



Mary, Wellspring of Life

Our Lady of Lebanon Co-cathedral Feast Week

13-23 August 2015

OUR LADY OF LEBANON MARONITE CO-CATHEDRAL - HARRIS PARK

Sunday 2 August 2015

Issue 41

www.olo.org.au

THE GOSPEL

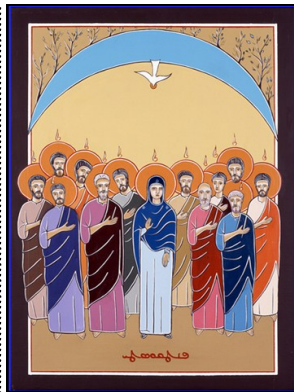
ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

THE EPISTLE

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him.

All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner." Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much." Then Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."

Lk 19: 1-10



Next Sunday's Readings

The Transfiguration of our Lord

2Cor 3:7-17
Mk 9:1-7

"God surely **LISTENS**, understands and knows the *hopes* and *fears* you keep in your **HEART**. For when you *trust* in His love, **MIRACLES HAPPEN!**"


~Unknown~

Brothers and sisters,

So Christ came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

Eph 2: 17-22

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

"O **Loving** God,  **compassionate** Father, guide our **hearts** and **minds** to do your **Will**, so that we may **decrease** in order that **YOU** may **increase** within **us**."

Amen! 

"Mary, Wellspring of Life"

Is our theme for Feast Week

13 - 23 August 2015

Including Solemn Mass & Hrissi

Saturday 15 August 6.00pm

Parish BBQ Saturday 22 August at

7.00pm for full program www.olo.org.au

SUNDAY HOLY LITURGIES (Masses)

OLOL Co Cathedral - Harris Park 8am (Arabic), 9:30am (English Family), 11am (Ar/Eng), 5pm (Ar/Eng), 7pm (English Youth)
Mass Centres - St Patrick's, Guildford 6pm (Ar/Eng)

WEEKDAY HOLY LITURGIES (Masses)

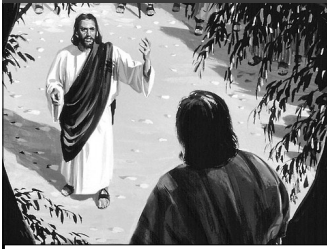
Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 7am, 8.45am & 6pm. Wed 7am, 8.45am & 5:30pm; 7pm (English Youth) Sat 7:30am & 6pm (Ar/Eng)

CONFESSIONS

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

WEEKDAY DEVOTIONS

Rosary: Mon & Tues 8pm, Wed 6:30pm, Thurs 7:30pm Sun 6:30pm Divine Mercy followed by Rosary Fri 7:30pm
Adoration Hour: Thursdays 8pm - 9pm **24 Hour Adoration: Friday 7 August from 9:30am - Sat 7:30am**



The company we keep reveals much about who we are. In today's Gospel Reading Jesus decides to keep company with a rich tax collector who went by the name of Zacchaeus.

Jesus ate at the homes of many people of varied status. He ate at Martha and Mary's, was a guest at a Pharisees home, and Jesus invited himself to Zacchaeus' house. In this last case, when the people heard of Jesus' plans, they 'began to grumble' v7. Why? Well we can give a number of reasons: Zacchaeus was a sinner; Jesus was considered to be neglecting the people in favour of an outsider; Zacchaeus was rich and often the rich get everything and the rest are left with nothing; etc.

So let us now turn our attention to the time Jesus spent with Zacchaeus. While still in the midst of the crowd, Zacchaeus has a change of heart and publicly confesses and repents. Jesus had simply acknowledged Zacchaeus in front of the crowd, but that was more than enough for Zacchaeus to want to change. We get the best out of others by treating them with dignity and respect, by opening to them opportunities to express who they really are.

Jesus doesn't grab at the chance to 'hang around' the rich and so feel important and excited about being treated with good things. In fact after Zacchaeus' public declaration, Jesus then tells the crowd a parable and 'after he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem' v28. There is no account of Jesus enjoying a banquet meal with Zacchaeus. Jesus had sought conversion of heart from the tax collector, and that was enough reward.

So who do we 'hang around' with? Are our relationships means of growth and respect towards each other? Amen

Sr Margaret Ghosn MSHF



The Transfiguration of Christ is one of the culminating points of His public life and ministry. It marks the centre point of Jesus' ministry with His Baptism being the starting point, and His Ascension its end point. The event of the Transfiguration of Our Lord are specifically detailed in the Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke), while St. Peter (2 Peter 1:16-18) and St. John (1:14), two of the privileged witnesses, make allusion to it.

About a week after His sojourn in Caesarea Philippi (where Peter testified Jesus as the Son of The living God and was made the Rock on which Jesus will build His church), Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them to a high mountain apart, where He was transfigured before their eyes. St. Matthew and St. Mark express this phenomenon by the word metamorphosis, which the Vulgate translates as transfiguratus est. The Synoptics explain the true meaning of the word by adding "his face did shine as the sun: and his garments became white as snow."

The transfiguration of Jesus reaffirmed to his disciples who were present that he truly is the Son of the Living God and the Messiah. His transfiguration showed the divine nature of our Lord while he maintained his human nature.

For us we can reflect with St Peter, who upon seeing Jesus in his Transfigured form said "Master, it is good for us to be here" (Luke 9:33), and how right St Peter is in this remark. Although the text from scripture tells us, St Peter said this without knowing the full extent of what it meant, it provides an example for us to follow, especially in during the Liturgy when we see the Glorified Body of Jesus in its Eucharistic form, even though we may not fully understand the how or why, let us follow St Peter's example and proclaim "Master, it is good for us to be here" Amen.

Charbel Dib

Shepherd's Corner - "THE SON OF MAN HAS COME TO SEEK AND TO SAVE WHAT WAS LOST."



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Just as Jesus came to seek out the lost, we too have been called to do the same. In our thriving parish at OLOL we continue daily to encourage one another and to provide foundations and guidance for those who seek to know more about the Catholic faith. The ongoing weekly faith formation programs have been a great success in bringing our parish family together, and this past week many gathered to hear about "Confession" as presented by Msgr. Shora Maree. Of course, the great highlight of the week has been the Maronite Diocesan Youth Convention "Arise."

What an amazing weekend it was, with approximately 300 young Maronites uniting together from across the major cities of Australia, to share their heritage and their Maroniteness at Stanwell Tops in Sydney. Great friendships were formed, faith was strengthened, and hope was ignited with a desire for more of these events to be arranged on a regular basis. Our youth are the hope of today, and we must therefore continue to encourage and empower them to lead the Church into the future.

This week also, our Women's faith formation group was blessed with a spiritual retreat, nourishing body and soul to persevere serving in the Lord's vineyard with love. Our Clergy too have been graced this week with a wonderful outcome to the Clergy Meeting, which was attended also by our brother priests and bishops of the Melkite, Chaldean, and Armenian Churches. Unity of heart and mind was evident within our diversity, with Fr. Brian Lucas (Secretary of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference) giving a special presentation that inspired and educated those present. In the spirit of today's Letter of St. Paul "So then you are no longer strangers....through him (Christ Jesus) the whole structure is held together....in him you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God, in the Spirit." May our God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, continue to guide and bless you all.

Fr Tony Sarkis

Article of the Week - REPORT ON MARONITE YOUTH CONVENTION

"Arise, shine, for your light has come" - Isaiah 60:1.

That was the theme for last weeks Australian Maronite Youth Convention (AMYC). And did we arise or what? Over 300 Maronite youth gathered from all around Australia to share and grow in our faith. We had crews from Melbourne, Perth, Adelaide and Brisbane as well as representatives from our New South Wales parishes. As we made our way down (or up) to Stanwell Tops Conference Centre we could not even imagine the way it would change our lives.

The weekend included keynote speakers and workshops all aimed at equipping us to live our lives to God plans and to inspire those who we meet. In between the talks there were many spiritual and social events lined up. This included Eucharistic Healing, prayer and mass. As well as a bonfire on Friday night and dinner/hafle on Saturday night. Both nights allowed us time to come together and bond as a youth. You could not pick a single highlight from the nights. From the largest dabkhe circles I have ever seen, 25+ playing the game Saw Macadora, changing the words from 'We are Australian' too 'We are all Maronite' or hearing Abouna Tanios sing.

Though, for me it was the little things that really changed my heart this weekend. Eucharistic Healing with the Bishop on Friday night followed by the bonfire showed me that our faith is not one to be lived in doors. As followers of Christ, we need to have time in Adoration, Mass and prayer to stop and build our relationship with God. But then we need to go out and live our lives as God intended. As Father Chris Riley has proven, we do not need to preach the Truth, but by simpling carrying it in our hearts and living the love it teaches, allows God to do the rest.

Words cannot explain the inspiration I was given by not just the youth that attended but the team I worked with during the organisation of the convention. They carried this love in their actions. Our Bishop, Mons, Anthony Yacoub, Louis El-Khoury, Joanna Kazzi, Anthony Assaf and Elise Gharrach. Also to the other coordinators and fellow youth that I have got to know and look forward to working with further in the near future, including (just to name a few) Clare Simpson, Charlene Rahme, Carla Beshara, David Fahl and Tony Asmar. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the OLOL youth who attended and especially Charbel B, Edwin, Robin, Joey N, Emily, Anthony L, Annette, Joanna M, Mary, Barbara, Jamal and Joey G whose work over the weekend must be recognised. To all involved, you truly allowed the light to shine this weekend!

The weekend reminded me that we are never alone in your journey. We have a strong community and there is always someone who will be able to understand and help. This is a space we must continue to watch as God has only just began doing His work. As stated in the convention, the youth are not the future of Church we are the Church.

God Bless, Connie Marree



Children's Corner - FORGIVENESS & JUDGING OTHERS

Welcome my dearest brothers and sisters to the 11th Sunday of Pentecost. Welcome to all of you to our Father's House.

This week's Gospel is a beautiful true story of a man named Zacchaeus who was a tax collector. In the eyes of all those around him, he was a big sinner because he stole money from the people and was rich.

When Zacchaeus heard that I was coming, he climbed a high tree so that he could see me. I saw him and I stayed with him. Zacchaeus is an important role model for you because he knew that he was a sinner and asked for forgiveness. He knew that stealing was wrong and he promised to give half of his things to the poor and to return any money from anyone he had stolen from. But of course the people did not have mercy, both on myself and on Zacchaeus. They accused me of eating with a sinner and they failed to see that Zacchaeus had a change of heart.

What can you learn from this Gospel? There are two main things:

1. I came to give healing to those who are sinful. No body is perfect, even though some may think they are. Everybody makes mistakes and some mistakes are bigger than others. But if you are truly sorry for your mistakes, then you can receive forgiveness by going to the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Remember, no one who is healthy needs to go to a doctor, do they?
2. You must be very careful not to judge people. No one is better than anybody else. No one is perfect. Everybody is in need of God and His mercy. Therefore, if you know that someone is bad and you see them attending Church, do not judge them, because you do not know what is going on in their hearts.

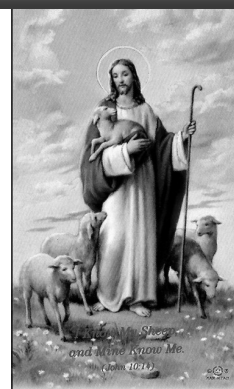
May you have a blessed and fruitful week.

Love your brother Jesus.

Activity

Think of a mistake that you have made. How does this mistake make you feel? How did it make others feel? Why did you make that mistake? How can you fix it?

Write a small prayer asking for God's healing and to help you not to make those mistakes again. Remember, prayer is the most helpful tool to help you, therefore, keep on praying.





"ARISE" Maronite Youth Convention

OUR LADY OF LEBANON FEAST WEEK

As part of our fundraising for the day to day running of the Parish, in the lead up to feast week we will be selling tickets, for our annual raffle. We will also be selling beautiful candles which were especially designed by Mons Shora Maree for the Gala Dinner. They reflect the seasons of the liturgical year and they can be turned around at each season. Only a limited number remain.

Raffle tickets: \$1 each or \$10 per book.
Candles: \$50.

We thank our generous donors and you for the continued support for your Parish.

Prizes:

1. Panasonic television VIERA TH55 CS650 donated by **DigiDirect.com.au** valued at \$2,500
2. Watch donated by **Nader Jewellers** valued at \$1500
3. Queen size latex bed donated by **Bridge Discounts** valued at \$1500
4. Ipad Air 216GB donated by **Batifast Tiling** valued at \$619
5. Apple iwatch sport donated by **Chahine & Associates Solicitors** valued at \$579
6. Xbox One Limited Edition Forza Motorsport 6 Bundle donated by **Designcorp Architects** valued at \$549
7. Dinner voucher at Brooklyns donated by **Brooklyns Pizza** valued at \$150
8. Towel and Bathroom Hamper donated by the **Baltasar Family** valued at \$150



MARONITE CARE COMMUNITY & YOUTH CENTRE PLANNED GIVING TARGET

Target 2000 Parishioners
\$5 ONLY a week

370 Parishioners
committed

Pledge Forms for your monthly Tax Deductible donation are available at the Church Doors. Fill in and return to one of the Priests, Committee Members or the Parish Office.

For Enquiries: Contact Salwa Elias on 96892899
Pledge Envelopes are also available in the Gift shop.



Our Lady of Lebanon Parish Loans
CYPC \$4,969,174 Units \$1,602,592 Property Nil - Fully Repaid

LOL ANNUAL GALA SPONSORS

PLATINUM SPONSOR	GOLD SPONSORS	SILVER SPONSORS
<p>PARRAMATTA LEAGUES Home of the Eels</p>	<p>DDF Diocesan Development Fund Diocese of Parramatta</p>	<p>Harkola foodworldwide</p>
<p>THEME SPONSOR</p>	<p>Catholic Cemeteries & Crematoria Care, Compassion, Choice</p>	<p>Elanor Investors Group</p>
	<p>PAUL LAHOOD FUNERAL SERVICES</p>	<p>MURPHY'S PRODUCE</p>

COMMUNITY BUSINESS NETWORK PAGE

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Interested in becoming part of our Newsletter **Community Business Network Page?**

The Newsletter reaches over 1100 individuals a week through print and over 2000 individuals online media.

For \$500 you can promote your business on our Business Network page for the whole month.

For details email media@lol.org.au or 02 8898 1510

PARISH NOTICE BOARD

FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS & FUNERALS

Sunday 2 August: 11th Sunday of Pentecost
11:00am 1 Year Faride Labib Haddad wife of Sleiman Bou Malhab from Bemahrayne - Alley
5:00pm Antoine Boutros Fayad from Bkerkacha (died in Lebanon)

Monday 3 August:
10:00am Funeral Antoine Geryes Estephan Rahme from Becharre – Wadi Mar Lichaa

Thursday 6 August: Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord
Masses Held at: 7:00am, 8:45am & 6:00pm

Saturday 8 August: Feast of St Mary Mackillop
6:00pm 1 Year George Abdel Massih from Bkerkacha

Sunday 9 August: 12th Sunday of Pentecost - Transfiguration of Our Lord
11:00am Living and departed from Mazraat El Toufah for the Feast of St Doumit offered by Mazraat El Toufah Association
3:00pm Feast of Our Lady of Zgharta offered by Zgharta Association
5:00pm 40 Day George Youssef Sissi from Kfarhawra

قَدَاسَاتِ الْأَسْبُوعِ

الأحد 2 آب: الأحد الحادي عشر من زمن العنصرة
11:00 السنة للمرحومة فريدة لبيب حدّاد زوجة سليمان بو ملهب من بْمَهْرِيْن قضاء عاليه
5:00 المرحوم أنطوان بطرس فيّاض من بقرقاشا (متوفي في لبنان)

الاثنين 3 آب:
10:00 دفن المرحوم أنطوان جريس أسطفان رحمة من بشري - وادي مار ليشع

الخميس 6 آب: عيد تجلّي الربّ
 القداصات 7 و 8:45 صباحاً و 6 مساءً

السبت 8 آب: عيد القديسة ماري مكيلوب
6:00 السنة للمرحوم جورج عبد المسيح من بقرقاشا

الأحد 9 آب: الأحد الثاني عشر من زمن العنصرة - الإحتفال بعيد تجلّي الربّ
11:00 قداس على نية أحياء وأموات مزرعة التفاح بمناسبة عيد مار ضوميط تقدمة الجمعية
3:00 قداس بمناسبة عيد سيدة زغرنا تقدمة جمعية بطل لبنان يوسف بك كرم
5:00 أربعون المرحوم جورج يوسف الصيصي من كفرحورا

FROM THE COMMUNITY YOUTH & PASTORAL CENTRE

Family & Adult Events

Our Mother Mary and her Consecration
 FDW Arabic Faith Talk Presented by Fr Tony Sarkis
Tues 4th August 7.15pm in the Seniors Room - CYPC
 الموضوع امنّا مريم والتكرّس
 مع الخوري طوني سركيس

Youth Events

Teens Faith Discussion & Activities: Saturdays 4-6pm

Blood Donation contact Myrna 0421677998
Nursing Home Visit contact Therese 0431792205
Youth Meeting Tue 4 Aug contact Connie 0411 830 349
Prayer with the Youth Fri 7 Aug 9-10pm contact Connie 0411 830 349

2 Day Silent retreat
Fri night 18- Sun afternoon 20 September
 Theme is "Wisdom" and led by Fr Yuhanna Azize and Mons Shora.
 Cost: \$230 includes food/accommodation @ Mt Carmel retreat Varoville.. Retreat starts Fri night 8pm sharp
 Book early to save disappointment. For info or bookings
 Joe Chiha 04400444999 Ray Bayssari 0431236934

WYD2016 Pilgrimage to Poland Led by Mons Shora
"Blessed are the merciful for they shall receive mercy" Mt 5:7
 Join us on a Pilgrimage to Poland for World Youth Day 2016 in Krakow, continuing on to Lourdes, Rome and The Holy Land.
 Departs 23 July to 20 August 2016 | 29 Days, \$8,700

Seniors Events

غذاء المسنين
 يوم الخميس ١٣ آب من الساعة الحادية عشرة الى الثالثة بعد الظهر

"ساعة بقرب يسوع"
 كل نهار خميس الساعة الثامنة مساءً
 لنسجد معاً للكلمة التي صار جسداً

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Our Lady of Lebanon Co-Cathedral

OUR LADY OF LEBANON
Maronite Catholic Parish

Visit us at olol.org.au

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MaroniteCare Services

Youth Services & Facilities
Youth Drop in Recreation Room & Library & Study Centre open 10am – 10pm for Youth 18 & over. Under 18s only with adult supervision
Homework Help for Students K-10 Tues 3:30pm - 6pm
 Bookings essential call Anthony Chidiac 0411 217 103

Counselling Services (English/ Arabic)
Nada Coorey-Psychologist provides confidential counselling to individuals and couples in her private consulting rooms. Her areas of specialisation include relationship difficulties, family/parenting and the treatment of Anxiety and Depression.
Mobile: 0434 642 509 Phone: 8840-9475.

MaroniteCare Counselling Service
For young people 12-18 years and their families.
 Call Lina Ishac 0433 217 063 or Anthony Chidiac 0411 217 103
 Email: counselling@maronitecare.org.au

Women's Well-being Office – Nelly—9689 2899
Natural Fertility Services We offer evening appointments.
 For further info., please contact Nelly Azize 0430 332 888
Ladies Fitness & Wellbeing contact Abir 0410 122 999
Children's Playgroup Tuesdays & Wednesdays from 9:30am – 11:30am
Marriage Preparation Sessions book 8 months before wedding: 9642 0211

LOL St Vincent De Paul Conference call Kim Moussa 0424 658 190

Respite for Carers of People with Mental Health Issues
Afife Sfeir 0449 902 314 Customer Service 1800 225 474.

White Stone Family Support Services
 Is your family impacted by addictions? And as a result, are you suffering from stress, anxiety, or worry? Would you like discuss your concerns within a safe and confidential environment?

White Stone's experienced psychologists and social workers can assist you to: Manage stress, anxiety and worry, Understand the nature of addictions, Support the person with the addiction, Deal with the impact of addiction on the family as whole. For more information, contact: 9633 2900 Or visit us at: 128a Alfred St, Harris Park Opening hours: Mon, Wed, Fri & Sat 9am-5pm.

Diocesan Notices

Maronite Devotions and Sacraments
Mondays from 13 July - 17 August held in the CYPC.
 Register at caec.org.au or by phoning 9646 9010.
Cost: \$95 to cover materials and marking of assignments.
 It is part of the Certificate of Maronite Studies.
 It deals with not only our sacraments, but also our devotions.

Catholic Basics - a twenty one week course
Mon 3 August at 7:30pm held in the CYPC.
 This course is suitable for people wanting a good overview of the faith, and for those wishing to convert. To register and for further info.
 Contact Fr Yuhanna Azize on 0435 764 824 or Salwa Elias on 0426 156 758

كيف أفرح كمسيحي؟



نطمح جميعاً للفرح ولكن أحياناً يبدو من الصعب التمسك به. يجب أن يكون اختبار الفرح جزءاً من حياة كل مسيحي لأن الفرح هو ثمرة من ثمار الروح القدس تنتج من عمل الله فينا. نحن نعلم أن حتى أكثر المسيحيين نضجاً يمر بلحظات من الكآبة، فعلى سبيل المثال أيوب تمنى لو أنه لم يولد وداود صلى ليتم أخذه إلى ماكن لا يضطر به إلى التعامل مع الواقع. من هنا، كيف يمكننا أن نختبر الفرح في الحياة المسيحية؟

أول شيء علينا أن ندركه هو أن الفرح ليس السعادة، فالسعادة ظرفية وعابرة وأما الفرح يظل في القلب، الفرح هو في الوقت عينه هدية من الرب ورد منا على عطايه لنا والفرح يأتي حين نكون على علم بنعم الله. إن أخذنا هذا الموضوع في عين الاعتبار يصبح الأمر واضح جداً أننا ولنختبر الفرح علينا التركيز على الله، بدلاً من أن نأسف على صعوباتنا أو الأشياء التي تعكر صفاء حياتنا. هذا لا يعني بأن علينا إلغاء المشاعر السلبية ولكن يمكننا أن نسكب قلوبنا في الله ونخبره عن كل الأشياء التي تزعجنا وبعد ذلك يمكننا أن نقدم هذه الأشياء له.

الرسالة إلى أهل فيليبس تحوي الكثير عن الموضوع مع أن بولس كتبها من السجن فالقسم (4-8) يعطينا بعض الإرشادات لنعاين الفرح في حياتنا المسيحية: "افرحوا في الرب كل حين، وأقول أيضاً: افرحوا ليكن حلمكم معروفاً عند جميع الناس. الرب قريب. لا تهتموا بشيء، بل في كل شيء بالصلاة والدعاء مع الشكر، لتعلم طلبائكم لدى الله. وسلام الله الذي يفوق كل عقل، يحفظ قلوبكم وأفكاركم في المسيح يسوع. أخيراً أيها الإخوة كل ما هو حق، كل ما هو جليل، كل ما هو عادل، كل ما هو طاهر، كل ما هو مسر، كل ما صيئته حسن، إن كانت فضيلة وأن كان مدح، ففي هذه افكروا." هنا نرى أهمية الصلاة لله والتذكر بأنه قريب، نصلي له من أجل ما يقلقنا ونبقي عقولنا مركزة على الأشياء الخيرة التي في الله. يمكننا أن نختبر الفرح عندما نسبه الله وداود قد كتب اننا إن درسنا كلمة الله فرحنا، ونختبر الفرح حين نتواصل مع الله من خلال الصلاة ونختبر الفرح حين نركز على الأشياء الإلهية بدلاً من التركيز على الظروف الصعبة.

لقد أعطانا يسوع أيضاً بعض الإرشادات تختص بالفرح ففي يوحنا 15 تحدث عن الثبات به فقال: "كَمَا أَحْبَبْتِي الْآبُ كَذَلِكَ أَحْبَبْتُكُمْ أَنَا. أَتُبْنُوا فِي مَحَبَّتِي. إِنْ حَفِظْتُمْ وَصَايَايَ تَبْنُونَ فِي مَحَبَّتِي، كَمَا أَنِّي أَنَا قَدْ حَفِظْتُ وَصَايَا أَبِي وَأَتَّبْتُ فِي مَحَبَّتِهِ. كَمَا تُمْكُمْ بِهَذَا لِكَيْ تَبْنُوا فِرْحِي فِيكُمْ وَيَكْمَلُ فِرْحَكُمْ." (9-11). من أهم مفاتيح الفرح هي الثبات في الله.

نحن نحتاج لأصدقاء نشترك معهم أوجاعنا وألما وفي الرسالة إلى العبرانيين 10 (19-21) نجد: "وَلِنَلْحِظْ بَعْضُنَا بَعْضًا لِلتَّحْرِيسِ عَلَى الْمَحَبَّةِ وَالْأَعْمَالِ الْحَسَنَةِ، غَيْرَ تَارِكِينَ اجْتِمَاعًا كَمَا لِقَوْمٍ عَادَةٍ، بَلْ وَاعِظِينَ بَعْضُنَا بَعْضًا، وَبِالْأَكْثَرِ عَلَى قَدْرِ مَا تَرَوْنَ الْيَوْمَ يَقْرُبُ." مع المؤمنين أصدقاءنا نتمسك بإيماننا وثقين بالله ونشجع بعضنا بعضاً فنحن لا ننتمي إلى هذا العالم بل ننتمي بقرب الله حيث مكاننا الحقيقي وإن كانت الحياة متعبة فيدمننا الآخرون بحقيقتنا وحملون الأثقال معنا لتتابع طريقنا. يجب أن يكون الفرح العلامة التي تميز المسيحي، هو ثمرة الروح القدس وعطية من الله ونحن نتلقاها إن ركزنا على حقيقة من هو الله وننشد معه بالصلاة ونعتمد على جماعة المؤمنين التي قدمها لنا.

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ثلاث صلوات عند تعذر الصلاة



من منا لم يختبر "الجفاف" الروحي ولو لمرة واحدة؟ ومع أن هذا الجفاف قد يشجع على نمو روحي متزايد، إلا أنه تجربة قد تؤدي إلى فتور يصعب علينا القيام بأسهل الأمور، حتى الصلاة! لكن ما العمل لدى مواجهتنا الجفاف الروحي، خاصة وأنه قد يدوم لدى بعضنا العمر بطوله؟!

يمكن للجفاف الروحي أن يصعب علينا تلاوة "السلام عليك يا مريم" أو حتى "الأبانا"، إذ إنها تبدو طويلة أو صعبة، فتتشتت أفكارنا وننسى الكلمات ونجد أنفسنا قد انتقلنا إلى عالم أفكارنا! عندها، يجب الاعتماد على "مخاطبة الرب" والتعبير عما يجول في خاطرننا وعمّا نشعر به في أعماقنا. وكما والد الصبي الذي فيه روح نجس في إنجيل مرقس، لنلجأ إلى يسوع ولنؤكد له إيماننا مع طلب تقويته وتثبيتته لأنه يبقى دائماً ناقصاً. إذاً، بما أن "كل شيء ممكن للمؤمن" (مر 9: 23)، يا رب، "عندي إيمان! ساعدني حتى يزيد" (مر 9: 24). الصلاة الثانية التي يمكن تلاوتها تقتصر على تمنية "لتكن مشيئتك!" فلدَى لفظنا هاتين الكلمتين، لا نكون نطلب مشيئة الله فحسب، بل نكون نطلب إليه أن يرسل لنا القوة والنعمة لتقبل إرادته وتنفيذها، مهما كانت.

أما الصلاة الثالثة فهي قد تكون فعالة في أي وضع سواء كان سلبياً أم إيجابياً، لأنها تركز قلبنا وعقلنا على الله. "أرني أين أين، أرشدني إلى سلامك!" الله في كل شيء، وعندما نطلب إليه أن يرينا نفسه، يمكننا أن نشعر بتعزية كبيرة وأن نجد السلام، فنعرف عندها كيف نتصرف لأننا نكون قد سعينا إلى إيجادها.

يا رب، عندي إيمان، ساعدني حتى يزيد. يا رب، أرني أين أنت، أسمعني صوتك وأرشدني إلى سلامك. لكن... لا مشيئتي بل مشيئتك!

IN OUR PRAYERS

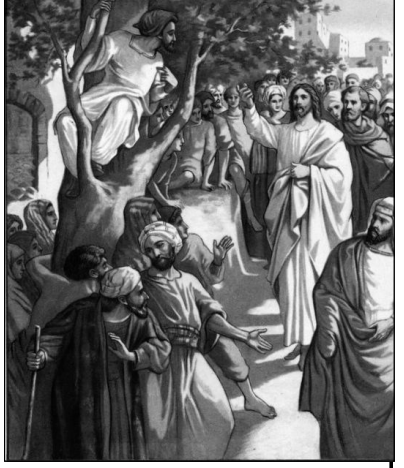
Lord, may all the faithful departed whom we entrust to Your care, be held securely in Your Loving embrace for all eternity especially those we Pray for:



(A) All departed souls, Fr Elias Ayoub, Antoun Azar, All the lost souls, Raymond Anjou, All my loved ones to enter Heaven, All Maronite Priests, All struggling with addiction (B) Raymond, Hanne & Charbel Bazouni, Milia Bou Raidan (C) Conversion of Sinners (D) (E) Nayef El Khoury, Laurence Gharib El Azzi and deceased family, Naimeh Boutros Estephan and deceased family, Hanane Wahibe Mounir El Bazouni, Wadiaa Chafika & Youssef El Hady (F) For greater devotion to the sacraments of the Church (G) Colleen Madeline George, Helen George, Majid George, Youssef Salim El Khoury Gebrael (H) Madeline & Paul Haddad and son Joseph Haddad, Anis Haddad, Maurice & Martha Jamil Haddad, George Sara Hawy, Tansa & Tannous Hawy, Diab & Diby Hawy (I) Sarkis Isaac (K) Naim & George Khattar (J) (L) Peter Lichaa and his wife Marie, Youssef Lichaa, Simon & Hannah Licha (M) Anthony Mamah Moses and Moses Family, Arthur (Otre) Moses, Elias Barbar Mousa, Boutros & Johra Mousa, John Toufic Merhi, Youssef & Ghousoun Maroun, Ghantous Jabbour Mikhael and his wife Jamile, Therese Melhem, Tony Mema Salim Moses, Moses Family (N) Jamil, Badwi, Hasna & Yasmine Ndaira (O) (P) (Q) (R) Milia Bou Raidan, Jamil & Labibi Roumanus, Raymond & Etour Romanos and their son Joseph, Rouhana & Elaine Rahme, Raphael & Wajihah Rahme (S) Boutros Kozhaya Sassine, Joseph John Saad & his wife Marie, Souls in Purgatory, Lawrence Maurice Stanton (T) (U) The Universal Church (V) (W) Jamil & Barbara Wehbe (Y) (Z)

"وَكَانَ يَسْعَى لِيَرَى مَنْ هُوَ يَسُوع ... فَتَقَدَّمَ مُسْرِعًا وَتَسَلَّقَ جُمَيْرَةً لِكِي يَرَاهُ"

أَنْبَأَ يَسُوعَ بِمَوْتِهِ وَقِيَامَتِهِ لِلْمَرَّةِ الثَّلَاثَةِ، وَهِيَ هُوَ يَتَّجِهَ نَحْوَ أُورُشَلِيمَ لِيَتَأَلَّمَ... عَلَى بَابِ أُرِيحَا، يَشْفِي الْأَعْمَى، وَيَدْخُلُ الْمَدِينَةَ مُحَاطًا بِالَّذِينَ تَعَجَّبُوا مِنَ الَّذِي قَامَ بِهِ... بِالتَّأَكِيدِ عَرَفَ زَكَ مَا حَدَّثَ آنَذَاكَ عَلَى مَدْخَلِ مَدِينَتِهِ... لِذَلِكَ رَكَضَ وَصَعِدَ إِلَى جُمَيْرَةَ لِيَرَى ذَلِكَ الَّذِي فَتَحَ عَيْنِي الْأَعْمَى. لَمْ يَكُنْ يَسْتَطِيعُ رُؤْيَتَهُ، لَيْسَ لِأَنَّهُ مِثْلَ الْأَعْمَى، بَلْ لِأَنَّ لَدَيْهِ سَبَابِ أُخْرَى تَجْعَلُهُ أَعْمَى... عَنِ يَسُوعِ. فَمَا هِيَ الصُّورُ الَّتِي تَدْفَعُنَا لِلتَّأَمُّلِ؟



- قِصْرُ الْقَامَةِ: هَذَا الْقِصْرُ أَوْ "الْقَرْمِيَّة" هُوَ عَلَامَةٌ انْحِطَاطٍ بَيْنَ النَّاسِ... إِذَا نَظَرْنَا إِلَى الْعَهْدِ الْقَدِيمِ، نَرَى أَنَّ الشَّعْبَ، عِنْدَمَا سَمَحَ لَهُ اللَّهُ بِاخْتِيَارِ مَلِكٍ، اخْتَارَ شَاوُلَ مَلِكًا، وَكَانَ أَطْوَلَ الشَّعْبِ قَامَةً، وَيَصِفُهُ الْكِتَابُ الْمُقَدَّسُ بِأَنَّ مَا مِنْ أَحَدٍ فِي الشَّعْبِ يَصِلُ بِقَامَتِهِ إِلَى كَتِفِ شَاوُلٍ... مِنْ هُنَا نَفْهَمُ أَنَّ قِصْرَ قَامَةِ زَكَ هُوَ عَلَامَةٌ عَلَى وُجُودِ انْحِطَاطٍ مَا فِي حَيَاتِهِ، وَهِيَ دُونَ بَاقِي النَّاسِ... عَشَّارٌ: كَانِ الرُّومَانُ الَّذِينَ احْتَلُّوا الْمُنَاطِقَةَ يَجْبُونُ الضَّرَائِبَ، وَيُوظِّفُونَ بَعْضَ الْأَشْخَاصِ لِلجَبَايَةِ. هَؤُلَاءِ كَانُوا يَظْلِمُونَ النَّاسَ وَيَأْخُذُونَ مِنْهُمْ مَا لَهُمْ وَمَا لَا يَحِقُّ لَهُمْ بِهِ... فَمِنْ نَاحِيَةِ عُمِّ عَمَلَاءِ الْعَدُوِّ الْمُحْتَلِّ، وَمِنْ نَاحِيَةِ أُخْرَى هُمْ ظَالِمُونَ...

- الْجُمَيْرَةُ: يُعْتَبَرُ شَجَرُ الْجُمَيْرِ مِنَ الْأَشْجَارِ الْقَدِيمَةِ جِدًّا وَالْمُعَمَّرَةِ وَهِيَ عِبَارَةٌ عَنِ شَجَرَةِ تَارِيخِيَّةٍ... فَالْمُدُنُ مَلِيئَةٌ بِأَشْجَارِ الْجُمَيْرِ الضَّخْمَةِ وَالَّتِي كَانِ الْإِعْتِمَادُ عَلَيْهَا فِي الْقَدِيمِ لِنَقْسِيمِ الْمَنَاطِقِ حَيْثُ نَعْرِفُ مَنَاطِقَ كَذَا بِوُجُودِ جُمَيْرَةِ فَلَانِ عِنْدَ بَدَايَتِهَا... مِنْ هُنَا نَفْهَمُ أَنَّ زَكَ كَانِ أَيْضًا عَلَى الْحُدُودِ... لَمْ يَكُنْ بَعْدَ فِي دَاخِلِ الْمَدِينَةِ، كَانِ فِي قَرْبِ الْجُمَيْرَةِ فَتَسَلَّقَهَا لِيَرَى يَسُوعَ مَارًّا. قَرَّمَ بَيْنَ النَّاسِ، عَمِيلٌ وَلَا يَكْسِبُ الْإِكْرَامَ، عَلَى حُدُودِ الْمُنَاطِقَةِ مَرْفُوضٌ مِنَ الْجَمَاعَةِ... أَرَادَ رُؤْيَةَ يَسُوعِ، وَإِذَا بِيَسُوعِ يَرْفَعُ نَظْرَهُ... يَسُوعُ يُبَادِرُ! فَاتِحَ عَيْنِي الْأَعْمَى، يَنْظُرُ إِلَى زَكَ "الْأَعْمَى" عَنِ رُؤْيَتِهِ، لِيَفْتَحَ قَلْبَهُ فَيَتُوبَ... وَنَحْنُ:

- هَلْ نَحْنُ أَقْرَبُ فِي جَوَانِبِ مِنْ حَيَاتِنَا؟ هَلْ نَحْنُ دُونَ بَاقِي النَّاسِ؟ ... إِذَا لَمْ يَكُنْ حَالُنَا كَذَلِكَ: هَلْ نَعْلُو بِقَامَاتِنَا عَنِ الْآخَرِينَ فَتَعْتَبِرُهُمْ دُونَ مُسْتَوَانَا؟ هَلْ نَعْتَبِرُ أَنَّ الْخَلَاصَ لَنَا لِأَنَّنا أَفْضَلُ مِنَ الْآخَرِينَ؟
- هَلْ نَظْلِمُ الْآخَرِينَ وَتَسْتَقْوِي عَلَيْهِمْ؟ ... إِذَا لَمْ نَكُنْ ظَالِمِينَ، هَلْ نُصْبِحُ بِدَوْرِنَا جَلَادِينَ فَتَنفِي مَنْ يَظْلِمُونَا وَنَضَعُهُمْ خَارِجًا، فَلَا نَرْحَمُهُمْ وَنَسَاعِدُهُمْ عَلَى أَنْ يَجِدُوا قِيَامَتَهُمْ مِنْ مَشْكَلَتِهِمْ؟
- هَلْ نَمُكِّثُ عِنْدَ الْحُدُودِ، فَتَبْقَى تَحْتَ الْجُمَيْرَةِ؟ أَمْ نَتَسَلَّقُهَا، نَعْلُو فَوْقَ الْحُدُودِ، لِيَصِنَادَنَا الرَّبُّ بِنَظَرَتِهِ الْمُحِبَّةِ، وَيُدْخِلُنَا إِلَى قَلْبِ الْجَمَاعَةِ؟
هَذَا مَا شَدَّدَ عَلَيْهِ بُولُسُ الرَّسُولُ فِي رِسَالَةِ الْيَوْمِ، وَهَذَا مَا يُشَدِّدُ عَلَيْهِ الْإِنْجِيلُ: مَا مِنْ أَحَدٍ أَفْضَلُ مِنَ الْآخَرِ، وَالْخَلَاصُ هُوَ لِجَمِيعِ الْبَشَرِ... فَلِنَحْتَلِّ بِالتَّوَّاضُعِ وَلِنَنْظُرَ إِلَى أَنْفُسِنَا، إِلَى أَعْمَاقِنَا، فَهُنَاكَ يَمُكِّثُ اللَّهُ...

ماذا يقول تعليم الكنيسة الكاثوليكية عن مريم العذراء؟



نود أن نقدم لأبنائنا الأعمام تعليم الكنيسة الكاثوليكية بخصوص أمنا العذراء
الفقرة 963: إن العذراء مريم يُعْتَرَفُ بِهَا وَتُكْرَمُ حَقًّا وَحَقِيقَةً وَالِدَةُ الْإِلَهِ وَالْفَادِي وَهِيَ أَيْضًا وَحَقًّا أُمُّ الْمَسِيحِ.
- الفقرة 964: دور مريم بالنسبة إلى الكنيسة لا ينفصل عن اتحادها بالمسيح، فهو يصدر عن ذلك الإتحاد مباشرة "والإرتباط بين مريم وابنها يتجلى في عمل الخلاص منذ حبلها البتولي بالمسيح حتى موته".
- الفقرة 965: ومريم بعد صعودها ابنها "كانت عوناً للكنيسة في نشأتها"، وإذ كانت مريم مجتمعة مع الرسل وبعض النساء كانت: "تُرى تستنزل هي أيضاً بصلواتها موهبة الروح القدس الذي كان في البشارة، قد بسط عليها ظله".
- الفقرة 966: إن العذراء الطاهرة، بعد إذ عصمها الله من كل صلة بالخطيئة الأصلية، وطوت شوط حياتها الأرضية، نُقِلَتْ جَسَدًا وَرُوحًا عَلَى مَجْدِ السَّمَاءِ، وَأَعْلَنَهَا الرَّبُّ سُلْطَانَةَ الْكُونِ لِتَكُونَ بِذَلِكَ أَكْثَرَ شَبَهًا بِابْنِهَا، رَبِّ الْأَرْيَابِ، وَقَاهِرَ الْخَطِيئَةِ وَالْمَوْتِ. فَانْتَقَالَ الْقَدِيسَةُ الْعَذْرَاءُ اشْتِرَاكًا فَرِيدًا فِي قِيَامَةِ ابْنِهَا، وَاسْتَبَاقَ لِقِيَامَةِ الْمَسِيحِيِّينَ.

مريم ينبوع الحياة

عيد انتقال العذراء في كاتيرائية سيده لبنان

١٣-٢٣ آب ٢٠١٥

كاتدرائية سيده لبنان المارونية - هاريس بارك



٢ آب ٢٠١٥

عدد ٤١

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الإنجيل

الأحد الحادي عشر من زمن العنصرة

الرسالة

دَخَلَ يَسُوعُ أَرِيحَا وَبَدَأَ يَجْتَازُهَا، وَإِذَا رَجُلٌ اسْمُهُ زَكَا، كَانَ رَئِيسًا لِلْعَشَائِرِ وَعَظِيمًا. وَكَانَ يَسْعَى لِيَرَى مَنْ هُوَ يَسُوعُ، فَلَمْ يَقْدِرْ بِسَبَبِ الْجَمْعِ لِأَنَّهُ كَانَ قَصِيرَ الْقَامَةِ. فَتَقَدَّمَ مُسْرِعًا وَتَسَلَّقَ جُمُوزَةً لِكَيْ يَرَاهُ، لِأَنَّ يَسُوعَ كَانَ مُزْمَعًا أَنْ يَمُرَّ بِهَا. وَلَمَّا وَصَلَ يَسُوعُ إِلَى الْمَكَانِ، رَفَعَ نَظْرَهُ إِلَيْهِ وَقَالَ لَهُ: يَا زَكَا، أَسْرِعْ وَانزَلْ، فَعَلَيْ أَنْ أَقِيمَ الْيَوْمَ فِي بَيْتِكَ. فَاسْرِعْ وَانزَلْ وَاسْتَقْبَلْهُ فِي بَيْتِهِ مَسْرُورًا. وَرَأَى الْجَمِيعُ ذَلِكَ فَأَخَذُوا يَتَذَمَّرُونَ قَائِلِينَ: "دَخَلَ لِيَبِيَّتِ عِنْدَ رَجُلٍ خَاطِيٍّ". أَمَّا زَكَا فَوَقَفَ وَقَالَ لِلرَّبِّ: "يَا رَبِّ، هَا أَنَا أُعْطِي نِصْفَ مُقْتَنَاتِي لِلْفُقَرَاءِ، وَإِنْ كُنْتُ قَدْ ظَلَمْتُ أَحَدًا بِشَيْءٍ، فَإِنِّي أُرِدُّ لَهُ أَرْبَعَةَ أَضْعَافٍ". فَقَالَ لَهُ يَسُوعُ: "الْيَوْمَ صَارَ الْخَلَاصُ لِهَذَا الْبَيْتِ، لِأَنَّ هَذَا الرَّجُلَ هُوَ أَيْضًا ابْنٌ لِإِبْرَاهِيمَ. فَإِنَّ ابْنَ الْإِنْسَانِ جَاءَ لِيَبْحَثَ عَنِ الضَّالِّينَ وَيُخَلِّصَهُ".

لو ١٩ : ١ - ١٠



قراءات الأحد القادم

عيد تجلي الرب

٢ قور ٣ : ٧-١٧
مر ٩ : ١ - ٧

من أقوالهم

"لا نكرم
العذراء من
اجل ذاتها
وانما
لانتسابها
لله."

القديس اغسطينوس

لَمَّا جَاءَ الْمَسِيحُ بِشَرِّكُمْ بِالسَّلَامِ أَنْتُمْ الْبَعِيدِينَ، وَبَشَّرَ بِالسَّلَامِ الْقَرِيبِينَ، لِأَنَّنا بِهِ نَلْنَا نَحْنُ الْإِثْنِينَ فِي رُوحٍ وَاحِدٍ الْوُصُولَ إِلَى الْآبِ. إِذَا فَلَسْتُمْ بَعْدَ غُرَبَاءَ وَلَا نُزْلَاءَ، بَلْ أَنْتُمْ أَهْلُ مَدِينَةِ الْقَدِيسِينَ وَأَهْلُ بَيْتِ اللَّهِ، تُبْنِيْتُمْ عَلَى أَسَاسِ الرُّسُلِ وَالْأَنْبِيَاءِ، وَالْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ نَفْسَهُ هُوَ حَجَرُ الزَّاوِيَةِ. فِيهِ يَتِمَّاسِكُ الْبِنَاءُ كُلُّهُ، فَيَرْتَفِعُ هَيْكَلًا مُقَدَّسًا فِي الرَّبِّ، وَفِيهِ أَنْتُمْ أَيْضًا تُبْنُونَ مَعًا مَسْكِنًا لِلَّهِ فِي الرُّوحِ.

أف ٢ : ١٧ - ٢٢

تدعوننا الكنيسة اليوم ...

في هذا الأحد نتأمل ثمر الرسالة إلى اليهود، من خلال توبة زكا العشار.
نسمع بولس الرسول يقول في رسالته إلى أهل أفسس: "لَمَّا جَاءَ الْمَسِيحُ بِشَرِّكُمْ بِالسَّلَامِ أَنْتُمْ الْبَعِيدِينَ، وَبَشَّرَ بِالسَّلَامِ الْقَرِيبِينَ".
وَنَسْمَعُ يَسُوعَ يَقُولُ فِي إِنْجِيلِ الْقَدِيسِ لُوقَا: "الْيَوْمَ صَارَ الْخَلَاصُ لِهَذَا الْبَيْتِ، لِأَنَّ هَذَا الرَّجُلَ هُوَ أَيْضًا ابْنٌ لِإِبْرَاهِيمَ".
في هذا الأحد نَحْصِصُ ضَمِيرَنَا: هل نعيش بروح السلام المسيحي في حياتنا وعلاقاتنا؟ ونَهْتَفِ: يا يسوع الهنا، ائمننا خلاصك الذي منحتَه لِرَئِيسِ الْعَشَائِرِ...

"مريم ينبوع الحياة"

هو شعار رعييتنا

لمناسبة إحتفالات عيد السيدة

١٣ - ٢٣ آب ٢٠١٥

مع القديس الإحتفالي وسهرة الهريسة
نهار السبت ١٥ آب

والباريكيو السنوي نهار السبت ٢٢ آب

قَدَاسَاتُ يَوْمِ الْأُحَدِ

كاتدرائية سيده لبنان - هاريس بارك 8:00 (عربي)، 9:30 (إنكليزي)، 11:00 (عربي، إنكليزي)، 5:00 (عربي، إنكليزي)، 7:00 (إنكليزي)
مركز قداس 6:00 ب. ط. في كنيسة سانت باتريك، غيلدفورد (عربي، إنكليزي)

قَدَاسَاتُ الْأُسْبُوعِ

الإثنين - الجمعة 7:00، 8.45 صباحاً و 6:00 مساءً، الأربعاء 7:00، 8.45 صباحاً و 5:30 مساءً (إنكليزي) السبت 7:30 صباحاً و 6:00 مساءً

الإعترافات

مؤمنة قبل وخلال قداس السبت الساعة 6:00 مساءً وقَدَاسَاتُ الْأُحَدِ أو بتحديد موعد خلال أيام الأسبوع

ساعات السجود

ساعات السجود: كل يوم خميس 8:00 - 9:00 مساءً 24 ساعة سجود أمام القديس: نهار الجمعة ٧ آب من الساعة 9:30 صباحاً لغاية السبت 7:30 صباحاً