentecost

9:30am Mass for the Renewal of Marriage Vows

11:00am One Year Mass for the late Joseph Bachir Beshara from Karem Al Mohr

5:00pm One Year Mass for the late Josephine Antonios Nader wife of Badr Younes from Mejdlaya

7:00pm First Mass celebrated by Fr Ron Hassarati

Friday 4 August:

Opening for the Feast of the Assumption

6:00pm Opening Mass for Feast Week celebrations

7:00pm OLOL Souk Night Market Featuring Live English Band

Saturday 5 August:

Novena Day 1

10:00am Arabic School Mass followed by Entertainment and Brunch

5:30pm Rosary Prayers and Procession

6:00pm Vigil Mass of the Feast of the Transfiguration

7:00pm OLOL Souk Night Market Festival Featuring Arabic Music

Sunday 6 August:

11th Sunday of Pentecost – Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord- Novena Day 2

8:00am Sodality Mass

9:30am Renewal of Fersan Al Adra vows Mass

11:00am All Living and Departed of Mazraat Al Teffah for the Feast of St Doumit offered by the Association

6:30pm Rosary Prayers and Procession

7:00pm Youth Mass followed by BBQ Entertainment

PARISH WEEKLY COLLECTION & LOANS REPAYMENTS

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS For week ending: 23/07/2023

Plates: \$9,555 | **Donations:** \$50 | **Candles:** \$138

PARISH LOANS

CYPC: \$3,428,734

UNITS: \$1,127,177

MONTHLY LOAN REPAYMENTS

CYPC: \$37,202 POST-COVID INTEREST + PRINCIPAL

UNITS: \$12,201 POST-COVID INTEREST + PRINCIPAL

A BIG CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY ORDAINED PRIESTS FR RON, FR JOSEPH & FR MEKHAEL!





The Maronite Eparchy of
Australia invites you to the

GOLDEN JUBILEE *Dinner*



**Celebrating the past,
building together the future**

In the presence of His Beatitude & Eminence
Mar Bechara Boutros Cardinal Rai
Patriarch of Antioch and All the East.

Dinner proceeds will go towards supporting
struggling Maronite students in Lebanon

Thursday
September
21 2023
6.30 PM

Rosehill
Gardens
Grand Pavilion, Rosehill

Dress Code: Formal

\$300 per person
\$3000 per table of 10
Sponsorship Packages available

To secure your table or sponsorship
contact the Maronite Chancery
02 8831 0000 | events@maronite.org.au

**GOLDEN
JUBILEE
PARTNERS**

 **DASCO**
CREATING WITH CARE SINCE 1993



 **Bank of Sydney**

Be a part of the Golden Jubilee Dinner in the presence of His Beatitude & Eminence Mar Bechara Boutros Cardinal Rai, Patriarch of Antioch and All the East.

It is an opportunity to come together as one community around our Patriarch, and help students in need in Lebanon.

Christian education institutions are crumbling under the weight of our country's economic collapse, and some of them are for the first time on the brink of closing their doors. With many unable to afford even partial tuition fees, schools can no longer maintain their facilities, let alone remunerate their teaching staff adequately. As a result, an entire generation is at the risk of missing out on schooling, with many children as young as 11, forced to attend school less frequently in order to work support their families financially.

We are calling for your help.

Table sales are now open, and everyone is invited to be a part of this event on Thursday 21 September 2023 at 7.00pm at the Grand Pavilion, Rosehill Gardens.

For more information or to secure your table or sponsor, please contact the team at our Maronite Eparchy on 02 8831 0000 or email events@maronite.org.au



Diamond Yearly Sponsor

\$50,000 (ex GST)

Diamond Sponsor for the Reception Dinner in honour of His Beatitude and Eminence Mar Bechara Boutros Cardinal Rai at Rosehill Gardens to be held on **Thursday 21 September 2023**, with an expected attendance of 1500 people.

- Premium Reserved Seating for 20 at the Dinner
- Reserved Parking for up to 4 cars at Rosehill Gardens
- Full page advertisement in the Dinner Event Booklet
- Acknowledgement of Sponsorship by the Master of Ceremonies on the night
- On-Screen advertising throughout the night
- 2 complimentary bottles of Blue Label Scotch Whiskey on dinner tables (1 per table)
- Patriarchal Medal presented by Patriarch Rai at the Dinner
- Large business logo on Media Wall at the event

Maronite Mass celebrated by Patriarch Rai at Ken Rosewall Arena on **Sunday 24 September 2023** with an estimated attendance of 10,000 people.

- Reserved Seating for 20
- Acknowledgment in the event booklet
- Advertising at appropriate events of the Jubilee Year
- Promotion of Diamond Sponsorship on website and social media pages throughout the year



Gold Sponsorship

\$25,000 (ex GST)

- Premium Reserved Seating for 10 at the Dinner (1 table with company logo)
- Reserved Parking for 2 cars at Rosehill Gardens
- Half page advertisement in the Dinner Event Booklet
- Acknowledgement of Gold Sponsorship by the Master of Ceremonies on the night
- On-Screen advertising as Gold Sponsor throughout the night
- 1 complimentary bottle of Blue Label Scotch Whiskey on dinner tables
- Promotion of Dinner Gold sponsorship on website and Eparchy social media pages in July, August and September 2023
- Company logo to be placed on the Red Carpet Sponsorship Wall
- Presentation of an Appreciation Plaque during the formalities of the Event



Silver Sponsorship

\$10,000 (ex GST)

- Reserved Seating for 10 at the Dinner (1 table with company logo)
- Reserved Parking for 2 cars at Rosehill Gardens
- Quarter page advertisement in the Dinner Event Booklet
- Acknowledgement of Silver Sponsorship by the Master of Ceremonies on the night
- On-Screen advertising as Silver Sponsor throughout the night
- 1 complimentary bottle of Blue Label Scotch Whiskey on dinner tables
- Promotion of Dinner Silver sponsorship on website and Eparchy social media pages in August and September 2023
- Company logo to be placed on the Red Carpet Sponsorship Wall
- Presentation of an Appreciation Plaque during the formalities of the Event



Bronze Corporate Sponsorship

\$5,000 (ex GST)

- Reserved Seating for 10 at the Dinner (1 table with company logo)
- Advertisement in the Dinner Event Booklet
- Acknowledgement of Corporate Sponsorship by the Master of Ceremonies on the night
- On-Screen advertising as Corporate Sponsor throughout the night
- 1 complimentary bottle of Blue Label Scotch Whiskey on dinner tables
- Acknowledgement of Dinner Corporate sponsorship on website and Eparchy social media pages in September 2023
- Company logo to be placed on the Red Carpet Sponsorship Wall



New OLOL Statue

Feast of the

Assumption

Our Lady of Lebanon Feast Week 4-15 August 2023

MARY CARRIES THE SAVIOR OF HUMANITY WITH HER OBEDIENCE TO GOD

صَريم تحمل مُخلص البشرية بفضل طاعتها لله



Friday 4 August

7.00 & 9.00 am: **Mass**
5:30 PM: Rosary
6:00 pm : Opening Mass for feast week celebrations.
7:00 pm : **OLOL SOUK NIGHT** Australian Food Market
Featuring Live English Band

Saturday 5 August

7.30 am Mass.
10:00 am : **Arabic School Mass**, followed
by Entertainment & Brunch
5:30 pm: Rosary & Novena Day 1
6:00 pm : Vigil Mass of the Feast of the Transfiguration
7:00 pm : **OLOL SOUK NIGHT** Market Festival
Featuring *Arabic Music*

Sunday 6 August

Feast of the Transfiguration
8.00 am, 11.00 am, 5.00 pm Mass.
9:30 am: **RENEWAL OF FERSEN AL ADRA VOWS** Mass
6:30 pm: Rosary & Novena Day 2
7:00 pm : **YOUTH** Mass, Feast of the Transfiguration
followed by **BBQ** Entertainment. All day Bakery.

Monday 7 August

7.00 & 9.00 am: **Mass**
5:30 pm: Rosary & Novena Day 3
6:00 pm : **Eparchy Sodalities** Mass
followed by **Refreshments**. All day Bakery.

Tuesday 8 August

7.00 & 9.00 am: **Mass**
5:30 pm: Rosary & Novena Day 4
6:00 pm : **Family of Divine Word** Mass
& **St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop** Feast
Consecration & Renewal FDW vows
followed by **Refreshments**. All day Bakery

Wednesday 9 August

7.00 & 9.00 am: **Mass**
5:30 pm: Rosary & Novena Day 5
6:00 pm : **Teens** Mass
7:30 pm : **English Faith Formation** Talk,

Thursday 10 August

7.00 & 9.00 am: **Mass**
5:30 pm: Rosary & Novena Day 6
10:30 am : **Seniors** Mass followed by Lunch
6:00 pm : **Heaven on Earth** Mass
8:00 pm : **Adoration & Procession of the Blessed**
Sacrament. Confessions Available.

Friday 11 August

7.00 & 9.00 am: **Mass**
5:00 pm: **MARIAN PROCESSION** & Novena Day 7
followed by **MASS** at 6:00 pm
6:00 pm to 9:00 pm: **RECONCILIATION & CONFESSIONS**

Saturday 12 August

The Relics of the Saints arriving to the Cathedral
5:30 pm: Rosary & Novena Day 8.
6:00 pm : Mass for all Vocations
7:00 pm : **ANNUAL PARISH HAFLEH & FESTIVAL**
RIDES, Lebanese & English Entertainment & Raffle
Draw. Entry \$35 pp (includes all Rides & Food.) Free
entry for children under 5yo. Tickets on sale at the
door or online www.olol.org.au/tix

Sunday 13 August

The Relics of the Saints present inside the Church
8.00 am, 9:30 am & 11.00 am, 5pm & 7 pm Mass.
10.30 am to 3.00 pm **FAMILY FUN DAY** Entry \$ 20
per child incl. unlimited Rides, Free Sausage sizzle.
6:30 pm: Rosary & Novena Day 9

Monday 14 August

7.00 am & 9 am: **Mass**
6:00 pm : **SOLEMN MASS** for **FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION**
Celebrated by His Excellency Bishop Antoine-Charbel
Tarabay, **Unveiling, Lighting and Blessing**
of the new statue of Our Lady of Lebanon.
Hrissi Night & Entertainment. Church open untill midnight.
Departure of the Relics of the Saints.

Tuesday 15 August

Feast of the Assumption
Mass: 7.00 am, 9:00 am, 11.00 am, 6:00 pm



Our Lady of Lebanon Co- Cathedral | 40 Alice Street, Harris Park NSW 2150

لوحة إعلانات الرعية

السبت ٥ آب:

بدء تساعية عيد إنتقال مريم العذراء
١٠:٠٠ صباحاً قداس مدرسة اللغة العربية يليها احتفال
٥:٣٠ مساءً صلاة المسبحة وزياح
٦:٠٠ مساءً قداس ليلة عيد التجلي
٧:٠٠ مساءً OLOL سوق ، مأكولات، منوعات موسيقية

الأحد ٦ آب:

الأحد الحادي عشر من زمن العنصرة - عيد تجلي الرب واليوم الثاني من التساعية
٨:٠٠ قداس على نية أعضاء أخوية الحبل بلا دنس أحياء، مرضى وأموات
٩:٣٠ قداس فرسان العذراء وتكريس أعضاء جدد
١١:٠٠ قداس على نية أحياء وأموات مزرعة التفاح بمناسبة عيد القديس صوميط مقدمة الجمعية
٦:٣٠ صلاة المسبحة وزياح
٧:٠٠ قداس الشبيبة ويليهِ باركيو الشبيبة ومنوعات موسيقية

الأحد ٣٠ تموز:

الأحد العاشر من زمن العنصرة
٩:٣٠ قداس إحتفالي لتجديد مفاعيل سر الزواج
١١:٠٠ السنة للمرحوم جوزيف بشير بشارة من كرم المهر
٥:٠٠ السنة للمرحومة جوزفين أنطونيوس نادر زوجة بدر يونس من مجدليا
٧:٠٠ القداس الأول للخورى الجديد رون الحصرياتي

الجمعة ٤ آب:

بدء إحتفالات عيد إنتقال مريم العذراء
٦:٠٠ مساءً قداس إحتفالي لإفتتاح إحتفالات عيد إنتقال مريم العذراء
٧:٠٠ مساءً OLOL سوق ، مأكولات، منوعات موسيقية

إذهب وصالح أخاك قبل أنه تقرب به قربانك

في هذا الكلام تعليم جديد، لا يتناقض مع الشريعة والناموس بل يكملهما، ليناسب شعب العهد الجديد ويُرسى المبادئ التي تليق بأبناء الملكوت. يحزننا يسوع من الغضب لأنه يريد من أبناء الملكوت أن يكونوا دائماً فاعلي خير وسلام، وأن تكون لهم طول الأناة، ليصبروا على بعضهم البعض ويعيشوا بمحبة دائمة أينما كانوا، سواء في البيت بين الزوج والزوجة، وبين الأهل والأولاد، أو في أي مكان آخر.

لهذا التعليم تفسير روحي يعني ببساطة أنه عندما أذهب إلى الكنيسة لأشارك في القداس وأحتفل بالأفخارستيا، لا يمكنني التقرب إذا كان لأخي أو أختي شيء عليّ. لكن، ومع الأسف، كثيرون يأتون إلى المناولة وهم في حالة من القطيعة والجفاء مع بعضهم البعض. هل نعي معنى ذلك؟ هل ندرك أن الله لا يقبل أي صلاة أو عبادة من شخص غير متصالح مع أخيه؟ لكي نحظى بنعمة المناولة يجب أن تكون قلوبنا مستعدة لاستقبال الرب يسوع.

إرادة الله أن تكون علاقته دائماً قوية ومتينة مع شعبه. هذا الشعب كان بانتظار المصالحة التامة والكاملة، وقد تمّ يسوع هذه المصالحة بذبيحة جسده على الصليب. بذلك لم يعد المطلوب من الإنسان تقديم القرابين لأن الله بذاته أعَدَّ ابنه وقَدَّمه قرباناً عنا. هذا هو المعطى الجديد. كم هو الإنسان مهم عند الله ليقدم الله ذاته قرباناً عنه بشخص يسوع المسيح؟

بهذه الذبيحة بات مجال التوبة مفتوحاً دائماً. وفي مسيرتنا نحو التوبة يبقى لدينا رجاء دائم بأن الخاطئ لن يموت قبل أن يعود إلى حالة النعمة لأن مبادرة المصالحة تأتي دائماً من الله لا من الإنسان. حتى عندما نمارس التوبة في سر الاعتراف، المبادرة تأتي من عمل الروح القدس فينا وفي الكنيسة.

الروح هو الذي يدعونا إلى المصالحة. ونتيجة المصالحة خلق جديد.



الشهداء ٣٥٠ تلاميذ مار مارون ٣١ تموز

تحتفل الكنيسة المارونية هذا الأسبوع بعيد الشهداء رهبان وتلاميذ مار مارون الذين اضطهدهم الملك انسطاس وقتل منهم ٣٥٠ راهباً.

انقسمت سوريا بعد المجمع الخلقيدوني الرابع (إعتراف بطبعتين ألوهية وأنسانية ليسوع المسيح) إلى مؤيدين للمجمع وإلى معاكسين له. وكان دير مار مارون والأديرة التابعة له من المناصرين. في السنة ٥١٧ كان البطريرك ساويرس قائداً لتباعد الطبيعة الواحدة. وبينما كان عدد من الرهبان الخاضعين لدير مار مارون ذاهبين لزيارة دير مار سمعان العمودي قرب حلب تصدّى لهم على الطريق تباعد الطبيعة الواحدة وقتلوا منهم ثلاثمائة وخمسين شهيداً، وقد نجا البعض الآخر أو جرح. كان ذلك سنة ٥١٧ وقد أرسل رئيس دير مار مارون ورؤساء الأديرة التابعة له رسالة إلى البابا هرمزدا يخبرونه بالامر. فأجابهم البابا يشجعهم على الثبات في الايمان الكاثوليكي ويذكر شهداءهم بالخير. ومنذ ذاك الوقت تحتفل الكنيسة المارونية بهذا العيد وتعتبر هؤلاء الرهبان شفعاء لها لدى الله. فلتكن صلاتهم معنا دائماً. آمين

تذكر مني إنو ما فيلته توقفه
بوجه الشيطان إذا ما فيلته
تركع قدّام الله



Feast of the Assumption

Our Lady of Lebanon Feast Week. 4-15 August 2023

MARY CARRIES THE SAVIOR OF HUMANITY
WITH HER OBEDIENCE TO GOD

مريم تحمل مُخلص البشرية
بفضل طاعتها لله



عدد ٣٩ | الأحد ٣٠ تموز ٢٠٢٣ | الأحد العاشر من العنصرة "وَمَنْ لَا يَجْمَعُ مَعِيَ فَهُوَ يُبَدِّلُ" مت ٢٤:١٢-٢٥



الأحد العاشر
من عيد العنصرة
٢ ملوك ١: ٢ - ٨
اكو ١: ١ - ١١
مت ٢٤: ١٢ - ٣٢



جِيئْتُ قَدَّمُوا إِلَى يَسُوعَ مَمْسُوسًا أَعْمَى وَأَخْرَسَ، فَشَفَاهُ، حَتَّى تَكَلَّمَ وَأَبْصَرَ. فَدَهَشَ الْجُمُوعُ كُلُّهُمْ وَقَالُوا: "لَعَلَّ هَذَا ابْنُ دَاوُدَ؟". وَسَمِعَ الْفَرِيسِيُّونَ فَقَالُوا: "إِنَّ هَذَا الرَّجُلَ لَا يُخْرِجُ الشَّيَاطِينَ إِلَّا بِعَلِّ زَبُولَ، رُبِيسَ الشَّيَاطِينِ". وَعَلَّمَ يَسُوعُ أَفْكَارَهُمْ فَقَالَ لَهُمْ: "كُلُّ مَمْلُوكَةٍ تَنْقَسِمُ عَلَى نَفْسِهَا تَحْرِبُ، وَكُلُّ مَدِينَةٍ أَوْ بَيْتٍ يَنْقَسِمُ عَلَى نَفْسِهِ لَا يَثْبُتُ. فَإِنْ كَانَ الشَّيْطَانُ يُخْرِجُ الشَّيْطَانَ، يَكُونُ قَدْ انْقَسَمَ عَلَى نَفْسِهِ، فَكَيْفَ يَثْبُتُ مَمْلَكَتُهُ؟ وَإِنْ كُنْتُ أَنَا بِعَلِّ زَبُولَ أَخْرِجُ الشَّيَاطِينَ، فَأَبْنَاؤُكُمْ بِمَنْ يُخْرِجُونَهُمْ؟ لَذَلِكَ فَهُمْ أَنْفُسُهُمْ سَيَخْضَعُونَ عَلَيْكُمْ. أَمَّا إِنْ كُنْتُ أَنَا بِرُوحِ اللَّهِ أَخْرِجُ الشَّيَاطِينَ، فَقَدْ وَافَاكُمْ مَلَكُوتُ اللَّهِ. أَمْ كَيْفَ يَقْدِرُ أَحَدٌ أَنْ يَدْخُلَ بَيْتَ الْقَوِيِّ وَيَنْهَبَ أَمْتَعَتَهُ، إِنْ لَمْ يَرْبُطِ الْقَوِيُّ أَوَّلًا، وَجِيئْتُ يَنْهَبُ بَيْتَهُ؟ مَنْ لَيْسَ مَعِيَ فَهُوَ عَلَيَّ. وَمَنْ لَا يَجْمَعُ مَعِيَ فَهُوَ يُبَدِّلُ. لَذَلِكَ أَقُولُ لَكُمْ: كُلُّ خَطِيئَةٍ سَتُغْفَرُ لِلنَّاسِ، وَكُلُّ تَجْدِيفٍ، أَمَّا التَّجْدِيفُ عَلَى الزَّوْجِ فَلَنْ يُغْفَرَ. مَنْ قَالَ كَلِمَةً عَلَى ابْنِ الْإِنْسَانِ سَيُغْفَرُ لَهُ. أَمَّا مَنْ قَالَ عَلَى الزَّوْجِ الْقُدُّوسِ فَلَنْ يُغْفَرَ لَهُ، لَا فِي هَذَا الدَّهْرِ، وَلَا فِي الْآيَةِ". مت ٢٤: ١٢-٣٢

"لعلَّ هذا يكون ابن داود؟"
(متى ١٢: ٢٣)

نحن أمام خيارين لا ثالث لهما: الخير أو الشرّ، الله أو بعزلبول، الحبّ أو الحقد، الصفح أو الإنتقام، التسلّط أو الخدمة، الأنانيّة أو بذل الذات. نعلم أن خلاصنا يكمن في اختيار الله، ورغم ذلك نتردّد، فالخطيئة لذيدة، مغرية أمّا إرادة الله فصعبة ومليئة بتضحيات. لقد دعانا الله لنكون في حياتنا أبطالاً، أن نكون مسيحيين يعني أن نختار الدرب الوعرة والطريق الساق. فماذا نختار؟



صلاة

أيها الرب يسوع، يا من طردت ابليس بروح الله، افتح قلوبنا وأذهاننا لتتقبل روحك القدوس، وتكون أنت السيد المطلق على بيوتنا، حتى إذا جرب ابليس أن يتحايّل علينا بعواطفه الزائفة، تواجهه أنت بقدرتك، فنحن لا قدرة لنا عليه.. ساعدنا أن نشارك أنت ربا ومسيحا وقائدا نندفع اليك، نختبئ تحت ظلال جناحك، نحتمي بك من أصناف "بعل زبول"، نسلم لك مفاتيح بيتنا و"صك" ملكيته كي نكون مع أولادنا في حمايتك وتحت رعايتك. لا تسمح يا رب أن نضعف أمام التجارب بل أنصر ضعف غرائزنا، لننتصر بك ومعك على مكائد ابليس، **أمين**

عندما شفى يسوع ذاك الممسوس الأعمى والأخرس، الذي وقع ضحية الأرواح الشريرة، عبّر عن أن الإنسان هو طريقه. وقد جاء ليخلصه من كلّ أنواع معاناته، الروحية والمعنوية والاجتماعية. وقال: "لقد وافاكم ملكوت الله" (متى ١٢: ٢٨). أي إن يسوع المسيح الإله المتجسّد دخل تاريخ البشر، وأصبح رفيق الدرب لكلّ فرد منا، ليفتدينا ويخلصنا، ويجعلنا بالتالي طريق الكنيسة.

إن الرب يسوع، بآلامه وموته وقيامته، حقّق الخلاص التام والنهائي، وانتصر على الشيطان مسبّب الخطيئة، وحامل الإنسان على ارتكابها بالغشّ والاحتيال والاستمالة. ويدعو الرب يسوع في إنجيل اليوم إلى الإيمان بقوة روحه القدوس على تحرير الأنفس من تجارب الأرواح الشريرة ومسمّهم، لأنهم بهذا الإيمان يلجأون إلى إلتماس قوّة الروح لينتصروا ويخلصوا، وإلا ماتوا في حالة بؤسهم. هذا ما يعنيه قول يسوع: "لهذا أقول لكم: تُغْفَر للناس كلّ خطيئة تجديف، أمّا التجديف على الروح القدس، فلا يُغْفَر" (متى ٣١/١٢). لا لأنّ الله لا يغفر، بل لأنّ المجدّف يرفض قدرة روح الله، فلا يلتمسها.

بالنسبة إلى يسوع، الناس فئتان: الأولى منفتحة عليه بالقلب وتؤمن به وبكلامه. هذه الفئة من الناس هي فئة الشعب الطيّب الحرّ داخلياً الذي عندما شاهد آية شفاء ذاك الممسوس الأعمى والأخرس، رأى في يسوع "المسيح الآتي"، وقال: "لعلّ هذا يكون ابن داود" (متى ١٢: ٢٣)؟

أمّا الفئة الثانية فهي فئة المتكبرين الممثلين من ذواتهم الأنانيين، المتملّين بالفرسيّين الذين اعتبروا أن يسوع بقوة الشيطان شفى ذاك الممسوس. هذه الفئة من الناس يتأكلها الحسد عند رؤية الخير في الآخر، وتطلّعه منافساً لها، وتعمل على إضعافه وإزالته.

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) Milia Bou Raidan (C) (D) (E) Tanious Elias Kazzi & the deceased of his family, Matthew Essey (F) (G) Helen George, Majid George (H) Maurice & Martha Jamil Haddad, Paul & Madeline Haddad & Son Joseph & daughter Colleen George (I) (J) Jamil Kamel Mtanios Jabbour (K) Genevieve Khoury & the departed souls of the Khoury and El-Zahoul families, Baraban Georges Karam (L) (M) Youssef Maroon & his wife Ghsoun, Therese Melhem (N) (O) (P) (Q) (R) Jamil & Labibi Roumanus and all the deceased from their family (S) Youssef Mikhael Shaheen, Boutros & Therese Sassine and their son Kenny, Nabih Nassim Saad & Children Kevin & Emile Saad (T) Therese Tanna, Bernadette Tanna (U) (V) (W) (X) (Y) (Z)

