

The Good News from Your Parish

OUR LADY OF LEBANON MARONITE CO-CATHEDRAL - HARRIS PARK

Sunday 15 February 2015

Issue 17

www.olol.org.au

Cana Sunday - Entrance into Great Lent

THE GOSPEL

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now."

Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

After this he went down to Capernaum with his mother, his brothers, and his disciples; and they remained there a few days.

John 2:1-11



Next Sunday's Readings

Sunday of the Leper
Rom 6 : 12 - 23
Mk 1 : 35 - 45

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Lent comes providentially to reawaken us, to shake us from our lethargy"
Pope Francis

Dear Parishioners,
Great Lent begins tomorrow
Ash Monday 16 Feb
Mass Times are
7:00am, 8.45am, 5:00pm
or **7:00pm.**

THE EPISTLE

I know and am persuaded in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself; but it is unclean for anyone who thinks it unclean. If your brother or sister is being injured by what you eat, you are no longer walking in love. Do not let what you eat cause the ruin of one for whom Christ died. So do not let your good be spoken of as evil. For the kingdom of God is not food and drink but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. The one who thus serves Christ is acceptable to God and has human approval. Let us then pursue what makes for peace and for mutual up building.

Do not, for the sake of food, destroy the work of God. Everything is indeed clean, but it is wrong for you to make others fall by what you eat; it is good not to eat meat or drink wine or do anything that makes your brother or sister stumble. The faith that you have, have as your own conviction before God. Blessed are those who have no reason to condemn themselves because of what they approve. But those who have doubts are condemned if they eat, because they do not act from faith; for whatever does not proceed from faith is sin.

Rom 14: 13-23

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

God of mercy and compassion,

Look with pity upon me, a poor sinner. In your mercy Lord, grant that in this great season of Lent, my heart may become more like unto Thine.

As I deny myself of worldly attachments, nourish my soul with your Holy Spirit...fill my emptiness with the fullness of your grace, so that it is no longer "I" who lives but Christ living in me. Amen.

Salwa Elias

FRIDAYS OF LENT

6:00pm Stations of the Cross, Evening Prayer and Ziyeh of the Cross (Ar/Eng)

8:00pm Stations and Ziyeh of the Cross - English

Wish to receive the Newsletter by email, subscribe online at www.olol.org.au/newsletter

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: 6pm St Patrick's, Guildford (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

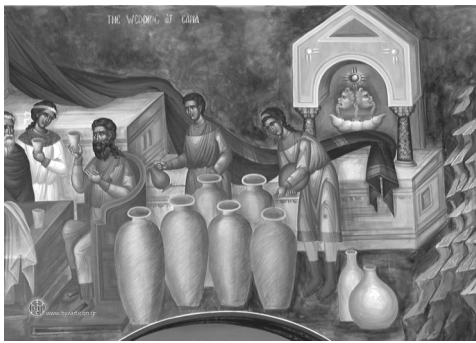
Before and during Saturday 6pm and Sunday Masses or by appointment on weekdays

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: Every First Friday from 9:30am - Sat 7:30am**

Light from the Word - Wedding at Cana



We are entering the Season of Lent and our Sunday Gospel passage tells that wonderful story of turning water into wine. This is the first sign (miracle) in John's Gospel.

Jesus performs this miracle without drawing public attention to himself. He does it, not to declare through his actions that he is God. Jesus' intention is to save face of the

newlyweds who would have been put to shame if the wine had run out. It is the way of God to act on our behalf. God's motives are always for our benefit, whether we are aware of it or not.

Let us also turn our attention to Mary who tells the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you'v5. The servants did just that, having absolutely no idea what was to happen. To be asked to take a cup of water to the steward would have been to risk abuse (for the servants did not know the water had turned to wine). Yet the servants did what Jesus asked, even though it seemed at the time very foolish. Mary's advice proved to be very wise.

So putting these two thoughts together, we come to understand that all our trust should be placed in God who works in mysterious ways to ensure what is best for each of us. In the process we may question why this is happening, but if we leave it to God and follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit in our lives during this Lent, then we will find an abundance of joy, just like the steward enjoyed the wine that had come from water. Amen

Sr Margaret Ghosn mshf

Shepherd's Corner

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Season of Great Lent is a time of repentance and preparation for the Glorious Resurrection. Each week during Lent and throughout Passion Week, our Maronite Liturgy helps us to enter into the mystery of Christ's Passion through certain stations. These stations include enriching and fruitful passages from scripture such as the Wedding at Cana, The Leper, The Haemorrhaging Woman, The Prodigal Son, The Paralytic and The Blind. These stations are further nourished by fasting, abstinence, prayer and almsgiving. For Maronites, the Season of Great Lent begins on Ash Monday and finishes on the Saturday of Lazarus. These weeks are filled with stations, processions and adoration of the holy cross which truly help us reflect on this great mystery.

Did you know that we are not exempt from fasting? Did you also know that abstinence is not just an old tradition or fashion? Did you know that the older generation is not better than us in worship and love of God and holiness if we truly desire this? Do you also know that everything in life is based on a discipline and/or habit and these disciplines and/or habits should not be buried because they are a great tool to maintain a permanent and on-going righteousness which help us grow in morality, integrity and closeness to God? Did you know that in spite of your busy life, you can allocate enough personal time to enhance your relationship with God?

From here, we can say that although the fashion has changed and new discoveries in medicine and science have advanced our age, the human need for God is still the same from the time of creation and until eternity. Fasting is not old-fashioned! We need it today as a way of discovering God and also discovering ourselves. It is a means by which we purify ourselves and work towards true reconciliation with each other and with God.

This true reconciliation with each other and with God brings about unity, communion and love. Once again, our parish truly lived this through the celebration of Fr Paul's 80th birthday and 20th priesthood anniversary. All the parish committees joined together hand in hand and played a role in bringing this event together. Not only was it their love for Fr Paul that united them, but it was also their love and commitment to the mission of the church that inspired them to work together. Each committee had a role to play and together with all the parishioners, the family and friends of Fr Paul, they all gathered around our Bishop, His Excellency Antoine-Charbel Tarabay, all the priests and our beloved Maronite Sisters of the Holy Family to honour Fr Paul as he celebrated two big milestones in his life. I take this opportunity not only to congratulate Fr Paul but to thank you all and congratulate you on a job well done.

I would also like to thank our Seniors Committee who have donated \$3,500 to replace the carpet in the Seniors Room of the Community Youth and Pastoral Centre on the ground floor. Thank you also to the parishioners who have pledged their time and efforts to lay the carpet.

Finally, the work on the new presbytery will commence next week. If anyone is interested in helping with this in any way could you please contact the parish office or send an e-mail to info@lol.org.au.

As we begin the Lenten journey this year, remember that: "Fasting opens the door of heaven.....whoever fasts is granted the kingdom of heaven." (Maronite Liturgy)

Fr Tony Sarkis



Saint of the Week 500 MARTYRS OF TYRE 19 FEBRUARY

On the 19 February we commemorate the blessed martyrs of Tyre in Phoenicia whose number is only known to God. The Ancient City of Tyre (also known as Soor) had been a very important Phoenician City. This city is referred to in the scriptures numerous times. We are told that people came from Tyre to hear Jesus preach (Mark 3:8) and that Jesus went to the district of Tyre and Sidon and performed miracles. (Matt 15:21 & Mark 7:24). Tyre is one of the cities that had some of the earliest followers of Christ. We know that many of those early Christians were persecuted for their faith. The historian Eusebius tells us that in the early fourth century, under the reign of Diocletian, many soldiers of Christ were killed for their faith in the city of Tyre with a great number and variety of torments. They were first lacerated with stripes then given to divers, kind of beasts, but through the power of God the divers would not hurt them. They were savagely tortured again with fire and iron and put to death. This glorious multitude was cheered on to victory by the Bishop Tyrannio Silvan Peleus and Nilus and the Priest Zenobius who by a happy contention along with them gained the same honour of martyrdom together with them.

We often forget that many of our ancestors were the very first Christians and that the ancient cities of our forebearers were the cradles of Christianity. As we enter lent let us remember the difficulties that many of our ancestors faced for their faith. Inspired by their examples let us learn to walk in their righteous path and live according to Gods word.

Sid Isaac

Lent is Here Again.....





“In the Footsteps of Mary, carrying Jesus to the World”

Fr Paul Joseph Joubeir

80th Birthday & 20th Priesthood Anniversary

Our parish on Friday celebrated the 80th Birthday and 20th Priesthood anniversary of Fr Paul Joseph Joubeir. It was a truly joyous occasion where our parish family joined together as one to celebrate these two very important milestones in the life of Fr Paul and to also thank him for his love and service. For those who don't know Fr Paul, you can read a little bit of his profile below. For a full profile on Fr Paul and all our priests, please go to the following link:

<http://www.olol.org.au/fr-paul-joseph-joubeir>.

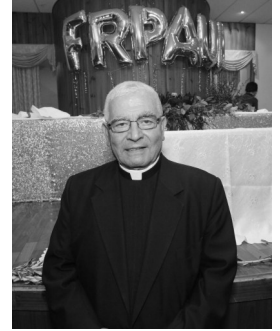
Fr Paul Joseph Joubeir was born in Tripoli on 5 February 1935. He is the youngest (twin) of a family which is made up of 6 boys and 4 girls. Fr Paul remembers that his mother had a big influence on his life. The most important thing that he learnt from her was how to pray the rosary.

In 1955 and after completing his education, Fr Paul left Lebanon and travelled to Brazil with his mother and was reunited with his other brothers and sisters. In Brazil he worked as business man in the clothing industry. While in Brazil, he founded with a group of 19-20 people a Lebanese folkloric group called “Groupo Folclorico Libanes” which represented Lebanon through the dabke dance and travelled from state to state performing the dabke during national Lebanese and Brazilian festivals.

While in Brazil, Fr Paul would organise rosary nights and helped coordinate adoration every Friday night at the local church providing transport to the elderly in Brazilia so that they could come to the church and pray. In 1975, Paul's brother Fr. Antoine Joubeir was ordained Bishop of Tripoli. Fr Paul was very proud of his brother and recalls that this was certainly a big event in his life.

On Christmas Eve in 1985, Fr Paul arrived in Adelaide and stayed with his brother Antoine and his family with the intention of living in Australia. All through his life he felt the

calling to the priesthood and Msgr. Ndaira who was the parish priest in Adelaide witnessed this and encouraged him to pursue his vocation. It wasn't until the death of his brother Bishop Antoine Joubeir in 1994 that he truly acted on his calling. Bishop Hitti was in Adelaide attending the requiem mass of the late Bishop Joubeir and he encouraged him strongly to become a priest because he saw the qualities of a good priest in him and his yearning to become one. On 17 November 1994 he was ordained a deacon before being ordained to the holy priesthood on 25 February 1995 at the age of 60. Fr Paul served in Adelaide for 5 months and then moved to Brisbane for 2 years before returning to serve in Adelaide for 6 years and finally arriving to Our lady of Lebanon Parish in Sydney in April 2004. Fr Paul is devoted to the Divine Mercy and compares his life to the second joyful mystery – the visitation and uses this mystery to guide him in everything that he does. He believes that his mission is to take Jesus through Mary wherever he goes with an abundance of joy and happiness – just like Our Lady carried Jesus in her womb and visited Elizabeth. This is why the parish chose the theme “In the footsteps of Mary, carrying Jesus to the world” for this special occasion. Fr Paul's welcoming smile and joyful nature are a testament to this lifelong mission.



Fr Paul considers himself to be a cousin, uncle or grandfather of everyone. He is related to everyone and his sense of humour and charisma is second to none. He truly transcends joy and happiness into the lives of everyone that he comes into contact with. We congratulate Fr Paul on this joyous occasion and thank him for his love, loyalty and example.

“Make your hearts firm” (Jas 5:8) Part 1

Lent is a time of renewal for the whole Church, for each communities and every believer. Above all it is a “time of grace” (2 Cor6:2). God does not ask of us anything that he himself has not first given us. “We love because he first has loved us” (1 Jn 4:19). He is not aloof from us. Each one of us has a place in his heart. He knows us by name, he cares for us and he seeks us out whenever we turn away from him.

Usually, when we are healthy and comfortable, we forget about others (something God the Father never does): we are unconcerned with their problems, their sufferings and the injustices they endure... Our heart grows cold. Today, this selfish attitude of indifference has taken on global proportions, to the extent that we can speak of a globalization of indifference. It is a problem which we, as Christians, need to confront.

Indifference to our neighbour and to God also represents a real temptation for us Christians. Each year during Lent we need to hear once more the voice of the prophets who cry out and trouble our conscience. God is not indifferent to our world; he so loves it that he gave his Son for our salvation.

Each year during Lent, God's people need an interior renewal, lest we become indifferent and withdraw into ourselves.

Extracts from the Pope's message for Lent

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Usually, when we are healthy and comfortable, we forget about others (something God the Father never does): we are unconcerned with their problems, their sufferings and the injustices they endure... Our heart grows cold. Today, this selfish attitude of indifference has taken on global proportions, to the extent that we can speak of a globalization of indifference. It is a problem which we, as Christians, need to confront.

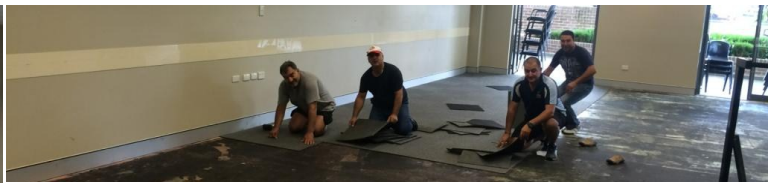
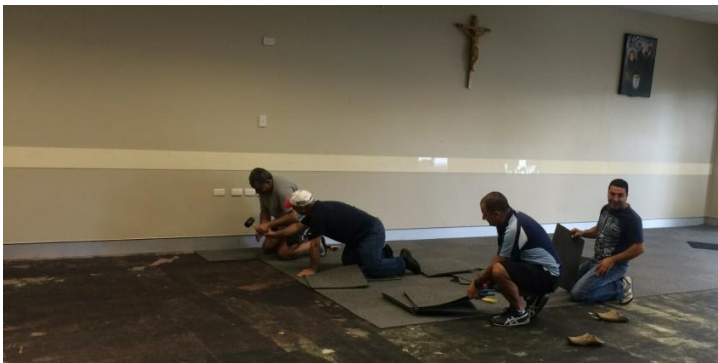
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Extracts from the Pope's message for Lent





Fr Paul's Anniversary
 On Friday the whole parish celebrated Fr Paul's 80th birthday and 20th priesthood anniversary.



New Carpet in the Seniors Room
 Our staff and parishioners working together to lay the new carpet in the Seniors Room. The new carpet valued at \$3,500 was kindly donated by the Seniors Committee.

MaroniteCare COMMUNITY & YOUTH CENTRE Planned Giving Target

Target 2000 Parishioners
\$5 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 Lisa 96892899.
Pledge Envelopes available for in the Gift shop

Golf Day Sponsors



Our Lady of Lebanon Parish Loans
CYPC \$5,178,511 Units \$1,627,181 Property \$38,849

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 For details call Joe on 0400 444 999.



PARISH NOTICE BOARD



FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS & FUNERALS

Sunday 15th February - Cane Sunday: Entrance into the Great Lent

11:00am 40 Day Said Badooui Zaiter from Bann
3:00pm 40 Day Kawkab El Khoury from Hadchit widow of the late Raymond Esber from Kfersghab
5:00pm 1 Year Camil Shalala from Beit Shelala
St Patrick's Mass Centre, Guildford
6:00pm 40 Day Youssef Habkouk from Bane

Monday 16 February - Ash Monday

Masses celebrated 7:00am, 8:45am, 5:00pm and 7:00pm
5:00pm John Yousef Najem from Labaa - Jezzine (died in Lebanon)

Saturday 21 February

6:00pm 40 Day Matilda Saad Kaysar Abboud from Kfersghab wife of Yousef Sarkis Sadek from Zgharta

Sunday 22 February - Sunday of the Leper

5:00pm 40 Day Salim Khattar Nakhle from Barouk-Alchouf

قَدَاسَاتِ الْأَسْبُوعِ

الأحد 15 شباط: أحد مدخل الصوم الكبير - آية عرس قانا الجليل:

11:00 أربعون المرحوم سعيد بدوي زعيتير من بان
3:00 أربعون المرحومة كوكب الخوري من حدشيت أرملة المرحوم ريمون إسبر من كفرصغاب
5:00 السنة للمرحوم كميل شلالا من بيت شلالا

St Patrick's - Guildford

6:00 أربعون المرحوم يوسف حبقوق من بان والتعازي بعد القداس

الإثنين 16 شباط: إثنين الروماد:

القداسات 7:00 و 8:45 صباحاً - 5:00 و 7:00 مساءً مع رتبة تبريك الروماد
5:00 المرحوم جان يوسف نجم من لبعة - جزين (متوفي في لبنان)

السبت 21 شباط:

6:00 أربعون المرحومة ماتيلدا سعد قيصر عبود من كفرصغاب زوجة يوسف سركيس صادق من زغرنا

الأحد 22 شباط: أحد شفاء الأبرص:

5:00 أربعون المرحوم سليم خطار نخلة من الباروك - الشوف



FROM THE COMMUNITY YOUTH & PASTORAL CENTRE



Parish Groups and Committees

Pastoral Council Meeting TBA

Family & Adult Events

"The Real Bread" (FDW)

القوت الحقيقي

Arabic Faith Talk Presented by Bishop Antoine-Charbel Tarabay
 Tues 17 Feb 7.15pm in the Seniors Room—CYPC

Children's Events

Arabic Classes: Sat 9:30am-12:30pm call Antoinette: 0414819663
Fersan Al-Adra: Saturdays 1pm -3pm
Children's Playgroup Tues & Wed 9:30am - 11:30am in CPYC

Teens Events

Teens Faith Discussion & Activities: Saturdays 4-6pm

Youth Events

English Faith Discussion Led by Sr Marla Marie Lucas

Wed 18 Feb at 8.00pm

After 7.00pm Mass on L1 CYPC—ALL WELCOME

Blood Donation contact Myrna 0421677998
Nursing Home Visit 22 Feb contact Therese 0431792205
Youth Meeting: TBA contact Maroun 0410656099

"The Call" - MYO Retreat

6th to 8th March - Benedict Retreat Centre

Cost \$200 includes accommodation, meals and sessions.

To register or for more information
 contact Sr Margaret on 0412 588 045

General Parish Notices

LOL Annual Charity Golf Day Fri 20 March 2015

Cumberland Country Golf Club, Greystanes
 The cost is \$250 per player which includes Green Fees, Breakfast, Drinks on Course, Lunch, Golf Carts & Presentation. Corporate packages available for \$1500. To register, contact:
 Ray Wehbe on 0414 833 007 or RWehbe@betterbuildings.com.au
 Tina on 0448 247 336 or tinasalame@hotmail.com
 Jade on 0411 833 254 or jade.elchouefati@gmail.com
 Ray Haddad on 0412 478 363 or raymond@camdev.com.au

MCHF Open Day

Maronite College of the Holy Family (MCHF) will be having an Open day in the Secondary department on
24th March from 9-10:30am and 2-3pm.
 All are welcome to come and see the great work achieved by staff and students.

Taekwondo Classes at LOL

Free introductory Taekwondo classes will be offered to parishioners at the following times and dates in the recreation room on level 1 of the CYPC:
Monday 23 February from 6 to 7pm
Wednesday 25 February from 6 to 7pm
 For more information please contact John on 0470 368 384

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 0417 426 103

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 0435 407 911

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 0410122999

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 0424658190

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

Diocesan Notices

"A Night of Hope" - Whitestone's First Gala Dinner

Sunday 1 March from 6.30pm to 11pm

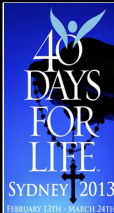
At the Imperial Paradiso - Fairfield

Ticket cost \$150 pp or \$1500 for a table of ten, including entertainment and unlimited food and drinks. The money raised will go towards the addiction recovery centre. For more queries or to buy tickets, please contact

Daniella 0450 434 776 or George 0499 555 544

40 Days for Life

40 Days for Life is a world-wide pro-life campaign to pray for an end to abortion. Over half a million people have prayed peacefully outside abortion clinics to change hearts and save lives. Will you join us in 2015? We pray for both mother and child, as well as all those involved in the abortion industry. Our Parish will be keeping prayerful vigil outside the abortion clinic on Saturdays between 6:00pm-8:00pm. To register or for more information please contact Rob Mourad on 0404066877.



Daily Bible verses to your mobile

To receive send your name on an SMS to 0404057777.





تكلم قداسة البابا عن الابناء، مؤكدا على أن ثمة صلة وثيقة بين رجاء شعب وبين التناغم بين الأجيال. فالبنوة تكشف لنا عن "مجانبة وخصوصية المحبة": أعني محبة الآب

السمائي الذي يترك كل شخص منا حرا ولكنه لا يتركنا أبدا وحدنا؛ ومحبة الوالدين التي تتجسد في معجزة الإنجاب والرعاية؛ ومحبة الأبناء التي تتجلى في عيش وصية إكرم أباك وأمك، لأن صلة الرحم بين الأجيال هي ضمانة المستقبل، والضمان لتاريخ إنساني. كما حظر البابا من المجتمعات التي ترى الإنجاب خطرا وحملا، موضحا أن تناسل الأجيال يثري حياة الجميع، ويعكس سرا ينبع من الله ذاته. وطلب قداسة البابا من الآباء والأمهات أن يصلوا من أجل أبنائهم ومن الجميع أن يصلوا من أجل ابائهم وأمهاتهم. أتوجّه بتحيةٍ قلبيةٍ للحجاج الناطقين باللغة العربية، وخاصةً القادمين من الأردن ومن الأراضي المقدسة ومن الشرق الأوسط. الأبناء هم عطية تستحق التكريم والعناية والحماية من قبل الوالدين. وعلى الأبناء بدورهم إكرام الوالدين ورعايتهم واحترامهم. فليس أجمل من أسرة تجتمع حول المحبة! ليبارك الرب جميع الأبناء الصالحين ويهدي المقصرين، ويحرسكم جميعا من

www.zenit.org

الشَّرير!



زمن الصوم هو زمن توبة واستعداد لعيد الفصح في آن. وطوال اسابيع الصوم، وقبل الدخول في اسبوع الآلام، تتوالى المحطات فتتوقف الآحاد على اهم الآيات: قانا الجليل والابرس والنازفة والابن الضال والمخلع والاعمى ... وتتألق الاسابيع بالصوم والصلاة واعمال التوبة:

فيبدأ الصوم يوم الاثنين برتبة المسامحة والرماد وينتهي بسبت لعازر، وتتوالى صلوات الصليب في دروب وزياحات وسجدات وفي الدعوة لحمل الصليب واتباع المعلم.

هل تعرف انا لسنا معفيين من الصوم؟ وهل تعرف ان القطاعة ما زالت دارجة؟ وهل تعرف ان القدامى ليسوا افضل منا في العبادة ومحبة الله وفي القداسة اذا اردنا؟ وهل تعرف ان كل شيء عادة حتى العبادة وان هذه العادة لا يجوز ان تُدْفَن، لأنها وسيلة رائعة للمحافظة الدائمة على الاخلاق والبر والاستقامة وطريق اكيد نحو الله؟ وهل تعرف انه بالرغم من اشغالك يمكنك ان تخصص الوقت الكافي لعلاقتك الشخصية مع الله؟ من هنا، تتغير الموضة ويتقدم العلم والطب والتكنولوجيا ولكن حاجة الانسان الى الله واحدة منذ الازل والى الابد. الصوم ليس موضة قديمة فنحن اليوم ايضا بحاجة الى الله، بحاجة الى تنقية نواتنا ومصالحة اخوتنا والاتحاد برينا. الصوم ما زال فريضة وان غير ملزمة. وزمن الصوم هو فرحتنا، والترتب والصلوات التي تقدمها لنا الكنيسة خلال هذه الفترة هي وسائل فعلة لمساعدتنا على عيش جوهر الصوم.

"بالصوم يُفتح باب السماء ... من صام يُمنح ملك العلاء"

الخوري طوني سركيس

"...في عرس قانا الجليل قدّست الزواج..."



أيها الرب يسوع، بحضورك في عرس قانا الجليل قدّست الزواج، ورفعته من مؤسسة طبيعية إلى سرّ مقدّس يتمّ بخدمة الكهنوت في الكنيسة، وجعلته وسيلةً لحضور الثالوث الإلهي القدوس في حياة الزوجين، وأداة لنقل نعمتك إليهما فتجعل حياتهما الزوجية والعائلية على مثال الثالوث، جماعة حبّ وحياة. وبأية تحويل الماء إلى خمر فائق الجودة، أظهرت قدرة شفاعة أمك وأمنا مريم الكليّة القداسة وأمّ المحبة، واستبقت تحويل الخمر إلى دمك، من أجل حياة العالم، في عرسك، عرس الخلاص. املأنا، في الصوم الكبير الذي نبدأ، من الجوع والعطش الروحيين إلى كلّ عمل صالح، فتصبح حياتنا نشيد مجد وتسييح للآب والابن والروح القدس، الآن وإلى الأبد، آمين.

البطريك الكاردينال مار بشاره الراعي

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:

John and Wadel (A) All departed souls, Fr Elias Ayoub, Antoun Azar, Antonious Elias Aboud and his departed; Elias Alasmar & his parents & siblings & all their departed(B)Raymond, Hanne & Charbel Bazouni, (C) Namtallah Coorey (D) (E) (F) (G) Elias Saad Gahgah and his wife Maryam, Colleen Madeline George, Helen George, Majid George, Karam & Labibie George, Jack & Nora George, Youssef Salim El Khoury Gebrael, (H) Madeline & Paul Haddad and son Joseph, Anis Haddad, Maurice & Martha Jamil Haddad, (I) K Naim Khattar & George Khattar, Mikhael & Hani Khoury, Afifi Khoury, Bassam & Charbel Khoury(J) (L) Peter Lichaa and his wife Marie, Youssef Lichaa, Maroun Lahoud, Youssef Lahoud & his parents & departed siblings & all their departed (M) Anthony Mamah Moses and Moses Family, Arthur (Otre) Moses, Elias Barbar Mousa, Boutros & Johra Moussa, John Toufic Merhi, Youssef & Ghousoub Maroun, Ghantous Jabbour Mikhael and his wife Jamile, Fayez & Hind Melhem, Dalal & Awtel Moussa, Etour, Otre, Youssef, Samiha & Ishaya Moussa, Departed Melhem families, Departed Moussa Families, Francis Moses, Alichaa & Youssef Malkoun (N) Jamil Badwi, Hasna & Yasmine Ndaira, (R) Milia Bou Raidan, Jamil & Labibi Roumanus, Raymond & Etour Romanos & son Joseph, Therese & Shafik Rajiha & their departed (S) Boutros Kozhaya Sassine, Joseph John Saad & his wife Mazie, Matilda Abboud Sadek, Souls in Purgatory (T) Sam, Fahed, Danny & Bernard Ters (W) Jamil Wehbe & Barbara Wehbe, Karim Tannous Wehbe (Y) (Z) Fadel & Howa Zahoul & their children



يَسُوعُ يُشَارِكُ فِي عُرْسِ قَانَا الْجَلِيلِ فَيَبْقَى بِوُجُودِهِ فَرِحَةَ الْعُرْسِ مُحَوِّلاً الْمَاءَ خَمْرَةً جَيِّدَةً فَيُؤَمِّنُ بِهِ تَلَامِيذِهِ. هَذَا الْإِنْجِيلُ تَقْرَأُ فِي أَكْثَرِ الْأَحْيَانِ فِي أَفْرَاحِنَا عِنْدَمَا نُرَافِقُ الْعُرُوسِيْنَ فِي رُبْتَةِ الْإِكْلِيلِ لِنَقُولَ لَهُمَا الْكَنِيسَةُ إِنَّهُ بَدُونِ وُجُودِ الرَّبِّ يَسُوعِ فِي حَيَاتِنَا تَبْقَى فَرِحَتُنَا نَاقِصَةً أَوْ مُعْرَضَةً لِحَطَرِ الْوُفُوعِ فِي الْفَرَاغِ وَالضِّيَاعِ فَيَبْقَى فَرِحَتُنَا حُزْبًا. أَمَا إِذَا دَعَوْنَا الرَّبَّ إِلَى فَرَحِ حَيَاتِنَا يَكْتَمِلُ فَرِحَتُنَا وَإِنْ نَقَصَ شَيْءٌ فَالرَّبُّ قَادِرٌ أَنْ يُكَمِّلَهُ. تَوَقَّفْ عِنْدَ:

- تَلِيْبَةُ يَسُوعِ الدَّعْوَةَ إِلَى الْعُرْسِ وَبِوُجُودِهِ أَكْمَلَ الْفَرِحَةَ مِنْ خِلَالِ الْمَاءِ الْمُحَوَّلِ خَمْرًا. أَمَا الْيَوْمَ، فَهُوَ يَدْعُونَا إِلَى عُرْسِ مَلَكُوتِهِ "طُوبَى لِلْمَدْعُوبِينَ إِلَى وَليْمَةِ عُرْسِ الْحَمَلِ" (رؤ 19/9)، يَدْعُونَا يَسُوعُ فِي الْفُدَّاسِ لِتَأْكُلَ جَسَدَهُ وَتَشْرَبَ دَمَهُ عُرْبُونًا لِمَلَكُوتِهِ. فَهَلْ نَلْبِي هَذِهِ الدَّعْوَةَ لِنَشْهَدَ عَلَى أُعْجُوبَةِ تَحْوِيلِ الْخَبْزِ وَالْخَمْرِ إِلَى جَسَدِهِ وَدَمِهِ وَنُشَارِكُ فِي عُرْسِ مَلَكُوتِهِ؟

- دُورِ الْخَدَمِ: لَوْلَا الْخَدَمُ الَّذِينَ سَمِعُوا كَلِمَةَ الرَّبِّ يَسُوعِ وَقَعَلُوا كَمَا طَلَبَ مِنْهُمْ لَمَا كَانَتْ الْأَعْجُوبَةُ لِتَحْصَلَ (طَبْعًا الرَّبُّ قَادِرٌ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ وَلَكِنْ هُوَ يُرِيدُ إِشْرَاكَنَا بِكُلِّ تَدْبِيرِهِ الْخَلَاصِيِّ). مِنْ هُنَا نَقُولُ أَنَّ الرَّبَّ بِحَاجَةٍ إِلَى طَوَاعِينِنَا وَإِلَى أَنْ نَسْمَعَ كَلَامَهُ لِكَيْ يَكُونَ قَادِرًا عَلَى صُنْعِ الْأَعْجُوبَةِ فِي حَيَاتِنَا طُوبَى لِلَّذِينَ يَسْمَعُونَ كَلِمَةَ اللَّهِ وَيَعْمَلُونَ بِهَا" (لوقا 11/27)

الْخَدَمُ مَلَكُوا الْأَجْرَانَ مَاءً إِلَى فَوْقِ. لَمْ يَتْرَكُوا شَيْئًا نَاقِصًا. فَهَلْ نَسْعَى نَحْنُ إِلَى طَاعَةِ الْكَمَالِ "كُونُوا كَامِلِينَ كَمَا أَنَّ آبَائِكُمُ السَّمَاوِيِّ كَامِلٌ هُوَ" (متى 5/48) أَمْ أَنَّنَا نَتْرِكُ النَّقْصَ يَنْهَشُ حَيَاتِنَا الْيَوْمِيَّةَ مُسْتَسْلِمِينَ لِلْقَوْلِ أَنَّنَا بَشَرٌ ضَعْفَاءُ مُتَنَاسِلِينَ كَلَامَ مَار بُولَسَ "أَنَا قَوِي بِالَّذِي يَقْوِيَنِي" (فيلبي 4/13).

- تَدَخُّلِ مَرْيَمَ وَدَوْرَهَا الْمَحَوْرِيِّ فِي عُرْسِ قَانَا فَلَا نَبْخَلْ عَلَيْهَا الدَّعْوَةَ إِلَى صَمِيمِ حَيَاتِنَا وَطَلَبِ شِفَاعَتِهَا لِكَيْ نَسْمَعَ صَوْتَهَا يَقُولُ لَنَا دَائِمًا "مَهْمَا قَالَ لَكُمْ فَافْعَلُوهُ" (يوحنا 13/34).

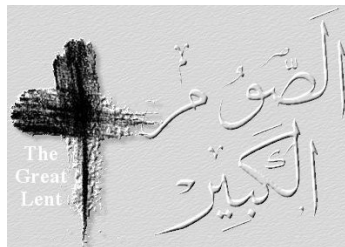
وَمَاذَا يَطْلُبُ مِنَّا ابْنُهَا يَسُوعُ سِوَى "أَنْ نُحِبَّ بَعْضُنَا بَعْضًا كَمَا هُوَ أَحِبَّنَا" وَيُعْطِينَا الْقَاعِدَةَ الْمُتَلَى "فَكُلْ مَا أَرَدْتُمْ أَنْ يَفْعَلَهُ النَّاسُ لَكُمْ فاعملوه أَنْتُمْ لَهُمْ" (متى 7/12).

فَلتَدْخُلْ إِلَى صَوْمِنَا دُخُولَنَا إِلَى عُرْسِ مُتَذَكِّرِينَ قَوْلَ الرَّبِّ: "أُرِيدُ رَحْمَةً لَا ذَبِيحَةً" (هوشع 6/6). فَلنَرْحَمْ نُفُوسَنَا وَنَقُودَهَا إِلَى الْخَلَاصِ "الشَّاطِرُ يَلِي بِيَخْلَصُ نَفْسَهُ" وَلنَرْحَمْ الْأَخْرِيْنَ "إِرْحَمُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ، يِرْحَمَكُمُ مَنْ فِي السَّمَاءِ".

تدعونا الكنيسة اليوم ...

نحن في أحد مدخل الصوم، الأحد الأول من زمن يبدأ بفرح العرس وينتهي بفرح الأطفال في عيد الشعانين ... فهو بالتالي دعوة للفرح مع الله وبالله وحده دون سائر ملذات هذه الأرض الفانية واستعداداً روحي وجسدي للحياة الباقية، الحياة الأبدية. نحن مدعوون إذاً، إخوتي، لنلج إلى الصوم بفرح وسعادة العاشق التائق للقاء حبيبته في كل آن وأوان ومكان فيكون صومنا أداة تساعدنا على رؤية وجه المسيح في الفقير والمظلوم والمسجون والعريان فنستحق الحياة في ملكوت الله الذي هو "بِرٌّ وَسَلَامٌ وَفَرَحٌ فِي الرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِّ"، آمين.

في الصيام الليتورجي



"... لا تصوموا في الوقت الذي يصوم فيه المرأون. إنهم يصومون في يومي الاثنين والخميس من الأسبوع. أما أنتم، فصوموا إما خمسة أيام، وإما يومي الأربعاء والجمعة: لأنه في يوم الأربعاء صدر الحكم على الرب، وقبض يهوذا ثمن الخيانة ليُسَلَّمَهُ؛ وفي يوم الجمعة احتل الرب آلام الصلب بأمر بيلاطس البنطي. وأقيموا العيد يومي السبت والأحد، لأن الأول ذِكْرٌ لِلخَلْقِ والثاني للقيامة. يجب أن تحافظوا على سبب واحد في كل سنة، هو السبت الذي كان فيه الخالق تحت الثرى هو يوم بكاء ونواح، ولا يحسن فيه الإبتهاج والعيد، لأن الخالق يفوق جميع خلائقه في الطبيعة والإكرام. (7، 23)

وصوموا أيضاً أيام الفصح (أسبوع الآلام) مبتدئين من الإثنين إلى التهيئة والسبت، ستة أيام تستعملون أثناءها الخبز والملح والبقول والماء للشرب. وامتنعوا عن الخمر واللحم في تلك الأيام لأنها أيام حزن وليست أعياداً. صوموا يومي الجمعة والسبت معاً، من استطاع. لا تأكلوا شيئاً حتى صياح الديك في الليل، وإذا لم يستطع أحد أن يصوم اليومين معاً فليحافظ أقله على السبت لأن الرب يقول عن نفسه في موضع: متى يُرْفَعُ الْعُرُوسُ عَنْهُمْ فحينئذ يصومون في تلك الأيام. (5، 18)"

الخير السار من رعيّتك

كاتدرائية سيدة لبنان المارونية - هاريس بارك

١٥ شباط ٢٠١٥

عدد ١٧

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الإنجيل

أحد آية عرس قانا - مدخل الصوم

الرسالة

في اليوم الثالث، كَانَ عُرْسٌ فِي قَانَا الْجَلِيلِ، وَكَانَتْ أُمُّ يَسُوعَ هُنَاكَ. وَدُعِيَ أَيْضًا يَسُوعُ وَتَلَامِيذُهُ إِلَى الْعُرْسِ. وَنَقَدَ الْخَمْرَ، فَقَالَتْ لِيَسُوعَ أُمُّهُ: "لَيْسَ لَدَيْهِمْ خَمْرٌ". فَقَالَ لَهَا يَسُوعُ: "مَا لِي وَلكِ، يَا امْرَأَةٌ؟ لَمْ تَأْتِ سَاعَتِي بَعْدُ!". فَقَالَتْ أُمُّهُ لِلْخَدَمِ: "مَهْمَا يَقُلْ لَكُمْ فَاْعَلُوهُ!". وَكَانَ هُنَاكَ سِتَّةَ أَجْرَانِ مِنْ حَجَرٍ، مُعَدَّةً لِتَطْهِيرِ الْيَهُودِ، يَسَعُ كُلُّ مِنْهَا مِنْ ثَمَانِينَ إِلَى مِئَةِ وَعِشْرِينَ لَيْتْرًا، فَقَالَ يَسُوعُ لِلْخَدَمِ: "إِمْأَلُوا الْأَجْرَانَ مَاءً". فَمَلَأُوهُمَا إِلَى فَوْقِ. قَالَ لَهُمْ: "اسْتَقْفُوا الْآنَ، وَقَدِّمُوا لِرَبِّيسِ الْوَلِيمَةِ". فَقَدِّمُوا. وَذَاقَ الرَّبِّيسُ الْمَاءَ، الَّذِي صَارَ خَمْرًا - وَكَانَ لَا يَعْلَمُ مِنْ أَيْنَ هُوَ، وَالْخَدَمُ الَّذِينَ اسْتَقَفُوا يَعْلَمُونَ - فَذَعَا إِلَيْهِ الْعَرِيسَ وَقَالَ لَهُ: "كُلُّ إِنْسَانٍ يُقَدِّمُ الْخَمْرَ الْجَيِّدَ أَوَّلًا، حَتَّى إِذَا سَكِرَ الْمَدْعُوُونَ، يُقَدِّمُ الْأَقْلَّ جُودَةً، أَمَّا أَنْتَ فَقَدْ أَبْقَيْتَ الْخَمْرَ الْجَيِّدَ إِلَى الْآنَ!". تِلْكَ كَانَتْ أَوْلَى آيَاتِ يَسُوعَ، صَنَعَهَا فِي قَانَا الْجَلِيلِ، فَأُظْهَرَ مَجْدَهُ، وَأَمَنَ بِهِ تَلَامِيذُهُ.

يو ١: ٢ - ١١



قراءات أحد شفاء الأبرص

روم ٦ : ١٢ - ٢٣

مر ١ : ٣٥ - ٤٥

رتبة درب الصليب

كاتدرائية سيدة لبنان

٦:٠٠ مراحل درب الصليب،
صلاة المساء وزياح الصليب
(عربي)

٨:٠٠ مراحل درب الصليب
وزياح الصليب (إنكليزي)

من أقوالهم...

"بالصوم يُفتح باب السماء ... من صام يُمنح مُلكَ العلاءِ"

الليتورجيا المارونية

صلاة الأسبوع

لأنك بالحب تأتي الآيات، لأنك بالحب تكشف الغايات، لأنك بالحب تقبل النيات، نشكرك، على فيض حبك لنا والذي بدأت به بتحويل نقص الحب في عرس قانا الجليل إلى فيض قلب جاد ووجود بالغفران على كل واحد منّا تمثل بالخادم وأطاع توجيه أمك، ففعل في حياته ما أمرته به في كلامك، لك الشكر والحمد والمجد مع الأب والروح القدس، من الآن وإلى الأبد، آمين.

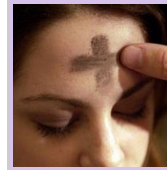
إثنين الرماد

أبناء الرعية الأحباء، يبدأ زمن الصوم يوم:

الإثنين ١٦ شباط برتبة تبريك الرماد. علينا أن نهيب أنفسنا

لمشاركة روحية فعالة في الرتبة: صلاة وتبريك الرماد وتوزيعه لمدة ٢٥ دقيقة. فعلى كل مؤمن

أن يختار الوقت المناسب له ٧ و ٨:٤٥ صباحاً أو ٥ و ٧ مساءً.



قَدَاسَاتِ يَوْمِ الْأَحَدِ

كاتدرائية سيدة 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. ظ. في كنيسة سانت باتريك، غيلدفورد (عربي، إنكليزي)

قَدَاسَاتِ الْأَسْبُوعِ

الإثنين - الجمعة 7:00، 8:45 صباحاً و 6:00 مساءً، الأربعاء 7:00، 8:45 صباحاً و 5:30؛ 7:00 مساءً (إنكليزي) السبت 7:30 صباحاً و 6:00 مساءً

الإعترافات مؤمنة قبل وخلال قداس السبت الساعة 6:00 مساءً وقَدَاسَاتِ الْأَحَدِ أو بتحديد موعد خلال أيام الأسبوع

ساعات السجود كل يوم خميس 8:00 - 9:00 مساءً 24 ساعة سجود أمام القربان: كل أول جمعة من الشهر من الساعة 9:30 صباحاً لغاية السبت 7:30 صباحاً