

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

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



PARISH OFFICE: ... 978.685.7233 ... FAX: 978-688-4475 ... rectory@stanthonylawrence.org



DAILY LITURGIES 9am

MON (Arabic)

TUE (English)

WED (Arabic)

THU (English)

WEEKEND LITURGIES

SAT 4:00PM(English)

SUN

9:00AM (English)

11:00AM (English & Arabic)

Holy days of obligation:

Vigil Liturgy @ 7:00 PM

OFFICE HOURS

M-TH 10:00 AM-3:00 PM

FRI 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

SAT By Appointment

MEET OUR PRIESTS:

Fr. Elie Mikhael ...305-807-9087

... pastor@stanthonylawrence.org

Fr. Edgard (Neemtallah) Oneissy

857-390-4838...

pv@stanthonylawrence.org

MEET OUR DEACONS:

Deacon David Leard

Deacon Nadim B. Daou

Sub-Deacon James T. Demers

Sub-Deacon Antoine Nammour



SaintAnthonyLawrence



venmo

Scan QR code for payment

SACRAMENTS

Baptism & Confirmation: 1 month in advance with the Pastor, **Donations:** Church: \$200 - Priest: Free Will

Matrimony: Arrangements should be made by couples six months prior to the wedding date

Donations: Church \$500—Priest: Free Will

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.

LITURGIES

9th Sunday of Pentecost: Jesus in the Synagogue of Nazareth

الأحد التاسع من زمن العنصرة: يسوع في مجمع الناصرة

WEEKDAY LITURGIES

**Nineth Sunday of Pentecost
FEAST OF THE 350 MARTYRS**

Saturday, July 30, 2022

The Scapular of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel

4:00 pm For: 40 Day Anniversary-
Leonard Ramey, *by his Family.*

Sunday, July 31, 2022

9:00 am For: +Richard Maroon, *By his wife, Louise, & children.*

11:00 am For: Joe Andoum & Olivia Tanios,
By Michelle Tanios Andoum & Family.

**Tenth Sunday of Pentecost
FEAST OF TRANSFIGURATION**

Saturday, August 6, 2022

4:00 pm For: +Checralla "Chick" Bistany, *By his wife, Jeanne D'Arc, & Family.*

Sunday, August 7, 2022

9:00 am For: Special Intention.

11:00 am For: 40 Day Anniversary- Kronfli Boustani, *By her children & their Families.*

Also, For: +Saria Geha, *By her husband, Samih Geha, & Family.*

Monday, August 1 -(Ar.)

St Shmouni & her Sons, M

Daily Readings: Acts 18:18-28/ Luke 11: 33-36

9AM For: +Saria Geha, *By her loved ones.*

Tuesday, August 2 (En.) *Translation of the*

Relics of St. Stephen, the First Martyr

Daily Readings: Acts 19:1-10 / Luke 11:37-41

9AM For: +Larry & Dora M. Pereira,
By Dora Pereira

Wednesday, August 3 (Ar.)

David the Prophet

Daily Readings: Acts 19:11-22 / Luke 11:42-46

9AM For: +Louis Sader, *By his wife, & Family.*

Thursday, August 4 (En.) *St. John Vianney*

Daily Readings: Acts 19:23-29,35-40 / Luke 11:47-51

9AM For: Special Intentions.

Friday, August 5, Moses the Prophet

NO LITURGY

EUCHRISTIC ADORATION

Please take notice:

Eucharistic Adoration will be Canceled during the month of August to resume back to Normal Schedule in September



Sanctuary Lamps

***In Memory of Saria Geha,
By her loving Family.***

SUMMER LITURGIES SCHEDULE

Please take notice:

There is no 8AM Liturgy on Sundays.

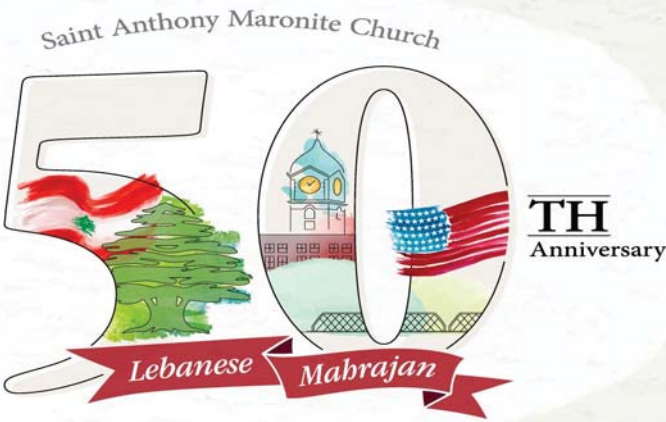
Schedule is as follows:

9 AM-English & 11 AM-English & Arabic

LITURGIES INTENTIONS

PLEASE NOTE:

40 Day Liturgies are considered a priority. When necessary, they will be scheduled with other previously reserved intentions.



The Lebanese Mahrajan features Live Entertainment including;

- Folkloric Dance & Belly Dancing
- Homemade Lebanese & American Cuisine & Pastries
- Children's Games & Activities
- Raffles, Hookah, and Souvenirs
- Free Cooking and Belly Dancing Classes!

LABOR DAY WEEKEND

145 Amesbury Street Lawrence, MA 01841



Friday 9 / 2 from 6PM to 1AM
Saturday 9 / 3 from 5PM to 2AM
Sunday 9 / 4 from 12PM to 12AM

for more info:

978-685-7233

www.stAnthonyLawrence.org

Facebook: Saint Anthony Lawrence

FREE
entry

ANNUAL MAHRAJAN NEWS

We rely on all of you for your volunteer time. Celebrating 50 years is extra special. We want everyone to be able to take time and enjoy the Mahrajan with family and friends. The committee encourages individuals to sign up early. The benefit is to schedule as many as possible prior to the event, allowing more time to share and celebrate with your loved ones. If you would like to volunteer, kindly let us know as early as possible by emailing us at: mahrajan@stanthonylawrence.org

RAFFLE

Raffle tickets have been mailed to your homes this past week. Please remit your ticket stubs at your earliest convenience, by mail or dropping it in the collection basket. We rely on you, our parishioners, the heart of St Anthony's Church, through your support, we keep beating.

BASKET RAFFLE

Through your generosity and support, we had a wonderful Basket Raffle outcome last year. We appeal to you once again for your creative basket donation(s). Kindly drop your themed basket/donation at the Rectory during office hours for your convenience. Help us make this year's raffle even more successful than the last!

SHARE YOUR MEMORIES

If you find old photos, newspaper clippings, etc., please drop them off at the Rectory during office hours or email them to Abbas at: video@atsproduction.com or contact him by phone at 978-390-0150.

You Are Cordially Invited
TO
THE ORDINATION OF
SUBDEACON JAMES DEMERS
AND
SUBDEACON CHRISTIAN HBAITER
TO
The Order of Deacons
BY THE IMPOSITION OF HANDS OF
**THE MOST REVEREND
GREGORY J. MANSOUR**
BISHOP OF THE EPARCHY OF SAINT MARON OF BROOKLYN

CELEBRATION OF DIVINE MYSTERIES AND ORDINATION
ON
SEPTEMBER 24, 2022, 11:00 AM
AT
SAINT ANTHONY MARONITE CHURCH
145 AMESBURY STREET
LAWRENCE, MA 01841

LUNCHEON TO FOLLOW IN CHURCH HALL
ALL ARE WELCOME

DIVINE LITURGY AND ORDINATION WILL BE LIVESTREAMED
VIA PARISH FACEBOOK @SAINTANTHONYLAWRENCE



- Yours is the first of Christ's faces to greet God's people as they assemble for prayer.
- Yours is the word that welcomes the stranger to be at home.
- Yours is the task of discretion: knowing how to welcome, & when and where to seat the latecomer.
- Yours is the Lord's face and voice.
- Assist in passing the collection baskets
- Help the Communion flow
- Assist those who become ill or need aid
- Distribute bulletins & other materials
- After mass area check

**The Sacraments of
Baptism & Confirmation
were administered to:**

Louis Allen Roberts

Child of: Joshua & Meagan Roberts

"So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God, through faith, for all you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ"

Galatians 3:26-27

Dabke - Ages 12-17

Register at:

<https://forms.gle/CnCwqoManUrsKWLv8>

For more info or any questions,
contact Carla Khoder
at 978-697-1725

**St. Anthony Dabke Troop
Ages 6-11 Years Old**

Dabke Sessions, Ages 6-11 years:

- August 3rd
- August 10th
- August 17th
- August 23rd – TUESDAY
- August 31st

Anyone absent more than **3 times**, will **not be allowed** to perform, as we ask that parents respect the time of the volunteers and committed children. Training will be held every **Wednesday** through the summer at **5:30 pm to 6:30 pm** in the church hall.

Reine Ata and Colette Sadek



Open Letter to the Parish,

The Stewardship Council’s responsibility is to execute on the wishes of the parishioners but to do so we need to make sure we are listening to what our parishioners really want. Sometimes, this is difficult due to the broad nature of our parishioners; some have been part of the church for 3 generations and some we have just opened our hearts too. We have created a survey to gather information to hopefully create a vision for tomorrow.

After 2 years of COVID we are finally getting back to normalcy and this awakening is a perfect time to reflect and listen to the voice of the entire parish. We are so proud of how this community always steps up and supports the needs of others, but do we ever ask what you want. We are not asking for money or time or sweat, that will come, today all we want is for you to share with us your vision of the church’s future.

Don’t answer how you think Father Elie wants you to answer, or your Sitto or Jido wants you to answer - listen to your heart and describe your vision for St Anthony’s for the next 10 years or 50 years. We hope the questions below stimulate your thoughts on where St. Anthony’s is headed. We want to hear your voice. Fill in the form online by clicking on the link:

<https://forms.gle/kYYN7yD8uVVLk8co8>

Respectfully, Stewardship Council



**MARONITE-
Women IN the
New
Evangelization**

Coming back with new administration

M-WINE is a creative and inspired ministry to invigorate women’s groups and parishes through encouraging, supporting, and nurturing women in the Maronite Catholic faith and by equipping and mobilizing women as intentional disciples of Christ.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- July 30:** Lauren Becotte, Alexander Iskandar, Celestie Jbeily
- July 31:** Sharbel Azzi, Robert Chahine
- Aug. 1:** Eleanor Abi-Moussa, Jeanine Abou Raad, Gladys George, Antoni Georges, Carol Hbaiter, Simona Kanaan, Jennifer Raad
- Aug. 2:** Charbel Abdilmasih, Cassandra Maroun, Gerald Motta, Sam Murphy, Melissa Rahi, Salwa Ramey, Daphne Georgia Vincent,
- Aug. 3:** Robert Chahine, Diana Geha, Marissa Prezzano, Zakia Russo,
- Aug. 4:** Chaniel Abou Ezzi, Elie Ata, Robert Haykal, Tucker Kanaan, Judah Ramey, Austin Roy, Carla Yeremian,
- Aug. 5:** Michel Asmar, Anthony Awad, Larry Crichton, Wael Naamani, Shannon Taylor

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- July 30:** Maroun & Leyla Saouma
- July 31:** Jean & Rachelle Abou Ezzi, George & Guila Atallah, Elie & Rosa Najem
- Aug. 1:** James & Mary (Abdoo) Menihane
- Aug. 4:** Marcel & Eliane Saade, Timothy & Elanor Shea
- Aug. 5:** Sam & Alyssa Hajj

St Anthony-Grave Purchase & Burial

Grave Purchase—*For Active Parishioners

- Grave Purchase–Double Depth: \$1900 (*one time fee*)
- Perpetual Care: \$200 (*one time fee*)
- Total of Grave (Double Depth) Purchase: \$2100
- Memorial Stone Permit: \$75 (*one time fee paid upon installation*)

Burial Costs (Itemized)

- Opening and Closing (Summer Fees): \$1000
- Opening and Closing (Winter Burial): \$1,200
- Church Stipend: \$250
- Church Stipend (Wake in Church): \$450
- Soloist: \$150
- Organist: \$150
- Clergy Stipend: \$200 or left to the Family Discretion

Total of Burial Costs:

- Burial (Summer Fees): \$1,750
- Burial (Summer Fees-Wake in Church): \$1,950
- Burial (Winter Fees): \$1,950
- Burial (Winter Fees-Wake in Church): \$2,150

Prices are subject to change.

**Active Parishioners are considered those who have participated: Socially, spiritually and have contributed regularly in our database.*

Please take the time to review the complete cemetery guidelines by visiting our website www.stanthonylawrence.org/cemetery/

TREE OF LIFE

REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONES BY PUTTING THEIR NAMES ON TREE OF LIFE BRASS ALUMINUM PLAQUES SIZES:

1.5" X 3" = \$75 / 3"X 6"= \$150 / 4"X8"= \$250

Please submit your request either by

Phone: 978.685.7233 or by E-mail:

rectory@stanthonylawrence.org

Looking for a Loved one buried at St Anthony's Cemetery?

1. Go to www.stanthonylawrence.org
2. Scroll to the bottom and click on BURIAL ONLINE SEARCH.
3. Type in the last/first name or in some cases just last name and click search.

CEMETERY LOT SALES & AVAILABILITY

St Anthony Cemetery offers affordable payment plans to fit any family's budget.

For more information:

By Phone (*During Office Hours*) 978-685-7233

Email rectory@stanthonylawrence.org

or Visit: www.stanthonylawrence.org/lots-sales/

Headstones & Cemetery Markers

Kindly review the information provided regarding acceptable dimensions per grave/lot on our website: <https://www.stanthonylawrence.org/lots-sales/>.

Please note: Double-Depth Graves are considered "One Grave Size"

DONATE A TREE IN MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE

Enhancing the beauty of Historic Saint Anthony Maronite Catholic Cemetery.

Plant-A-Tree A—

For a donation of \$400.00 : memorial plaque will be displayed by the tree for a period of ten years.

Plant-A-Tree B—

For a donation of \$250.00: memorial plaque will be displayed by the tree for the period of five years.

Your Donation is Tax-Deductible

Your contribution is tax deductible. You will receive a written acknowledgement of your donation from the Saint Anthony Maronite Catholic Cemetery.

If you like to donate a tree, please call the office at 978.685.7233 or email us at:

rectory@stanthonylawrence.org

Tree to be planted : Kousa Dogwood

WHEN OUR WORLD IS FALLING APART

By Ronald Rolheiser

The early years of my adulthood and priesthood were spent teaching theology at Newman Theological College in Edmonton, Canada. I was young, full of energy, loved teaching, and was discovering the joys of ministry. For the most part, these were good years.

However, they weren't always easy. Restlessness and inner chaos find us all. The demands of ministry, the tensions inside community, the obsessions I'm forever prone to, the not-infrequent departure of cherished friends from the community, and the constant movement of people through my life, occasionally left me in emotional chaos, gasping for oxygen, struggling to sleep, wondering how I was going to still my soul again.

But, I had a little formula to help handle this. Whenever the chaos got bad, I would get into my car and drive four hours to our family farm just across the border in Saskatchewan. My family still lived in the house I'd grown up in and I was able to eat at the same table I'd eaten at as a child, sleep in the same bed I'd slept in as a boy, and walk the same ground I'd walked while growing up. Usually it didn't take long for home to do its work. I'd only need a meal or an overnight stay and the chaos and heartache would subside; I'd begin to feel steady again.

Coming home didn't cure the heartache but it gave the heart the care it needed. Somehow home always worked.

Today, the same kind of emotional chaos and heartache can still unsettle me on occasion and leave me unsure of who I am, of the choices I've made in life, and of who and what to trust. However, I cannot drive to my childhood home anymore and need to find the steadying that going home once gave me in new ways. It isn't always apparent where to find this, even amidst a good community, a still supportive family, loving friends, and a wonderful job. Home can be elusive on a restless night. What one needs to steady the heart isn't always easy to access. Once you've left home, sometimes it's hard to find your way back there again.

So what do I do now when I need to go home and retouch my roots to steady myself? Sometimes a trusted friend is the answer; sometimes it's a call to a family member; sometimes it's a family that has become family to me, sometimes it's a place in prayer or in nature, sometimes it's immersing myself in work, and sometimes I can't find it at all and have to live with the chaos until, like a bad storm, it blows over.

Through the years, I've discovered that a special book can take me home in the same way as driving there once did. Different people find home in different places. One of the books that does this for me, almost without fail, is *The Story of a Soul* by Therese of Lisieux. Not surprising, it's the story of a recessive journey, the story of Therese's own effort at recapturing what her house, home, and family once gave her. But the recessive journey in itself is not what gives this book (which I highly recommend for anyone whose heart is aching in way that unsettles the soul) such a special power. Many autobiographies unsettle more than they settle. This one soothes your soul.

However, remembering alone doesn't necessarily care for the heart and sometimes our memories of home and childhood carry more pathology and pain than steadying and healing. Not everyone's home was safe and nurturing. Tragically, one's initial home can also be the place where our trust and steadiness are irrevocably broken, as is the case often in sexual and other forms of abuse. I was fortunate. My first home gave me trust and faith. For those who were not as lucky, the task is to find a home, a place or a person, that caresses a wounded soul.

What makes for a home that caresses the soul?

Home is where you are safe. It's also the place where you experience security and trust and where that steadiness enables you to believe in the things of faith. I used to drive four hours for a meal or a night's sleep in order to find that. Today, I need to make that recessive journey in other ways.

It's a journey we all need to make in times of chaos and deep restlessness in our lives, namely, to find a place, a space, a friend, a family, a house, a table, a bed, a book, or something that grounds us again in security, trust, stability, and faith.

Of course, there are headaches and heartaches for which there is no cure; but the soul doesn't need to be cured, only properly cared for. Our task is to go home, to find those people, places, prayers, and books that caress our souls at those times when our world is falling apart.

Ninth Sunday of Pentecost: Martyrdom of 350 Martyrs/Disciples of Saint Maron

Book of Isaiah 61,1-4.8-10a.

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the LORD's favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God!

Second Letter to the Corinthians 5,20-21.6,1-10.

We are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, 'At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you.' See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labours, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke 4,14-21.

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.' And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

LECTORS SCHEDULE

Saturday, July 30- 4PM Susan Veilluex

Sunday, July 31- 9AM Meaghan Twing

**11:00AM Eng: Marcel Saade
Ar: Selim Matta**

Saturday, August 6- 4PM Lisa Abdallah

Sunday, August 7- 9AM David Brousseau

**11:00AM Eng: Mansour Chaya
Ar: Mounira Daher**

الأحد الثامن من زمن العنصرة: تذكّار رُهبان القديس مارون/ القديسون الثلاثين والخمسون

سفر أشعيا 61,1-4.8-10a

رُوحُ السَّيِّدِ الرَّبِّ عَلَيَّ، لِأَنَّ الرَّبَّ مَسَحَنِي لِأُبَشِّرَ الْمَسَاكِينَ، أَرْسَلَنِي لِأَضْمِدَ جِرَاحَ الْمُتَكَسِّرِي الْقُلُوبِ، لِأُنَادِيَ لِلْمَسْبِينِ بِالْعَنَقِ وَلِلْمَأْسُورِينَ بِالْحَرِيَّةِ، لِأُعْلِنَ سَنَةَ الرَّبِّ الْمَقْبُولَةَ، وَيَوْمَ انْتِقَامٍ لِإِلَهِنَا. لِأَعْرِي جَمِيعَ النَّاحِيْنَ. لِأَمْنَحَ نَائِحِي صِهْيُونَ تَاجَ جَمَالٍ بِدَلِّ الرَّمَادِ، وَدُهْنَ السُّرُورِ بِدَلِّ النَّوْحِ، وَرِذَاءَ تَسْبِيحِ بَدَلِ الرُّوحِ الْيَائِسَةِ، فَيَذْعُونَ أَشْجَارَ الْبَرِّ وَعَرَسَ الرَّبِّ لِكِي يَتَمَجَّدَ. فَيَعْمُرُونَ الْخِرَابِيبَ الْقَدِيمَةَ، وَيَبْنُونَ الدَّمَارَ الْعَابِرَ، وَيُرَمِّمُونَ الْمُدُنَ الْمُتَهَدِّمَةَ، وَالْخَرَبَ الَّتِي أَنْقَضْتَ عَلَيْهَا أَجْيَالٌ. لِأَنِّي أَنَا الرَّبُّ أَحِبُّ الْعَدْلَ وَأَمُتُّ الْإِخْتِلَاسَ وَالظُّلْمَ، وَأَكْفَيْتُهُمْ بِأَمَانَةٍ، وَأَقَطَعْتُ مَعَهُمْ عَهْدًا أَبَدِيًّا. وَتَشْتَهَرُ ذُرِّيَّتُهُمْ بَيْنَ الْأُمَمِ، وَنَسَلُهُمْ وَسَطَ الشُّعُوبِ، وَكُلُّ مَنْ يَرَاهُمْ يَعْرِفُهُمْ، وَيَقْرَأُ أَنَّهُمْ شَعْبُ بَارِكَةِ الرَّبِّ. إِنِّي أَبْتَهِجُ حَقًّا بِالرَّبِّ وَتَفْرَحُ نَفْسِي بِأَلْهِي!

رسالة القديس بولس الثانية إلى أهل كورنثس 5,20-21.6,1-10

يَا إِخْوَتِي، نَحْنُ سُفْرَاءُ الْمَسِيحِ، وَكَأَنَّ اللَّهَ نَفْسَهُ يَدْعُوكُمْ بِوِاسِطَتِنَا. فَسَأَلَكُمْ بِاسْمِ الْمَسِيحِ: تَصَالِحُوا مَعَ اللَّهِ! إِنَّ الَّذِي مَا عَرَفَ الْخَطِيئَةَ، جَعَلَهُ اللَّهُ خَطِيئَةً مِنْ أَجْلِنَا، لِنَصِيرَ نَحْنُ فِيهِ بِرَّ اللَّهِ. وَبِمَا أَنَّنَا مُعَاوَنُونَ لِلَّهِ، نُنَاشِدُكُمْ أَلَّا يَكُونَ قَبُولُكُمْ لِنِعْمَةِ اللَّهِ بِغَيْرِ فَائِدَةٍ؛ لِأَنَّهُ يَقُولُ: «فِي وَقْتِ الرِّضَى اسْتَجَبْتُكَ، وَفِي يَوْمِ الْخَلَاصِ أَعْنُتُكَ.» فَهِيَ هِيَ الْآنَ وَقْتُ الرِّضَى، وَهَا هُوَ الْآنَ يَوْمُ الْخَلَاصِ. فَإِنَّا لَا نَجْعَلُ لِأَحَدٍ سَبَبَ زَلَّةٍ، لِئَلَّا يَلْحَقَ خِدْمَتُنَا أَيُّ لَوْمٍ. بَلْ نُظْهِرُ أَنْفُسَنَا فِي كُلِّ شَيْءٍ أَنَّنَا خُدَّامُ اللَّهِ، بِثَبَاتِنَا الْعَظِيمِ فِي الضِّيقاتِ وَالشَّدَائِدِ وَالْمَشَقَّاتِ، فِي الضَّرَبَاتِ، وَالسُّجُونِ، وَالْفِتَنِ، وَالتَّعَبِ، وَالسَّهْرِ، وَالصَّوْمِ، وَبِالنَّزَاهَةِ، وَالْمَعْرِفَةِ، وَالْإِنَاءَةِ، وَاللُّطْفِ، وَالرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ، وَالْمَحَبَّةِ بِلا رِيَاءٍ، فِي كَلِمَةِ الْحَقِّ، وَقُوَّةِ اللَّهِ، بِسِلَاحِ الْبِرِّ فِي الْيَدَيْنِ الْيُمْنَى وَالْيُسْرَى، فِي الْمَجْدِ وَالْهَوَانِ، بِالصِّيتِ الرَّدِيءِ وَالصِّيتِ الْحَسَنِ. نُحْسَبُ كَأَنَّنَا مُضِلُّونَ وَنَحْنُ صَادِقُونَ! كَأَنَّنَا مَجْهُولُونَ وَنَحْنُ مَعْرُوفُونَ! كَأَنَّنَا مَائِثُونَ وَهَا نَحْنُ أَحْيَاءُ! كَأَنَّنَا مُعَاقَبُونَ وَنَحْنُ لَا نَمُوتُ؛ كَأَنَّنَا مَحْرُوفُونَ وَنَحْنُ دَائِمًا فَرِحُونَ! كَأَنَّنَا فَقْرَاءُ وَنَحْنُ نُغْنِي الْكَثِيرِينَ! كَأَنَّنَا لَا شَيْءَ عِنْدَنَا، وَنَحْنُ نَمْلِكُ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ!

إنجيل القديس لوقا 4:14-21

عَادَ يَسُوعُ بِقُوَّةِ الرُّوحِ إِلَى الْجَلِيلِ، وَذَاعَ خَبْرُهُ فِي كُلِّ الْجَوَارِ. وَكَانَ يُعَلِّمُ فِي مَجَامِعِهِمْ، وَالْجَمِيعُ يُمَجِّدُونَهُ. وَجَاءَ يَسُوعُ إِلَى النَّاصِرَةِ، حَيْثُ نَشَأَ، وَدَخَلَ إِلَى الْمَجْمَعِ كَعَادَتِهِ يَوْمَ السَّبْتِ، وَقَامَ لِيَقْرَأَ. وَدَفَعَ إِلَيْهِ كِتَابَ النَّبِيِّ اشعيا. وَفَتَحَ يَسُوعُ الْكِتَابَ، فَوَجَدَ الْمَوْضِعَ الْمَكْتُوبَ فِيهِ: «رُوحُ الرَّبِّ عَلَيَّ، وَلِهَذَا مَسَحَنِي لِأُبَشِّرَ الْمَسَاكِينَ، وَأَرْسَلَنِي لِأُنَادِيَ بِالْإِطْلَاقِ الْأَسْرَى وَعَوْدَةِ الْبَصَرِ إِلَى الْعُمْيَانِ، وَأُطْلِقَ الْمَقْهُورِينَ أَحْرَارًا، وَأُنَادِيَ بِسَنَةِ مَقْبُولَةٍ لَدَى الرَّبِّ.» ثُمَّ طَوَى الْكِتَابَ، وَأَعَادَهُ إِلَى الْخَادِمِ، وَجَلَسَ. وَكَانَتْ عِيُونَ جَمِيعِ الَّذِينَ فِي الْمَجْمَعِ شَاخِصَةً إِلَيْهِ. فَبَدَأَ يَقُولُ لَهُمْ: «الْيَوْمَ تَمَّتْ هَذِهِ الْكِتَابَةُ الَّتِي تُلِيَتْ عَلَيَّ مَسَامِعِكُمْ»

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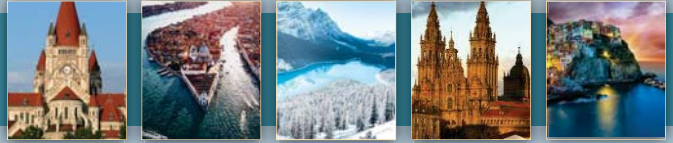


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