

OUR PARISH

Our Lady of Lebanon Co-cathedral - Harris Park

Issue 20 | Sunday 17 March 2024 | Sunday of the Blind "Go; your faith has made you well" Mk 10: 46-52



THE GOSPEL

They came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you? The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again." Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way. Mk 10:46-52

Message from the Bishop

Pope Francis authorised this week the promulgation of a decree recognising the miracle attributed to the intercession of the Venerable Servant of God Estephan El Douaihy paving the way for his beatification in Lebanon on the 2nd of August 2024.



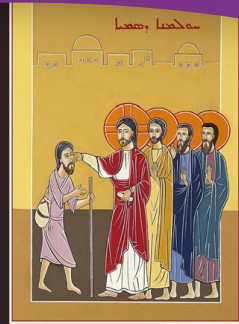
Estephan El Douaihy, born in Ehden, Lebanon, in 1630, dedicated his life to the service of the Maronite Church and the pursuit of knowledge. After studying in Rome and being ordained a priest, he served diligently in various parishes and eventually became the Bishop of the Maronite Diocese of Cyprus. Known for his reforms and writings, he was elected the 57th Patriarch of the Maronite Church in 1670. He played a crucial role in preserving the traditions of the Maronite Church while facing challenges from Ottoman authorities.

The news of his upcoming beatification is cause for great joy in Lebanon and beyond. We thank the Lord for this blessing to our Church. May the prayers of Venerable Estephan El Douaihy be with us all.

Feast of St Joseph

This week, on the 19th of March, we celebrate the feast of Saint Joseph, a much beloved saint. We reflect on his profound role in the life of Jesus and the Holy Family. In the Gospel narratives, Joseph emerges as a man of dreams, through which God communicates important messages to him. These dreams highlight the ongoing presence of fear and danger in his life and the important task he was entrusted with: to protect Jesus and His Mother Mary. Joseph's faith and reliance on prayer allowed him to navigate uncertainty with confidence in God's plan.

Today, we remember those burdened by life's challenges, who struggle to find hope and solace. We ask Saint Joseph to intercede for them, guiding them towards dialogue with God and illuminating their path with light and peace.



Sunday of the Blind
Isa 42: 6-8,16-18
2Cor 10: 1-7
Mk 10: 46-52

Sunday of the Blind

On this Sunday of Lent, the Maronite Church reflects on the Gospel of the healing of the blind man. The story of the healing of Bartimaeus portrays the great courage of a man who despite his disability knew exactly what he wanted. Although Bartimaeus was physically blind, his faith led him to believe that Jesus was the Messiah, the chosen one, and he called out: "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me".

This Gospel passage is not only about the faith of Bartimaeus. It is also about the lack of faith of the disciples, who professed that Jesus was the Messiah in words, but were blinded to the fact that Jesus' mission of salvation had to go through the Cross. Although it was the disciples who called Bartimaeus, saying to him: "take heart, he is calling you", it was Bartimaeus who had the faith to see and understand who Jesus was.

Through the faith of Bartimaeus, we can see examine our faith especially in times of adversity. When fear clouds our vision and blinds us to the perspective of faith, do we, like Bartimaeus, cry out to Jesus for mercy and assistance? When fear grips us, it not only distances us from God and the Church but also isolates us from our loved ones. Regrettably, in our blindness, we may fail to recognise our family, friends, or the Church beckoning us with words of encouragement: "Take heart, get up, he is calling you."

In this Season of Lent, may we turn to God in prayer, seeking the clarity of vision to recognise His presence and the courage to respond to His call.

Antoine-Charbel Tarabay

SUNDAY HOLY LITURGIES

LOLOL 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

"Have pity on me"

In this week leading up to Palm Sunday, the Maronite liturgy commemorates one more miracle on "Sunday of the Blind" recalling the healing of Bartimaeus. This is the last healing to be recorded in Mark's Gospel preparing us for the coming events of Christ's Passion. Again, Jesus commented that it was faith that promoted healing, with the son of Timaeus' supplication "Son of David, have pity on me." Isn't this the pleading of every soul that has wandered or offended the Lord in any way?

Entering upon the threshold of Easter, the holiest Season of the year which changed the history of mankind, an appropriate quote for our reflection can be taken from St. Therese of Lisieux - "The greatest honour God can do a soul is not to give it much, but to ask much of it." Our Blessed Mother is a prime example of how much God can 'honour' a soul by asking much of it, a soul that responds to His asking, with a firm and passionate response of "Yes."

We may feel that we are the ones giving when we choose to offer Lenten fasting and penances, but in fact it is we who are at the receiving end from God, no matter how great our sacrifices. St Francis de Sales says it quite clearly: "The measure of love is to love without measure" for this is how God has loved us, in the greatest act of His Mercy as He gave His Only Son (John 3:16) to suffer and die for our Redemption.

The healing of the blind man on this Sunday of the Blind, is not referring only to him, but to all who are spiritually blind. Upon his miraculous healing, Bartimaeus immediately got up and followed

Christ. Can we say the same of ourselves? Knowing and believing that Jesus is the Christ, Son of the Living God, does our faith lead us to follow Him unconditionally? Am I blinded by the vices this world offers, and distracted from prayer and the sacraments? This Sunday should remind each of us that we must never forget to seek "pity" from our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, for we are all sinners before God in need of His Mercy. Position, power, wealth, and every other social standing in this life means nothing when we finally come before God. All that matters is how much we loved on earth. How much did we show mercy to others? How well did we serve our God? That is what matters in the end. Let's remove the plank from our own eye before attempting to remove the splinter from another's eye. Jesus, Son of David, have pity on me a poor sinner.

Salwa Elias

QUESTION

Why is the revelation of God's name important?

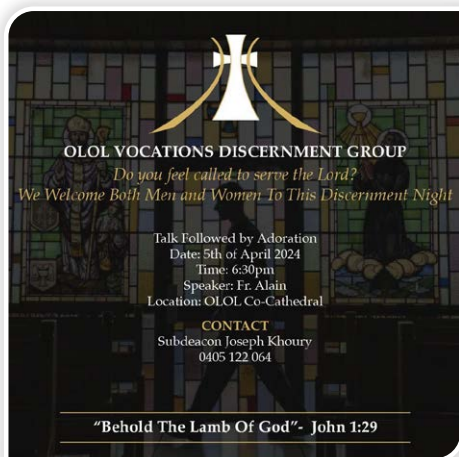
ANSWER

In revealing his name, God makes known the riches contained in the ineffable mystery of his being. He alone is from everlasting to everlasting. He is the One who transcends the world and history. It is he who made heaven and earth. He is the faithful God, always close to his people, in order to save them. He is the highest holiness, "rich in mercy" (Ephesians 2:4), always ready to forgive. He is the One who is spiritual, transcendent, personal, and perfect. He is truth and love.

"God is the infinitely perfect being who is the most Holy Trinity."
(Saint Thomas of Montenegro)



UPCOMING EVENTS



OLOL VOCATIONS DISCERNMENT GROUP
Do you feel called to serve the Lord?
We Welcome Both Men and Women To This Discernment Night

Talk Followed by Adoration
Date: 5th of April 2024
Time: 6:30pm
Speaker: Fr. Alain
Location: OLOL Co-Cathedral

CONTACT
Subdeacon Joseph Khoury
0405 122 064

"Behold The Lamb Of God" - John 1:29



OUR LADY OF LEBANON CO-CATHEDRAL

Mother's day

DELUXE SYDNEY HARBOUR CRUISE LUNCH

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8TH

DEPARTURE 9AM SHARP FROM OLOL. RETURN 3 PM

\$150 PER PERSON INCLUDES:

DELUXE LUNCH & SOFT DRINKS - 4 HOURS HARBOUR CRUISE
BUS TRANSPORT FROM OLOL TO CRUISE BOAT & RETURN - ENGLISH & ARABIC ENTERTAINMENT
ALCOHOL CAN BE PURCHASED.

TICKET PURCHASE FROM: CHURCH OFFICE & OLOL GIFTSHOP - PH 02 9689 2899

TO FACILITATE SEATING ARRANGEMENT, WE RECOMMEND PURCHASING A TABLE OF 10 FOR A GROUP OF FRIENDS
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL MARIA 0433 182 246 OR JOAN 0411 709 249



Our Lady of Lebanon Co-Cathedral

CARPARK VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

FRIDAYS OF LENT FROM 5PM TO 8:30PM

Contact Anthony: 0437 653 674



THE DIVINE LITURGY.

Presented by Deacon Eliah

Every Thursday at 7pm
29th February - 21st March
Seniors Room - CYPC Ground Floor
Our Lady of Lebanon Co-Cathedral

PARISH NOTICE BOARD

Sunday 17 March: Sunday of the Blind

9:30am One Year Mass for the late Mikhael Lichaa Saba from Bazoun

11:00am One Year Mass for the lates Roumanos and his brother Tony Boutros Kraizza from Hadchit

5:00pm 40 Day Mass for the late Antonios Youssef Estephan Rahme from Becharre

Monday 18 March:

6:00pm One Year Mass for the late Youssef Wardan Bou Melhem from Imar

Tuesday 19 March: St Joseph

6:00pm 40 Day Mass Susan Semaan Costantine widow of the late Youssef Al Khoury Hanna Abboud from Kfarsghab

Wednesday 20 March:

11:00am Mass followed by Lenten Lunch

5:30pm The late Mountaha Akel Bou Harb from Aintourine widow of the late Youssef Gerges Chaikha Doueihy from Zgharta (died in Lebanon)

7:00pm 40 Day Mass for the late Ruby (Iradatallah) Boutros widow of the late Isaac Moses from Kfarsghab

Thursday 21 March:

Mother's Day in Lebanon

6:00pm Mass for the Intention of all the living and departed Mothers for the Feast of Mother's Day in Lebanon followed by Adoration at 8:00 pm

Friday 22 March:

Masses 7:00am & 9:00am

5:45pm Stations of the Cross, Evening Prayer and Procession (Arabic)

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

Saturday 23 March:

Eve of Palm Sunday

6:00pm Mass & Procession of Palms (Eng/Ar)

Sunday 24 March:

Hosanna (Palm) Sunday

8:00am Mass & Procession of Palms (Eng/Ar)

11:00am Mass & Procession of Palms (Eng/Ar)

4:00pm Mass & Procession of Palms (Eng/Ar)

7:00pm Mass & Procession of Palms (Eng)

9:30pm Rite of the Arrival at the Harbour

PARISH WEEKLY COLLECTION & LOANS REPAYMENTS

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS For week ending: 10/03/2024

Plates: \$12,286 | **Donations:** \$- | **Candles:** \$1,281

PARISH LOANS

CYPC: \$3,316,421

UNITS: \$1,084,125

MONTHLY LOAN REPAYMENTS

CYPC: \$38,152 INTEREST + PRINCIPAL

UNITS: \$12,652 INTEREST + PRINCIPAL



KIDS CORNER



Braille alphabet:

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

Jesus spoke to Bartimaeus. Jesus asked what Bartimaeus wanted Jesus to do. Bartimaeus said,

"Rabbi, _____"

Jesus said,

"_____"

Find the verse below in the maze at the right. Follow the words through the maze.

"Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus."

—Mark 10:52

Immediately see aighcdjes
Jesus and in habcdsptaeabu
friend read edefgsqawabs
disciple at rhijkirnvocde
verses read ekmnohsdulfga
words st uayceivedtfolbed

A joyous time for us Maronites!



Pope Francis has given approval this week for the declaration of a decree acknowledging the miracle attributed to the intercession of the Venerable Servant of God Estephan Douaihy. This significant step clears the path for his beatification in Lebanon on August 2nd, 2024.

Patriarch Estephan Douaihy, who was determined to preserve the Maronite distinctiveness, graduated from the Maronite College in Rome at a time when the Maronite Church was facing a number of challenges to its traditions—liturgically, socially, and politically. Patriarch Douaihy met those challenges with great intellect.

This news of his upcoming beatification brings immense joy to our Maronite Church, Lebanon and us all! May the prayers of the Venerable Patriarch Estephan Douaihy be with us.



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



SAVE *the* DATE

FRIDAY 28TH JUNE 2024

LET'S BUILD THE NEXT 50 YEARS TOGETHER

OLOL ANNUAL GALA FUNDRAISER
AT DOLTONE HOUSE WESTERN SYDNEY



Do you know anyone in our community
who's served in conflicts on Australia's
behalf?

If you do, we need your help to
remember & honour them
this ANZAC DAY 2024

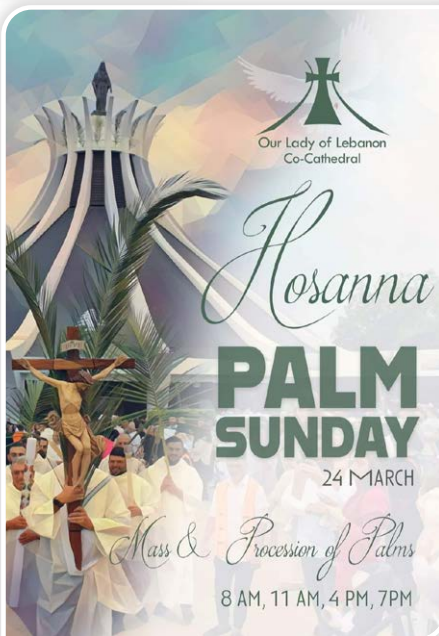
Contact Mrs Cathy Saad with details by Friday 5 April:

✉ sodality@olol.org.au

☎ 0408 669 138

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR HOLY WEEK & EASTER

Your assistance would be greatly appreciated and would make a significant impact in making our Holy Week services as meaningful and memorable as possible.
Please let us know if you are available to volunteer by filling out the form at www.olol.org.au/volunteers or for further details please contact Joanne on 0427 503 008 or Charbel on 0421 187 919.



RETREAT DAY

The Maronite Ladies of the Gospel invite all ladies to a **retreat day on Friday 22 March 2024**, to be held at St Nehmetallah Centre in Appin, including Mass and Stations of the Cross.
Buses will depart at **9:00am** from Our Lady of Lebanon, Harris Park. **Lunch and refreshments provided.**
Cost is \$60 per person. Return time will be around 3:00pm.

For reservations or inquiries, please contact Shirley Wehbe at 0409 330 028 or Noelle Zeidan at 0433 373 720.



UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday
18 | 5 | 24
10am-1pm

— LOVE & LAUGHTER —

*A Mother - Daughter
Brunch Bliss*

OLOL Church Hall

A Generational Brunch for all Mother-Daughter Figures
Grandmothers - Granddaughters
Godmothers - Goddaughters
Aunties - Nieces


FAMILY COMMITTEE
familycommittee@olol.org.au

"Get up and Pray, so that you will not fall into temptation"
قُومُوا وَصَلُّوا لئَلَّا تَدْخُلُوا فِي تَجَرُّبَةٍ *Luke 22:46*

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

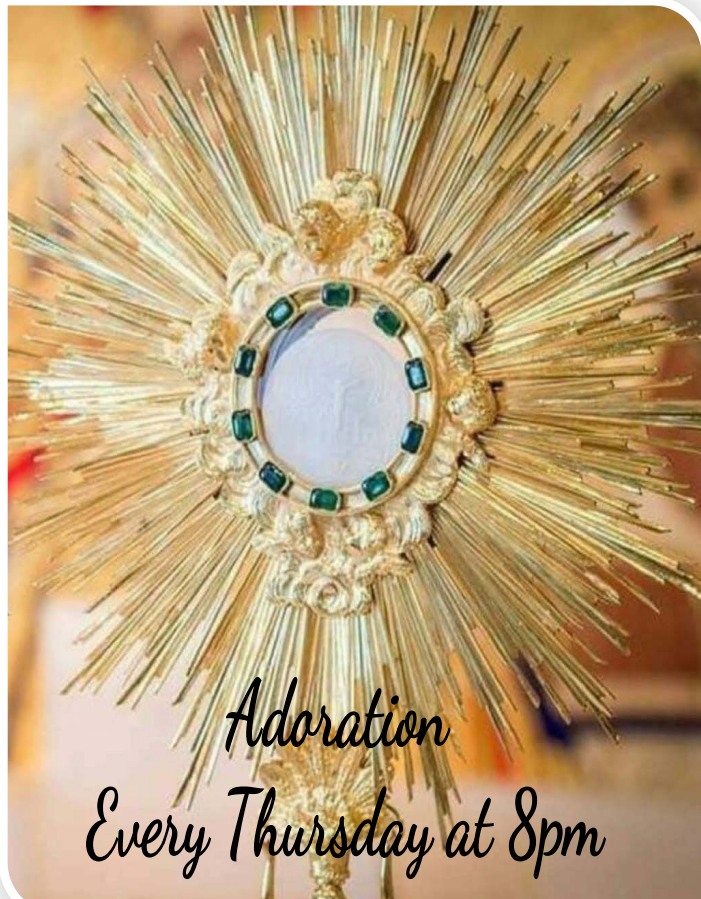

Our Lady of Lebanon
Co-Cathedral

Fridays of Lent

**Stations of the
Cross**

Evening prayers & Ziyeh

5:45 pm Arabic
8:00 pm English



Adoration

Every Thursday at 8pm

Our Lady of Lebanon Co-Cathedral Holy Week & Easter Program 2024

"Get up and Pray, so that you will not fall into temptation"

Luke 22:46



LAZARUS SATURDAY & HOSANNA

(PALM) SUNDAY VIGIL 23 March

6:00 pm MASS & PROCESSION of PALMS (Eng/Ar)

HOSANNA (PALM) SUNDAY 24 March

MASS & PROCESSION of PALMS (Eng/Ar)

8:00 am, 11:00 am, 4:00 pm & 7:00 pm.

9:30 pm Rite of the ARRIVAL AT THE HARBOUR

Celebrated by His Excellency Bishop Antoine-Charbel Tarabay

PASSION MONDAY 25 March

7:00 & 9:00 am Mass (Arabic)

6:00 pm Mass & Adoration of the Cross (Eng/Ar)

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

PASSION TUESDAY 26 March

7:00 & 9:00 am Mass (Arabic)

6:00 pm Mass & Adoration of the Cross (Eng/Ar)

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

PASSION (JOB) WEDNESDAY 27 March

7:00 & 9:00 am Mass

6:00 pm Mass & Rite of the Lamp (Eng/Ar)

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

THURSDAY OF THE MYSTERIES 28 March

7:00 & 9:00 am Mass

7:00 pm Mass of the Last Supper, washing of the feet.

8:30 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (Ar/En)
& Silent Adoration.

9:30 pm "Praying with Jesus in Gethsemane" (Eng/Ar)
Church is Open All Night

GREAT (GOOD) FRIDAY 29 March

6:00 am Mass of Signing of Chalice (Eng/Ar)

8:00 am Rite of Adoration of the Holy Cross (Eng/Ar)

10:00 am Way of the Cross Procession (Experiment Farm, Ruse St)

11:00 am Rite of Adoration of the Holy Cross (Eng/Ar)
Celebrated by His Excellency Bishop Antoine-Charbel
Tarabay

2:30 pm Litany (Talbat) of the Passion

3:00 pm Rite of Adoration of the Holy Cross (Eng/Ar)

6:00 pm Divine Mercy Novena

7:00 pm - 11:00 pm Reconciliation Night

8:00 pm Movie "Passion of the Christ" - CYPIC

SATURDAY OF THE LIGHT 30 March

10:30 am Prayer of Forgiveness & Litany
of the Resurrection (Eng/Ar)

6:00 pm Vigil Mass of the Resurrection (Eng/Ar)

11:00 pm Rite of Peace and Solemn Liturgy
of the Resurrection, celebrated by His Excellency
Bishop Antoine-Charbel Tarabay

RESURRECTION (EASTER) SUNDAY 31 March

8:00 am, 9:30 am, 11:00 am, 5:00 pm, 7:00 pm
Easter MASS (Eng/Ar)

EASTER MONDAY 1 April

8:00 am MASS (Arabic)

11:00 am MASS (Arabic & English)

6:00 pm MASS (Arabic & English)

CONFESSION TIMES

During all Evening Masses of Passsion Week.

Holy Thursday 28 March: 8:00 pm - 11:00 pm

Great Friday 29 March: 7:00 pm - 11:00 pm

Holy Saturday 30 March: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm & 10 pm - 11 pm

Divine Mercy Novena

Great Friday	29 March	6:00 pm
Saturday of the Light	30 March	7:00 pm
Easter Sunday	31 March	6:00 pm
Easter Monday	1 April	7:00 pm
Tuesday	2 April	7:00 pm
Wednesday	3 April	6:15 pm
Thursday	4 April	7:00 pm
Friday	5 April	7:00 pm
Saturday	6 April	7:00 pm
Sunday	7 April	3:00 pm

Feast of the Divine Mercy

PLEASE NOTE: Church Hall & Youth Centre are open with direct live broadcast and powerpoint for all major Liturgies.
For your safety & the safety of others, please respect & follow traffic controllers and volunteers directions. Please park respectfully. **DO NOT PARK IN NEIGHBOURS DRIVEWAYS.**

لوحة إعلانات الرعية

الأحد ١٧ آذار:

أحد شفاء الأعشى

٩:٣٠ السنة للمرحوم مخايل ليشع سابا من بزعون
١١:٠٠ السنة للمرحومين رومانوس وشقيقه طوني بطرس الكريسا
من حدشيت
٥:٠٠ أربعون المرحوم أنطونيوس يوسف إسطفان رحمة من بشري

الاثنين ١٨ آذار:

٦:٠٠ السنة للمرحوم يوسف وردان بو ملحم من عيماز
٧:٣٠ المرحومة تريبز الخوري بولس قسطنطين من كفرصغاب
(متوفاة في لبنان)

الثلاثاء ١٩ آذار:

عيد مار يوسف البتول

٦:٠٠ أربعون المرحومة سوسان سمعان قسطنطين أرملة المرحوم
يوسف الخوري حنا عبود من كفرصغاب

الأربعاء ٢٠ آذار:

١١:٠٠ قداس يليه غداء صيامي في هول الرعية
٥:٣٠ المرحومة منتهى عقل بو حرب من عينطورين أرملة المرحوم
يوسف جرجس الشخا دويهي من زغرنا (متوفاة في لبنان)
٧:٠٠ أربعون المرحومة روي (إرادة الله) بطرس أرملة المرحوم اسحاق
موسى من كفرصغاب

الخميس ٢١ آذار:

٦:٠٠ قداس على نية الأمهات أحياء وأموات بمناسبة عيد الأم في لبنان
يليه ساعة سجود عند الساعة ٨:٠٠ مساءً

الجمعة ٢٢ آذار:

القداسات ٧:٠٠ و ٩:٠٠ صباحاً

٥:٤٥ مساءً درب الصليب، صلاة المساء و الزياح (عربي)
٨:٠٠ مساءً درب الصليب، صلاة المساء و الزياح (إنكليزي)

السبت ٢٣ آذار:

٦:٠٠ قداس وزياح الشعانين (عربي / إنكليزي)

الأحد ٢٤ آذار:

أحد الشعانين

٨:٠٠ قداس وزياح الشعانين (عربي / إنكليزي)
١١:٠٠ قداس وزياح الشعانين (عربي / إنكليزي)
٤:٠٠ قداس وزياح الشعانين (عربي / إنكليزي)
٧:٠٠ قداس وزياح الشعانين (إنكليزي)
٩:٣٠ مساءً رتبة الوصول الى الميناء



صلاة

ايها المسيح نور العالم وضياءه، انت يا من حملت الى الناس الفرح والنور، أتر عقولنا وضمائرنا فترارك في كل برهة من حياتنا، وليكن ايماننا بك المصباح المضيء لنا في الليل والنهار فنبلغ ملكوتك ونشاهد انوارك حيث نمجدك مع الآب والروح الى الأبد، آمين



Caritas
Lebanon

Palm Sunday Caritas Lebanon Annual Appeal

As per our annual practice, we will be holding a special collection during masses on Palm Sunday on 24 March 2024, under the theme: "We continue with your support..."

All proceeds collected go to support our Diocesan Family Appeal through Caritas Lebanon.

Volunteers will be standing outside the church doors carrying collection boxes. Please be generous in your help to struggling families in Lebanon.

أحد الشعانين وحملة كاريتاس السنوية

بحسب العادة في كل سنة، تقوم أبرشيتنا بجمع التبرعات يوم أحد الشعانين دعماً لكارياتاس لبنان. شعار الحملة هذه السنة هو "ومكملين بدعمكم".

تجمع التبرعات في صناديق كاريتاس التي يحملها المتطوعون على أبواب الكنيسة لمساعدة العائلات الأكثر حاجة في لبنان.

نشكر سخائكم لدعم كارياتاس لبنان التي تعمل باسمكم وباسم الكنيسة لمساعدة المحتاجين.

زمن الصوم، زمن التوبة والتحول



زَمَنُ الصَّوْمِ الْكَبِيرِ، وَكَمَا يُشَبِّهُهُ أَبَاؤُنَا الْقَدِيسُونَ، هُوَ كَالرَّحْلَةِ الْبَحْرِيَّةِ، حَيْثُ تُبْجَرُ عَلَى مَتْنٍ سَفِينَةِ الْكَنِيسَةِ - الْجَمَاعَةِ الْمُؤَمَّنَةِ. نَجَاهِدُ بِمَجَازِيفِ الصَّلَاةِ وَالصَّوْمِ وَالصَّدَقَةِ، وَنَقَاوِمُ جَمِيعِ عَوَاصِفِ التَّحَدِّيَّاتِ وَالضَّيْقَاتِ وَالتَّجَارِبِ. وَفِي نَهَايَةِ الرَّحْلَةِ، نَصِلُ إِلَى مِينَاءِ أُسْبُوعِ الْآلَامِ، حَيْثُ نَغْطُسُ مَعَ آلَامِ رَبَّنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ الَّذِي غَطَسَ فِي وَاقِعِ يَوْمِيَّاتِ حَيَاتِنَا، لِيُنَقِّينَا وَيُخَلِّصَنَا وَيُرْفَعَنَا، فَنَقُومَ مَعَهُ وَنَحْيَا إِلَى الْأَبَدِ.

إِنَّ مَسِيرَةَ الصَّوْمِ الَّتِي هِيَ "بَذْءُ طَرِيقِ اللَّهِ الْمُقَدَّسِ، وَصَدِيقُ مُلَازِمٍ لِكُلِّ الْفَضَائِلِ" (إِسْحَقُ السَّرْيَانِي)، تَتَطَلَّبُ مِنَّا أَنْ نَمْتَقِرَ عَنْ ذَوَاتِنَا وَنَخْرُجَ مِنْ أَلِ "أَنَا" الَّتِي تُكَبِّلُنَا، وَتَجْعَلُنَا نَتَقَوَّقُعُ عَلَى ذَوَاتِنَا، وَنَمْتَعِنَا مِنْ مُلَاقَاةِ الرَّبِّ، وَالْمُبَادَرَةِ نَحْوَ قَرِيبِنَا. إِنَّ الصَّوْمَ الْكَبِيرَ لَمُنَاسَبَةٌ لِكَيْ نَخْتَبِرَ غِنَى اللَّهِ، وَفَرَحَ لِقَاءِ الْآخَرِ.

إِنَّ مَسِيرَةَ الصَّوْمِ الَّتِي نَعِيشُهَا بِ"الإِمْسَاكِ عَنْ جَمِيعِ الرَّذَائِلِ وَالتَّمَسُّكِ بِجَمِيعِ الْفَضَائِلِ" (يُوحَنَّا الذَّهَبِيُّ الْقَم)، تَجْعَلُنَا نَشْعُرُ بِقِيَمَتِنَا الْإِنْسَانِيَّةِ، وَنُذَرِكُ دَعْوَتَنَا الْإِلَهِيَّةَ. فَالصَّوْمُ يَجِدُ مَغْنَاهُ الْحَقِيقِيَّ فِي الْحُبِّ؛ حُبِّ اللَّهِ وَحُبِّ الْقَرِيبِ، هَذِهِ دَعْوَتُنَا أَنْ نَعِيشَ عِلَاقَاتِنَا الْبَشَرِيَّةَ بِحُبٍّ، وَنَسْعَى لِلْحَيَاةِ الْإِلَهِيَّةِ بِالْحُبِّ.

تَنْتَهِي مَسِيرَةُ الصَّوْمِ الْأَرْبَعِيَّ الْكَبِيرِ بِرُبْنَةِ الْوُصُولِ إِلَى الْمِينَاءِ الَّتِي نَخْتَفِلُ بِهَا مَسَاءً أَحَدِ الشَّعَانِينَ. بَعْدَ الْجِهَادِ الَّذِي عِشْنَاهُ فِي الْكَنِيسَةِ وَمَعَهَا، وَحَقَّقْنَا مَقَاصِدَ صَوْمِنَا. نَصِلُ إِلَى مِينَاءِ أُسْبُوعِ الْآلَامِ لِنَغْطُسَ مَعَ يَسُوعَ فِي مَسِيرَةِ آلَامِهِ الْخَلَاصِيَّةِ وَنَصِلَ مَعَهُ إِلَى مَجْدِ الْقِيَامَةِ.

عَيْنَا

كاتدرائية سيدة لبنان - هاريس بارك

عدد ٢٠ | الأحد ١٧ آذار ٢٠٢٤ | أحد شفاء الأعمى "إِذْهَبْ! إِيمَانُكَ خَلَّصَكَ" مر ١٠: ٤٦-٥٢



بَيْنَمَا يَسُوعُ خَارِجٌ مِنْ أَرِيحَا، هُوَ وَتَلَامِيذُهُ وَجَمْعٌ غَفِيرٌ، كَانَ بَرُطِيمَا، أَيْ ابْنُ طَيْمَا، وَهُوَ شَخَذٌ أَعْمَى، جَالِسًا عَلَى جَانِبِ الطَّرِيقِ. فَلَمَّا سَمِعَ أَنَّهُ يَسُوعُ النَّاصِرِيُّ، بَدَأَ يَصْرُخُ وَيَقُولُ: "يَا يَسُوعُ ابْنَ دَاوُدَ ارْحَمْنِي!". فَانْتَهَرَهُ أَنْاسٌ كَثِيرُونَ لِيَسْكُتَ، إِلَّا أَنَّهُ كَانَ يَزِدُّادُ صَرَخًا: "يَا ابْنَ دَاوُدَ ارْحَمْنِي!". فَوَقَفَ يَسُوعُ وَقَالَ: "ادْعُوهُ!". فَدَعَا الْأَعْمَى قَانِلِينَ لَهُ: "ثِقْ وَانْهَضْ! إِنَّهُ يَدْعُوكَ". فَطَرَحَ الْأَعْمَى رِذَاءَهُ، وَوثَبَ وَجَاءَ إِلَى يَسُوعَ. فَقَالَ لَهُ يَسُوعُ: "مَاذَا تُرِيدُ أَنْ أَصْنَعَ لَكَ؟". قَالَ لَهُ الْأَعْمَى: "رَابُونِي، أَنْ أَبْصَرَ". فَقَالَ لَهُ يَسُوعُ: "إِذْهَبْ! إِيمَانُكَ خَلَّصَكَ". من: ٤٦: ٥٢-٥٢

"أَبْصِرْ، إِيمَانُكَ خَلَّصَكَ"

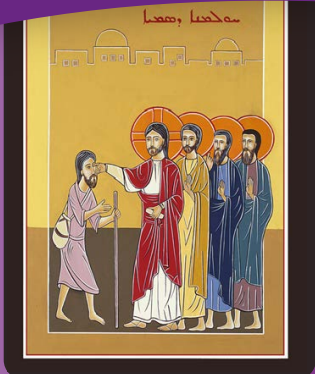
لَمَّا سَمِعَ طَيْمَا أَعْمَى أَرِيحَا أَنَّ "يَسُوعَ النَّاصِرِيَّ" يَمُرُّ، نَادَاهُ بِاسْمِهِ الْإِيمَانِي "يَا ابْنَ دَاوُدَ حَامِلَ الرَّحْمَةِ، ارْحَمْنِي".

صرخة الإيمان والفهم التي أطلقها الأعمى بأعلى صوته جابهها الناس، بعماهم الروحي، وانتهروه لیسکت. أما يسوع فسقطت الصرخة في قلبه، "فتوقف وأمر الناس أن يدعوه"، ليشفي عماهم الروحي بعلامة شفاء عمى الأعمى الحسي، فغيروا موقفهم ولهجتهم وقالوا للأعمى: "تشجع، قم. إنه يدعوك". ولمَّا سألَهُ يَسُوعُ: "مَاذَا تُرِيدُ أَنْ أَصْنَعَ لَكَ؟ أَجَابَ مِنْ دُونِ تَرَدُّدٍ: "رَابُونِي أَنْ أَبْصَرَ" (مر ١٠: ٥١). فقال له يسوع: "أبصر، إيمانك خلّصك" (مر ١٠: ٥٢).

أعطى يسوع ما عنده للأعمى. أعطاه النور أولاً لبصيرة قلبه، فأمن، ثم لعينه. وهكذا، اكتمل الأعمى في إنسانيته: بعينين خارجيتين تنظران جمال خلق الله، وببصيرة القلب المستنير بالإيمان التي ترى ما وراء المحسوس والمنظور. وكما نحن بحاجة إلى نور البصيرة الداخلية في عالمنا وفي حياتنا اليومية وأحداثها، كي نعرف كيف نقرأ علامات زمننا المتلاحقة والمتجددة.

بفضل شفاء الأعمى انكشفت هوية يسوع ورسالته. هويته أنه النور، ورسالته أنه ينير كل إنسان يأتي إلى العالم (يو ١: ٩). إنه نورنا بشخصه وكلامه وأفعاله وآياته. وهو بروحه القدوس ومواهبه السبع ينير العقل والارادة والقلب. وقد "أرسله الآب نوراً ليتجلى للأمم" (لو ٢: ٣٢).

كلنا مصاب بالعمى سواء على مستوى الإيمان أو الرجاء أو المحبة. ونحتاج إلى شفاء ورؤية جديدة. وحده يسوع يستطيع إعطائنا إياها. لأنه "نور العالم" (يو ٨/١٢). إن حقيقة هذا العمى الذي أصابنا جميعاً هو بسبب تخليتنا عن أتباع المسيح وتعاليمه، وهو



أحد شفاء الأعمى
سفر أشعيا
١٨-١٦، ٨-٦: ٤٢
٢ كو ١: ١٠-٧
مر ١٠: ٤٦-٥٢

السبب في كل ما يعانيه مجتمعنا من فساد مستشري من أكبر الرؤساء إلى آخر شخاذ يتسوّل على الطرقات! ولكن الرب يمر دائماً من أمامنا، وأرجو أن نصرخ جميعاً في هذه الأزمنة الرديئة: "رحمك يا ابن داود! أعد إلينا بصيرة الإيمان!"

مار يوسف - ١٩ آذار



يوسف أعظم القديسين شرفاً، لأن الله الآب قد أقامه أباً ومُربياً لابنه الوحيد الكلمة المتجسد، وأخذته الله الابن أباً له بالجسد، واصطفاه الله الروح القدس خطيباً لعروسه مريم العذراء الكلية القداسة. وقد صرّح الانجيلي بذلك بقوله: "وكان يوسف رجلاً لها صديقاً" (متى ١: ١٩). ويسوع المتواضع والفقير، إختار رجلاً فقيراً مسكيناً لأن يكون مُربيه والحارس له، فإيمان يوسف الراسخ، وثقته العظيمة بالله كان له عوناً في المصاعب. وأول ما إصطدم به أن العذراء خطيبته هي حبلى، فإختار في أمره، ولكن شهادته منعت من أن يشهرها فهم بتخليتها سراً. وفيما هو مفكر في ذلك ظهر له ملاك وكشف له عن الحقيقة. ومنذ تلك الساعة جعل يوسف حياته وقفاً على خدمة العذراء وإبنها يسوع. وكان يوسف يواصل رسالته وعنايته بيسوع ومريم بإيمان حي ومحبة وحنان وكد وضمت فاستحق يوسف أن يموت بين يدي يسوع ومريم. وكان بذلك شفيع أليمة الصالحة. كما أقامته الكنيسة شفيع الغيلة المسيحية وشفيع العمال الكادحين. صلاته معنا. آمين

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, Sayed Azizi, Violet Azizi (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 Chucir 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 Ghsoun, Therese Melhem, Betty Merhi, Bechara Boutrous Moussa, Robert Bechara Moussa (N) George Nader (O) (P) (Q) (R) Jamil & Labibi Roumanus and all their deceased family & friends (S) Youssef Mikhael Shaheen, Nabih Nassim Saad & Children Kevin & Emile Saad (T) (U) (V) (W) (X) (Y) (Z)

