



THE GOOD NEWS

FROM YOUR PARISH



OUR LADY OF LEBANON CO-CATHEDRAL - HARRIS PARK

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE GLORIOUS CROSS

Even in the midst of so much suffering I am happy because it seems as if my heart is beating with Jesus' heart.

St Padre Pio



PRAYER

Dear Lord,
Please heal me of whatever might separate me from You. I know when You lay Your hands gently upon me, I will be restored. Amen.

THE GOSPEL

As Jesus came out of the temple and was going away, his disciples came to point out to him the buildings of the temple. Then he asked them, "You see all these, do you not? Truly I tell you, not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down." When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?" Jesus answered them, "Beware that no one leads you astray. For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am the Messiah!' and they will lead many astray. And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars; see that you are not alarmed; for this must take place, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places: all this is but the beginning of the birth pangs. "Then they will hand you over to be tortured and will put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of my name. Then many will fall away, and they will betray one another and hate one another. And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. And because of the increase of lawlessness, the love of many will grow cold. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. And this good news of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the world, as a testimony to all the nations; and then the end will come.

Mt 24: 1-14

THE EPISTLE

Brothers and sisters, if for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. For "God has put all things in subjection under his feet." When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the one who put all things in subjection under him, so that God may be all in all. If the dead are not raised, "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die." Do not be deceived: "Bad company ruins good morals." Come to a sober and right mind, and sin no more; for some people have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame.

1Cor 15: 19-34

SUNDAY HOLY LITURGIES

OLOL Co-Cathedral, Harris Park

8am (Arabic)
9:30am (English)
11am (Ar/Eng)
5pm (Ar/Eng)
7pm (English)
Live Streaming Through Social Media

WEEKDAY HOLY LITURGIES

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri
7am, 9am & 6pm

Wed 7am, 9am & 5:30pm (Arabic)
7pm (English Youth)
Sat 7:30am & 6pm (Ar/Eng)

CONFESSIONS
By appointment
on weekdays

WEEKDAY DEVOTIONS

Rosary:
Mon - Sat
8:30am (Arabic)
7pm (English)
Divine Mercy followed by Rosary
Fri 7:30 pm
Adoration Hour:
Thursdays 8 pm - 9 pm
24 Hour Adoration: Friday 2nd
October 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 Joubel 0414 900 016
Deacon Charbel Dib 0410 759 795
Deacon Robert - Pio Al Bayeh 0414 447 883
Subdeacon Ghassan Nakhouli 0410 524 335

Parish Office: 9689 2899
Opening Hours:
Monday to Friday 9am - 4.30 pm
Saturday 9am - 1 pm

Fax: 9689 2068
Email: info@olol.org.au
Website: www.olol.org.au

THE SERVANTS WORD

The parish is a heart beating with the love of the Lord

Dearest brothers and sisters in Christ;

On the second Sunday after the Feast of the Glorious Cross, we continue the journey of the cross and find ourselves reflecting on a very strongly worded text of the Gospel whereby Jesus declares that not a single stone of the temple will be left on another stone. We have never experienced Jesus like this before. Why do his words sound so harsh? We all know that it is not in Jesus' nature to harm or destroy! And why the Temple specifically?

The Temple was the pride of the Jewish people and their joy. They were boasting about its stones and enormity instead of its spiritual meaning or for being a place of peace as the abode of God. With Jesus, things are different! The temple is no longer made of stone but has rather become a heart that pumps out love, peace and forgiveness. Jesus is asking us to have a living temple instead of a temple of stone. The temple of stone is no longer the ultimate goal of God to dwell among us. It is no longer the place that gathers and unites humanity. Jesus has transformed it into a living place, a home, in which He lives to be an eternal living sacrifice offered for the sake of humanity so it returns to the harbour of salvation. Hence it becomes the place where God dwells and through which His might, greatness and richness are reflected.

With the Lord Jesus, the temple has also become a parish, a faithful congregation that gathers and pray together. This congregation is called to be the voice of the Lord that is crying out in the wilderness of this world, the voice of the Lord that is calling everyone to His home. It is Him who says, "let the little children come to me, and do not stop them" (Luke 18:16). In other words, the Lord is saying to us "let the innocence of the spirit and body, spontaneity of movement and high-spirited confidence come to me and to my home."

Brothers and sisters, sons and daughters; this is a direct call from the Lord to each one of you so that you always strive to preserve your parish. Thus, you will be keeping the Lord among us. The parish is always ready for everyone. The parish is in a perpetual readiness to be the light in the midst of darkness, a crossing bridge to life, hope, security, comfort and peace, despite all the contradictions surrounding it and all the challenges that it is facing.

I thank God always for all His gifts, especially the gift of encountering Him and gathering around each other. Our encounter with the Lord is essential in our spiritual life as it is its nourishment, just as water and food are the nourishment of the body. To encourage each other to have our encounter with the Lord, the gates of the cathedral will be open to receive you all everyday of the week, whether for personal prayer or reflection. This way, we come to Him spontaneously, as He has asked us to do, carrying to Him our hardships, suffering and difficulties, as well as our aspirations and joy, meeting Him with hope and love, since we are all one flock for one shepherd, our Lord Jesus Christ. Just remember that it is necessary to abide by all the preventative instructions and health directives when you visit the church for your own safety and for the safety of others. All the previous pastoral measures are still in place and remain valid, especially in regard to numbers and place reservation for the masses.

We are all required to exert effort on the spiritual level and cooperate with each other. Most importantly, we need to preserve the purpose of our lives, that is to encounter the Master of Hope our Lord Jesus Christ, in His own home, our parish.

The Lord gathers us always! Our Lady receives us always!

Father Tony Sarkis

TROUBLES

This Sunday's Gospel depicts calamities, terror, trouble, wars, famine, earthquakes, torture and lawlessness. It is a dark image but one that can be overcome.

There will always be troubles that will plague our world. Today's Gospel gives us an opportunity to consider the current circumstances we are faced with. We have Covid-19 that is ravishing populations across the globe and as a result we see many businesses collapsing, unemployment on the rise, a global recession, people living in crime, or with poverty, fear, hunger and desperation. It is a troubled world and the wicked seem to prosper while the good wither away.

So how do we explain and face the difficulties of our time? We can take many different approaches in our dire circumstances but the Gospel reminds us, 'But the one who endures to the end will be saved' (v13). We need to trust in God's goodness despite what seems to be ever growing, overwhelming and impossible odds. God is present with us, even though we may not feel it.

It is of no value to anyone when we start equating disasters with God's punishment. God did not send Covid-19 to teach us a lesson because we had swayed far from Christ. If that was true it would make God one who is vindictive and angry.

The difficult times we find ourselves in just happen and they may challenge us. Yet it is also a time for us to stop and consider much more deeply how we are living our lives and how we can better manage our situations, trusting in God's care, grace and love. Amen

Sr Margaret Ghoshn MSHF

SACRIFICE IS EXCHANGE



There might be some natural virtues without a Cross, but there would never be a growth virtue without it. Cross-bearing, He then explained, was based on exchange.

Exchange implies something that one can get along without, and something one cannot get along without. A man can get along without a dime, but he cannot get along without the bread which the dime will buy; so he exchanges one for the other. Sacrifice does not mean "giving-up" something, as if there were a loss; rather it is an exchange: an exchange of lower values for higher joys. But nothing in all the world is worth a soul.

-Ven. Fulton Sheen "Life of Christ" pp. 226

MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP



Dear Brothers and Sisters,
In a few days, I will be travelling to Lebanon to partake in the Annual Spiritual Retreat and Synod of Maronite Bishops called for by His Eminence and Beatitude Mar Bechara Boutros Cardinal Rai. The visit will also be an opportunity for me to receive an update about the situation in Beirut and all of Lebanon from the various charities we are supporting through your generous donations and contributions. I am grateful to our Maronite community in Australia and our friends from other communities who have donated and continue to generously donate to the people of Lebanon. As you are aware, our Lebanese brothers and sisters have been tragically affected by the horrific explosion at the port of Beirut on the 4th of August, and a severe political, social and economic crisis, in addition to the worldwide pandemic. Lebanon is now facing its worst economic situation in three decades, with soaring unemployment and cost of living, resulting in devastation to the lives of many. I now provide you with an update of the initiatives undertaken in our Eparchy and associated charities for Lebanon over the last 10 months.

Lebanon Christmas Appeal - In December last year, we launched the Lebanon Christmas Appeal in a collaboration with Maronites on Mission Australia, Our Lady of Lebanon Heaven on Earth, and the Maronite Catholic Society. This appeal raised approximately \$123,000, used to distribute much needed 2755 food hampers to families throughout many villages in Lebanon. A direct cash donation of \$20,000 was also made to Caritas Lebanon to assist in the work they are doing, and in May, a bulk food donation of over \$7,000 was made to the Psychiatric Hospital of the Cross, the mental health institution run by the Sisters of the Cross. This appeal has closed and all the funds raised were donated or used to purchase food hampers.

Lebanon Wheat Appeal - In June of this year, our Eparchy together with Maronites on Mission Australia and the Maronite Council launched the campaign Lebanon Wheat Appeal, aiming to send free grain to farmers in diverse regions of Lebanon to be cultivated in the sowing season. The campaign has thus far raised \$102,000 enabling us to purchase and, with the assistance of the Maronite Church in Lebanon, distribute 213 tonnes of wheat to many regions and villages of Lebanon. The distribution of the grain started in September and farmers will be sowing it in the month of October.

FAMILY CORNER

Restarting Our Activities – More than Just About Faith

After what seems like an eternity, it was great to restart one of the Family Committee's regular activities; the Women's Faith Formation. The challenges that everyone is experiencing this year was clearly visible as all participants couldn't help but express their gratitude as they finally were experiencing some level of normality; despite social distancing and COVID safe practices being observed throughout the session. Furthermore, common amongst the attendees was their feeling that they had unknowingly found themselves drifting away as the distractions and restrictions of this COVID affected world began to weigh upon them. So they couldn't be happier to have these sessions restart and to help get them back on track. The session itself covered two topics. The first being the 5th commandment, "Thou shall not kill", and the second was "Who am I to judge. The two sides of judging."

We hope and pray that we get the opportunity to continue with these events and again thank the Church leadership for ensuring we have a safe environment for us to practice and share the faith. We now look forward to the return of the Men's Faith Formation sessions, which will kick-off this Monday at 7.30. If interested in attending, please contact Joe Ayoub on 0411752993.

Family Committee

Lebanon Flour Appeal
Following the explosion at the port of Beirut, and even whilst in the midst of a stage 4 COVID-19 lockdown, the community of

Our Lady of Lebanon in Melbourne did not forget our brothers and sisters in Lebanon. The parish raised enough money to send 140 tonnes of flour to Caritas Lebanon to aid with the shortage of flour due to the damage of the wheat silos in Beirut. Thank you to our Maronite community in Victoria!

Medical Aid to Lebanon - In August 2020, Our Lady of Lebanon Heaven on Earth received a list of urgent medical needs from Caritas Lebanon for the sick people in their care. Within a couple of weeks, the first lot of medications, valued at around \$28,000, was sent via air freight to Lebanon. And a second shipment, with medications valued at around \$35,000, is also being prepared to be sent by the end of September.

Beirut Disaster Relief Appeal - On the next day following the explosion in Beirut, our Eparchy and Maronites on Mission Australia launched the Beirut Disaster Relief Appeal. To date, the appeal has raised just over \$495,000, with \$215,000 being allocated to home restoration projects in collaboration with Solidarity Lebanon, and a further \$90,000 going to the teams of Maronites on Mission in Lebanon who are also working on fixing damaged homes and businesses. 1000 mattresses for displaced people were purchased and distributed to our Lebanese brothers and sisters sleeping on concrete floors. Further, we provided financial donations to Philokalia and other medical and charitable organisations in Lebanon who were in need of urgent assistance. These purchases and donations come to a total of approximately \$107,000. A detailed report about this appeal will be made available when all the funds are allocated. You can continue to contribute to this cause by visiting maronitesonmission.com.

Containers of Aid to Lebanon - In collaboration with Maronites on Mission Australia and Heaven on Earth, the Eparchy called for a collection of essential items to be shipped to Lebanon. The response was overwhelming and the generosity of our community has exceeded all our expectations, filling 3 large shipping containers.

With the support of the Diocesan Faith and Light Committee, we will be adding a fourth container to the shipment including essential equipment for people with special needs, such as specialist beds and wheelchairs. We especially thank Maersk Shipping for the donation of the containers and their shipping to Lebanon.

Donations to the Eparchy - In addition to all the appeals, many generous donations were sent directly to the Maronite Eparchy following the disaster in Beirut, totalling approximately \$90,000. After consultation with the College of Consultors, it was decided to allocate these funds to support the World Patriarchal Foundation for Integral Development in its campaign 'Sawa La Teb'a Beirut'. The campaign aims to repair 200 homes and 17 businesses on Pharaon Street in the Mar Mikhael district, as well as provide financial aid to the families displaced in the area.

I thank you, once again, for your generous donations to our Eparchy's appeals and charitable causes. I also especially thank the many volunteers including our youth and families within the Maronite community who have spent endless hours and effort to make these charitable appeals a success. I join with you in praying for our beloved Lebanon and our Lebanese brothers and sisters that their suffering comes to an end soon. I also ask you to pray for the Maronite Synod of Bishops who will be meeting in the month of October, asking the Lord to inspire the shepherds of the Maronite Church at this challenging and difficult time to guide the church and work for the service of the people of Lebanon.

Antoine-Charbel Tarabay

SAINT OF THE WEEK

St Vincent De Paul

Vincent de Paul was born in the small southern French town of Pouy (later renamed Saint Vincent de Paul in his honour) on 24 April 1581 and ordained as a priest in 1600 at the age of 19.

As a young man he ministered to the wealthy and powerful. However an appointment as chaplain to a poor parish, and to galley prisoners, inspired him to a vocation of working with those most marginalised and powerless.

Vincent urged his followers to bring God's justice and love to people who were unable to live a full human life:

"Deal with the most urgent needs. Organise charity so that it is more efficient...teach reading and writing, educate with the aim of giving each the means of self-support. Intervene with authorities to obtain reforms in structure... there is no charity without justice."

Vincent de Paul died in Paris on 27 September 1660 at the age of 79. He was canonised on 16 June 1737 and, in 1883, the Church designated him as the special patron of all charitable associations.

The Society was named after Saint Vincent de Paul and follows his teachings and compassion for people in need. Saint Vincent de Paul is the international patron of the Society. His feast day is celebrated on September 27.



LOVE THE POOR. HONOUR THEM,
MY CHILDREN, AS YOU WOULD
HONOUR CHRIST HIMSELF

KIDS ACTIVITIES

Matthew 24:1-14

Q W I V D W C Y J A F G P N N
K T R X R O R S S X I X V A E
R I G B M A H V E K L R N T W
B R N I E R A W E B E W B I S
F Y N G V X Q Z E N W C F O A
G G Z E D O F V D O B I C N B
U O L X Y O M K J C F K C S A
L A O N F A M M D M T I S R N
L K E D N R R U D N E C K G Q
J Z S C D L L T C S R A I T A
L O V E N W M D S M U S F W S
D V C S E R S M E A D W S U M
P R O C L A I M E D N T H J O
L U Q J H F G S H Z E E U T S
T X V G C E L Q T F R J R K I

ASTRAY
END
KINGDOM
NEWS

BEWARE
ENDURE
LOVE
PROCLAIMED

COMING
GOOD
NATIONS
SIGN



PARISH NOTICE BOARD

Sunday 27 September: 2nd Sunday after the Glorious Cross

8:00am All living and departed of Karm El Mohr for the Feast of St Moura.

11:00am 40 Day John Griego Bakhos from Hadchit.

5:00pm 40 Day Mikhael Assaad Bourizk from Kfaryachit.

Monday 28 September

6:00 Linda Toufic Taouk widow of the late Hanna Tannous Khoury Taouk from Becharre (Died in Lebanon).

Saturday 3 October

6:00 One year Elias Mtanios Elias from Blouza.

Sunday 4 October: 3rd Sunday after the Glorious Cross - Feast of the Holy Rosary

6:00am Rosary prayer

8:00am Sodality Mass

11:00am 40 Day Mass Antonios Esber Abi Rizk from Aintourine

3:00pm Rosary Prayer

5:00pm Mass for the Feast of the Holy Rosary

الأحد ٢٧ أيلول: الأحد الثاني بعد عيد الصليب

٨:٠٠ قداس على نية أحياء وأموات كرم المهر في الوطن وبلاد الإنتشار بمناسبة عيد القديسة مورا.

١١:٠٠ أربعون المرحوم جون جريج باخوس من حدشيت.

٥:٠٠ أربعون المرحوم مخايل أسعد بو رزق من كفرياشيت.

الاثنين ٢٨ أيلول

٦:٠٠ المرحومة ليندا توفيق طوق أرملة المرحوم حنا طنوس خوري طوق من بشري (متوفاة في لبنان).

السبت ٣ تشرين الأول

٦:٠٠ السنة للمرحوم الياس مطانيوس الياس من بلوزا.

الأحد ٤ تشرين الأول: الأحد الثالث بعد عيد الصليب - أحد الوردية المقدسة

٦:٠٠ صلاة المسبحة الوردية بالكامل (الفرح، الحزن، النور والمجد) مع الأخوية.

٨:٠٠ قداس على نية الأخوية أحياء، مرضى وأموات.

١١:٠٠ أربعون المرحوم أنطونيوس إسبر أبي رزق من عينطورين.

٣:٠٠ صلاة مسبحة الوردية بالكامل (الفرح، الحزن، النور والمجد).

٥:٠٠ قداس أحد الوردية المقدسة.

COMMUNITY BUSINESS NETWORK PAGE

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صليب المسيح دواء وقوة

منذ فجر الإنسانية كان الألم إرث ثقيل نتناقله من أيام آدم الأول؛ وكثيرون منا يميلون إلى التفكير أن المعاناة الجسدية و الأمراض هي شر مطلق. ولكن الشر الحقيقي الوحيد هو الخطيئة التي تسيء لنا و للرب الذي لم يتركنا لإرثنا الثقيل ذاك بل أتى و حرّنا من نير الخطيئة التي لم يخضع لها و لكن في المقابل شاركنا الألم و قدسه.



وأنه عندما ننظر إلى صليب يسوع نجد القوة والخلص، وهذا ما رآه الأبطال الشهداء و القديسون في محبة المسيح على الصليب: حياة و فرح - ليس دون معاناة - بل بالرغم من المعاناة. كان البابا القديس يوحنا الثالث والعشرون يردد هذه العبارة المعبرة : الشكر لله! ليس كل النفوس متمردة تحت عبء الألم! إن الألم لا بد منه على هذه الأرض وما يقدرنا ليس الألم بحد ذاته إنما قبول الحياة بحب لله و الآخر! فسر " القداسة لا يكمن بالألم إنما بالحب الواصل بالرب بالرغم من الألم. هكذا كانت رفقا التي عرفت بقدسية الألم، في طيات صفحات حياتها فصول من الألم المقدس و الطاعة المقدسة. علمت أن المسيح ما جاء ليبلغي الألم إنما أتى ليملأه بحضوره، فجعلت من آلامها مذبحاً يستحضر حب الرب وأصبحت هذه الآلام جزءاً من عملية ولادة الى الفرح الأبدي!

قراءة من مار توما الإكويني

كلما اقترب الملك، كلما استوجب الاستعداد. وكلما اقترب الوقت الذي تُمنح فيه الجائزة للمحارب، كلما أصبح من الواجب المحاربة بطريقة أفضل. هكذا نفعل أثناء السباق: عندما يشرف السباق على نهايته ونقترب من الهدف، نحث الخيول على المزيد من الاندفاع. لذا، قال بولس: "... فإن الخلاص أقرب إلينا الآن منه يوم أمنا. وقد تناهى الليل واقترب اليوم..." (رو ١٣: ١١-١٢). بما أن الليل قد تلاشى والنهار أشرق، فلنقم بأعمال النهار؛ لنخلع أعمال الظلام. هكذا نفعل في هذه الحياة: عندما نعرف أن الليل يتراجع أمام الفجر ونسمع غناء السنونو، نوقظ بعضنا بعضاً، رغم أن الليل لم ينتهِ بعد... نسارع للقيام بمهام النهار؛ نرتدي ملابسنا بعد أن نخلع غطاء النعاس، لكي ترانا الشمس مستعدين. ما كنا نفعله عندئذ، فلنفعله الآن: لننزع عنا كل أحلامنا، لنترك أحلام الحياة الحاضرة، ونخرج من سباتنا العميق، ولنرتدي ملابس الفضيلة. هذا ما قاله لنا بوضوح الرسول: "... فلنخلع أعمال الظلام ولنلبس سلاح النور" (رو ١٣: ١٢). لأن النهار يدعونا إلى المعركة والمحاربة.

لا تخف عندما تسمع كلمات المحاربة والكفاح! إذا كان ارتداء درع مادي ثقيل أمراً شاقاً، فمن المطلوب في المقابل ارتداء الدرع الروحي، إذ هو درع من نور. هكذا، ستسطع بنور أكثر إشعاعاً من الشمس، وعندما تتألق بنور ساطع ستكون في أمان، لأن أسلحتك هذه من نور. إذا؟ هل نحن مَعْفِيُونَ من المحاربة؟ كلا! يجب أن نحارب، لكن بدون أن ينهكتنا التعب والعناء. إذ نحن مدعوون لا إلى حرب بل إلى عيد وابتهاج.

وإذا سمعتم بالحروب والفتن فلا تفرعوا

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) Milian Bou Raidan (C) (D) (E) Matthew Essey (F) (G) Helen George & Majid George (H) Anis Jamil Haddad, Madeline & Paul Haddad and their Son Joseph and their daughter Colleen George, Robin Hawas (I) (J) Charbel Jabbour (K) Tanios Elias Kazzi & Family, Sarkis Chucris Khoudair (L) (M) Boutrous & Johra Moussa and their daughter Malki, Youssef & Ghssoun Maroon, Therese Melhem, Bechara Boutros Moussa, Robert Bechara Moussa, Jamal Moussa & all faithful departed of Moussa family, Anthony Marmah Salim Moussa (N) (O) (P) (Q) (R) Jamil & Labibe Roumanus (S) Youssef Mikhael Shaheen (T) (U) (V) (W) Ray Wehbe Wehbe (X) (Y) Mrs Sayde Simaan Yazbeck & husband Mr Loutfallah Mokdassi (Z)



مع الأحد الثاني بعد عيد الصليب الممجد نكمل مسيرة الصليب، لنجد أنفسنا ونحن نتأمل بنص قوي جداً من الإنجيل يعلن فيه يسوع أن حجراً واحداً لن يبقى فوق حجر آخر في الهيكل. لم نعهد يسوع بهذا الشكل من قبل. لماذا تبدو كلماته بهذه القسوة؟ نعرف جميعاً أنه ليس من طبيعة يسوع أن يؤذي أو يدمر! ولماذا الهيكل بالذات؟

كان الهيكل فخر الشعب اليهودي وفرحه، يتباهى بجدارته وضخامته بدلاً من معناه الروحي وسلامه بصفته مسكن الله. مع يسوع، الأمور تختلف، فالهيكل لم يعد مصنوعاً من حجارة بل أصبح قلباً يضخ الحب والسلام والغفران. يطلب يسوع منا هيكلاً حياً بدلاً من هيكل الحجارة. لم يعد هيكل الحجارة الغاية القصوى لله لكي يسكن بيننا. لم يعد المكان الذي يجمع البشرية ويوحدها. لقد حوّل يسوع إلى مكان حي يعيش هو فيه ويكون فيه ذبيحة حية أبدية تقدم فداءً عن البشرية لكي تعود إلى ميناء الخلاص، ليغدو حقاً المكان الذي يسكن فيه الله ويعكس من خلاله جبروته وعظمته وغناه.

ومع الرب يسوع، أصبح الهيكل أيضاً رعية، أي جماعة مؤمنة تجتمع وتصلي معاً. هذه الجماعة مدعوة إلى أن تكون صوت الرب الصارخ في برية هذا العالم، صوت الرب الذي يدعو الجميع إلى بيته، فهو القائل "دعوا الأطفال يأتون إليّ لا تمنعهم" (لوقا ١٨: ١٦). يريد الرب بذلك أن يقول لنا "دعوا براءة الروح والجسد، عفوية الحركة، والثقة النابضة بالحياة تأتي إليّ وإلى بيتي".

إخوتي وأخواتي، أبنائي وبناتي؛ إنها دعوة مباشرة من الرب لكل شخص منكم لكي تسعوا دائماً جاهدين للحفاظ على رعيّكم. بذلك تحافظون على الرب يسوع بيننا. الرعية حاضرة دائماً للجميع. الرعية في جهوزية تامة ودائمة لكي تكون النور في وسط الظلمة، وجسر عبور إلى الحياة والرجاء والأمان والراحة والسلام، على رغم كل التناقضات المحيطة بها والتحديات التي تواجهها.

أشكر الرب دائماً على جميع عطاياه، وخاصة عطية اللقاء به وبيعنا البعض. لقاءنا بالرب أمر أساسي في حياتنا الروحية، فهو غذاؤها كما أن الماء والطعام غذاء الجسد.

ولكي نشجع على لقاء الرب، فإن أبواب الكاتدرائية ستكون مفتوحة لاستقبال الجميع طوال اليوم، سواء للصلاة الشخصية أو التأمل. بذلك نأتي حقاً إليه، بعفوية، كما طلب منا، حاملين إليه أتعابنا وآلامنا ومصاعبنا وتطلعاتنا وفرحنا، ملتقين به برجاء وحب، لأننا رعية واحدة لراع واحد، هو ربنا يسوع المسيح. فقط تذكروا ضرورة الالتزام بالأمور الوقائية والإرشادات الصحية للحفاظ على سلامتكم وسلامة الآخرين خلال زيارتكم للكنيسة. كل التدابير الرعوية السابقة تبقى سارية المفعول والصلاحية، خصوصاً ما يتعلق منها بالأعداد وإمكانية الحجز المسبق للمشاركة في الاحتفالات الروحية.

المطلوب منا جميعاً بذل جهد على الصعيد الروحي والتعاون مع بعضنا البعض، والأهم الحفاظ على غاية حياتنا ألا وهي لقاءنا بالرب يسوع سيد الرجاء في بيته، أي في رعيّتنا.

فالرب دائماً يجمعنا! والعذراء مريم دائماً تستقبلنا!

الخوري طوني سركيس

الصليب أيقونة التضحية العظمى

يا صليب المسيح، رمز المحبة الإلهية والظلم البشري؛ أيقونة التضحية العظمى محبة بالبشر، وصورة الأناثية القصوى الناتجة من الجهالة؛ أداة موت ودرج القيامة؛ علامة الطاعة ورمز الخيانة؛

خشبة الاضطهاد وراية الانتصار. يا صليب المسيح، ما زلنا اليوم نراك قائماً في أخواتنا وإخوتنا الذين يُقتلون، ويحرقون أحياء، ويذبحون وتُقطع رؤوسهم بسيوف بربرية وبصمّ مخزي. يا صليب المسيح، ما زلنا نراك اليوم في وجوه الأطفال، والنساء والأشخاص، المتعبين والخائفين الذين يهربون من هول الحروب والعنف، وغالباً ما لا يجدون سوى الموت والعديد من أمثال بيلاطس بأيدي مغسولة. يا صليب المسيح، ما زلنا نراك اليوم في معلمي الحرف لا الروح، الموت لا الحياة، الذين بدلاً من أن يعلموا الرحمة والحياة، يهتدون بالعقاب والموت ويحكمون على البريء. يا صليب المسيح، ما زلنا نراك اليوم في الخدام غير الأمانة بدلاً من أن يتعرّوا من طموحاتهم الفانية يعزّون حتّى الأبرياء من كرامتهم.

تأمل من وحي الإنجيل

حياتنا المسيحية هي حياة جهاد دائم، نجاهد ضدّ منطق الدمار. الهيكل المدمر اليوم هو هيكلنا نحن، هيكل الروح القدس، جسدينا وحياتنا الروحية. الرب يدعونا إلى الكفّ عن تدمير هيكلنا بالخطيئة وبالكبرياء، وللمباشرة في بناء الحياة الروحية، من خلال الصلاة والالتزام بإرادة الله حتى اللحظة الأخيرة من وجودنا على هذه الأرض. دعوتنا اليوم هي بعكس منطق الفردية والعنف والتسلط، دعوتنا هي أن ننشر في المسكونة كلّها بُشرى الإنجيل كما قال يسوع لنا. دعوتنا هي أن نعلن "البشرى السارة والجميلة"، لا أن ننشر الخوف واليأس والوسواس. دعوتنا هي أن نعلن، من خلال نوعيّة حياتنا، أنّ الخير سوف ينتصر، وأنّ الربّ حاضر، وأن منطق الإنجيل هو وحده يقدر على إعطاء العالم السعادة، ووحده يسوع يمكنه أن يملأ قلبنا بالفرح الذي نفتش عنه، فوحده يسوع يقول لنا: "لا تخافوا، أنا غلبت العالم".





الخبر السار من رعيّتك



الأحد الثاني بعد عيد الصليب

الصليب هو عمل حب الله غير المنطوق به نحو الانسان وعلامة اهتمامه العظيم بنا

القديس يوحنا ذهبي الفم

كاتدرائية سيدة لبنان - هاريس بارك

الإنجيل

الرسالة

خَرَجَ يَسُوعُ مِنَ الْهَيْكَلِ وَمَضَى. فَذَنَا مِنْهُ تَلَامِيذُهُ يَلْفَتُونَ نَظَرَهُ إِلَى أُبْنِيَةِ الْهَيْكَلِ. فَأَجَابَ وَقَالَ لَهُمْ: "أَلَا تَنْتَظِرُونَ هَذَا كُلَّهُ؟ الْحَقُّ أَقُولُ لَكُمْ: لَنْ يَتْرَكَ هُنَا حَجَرٌ عَلَى حَجَرٍ إِلَّا وَنُقِصَ". وَفِيمَا هُوَ جَالِسٌ عَلَى جَبَلٍ الرُّيُوثِ، دَنَا مِنْهُ التَّلَامِيذُ عَلَى انْفِرَادٍ قَائِلِينَ: "قُلْ لَنَا مَتَى يَكُونُ هَذَا، وَمَا هِيَ عَلَامَةُ مَجِيئِكَ وَنِهَايَةِ الْعَالَمِ؟". فَأَجَابَ يَسُوعُ وَقَالَ لَهُمْ: "إِخَذُوا أَنْ يَصِلَ لَكُمْ أَحَدٌ فَكثيرونَ سَيَأْتُونَ بِاسْمِي قَائِلِينَ: "أَنَا هُوَ الْمَسِيحُ! وَيُضِلُّونَ الْكَثِيرِينَ. وَسَوْفَ تَسْمَعُونَ بِخُرُوبٍ وَبِأَخْبَارِ خُرُوبٍ، أَنْظَرُوا، لَا تَزَعِبُوا! فَلَا بُدَّ أَنْ يَخْذُثَ هَذَا. وَلَكِنْ لَيْسَتْ النِّهَايَةُ بَعْدَ! سَتَقُومُ أُمَّةٌ عَلَى أُمَّةٍ، وَمَمْلَكَةٌ عَلَى مَمْلَكَةٍ، وَتَكُونُ مَجَاعَاتٌ وَزَلَزَلٌ فِي أَمَاكِنَ شَتَّى، وَهَذَا كُلُّهُ أَوَّلُ الْمَخَاضِ. يَنْبِذُ يُسَلِّمُونَكُمْ إِلَى الصَّبِيقِ، وَيَقْتُلُونَكُمْ، وَيَبْغِضُكُمْ جَمِيعَ الْأُمَمِ مِنْ أَجْلِ اسْمِي. وَجَبْنِيذُ يَزِيدُ الْكَثِيرُونَ عَنِ الْإِيمَانِ، وَيُسَلِّمُ بَعْضُهُمْ بَعْضًا، وَيَقُومُ أَنْبِيَاءُ كَذِبَةٌ كَثِيرُونَ وَيُضِلُّونَ الْكَثِيرِينَ. وَلَكِنَّةَ الْإِثْمِ تَقُورُ مَحَبَّةُ الْكَثِيرِينَ. وَمَنْ يَصْبِرْ إِلَى النِّهَايَةِ يَخْلُصُ. وَيُكْرَزُ بِإِنْجِيلِ الْمَلَكُوتِ هَذَا فِي الْمَسْكُونَةِ كُلِّهَا شَهَادَةً لِكُلِّ جَمِيعِ الْأُمَمِ، وَجَبْنِيذُ تَأْتِي النِّهَايَةُ".

يا إخواني، إِنْ كُنَّا نَرْجُو الْمَسِيحَ فِي هَذِهِ الْحَيَاةِ وَخَسِبَ، فَتَنَحَّنْ أَشَقَى النَّاسِ أَجْمَعِينَ! وَالْحَالُ أَنَّ الْمَسِيحَ قَامَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ، وَهُوَ بَاكُورَةُ الزَّاقِدِينَ. فِيمَا أَنَّ الْمَوْتَ كَانَ بِوِاسِطَةِ إِنْسَانٍ، فَبِوِاسِطَةِ إِنْسَانٍ أَيْضًا تَكُونُ قِيَامَةُ الْأَمْوَاتِ. فَكَمَا أَنَّهُ فِي آدَمَ يَمُوتُ الْجَمِيعُ، كَذَلِكَ فِي الْمَسِيحِ سَيَحْيَا الْجَمِيعُ، كُلُّ وَاحِدٍ فِي رُتْبَتِهِ: الْمَسِيحُ أَوَّلًا، لِأَنَّهُ الْبَاكُورَةُ، ثُمَّ الَّذِينَ هُمْ لِلْمَسِيحِ، عِنْدَ مَجِيئِهِ. وَبَعْدَ ذَلِكَ تَكُونُ النِّهَايَةُ، حِينَ يُسَلِّمُ الْمَسِيحُ الْمُلْكَ إِلَى اللَّهِ الْآبِ، بَعْدَ أَنْ يَكُونَ قَدْ أَتَبَلَ كُلَّ رِئَاسَةٍ وَكُلَّ سُلْطَانٍ وَقُوَّةٍ، لِأَنَّهُ لَا بُدَّ لِلْمَسِيحِ أَنْ يَمْلِكَ، إِلَى أَنْ يَجْعَلَ اللَّهُ جَمِيعَ أَعْزَانِهِ تَخْتِ قَدَمَيْهِ. وَآخِرُ عَذْوٍ يُبْطَلُ هُوَ الْمَوْتُ. لَقَدْ أَخْضَعَ اللَّهُ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ تَحْتَ قَدَمَيْهِ. وَجِبْنَ يَقُولُ الْكِتَابُ: "أَخْضَعَ لَهُ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ"، فَمِنْ الْوَاضِحِ أَنَّهُ يَسْتَنْتَبِي اللَّهُ الَّذِي أَخْضَعَ لَهُ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ. وَمَتَى أَخْضَعَ لِابْنِ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ، فَجَبْنِيذُ يَخْضَعُ الْإِبْنُ نَفْسَهُ لِلَّذِي أَخْضَعَ لَهُ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ، حَتَّى يَكُونَ اللَّهُ الْكُلُّ فِي الْكُلِّ. وَالْأَمَّاذَا يَفْعَلُ الَّذِينَ يَتَعَمَّلُونَ مِنْ أَجْلِ الْأَمْوَاتِ؟ إِنْ كَانَ الْأَمْوَاتُ لَا يَقُومُونَ أَبَدًا، فَلِمَاذَا يَتَعَمَّلُونَ مِنْ أَجْلِهِمْ؟ وَنَحْنُ، فَلِمَاذَا نَعْرِضُ أَنْفُسَنَا كُلَّ سَاعَةٍ لِلْخَطَرِ؟ أَقِسْ، أَيُّهَا الْإِخْوَةُ، بِمَا لِي مِنْ فُخْرٍ بِكُمْ فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ رَبِّنَا، أَنِّي أُولَاجُهُ الْمَوْتُ كُلَّ يَوْمٍ. إِنْ كُنْتُ صَارَعْتُ الْوُحُوشَ فِي أَفْسُسَ، لِغَايَةِ بَشَرِيَّةٍ، فَأَيُّ نَفْعٍ لِي؟ وَإِنْ كَانَ الْأَمْوَاتُ لَا يَقُومُونَ، فَلِمَاذَا أَكُلُ وَنَشْرَبُ، لِأَنَّنَا عَذَا سَنَمُوتُ! لَا تَضِلُّوا! إِنَّ الْمُعَاشَرَاتِ السَّيِّئَةَ تَقْسِدُ الْأَخْلَاقَ السَّالِمَةَ! أَنْقِظُوا قُلُوبَكُمْ بِالْقُوَّةِ، وَلَا تَخْطَأُوا، فَإِنَّ بَعْضًا مِنْكُمْ يَجْهَلُونَ اللَّهَ! أَقُولُ هَذَا لِإِخْوَالِكُمْ!

١ قور ١٥ : ١٩ - ٣٤



صلاة

يا رب، نتوسل إليك أن تتغير مفهومنا للحياة لنعي أن أجسادنا هي هياكل للروح القدس، فنحترم أجسادنا ونحترم بعضنا البعض ونتجدد بتبدل عقولنا وتصرفاتنا، لك المجد إلى الأبد، آمين.

قَدَاسَاتِ يَوْمِ الْأَحَدِ

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

قَدَاسَاتِ الْأُسْبُوعِ

الاثنين، الثلاثاء، الخميس والجمعة: ٧:٠٠ و ٩:٠٠ صباحاً و ٦:٠٠ مساءً؛ الأربعاء: ٧:٠٠ و ٩:٠٠ صباحاً، ٥:٣٠ و ٧:٠٠ مساءً؛ السبت: ٧:٣٠ صباحاً و ٦:٠٠ مساءً

الاعترافات

بتحديد موعد خلال أيام الأسبوع

ساعات السجود

ساعة سجود: كل يوم خميس ٨:٠٠ - ٩:٠٠ مساءً - ٢٤ ساعة سجود أمام القربان: نهار الجمعة ٢ تشرين الأول من ٩:٣٠ صباحاً لغاية السبت ٧:٣٠ صباحاً

متى ٢٤ : ١ - ١٤