

OUR PARISH

Our Lady of Lebanon Co-cathedral - Harris Park

Issue 14 | Sunday 4 February 2024 | Sunday of the Faithful Departed



THE GOSPEL

Jesus said: "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.' But Abraham said, Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house - for I have five brothers - that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' He said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'" Lk 16: 19-31



Message from the Bishop

Each year on 9 February, we celebrate the Feast of our patron, St Maroun. His Feast remains for us a source of spirituality and hope. Learning about the testimony and life of our father St Maroun helps us understand our identity as Maronites and encourages us to give witness to Jesus Christ amid challenges and persecution. So our calling is to always strive to bring all to Christ, as he did.

St Maroun's world in the fourth and fifth centuries was challenging; there was little security in life, regardless of wealth and social standing. Food shortages and diseases were rampant; law and order in cities faltered, with the Roman Empire in constant conflict. This led to a population shift, with many fleeing to the countryside for peace, despite the hardships.

Maroun, a monk and priest at the time, chose to leave settled life for one of solitude, living as a hermit in the open air on a mountain top in Quorosh - North Syria. He is known for converting a pagan temple into a Church but also pagans to Christianity.

He chose a life of celibacy and poverty, inspiring many to follow his example. He lived an ascetic life, endured all challenges and made out of his life a sacrifice to God. Like a mountain resisting a hurricane, Maroun's faith remained unshaken. And so, remaining in one place, he drew men and women who came to him seeking spiritual advice and following his way of life; poverty, chastity, prayer and meditation, and most importantly love. He was passionate about spreading the message of the Gospel and zealous about the healing of 'lost souls'.

Ultimately, and after his death in 410AD, Beit Maroun, or the "House of Maroun," was built in 452AD. Those who followed Maroun's style of life and spirituality became known as Maronites. This spiritual movement flourished and became a Church in the 7th Century, the Maronite Antiochian Church - the only Catholic Church named after a saint.

As Maronites, we strive to embody Christ's likeness, drawing on the faith, hope, and courage of St Maroun, who teaches us to serve rather than seek to be served. Our times parallel Maroun's, and urge us to deepen our faith for our mission amidst today's challenges, insecurities and uncertainties of the world.

His example holds immense value for us today but also on this Sunday's Commemoration of the Faithful Departed. In a world that can be hostile or indifferent to the truth of the Gospel, our focus must remain on building the kingdom of God here on earth, where Christ is always offering us grace, hope and consolation in the face of the darkness of this world. Let us be reminded of the eternal life that awaits us and encourages us to hold fast to our faith without wavering, like St Maroun did. Let us seek his intercession for the repose of the souls of all those who have gone before us, so they may be ushered into heaven in accordance with the promises of Christ.

On this Feast day, I invite you to participate in the Solemn Mass at St Maroun's Cathedral (Redfern) on Thursday 8 February at 7pm, the vigil of St Maroun's Feast. I extend an invitation for the interstate communities in Brisbane and Adelaide to attend the Patronal Feast celebrations on 18 February in Brisbane and the 25th in Adelaide. I also extend blessings to all carrying the name of our spiritual father and wish you all, and your families, a blessed and joyful Feast of St Maroun.

Antoine-Charbel Tarabay



Sunday of the Faithful Departed

Ezk 37: 1-10

1Thess 5: 1-11

Lk 16: 19-31

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

"Praying for all souls"

"It is therefore a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from sins." (2 Maccabees 12:46)

Praying for the dead isn't only set aside for the month of November or during funerals alone, for we must remember them always in prayer as we call upon the mercy of God. In this third week of Commemoration, we remember the souls of all who have died, especially the most forgotten souls. We remember ALL souls with the hope and prayer for their eternal salvation, as they can no longer pray or offer penance for themselves. Prayer has always been my solace, my "go to place" especially when life isn't going my way and I need to find purpose and direction in my life. But that's not the only time I turn to prayer, for it has become my daily bread - the irreplaceable nourishment I need each day to help me persevere in my vocation as a disciple and worker in the Lord's vineyard. Above any other reason, I need prayer to maintain my unique, personal and intimate relationship with God, wherein I speak to Him and He speaks to me in the refuge of this divine intimacy.

Strangely enough, it was during my years as a florist in Rookwood Cemetery when my prayer developed into a deeper and more structured way of life. I felt a strong connection with the souls of the dead and could not stop praying for them throughout my day, especially in seeing the funeral cars driving past me on a daily basis. I prayed for those who were grieving, that they may be strengthened in Faith and Hope, and I prayed for those who had passed into eternal life,

that the Mercy of God had found a way into their hearts for reconciliation before their last breath. In our prayers, we implore God's Mercy upon every soul that has ever passed, and that God may accept our sacrifices and offerings made on their behalf. Praying for the dead is an act of mercy on our part, for they cannot pray for themselves, and this is why it's so important for us to pray and to offer the Divine Liturgy for them. Saint Gertrude's prayer for the dead is a wonderful daily offering for the Holy Souls: *"Eternal Father, I offer You the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity, of Your Beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in union with all the Masses offered today throughout the world, for the release of the holy souls in purgatory, especially the most forgotten souls and those within my own family. Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let Your perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen."*

Salwa Elias

QUESTION

How did the first Christian community in Jerusalem pray?

ANSWER


At the beginning of the Acts of the Apostles it is written that in the first community of Jerusalem, educated in the life of prayer by the Holy Spirit, the faithful "devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread, and to the prayers" (Act 2:42)



UPCOMING EVENTS

St Maroun

Triduum



Wednesday 7th February
7:00 pm: Mass
9:00 am: Mass
5:30 pm: Arabic Mass
7:00 pm: English Mass

Thursday 8th February
7:00 pm: Mass
9:00 am: Mass
6:00 pm: Mass
8:00 pm: Adoration

Friday 9th February
Feast Day
7:00 pm: Mass
9:00 am: Mass
6:00 pm: Mass
24 Hours Adoration

Our Lady of Lebanon Co- Cathedral | 40 Alice Street - Harris Park Nsw 2150

LOLO FAMILY COMMITTEE PRESENTS PRE - LENTEN FAMILY BRUNCH

LOCATION
RECREATION ROOM
LOLO YOUTH CENTRE

FREE EVENT

4TH FEBRUARY

AFTER 9.30AM SUNDAY MASS



Fersen Al Adra invites all Children from kindy to Year 6

LOLO FERSEN AL ADRA REGISTRATIONS

SATURDAY 10TH FEBRUARY
1-3pm
LOLO Youth Centre
\$60 per Child

A chance for your children to grow in faith and make life long Friendships!



For any enquiries about the day!!
CONTACT US
0466 755838

PARISH NOTICE BOARD

Sunday 4 February:

Sunday of the Faithful Departed

5:00pm 40 Day Mass for the late George Abraham Andary from Kfour Al Arbeh

Monday 5 February:

10:30am Funeral of the late Susan Semaan Costantine widow of the late Youssef Abboud from Kfarsghab

6:00pm 40 Day Mass for the late Naji Younes from Abdelleh - Batroun

Thursday 8 February:

6:00pm 40 Day Mass for the late Rose Zibara widow of the late Assad skaf from Hasroun

Friday 9 February:

Feast of St Maroun

Masses 7:00am, 9:00am and 6:00pm

Saturday 10 February:

6:00 40 Day Mass for the late John Bakhos Khalil from Blouza

Sunday 11 February:

Cana Sunday – Entrance into the Great Lent

11:00am 40 Day Mass for the late Anthony Sayed Gittany from Zgharta

PARISH WEEKLY COLLECTION & LOANS REPAYMENTS

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS For week ending: 28/01/2024

Plates: \$13,073 | **Donations:** \$0 | **Candles:** \$1,896

PARISH LOANS

CYPC: \$3,344,258

UNITS: \$1,094,872

MONTHLY LOAN REPAYMENTS

CYPC: \$37,681 INTEREST + PRINCIPAL

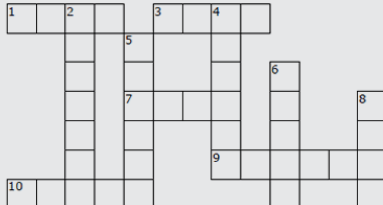
UNITS: \$12,503 INTEREST + PRINCIPAL

KIDS CORNER

The Rich Man and Lazarus

"But Abraham replied, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony.'" Luke 16:25 (NIV)

This puzzle is based on Luke 16:19-31 (NIV)



ACROSS

- Having a lot of money or valuable possessions
- To tell someone of possible danger or harm
- An opening in a wall or fence for entrance or exit
- The fleshy part in the mouth that is used in tasting
- A clear, colorless, odorless, and tasteless liquid essential for most plant and animal life

DOWN

- To soothe someone in a time of pain or suffering
- To change your behavior because you are sorry for what you have done
- A poor person who lives by asking others for money or food
- Extreme physical or mental pain or suffering
- Stopped living

warn	died	comfort	water	gate
agony	rich	tongue	beggar	repent



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!

On Tuesday

LOL Fersen embarked upon electing their 2024 Executive team. Through the intercession of our Blessed Mother Mary, this Marian Ministry continues to thrive and flourish with new leaders, committed, and dedicated to service. We are pleased to announce that the 2024 Executive team was elected in the presence of our Chaplain Father John Paul Bassil, O.M.M., & assistant to the Chaplain Sister Rita Bou Raffoul, as follows:

Coordinator & Treasurer: Antonio Chalita
Vice Coordinator & Secretary: Jacinta Semaan
Spiritual Coordinators: Sister Rita & Antonious Tarrazi
Media Coordinator: Elise Haddad
Events Coordinators: Belinda Bourizk & Anthony Harb

We thank the previous Executive team and leaders who have worked extremely hard in prior years to pave the way for our current team. Your efforts do not go unnoticed, and we will keep the outgoing team in our prayers. Please continue to pray for our leaders, Fersen Ministry, the community we serve within and the children we encounter as part of our mission.

On Wednesday

The youth came together for their final instalment of "the mysteries" series. Our talk was on the sacraments with the session on the journey of marriage – both the difficulties and fulfilling parts of marriages. Understanding what we and the person we choose to be with should be prepared for

On Thursday & Friday

Our mothers of our parish were busy baking saj bread on the lower-level car park. Thank you to all who came and purchased and showed their support

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.



UPCOMING EVENTS



Our Lady of Lebanon Parish Arabic School
مدرسة اللغة العربية في رعية سيدة لبنان - سيدني، أستراليا

Adult Arabic Classes 2024

Adult Arabic Classes will be held on Tuesday evenings in the Community Youth & Parish Centre, Ground Level, 40 Alice Street, Harris Park NSW 2150.

Registration for Term 1 is open.

Start date: Tuesday February 13, 2024 (TBC);

Time: 7:00pm-8:30pm;

Duration: 8 weeks per school term

To register, please call the Parish Office on

02 9689 2899 or 0478885580, or email

arabicschool@lol.org.au.

"Our language is part of our history, culture and traditions."



LOL Arabic School | 40 Alice Street Harris Park NSW 2150 | Ph. 02 9689 2899 | M. 0478885580 | E. arabicschool@lol.org.au | W. www.lol.org.au



Our Lady of Lebanon Parish Arabic School
مدرسة اللغة العربية في رعية سيدة لبنان - سيدني، أستراليا

Let your heritage and culture thrive in 2024
at the LOL Arabic Language School.

Arabic Classes will be held on Saturday mornings in the Community Youth & Parish Centre, Ground Level, 40 Alice Street, Harris Park NSW 2150.

Registration for Term 1 is open.

Start date: Saturday February 10, 2024;

Time: 9:30am - 12:30pm

To register, please call the Parish Office on

02 9689 2899 or 0478885580, or email

arabicschool@lol.org.au.

"Our language is part of our history, culture and traditions."



The NSW Government is helping kids get creative with the new Creative Kids program.

Apply for the \$50 Creative Kids Voucher online: www.service.nsw.gov.au

(The voucher will be available twice a year, February & July).

Name of Provider: Maronite Eparchy of Australia Arabic School

LOL Arabic School | 40 Alice Street Harris Park NSW 2150 | Ph. 02 9689 2899 | M. 0478885580 | E. arabicschool@lol.org.au | W. www.lol.org.au

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

MaroniteCare

Day/time: Sundays
10.30am

Location: St Elias Chapel,
Maronite College of the
Holy Family (MCHF)

Access: Gate 6, Weston
St Harris Park, MCHF.
Parking on Weston St

Info: Fr Yuhanna Azize
0435 764 824

Every Sunday
10.30am

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



OUR LADY OF LEBANON CO-CATHEDRAL

"Get up and Pray, so that you will not fall into temptation"
Luke 22:46

2024 YEAR OF PRAYER

ASH MONDAY SERVICES

FEBRUARY 12, 2024

6 AM RITE OF BLESSING
& DISTRIBUTION OF THE ASHES

7 AM, 9 AM MASS & RITE OF BLESSING
& DISTRIBUTION OF THE ASHES

10.45 AM MCHF MASS & RITE OF BLESSING
& DISTRIBUTION OF THE ASHES

5:00 PM MASS & RITE OF BLESSING
& DISTRIBUTION OF THE ASHES

7:00 PM MASS & RITE OF BLESSING
& DISTRIBUTION OF THE ASHES.
CELEBRATED BY HIS EXCELLENCY
BISHOP ANTOINE-CHARBEL TARABY

Our Lady of Lebanon Co-Cathedral | 40 Alice St, Harris Park NSW 2150



UPCOMING EVENTS

"Get up and Pray, so that you will not fall into temptation"
قُومُوا وَصَلُّوا لئَلَّا تَدْخُلُوا فِي تَجْرِبةٍ " Luke 22:40

2024 YEAR OF PRAYER

Our Lady of Lebanon Co-Cathedral

Lenten Weekly Program

- Monday:** 9:00 pm | Rosary
- Tuesday:** 7:30 pm | Bible Study in Arabic
- Wednesday:** 11:30 am | Mass followed by Lenten Lunch
8 pm | Bible Study in English
- Thursday:** 8 pm | Adoration
- Friday:** 5:45 pm in Arabic, & 8 pm in English
Stations for The Cross, Evening Prayer
& Ziyeh Al Salib.
- Saturday:** Fersen Al Adra & Teens Meetings
- Sunday:** 8 am, 9:30 am, 11 am, 5 pm & 7 pm
Divine Liturgy - Mass

Our Lady of Lebanon Co-Cathedral | 40 Alice Street, Harris Park NSW 2150



Every
Wednesday
During Lent

كل يوم أربعاء
خلال الصوم

Lenten Lunch غداء صيامي

تدعوكم أخوية كاتدرائية سيّدة لبنان
كل يوم أربعاء خلال فترة الصوم الساعة ١١:٣٠ لقداس
يليه غداء صيامي متنوع في قاعة الرعية
أكثر من ٤٠ صنف مأكولات صيامية
وجودكم يفرحنا

\$10 للشخص الواحد يعود ريع هذا العمل لمساعدة عائلات محتاجة في لبنان

The Ladies of the Sodality of Our Lady of Lebanon
Co-Cathedral invite you to a Lenten Lunch of over 30 dishes
every Wednesday during Lent. 11:30am Mass followed by
lunch in the Church Hall

\$10 donation per person. All funds raised goes to help poor families in Lebanon

Our Lady of Lebanon Co-Cathedral - 40 ALICE St, Harris Park NSW 2150 - Ph: 02 9689 2899 - www.olol.org.au



Stations of the Cross

Arabic: 5:45 pm

English: 8:00 pm

Every Friday during Lent



Adoration
Every Thursday at 8pm



لوحة إعلانات الرعية

الأحد ٤ شباط:

أحد الموتى المؤمنين

٥٠٠ أربعون المرحوم جورج أبراهام العنداري من كفور العربية

الاثنين ٥ شباط:

٣٠١ دفن المرحومة سوسان سمعان قسطنطين أرملة المرحوم

يوسف عبّود من كفرصغاب

٦٠٠ أربعون المرحوم ناجي يونس من عبّدلّه - البترون

الخميس ٨ شباط:

٦٠٠ أربعون المرحومة روز زيارة أرملة المرحوم أسعد سكاف من

حصرون

الجمعة ٩ شباط:

عيد مار مارون

القداست ٧٠٠ و ٩٠٠ صباحاً و ٦٠٠ مساءً

السبت ١٠ شباط:

٦٠٠ أربعون المرحوم جان باخوس خليل من بلوزا

الأحد ١١ شباط:

أحد مدخل الصوم - أية عرس قانا الجليل

١١٠٠ أربعون المرحوم أنطوني سايد الجعيتاني من زغرتا

من هو القديس مارون؟

يقول المؤرّخ تيودوريطوس أسقف قورش في كتابه "تاريخ الرهبان والنّسك": "لقد زيّن مارون ، طغمة القديسين المتوسّحين بالله ومارس ضروب التقشّفات والأمانات تحت جو السماء، دون سقف سوى خيمة صغيرة لم يكن يستظلّها إلّا نادراً.

"وكان هناك هيكل وثنيّ قديم، فكّرسه مارون، كما يقول تيودوريطوس، وخصّصه بعبادة الإله الواحد، يحبي الليالي بذكر الله وإطالة الركوع والسجود والتأمّلات في الكمالات الإلهيّة، ثم ينصرف إلى الوعظ وإرشاد الزائرين وتعزية المصابين.

وبما أنّ الله غني كثير الإحسان إلى قديسيه منحه موهبة الشفاء فذاع صيته في الأفاق كلها فتقاطر إليه الناس من كل جانب. ولم يقتصر القديس مارون على شفاء أمراض الجسد بل كان يبرىء أيضًا أمراض النفس.

ما انتشرت سمعة الكاهن مارون الناسك التقويّة وعرف قداسته حتى تكاثر عدد الرهبان حوله فأقامهم أولاً في مناسك وصوامع على الطريقة الإنفراديّة، بحسب عادة تلك الأيام، ثم أنشأ أدياراً وسنّ لهم قانوناً وقام يرشدهم في طريق الكمال. وتعدّدت تلك الأديار المارونيّة ولا سيّما في شمالي سورية، حتى أن تيودوريطس يغتبط بوجودها في أبرشيّته. وكانت وفاة مار مارون في السنة الأربع مئة والعشر.

مات القديس مارون متنسّكاً عفيفاً، ولكنّه لم يمت حتى رأينا أبناءه الروحيّين المشرّفين باسمه، ينتشرون الوفا تحت كل كوكب. غير أن المارونيّة تركّز كيانها في لبنان وفيه بسقت دوحتها وامتدت أغصانها إلى أنحاء الدنيا.

السكنسار الماروني

لا تخافوا



كثيراً هي الأمواج والعاصفة تزمجر، لكننا لا نخشى الغرق: فنحن نقف على الصخرة. ليهتّج البحر، فإنّه لن يقوى على هذه الصخرة؛ ولترتفع الأمواج، فإنّها لن تبتلع قارب الرّب يسوع المسيح. هلاً قلتم لي يا أحبائي مما نخاف؟ أترانا نخشى الموت؟ "الحياة عندي هي المسيح، والموت ربح". أم إنّه المنفى؟ إنّ "الرّب الأرض كلّ ما فيها الدّنيا وساكنوها". أنخاف مصادرة الأملاك؟ "فإنّا لم نأب العالم ومَعنا شيء، ولا نَسْتَطِيعُ أَنْ نَخْرُجَ مِنْهُ وَمَعنا شيء". إن وجدتم صعوبة بأن تؤمنوا بهذا الكلام، فأمنوا بتلك الوقائع. كم من الطّغاة حاولوا إبادة الكنيسة؟... لكن كل ذلك لم يُربحهم أي شيء منها. أين هم أولئك المضطهدين الشّرسين؟ لقد ألوا إلى النّسيان. والكنيسة أين هي؟ ها هي مشرقة كالشّمس... "فَحَبِطُما اجتمعَ اثنانِ أو ثلاثة باسمي، كُنْتُ هُنَاكَ بَيْنَهُمْ". لقد أعطاني الرّب ضمانات، فهل أثق بقوّتي؟ أنا أحمل كتابه في يدي: هذا هو سندي، وهذه سلامتي وهذا برّ الأمان بالنسبة إليّ. قلو ارتجف العالم بأجمعه، فلدي كلمته وكتابه: هذا هو حصني وهذه هي ضمانتي. هذا ما قاله "هأنذا معكم طوال الأيام إلى نهاية العالم". إنّ الرّب يسوع المسيح معي، فماذا أخشى؟ أمواج البحر وهياجه أم غضب الولاة؟ إنّ وزن هذه الصعوبات كلّها لا يتعدّى وزن شبكة العنكبوت.

القديس يوحنا الذهبي الفم



صلاة

اللَّهُمَّ، قَرِّبْ إلى عَرْشِكَ الموتى المؤمنين، وأسكنهم منازلَكَ الإلهيّة، وأبْرِزْ عليهم بنور وَجْهِكَ، وَمَتَّعْهُمْ بِسَعَادَتِكَ السَّامُوِيّة، وأهْلُنَا أَنْ نُقَدِّمَ إِلَيْكَ الصَّلَواتِ عَنَّا وَعَنْهُمْ، طالِبِينَ لَهُمُ الرّاحَةَ ولنا المَغْفِرَةَ، لِنُسَبِّحَكَ وَنُثَمِّدَكَ وأَبَاكَ وَرَوْحَكَ المُقْدُوس، إلى الأبد، آمين

عَيْنَا

كاتدرائية سيدة لبنان - هاريس بارك

عدد ١٤ | الأحد ٢ شباط ٢٠٢٤ | أحد الموتى المؤمنين "يا أبت إبراهيم، إرحمني وأرسل لعازر ليبلّ ظرف إصبعه بماء ويبرّد لساني،" لو ١٦: ١٩-١٣

الإنجيل



"كَانَ رَجُلٌ غَنِيٌّ يَلْبَسُ الْأَخْوَانَ وَالْكَتَّانَ النَّاعِمَ، وَيَتَنَعَّمُ كُلَّ يَوْمٍ بِأَفْخَرِ الْوَلَائِمِ. وَكَانَ رَجُلٌ مَسْكِينٌ اسْمُهُ لِعَازَرُ مَظْرُوحًا عِنْدَ بَابِهِ، تَحْسُوهَ الْفُرُوحُ. وَكَانَ يَشْتَهِي أَنْ يَشْبَعَ مِنَ الْفُتَاتِ الْمَتَسَاقِطِ مِنَ مَائِدَةِ الْغَنِيِّ، غَيْرَ أَنَّ الْكِلَابَ كَانَتْ تَأْتِي فَتَلْحَسُ فُرُوحَهُ. وَمَاتَ الْمَسْكِينُ فَحَمَلَتْهُ الْمَلَائِكَةُ إِلَى حِضْنِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ. ثُمَّ مَاتَ الْغَنِيُّ وَذَمِنَ. وَزَفَعَ الْغَنِيُّ عَيْنَيْهِ، وَهُوَ فِي الْجَحِيمِ يُقَاسِي الْعَذَابَ، فَرَأَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ مِنْ بَعِيدٍ، وَلِعَازَرَ فِي حِضْنِهِ. فَنَادَى وَقَالَ: يَا أبتَ إِبْرَاهِيمَ، إرحمني وأرسل لعازر ليبلّ ظرف إصبعه بماء ويبرّد لساني، لأنني متوجّع في هذا اللهب. فَقَالَ إِبْرَاهِيمُ: يَا ابْنِي، تَذَكَّرْ أَنَّكَ نَلْتَ خَيْرَاتِكَ فِي حَيَاتِكَ، وَلِعَازَرُ نَالَ الْبَلَايَا. وَالآنَ هُوَ يَتَعَزَّى هُنَا، وَأَنْتَ تَتَوَجّعُ. وَمَعَ هَذَا كُلِّهِ، فَإِنَّ بَيْنَنَا وَبَيْنَكُمْ هَوَّةٌ عَظِيمَةٌ ثَابِتَةٌ، حَتَّى إِنَّ الَّذِينَ يُرِيدُونَ أَنْ يَخْتَارُوا مِنْ هُنَا إِلَيْكُمْ لَا يَسْتَطِيعُونَ، وَلَا مِنْ هُنَا أَنْ يَغْبِزُوا إِلَيْنَا. فَقَالَ الْغَنِيُّ: أَشْأَلُكَ إِذَا، يَا أبتَ، أَنْ تُرْسِلَ لِعَازَرَ إِلَى بَيْتِ أَبِي، فَإِنَّ لِي خَمْسَةَ إِخْوَةٍ، لِيَشْهَدْ لَهُمْ، كَيْ لَا يَأْتُوا هُمْ أَيْضًا إِلَى مَكَانِ الْعَذَابِ هَذَا. فَقَالَ إِبْرَاهِيمُ: عِنْدَهُمْ مُوسَى وَالْأَنْبِيَاءُ، فَلْيَسْمَعُوا لَهُمْ. فَقَالَ: لَا، يَا أبتَ إِبْرَاهِيمَ، وَلَكِنْ إِذَا مَضَى إِلَيْهِمْ وَاجِدُ مِنَ الْأَمْوَاتِ يَتُوبُونَ. فَقَالَ لَهُ إِبْرَاهِيمُ: إِنَّ كَانُوا لَا يَسْمَعُونَ لِمُوسَى وَالْأَنْبِيَاءِ، فَإِنَّهُمْ، وَلَوْ قَامَ وَاحِدٌ مِنَ الْأَمْوَاتِ، لَنْ يَفْتَنُغُوا!" لو ١٦: ١٩-٣١



أحد الموتى المؤمنين

سفر حزقيال ٣٧: ١-١٠

اتس ١: ٥-١١

لو ١٦: ١٩-٣١

ولعازر الفقير لم ينل الخلاص لأنّه فقير؛ فالله كلّ الجوده لا يريدنا فقراء بمعنى العوز والحرمان، بل يريدنا فقراء بالروح، غير متعلقين بأموال هذه الدنيا حتّى عبادتها. نال لعازر الخلاص لأنّه ارتضى حالة الفقر، وصبر على محنته، وحمل صليبه دونما اعتراض، واطّك على عناية الله، رافضاً اللجوء إلى العنف والسرقة والاحتتيال والتعدّي الظالم، عملاً بوصايا الله.

إنّ الإنسان الذي يعيش لذاته ويجعل ضمانته في هذه الحياة متلاكاته فينسى الله ويلغيه من حياته، سيكون مصيره العذاب أي الغربة عن الله. أمّا الإنسان الذي يجعل الله ضمانته الوحيدة في هذه الحياة فيعيش متكللاً عليه سيكون نصيبه حضن إبراهيم، أي مشاركة الله في الوليمة السماوية في الحياة الأبدية. فالحياة على الأرض ليست إلا محطة عبور إلى الحياة الأبدية، لذا علينا جميعاً أن نؤمن بالله فهو من قال "من آمن بي ومات فسيحياً"، فهيا بنا نرفع قلوبنا وعيوننا وأرواحنا نحو السماء فيكمل المسيح مسيرته معنا على الأرض لنستكمل من بعدها مسيرتنا معه في منزل السماوي.

"من آمن به وبما فيه فسيحياً" (يو ١١: ٢٥)

تحتفل الكنيسة اليوم وهذا الأسبوع بأحد الموتى المؤمنين، وهو بحسب الطقوس المارونيّ الأحد الثالث من آحاد التذكارات التي تضعها الليتورجيا المارونية قبل بداية زمن الصوم. ، وتدعونا الكنيسة لتتذكّر ونذكر كلّ الموتى المؤمنين الذين إنتقلوا من بيننا، والتركيز على التوبة والعودة الى الذات فنتحصّر لمصيرنا بعد الموت كي ننال الخلاص من يسوع المسيح.

يعلّمنا الرب يسوع في مثل الغني ولعازر أنّنا بولادتنا من أمهاتنا نبدأ وجودنا التاريخي، ومسيرتنا نحو وجودنا الأبديّ. بنوعية حياتنا على الأرض، يقرّر كلّ واحد وواحدة منّا نوعية وجوده الأبديّ: إمّا خلاصاً أبدياً، وإمّا هلاكاً.

إن المعضلة الأساسية في إنجيل الغني والفقير ليست موضوع الغني بحد ذاته لان بإمكانه ان يكون نعمة حين ندرك كيف نوظفه في خدمة الانسان وصون كرامة الشخص البشري. المشكلة الاساسية ،ان هذا الغني قد قسّى قلبه وأغلق يده وبابه بوجه إخوته البشر المحتاجين، فكان الغني الإله الأكبر عنده، إذ راح يبحث عن سعادته في غناه لا في الله.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Lord, may all the faithful departed whom we entrust to Your care, be held securely in Your Loving embrace for all eternity especially those we Pray for: (A) All 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 (C) (D) (E) Matthew Essey (F) (G) Helen George, Majid George (H) Maurice & Martha Jamil Haddad, Paul & Madeline Haddad & Son Joseph & daughter Colleen George (I) (J) Jamil Kamel Mtanios Jabbour (K) Baraban Georges Karam, Sarkis Chucri Khoudair, Tanious Elias Kassi and the deceased of his family, Genevieve Khoury and all the departed of Khoury & Elzahoul families (L) (M) Youssef Maroon & his wife Ghosoun, Therese Melhem, Betty Merhi, Bechara Boutrous Moussa, Robert Bechara Moussa (N) (O) (P) (Q) (R) Jamil & Labibi Roumanus and all their deceased family & friends (S) Youssef Mikhael Shaheen, Boutros & Therese Sassine and their son Kenny, Nabih Nassim Saad & Children Kevin & Emile Saad, Adele Seghabe, Therese Semaan Seghabe (T) (U) (V) (W) (X) (Y) (Z)

