

The Good News from Your Parish

OUR LADY OF LEBANON MARONITE CO-CATHEDRAL - HARRIS PARK

Sunday 15 March 2015

Issue 21

www.olol.org.au

Sunday of the Healing of the Paralytic

THE GOSPEL

When Jesus returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door; and he was speaking the word to them. Then some people came, bringing to him a paralysed man, carried by four of them. And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay.

When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, "Why does this fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

At once Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were discussing these questions among themselves; and he said to them, "Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Stand up and take your mat and walk'? But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins" — he said to the paralytic — "I say to you, stand up, take your mat and go to your home." And he stood up, and immediately took the mat and went out before all of them; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

Mk 2: 1-12

FRIDAYS OF LENT

6:00pm Stations of the Cross, Evening Prayer and Adoration of the Cross (Arabic)

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

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Next Sunday's Readings

Sunday of the Blind

2Cor 10: 1-7

Mk 10: 46-52

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"If we really want to love, we must learn how to forgive"

Mother Theresa

THE EPISTLE

The sins of some people are conspicuous and precede them to judgment, while the sins of others follow them there. So also good works are conspicuous; and even when they are not, they cannot remain hidden. Let all who are under the yoke of slavery regard their masters as worthy of all honour, so that the name of God and the teaching may not be blasphemed. Those who have believing masters must not be disrespectful to them on the ground that they are members of the church; rather they must serve them all the more, since those who benefit by their service are believers and beloved. Teach and urge these duties.

Whoever teaches otherwise and does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that is in accordance with godliness, is conceited, understanding nothing, and has a morbid craving for controversy and for disputes about words. From these come envy, dissension, slander, base suspicions, and wrangling among those who are depraved in mind and bereft of the truth, imagining that godliness is a means of gain.

1Tim 5: 24-6:5

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O Loving God, Kindness has converted more souls than zeal, science, and eloquence combined. In Your Mercy Lord, You healed the paralytic with these words: "My son, your sins are forgiven..." Today I ask You Lord to heal the wounds of my heart that only You can see. The wounds of sin that paralyse my soul and restrict my freedom from loving You as You have loved me, from showing kindness to others as you have shown kindness to me. I pray that my wounds may become your soothing balm, that relieves the pains of those whom I meet each day, through the intercession of Our Blessed Mother, St. Joseph, and all the Saints. Amen.

Salwa Elias

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)

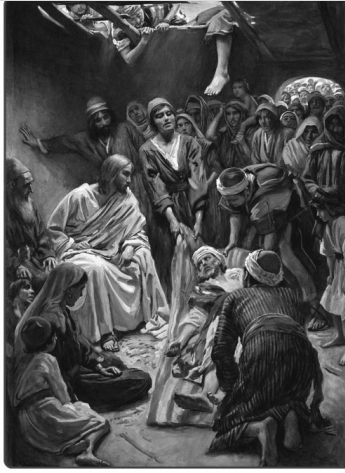
CONFESSIONS

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



When a group of people go to great lengths to present a paralytic man before Jesus, the scribes grumble while Jesus chooses to offer forgiveness and healing.

This Sunday's Gospel is dramatic, with Jesus speaking the word to the crowd, people shuffling and jostling to get closer, the grand entrance of the paralytic, the questioning of scribes, the miraculous healing, and the glorification of God.

However let us just pause and reflect over the words, 'Son, your sins are forgiven'^{v5}.

To have the desire to forgive another is to have a heart that freely moves with great love. We hear very little today about forgiveness. It is seen as a weakness by many, with revenge dominating our minds. Yet forgiveness is much more powerful, not only for the one who is forgiven and so freed from shame and guilt, but also for the one who is able to forgive.

To forgive another is to free them into fullness of life and the opportunity to hope again and be renewed. The person who can let go of the past and love another into fullness of life is indeed a great person, in the image of God.

Jesus forgave constantly. He was a person who loved and was full of life. He had no need to clutch onto petty grievances and foul temperaments. He was willing to love and be loved. He was free enough to invite others to let go of the past and move forward.

Passing judgment, as the scribes did in today's Gospel, gets you nowhere and hinders others from living. Rather, like Jesus, we are called to love our life and to love others into fullness of being. Amen

Sr Margaret Ghosn MSHF

Most of what we know about the husband of Mary and the foster father of Jesus comes from Scripture. Since Joseph does not appear in Jesus' public life, at his death, or resurrection, many historians believe Joseph probably had died before Jesus entered public ministry.

We know he was a carpenter, a working man, for the skeptical Nazarenes ask about Jesus, "Is this not the carpenter's son?" (Matthew 13:55). He wasn't rich for when he took Jesus to the Temple to be circumcised and Mary to be purified he offered the sacrifice of two turtledoves or a pair of pigeons, allowed only for those who could not afford a lamb (Luke 2:24).

Despite his humble work and means, Joseph came from a royal lineage. He was a descendant of King David.

We know Joseph was a compassionate, caring man. When he discovered Mary was pregnant after they had been betrothed, he knew the child was not his but was as yet unaware that she was carrying the Son of God. He planned to divorce Mary according to the law but he was concerned for her suffering and safety. He knew that women accused of adultery could be stoned to death, so he decided to divorce her quietly and not expose her to shame or cruelty (Matthew 1:19-25).

We know Joseph was man of faith, obedient to whatever God asked of him without knowing the outcome. When the angel came to Joseph in a dream and told him the truth about the child Mary was carrying, Joseph immediately and without question or concern for gossip, took Mary as his wife. When the angel came again to tell him that his family was in danger, he immediately left everything he owned, all his family and friends, and fled to a strange country with his young wife and the baby. He waited in Egypt without question until the angel told him it was safe to go back (Matthew 2:13-23).

We know Joseph loved Jesus. His one concern was for the safety of this child entrusted to him. Not only did he leave his home to protect Jesus, but upon his return settled in the obscure town of Nazareth out of fear for his life. When Jesus stayed in the Temple we are told Joseph (along with Mary) searched with great anxiety for three days for him (Luke 2:48).

We know Joseph respected God. He followed God's commands in handling the situation with Mary and going to Jerusalem to have Jesus circumcised and Mary purified after Jesus' birth. We are told that he took his family to Jerusalem every year for Passover, something that could not have been easy for a working man.



Charbel Dib

Shepherd's Corner

Challenge Yourself!

Brothers and Sisters,

This Sunday we arrive at our fifth station in this Lenten journey; the station in which we reflect on the Gospel of the healing of the paralytic. The friends of the paralytic when faced with all the chaos that surrounded the home at Capernaum were truly challenged to find a way to get into the house to see Jesus. However they used their brains and the masculinity and did what they did to see the Lord. Their strength didn't come from their brains nor did it come from their masculinity! Their strength came from their great faith. They believed without a doubt that Jesus could heal their friend if he chose to. And yes Jesus did choose!

In our own lives today there is so much chaos, so much noise. We are challenged to do well at work, to own the best house, car and clothing, to eat the finest food, go on a holiday every year and so on. These are all wonderful things but in our effort to achieve all this, many times they allow us to use the excuse that we are time challenged or time poor. We allow the daily routine of our lives from trying to find a way to reach Jesus because we are so busy and because simply we just can't find the time.

Even in our parish life, we sometimes get too consumed in the work that we are doing that we forget the main reason that we are carrying out this work. We allow the noise and chaos surrounding us to stop us from seeing Jesus. This noise and chaos can come from the gossip that we make up, spread and listen to. It comes from peoples dissatisfaction with anything and everything that we do and it sometimes stems from this sense of competition that we have to out do one another. We get so caught up in these things that we forget that Jesus even exists.

Unlike the paralytic and his friends, we have easy access to Jesus. We don't need to climb through roofs to find him. In fact, we really don't need to challenge ourselves too much to see him. He is available to us all day, every day in the tabernacle. He is available to us during the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. He is available to us during Adoration, confession and daily prayer. What we do need to challenge though is our will and our faith. We need to ask ourselves, is our faith strong enough so that we can find the time to come and see him, overcoming the hindrances that allow us to stumble and create excuses that deprive us from the reason that we are here.

Fr Tony Sarkis

Article of the Week - How far would you go for a friend?



“How far would you go for a friend” these are the thoughts that struck my mind after reading the gospel of Jesus healing the Paralytic. Through the Gospel we realise that through belief in Christ and prayers to the Lord Jesus all our faults and sicknesses can be healed and forgiven. Through confession as outlined in last week’s article we see how forgiveness plays a most important aspect of all our lives.

The Gospel depicts two main factors of Trust in God and having Faith in God.

1. Trust in God

The trust in the lord and the belief that through his love and mercy all people will be delivered into salvation. Jesus is our best friend and through a devoted life of prayer and a close relation with family it becomes easier for us to put our trust in Jesus and it also becomes easier for us to grow in relation with Jesus to become complete and live a life devoted to the Lord God.

2. Faith in God

The belief in Christ without fully comprehending his divine powers yet believing in him the same way the paralytic did in the gospel and believing that through Jesus all of mankind can be healed not only physically but also spiritually. Through the relationship we encounter with Jesus during our lives we learn how to grow in communion with our families, friends, colleagues and all the surrounding environment. We all become one family through friendship and communication with Jesus which in time helps us to understand his unbelievable and unforgettable sacrifice that we lead to during this divine season of Lent. Just as Jesus said to the Apostle John "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." (John 20:29) We are the ones who now believe and have believed for over 1900 years without seeing Jesus in person yet seeing him through everyone around us.

Throughout our lives we encounter many different people from different races, religions, countries and different lifestyles. All of which are very different yet they are all the same. All the people we meet if they are younger, older, disabled or just alone all have one very important thing in common. The one thing they all have in common no matter their differences is that they all have Jesus dwelling inside of them.

Through Jesus we come to a realisation that we are all sinners in the world and the only friend that will be with us for the rest of our life not only on Earth but also in Heaven is the person that lived amongst us and died for us. Jesus Christ.

Robin El Bazouni

God is rich in mercy



During his homily for a Lenten penitential service on Friday, Pope Francis announced an extraordinary Jubilee to start at the end of the year, which will be dedicated to a theme close to the pontiff’s heart: mercy.

In another Lenten initiative, Pope Francis invited every parish around the world to open its doors for 24 hours on Friday and Saturday 13-14 March, so that the faithful might encounter Jesus Christ anew in the Sacrament of Confession and Eucharistic Adoration.

Organised by the Pontifical Council for the New Evangelization, this is called “24 Hours for the Lord.” It was intended also to be a time of reflection and prayer, an opportunity to speak with a priest, and a chance to rediscover – or perhaps discover for the first time – the great mercy at the heart of the Catholic Faith.

The theme chosen for this year’s initiative, in fact, is “God is rich in mercy” (Eph 2:4)

Dioceses, parishes, and communities around the world are invited to adapt the initiative to their local situations and needs. Pope Francis opened the initiative on March 13 in St. Peter’s Basilica, the second anniversary of his election. He spoke of the initiative in his 2015 Message for Lent: “As individuals, we are tempted by indifference. Flooded with news reports and troubling images of human suffering, we often feel our complete inability to help. What can we do to avoid being caught up in this spiral of distress and powerlessness? First, we can pray in communion with the Church on earth and in heaven. Let us not underestimate the power of so many voices united in prayer!”

Excerpts taken from Catholic News Agency



Parish Camera



'The call' Youth Retreat attended by 52 of our youth from 6 to 8 March directed by Sr Margaret.



Bible basics course on Monday nights led by Fr. Yuhanna Azize & English faith discussion led by Robert Haddad "1001 reasons why it's great to be Catholic" on Wednesday night



The aftermath of the storm on Wednesday Night—Parishioners & Priests worked together to clean up



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PARISH NOTICE BOARD



FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS & FUNERALS

قَدَاسَاتِ الْأَسْبُوعِ

Sunday 15 March – Sunday of the Paralytic

3:00pm Zabed Nakhoul from Karm El Mohr wife of Youssef Saba from Kahf El Maloul (died in Lebanon)

5:00pm 40 Day Mona Youssef Waddi wife of Sarkis Barakat from Hadchit

Monday 16 March

6:00pm Sonia Wadi Nassif wife of Nkoula Haddad from Ghazir (died in Lebanon)

Wednesday 18 March

7:00pm 40 Day Salimeh Tannous Maroun widow of Sami Ibrahim from Kfersghab

Thursday 19 March – St Joseph

Masses celebrated 7:00am, 8:45am and 6:00pm

Saturday 21 March

6:00pm 1 Year Nicholas Youssef Lahoud Abd el Ahad from Kfersghab

Sunday 22 March – Sunday of the Blind

9:30am 1 Year Barbara Mekdessi from Zgharta wife of Peter Maatouk from Ardeh

11:00am 1 Year Abboud Maroun Gerges from Karm El Mohr

3:00pm 40 Day Nadim Jabbour from Ardeh

5:00pm Bishop Francis Baissari – Emeritus Patriarchal Vicar General for Jebbi

الأحد 15 آذار : أحد شفاء المفلج

3:00 المرحومة زاباد نخول من كرم المهر زوجة يوسف سابا من كهف الملوك وسكان مزارية (متوفاه لبنان)

5:00 أربعون المرحومة منى يوسف الودي زوجة سركيس بركات من حدشيت

الاثنين 16 آذار :

6:00 المرحومة صونيا وديع ناصيف زوجة نقولا حداد من غزير (متوفاه في لبنان)

الأربعاء 18 آذار :

7:00 أربعون المرحومة سلمية طنوس مارون أرملة المرحوم سامي إبراهيم من كفرصغاب

الخميس 19 آذار : عيد مار يوسف البتول

القداصات: 7:00 – 8:45 صباحاً و 6:00 مساءً

السبت 21 آذار :

6:00 السنة للمرحوم نقولا يوسف لحود عبد الأحد من كفرصغاب

الأحد 22 آذار : أحد شفاء الأعمى

9:30 السنة للمرحومة بربارة المقدسي من زغرنا زوجة بيتر معنوق من أرد

11:00 السنة للمرحوم عبود مارون جرجس من كرم المهر

3:00 أربعون المرحوم نديم جبور من أرد

5:00 المثالث الرحمت المطران فرنسيس البيسري النائب البطريركي العام على نيابة الجبة- سابقاً (متوفى في لبنان)



FROM THE COMMUNITY YOUTH & PASTORAL CENTRE



Parish Groups and Committees

Pastoral Council Meeting Wed 18 March at 8pm

Family & Adult Events

The Tenderness and Mercy of God to his children is like that of a Mother with her baby in her lap—FDW

حنان الله ورحمته على ابناءه كرضيع في حضن امه

Arabic Faith Talk Presented by Fr Tanos

Tues 17 March 7.15pm in the Seniors Room—CYPC

English Faith Discussion Nights

25 March - Marcha Makari - "The Treasures of Suffering"

6 May - Madeleine Vella - "Discovering your call to Sanctity"

Wednesday's at 8.00pm After 7.00pm Mass on L1 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

Teens Camp - "The Power of the Cross"

10-12 April at St Joseph Conference Centre Bringelly
Cost \$170 pp. Contact Tony Mattar on 0401 364 335 for more info.

Youth Events

Blood Donation contact Myrna 0421677998

Nursing Home Visit contact Therese 0431792205

Youth Meeting: TBA contact Maroun 0410656099

Seniors Events

Seniors Bus Trip - Feast of Saint Joseph

Spiritual visit to St Joseph's Church Croydon with Mass
Thursday 19 March at 9.30am (leaving OLOL)
Cost \$35/p incl. bus, lunch at club contact Elias on 0414 495 955 or
Marianne on 0412 201 183 or the parish office 9689-2899

ان غداء المسنين لهذا الخميس الواقع في 19 آذار قد انعمي، وذلك لقيامهم برحلة روحية بالوساطة الى
مار يوسف بمناسبة عيد. تتضمن الرحلة قداس الالهى الساعة 11 صباحاً. وبعده غداء في ال club

General Parish Notices

Vocation Discernment Day

Sr Margaret will be holding a Vocation discernment day for young women 15 years and over on

Sunday 22nd March from 9.30am to 1.15pm.

Contact Sr Margaret on 0412 588 045 for more information.

MCHF Open Day

Maronite College of the Holy Family (MCHF) is holding an Open day in the Secondary department on

24th March from 9-11am

All parents and prospective students are welcome.

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 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

LOLOL St Vincent De Paul Conference call Kim Moussa 0424658190

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

General Parish Notices

40 Days for Life

40 Days for Life is a world-wide pro-life campaign to pray for an end to abortion. 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.



Are you a painter that can DONATE your talent to the Parish? We need your help for painting jobs to help maintain the facilities in our parish.

02 8898 1510

or email: maronitecare.org.au

Painter Required

Are you a painter that can DONATE your talent to the parish from time to time? We need your help for painting jobs to help maintain the facilities in our parish.



Feast of St Patrick
"The unity of the family stems from the clover of the unity of the Holy Trinity"
Celebrated by His Excellency Bishop Anton Charles Tarabay
Sunday 22nd March at 7pm

St Patrick's Mass Centre,
32 Calliope St Guildford. All are welcome

أعف عن ديوننا كما نحن نعفي عن مديننا

"لكي نطلب المغفرة من الله علينا أن نتبع تعاليم صلاة "الأبانا" وأن نتوب بصدق عن خطايانا مدركين بأن الله يغفر لنا دائماً وأن نسامح الآخرين من كل قلبنا" بهذه الكلمات استهلّ البابا فرنسيس عظته الصباحية معلّقاً على إنجيل القديس متى (18: 21-35) وفيه يسأل بطرس يسوع عن عدد المرات التي يغفر لأخيه إن خطيء إليه ويخبر يسوع قصة العبد القليل الشفقة"



"إن طلب المغفرة هو شيء مختلف عن الاعتذار. هل أنا مخطيء؟ أنا آسف وأنا أخطأت... لقد اقتصرت خطيئة! أمران مختلفان ولا يتعلّقان ببعضهما البعض. الخطيئة ليست خطأ بسيطاً بل هي الوثنية وعبادة الكبرياء والغرور والمال والنفس والرفاهية... عبادة الكثير من الأصنام الموجودة في حياتنا" مشيراً إلى أنّ عزرياً في القراءة الأولى من سفر دانيال (3: 25 - 43) لا يطلب الاعتذار بل يستغفر الله. إنّ الصفح هو أعمق من الاعتذار فيه يطلب الإنسان المغفرة من صميم القلب وفي المقابل على الإنسان أن يتمثّل بمعلمه ليغفر هو أيضاً لمن أساء إليه ويسوع بذاته يعلمنا أن نصلي ذلك للآب في صلاة الأبانا عندما نقول: "إغفر لنا ذنوبنا كما نحن نغفر لمن خطيء إلينا". في نص الإنجيلي متى، يخبر يسوع عن مثل الملك الذي أراد أن يحاسب عبده وبعد أن أشفق مولى ذلك العبد وأطلقه وأعفاه من الدين خرج ذلك العبد ولم يعف صاحبه.

وقال البابا: "إن لم أكن قادراً على المغفرة فأنا أيضاً لست قادراً أيضاً على طلب المغفرة من الرب. ستقولون لي: "ولكن يا أبت أنا أعتزف. أوظب دائماً على الاعتراف... " وماذا تفعل قبل أن تعترف؟" "أفكر في الأشياء السيئة التي اقترفتها... " حسناً!" ثم أطلب المغفرة من الرب وأعده بأن لا أعود إلى الخطيئة ثانية... " ولكن هل تسألون أنفسكم قبل الذهاب إلى الاعتراف: "هل حقاً غفرت لمن أساء إليّ؟"

وباختصار أكد البابا بأن "مغفرة الله لنا "تقرض" المغفرة للآخرين وكرر النقطتين اللتين تمحورت حولهما العظة اليوم: أولاً المغفرة ليست مجرد اعتذار بل هي أن نعي أننا اقترفنا خطيئة عبادة الأصنام الكثيرة في حياتنا. ثانياً: الله يغفر دائماً! دائماً! إنما نحن من يغلق قلبه على مغفرة الله لنا" خاتماً: "أعف عن ديوننا كما نحن نعفي عن مديننا."

البابا فرنسيس

ليس بالخبز وحده يحيا الإنسان

الصوم هو زمن العودة إلى بعضنا البعض بأفعال المحبة والصدقة والرحمة وبالمصالحة فالصدقة هو موقف القلب، القلب الرحيم، المحب، الذي يسعى لتجديد العلاقة مع الله والآخرين. فلا حب بلا تضحية والتضحية بلا حب أمر خارجي. "الصيام وحده لا يوصلك إلى السماء بل يساعدك لتصعد إليها على درج المحبة". فليكن طعامنا في زمن الصوم هو الكلمة التي تخرج من فم الله، لأنه "ليس بالخبز وحده يحيا الإنسان بل بكل كلمة تخرج من فم الله" (متى 4: 4)، والعمل بمشيئته وهو القائل "طعامي أن أعمل بمشيئة الذي أرسلني وأن أتم عمّله"، (يوحنا 4: 34) وان نلبي دعوته ونقبل بتوبة وإيمان إلى تناول جسده وشرب دمه وهو القائل: "لأنّ جسدي طعام حقّ ودمي شراب" (يوحنا 6 : 55).



فنحن بالصيام نعبر أن الله هو مصدر الحياة والعيش وليس الخبز واللحم. فالله هو مصدر وجودنا فعلياً أن نكون مستعدين أن نفرغ حياتنا لكي نمثلي من نعمه وخيراته. لنصم جميعاً متحدين بالرب ولنشبع أنفسنا منه وحده. إذ أن بالصوم ربنا يستجيب لنا "فصمنا وطلبنا من إلهنا لأجل ذلك فاستجابنا." (عزرا 8: 23).

يا ربنا يسوع الحبيب، امنحنا أن تكون كلّ أفكارنا، أقوالنا، وأفعالنا موافقة لإرادتك لأنك إله حنون رحيم طويل الأناة كثير الرحمة لكلّ من يدعونك بقلب نادم متواضع. آمين. (بتصرف)

الخوري طوني سركيس

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, Abou-Chedid Family, Michael & Maria Abdel Ahad & their children, Evelyne & Saliba & Laurice Abdel Ahad, Nakhoul Abdel Ahad & Family, Elias & Hawaa Abou-Chedid & their children (B) Raymond, Hanne & Charbel Bazouni, Fawzi Barakat & his parents (C) (D) Mansour & Wardi Daher & their departed (E) (F) (G) Colleen Madeline George, Helen George, Majid George, Youssef Salim El Khoury Gebrael, (H) Madeline & Paul Haddad and son Joseph, Anis Haddad, Maurice & Martha Jamil Haddad, Youssef & Amina Hallal & their children, Fadwa & Hanna Hawach & their children, Tannous & Jamileh Hawach & their children, Youssef & Saada Hawach & their children, Hawach Family (I) K) Naim Khattar & George Khattar, (J) (L) Peter Lichaa and his wife Marie, Youssef Lichaa, (M) Anthony Mamah Moses and Moses Family, Arthur (Otre) Moses, Elias Barbar Moussa, Boutros & Johra Moussa, John Toufic Merhi, Youssef & Ghousoub Maroun, Ghantous Jabbour Mikhael and his wife Jamile, Rabina Moussa & her departed, Alichaa & Youssef Malkoun, Badwi & Saada Mouawad & their children (N) Jamil, Badwi, Hasna & Yasmine Ndaira, (R) Milia Bou Raidan, Jamil & Labibi Roumanus, Raymond & Etour Romanos & son Joseph, (S) Boutros Kozhaya Sassine, Joseph John Saad & his wife Mazie, Matilda Abboud Sadek, Souls in Purgatory, (T) Bernadette Tanna & her departed, Salem, Fahed, Bernard & Danny Ters, Hanna Toubia & his departed (W) Jamil Wehbe & Barbara Wehbe, (Y) (Z)

أحد شفاء المخلع

هَذَا الْمَشْهُدُ الْإِنْجِيلِيُّ هُوَ مَشْهُدٌ مُمَيِّزٌ جَدًّا عَنْ بَقِيَّةِ الْآيَاتِ وَالشِّفَاءَاتِ، فَتَرَى فِيهِ الْمُتَكَلِّمَ الْوَحِيدَ هُوَ يَسُوعُ (وَكَانَ يُخَاطِبُهُمْ بِكَلِمَةِ اللَّهِ). وَأَمَامَ هَذَا الْمَشْهُدِ الْمُمَيِّزِ ، نُرِيدُ مَعَكُمْ يَا إِخْوَتِي أَنْ نَقْرَأَهُ قِرَاءَةً مُمَيِّزَةً ، قِرَاءَةً بَيْنَ السُّطُورِ لِنَرَى أَوْ لِنَفْتَرِضَ حَدِيثًا مَا بَيْنَ الْمَخْلَعِ وَالْأَرْبَعَةَ رِجَالٍ ، لِنَفْهَمَ سِرَّ الْإِيمَانِ .

فَالْإِنْجِيلُ لَمْ يَقُلْ عَنِ الْمَخْلَعِ أَنَّهُ أَبْكُمْ أَوْ أَصَمٌّ أَوْ أَنَّهُ لَا يَشْعُرُ وَلَا يَتَفَاعَلُ مَعَ أَحَدٍ ، جُلُّ مَا بِهِ أَنَّهُ مُخْلَعٌ .

لِهَذَا نَسْتَطِيعُ أَنْ نَقُولَ أَمْرًا مِنْ اثْنَيْنِ أَوْ الْإِثْنَيْنِ مَعًا :

1- أَنْ يَكُونَ الْمَخْلَعُ مِنْ خِلَالِ حَاجَتِهِ (أَلْمِهِ) وَعَدَمِ امْكَانِيَّتِهِ الْوُصُولِ إِلَى يَسُوعِ قَدْ طَلَبَ مِنْ أَحَدٍ أَنْ يَحْمِلَهُ إِلَى يَسُوعِ ، وَالرِّجَالُ الْأَرْبَعَةُ وَأَفْقُوهُ الطَّلَبِ .

2- أَنْ يَكُونَ الرَّجَالُ الْأَرْبَعَةُ هُمُ الَّذِينَ ، وَبِمُبَادَرَةٍ شَخْصِيَّةٍ مِنْهُمْ ، قَدْ عَرَضُوا أَنْفُسَهُمْ عَلَى الْمَخْلَعِ لِيَأْخُذُوهُ إِلَى يَسُوعِ لِنَيْالِ الشِّفَاءِ وَلَمْ يَرْفُضْ لَهُمْ طَلَبَ . وَالطَّرِيقَتَيْنِ أَوْصَلْنَا الْمَخْلَعُ إِلَى يَسُوعِ .

مِنْ هُنَا أَحْبَابِي ، كَيْفَ نَرَى ذَاتِنَا فِي هَذَا الْإِنْجِيلِ ؟

هَلْ نَرَى ذَوَاتِنَا مُخْلَعِينَ (بِالْإِيمَانِ ، بِالْمَحَبَّةِ ، بِالخِدْمَةِ ، بِالْمُصَالِحَةِ ...) وَنَرَى حَاجَةً فِينَا لِلشِّفَاءِ وَلَعَدَمِ امْكَانِيَّتِنَا (خَوْفًا ، خَجَلًا ، جَهْلًا ...) نَطْلُبُ وَنَبْتَاعُ مِنْ أَحَدٍ أَنْ يُسَاعِدَنَا فَنَحْمِلُنَا إِلَى الْأَبِ لِنَشْفِي ، أَوْ أَنْ نُنزَلَ عِنْدَ رَغْبَةِ أَحْبَاءٍ لَنَا يَهْتَمُّونَ لِأَمْرٍ خَلَّصْنَا فَنَحْمِلُونَا لِنَيْلِ الشِّفَاءِ ؟

وَفِي الْحَالَتَيْنِ مَطْلُوبٌ أَمْرٌ وَاحِدٌ مَهْمٌ جَدًّا هُوَ حُرِّيَّتُنَا وَطَوَاعِيَّتُنَا وَإِيمَانُنَا بِذَاتِنَا وَبِالْجَمَاعَةِ وَبِالرَّبِّ (اللَّهِ الَّذِي خَلَقَنَا بَدُونِ إِرَادَتِنَا لَا يُخَلِّصُنَا بَدُونِ إِرَادَتِنَا ، فَاللَّهُ يَحْتَرِّمُ حُرِّيَّتَنَا) .

وَلِنَفْهَمَ سِرَّ الْإِيمَانِ عَلَيْنَا أَحْبَابِي أَنْ نَعْرِفَ بَأَنَّ هُنَاكَ أَرْبَعَةَ أَسْرَارٍ (رِجَالٍ) مِنْ خِلَالِهِمْ تَوْصِلُنَا الْكَنِيسَةَ (الْجَمَاعَةَ) إِلَى يَسُوعِ الْأَوْ هِيَ أَسْرَارُ النَّتَشُئَةِ: الْمَعْمُودِيَّةُ ، النَّتِيبُ ، الْمُصَالِحَةُ وَالْإِفْخَارِسْتِيَّةُ .

فَالْمَعْمُودِيَّةُ هِيَ سِرُّ الْوِلَادَةِ الْجَدِيدَةِ مِنَ الْمَاءِ وَكَلِمَةِ اللَّهِ .

وَالنَّتِيبُ يَتَوَقَّعُ ارْتِبَاطُنَا بِالْكَنِيسَةِ بِالرُّوحِ الْقُدْسِ .

وَالْإِفْخَارِسْتِيَّةُ هِيَ سِرُّ النُّقُوى وَعَلَامَةُ وَحْدَةٍ وَرِبَاطٍ مَحَبَّةٍ فِيهَا نَتَنَاوَلُ الْمَسِيحَ غِذَاءً .

وَفِي الْمُصَالِحَةِ ، نَتَصَالِحُ مَعَ اللَّهِ وَذَوَاتِنَا وَالْكَنِيسَةَ (الْجَمَاعَةَ) .

فَلِنَتَشَجَّعْ إِخْوَتِي وَنَنْزِعْ سَقْفَ الْخَجَلِ وَالْخَوْفِ وَالتَّرَدُّدِ وَالْإِمْبَالَاتِ ... لِنَصَلَّ مِنْ خِلَالِ الْكَنِيسَةِ الَّتِي تَحْمِلُنَا بِالْأَسْرَارِ إِلَى يَسُوعِ ، فَنَنَالَ نِعْمَةَ الشِّفَاءِ . وَنَذْهَبْ إِلَى بَيْتِنَا فَنُشَارِكَ اللَّهَ بِالْخَلْقِ (سِرُّ الزَّوْاجِ) وَإِعْلَانِ الْبِشَارَةِ (سِرُّ الْكَهَنُوتِ) حَامِلِينَ فِرَاسِنَا (صَلِيبِنَا) وَسَائِرِينَ وَرَاءَ الرَّبِّ إِلَى مَجْدِ الْقِيَامَةِ .

تدعوننا الكنيسة اليوم

في الأحد الرابع من الصوم، نتأمل مع الكنيسة في مفهوم التخلع ... ففي رسالة اليوم وهي من الرسالة الأولى إلى تلميذه طيموثاوس، يحدرننا مار بولس من بعض أسباب التخلع الروحي "المُجَادَلَاتِ وَالْمُصَاحَكَاتِ" ويعدد لنا بعضاً من نتائجها "الحسد والخصام والتجديف وسوء الظن والمُشَاجَرَاتِ ... "

أما في الإنجيل، فيدعوننا مار مرقس إلى تأمل لوحة شفاء المخلع ولا سيما دور الرجال الأربع في تأمين وصوله إلى يسوع الذي منحه الشفاء، روحياً وجسدياً.

يشكل النصان لوحة متكاملة تؤكد على ضرورة الرجاء بأن الرب سيشفيانا من تخلعنا، مهما كانت أسبابه أو تعددت نتائجها، إذا ما قبلنا بأن نسلم حياتنا إلى من يقودنا إليه بمحبة ومجانية ... فالإلى كل مُرسَل يعمل بصمت، كالرجال الأربعة، ليقود الناس إلى يسوع، تحية نصره ...

تذكروا أن القيامة آتية حتماً

إذا قبلنا الألم كجماعة وحملناه معاً يصبح فرحاً. تذكروا أن آلام المسيح تنتهي دائماً بفرح القيامة، فعندما تشعرون في قلوبكم بالآلام المسيح تذكروا أن القيامة آتية لا محالة - وفرح الفصح سينبلج فجره. لا تدعوا شيئاً يملاكم بالحزن وينسيكم فرح المسيح القائم من الموت. الألم بحد ذاته لا يعطينا الفرح، لكن المسيح الذي نراه في الألم يعطينا إياه.

الطوباوية الأم تريزيا دي كالكوتا



الخبر السار من رعيّتك

كاتدرائية سيدة لبنان المارونية - هاريس بارك

١٥ آذار ٢٠١٥

عدد ٢١

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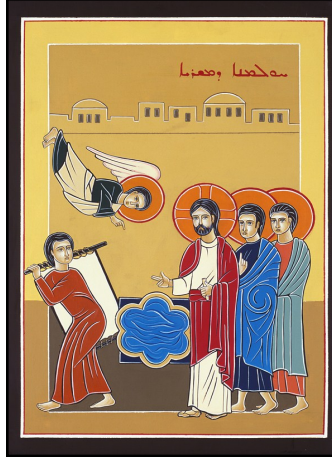
الإنجيل

أحد المخلع

الرسالة

عَادَ يَسُوعُ إِلَى كَفَرْنَاخُومٍ وَسَمِعَ النَّاسُ أَنَّهُ فِي الْبَيْتِ فَتَجَمَعَ عَدَدٌ كَبِيرٌ مِنْهُمْ حَتَّى غَصَّ بِهِمِ الْمَكَانُ، وَلَمْ يَبْقَ مَوْضِعٌ لِأَحَدٍ وَلَا عِنْدَ الْبَابِ. وَكَانَ يُخَاطِبُهُمْ بِكَلِمَةِ اللَّهِ. فَاتَّوَهُ بِمُخَلِّعٍ يَحْمِلُهُ أَرْبَعَةُ رِجَالٍ. وَبِسَبَبِ الْجَمْعِ لَمْ يَسْتَطِيعُوا الْوُصُولَ بِهِ إِلَى يَسُوعَ، فَكَشَفُوا السَّقْفَ فَوْقَ يَسُوعَ، وَنَبَشَوْهُ، وَذَلُّوا الْفِرَاشَ الَّذِي كَانَ الْمُخَلِّعُ مَطْرُوحًا عَلَيْهِ. وَرَأَى يَسُوعُ إِيمَانَهُمْ، فَقَالَ لِلْمُخَلِّعِ: "يَا ابْنِي، مَغْفُورَةٌ لَكَ خَطَايَاكَ!". وَكَانَ بَعْضُ الْكُتَّابَةِ جَالِسِينَ هُنَاكَ يُفَكِّرُونَ فِي قُلُوبِهِمْ: "لِمَاذَا يَتَكَلَّمُ هَذَا الرَّجُلُ هَكَذَا؟ إِنَّهُ يُجَدِّفُ! مَنْ يَقْدِرُ أَنْ يَغْفِرَ الْخَطَايَا إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ؟" وَفِي الْحَالِ عَرَفَ يَسُوعُ بِرُوحِهِ أَنَّهُمْ يُفَكِّرُونَ هَكَذَا فِي أَنْفُسِهِمْ فَقَالَ لَهُمْ: "لِمَاذَا تُفَكِّرُونَ بِهَذَا فِي قُلُوبِكُمْ؟ مَا هُوَ الْأَسْهَلُ؟ أَنْ يُقَالَ لِلْمُخَلِّعِ: مَغْفُورَةٌ لَكَ خَطَايَاكَ؟ أَمْ أَنْ يُقَالَ: قُمْ وَاحْمِلْ فِرَاشَكَ وَامْشِ؟ وَلَكِي تَعْلَمُوا أَنَّ لِابْنِ الْإِنْسَانِ سُلْطَانًا أَنْ يَغْفِرَ الْخَطَايَا عَلَى الْأَرْضِ"، قَالَ لِلْمُخَلِّعِ: "لَكَ أَقُولُ: قُمْ، وَاحْمِلْ فِرَاشَكَ، وَاذْهَبْ إِلَى بَيْتِكَ!". فَقَامَ فِي الْحَالِ وَحَمَلَ فِرَاشَهُ، وَخَرَجَ أَمَامَ الْجَمِيعِ، حَتَّى ذَهَبُوا كُلُّهُمْ وَمَجَّدُوا اللَّهَ قَائِلِينَ: "مَا رَأَيْنَا مِثْلَ هَذَا الْبَيْتَةِ!".

مر ٢ : ١ - ١٢



قراءات الأحد القادم

أحد الأعمى

٢ قور ١٠ : ١ - ٧

مر ١٠ : ٤٦ - ٥٢

مِنَ النَّاسِ مَنْ تَكُونُ خَطَايَاهُمْ وَاضِحَةً قَبْلَ الْحُكْمِ فِيهَا، وَمِنْهُمْ مَنْ لَا تَكُونُ وَاضِحَةً إِلَّا بَعْدَهُ. كَذَلِكَ فَإِنَّ الْأَعْمَالَ الصَّالِحَةَ هِيَ أَيْضًا وَاضِحَةٌ، وَالَّتِي هِيَ غَيْرُ وَاضِحَةٍ فَلَا يُمَكِّنُ أَنْ تَبْقَى خَفِيَّةً. عَلَى جَمِيعِ الَّذِينَ تَحْتَ نِيرِ الْعُبُودِيَّةِ أَنْ يَحْسِبُوا أَسْيَادَهُمْ أَهْلًا لِكُلِّ كِرَامَةٍ، لِئَلَّا يُجَدِّفَ عَلَى اسْمِ اللَّهِ وَتَعْلِيمِهِ. أَمَّا الَّذِينَ لَهُمْ أَسْيَادٌ مُؤْمِنُونَ فَلَا يَسْتَهِينُوا بِهِمْ، لِأَنَّهُمْ إِخْوَةٌ، بَلْ بِالْآخَرَى فَلْيَخْدُمُوهُمْ، لِأَنَّ الْمُسْتَفِيدِينَ مِنْ خِدْمَتِهِمِ الطَّيِّبَةَ هُمْ مُؤْمِنُونَ وَأَحِبَّاءُ، ذَلِكَ مَا يَجِبُ أَنْ تُعَلِّمَهُ وَتُعْظِ بِهِ. فَإِنْ كَانَ أَحَدٌ يُعَلِّمُ تَعْلِيمًا مُخَالِفًا، وَلَا يَتَمَسَّكُ بِالْكَلَامِ الصَّحِيحِ، كَلَامَ رَبَّنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ، وَبِالتَّعْلِيمِ الْمُوَافِقِ لِلتَّقْوَى، فَهُوَ إِنْسَانٌ أَعْمَنَةُ الْكِبْرِيَاءِ، لَا يَفْهَمُ شَيْئًا، بَلْ مُصَابٌ بِمَرَضِ الْمُجَادَلَاتِ وَالْمَمَاحِكَاتِ، الَّتِي يَنْشَأُ عَنْهَا الْحَسَدُ وَالْخِصَامُ وَالتَّجْدِيفُ وَسُوءُ الظَّنِّ، وَالمُشَاجَرَاتُ بَيْنَ أَنَاسٍ فَاسِدِي الْعَقْلِ، زَائِفِينَ عَنِ الْحَقِّ، يَظُنُّونَ أَنَّ التَّقْوَى وَسِيلَةٌ لِلرَّيْحِ.

١ طم ٥ : ٢٤ - ٦ : ٥

من أقوالهم

الصوم سلاح أمام الشرير
"ثمين هو الصوم الطاهر أمام الله وهو محفوظ ككنز في السماء، الصوم سلاح أمام الشرير، وترس نقاتل به سهام العدو."

مار افرام السرياني

رتبة درب الصليب

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

٨:٠٠ مراحل درب الصليب وزياح الصليب (إنكليزي)

صلاة الأسبوع

نباركك أيها الأب، على كلمة ابنك التي حررت المُخَلِّعَ من مرضه وشفته من خطاياها، فسبحتك الجماهير على ذلك بدهشة. نشكرك أيها الابن على غفرانك الذي يضعه روحك فينا، وتوزعه كنيسةك علينا، قربانا نتقاسمه في هذا الصوم، ليشركنا فيما بعد بفتح قيامتك. لك الشكر دائما لأنك تحمل بشارة الخلاص إلى المساكين، وتدوای البشرية المتألّمة، وتشفي منكسري القلوب، وترد الخاطئين إلى نور معرفتك. جدد حياتنا، فنقوى على إذاعة محبتك والتقرب من الذين أقعدتهم الصعوبات فنخدمك بهؤلاء الإخوة الصغار، ونسبحك إلى ابد. آمين.

قَدَاسَاتُ 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. ط. في كنيسة سانت باتريك، غيلدفورد (عربي، إنكليزي)

قَدَاسَاتُ الْأَسْبُوعِ

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 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