



Christmas Season  
THE COMING  
THE COMING  
Announcment to Zechariah  
أحد بشارة زكريا

St. Anthony Maronite Church  
كنيسة مار أنطونيوس المارونية

#### OFFICE HOURS

M-TH: 9 AM - 4PM

Friday: 9 AM—2 PM

Saturdays: By Appointment

#### MAILING ADDRESS

145 Amesbury Street  
Lawrence, MA 01841

Phone: 978.685.7233

Fax: 978.688.4475

[rectory@stanthonylawrence.org](mailto:rectory@stanthonylawrence.org)

[www.stanthonylawrence.org](http://www.stanthonylawrence.org)

#### MEET OUR PRIESTS & DEACONS

##### Pastor

Fr. Elie Mikhael .... 305.807.9087

[pastor@stanthonylawrence.org](mailto:pastor@stanthonylawrence.org)

##### Parochial Vicar

Fr. Jebrael Moussallem... 412.616.4144

[pv@stanthonylawrence.org](mailto:pv@stanthonylawrence.org)

Deacon Nadim B. Daou

Visiting Deacon

Michael Charchaflian

Sub-Deacon James T. Demers

#### PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

*You are welcomed and loved  
by St Anthony Community.  
We are transformed through  
prayer, acts of love,  
forgiveness, service and  
stewardship.*

#### OUR CHURCH AT PRAYER

##### Daily Liturgies

M & W: 9 AM

T & TH: 7 PM

##### Weekend Liturgies:

Saturday: 4 PM Vigil

##### Sunday Liturgies:

8:30 AM - Arabic

9:30 AM - English

11:30 AM - English & Arabic

##### Holy days of obligation

Vigil Liturgy @ 7 PM

Feast Day @ 9 AM

#### SACRAMENTS

##### Baptism & Confirmation

*1 month in advance with the  
Pastor*

##### Matrimony

*Couples should make arrange-  
ments six months prior to the  
wedding date*

##### Reconciliation

*One hour Before Thursday &  
Saturday Liturgies, or by  
appointment*

##### Anointing of the Sick

*Please notify the Rectory if a  
member of your family is ill,  
hospitalized, or unable to come  
to Church and would like to  
receive communion at home*

*Please refer to our website for  
more Sacrament Celebrations  
Guidelines*

PARISH SECRETARY

Pat McKeever

[rectory@stanthonylawrence.org](mailto:rectory@stanthonylawrence.org)

PARISH MINISTRIES

Religious Education

[ccd@stanthonylawrence.org](mailto:ccd@stanthonylawrence.org)

Knights of Mary

[kom@stanthonylawrence.org](mailto:kom@stanthonylawrence.org)

Maronite Youth : MYO

[myo@stanthonylawrence.org](mailto:myo@stanthonylawrence.org)

Publishing: Bulletin

[bulletin@stanthonylawrence.org](mailto:bulletin@stanthonylawrence.org)

Choirs (English, Arabic & Syriac)

Kids Choir

Knights of the Altar

Maronite Young Adults

Bereavement Ministry

Cenacle of the Rosary

(Tuesdays @ 6PM before Liturgy)

Cenacle of Divine Mercy

(Sundays Before the Liturgies)

“Sacristan (s)

RESOURCES

AVAILABLE ONLINE

[www.stanthonylawrence.org](http://www.stanthonylawrence.org)

Membership Registration

Under Welcome

Baptism & Confirmation:

Guidelines & Registration

Under Sacraments –Baptism

Sacrament of Marriage:

Guidelines , Foccus & Pre-Cana

Under Sacraments-Marriage

Banquet Hall Guidelines:

Contract Form & Donations

Under Events

Burial Guidelines:

Charges , Fees & Lot Sales

Under Cemetery

Announcement to Zechariah

بشارة زكريا

Saturday, November 17 @ 4:00 PM

- **First Anniversary For: +Eileen Harvey, By her Family.**

Sunday, November 18 @ 8:15 AM

- **For: Special Intentions.**

Sunday, November 18 @ 9:30 AM

- **For: +Toufi & Jennie Ferris,**  
*By their children & their Families.*

Sunday, November 18 @ 11:30 AM

- **For: +George, Helen & Zeidan Ata, Youssef & Salwa Geha, By their loving Family.**

Week of the Announcement to Zechariah

أسبوع بشارة زكريا

Monday, November 19 @ 9 AM

- **For: + Special Intentions** By Fr. Jebrael Moussallem

Tuesday, November 20 @ 7 PM

- **For: + Special Intentions** By Fr. Jebrael Moussallem

Wednesday, November 21 @ 9 AM

- **For: + Special Intentions** By Fr. Jebrael Moussallem

Thursday, November 22 —Happy Thanksgiving

- **Office Closed—No Liturgies**

Friday, November 23: No Liturgy

Announcement to the Virgin Mary

أحد بشارة العذراء

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Saturday, November 24 @ 4:00 PM

- **Special Intentions, By the Pastor.**

Sunday, November 25 @ 8:15 AM

- **Special Intentions, By the Pastor.**

Sunday, November 25 @ 9:30 AM

- **For: + Michelle Yameen Brown** By *Annette Gutt*

Sunday, November 25 @ 11:30 AM

- **For: +Jean El-Helou, By their children, Tony, and Lola, wife of Abe Ata, and their families.**

**CHRISTMAS AT ST ANTHONY**

**Recital and Novena**

- ◇ Christmas Recital: December 8th
- ◇ Christmas Novena: December 16th - 24th
- ◇ CCD Pageant: December 16th @ 9:30 AM

**Christmas Eve Liturgies**

Vigil Liturgy: Monday December 24 @ 4PM  
 Midnight Liturgy December 25 @ 12AM

**Christmas Day Liturgies**

Christmas Liturgy -Arabic @ 10 AM  
 Christmas Liturgy-Arabic & English @ 11:30AM

**SHARING THE JOY WITH THE NEEDY**

- ◇ Annual Giving Tree
- ◇ Donate a Meal

**CELEBRATE THE SEASON  
 Annual Christmas Parties**

- ◇ Knights of Mary: Saturday December 15
- ◇ MYO: Friday December 28
- ◇ MYA: TBD
- ◇ Daughter's of Saint Anthony: December 3
- ◇ Ladies Party: Sunday December 9
- ◇ Men's Party: Wednesday December 5

*Further details to follow, stay Tuned!!!*

**THE SANCTUARY LAMPS**

**Right Sanctuary Lamp**

This week's Sanctuary Lamp will burn  
***In Honor of Mia Abou Ezzi.***

**Left Sanctuary Lamp**

This week's Sanctuary Lamp will burn  
***For the good health of Mark Bejjani.***

**Pope Prayer Intentions -November 2018**

**In Service of Peace:** *That the language of love and dialogue may always prevail over the language of conflict*

**TITHES & OFFERINGS - November 11, 2018**

*"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, **for God loves a cheerful giver.**" 2 Corinthians 9:7*

<b>Sunday Collection (Online)</b>	<b>\$ 2,869.60</b>
<b>Candles &amp; Sanctuary Lamp</b>	<b>\$ 72.00</b>
<b>CCD Registrations</b>	<b>\$ 1,960.00</b>
<b>Knights of Mary ( Registration)</b>	<b>\$525.00</b>
<b>Fuel</b>	<b>\$ 3,95.00</b>
<b>Donations, Stipends &amp; in Memory</b>	<b>\$ 170.00</b>
<b>2nd Collection (Patriarchal Charities)</b>	<b>\$846.00</b>
<b>Total Deposit</b>	<b>\$ 6,417.60</b>

**Contribute to Our Parish Growth.**

**Apply Online:**

<http://stanthonylawrence.org/donate-now/>

**What does your Church's Financial Statements say about YOUR Church?**

*What does your church's financial statements (Balance Sheet, Income Statements, Cash Flow, Ministry Budget, etc.) tell you about the following:*

- Are we **giving**? (Core, Missions, Giving Streams, Child Care, Community, other)
- Are we **saving**? (3-6 months operating \$\$)
- Are we **avoiding debt**? (conserving energy, recycling, redundant programs)
- Are we being **accountable**? (keeping track of funds? Large 'misc.'?)
- Are we **spending** in the areas of our vision? (Ministry Map)
- Are we **communicating** this? (Is the budget accessible/easy to understand?)
- Are people **supporting** our vision? (Why or why not?)



A big Thank You to Elaine Daher, the Knights of Columbus, and all the volunteers, who helped prepare, cook, serve, and decorate for our Annual Veteran's Day Breakfast.

Our parish is very blessed to have an abundance of donors and volunteers, working together to Honor those who served.

PARISH

MINISTRIES , ORGANIZATIONS & NEWS

Religious Education

Susan Veilleux [ccd@stanthonylawrence.org](mailto:ccd@stanthonylawrence.org)

Permission slips for the Annual Christmas Pageant went home this past Sunday. Please sign and return these slips to your child's teacher. Grades 5 & 6 will be receiving their roles and scripts this upcoming weekend. The Pageant will be held on Sunday December 16 at the 9:30 liturgy.

Knights of Columbus "Keeping Christ in Christmas" Poster Contest is going on until December 9. Children are encouraged to create a poster for this annual contest. Some students are working on the posters in class as an assignment. There is still a permission slip that needs to be signed by you. Students participating will be bringing that permission slip home next week.

On behalf of the Religious Education staff, we wish you and your families a Happy Thanksgiving.

There is **NO Religious Ed** on Sunday November 25.

KNIGHTS OF THE ALTAR

Sub Deacon James Demers

Meeting: Saturday, December 8th @ 11AM

Daughters of Saint Anthony

Elaine Ferris

Christmas Party: Monday December 3  
More details coming soon.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Meeting: Tuesday, December 11th @ 7 PM

FAMILY OF ST SHARBEL

Thursday, November 29th

- ◇ 6:30 PM - Rosary of Saint Charbel
- ◇ 7:00 PM - Divine Liturgy
- ◇ 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM - Eucharistic Adoration



عائلة مار شربل: الخميس 29 تشرين الثاني:

6:30 مساء: صلاة المسبحة-7:00 مساء: أقدس الألهي

Becoming an MYO Advisor?

Christian Hbaiter [myo@stanthonylawrence.org](mailto:myo@stanthonylawrence.org)

We are looking for a committed and motivated **parishioner**, **aged 25+** that is interested in becoming a MYO Advisor.

If you or someone you know may be interested, please contact Christian at [myo@stanthonylawrence.org](mailto:myo@stanthonylawrence.org) or call the Church Office.

⇒ **Sunday, November 25<sup>th</sup>**, 5:30pm-8:30pm: MYO Liturgy followed by a Thanksgiving Potluck (members will sign up to bring a food item)

⇒ **Friday, Nov. 30th - Sunday, Dec. 2nd:** MYO Regional Christmas Retreat (for those that are registered to attend)

Knights of Mary

Marie Charabati [kam@stanthonylawrence.org](mailto:kam@stanthonylawrence.org)

Changes to the Schedule!!!!

- ◇ December 1 (Regular Session)
- ◇ December 8 (Regular Session)
- ◇ December 15 (Christmas Party)

All sessions are 5:00pm to 7pm unless otherwise noted.

LECTORS

Saturday, November 17 - 4:00 PM Mary Saab

Sunday, November 18 - 8:15 AM Hitaf Nammour

Sunday, November 18 - 9:30 AM Elaine Ferris

Sunday, November 18 - 11:30 AM

English: Mounira Daher Arabic: Marcel Saade

Saturday, November 24 - 4:00 PM Christine Ryan

Sunday, November 25 - 8:15 AM Mona Hbaiter

Sunday, November 25 - 9:30 AM Sub Deacon Jim

Sunday, November 25 - 11:30 AM

English: Mansour Chaya Arabic: Selim Matta



PARISH

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

MATTHEW:  
THE KING & HIS KINGDOM



Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday

November 28 @ 10:30AM  
English Session  
November 28 @ 7:00PM  
Arabic Session

# Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Thursday at 7:30 PM



Begin Your Faith Journey Now!!!

Stanthonychurch.formed.org- Parish Code: N3CCNK

FORMED KIDS KORNER



Brother Francis:  
The Saints

Join Brother Francis as he introduces

children to their heavenly friends, the saints! Learn about the wonderful comfort, encouragement, and help given through those who serve God in His Heavenly Kingdom.

ALTAR SERVERS

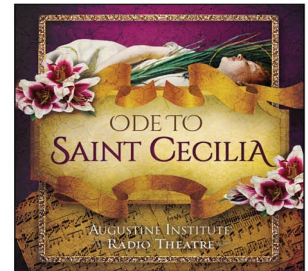
**Saturday, Nov. 17 - 4:00 PM**  
Elias Saab Sharbel Saab  
**Sunday, Nov. 18 - 8:15 AM** Volunteers  
**Sunday, Nov. 18 - 9:30 AM**  
Anthony Hassan Caleb Hassan  
**Sunday, Nov. 18 - 11:30 AM**  
Anthony Chaya Anthony El Hachem  
George El Hachem Ryan El Khoury

**Saturday, Nov. 24 - 4:00 PM**  
Elias Saab Sharbel Saab  
**Sunday, Nov. 25 - 8:15 AM** Volunteers  
**Sunday, Nov. 25 - 9:30 AM**  
Antonio Hbaiter Logan Gabriel  
**Sunday, Nov. 25 - 11:30 AM**  
Charbel Merheb Geryes Geha  
Samir Maroun Steven Maroun

FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

## Ode to Saint Cecilia

### The Story of a Holy Muse



Meet an inspiring woman with fierce courage and unwavering faith, willing to follow the path of beauty and truth—no matter the cost. Saint Cecilia's remarkable story will come to life in Augustine Institute Radio Theatre's most recent audio drama featuring award-winning actors and cinematic sound and music.



"Beautifully written and acted! It really makes the people and events come alive in a way that is both engaging and thought provoking."

—Rosalin S, Edgeley, ND

**Parental Guidance Suggested. Material may not be suitable for children.**

From porn stars to popular heroes and from leading world authorities to religious monks in sandals, *Hope Undimmed* provides surprising answers to the most difficult questions.

This film is not rated, but was filmed live on a college campus. It may also work very well for upper class high school. We would recommend Parental Guidance and that parents preview it before watching with children.



## READINGS

*Sunday of the Announcement to Zechariah*

**Romans 9:13-25** The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations') in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become 'the father of many nations', according to what was said, 'So numerous shall your descendants be.' He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith 'was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now the words, 'it was reckoned to him', were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

**Luke 1:1-25** Since many have undertaken to set down an orderly account of the events that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed on to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, I too decided, after investigating everything carefully from the very first, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed. In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years. Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. Now at the time of the incense-offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. But the angel said to him, 'Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.' Zechariah said to the angel, 'How will I know that this is so? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years.' The angel replied, 'I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur.' Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah, and wondered at his delay in the sanctuary. When he did come out, he could not speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. When his time of service was ended, he went to his home. After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, 'This is what the Lord has done for me when he looked favorably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people.'

## أحد بشارة زكريا

يا إخوتي، الوعد لإبراهيم أو لنسله بأن يكون وارثاً للعالم، لم يكن بواسطة الشريعة، بل بالبر الذي ناله بالإيمان. فلو كان أهل الشريعة هم الوارثين، لأبطل الإيمان، وألغى الوعد؛ لأن الشريعة تسبب غضب الله؛ وحيث لا شريعة، فلا تعدي للشريعة. لذلك فاهل الإيمان هم الوارثون، لكي تكون الورثة هبة من الله. وهكذا تحقق الوعد لكل نسل إبراهيم، لا للنسل الذي هو من أهل الشريعة فحسب، بل أيضاً للنسل الذي هو من أهل الإيمان، إيمان إبراهيم، الذي هو أب لنا أجمعين؛ كما هو مكتوب: «إني جعلتك أباً لأمم كثيرة». «فإبراهيم الذي آمن بالله هو أب لنا أمام الله، الذي يحيي الأموات، ويدعو غير الموجود إلى الوجود. وقد آمن إبراهيم راجياً على غير رجاء، بأنه سيصير أباً لأمم كثيرة، كما قيل له: «هكذا يكون نسلك». ولم يضعف بإيمانه، برغم أنه رأى، وهو ابن نحو مئة سنة، أن جسده مات، وأن حشا سارة قد مات. وبناءً على وعد الله، ما شك ولا تردد، بل تقوى بالإيمان، ومجدد الله. وأيقن ملء اليقين أن الله قادر أن ينجز ما وعد به. فلذلك حسب له إيمانه برأ. ولم يكتب من أجله وحده أنه «حسب له برًا»، بل كتب أيضاً من أجلنا، نحن الذين سيحسب لنا برًا، لأننا نؤمن بالذي أقام من بين الأموات يسوع ربنا، الذي أسلم من أجل زلاتنا، وأقيم من أجل تبريرنا.

بما أن كثيرين أخذوا يرتبون رواية للأحداث التي تمت عندنا، كما سلمها إلينا من كانوا منذ البدء شهود عيان للكلمة، ثم صاروا خداماً لها، رأيت أنا أيضاً، أيها الشريف تيوفيل، أن أكتبها لك بحسب ترتيبها، بعدما تتبعتها كلها، منذ بدايتها، تتبعا دقيقا، لكي تتيقن صحة الكلام الذي وعظت به. كان في أيام هيرودس، ملك اليهودية، كاهن اسمه زكريا، من فرقة أبيا، له امرأة من بنات هارون اسمها إيصابات. وكانا كلاهما بارين أمام الله، سالكين في جميع وصايا الرب وأحكامه بلا لوم. وما كان لهما ولد، لأن إيصابات كانت عاقراً، وكانا كلاهما قد طعنا في أيامهما. وفيما كان زكريا يقوم بالخدمة الكهنوتية أمام الله، في أثناء نوبة فرجه، أصابته القرعة، بحسب عادة الكهنوت، ليدخل مقدس هيكل الرب ويحرق البخور. وكان كل جمهور الشعب يصلي في الخارج، في أثناء إحراق البخور. وثرأى ملاك الرب لزكريا واقفاً من عن يمين مذبح البخور، فأضطرب زكريا حين رآه، وأستولى عليه الخوف. فقال له الملاك: «لا تخف، يا زكريا، فقد أستجيبت طلبتك، وأمرتك إيصابات ستلد لك ابناً، فسمه يوحنا. ويكون لك فرح وأبتهاج، ويفرح بمولده كثيرون، لأنه سيكون عظيماً في نظر الرب، لا يشرب خمراً ولا مسكراً، ويمتلئ من الروح القدس وهو بعد في حشا أمه. ويرد كثيرين من بني إسرائيل إلى الرب الإلهم. ويسير أمام الرب بروح إيليا وقوته، ليرد قلوب الآباء إلى الأبناء، والعصاة إلى حكمة الأبرار، فيهيئ للرب شعباً معدداً خيراً إعداد». فقال زكريا للملاك: «بماذا أعرف هذا؟ فإني أنا شيخ، وأمرأتي قد طعنت في أيامها!». فأجاب الملاك وقال له: «أنا هو جبرائيل الواقف في حضرة الله، وقد أرسلت لك كلمتك وأبشرك بهذا. وها أنت تكون صامتاً، لا تقدر أن تتكلم، حتى اليوم الذي يحدث فيه ذلك، لأنك لم تؤمن بكلامي الذي سيقم في أوانه». وكان الشعب ينتظر زكريا، ويتعجب من إبطائه في مقدس الهيكل. ولما خرج زكريا، لم يكن قادراً أن يكلمهم، فأدركوا أنه رأى رؤيا في المقدس، وكان يشير إليهم بالإشارة، وبقي أبكم. ولما تمت أيام خدمته، مضى إلى بيته. وبعد تلك الأيام، حملت امرأته إيصابات، وولدت لها خمسة أشهر، وهي تقول: هكذا صنع الرب إلي، في الأيام التي نظر إلي فيها، ليُرذل العار عني من بين الناس!



When is our life fulfilled? At what point in our lives do we say: “That’s it! That’s the climax! Nothing I can do from now on will outdo this. I’ve given what I have to give.”

When can we say this? After we’ve reached the peak of our physical health and strength? After giving birth to a child? After successfully raising our children? After we’ve published a best-seller? After we’re famous? After we’ve won a major championship? After we’ve celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of our marriage? After we’ve found a soulmate? After we’re at peace after a long struggle with grief? When is it finally done? When has our growth reached its furthest place?

The medieval mystic, John of the Cross, says we reach this point in our lives when we have grown to what he calls “our deepest center”. But he doesn’t conceive of this the way we commonly picture it, namely, as the deepest center inside our soul. Rather, for John, our deepest center is the optimum point of our human growth, that is, the deepest maturity we can grow to before we begin to die. If this is true, then for a flower, its deepest center, its ultimate point of growth, would be not its bloom but the giving of its seed as it dies. That’s its further point of growth, its ultimate accomplishment.

What’s our ultimate point of growth? I suspect that we tend to think of this in terms of some concrete, positive accomplishment, like a successful career or some athletic, intellectual, or artistic achievement that’s brought us satisfaction, recognition, and popularity. Or, looked at from the point of view of depth of meaning, we might answer the question differently by saying that our ultimate achievement was a life-giving marriage, or being a good parent, or living a life that served others.

When, like a flower, do we give off our seed? Henri Nouwen suggests that people will answer this very differently: “For some it is when they are enjoying the full light of popularity; for others, when they have been totally forgotten; for some, when they have reached the peak of their strength; for others, when they feel powerless and weak; for some it is when their creativity is in full bloom, for others, when they have lost all confidence in their potential.”

When did Jesus give off his seed, the fullness of his spirit? For Jesus, it wasn’t immediately after his miracles when the crowds stood in awe, and it wasn’t after he had just walked on water, and it wasn’t when his popularity reached the point where his contemporaries wanted to make him king that he felt he had accomplished his purpose in life and that people began to be touched in their souls by his spirit. None of these. When did Jesus have nothing further to achieve?

It’s worth quoting Henri Nouwen again, in answering this question: “We know one thing, however, for the Son of Man the wheel stopped when he had lost everything: his power to speak and to heal, his sense of success and influence, his disciples and friends – even his God. When he was nailed against a tree, robbed of all human dignity, he knew that he had aged enough, and said: ‘It is fulfilled!’” (John 19, 30).

“It is fulfilled!” The Greek word here is *Tetelesti*. This was an expression used by artists to signify that a work was completely finished and that nothing more could be added to it. It was also used to express that something was complete. For example, *Tetelesti* was stamped on a document of charges against a criminal after he had served his full prison sentence; it was used by banks when a debt had been repaid; it was used by a servant to inform his master that a work had been completed; and it was used by athletes when, tired and exhausted, they successfully crossed the finish line in a race.

*It is finished!* A flower dies to give off its seed so it’s appropriate that these were Jesus’ last words. On the cross, faithful to the end, to his God, to his word, to the love he preached, and to his own integrity, he stopped living and began dying, and that’s when he gave off his seed and that’s when his spirit began to permeate the world. He had reached his deepest center, his life was fulfilled.

When does our living stop and our dying begin? When do we move from being in bloom to giving off our seed? Superficially, of course, it’s when our health, strength, popularity, and attractiveness begin to wane and we start to fade out, into the margins, and eventually into the sunset. But when this is seen in the light of Jesus’ life, we see that in our fading out, like a flower long past its bloom, we begin to give off something of more value than the attractiveness of the bloom. That’s when we can say: “It is fulfilled!”



Monthly Income - November 2017

Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Liturgical Music	150.00
Auxiliary Receipts	
Candles / Other Devotional Item	609.00
Fuel	3,721.00
Interest & Dividends	25.38
Miscellaneous (SPECIFY)	157.28
Parking Lot Donations	720.00
Sunday Coffee Hour	<u>162.00</u>
Total Auxiliary Receipts	5,394.66
Extraordinary Income	
Donations from Individuals	2,825.43
Donations In Memory of...	650.00
Donations to Church for Baptism	200.00
Funeral Donation to Church	<u>200.00</u>
Total Extraordinary Income	3,875.43
Fund Raising	
Special Events Breakfast	<u>264.00</u>
Total Fund Raising	264.00
Ordinary Income	
Regular Collections	
2nd Collections to be forwarded	25.00
Sunday & Holy Day Collections	<u>11,830.80</u>
Total Regular Collections	<u>11,855.80</u>
Total Ordinary Income	11,855.80
Programs: MYO, CCD, Daughters	590.00
Total Programs	<u>590.00</u>
Total Income	<u>22,129.89</u>

Monthly Expense - November 2017

Security	19.43
Benefits	
Insurance - Disability	200.00
Employee Health Insurance	525.00
Insurance - Medical - Other	<u>2,400.00</u>
Total Insurance - Medical	2,925.00
Pension Plan Contr to Eparchy	<u>1,000.00</u>
Total Benefits	4,125.00
Extraordinary Expenditures	
Furniture & Equipment	<u>239.95</u>
Total Extraordinary Expenditures	239.95
Fund Raising Events	
Haffis	<u>314.83</u>
Total Fund Raising Events	314.83
Household	
Household Supplies	531.88
Spring Water	41.01
Table Expenses	<u>2,606.80</u>
Total Household	3,179.69
Insurance on Personal Belonging	17.50
Salaries	
Clergy	3,800.00
Housekeeping	260.00
Office Work	500.00
Organist / Singers	525.00
Parochial Vicar Salary	3,400.00
Secretarial	<u>2,750.00</u>
Total Salaries	<u>11,235.00</u>
Total Ordinary Expenditures	<u>11,235.00</u>

Conventional wisdom is to publish this information for transparency purposes and to show parishioners what is needed to keep the operation running. In plain terms the following is at play:

1. We can see the parish administration is stewarding resources well. No secrets.
2. If the income falls near or below expenses we may say "holy smokes, we are running in the red, time to up my weekly gift".

Monthly Expenses continued - November 2017

Other Ordinary	
2nd Collections forwarded	25.00
Books, Periodicals & Subscript	130.92
Decorations & Flowers	459.95
Funeral Donation to Priest	200.00
Maintenance & Repairs	
Cemetary Ground Maintenance	600.00
Cleaning	1,150.00
Software Maintenance	2.15
Waste Management	123.76
Maintenance & Repairs - Other	<u>50.00</u>
Total Maintenance & Repairs	1,925.91
Religious Supplies	
Candles	100.00
Religious Supplies - Other	<u>63.50</u>
Total Religious Supplies	163.50
Sewer & Water Assessment	58.41
Sunday Coffee Hour (Expenses)	74.07
Utilities	
Cellular Phone	105.48
Cable / Satellite TV	477.45
Electric	975.24
Fuel or Gas	<u>523.81</u>
Total Utilities	<u>2,081.98</u>
Total Other Ordinary	5,119.74
Parish Office Administration	
Advertising & Public Relations	716.04
Auto Exp/ Bus for Church	350.00
Auto Expenses (Gas, Ins., etc.)	686.29
Copier (new lease)	167.45
Office Supplies	47.67
Postage	150.95
Printing	340.04
Professional Fees	100.00
Travel Expenses	<u>269.09</u>
Total Parish Office Administration	2,827.53
Parish Programs	
MYO	306.09
Religious Education	119.05
Veterans Day event	975.00
Women's Club	<u>387.50</u>
Total Parish Programs	1,787.64
Payroll Expenses	210.37
Reimbursable Expenses	<u>-7.06</u>
Total Expense	<u>29,069.62</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>-6,939.73</u>
Net Income	<u>-6,939.73</u>