

OUR PARISH

Our Lady of Lebanon Co-cathedral - Harris Park

Issue 8 | Sunday 24 December 2023 | Genealogy of Jesus



THE GOSPEL

An account of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, and Aram the father of Aminadab, and Aminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of King David. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asaph, and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Salathiel, and Salathiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called the Messiah. So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David to the deportation to Babylon, fourteen generations; and from the deportation to Babylon to the Messiah, fourteen generations *Mt 1:1-17*



Genealogy of Jesus
Isa 11: 1-4a, 6-9
Rom 1: 1-12
Mt 1: 1-17

"Praises to the Mother of God"

In this glorious Christmas Season as we celebrate the Birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ, we give thanks to God for giving us our Saviour while also praising Him for the gift of Mary, the Mother of God. By her unconditional obedience and love, she allowed the Word of God to become flesh in her womb and to dwell among us. We give thanks to God for the wonderful day of Christmas, that changed the history of our salvation. It is a day of great joy and worthy of celebration and praise.

St. Louis de Montfort was one of many saints who dedicated his life to leading souls 'to Jesus through Mary' which our Maronite Church joyfully combines into our Liturgy on this dual Feast. The greatest gift we could possibly offer at Christmas is to lead more souls to Jesus whose Birthday we celebrate.

Christmas is a time of rebirth for young and old alike, for renewal and for rejoicing on many levels. Our perspective truly matters, especially when we are faced with troubles that burden our hearts with negative thoughts. Christmas is a time to be optimistic because God the Father gave us His Only Son so that we may know His peace and love in our hearts. Such a wonderful reason to be joyful!

As we also celebrate the Praises of the Mother of God, it is good to remember all mothers in prayer, both living and deceased. It is pleasing to God that we show true devotion to our Blessed Mother, and honour her while entrusting our families and our lives into her maternal heart. Jesus loved His Mother, and assured us from the Cross that we are to claim her as our own. On the glorious day of the Birth of Christ, we can be confident in calling upon Jesus, Mary and Joseph - the Holy Family - to help us imitate their profound

humility and holy virtues. Families come together at Christmas time to celebrate the Holy Family that was made complete on this day. Just as we would visit and congratulate any family with a newborn child, we do the same for Mary, the Mother of God, and implore her intercession for the sanctification of all mothers and fathers.

Our parish family is united in a special way during this Glorious Season, but we do not forget those who are less fortunate and may be alone at this time. We offer not only our prayers but also any assistance we can provide them to bring Christ into the meaning of their Christmas. God bless all our generous volunteers who make time to visit, feed, or shelter the disadvantaged. May the Lord who can never be outdone in generosity, reward you and your families with the abundance of His Blessings. Wishing all my brothers and sisters in Christ, and especially our Spiritual Fathers, a very blessed and joyful Christmas.

Salwa Elias

QUESTION

From whom did Jesus learn how to pray?

ANSWER

Jesus, with His human heart, learned how to pray from His mother and from the Jewish tradition. But His prayer sprang from a more secret source because He is the eternal Son of God who in His holy humanity offers His perfect filial prayer to His Father

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

WEEKLY HOLY LITURGIES

Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri
7am, 9am & 6pm

Wed 7am, 9am & 5:30pm (Ar)
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 - Sat
8:30am (Arabic) | 7pm (English)

Divine Mercy followed by

Rosary Fri 7:30pm

Adoration Hour & Confessions
Thur 8 pm - 9 pm

24 Hour Adoration
Every first Friday of the month
from 9:30 a.m - Saturday 7:30

PARISH CLERGY CONTACTS

Fr Youwakim Noujaim (Acting Dean):
0406 060 445
Fr Charbel Dib: 0410 759 795
Fr John-Paul Bassil: 0401 545 454
Fr Alain Fares: 0433 507 389
Fr Sam Wehbe: 0417 171 737
Fr Robert-Pio Al Bayeh: 0414 447 883
Fr Yuhanna Azize: 0435 764 824
Fr Ron Hassarati: 0403 504 384
Fr Joseph Maatouk: 0413 245 501
Dcn Ghassan Nakhoul: 0410 524 335
Dcn Sayed Isaac: 0422 886 062

CLERGY ON LEAVE

Fr Tony Sarkis (Dean)
Fr Pierre Khoury

RETIRED CLERGY

Fr Bernard Assi
Fr Paul Joubair

Safeguarding Officers:

Younan Friefer: 0400 080 000
Joanne Elias: 0427 503 008

Parish Office:

9689 2899

Opening Hours:

Monday to Friday
9am - 4:30pm
Saturday
9am - 1pm

Fax: 9689 2068

Email: info@olol.org.au

Website: www.olol.org.au

OUR PARISH

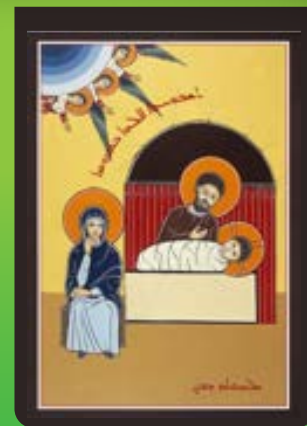
Our Lady of Lebanon Co-cathedral - Harris Park

Issue 8 | Sunday 24 December 2023 | Birth of Our Lord



THE GOSPEL

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. **Lk 2:1-20**



Birth of Our Lord
Isa 8: 23,9:1-5
Heb 1: 1-12
Lk 2: 1-20



On behalf of His Excellency
Bishop Antoine-Charbel Tarabay,
all the Priests, Committees, Staff
We wish you and your families a
Blessed and Peaceful Christmas
May the Light of Child of the
Manger dispel all darkness and
bring you joy.



Message from the Bishop

Beloved Brothers and Sisters, Sons and Daughters
of our Maronite Eparchy,

... And peace on earth!

1. When Our Lord Jesus Christ was born in a cave at Bethlehem, the sky witnessed a divine liturgy, whereby the angels celebrated the birth of the Holy Child of whom the prophet Isaiah had said: "The people walking in darkness have seen a great light" (Isaiah 9:2). The hosts of heaven sang their great hymn on that Christmas Eve: "Glory to God in the highest; and on earth peace and good will to all" (Luke 2:14).

2. This angelic hymn has become an anthem for the Church on earth, that we repeat in our masses, prayers and celebrate in our liturgies. It expresses the essential Christmas message of divine glory, peace, and hope.

Christmas is the Glory of God

3. Saint Irenaeus says that the glory of God is man alive. The incarnate Word of God who became a human being is this perfect expression of the living and life-giving human being, for He offers eternal life to everyone who believes in Him. Through an act of love, God created the universe and raised man from nothingness, graciously giving him existence and life. However, man strayed and sinned. And through that same act of love, God sent His only Son to

redeem man from sin and death. Through the mystery of divine incarnation, the Lord Jesus united Himself with human nature, resembling us in everything except sin. He is the New Man who reveals the glory of God and the greatness of His love for every human being. Humanity is called to live so as to glorify God in our lives, deeds, and words. In accordance with the monastic tradition of our Maronite Church, we join with the angels in proclaiming: "Glory be to God ... always to God!"

Christmas is the Peace of God

4. Sadly, the plain truth is that there is little peace on earth today. The news of wars and conflicts among individuals and nations that we hear and witness make us suffer and worry because the promised peace on the social, political, or economic level is lacking and fragile. However, when we look at the radiant face of the Child Jesus, shining with the light of heaven, peace enters our hearts because He is our peace and has proclaimed peace to all people, far and near (Ephesians 2:14-17).

5. Christmas is a continuous invitation for us to experience God's peace in our hearts and lives, independently of whatever is happening around us. Peace is a gift from God to us, according to the Gospel of Saint John: "My peace I give you," (John 14:27). Without God's peace in our hearts, there is no peace in the family, and without peace in the family, there is no peace in the society. Without peace in society, there is no peace in countries, and without peace in countries and among nations, there is no peace in the world. Peace is the heavenly message to our earth at Christmas, and we are invited to accept it in our hearts and embrace it in our lives. It is not enough that we accept the gift of peace because peace is a choice and a journey that we work to build every day. In this way, we become true peacemakers and not just lovers of peace, according to the Gospel of Beatitudes: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God" (Matthew 5:9).

Christmas is the Feast of Hope

6. The Birth of the Lord Jesus ignited hope in hearts; human life and existence became meaningful and purposeful. This hope was experienced by the shepherds who made haste to the cave of Bethlehem, where they saw Mary, Joseph, and the Divine Child in His

manger, for they believed what the angels told them; and having seen, they returned rejoicing and joyfully glorifying God.

7. We too can feel and experience the same hope when we listen to the voice of the Lord Jesus, calling with love and tenderness: "Come to me, all you who are weary and heavy burdened, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). It is only Jesus who gives us a true, firm and unchanging hope.

8. Christmas opens the doors of hope in our world, which is trapped within the grim walls of materialism and consumerism. It invites us to be children and messengers of hope to today's humankind, because the future is in the hands of those who plant hope in souls."

Dearly Beloved,

9. We thank the Lord for His abundant grace and blessings upon us in this year in which we celebrated the fiftieth jubilee of the founding of our Maronite eparchy, and we look forward to the New Year, reaffirming our faith in God, and with renewed hope. With the announcement of His Holiness Pope Francis that the upcoming year

is the 'Year of Prayer,' we unite in prayer for peace throughout the world, especially in the Holy Land and Lebanon. We call for an immediate end to war, killing and destruction because the land where the Lord Jesus Christ was born and lived must always be an oasis of love, justice and peace.

10. The desired peace on earth is not merely the cessation of wars or the silencing of the sounds of weapons. It is not just a social or economic program, nor is it merely a philosophical or reformist ideology. Rather, the desired peace on earth is a person named Jesus Christ, who is the true Prince of Peace and its source. The peace He gives is not as the world gives, for it is eternal, true and everlasting. This peace was born in the manger in Bethlehem, manifested on the cross, and shone with the salvific lights in the resurrection, dispelling darkness, defeating evil, and heralding the dawn of new life.

Christ is Born ... Alleluia!

Sydney, 24 December 2023.

+ Antoine-Charbel Tarabay
Maronite Bishop of Australia, New Zealand and Oceania

WHAT HAPPENED IN YOUR PARISH



What's happening in your parish? Well, it only takes a few small steps into our doors (& social media pages) to find out!

Last Saturday

We held our annual Christmas Carols at our parish. It was a night full of fun, food and socialising! We were blessed with amazing weather and were able to enjoy carols sung by our amazing choir. We had a live performance and live nativity with animals. Our first time having a photo booth which was a massive hit! We were treated with a surprise visit from Santa and his helpers. Thank you to all who attended

On Thursday

We came together to adore our King in the Blessed Sacrament. We spent time with Jesus for Christmas Adoration under the stars. I was a beautiful night spent in prayer and reflection as we prepare our hearts to welcome our new born King

Arabic School

The Arabic Language School in our parish celebrated the end of the academic year with national songs, dancing and Christmas carols "in Arabic". We shared our day in the presence of His Excellency Bishop Antoine Charbel Tarabay, Fr Youwakim, Sr Rita, and the parents of the students. We celebrated with cake and distributed gifts to the students

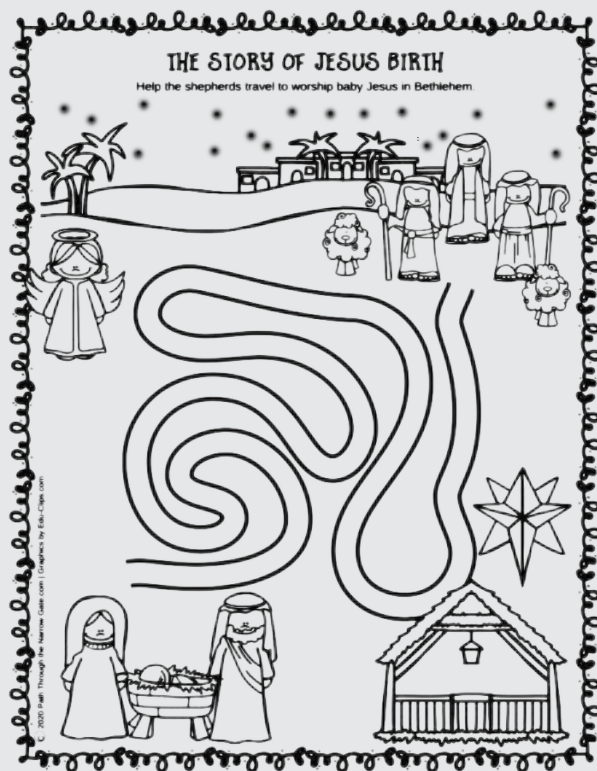
Heaven on Earth Mission Trip

In this glorious season of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, our Heaven on Earth team were once again in Fiji visiting our brothers and sisters in Christ at Treasure House, Loloma Home, the Children's Hospital, Calanuku and Tavuya Villages, Father Law Home as well as the youth and homeless on the streets. Such a wonderful and humbling experience

Keep up to date with all spiritual and social initiatives of your parish by checking our social media platforms, keeping your ears peeled to the latest parish announcements and being subscribed to our newsletter.



KIDS CORNER



UPCOMING EVENTS



Registrations for
First Holy Communion for
2024 are now open online.
To register, Please visit our website:
www.olol.org.au/bookings/forms



PARISH NOTICE BOARD

Sunday 24 December:

Christmas Eve

6:00pm Christmas Vigil Family Mass with Santa (English)

11:00pm Midnight Mass with Rite of Adoration of Christmas, Celebrated by His Excellency Bishop Antoine-Charbel Tarabay

Monday 25 December:

Christmas Day

8:00am Mass (Arabic)

9:30am Mass (English)

11:00am Mass (Arabic & English)

6:00pm Mass (Arabic & English)

Tuesday 26 December:

Praises of the Mother of God

8:00am Mass Sodality Mass

11:00am Mass

6:00pm Mass

Saturday 30 December:

Masses 7:30am and 6:00pm

Sunday 31 December:

Finding Jesus in the Temple - New Year's Eve

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

Monday 1 January:

New Year's Day – World Day of Peace

Masses 8:00am, 10:00am and 6:00pm

Friday 5 January:

Eve of Epiphany

Masses 7:00am and 9:00am

6:00pm Eve of Epiphany Mass with Rite of Blessing of Water

10:00pm Eve of Epiphany Mass with Rite of Blessing of Water

Saturday 6 January:

Epiphany of Our Lord

Masses 7:30am, 9:00am and 6:00pm with Rite of Blessing of Water

PARISH WEEKLY COLLECTION & LOANS REPAYMENTS

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS For week ending: 17/12/2023

Plates: \$12,255 | **Donations:** \$170 | **Candles:** \$935

PARISH LOANS

CYPC: \$3,358,806

UNITS: \$1,100,315

MONTHLY LOAN REPAYMENTS

CYPC: \$37,681 INTEREST + PRINCIPAL

UNITS: \$12,503 INTEREST + PRINCIPAL



UPCOMING EVENTS



LEBANESE SCHOOL appeal

IN COLLABORATION WITH MARONITES ON MISSION



The future of Lebanon passes first through the school.

In the face of crises in Lebanon, children are being forced out of school. This represents the biggest threat to the education of an entire generation.

Please donate to the Lebanese School Appeal

DONATIONS CAN BE MADE ON WWW.MARONITE.ORG.AU/APPEALS
CONTACT THE MARONITE CHANCERY ON 02 8831 0000
SHOULD YOU REQUIRE FURTHER INFORMATION



A Lent retreat for men

"By His wounds we are healed"

Speaker:
Dr Andrew Mullins



Sunday 25th of February 2024 (8:30am to 3:30pm)
St Joseph's Baulkham Hills

Cost: Free (Thanks to a generous sponsor)

Registration is required via SMS to Joe on 0411 752 993 (by 18 Feb)
Day includes talks, discussions, reflection, Adoration, Confession and Mass.
Morning tea and lunch will be provided.
Organized by OLOL Family Committee



Accessible Church

An Initiative of


Maronite Australia

Every Sunday
10.30am

Daytime: Sundays 10.30am
Location: St Elias Chapel, Maronite College of the Holy Family (MCHF)
Address: Gate 8, Westcott to Harris Park, NSW
Parking on Western St
Info: @ Maronite Australia 0435 764 834

The Divine Sacrifice of the Mass celebrated for people with autism, special needs, and their families.



PARISH CAMERA







PARISH CAMERA





رسالة من المطران

أحبائي، أبناء وبنات أبرشيّتنا المارونية،

وعلى الأرض السّلام

١. عندما وُلِدَ الرَّبُّ يسوع في مغارة بيت لحم، شَهِدَتْ سَمَاوُهَا لِيَتَوَرَّجَها سَمَاوِيَّةٌ اِحْتَفَلَتْ بِهَا ملائكةُ الله بِذَلِكَ الذي قَالَ عَنْهُ إِشْعِيَا: "الشَّعْبُ السَّائِرُ فِي الظُّلْمَةِ أَبْصَرَ نُورًا عَظِيمًا" (أشعيا ٩: ٢)، وَقَدْ اُنْشَدَ جَنُودُ السَّمَاءِ لَيْلَةَ المِيلَادِ نَشِيدًا عَظِيمًا: "المَجْدُ لله فِي العُلَى وَعَلَى الأَرْضِ السَّلَامُ وَالرَّجَاءُ الصَّالِحُ لِبَنِي البَشَرِ" (لوقا ٢-١٤).

٢. هَذَا النِّشِيدُ المَلَائِكِي، الذي صَارَ نَشِيدًا لِكَنِيسَةِ الأَرْضِ نَرَدُّهُ دَوْمًا فِي قَدَاسِنَا وَصَلَوَاتِنَا وَطَقُوسِنَا اللِّيْتُورْجِيَّةِ، إِذْ يَتَضَمَّنُ المَعْنَايَ المِيلَادِيَّةَ الأَسَاسِيَّةَ مِنْ مَجْدٍ وَسَلَامٍ وَرَجَاءٍ.

الميلاد هو مجدّ الله

٣. يقول القديس إيريناوس إبيرنائوس إِنَّ مَجْدَ الله هُوَ الْإِنْسَانُ الْحَيُّ. كَلِمَةُ الله الْمُتَجَسِّدُ وَالَّذِي صَارَ إِنْسَانًا هُوَ هَذَا الْإِنْسَانُ الْحَيُّ وَالْمُحِبُّ وَالَّذِي يُعْطِي حَيَاةً أَبَدِيَّةً لِكُلِّ مَنْ يُؤْمِنُ بِهِ. وَبِفَعْلٍ مُحِبَّةٍ، خَلَقَ اللهُ الْكَوْنَ وَانْتَشَلَ الْإِنْسَانَ مِنَ الْعَدَمِ وَأَعْطَاهُ الْوُجُودَ وَالْحَيَاةَ، وَلَكِنْ الْإِنْسَانُ وَقَعَ فِي الْخَطِيئَةِ وَضَلَّ. وَبِذَلِكَ فَعَلَ الْمُحِبَّةَ، أَرْسَلَ اللهُ ابْنَهُ الْوَحِيدَ لِيُخَلِّصَهُ مِنَ الْخَطِيئَةِ وَالْمَوْتِ. وَبِسَرِّ التَّجَسُّدِ الْإِلَهِيِّ، اتَّحَدَ الرَّبُّ يَسُوعَ بِالطَّبِيعَةِ الْبَشَرِيَّةِ، وَشَاهَدَنَا بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ مَا عَدَا الْخَطِيئَةَ. إِنَّهُ الْإِنْسَانُ الْجَدِيدُ الَّذِي أَظْهَرَ مَجْدَ اللهِ وَعَظَمَةَ مُحِبَّتِهِ لِكُلِّ إِنْسَانٍ، فَتَصَبَّحَ دَعْوَةُ الْإِنْسَانِ الْأَسَاسِيَّةُ أَنْ يَمَجِّدَ الله فِي حَيَاتِهِ وَأَعْمَالِهِ وَأَقْوَالِهِ، وَلِذَلِكَ نَرَدُّ مَعَ الْمَلَائِكَةِ وَبِحَسَبِ التَّقْلِيدِ الرَّهْبَانِيِّ فِي كَنِيسَتِنَا: "المَجْدُ لَهُ... دَائِمًا لَهُ".

والميلاد هو سَلامُ الله

٤. مِنَ الْوَاضِحِ الْيَوْمَ وَبِكُلِّ أَسْفٍ أَنَّهُ لَا سَلَامَ فِي أَمَاكِنَ عَدِيدَةٍ مِنَ الأَرْضِ، فَأَحْبَابُ الحُرُوبِ وَالنِّزَاعَاتِ بَيْنَ الْأَفْرَادِ وَالشُّعُوبِ وَالتِّي نَسْمَعُهَا وَنَشَاهِدُهَا، تَجْعَلُنَا نَتَأَلَّمُ وَنَقْلُقُ، لِأَنَّ السَّلَامَ الْمَوْعُودَ عَلَى الصُّعِيدِ الْاجْتِمَاعِيِّ أَوْ السِّيَاسِيِّ أَوْ الْاِقْتِسَادِيِّ مَنْقُوضٌ وَهَشٌّ. وَلَكِنْ عِنْدَمَا نَنْظُرُ إِلَى وَجْهِ الطِّفْلِ يَسُوعَ الْمُنِشَعِ بِأَنْوَارِ السَّمَاءِ يَدْخُلُ السَّلَامَ إِلَى قُلُوبِنَا لِأَنَّهُ هُوَ سَلَامُنَا وَقَدْ بَشَّرَ بِالسَّلَامِ الْأَبْعَدِيِّ وَالْقَرِيبِيِّ (أَقْسُس ١٧-١٤).

٥. فَالْمِيلَادُ دَعْوَةٌ مُسْتَمِرَّةٌ لِكِي نَخْتَبِرَ سَلَامَ اللهِ فِي قُلُوبِنَا وَحَيَاتِنَا بِمَعْزَلٍ عَمَّا يَجْرِي مِنْ حَوْلِنَا. وَالسَّلَامُ عَطِيَّةٌ مِنَ اللهِ لَنَا بِحَسَبِ انْجِيلِ الْقَدِيسِ يُوْحَنَّا: "سَلَامِي أَعْطَيْكُمْ" (يُوْحَنَّا ١٤-٢٧)، لِأَنَّهُ مِنْ دُونِ سَلَامِ اللهِ فِي الْقُلُوبِ لَا سَلَامَ فِي الْعَائِلَةِ، وَمِنْ دُونِ سَلَامٍ فِي الْمَجْتَمَعِ، وَمِنْ دُونِ سَلَامٍ فِي الدَّوْلَةِ، وَمِنْ دُونِ سَلَامٍ فِي الدَّوْلِ وَبَيْنَ الشُّعُوبِ لَا سَلَامَ فِي الْعَالَمِ. فَالسَّلَامُ رِسَالَةٌ السَّمَاءِ إِلَى أَرْضِنَا فِي عِيدِ الْمِيلَادِ وَنَحْنُ مَدْعُوْنَ لِقَبُولِهَا فِي قُلُوبِنَا

واعتمادها في حياتنا، لِأَنَّ السَّلَامَ لَيْسَ عَطِيَّةً مِنَ اللهِ نَقْبَلُهَا وَحَسَبَ، اِنَّمَا هُوَ اخْتِيَارٌ وَمُسِيرَةٌ، نَعْمَلُ عَلَى تَوَاصُلِهِمَا وَبِنَاهُمَا كُلَّ يَوْمٍ، فَنَكُونُ صَانِعِي السَّلَامِ وَلَيْسَ مُحْبِي السَّلَامِ فَقَطْ، وَفَقًا لِانْجِيلِ التَّطَوُّيَّاتِ: "طُوبَى لِفَاعِلِي السَّلَامِ، فَإِنَّهُمْ أَبْنَاءُ اللهِ يُدْعَوْنَ" (مَتَّى ٥-٩).

والميلاد هو عيد الرّجاء

٦. بِمِيلَادِ الرَّبِّ يَسُوعَ، وُلِدَ الرَّجَاءُ فِي قُلُوبِ الْبَشَرِ وَأَصْبَحَ لِحَيَاةِ الْإِنْسَانِ وَوُجُودِهِ مَعْنَى وَغَايَةً. هَذَا الرَّجَاءُ اخْتَبَرَهُ الرِّعَاةُ الَّذِينَ اتَّوَا مُسْرِعِينَ إِلَى مَغَارَةِ بَيْتِ لَحْمٍ حَيْثُ رَأَوْا مَرْيَمَ وَيُوسُفَ وَالطِّفْلَ الْإِلَهِيَّ فِي مَرْجُوٍّ، وَأَمَنُوا بِمَا قِيلَ لَهُمْ مِنَ الْمَلَائِكَةِ، وَرَجَعُوا مَهْلِكِينَ فَرِحِينَ، بِمَجْدُونَ اللهِ.

٧. هَذَا الرَّجَاءُ يَخْتَبِرُهُ كُلُّ فَرْدٍ مِمَّا عِنْدَمَا نُصْغِي إِلَى صَوْتِ الرَّبِّ يَسُوعَ يُنَادِي بِصَوْتِ مَلُوءِ الْخُبِّ وَالْحَنَانِ: "تَعَالَوْا إِلَيَّ جَمِيعًا، أَيُّهَا الْمُتَعَبُونَ وَالثَّقِيلُونَ الْأَحْمَالُ، وَأَنَا أَرْخُكُم" (مَتَّى ١١-٢٨)، لِأَنَّ اللهَ وَحْدَهُ قَادِرٌ أَنْ يَعْطِيَنَا رَجَاءً حَقِيقِيًّا ثَابِتًا لَا يَتَغَيَّرُ.

٨. فَالْمِيلَادُ يَفْتَحُ أَبْوَابَ الرَّجَاءِ فِي عَالَمِنَا الَّذِي يَتَخَبَّطُ عَلَى جِدْرَانِ الْمَادِيَّةِ وَالْمَجْتَمَعَاتِ الْاِسْتِهْلَاكِيَّةِ، وَهُوَ يَدْعُونَا لِنَكُونُ أَبْنَاءَ الرَّجَاءِ وَنُرْسِلُهُ لِنَسَانِ الْيَوْمِ، لِأَنَّ الْمُسْتَقْبَلَ فِي أَيْدِي الَّذِينَ يَزْرَعُونَ الرَّجَاءَ فِي النُّفُوسِ.

أَيُّهَا الْأَحْبَاءُ،

٩. نَشْكُرُ الرَّبَّ عَلَى فَيْضِ نِعَمِهِ وَبَرَكَاتِهِ عَلَيْنَا فِي هَذِهِ السَّنَةِ الَّتِي اِحْتَفَلْنَا فِيهَا بِالْيُوبِيلِ الْخَمْسِينَ لِتَأْسِيسِ اِبْرَشِيَّتِنَا المَارُونِيَّةِ، وَنَتَطَلَّعُ إِلَى السَّنَةِ الْجَدِيدَةِ بِإِيمَانٍ ثَابِتٍ بِاللَّهِ وَبِرَجَاءٍ مُتَجَدِّدٍ. وَمَعَ إِعْلَانِ قَدَاسَةِ الْبَابَا فَرَنْسِيْسِ السَّنَةِ الْقَادِمَةِ "سَنَةِ الصَّلَاةِ"، نَتَّخِذُ مَعًا بِالصَّلَاةِ مِنْ أَجْلِ السَّلَامِ فِي الْعَالَمِ كُلِّهِ وَخَاصَّةً فِي الْأَرَاظِي الْمَقْدَسَةِ وَلِبْنَانِ، وَنَطَالِبُ بَوَاقِي فُورِي لِلْحَرْبِ وَالْقَتْلِ وَالْذَّمَارِ لِأَنَّ الْأَرْضَ الَّتِي وُلِدَ وَعَاشَ فِيهَا الرَّبُّ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحُ، يَجِبُ أَنْ تَكُونَ دَوْمًا وَاحِدَةً لِلْحَبِّ وَالْعَدْلِ وَالسَّلَامِ.

١٠. إِنَّ السَّلَامَ الْمُنْشُودَ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ لَيْسَ بِوَقْفِ الحُرُوبِ وَإِسْكَاتِ أَصَوَاتِ الْمَدَافِعِ، وَلَيْسَ بِرَنَامَجٍ اِجْتِمَاعِيٍّ أَوْ اِقْتِسَادِيٍّ، وَلَيْسَ فِلْسَفَةً أَوْ أَفْكَارًا اِصْلَاحِيَّةً فَحَسَبَ، إِنَّمَا السَّلَامُ الْمُنْشُودُ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ هُوَ شَخْصٌ اِسْمُهُ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحُ وَهُوَ أَمِيرُ السَّلَامِ الْحَقِيقِيِّ وَمَصْدَرُهُ. وَالسَّلَامُ الَّذِي يَعْطِيهِ هُوَ لَيْسَ كَمَا يَعْطِيهِ الْعَالَمُ، لِأَنَّهُ حَقِيقِيٌّ وَدَائِمٌ وَأَبَدِي. هَذَا السَّلَامُ وُلِدَ فِي مَغَارَةِ بَيْتِ لَحْمٍ، وَتَجَلَّى عَلَى الصَّلِيبِ، وَأَشْرَقَ أَنْوَارًا خُلَاصِيَّةً فِي الْقِيَامَةِ، فَانْجَلَّتِ الظُّلُمَاتُ وَانْكَسَرَ الشَّرُّ وَانْبَجَحَ فَجْرُ الْحَيَاةِ الْجَدِيدَةِ.

وُلِدَ الْمَسِيحُ ... هَلَلُوْا!

سَيَدِنِي فِي ٢٤ كَانُونِ الْأَوَّلِ ٢٠٢٣

+ المطران أنطوان - شربل طرييه

راعي أبرشيّة أوستراليا، نيوزيلاندا وأوقيانيا المارونيّة

لوحة إعلانات الرعية

السبت ٣٠ كانون الأول:

القداسات ٧:٣٠ صباحاً و ٦:٠٠ مساءً

الأحد ٣١ كانون الأول:

أحد وجود الرب في الهيكل - ليلة عيد رأس السنة
القداسات ٨:٠٠، ٩:٣٠ و ١١:٠٠ صباحاً، ٥:٠٠ و ٧:٠٠ مساءً

الاثنين ١ كانون الثاني:

عيد رأس السنة - يوم السلام العالمي
القداسات ٨:٠٠، ٩:٣٠ و ١١:٠٠ صباحاً و ٦:٠٠ مساءً

الجمعة ٥ كانون الثاني:

ليلة عيد الغطاس

القداسات ٧:٠٠ و ٩:٠٠ صباحاً

٦:٠٠ مساءً قداس ليلة عيد الغطاس مع رتبة تبريك المياه
١٠:٠٠ مساءً قداس ليلة عيد الغطاس مع رتبة تبريك المياه

السبت ٦ كانون الثاني:

عيد الدنح (الغطاس)

القداسات ٧:٣٠، ٩:٠٠ صباحاً و ٦:٠٠ مساءً مع رتبة تبريك المياه

الأحد ٢٤ كانون الأول:

ليلة عيد الميلاد

٦:٠٠ مساءً قداس الأطفال (انكليزي) مع سانتا
١١:٠٠ مساءً ليلة العيد (قداس نصف الليل) يحتفل به صاحب السيادة
المطران أنطوان شربل - طرييه السامي الاحترام

الاثنين ٢٥ كانون الأول:

عيد الميلاد القداسات على نية أبناء الرعية أحياء وأموات ومرضى

٨:٠٠ صباحاً (عربي)

٩:٣٠ صباحاً (انكليزي)

١١:٠٠ صباحاً (عربي/انكليزي)

٦:٠٠ مساءً (عربي/انكليزي)

الثلاثاء ٢٦ كانون الأول:

عيد تهنئة العذراء

٨:٠٠ صباحاً قداس على نية أحياء وأموات ومرضى الأخوية

١١:٠٠ صباحاً

٦:٠٠ مساءً

عَيْتِنَا

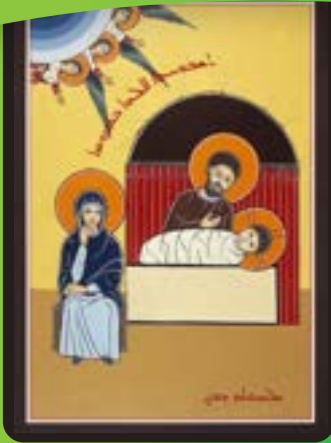
كاتدرائية سيدة لبنان - هاريس بارك

عدد ٨ | الأحد ٢٤ كانون الأول ٢٠٢٣ | أحد ميلاد الرب يسوع "لأنه وُلِدَ لَكُمْ الْيَوْمَ مُخَلِّصٌ، هُوَ الْمَسِيحُ الرَّبُّ، فِي مَدِينَةِ دَاوُدَ" لو ١:٣٠-٣١

الإنجيل



فِي تِلْكَ الْأَيَّامِ، صَدَرَ أَمْرٌ مِنْ أَعُوْشَطُسَ قَيْصَرٍ بِإِخْصَاءِ كُلِّ الْمَغْمُورَةِ. جَرَى هَذَا الْإِخْصَاءُ الْأَوَّلُ، عِنْدَمَا كَانَ كِيرِينْيُوشَ وَالْيَا عَلَى سُورِيَا. وَكَانَ الْجَمِيعُ يَذْهَبُونَ، كُلٌّ وَاحِدٌ إِلَى مَدِينَتِهِ، لِيَكْتَتِبُوا فِيهَا. وَصَعِدَ يُوشَفُ أَيْضًا مِنَ الْجَلِيلِ، مِنْ مَدِينَةِ النَّاصِرَةِ، إِلَى الْيَهُودِيَّةِ، إِلَى مَدِينَةِ دَاوُدَ الَّتِي تُدْعَى بَيْتَ لَحْمَ، لِأَنَّهُ كَانَ مِنْ بَيْتِ دَاوُدَ وَعَشِيرَتِهِ، لِيَكْتَتِبَ مَعَ مَرْيَمَ خَطِيْبَتِهِ، وَهِيَ حَامِلٌ. وَفِيمَا كَانَا هُنَاكَ، تَمَّتْ أَيَّامُهَا لِتِلْدِ، فَوَلَدَتْ ابْنَهَا الْبَكْرَ، وَقَمَطَتْهُ، وَأَضْجَعَتْهُ فِي مَدْوَدَ، لِأَنَّهُ لَمْ يَكُنْ لَهَا مَوْضِعٌ فِي قَاعَةِ الضُّيُوفِ. وَكَانَ فِي تِلْكَ النَّاحِيَةِ رُعَاةٌ يَقِيمُونَ فِي الْحَقُولِ، وَيَسْهَرُونَ فِي هَجَعَاتِ اللَّيْلِ عَلَى قُطْعَانِهِمْ. فَإِذَا بِمَلَاكِ الرَّبِّ قَدْ وَقَفَ بِهِمْ، وَمَجَّدَ الرَّبُّ أَشْرَقَ حَوْلَهُمْ، فَخَافُوا خَوْفًا عَظِيمًا. فَقَالَ لَهُمُ الْمَلَاكُ: "لَا تَخَافُوا! فَهَا أَنَا أَبَشِّرُكُمْ بِفَرَحٍ عَظِيمٍ يَكُونُ لِلشَّعْبِ كُلِّهِ، لِأَنَّهُ وُلِدَ لَكُمْ الْيَوْمَ مُخَلِّصٌ، هُوَ الْمَسِيحُ الرَّبُّ، فِي مَدِينَةِ دَاوُدَ. وَهَذِهِ عَلَامَةٌ لَكُمْ: تَجِدُونَ طِفْلًا مَقْمُطًا، مُضْجَعًا فِي مَدْوَدَ!". وَانْضَمَّ فَجْأَةً إِلَى الْمَلَاكِ جُمْهُورٌ مِنَ الْجُنْدِ السَّمَاوِيِّ يُسَبِّحُونَ اللَّهَ وَيَقُولُونَ: "الْمَجْدُ لِلَّهِ فِي الْعُلَى، وَعَلَى الْأَرْضِ السَّلَامُ، وَالرَّحْمَةُ لِلصَّالِحِ لِبَنِي الْبَشَرِ". وَلَمَّا انْصَرَفَ الْمَلَاكَةُ عَنْهُمْ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ، قَالَ الرُّعَاةُ بَعْضُهُمْ لِبَعْضٍ: "هَيْبْنَا، إِلَى بَيْتِ لَحْمَ، لِنَرَى هَذَا الْأَمْرَ الَّذِي حَدَّثَ، وَقَدْ أَعْلَمْنَا بِهِ الرَّبُّ". وَجَاؤُوا مُسْرِعِينَ، فَوَجَدُوا مَرْيَمَ وَيُوشَفَ، وَالطِّفْلَ مُضْجَعًا فِي الْمَدْوَدِ. وَلَمَّا رَأَوْهُ أَخْبَرُوا بِالْكَلَامِ الَّذِي قِيلَ لَهُمْ فِي شَأْنِ هَذَا الصَّبِيِّ. وَجَمِيعُ الَّذِينَ سَمِعُوا، تَعَجَّبُوا مِمَّا قَالَهُ لَهُمُ الرُّعَاةُ. أَمَّا مَرْيَمُ فَكَانَتْ تَحْفَظُ هَذِهِ الْأُمُورَ كُلَّهَا، وَتَتَأَمَّلُهَا فِي قَلْبِهَا. ثُمَّ عَادَ الرُّعَاةُ وَهُمْ يَمَجِّدُونَ اللَّهَ وَيُسَبِّحُونَهُ عَلَى كُلِّ مَا سَمِعُوا وَرَأَوْا، حَسْبَمَا قِيلَ لَهُمْ "لو ١:٣٠-٣١".



أحد ميلاد
الرب يسوع
سفر أشعيا ٨:٢٣، ٩:٥-١٠
عب ١:١-١٢
لو ١:٢-١٠



تهنئة العذراء مريم

إِنَّ عِيدَ تَهْنِئَةِ الْعِذْرَاءِ مَرْيَمَ عِيدٌ هُوَ قَدِيمٌ فِي تَقْلِيدِنَا الْكُنْسِيِّ، مَأْخُوذٌ مِنْ وَاقِعِنَا الْاجْتِمَاعِيِّ، إِذْ كَمَا نَهَيُّ إِحْدَى قَرِيبَاتِنَا أَوْ صَدِيقَاتِنَا بِوِلَادَةِ طِفْلٍ لَهَا، هَكَذَا نَهَيُّ الْعِذْرَاءَ أَمَنَا بِمَجِيءِ الْمَسِيحِ، الْعِذْرَاءِ الْأُمِّ الَّتِي سَوْفَ تَعْطِي ابْنَهَا لَنَا وَهُوَ سَيَقْدِمُنَا إِلَيْهَا مِنْ فَوْقِ صَليْبِهِ كَأَمِّ وَمِثَالٍ لَنَا نَقْتَدِي بِهِ. فِي هَذَا الْعِيدِ نَهَيُّ مَرْيَمَ الْبَتُولِ الْقَدِيسَةَ بِوِلَادَةِ يَسُوعَ ابْنِهَا الْبَكْرَ، وَنَذْكُرُ جَمِيعَ مَا خَصَّهَا بِهِ اللَّهُ مِنَ النِّعَمِ وَالْمَوَاهِبِ السَّمَاوِيَّةِ، فَهِيَ "أُمُّ اللَّهِ" وَكُلُّ مَا إِمْتَارَتْ بِهِ مِنَ الْكَمَالَاتِ الْفَائِقَةِ وَالْفَضَائِلِ السَّامِيَةِ، وَمَا أَبْدَعَ مَا نَهْتَفِ بِهِ فِي أَحَدِ أَنْشِيدِ هَذَا الْعِيدِ : "الْيَوْمَ مِنْكَ تَجَسَّدَ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ ابْنُ اللَّهِ ، وَالْمَلَاكَةُ مَعَ الرِّعَاةِ يُسَبِّحُونَ، يَا مَمْتَلِئَةَ نِعْمَةٍ ، السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا مَنْ أَظْهَرْتَ لَنَا الْمَسِيحَ الْمَحَبَّ لِلْبَشَرِ". مَرْيَمُ إِخْتَارَهَا اللَّهُ أَمَّا لِلْمَسِيحِ ، وَهَكَذَا كَانَ لَهَا دَوْرٌ بَارِزٌ فِي تَحْقِيقِ عَمَلِ اللَّهِ فِي خِلَاصِ الْبَشَرِ. مَرْيَمُ أَمَنَا أَيْضًا، نَقْتَدِي بِهَا لَكُونِهَا: سَمِعْتَ صَوْتَ اللَّهِ، أَمَنْتِ، حَافِظْتَ عَلَى طَهَارَتِهَا، وَهِيَ بِسِيطَةٌ،

فِي زَمَنِ الْحُبِّ وَالْعَطَاءِ، زَمَنِ التَّجَسُّدِ،
حَيْثُ أَصْبَحَ اللَّهُ إِنْسَانًا لِيَصْبِحَ الْإِنْسَانُ إِلَهًا،
إِفْرَحِي أَيْتَهَا الْمَسْكُونَةَ وَأَعْلَنِي الْبَشَرِيَّ السَّارَةَ:
"وُلِدَ الْمَسِيحُ ... هَلَلُوَا"

سَيَادَةُ الْمَطْرَانِ أَنْطَوَانَ شَرْبِل-طَرِيْبِهِ، الْكَهَنَةِ،
أَعْضَاءُ اللَّجَانِ وَالْعَامِلُونَ فِي الرِّعَاةِ
يَتَمَنُّونَ مِيلَادًا مَجِيدًا لْجَمِيعِ أَوْلَادِ الرِّعَاةِ.

وَشَاهِدَةٌ، وَرِسُولَةٌ لِلْبَشَرِيَّ، وَأَعْجُوبَةُ الْأَعْجَابِ كَمَا قَالَ
عَنْهَا الْقَدِيسُ أَعُوْشَطُيْنُوسُ:

"عَجِيبَةٌ أَمَّاكُ أَيُّهَا الرَّبُّ، مَنْ يَسْتَطِيعُ أَنْ يُدْرِكَ أَعْجُوبَةَ
الْأَعْجَابِ هَذِهِ: عِذْرَاءٌ تَحْبِلُ، عِذْرَاءٌ تَلِدُ، عِذْرَاءٌ تَبْقَى عِذْرَاءً بَعْدَ
الْوِلَادَةِ".



صلاة

نَشْكُرُكَ يَا طِفْلَ الْمَغَارَةِ، الَّذِي صَارَ جَسَدًا وَحَلَّ بَيْنَنَا؛ نَشْكُرُكَ يَا مَنْ عَلَّمْتَنَا
بِتَجَسُّدِكَ، التَّوَاضُّعِ وَالْمَصَالَحَةِ وَالرَّحْمَةَ. نَصَلِّي أَمَامَ مَزْدُوكِ أَيُّهَا الطِّفْلُ
يَسُوعَ لِأَجْلِ كَنِيسَتِنَا وَأَبْرَشِيَّتِنَا وَنَذْكُرُ كُلَّ ابْنَاءِ رَعْيَتِنَا وَوَطْنِنَا، خَاصَّةً
الْمَحْزُونِينَ وَالْمَتَأَلِّمِينَ وَالْيَتَامَى وَالْمَسْجُونِينَ؛ وَنَمَجِّدُكَ مَعَ الْمَلَاكَةِ،
وَنَشْكُرُكَ مَعَ الرِّعَاةِ، وَنَسْجُدُ لَكَ مَعَ الْمَجُوسِ، وَنَفْرَحُ بِكَ مَعَ يُوسُفَ
وَمَرْيَمَ، وَنُنْشِدُ جَمِيعًا: الْمَجْدُ لِلَّهِ فِي الْعُلَى، وَعَلَى الْأَرْضِ السَّلَامُ، وَالرَّجَاءُ
الصَّالِحُ لِبَنِي الْبَشَرِ، آمِينَ

Two lit candles are shown against a green background. The candles are yellow and have bright orange flames. They are positioned one slightly behind the other.