



THE GOOD NEWS

FROM YOUR PARISH

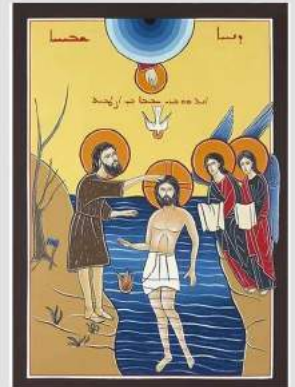


OUR LADY OF LEBANON CO-CATHEDRAL - HARRIS PARK

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

If you are renewed by grace, and were to meet your old self, I am sure you would be very anxious to get out of his company

Charles H Spurgeon



PRAYER

Like you renew the earth after fires set it ablaze, and like you bring life to flowers by sending down the rain, Lord, renew our hearts. In time may we learn that no matter how broken we may feel, you will always be there to put our pieces back together.

THE GOSPEL

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? 'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. 'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life'."

Jn 3 : 1-16

THE EPISTLE

Brothers and sisters, now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptised into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

Gal 3: 23-29

SUNDAY HOLY LITURGIES

LOL Co-Cathedral, Harris Park

8am (Arabic)
9:30am (English Family)
11am (Ar/Eng)
5pm (Ar/Eng)
7pm (English Youth)

WEEKDAY HOLY LITURGIES

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 of the month
from 9:30am - Sat 7:30am

CONTACT

Fr Tony Sarkis (Dean): 0433 211 248

Fr Youwakim Noujaim 0406 060 445

Fr Danny Nough 0477 008 787

Fr John-Paul Bassil 0401 545 454

Fr Youssef Matta 0427 922 092

Fr Yuhanna Azize 0435 764 824

Fr Bernard Assi 0411 811 807

Fr Pierre Khoury 0411 735 258

Fr Paul Joubelir 0414 900 016

Deacon Charbel Dib 0410 759 795

Deacon Robert - Pio Al Bayeh 0414 447 883

Subdeacon Ghassan Nakhoul 0410 524 335

Parish Office: 9689 2899

Opening Hours:

Monday to Friday 9am - 4.30pm

Saturday 9am - 1.00pm

Fax: 9689 2068

Email: info@lol.org.au

Website: www.lol.org.au

THE SERVANTS WORD

Dearest brothers and sisters in Christ;

This is the third Sunday in the Season of Epiphany. Today, the Church reflects on the revelation of the "mystery of Christ" to the Jewish people, represented by Nicodemus, the mystery of Christ "the Son of Man".

In his letter to the Galatians, Saint Paul reminds us that one of the effects of baptism is to eliminate discrimination between people so they are all "children of God through faith... heirs according to the promise." Therefore, we are all united in humanity through baptism that transcends race, gender and social status. On this blessed Sunday, we are called, brothers and sisters, to reflect on our humanity which has been transformed from a mere physical feature to a bright and pure image of the glory of Jesus Christ through the Sacrament of baptism. Hence we "are clothed in Christ" and "born anew" as children of God, free from the slavery of sin.

As sons and daughters of humanity, we unite our prayers, thoughts and deeds with our Australian people in the face of the dangers posed by fire. Our Christian humanity unites the whole of humanity, and is in union with it, regardless of the religion, race, colour, gender or social status of the 'other'. Once more, we stand in solidarity with the Australian Catholic Church in her campaign to help those who are affected by bushfires, through donations we are collecting at the entrances of the church. All that we have is from the generosity of the Lord on us, so do not withhold anything from others who are in much need of it, but instead participate in giving generously.



The Son of Man

On this occasion, we renew our thanks to the firefighters, volunteers, police and army, and we pray for them, especially for one of our brothers, the Maronite priest Father Rafael Abboud, chaplain of the Australian Air Force, who is now in south Victoria participating in the firefighting efforts and offering his assistance.

Today is Australia Day. On this occasion we pray to the Lord to protect Australia and grant it prosperity and security. We pray that Australia preserves the ethical and human values and principles, and for its doors to remain open to receive others on the basis of respect and human values. We also pray for our sons and daughters who are starting a new schooling and university year so their year may be blessed and crowned with pleasing the Lord and their success, for the good of humanity, the edification of the society and the glory of God.

Lord, you have created us in your image and likeness through an indescribable act of free love. You renewed these image and likeness through the Sacrament of Baptism that has taken us from the prison of sin to the brightness of the freedom of the children of God. Grant us to be worthy of the grace of humanity which Jesus Christ has purified through incarnation and liberated through redemption so our humanity becomes a beacon that speaks of your love and majesty all the time and everywhere; Amen.

Father Tony Sarkis

LIGHT FROM THE WORD

BORN OF THE SPIRIT

The Spirit is a difficult thing to capture or express. Yet we in baptism are 'born of the Spirit' (v8). We are people of light and wonder, free and alive.

In today's Gospel, Jesus sings the joys of being born of the Spirit, to Nicodemus. We are not simply people of flesh. We are not just people who focus on reason and the intellect. We are people, both body, mind and spirit. We have hidden potential, possibilities, freedom. 'The wind blows where it chooses' (v8) and so with people of the Spirit. We sense the needs, discern the changing patterns, embrace the call to go where we need be. It is a life open and ready to respond. To be born of the Spirit is to live with inspiration, a sense of faith, living fully in joy.

The wind imagery is a mixture of many things. It blows softly and it can blow hard. It twirls around the leaves in a dancing pattern but it can also lash out in destruction. The Spirit is a gentle and yet a wild thing. The Spirit in us moves us to act with kindness, playing with joy, dancing to the music of life. At the same time the Holy Spirit within us can unleash our power to oppose all that harms. It empowers us with an overwhelming sense of justice.

The Holy Spirit is what makes us alive. It guides us, inspires us, brings us to fullness of life. In our baptism we were gifted with this most awesome of gifts, the Holy Spirit of God. Let us therefore live as people of the Spirit. Amen

Sr Margaret Ghosn MSHF

TEENS CORNER

Welcome back everybody

I hope you've all had a blessed and joyful holidays.

This is our very first article for 2020 and I'm urging all our parents that have teenagers in years 7, 8 and 9 to mark the 1st of February in your calendars. It will be maronite flame teens registration day.

We begin from 4pm till 6pm, this will include registrations and some activities for the teens to meet each other and their new leaders....

We will then spend the rest of the year having more fun, more laughs and most importantly journeying together with your teens to heaven.

We also look forward to seeing parents there so that we may begin our teens year and journey together.

On behalf of our chaplain Fr Danny Nouh and all the leaders, I welcome you and your teens to become apart of our family. So that together we may always encounter Christ in everything we do and say.

God bless and see you then!



Joseph Khoury

MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP

Dearly beloved,

John the Evangelist relays to us some remarkable encounters and exchanges between Jesus and others such as with the Samaritan woman and the blind man. On this 3rd Sunday of the Season of the Epiphany, we read from the Gospel of St John about the encounter between Jesus and Nicodemus, a learned Jew.

Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews and an eminent doctor of Israel, learns from Jesus a truth that troubles him: neither his qualities, nor his knowledge, or any of his human abilities give him the right to the Kingdom of God. For just as one enters this world by natural birth, another birth is necessary to enter the family of God, a birth by water and spirit.

The Lord says "must" twice in his response to Nicodemus. One applies to man: "You must be born anew". The other, which is the terrible counterpart, concerns Jesus himself: "The Son of man must be lifted up ...". The elevation of Jesus Christ on the cross makes our salvation possible. By contemplating this sacrifice, we get to know God's love for the world, and for each one of us individually. The world will not be judged without first having been loved. The whole gospel is contained in this last verse (16): "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." This is a means of salvation for all our souls, which should never cease to amaze us.



This truth also reveals to us that we have our place at the heart of God: Father, Son and Spirit. The Holy Trinity is our family. We are the beloved sons and daughters of the Father through the Son, our Brother in the Spirit. Baptised in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, we are immersed in the Trinitarian life, in this communion of love which unites the three Divine Persons of God.

National Bushfire Appeal

On this Australia Day weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia is holding a bushfire appeal at all masses, with all funds to be donated to the Vinnies' Bushfire Appeal. I thank you for your generosity to all our appeals and for any contribution you can make to this cause.

Antoine-Charbel Tarabay

ARTICLE OF THE WEEK

PREPARING OURSELVES FOR THE GREAT LENT

With lent approaching we should be asking ourselves, what can I do more in my life to be closer to God. Consider giving to charity, volunteering, helping others, taking up more prayer, taking time to go to nature and pray. Lent is about reflecting on ourselves and choosing to improve our spiritual well-being and ourselves as Christians. Lent shouldn't be about depriving ourselves from food, and become drained and weak, but rather it is to help distance ourselves from gluttony and other sins. Saint John Chrysostom has a great homily on fasting, he speaks about how to approach this season. He likens fasting to medicine, through fasting we can heal our soul. He goes on to explain that our fasting should be shown through our works. "Are you fasting? Show me your fast with your works. Which works? If you see someone who is poor, show him mercy. If you see an enemy, reconcile with him. If you see a friend who is becoming successful, do not be jealous of him! If you see a beautiful woman on the street, pass her by."

While it is still important to think about fasting from food, it should not be the only focus during lent. In the Maronite tradition (and something I was lucky enough to experience since early as 10) we fast from meat and dairy. My dad would fast the whole 50 days from meat and dairy and until midday. He would encourage us as children to do this the first and last week and Wednesdays and Friday. It helped by allowing me to learn to abstain at a young age, to learn to say no to things I relied on every day, such as a favourite snack.



This lent, take the challenge as a family, encourage your children to fast even if it is for selected days depending on their age. Take up praying the rosary daily as a family in the evening instead of watching TV. Find a charity that interests you, volunteer your time or donate to their cause. Attend a weekday mass in addition to the usual Sunday mass. Speak to your children about loving one another, no matter what race, culture, religion, or beliefs that may divide us. This lent work on making yourself a better person.

Christina Maksisi

PARISH CAMERA



Father Rafael Abboud, chaplain of the Australian Air Force, participating in the firefighting efforts

MARONITECARE COMMUNITY & YOUTH CENTRE PLANNED GIVING TARGET

TARGET 2000
PARISHIONERS
\$5 ONLY A WEEK
133 PARISHIONERS
COMMITTED

Pledge forms for your monthly tax deductible donation made through Direct Debit or Credit Card payments are available at the Parish Office
For Enquiries, contact the Parish Office on 02 9689 2899

Our Lady of Lebanon Parish Loans CYPC \$4,044,618.45 UNITS \$1,354,892.01

COMMUNITY BUSINESS NETWORK PAGE

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Our Lady of Lebanon Co-Cathedral,
Lower Ground Level

FIVE LOAVES
C A F E

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Volunteers required to help throughout 2020 as car parking marshals / car park attendants

The main function of Parking Marshals is managing pedestrian safety and traffic flow inside the OLOL premises in accordance with the conditions of entry during special events and masses. No formal training or traffic controller accreditation is required for this role however a valid WWCC (Working With Children Check) is mandatory. If you are over the age of 18 and interested in helping or would like to know more, please contact George Harb on 0411 069 369 or gharb351@hotmail.com



Requiem Maronite Mass - 18 Feb at 12 pm
In Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed at the Sacred Heart Chapel, Rookwood Cemetery.



Please contact Sr Cynthia Abi Issa on 0458931463

To sing is to pray twice
Join our Choir

Fersan Registration

Fersan Registration will be on Saturday the 8th February 2020 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm - **Contact** Rita Tannous on 0466 755 838

Arabic School - Term 1

1. Saturday Arabic School (School age children)
 - a. Mondays: Monday February 3, 2020
Time: 4:30pm-6:30pm
Cost: \$100 per child per term
 - b. Saturdays: Saturday February 8, 2020
Time: 9:30am-12:30pm
Cost: \$75 per child per term

Note: Creative Kids Voucher is accepted.

2. Adult Arabic Classes
Mondays: Monday February 3, 2020
Time: 7:00pm-9:00pm
Cost: \$150 per student per term

For more information, contact the Parish Office on 0296892899

PARISH

NOTICE BOARD

Sunday 26 January: 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Masses 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am, 5:00pm and 7:00pm

5:00pm One Year Nahia Germanos Chawka widow of the late Albert Chawka from Deirbella

Monday 27 January

10:30am Funeral of Tony Louis Arida from Bkerkacha

Friday 31 January

6:00pm Ghosn Nassim Ghosn from Kfarhata – El Koura (died in Lebanon)

Saturday 1 February

6:00pm One Year George Akel Hassarati known as George George from Blouza

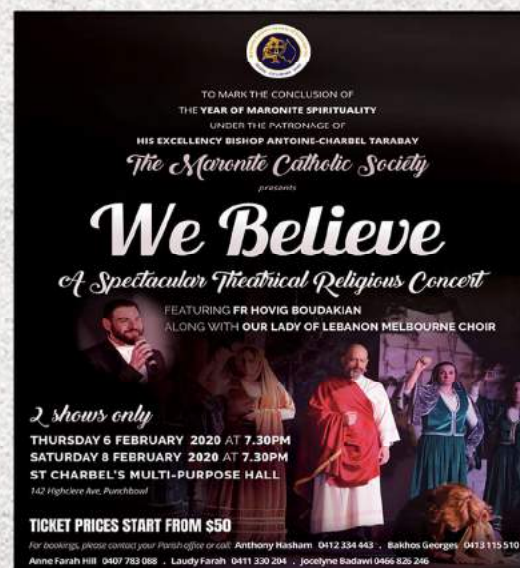
Sunday 2 February: Sunday of the Priests - Entrance of Our Lord into the Temple- Blessing of the Candles

Masses 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am, 5:00pm and 7:00pm

8:00am The living and departed of the members of Sodality

الأحد ٢٦ كانون الثاني: الأحد الثالث بعد الدنج
القداست ٨:٠٠، ٩:٣٠ و ١١:٠٠ صباحاً، ٥:٠٠ و ٧:٠٠ مساءً
٥:٠٠ الساعة للمرحومة ناهية جرمانوس شوكا أرملة المرحوم ألبير شوكا من ديربلا.
الاثنين ٢٧ كانون الثاني
١٠:٣٠ دفن المرحوم طوني لويس عريضة من بقرقاشا
الجمعة ٣١ كانون الثاني
٦:٠٠ المرحوم غصن نسيم غصن من كفرحاتا- الكورة (متوفي في لبنان)
السبت ١ شباط
٦:٠٠ الساعة للمرحوم جورج عقل حصاراتي المعروف بجورج جورج من بلوزا
الأحد ٢ شباط: أحد الكهنة - عيد دخول المسيح الى الهيكل مع رتبة تبريك الشموع
القداست ٨:٠٠، ٩:٣٠ و ١١:٠٠ صباحاً، ٥:٠٠ و ٧:٠٠ مساءً
٨:٠٠ قداس على نية أبناء الأخوية أحياء، أموات ومرضى

DIOCESAN NOTICES



TO MARK THE CONCLUSION OF THE YEAR OF MARONITE SPIRITUALITY UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF HIS EXCELLENCY BISHOP ANTOINE-CHARBEL TARABAY

The Maronite Catholic Society presents

We Believe
A Spectacular Theatrical Religious Concert

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2 shows only
THURSDAY 6 FEBRUARY 2020 AT 7.30PM
SATURDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2020 AT 7.30PM
ST CHARBEL'S MULTI-PURPOSE HALL
142 Highvale Ave, Puntallanna

TICKET PRICES START FROM \$50
For bookings, please contact your Parish Office or call: Anthony Hasham 0412 334 443, Rakhos Georges 0413 115 510, Anne Farah Hill 0407 783 088, Laudy Farah 0411 330 204, Jocelyne Badawi 0466 826 246

نساء من التاريخ: بنات صلفحاد الخمس

"بِالصَّوَابِ نَطَقْتَ بَنَاتِ صَلْفَحَادَ، فَأَعْطَيْتُ مَلِكًا مِيراثًا فِيما بَيْنَ أَعْمَامِهِنَّ، وَانْقَلَّ مِيراثُ أَبِيهِنَّ إِلَيْهِنَّ." (سفر العدد ٢٧ / ٧)

صلفحاد! من هو صلفحاد؟ وما هي قصة بناته الخمس؟

وُلِدَ ليعقوب ١٢ ابناً وابنة واحدة. ١٠ من أبناء يعقوب وهم: أشير، بنيامين، جاد، دان، رأوبين، زبولون، شمعون، نفتالي، يساكر ويهوذا يُضاف إليهم إبننا يوسف: أفرائيم ومنسى. عُرِفُوا بِأَسْبَاطِ إِسْرَائِيلِ الْإِثْنِي عَشَرَ. أَمَّا الرِّجَالُ مِنْ سِبْطِ لاوي فَكَانُوا كُلُّهُمْ كَهَنَةً لِلرَّبِّ. أَحَدُ الْأَسْبَاطِ الْإِثْنَا عَشَرَ أَلَا وَهُوَ مَنْسَى، وَلَدَ مَاكِيرَ، وَمَاكِيرَ وَلَدَ حَافَرَ وَحَافَرَ وَلَدَ صَلْفَحَادَ. صَلْفَحَادُ أَنْجَبَ مِنْ امْرَأَتِهِ خَمْسَ بَنَاتٍ وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ أَيْ ابْنٌ ذَكَرَ. بَعْدَ فِتْرَةٍ مِنَ الزَّمَنِ، مَاتَ صَلْفَحَادُ فِي الْبَرِّيَّةِ، فَتَقَدَّمتْ بَنَاتُهُ الْخَمْسُ: مَحَلَّةٌ وَنَوَّعَةٌ وَحُجَلَةٌ وَمَلِكَةٌ وَتَرْصَةُ. فَوَقَّفَنَ أَمَامَ مُوسَى وَالْعَازَارَ الْكَاهِنِ وَالرُّؤَسَاءِ وَسَائِرِ الْجَمَاعَةِ عِنْدَ بَابِ خِيَمَةِ الْمَوْعِدِ وَقُلْنَ لَهُمْ: "مَاتَ أَبُونَا فِي الْبَرِّيَّةِ، وَهُوَ لَمْ يَكُنْ فِي جُمْلَةِ الْجَمَاعَةِ الَّتِي اجْتَمَعَتْ عَلَى الرَّبِّ، أَيْ مِنْ جَمَاعَةِ قَوْحَ، لَكِنَّهُ بِخَطِيئَتِهِ مَاتَ، وَلَمَّا يَكُنْ لَهُ بَنُونَ . فَلِمَاذَا يُسْقَطُ اسْمُ أَبِينَا مِنْ بَيْنِ عَشِيرَتِهِ، لِأَنَّهُ لَيْسَ لَهُ ابْنٌ؟ فَأَعْطِنَا مَلَكًا فِيما بَيْنَ أَعْمَامِنَا".

كما كل إنسان، لا أحد خالذ على هذه الفانية. توفي الأب، فتقدّمت هذه العذارى الخمس إلى الرب! عرفت هذه العذارى الحكيمات في محنتهنّ وغيبونهنّ أن يتقدّمن نحو من له القدرة على فضّ المشكلة، وإعطاء الحلّ الفاصل الذي يفيض خيراً وبركة على جميع الأطراف. لم تذهب هذه العذارى لتحقيق حقهنّ من أيّ كان! بل عرفن أنّ الرب وحده قادر على حلّ كل العقد لخيرهنّ. فَرَفَعَ مُوسَى قَضِيَّتَهُنَّ إِلَى الرَّبِّ. وَهَذَا الرَّبُّ يَجِيبُ مُوسَى قَائِلاً: "بِالصَّوَابِ نَطَقْتَ بَنَاتِ صَلْفَحَادَ، فَأَعْطَيْتُ مَلِكًا مِيراثًا فِيما بَيْنَ أَعْمَامِهِنَّ، وَانْقَلَّ مِيراثُ أَبِيهِنَّ إِلَيْهِنَّ".

هَذَا مَحَلَّةٌ وَنَوَّعَةٌ وَحُجَلَةٌ وَمَلِكَةٌ وَتَرْصَةُ، يَعْلَمُنَا الْيَوْمَ، بِأَنَّهُ لَا شَيْءَ فِي مَا يَتَعَلَّقُ بِشَعْبِ اللَّهِ يُقَرَّرُ بِوَسْطَةِ الْحِكْمَةِ الْإِنْسَانِيَّةِ، كُلُّ قَضِيَّةٍ أَوْ مُشْكَلَةٍ لَا بَدَّ وَأَنْ تَقْدُمَ أَمَامَ اللَّهِ، وَهُوَ وَحْدَهُ يَعْطِي الْحِكْمَةَ، وَيَعْطِي كُلَّ وَاحِدٍ عَلَى حَسَبِ حَاجَتِهِ وَمَا فِيهِ خَيْرُهُ الْأَعْظَمُ. فَلْنَتَعَلَّمْ أَلَّا نَسْكُتَ عَنْ حَقِّنَا، سَاعِينَ دَائِماً أَبَداً لِتَحْصِيلِهِ بِمَعُونَةِ اللَّهِ، لَا بِاللَّجْوَةِ إِلَى أَنْاسٍ نُوَلِّهِمْ فِي زَمَنِنَا الْحَاضِرِ... بِذَلِكَ نَكُونُ عَلَى مِثَالِ هَذِهِ الْعَذَارَى الْحَكِيمَاتِ اللَّوَاتِي أَضْأَنَ مَصَابِيحَهُنَّ بِزَيْتِ الْإِيمَانِ وَالثِّقَةِ وَالْإِتْكَالِ وَالْقَسْلِيمِ وَالطَّاعَةِ لِمَشِيئَةِ اللَّهِ الَّذِي بِهِ يَلِيقُ كُلُّ مَجْدٍ وَإِكْرَامٍ أَبَدَ الدَّهُورِ. آمِينَ.

الأخت سينتيا ابي عيسى

حياتي صلاة

مَنْ أَنْتِ أَيُّهَا النُّورُ الْعَذْبُ الَّذِي يَمْلَأُنِي وَيُنِيرُ ظِلْمَاتِ قَلْبِي؟ أَنْتِ تَقْوِدُنِي كَيْدَ أَمْ حَنُونَةٍ، وَإِنْ تَرَكْتَنِي، لَعَجَزْتُ عَنْ التَّقَدُّمِ خُطْوَةً وَاحِدَةً. أَنْتِ الْفَضَاءُ الَّذِي يَحْتَضِنُ كِيَانِي وَيَأْوِيهِ فِيكَ أَنْتِ. إِنْ تَرَكْتَنِي، لَغْرَقَ كِيَانِي فِي الْعَدَمِ مِنْ حَيْثُ انْتَشَلْتَهُ لِتَرْفَعَهُ إِلَى النُّورِ. أَنْتِ، يَا مَنْ هُوَ أَقْرَبُ إِلَيَّ أَكْثَرَ مِمَّا أَنَا قَرِيبٌ مِنْ ذَاتِي وَأَكْثَرُ حَمِيمَةٍ بِالنِّسْبَةِ إِلَيَّ مِمَّا هِيَ أَعْمَاقُ نَفْسِي، رَغْمَ كَوْنِكَ فَوْقَ كُلِّ إدْرَاكِ وَوَصْفٍ، أَيُّهَا الرُّوحُ الْقُدُسُ، الْحَبُّ الْأَبَدِي!

أَلَسْتُ أَنْتِ الْمَنْ السَّمَاوِي الَّذِي يَسْكُبُ، مِنْ قَلْبِ الْإِبْنِ، فِي قَلْبِي غِذَاءَ الْمَلَائِكَةِ وَالطُّوبَاوِيِّينَ؟ هُوَ مَنْ غَلَبَ الْمَوْتَ وَارْتَفَعَ إِلَى الْحَيَاةِ مَوْقُظاً إِيَّايَ أَنَا أَيْضاً مِنْ مَوْتِي إِلَى حَيَاةٍ جَدِيدَةٍ. وَهِيَ هِيَ يَسْتَمِرُّ بِإِعْطَائِي يَوْمًا بَعْدَ يَوْمٍ حَيَاةً جَدِيدَةً، وَيَوْمًا مَا سَوْفَ يَغْمُرُنِي كَمَالُهَا. حَيَاةٌ وَلَدَتْ مِنْكَ، مِنْ حَيَاتِكَ، أَيُّهَا الرُّوحُ الْقُدُسُ، الْحَيَاةُ الْأَبَدِيَّةُ! الْقَدِيسَةُ تِيرِيزِيَا - بِنِيدِيكْتِ الصَّلِيبِ

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

(A) All the departed souls, All the lost souls, All the faithful departed, All the souls in Purgatory, All souls who have no one to pray for them (B) Milia Bou Raidan, Elias Bechara, Antoun Bechara, Maroun & Dibeh & Elias & Ramza & Fadwa Boumelhem, Father Hanna Boumelhem (C) (D) (E) Matthew Essey (F) Ibrahim Hanna Fakhry & Family, Rosa Ibrahim Fakhry & Family (G) Colleen Madeline George, Helen George & Majid George, Izzat Gerger (H) Anis Jamil Haddad, Madeleine & Paul Haddad & Son Joseph, Maurice & Martha Jamil Haddad (I) (J) (K) Tanios Elias Kazzi & Family, Mary Antoun Kabboura, Youssef Kabboura, Hanneh & Mary Kabboura, Sarkis Chucir Khoudair (L) (M) Boutros & Johra Moussa and their daughter Malki, Youssef & Ghassoun Maroon, Therese Melhem, Anthony Moses & the departed of the Moses Family, Bechara Boutros Moussa - Robert Bechara Moussa (N) (O) (P) (Q) (R) Jamil & Labibe Roumanus (S) Youssef Mikhael Shaheen, Boutros and his son Kenny Sassine, Nabih Saad & Family, Rahib Saad & Family (T) Rizk, Tanna and Saba Families and Tony Tannous (U) (V) (W) Adele Wehbe (X) (Y) (Z) Sarkis Frangi



إنه الأحد الثالث من زمن الدنح، فيه تتأمل الكنيسة في اعتلان "سَرّ المسيح" للشعب اليهودي الممثل بنيقوديموس؛ سَرّ المسيح "ابن الإنسان". في رسالته إلى أهل غلاطية، يذكرنا القديس بولس بأن واحداً من مفاعيل المعمودية هو إزالة التفرقة بين الناس بحيث يعودون جميعاً "أبناءً لله بالإيمان... وارثين بحسب الوعد". هكذا نكون جميعاً موحدّين في الإنسانية بواسطة المعمودية التي تسمو على العرق والجنس والوضع الاجتماعي.

نحن مدعوون إخوتي لتأمل في هذا الأحد المبارك بإنسانيتنا التي تحوّلت من مجرد ميزة جسدية إلى صورة بهيّة ونقيّة لمجد يسوع المسيح بواسطة سَرّ المعمودية، بحيث "تلبس المسيح" و"تولد من جديد" أبناءً لله، أحراراً من عبودية الخطيئة. ولأننا نحن أبناء الإنسانية وبناتها، فإن صلواتنا وأفكارنا وأعمالنا نوحّدها مع شعبنا الأسترالي في مواجهة خطر الحرائق. إنسانيتنا المسيحية توحد الإنسانية بأسرها وتتحد بها أيّاً كان دين الآخر أو عرقه أو لونه أو جنسه أو وضعه الاجتماعي. هكذا نتضامن مرة أخرى مع الكنيسة الكاثوليكية الأسترالية في حملة المساعدة التي تقوم بها، لنمدّ يد العون إلى المتضررين من الحرائق من خلال جمع تبرعات على مدخل الكنيسة. كلّ ما لنا هو من كرم الرب علينا، فلا تبخلوا بشيء منه على الآخرين الذين هم بأمس الحاجة إليه، بل شاركوا في العطاء بسخاء.

وبهذه المناسبة، نجدّد شكرنا وصلواتنا لعناصر الإطفاء والمتطوعين والشرطة والجيش، ونخصّ منهم أحد إخوتنا الكهنة الموارنة الذي يخدم كمرشد في سلاح الجوي الأسترالي، الخوري رفايل عبود، الموجود حالياً في جنوب ولاية فكتوريا حيث يشارك في إخماد الحرائق ومدّ يد العون.

نصلي أيضاً في عيد أستراليا الوطني اليوم لكي يحفظ الرب الإله هذه البلاد ويعطيها الازدهار والأمان، ولتحافظ على القيم والمبادئ الأخلاقية والإنسانية، ولكي تظلّ أبوابها مفتوحة لاستقبال الجميع على مبدأ الاحترام والقيم الإنسانية.

ونصلي أيضاً لأبنائنا وبناتنا الذين يبدأون سنة دراسية ومدرسية وجامعية جديدة لكي تكون سنة مباركة تتكلل برضى الرب ونجاح الإنسان، لما فيه خير الإنسان وبناء المجتمع وتمجيد الله. يا ربّ، يا من خلقتنا على صورتك ومثالك بفعل حبّ مجاني لا يوصف، وعدت فجّدت فينا هذه الصورة وهذا المثال بواسطة سَرّ المعمودية الذي ينتشلنا من سجن الخطيئة إلى سطوع حرّة أبناء الله، هبنا أن نكون أهلاً لنعمة الإنسانية التي نقاها يسوع المسيح بالتجسّد وحزرها بالفداء، فتُضحّي إنسانيتنا نبراساً يخبر عن حبّك وجلالك في كلّ أوّان ومكان؛ آمين

الخوري طوني سركيس



ابن الإنسان

السلام الداخلي

طلب من اثنين من الرسامين الذين اشتهروا ببروعة فهم ان يرسم كل منهما لوحة تعبر عن السلام , فرسم الاول لوحة رائعة حقا ابدع فيها ... فرسم بحيرة ذات مياة ساكنة هادئة تماما وتحيط بها الاشجار الخضراء وعليها العصافير فى منظر غاية الروعة

فى الجمال وعلى بعض الاجناب ترى قطيع من الخراف ترعى فى هدوء مع راعيها فكان كل شئ ينطق بالسلام ما اجملها لوحة . اما الفنان الثانى فقد رسم لوحة على غير المتوقع !! وكأنه لم يكن يعرف الموضوع الذى طلب منه ان يرسم عنه !! لقد رسم بحرا هائجا تعلقو فيه الامواج وتتلاطم .. والجو المحيط داكن والسماء ملبدة بالغيوم .. ماذا فى هذه اللوحة من سلام ؟؟ تمهل صديقى .لقد كانت حقا معبرة عن سلام الله .. ففى وسط كل هذا ترى صخرة عاتية تقف فى شموخ ورسوخ وبداخل احد شقوقها ترى عصفورا هادئا تماما وكأنه لا يبالي بما يحيط به من امواج وعواصف .. لقد كان ممثلا بالسلام العجيب بالرغم من الجو الخارجى المخيف.

القديس خروماتIOS

تأمل في الإنجيل

من أجمل الأناجيل ليوحنا هذا النصّ الذي يظهر نيقوديمس، هذا العالم بالتوراة، يأتي إلى يسوع ليلاً خوفاً من اليهود ليسأله عن الولادة الثانية وعن الملكوت. ما هو الملكوت؟ أهو مكان نذهب إليه؟ أهو شعور نشعر به لبضع ثوان؟ أهى كلمات ننطق بها؟ كان نيقوديمس يشعر بشيءٍ ما يُحرّك قلبه وعقله وأحشائه، لكنه لم يستطع أن يميّز. أراد أن يعرف أين هو هذا الملكوت ولذلك ذهب إلى المسيح سراً. يعجبني قولّ للأسقف جورج خضر يقول فيه: "إنّ الملكوت ليس مساحاتٍ خضراء جميلة، بل هو وجه!" يسوع بشخصه هو ملكوت الله. في كلّ مرّة نعكس وجه المسيح في حياتنا، مع مَنْ نلتقي بهم في العمل، المدرسة، نعيش الملكوت ويصبح فيما بيننا.





الخبر السّار من رعيّتك



الأحد الثالث بعد الدنح

صلّوا! وإن بدت الأمور أكثر سوداوية فصلّوا أكثر!

البابا فرنسيس

كاتدرائية سيدة لبنان - هاريس بارك

الإنجيل

الرسالة



صلاة

أيها الإبن السماوي، نشكر على الفداء الذي منحتنا إياه فأضحى ممكناً لنا أن نولد من جديد من رحم محبة الأب بنعمة الرّوح القدس فننمّر أعمالاً صالحة تليق بإسمك القدّوس الذي نحمله يا مَنْ يليق بك كلّ إكرام مع أبيك وروحك الحيّ القدّوس، إلى الأبد، آمين.

يا إخوتي، قَبْلَ أَنْ يَأْتِيَ الْإِيمَانُ، كُنَّا مُحْتَجِزِينَ مَحْبُوسِينَ تَحْتَ الشَّرِيعَةِ، إِلَى أَنْ يُعْلَنَ الْإِيمَانُ الْمُنتَظَرُ. إِذَا فَالشَّرِيعَةُ كَانَتْ لَنَا مُؤَدِّبًا يُقَوِّدُنَا إِلَى الْمَسِيحِ، لِكَيْ نُثَبِّرَ بِالْإِيمَانِ. فَلَمَّا أَتَى الْإِيمَانُ، لَمْ نَعُدْ تَحْتَ مُؤَدِّبٍ. لَأَنَّكُمْ جَمِيعًا أَبْنَاءَ اللَّهِ بِالْإِيمَانِ، فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ. فَأَنْتُمْ جَمِيعَ الَّذِينَ اعْتَمَدْتُمْ فِي الْمَسِيحِ قَدْ لَبِسْتُمْ الْمَسِيحَ. فَلَا يَهُودِيٌّ بَعْدَ وَلَا يُونَانِيٌّ، لَا عَبْدٌ وَلَا حُرٌّ، لَا ذَكَرٌ وَلَا أُنْثَى، فَإِنَّكُمْ جَمِيعًا وَاحِدٌ فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ. فَإِنْ كُنْتُمْ لِلْمَسِيحِ، فَأَنْتُمْ إِذَا نَسَلُ إِبْرَاهِيمَ، وَوَارِثُونَ بِحَسَبِ الْوَعْدِ.

غل ٢:٢٣-٢٩

قال يوحنا الرسول: كَانَ إِنْسَانٌ مِنَ الْفَرِيسِيِّينَ اسْمُهُ نِيقُودِيمُوسُ، رَئِيسٌ لِلْيَهُودِ. هَذَا جَاءَ لَيْلًا إِلَى يَسُوعَ وَقَالَ لَهُ: "رَبِّي، نَحْنُ نَعْلَمُ أَنَّكَ جِئْتَ مِنَ اللَّهِ مُعَلِّمًا، لِأَنَّهُ لَا أَحَدٌ يَقْدِرُ أَنْ يَصْنَعَ الْآيَاتِ الَّتِي أَنْتَ تَصْنَعُهَا مَا لَمْ يَكُنِ اللَّهُ مَعَهُ". أَجَابَ يَسُوعَ وَقَالَ لَهُ: "الْحَقُّ الْحَقُّ أَقُولُ لَكَ: لَا أَحَدٌ يَقْدِرُ أَنْ يَرَى مَلَكُوتَ اللَّهِ مَا لَمْ يُولَدْ مِنْ جَدِيدٍ". قَالَ لَهُ نِيقُودِيمُوسُ: "كَيْفَ يَقْدِرُ إِنْسَانٌ أَنْ يُولَدْ وَهُوَ كَبِيرٌ فِي السِّنِّ؟ هَلْ يَقْدِرُ أَنْ يَدْخُلَ ثَانِيَةً حَشًا أُمًّا، وَيُولَدَ؟". أَجَابَ يَسُوعَ: "الْحَقُّ الْحَقُّ أَقُولُ لَكَ، لَا أَحَدٌ يَقْدِرُ أَنْ يَدْخُلَ مَلَكُوتَ اللَّهِ مَا لَمْ يُولَدْ مِنَ الْمَاءِ وَالرُّوحِ. مَوْلُودُ الْجَسَدِ جَسَدٌ، وَمَوْلُودُ الرُّوحِ رُوحٌ. لَا تَعْجَبْ إِنْ قُلْتُ لَكَ: عَلَيْكُمْ أَنْ تُولَدُوا مِنْ جَدِيدٍ. الرِّيحُ تَهْبُ حَيْثُ تَشَاءُ، وَأَنْتَ تَسْمَعُ صَوْتَهَا، لَكِنَّكَ لَا تَعْلَمُ مِنْ أَيْنَ تَأْتِي وَلَا إِلَى أَيْنَ تَمْضِي: هَكَذَا كُلُّ مَوْلُودٍ مِنَ الرُّوحِ". أَجَابَ نِيقُودِيمُوسُ وَقَالَ لَهُ: "كَيْفَ يُمَكِّنُ أَنْ يَصِيرَ هَذَا؟". أَجَابَ يَسُوعَ وَقَالَ لَهُ: "أَنْتَ مُعَلِّمُ إِسْرَائِيلَ وَتَجْهَلُ هَذَا؟ الْحَقُّ الْحَقُّ أَقُولُ لَكَ: نَحْنُ نَنْطَلِقُ بِمَا نَعْلَمُ، وَتَشْهَدُ بِمَا زَانِنًا، وَأَنْتُمْ لَا تَقْبَلُونَ شَهَادَتَنَا. كَلَّمْتُكُمْ فِي شُؤْنِ الْأَرْضِ وَلَا تُؤْمِنُونَ، فَكَيْفَ تُؤْمِنُونَ إِذَا كَلَّمْتُكُمْ فِي شُؤْنِ السَّمَاءِ؟ مَا مِنْ أَحَدٍ صَعَدَ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ، إِلَّا الَّذِي تَزَلَّ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ، أَيْ ابْنُ الْإِنْسَانِ. وَكَمَا رَفَعَ مُوسَى الْحَيَّةَ فِي الْبَرِّيَّةِ، كَذَلِكَ يَجِبُ أَنْ يُرْفَعَ ابْنُ الْإِنْسَانِ، لِكَيْ تَكُونَ لِكُلِّ مُؤْمِنٍ بِهِ حَيَاةً أَبَدِيَّةً. هَكَذَا أَحَبَّ اللَّهُ الْعَالَمَ، حَتَّى إِنَّهُ جَادَ بَابْنِهِ الْوَحِيدِ، لِكَيْ لَا يَهْلِكَ أَيُّ مُؤْمِنٍ بِهِ، بَلْ تَكُونَ لَهُ حَيَاةٌ أَبَدِيَّةً.

يو ١:١٦-١٧

قَدَاسَاتُ يَوْمِ الْأَحَدِ

كاتدرائية سيدة لبنان - هاريس بارك ٨:٠٠ (عربي) ٩:٣٠ (إنكليزي) ١١:٠٠ (عربي، إنكليزي) ٥:٠٠ (عربي، إنكليزي) ٧:٠٠ (إنكليزي)

قَدَاسَاتُ الْأَسْبُوعِ

الاثنين - الجمعة ٧:٠٠، ٨:٤٥ صباحاً و ٦:٠٠ مساءً، الأربعاء ٧:٠٠، ٨:٤٥ صباحاً و ٥:٣٠، ٧:٠٠ مساءً (إنكليزي) السبت ٧:٣٠ صباحاً و ٦:٠٠ مساءً

الاعترافات

مؤمّنة قبل وخلال قداس السبت الساعة ٦:٠٠ مساءً وقَدَاسَاتُ الْأَحَدِ أو بتحديد موعد خلال أيام الأسبوع

ساعات السجود

ساعة سجود: كل يوم خميس ٨:٠٠ - ٩:٠٠ مساءً ٢٤ ساعة سجود أمام القربان: كل أول جمعة من الشهر من ٩:٣٠ صباحاً لغاية السبت ٧:٣٠ صباحاً