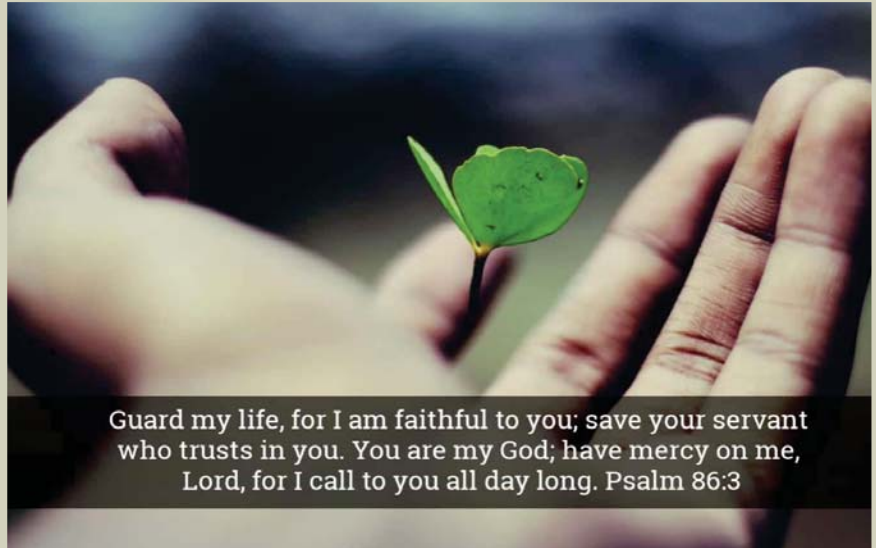


PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

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



Guard my life, for I am faithful to you; save your servant who trusts in you. You are my God; have mercy on me, Lord, for I call to you all day long. Psalm 86:3

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



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

Eighth Sunday of Pentecost: Jesus the Servant Beloved

الأحد الثامن من زمن العنصرة: يسوع الخادم المحبوب

WEEKDAY LITURGIES

Eighth Sunday of Pentecost

Saturday, July 23, 2022 *St. Sharbel*

4:00 pm For: 1st Anniversary – Gayle Touma, *By her Family.*

Sunday, July 24, 2022 *St Christina of Tyre*

9:00 am For: Special Intention.

11:00 am For: Special Intention.

Ninth Sunday of Pentecost

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.*

Monday, July 25 -(Ar.)

St. Anne, Mother of Our Lady, the Virgin Mary

Daily Readings: Acts 15: 36-16:1-3,6-10/ Luke 11: 1-4

9AM For: +Elias, Ramza, & Kamal Geha, *By Marie Geha Maroun*

Tuesday, July 26 (En.) *St. Bridget*

Daily Readings: Acts 16:11-23 / Luke 11:5-8

9AM For: Deceased Members of the Goulart & Pereira Families, *By Dora Pereira*

Wednesday, July 27 (Ar.) *St. Pantaleon*

Daily Readings: Acts 16:25-34 / Luke 11:9-13

9AM For: +Antoine, Sami, & Marie Maroun & Marleine Abdulnour, *By Marie Geha Maroun*

Thursday, July 28 (En.) *St. Anthusa, the 3rd Council of Constantinople, Bl. Stanley Rother*

Daily Readings: Acts 17:1-12 / Luke 11:14-23

9AM For: Oblates of Mary Queen Ukraine, *By Sub Deacon Antoine Nammour & Family*

10 am– 12 noon Eucharistic Adoration

Friday, July 29, Sts. Abdon & Sennen

NO LITURGY

LITURGIES INTENTIONS

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 Honor of George & Remy Cherabie (Wedding Anniversary)

PLEASE NOTE:

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

SUMMER LITURGIES SCHEDULE

Please take notice:

There is no 8AM Liturgy on Sundays.

Schedule is as follows:

9 AM-English & 11 AM-English & Arabic



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, and 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 and other materials
- After mass area check

St. Anthony Dabke Troop Ages 6-11 Years Old

Dabke Sessions, Ages 6-11 years:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| •July 27 th | •August 17 th |
| •August 3 rd | •August 23 rd – TUESDAY |
| •August 10 th | •August 31 st |

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

Dabke - Ages 12-17

The Dabke Troop for Ages 12-17 will begin their first practice on

Wednesday, July 27th
6:30 PM - 8PM
in the Church Foyer

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



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

The Sacraments of Baptism & Confirmation were administered to:

Chris Anthony Bouraphael

Child of: Elie & Nelly Bouraphael

Stella Marie Giantonio

Child of: Matthew & Pamela Giantonio

“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



**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 23: Cynthia Abraham, Joseph Ata, Adelle Elnar, Elaine Ferris, Cooper Maroon, Malia Najjar, Reema Tawitian,

July 24: Stephanie Chamoun, Marten El Zaklit, Larsa Hayek, Susan Kalil, Jean Khoury, Jason Maroun, Sandra Merheb, Glenn Prezzano, Sharbel Saab

July 25: Michael Bou-Habib, Morgan Georges, Margaret Goodwin, Moussa Haddad, Amanda Hayek, Joan Roy,

July 26: Lola Ata, Marc Bouraphael, Kristen Chamoun, Marwan El Jamous, George Safi

July 27: Elias Bou-Habib, Loretta DeMarco, Alison Puglisi, Samar Ramy

July 28: George Cherabie, Gabriella Garozzo, Sarah Germanos, Gabriel Hassan, Antoinete Jermany, Madison Khoury, Sharbel Korbani, Mireille Lalo, Winston Thompson

July 29: Elias El-Achi, Christa Harb, Steven Khoury, Crista Pehl, Corey Sarkis

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

July 23: George & Remy Cherabie

July 24: Youssef & Dawn Aboelsaad, Robert & Joanne Comtois, Anthony & Barbara Panto, Jihad & Hilda Rizkallah

July 26: Elias & Samia Azzi, Elie & Michelle Daccache

July 27: Chaouki & Rosemary Bouchrouche

July 28: Fadi & Maggie Bouchrouche, Joseph & Michelle

July 29: Elias & Vicky Abou Zeid, Roger & Cosette Zoueïn

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

THE TEMPTATIONS OF THE GOOD PERSON

By Ronald Rolheiser

Many of us are familiar with an often-quoted line from T.S. Eliot; The last temptation is the greatest treason; to do the right deed for the wrong reason. This, he suggests, is the temptation of the good person. What's the temptation? In John's Gospel, Jesus asks his listeners this question, "How can you believe who receive glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from God?" What's Jesus' challenge here? This: We can do all the right things, be doggedly faithful, resist every kind of compromise, and even accept martyrdom – but why? To be respected? To be admired? To win approval? To win a permanent good name for ourselves?

Aren't these good, noble enough reasons?

They are. However, as T.S. Eliot suggests in *Murder in the Cathedral*, a temptation can present itself as a grace, and that can be the case in terms of being virtuous. He illustrates this through the struggles of his main character, Thomas a Beckett. Beckett was the Archbishop of Canterbury from 1162 until he was murdered in his own Cathedral in 1170. As Eliot presents him, Beckett does all the right things. He is altruistic, radically faithful, resists all compromise, and is ready to accept martyrdom. However, as Eliot highlights, these can be "the temptations of the good person", and it can take some time (and a deeper maturity) to distinguish certain temptations from grace. Hence, Eliot coined these now-famous lines:

Now is my way clear; now is the meaning plain:

Temptation shall not come in this kind again.

The last temptation is the greatest treason:

To do the right deed for the wrong reason. ...

For those who serve the greater cause

Make the cause serve them.

Those who serve the greater cause can easily make the cause serve them, blind to their own motivation.

Don't we all know it! Those of us who work in ministry, in teaching, in administration, in the media, in the arts, and those of us who are habitual good Samaritans helping out everywhere, what ultimately drives our energy as we do all this good?

Well, motivation is rarely simply straightforward. We are a complex, often tortured creatures of motivation. Here's a little parable vis-à-vis motivation from the Sufi tradition that suggests that we don't have a single motivation but have multiple motivations. The parable runs this way.

There was a holy man, a guru, renowned for his wisdom who lived near the top of a mountain. One day three men showed up at his door, seeking counsel. He questioned the first one: "Did you climb up this mountain to see me because I'm famous or because you truly are interested in gaining some wisdom?" The man answered, "To be truthful, I came to see you because of your fame, though, of course, I'm also interested in receiving some counsel." The guru dismissed him, "You aren't yet ready to learn." He turned to the second man and asked him the same question, "What's the real reason you climbed up this mountain to see me?" This man's answer was different. "It's not your fame that drew me here," he said, "I'm not interested in that. I want to learn from you." Surprisingly, the Guru also dismissed him, telling him that he was not yet ready to learn.

He turned to the third man, "Did you climb this mountain to see me because I'm famous or because you truly seek some counsel?" The man replied, "To be honest, it's for both reasons, and probably for a good number of other reasons that I am unaware of. I did want to see you because you are famous and I do really want to learn from you, and I am not even sure that either of them is the real reason I came to see you." "You're ready to learn", said the holy man.

T.S. Eliot presents his main character in *Murder in the Cathedral* as a man who does all the right things, is recognized for his goodness, but is someone who still has to examine himself as to his real motivation for doing what he does. What Eliot highlights is something which should give all of us who are trying to be good, virtuous, faithful persons, pause for reflection, scrutiny, and prayer. What's our real motivation? How much is this about helping others and how much is about ourselves, about gaining respect, admiration, a good name – and having a good feeling about ourselves?

This is a hard question and perhaps not even a fair one, but a necessary one which, if asked, can aid us in our quest for a deeper level of maturity. In the end, are we doing good things because of what it does for others or because of what it does for us?

As we stand somewhat naked and exposed before this question, we can take some consolation in the message contained in the Sufi parable. This side of eternity our motivations are pathologically complex and mixed.

Eighth Sunday of Pentecost: Jesus the Servant Beloved

Book of Isaiah 42,1-8.

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching. Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the LORD, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols.

Romans 8,1-11

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Matthew 12,14-21

But the Pharisees went out and conspired against him, how to destroy him. When Jesus became aware of this, he departed. Many crowds followed him, and he cured all of them, and he ordered them not to make him known. This was to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah: 'Here is my servant, whom I have chosen, my beloved, with whom my soul is well pleased. I will put my Spirit upon him, and he will proclaim justice to the Gentiles. He will not wrangle or cry aloud, nor will anyone hear his voice in the streets. He will not break a bruised reed or quench a smouldering wick until he brings justice to victory. And in his name the Gentiles will hope.'

LECTORS SCHEDULE

Saturday, July 23- 4PM Patricia Ferguson

Saturday, July 30- 4PM Susan Veilluex

Sunday, July 24- 9AM Elaine Ferris

Sunday, July 31- 9AM Meaghan Twing

11:00AM Eng: Elias Azzi

11:00AM Eng: Marcel Saade

Ar: Sub Deacon Antoine Nammour

Ar: Selim Matta

الأحد الثامن من زمن العنصرة: يسوع الخادم المحبوب

سفر أشعيا 8:1-42

هُودًا عَبْدِي الَّذِي أَعْضُدُهُ مُخْتَارِي الَّذِي رَضِيَتْ عَنْهُ نَفْسِي. قَدْ جَعَلْتُ رُوحِي عَلَيْهِ فَهُوَ يُبْدِي لِحَقِّ لِلْأُمَّمِ. لَا يَصِيحُ وَلَا يَرْفَعُ صَوْتَهُ وَلَا يُسْمَعُ صَوْتُهُ فِي السَّوَارِعِ. الْقَصَبَةُ الْمَرْضُوضَةُ لَنْ يَكْسِرَهَا وَالْفَتِيلَةُ الْمُدْخَنَةُ لَنْ يُطْفِئُهَا. يُبْدِي الْحَقَّ بِأَمَانَةٍ. لَا يَتِي وَلَا يَنْتَنِي إِلَيَّ أَنْ يَحِلَّ الْحَقُّ فِي الْأَرْضِ فَلشَّرِيْعَتِهِ تَنْتَظِرُ الْجُزْرَ. هَكَذَا قَالَ اللَّهُ الرَّبُّ خَالِقُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَنَاشِرُهَا بِأَسِطِ الْأَرْضِ مَعَ مَا يَنْبُتُ مِنْهَا الَّذِي يُعْطِي الشَّعْبَ عَلَيْهَا نَسَمَةً وَالسَّائِرِينَ فِيهَا رُوحًا: «أَنَا الرَّبُّ دَعَوْتُكَ فِي الْبِرِّ وَأَخَذْتُ بِيَدِكَ وَجَبَلْتُكَ وَجَعَلْتُكَ عَهْدًا لِلشَّعْبِ وَنورًا لِلْأُمَّمِ لِكِي تَفْتَحَ الْعُيُونَ الْعَمِيَاءَ وَتُخْرِجَ الْأَسِيرَ مِنَ السِّجْنِ وَالْجَالِسِينَ فِي الظُّلْمَةِ مِنْ بَيْتِ الْحَبْسِ.»

أَنَا الرَّبُّ وَهَذَا أَسْمِي وَلَا أُعْطِي لِأَخْرَ مَجْدِي وَلَا لِلْمُنْحَوَاتِ حَمْدِي.

رسالة القديس بولس إلى أهل رومة 8:1-11

يا إخوتي، إِذَا فَلَا حُكْمَ بِالْهَلَاكِ بَعْدَ الْآنَ عَلَى الَّذِينَ هُمْ فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ؛ لِأَنَّ شَرِيْعَةَ رُوحِ الْحَيَاةِ فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ، قَدْ حَرَّرْتَنِي مِنْ شَرِيْعَةِ الْخَطِيئَةِ وَالْمَوْتِ. فَإِنَّ مَا عَجَزَتْ عَنْهُ الشَّرِيْعَةُ، وَقَدْ أضعَفَهَا الْجَسَدُ، أَنْجَزَهُ اللَّهُ، حِينَ أَرْسَلَ ابْنَهُ فِي جَسَدٍ يُشْبِهُ جَسَدِ الْخَطِيئَةِ، تَكْفِيرًا لِلْخَطِيئَةِ، فَفَضَى فِي الْجَسَدِ عَلَى الْخَطِيئَةِ، لِكِي يَتِمَّ بِرُ الشَّرِيْعَةِ فِينَا، نَحْنُ السَّالِكِينَ لَا بِحَسَبِ الْإِنْسَانِ الْجَسَدِيِّ بَلْ بِحَسَبِ الرُّوحِ؛ لِأَنَّ السَّالِكِينَ بِحَسَبِ الْإِنْسَانِ الْجَسَدِيِّ، يَرْغَبُونَ فِي مَا هُوَ لِلْجَسَدِ، وَالسَّالِكِينَ بِحَسَبِ الرُّوحِ يَرْغَبُونَ فِي مَا هُوَ لِلرُّوحِ. فَرَغْبَةُ الْجَسَدِ مَوْتٌ، أَمَّا رَغْبَةُ الرُّوحِ فَحَيَاةٌ وَسَلَامٌ. لِذَلِكَ فَرَغْبَةُ الْإِنْسَانِ الْجَسَدِيِّ عَدَاوَةٌ لِلرُّوحِ، لِأَنَّهَا لَا تَخْضَعُ لِشَرِيْعَةِ اللَّهِ وَلَا تَسْتَطِيعُ ذَلِكَ. وَإِنَّ السَّالِكِينَ بِحَسَبِ الْإِنْسَانِ الْجَسَدِيِّ، لَا يَسْتَطِيعُونَ أَنْ يُرْضُوا اللَّهَ. أَمَّا أَنْتُمْ فَلَسْتُمْ أَنَا سَا جَسَدِيِّينَ بَلْ رُوحِيِّينَ، إِنْ كَانَ حَقًّا رُوحُ اللَّهِ سَاكِئًا فِيكُمْ. وَلَكِنْ مَنْ لَيْسَ لَهُ رُوحُ الْمَسِيحِ، لَيْسَ هُوَ لِلْمَسِيحِ. أَمَّا إِذَا كَانَ الْمَسِيحُ فِيكُمْ، فَبِرَغْمِ أَنَّ الْجَسَدَ مَيِّتٌ بِسَبَبِ الْخَطِيئَةِ، فَالرُّوحُ حَيَاةٌ لَكُمْ بِفَضْلِ الْبِرِّ. وَإِذَا كَانَ رُوحُ اللَّهِ الَّذِي أَقَامَ يَسُوعَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ سَاكِئًا فِيكُمْ، فَالَّذِي أَقَامَ الْمَسِيحَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ يُحْيِي أَيْضًا أَجْسَادَكُمْ الْمَائِتَةَ بِرُوحِهِ السَّاكِئِ فِيكُمْ.

إنجيل القديس متى 14:12-21

خَرَجَ الْفَرِّيْسِيُّونَ فَتَشَاوَرُوا عَلَى يَسُوعَ لِيُهْلِكُوهُ. وَعَلِمَ يَسُوعُ بِالْأَمْرِ فَأَنْصَرَفَ مِنْ هُنَاكَ. وَتَبِعَهُ كَثِيرُونَ فَشَفَاهُمْ جَمِيعًا، وَحَدَّرَهُمْ مِنْ أَنْ يُشْهَرُوهُ، لِيَتِمَّ مَا قِيلَ بِالنَّبِيِّ اشعيا: «هُودًا فَتَايَ الَّذِي أَخْتَرْتُهُ، حَبِيبِي الَّذِي رَضِيَتْ بِهِ نَفْسِي. سَأَجْعَلُ رُوحِي عَلَيْهِ فَيُبَشِّرُ الْأُمَّمَ بِالْحَقِّ. لَنْ يُمَاحِكَ وَلَنْ يَصِيحَ، وَلَنْ يَسْمَعَ أَحَدٌ صَوْتَهُ فِي السَّاحَاتِ. قَصَبَةٌ مَرْضُوضَةٌ لَنْ يَكْسِرَ، وَفَتِيلَةٌ مُدْخَنَةٌ لَنْ يُطْفِئُ، إِلَى أَنْ يَصِلَ بِالْحَقِّ إِلَى النَّصْرِ. وَبِأَسْمِهِ تَجْعَلُ الْأُمَّمَ رَجَاءَهَا.»

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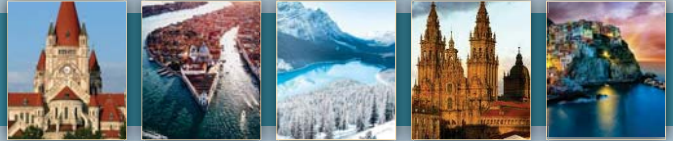


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