

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

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:

Deacons: Nadim B. Daou,
James T. Demers & David Leard
Sub-Deacon: Antoine Nammour

DAILY LITURGIES *9am*

MON & WED (*Arabic*)

TUE & THU (*English*)

WEEKEND LITURGIES

SAT 4:00PM(*Eng*)

SUN 8:00AM (*Ara*) /

9:00AM (*Eng*) /

11:00AM (*Eng.& Ara*)

Holy days of obligation:

Vigil Liturgy @ 7:00 PM



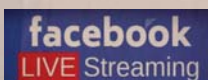
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[https://members.myeoffering.com/#/landing?
church_id=72](https://members.myeoffering.com/#/landing?church_id=72)



SaintAnthonyLawrence

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 INTENTIONS

Sunday of the Man with Leprosy

أحد شفاء الأبرص

Healing of the Leper

Saturday, February 25 (English)

4:00pm +Dan & Gloria Sarkis, *By their Family.*

Sunday, February 26

8:00 am In Honor of Silvana & Walid Awad & Family

9:00 am + All Souls in Purgatory By Dora Pereira

11:00 am +Boutros & Angele Daou, *By their Family.*

Healing of the Hemorrhaging Woman

Saturday, March 4

4:00pm +Mitchell Moses, *By his family & loved ones.*

Sunday, March 5

8:00 am + Private Intentions

9:00am Private Intentions

11:00 am +Private Intentions

Weekday Liturgies

Sanctuary Lamps

Monday, February 27 (Ar.) *St. Thalaleus*
1 Thes 3: 6-13/ Mt 6: 22-24

9:00am +Mr. & Mrs. Boutros Daou, *By Samir & Leila Daou.*

Tuesday, February 28 (En.) *St Koura & Marana*
Gal 2: 11-17/ Mt 7: 1-12

9:00am +Doug, Joe, & Dana Antoon.

Wednesday, March 1 (Ar.)
St. Domnina & Eudokia,
Rom 3: 19-27/ Mt 12:38-45

9:00am +In Honor & Blessings for Aida Ata and her family, *By Fr. Elie Mikhael.*

Thursday, March 2 (En.) *Saint John Maron*
Phil 1:21-30/ Mt 5: 13-17

9:00am +In Honor of Bishop Gregory J. Mansour (Episcopal Ordination) *By Fr. Elie Mikhael.*

9:30am -12 noon Eucharistic Adoration

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

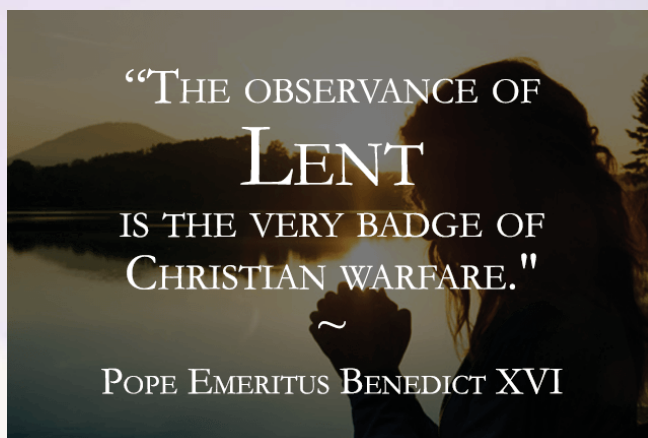
Every Friday at 7pm

Confessions are available 30 minutes before the Stations Prayers.

In Memory Of Zghiri Melhem Kassas, By Mr. & Mrs. George Kassas & Family.

Book your Sanctuary lamp Online:

www.stanthonylawrence.org/sanctuary-lamp/



Clergy Day Off

Fr Elie: Mondays

Fr. Neemtallah's : Wednesdays

PLEASE NOTE:

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

Saint Anthony Maronite Church -Lawrence.

Every Tuesday, 7 pm
Arabic Bible Study

Wednesday, 7pm
March 1: Eucharistic Adoration
March 8: "Totus Tuus" (كَلِي لَكَ)
prayer
March 15: Psalms Prayer
March 22: Healing prayer
March 29: Prayer for Families

Every Thursday: English Bible Study at 7pm

Every Friday : Stations of the Cross - 7pm
Confessions 30 min before

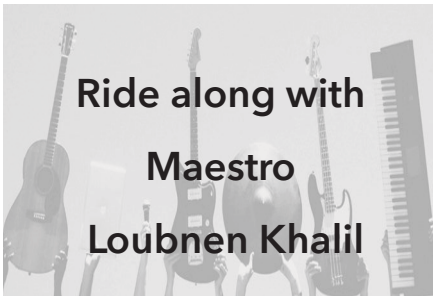
MASS INTENTIONS

Liturgies are offered for many reasons: for the souls in purgatory, in remembrance for someone who is deceased, or in honor of a birthday or special anniversary, and more.

Liturgy stipend or offering given, signifies the sacrificial nature of giving of something of yourself to associate more intimately with Christ who offers himself in the Eucharist.

If you would like to have a Liturgy said for someone, please contact the Parish Office by phone or email for help with available dates and times.

Do you play a Musical Instrument?



TICKETS WILL BE MAILED SOON !!!!

Covering the upcoming expenses:

St Anthony Maronite Catholic Church
 To Cover: Building Insurance (30K) & Bishop Appeal (\$7500)

ANNUAL RAFFLE FUNDRAISING

1st PRIZE: \$2500
 2rd PRIZE: \$ 1000
 3rd PRIZE: \$ 500
 4th PRIZE: \$250

1 TICKET for \$10 / 5 for \$40

TO BE DRAWN APRIL 9 - EASTER SUNDAY
 rectory@stanthonylawrence.org / 978.685.7233

No. 001

If your interested in participating in an orchestra directed by the Violin Master, Loubnen Khalil, kindly fill out the short form below and drop it in the collection basket or send your information to our office email @ rectory@stanthonylawrence.org

Name:

Best Contact:

Instrument:

Years of Playing or learning:

2023 ALAA SCHOLARSHIP

The 2023 ALAA Scholarship Application is now available for students planning to attend college next year. ***DEADLINE: MARCH 1st***

Application is available at the following Link:
americanlebaneseawarenessassociation.org



AMERICAN LEBANESE AWARENESS ASSOCIATION

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Upcoming Classes- Bi-Weekly- 5PM-6:30 PM

Saturday March 4 & March 18

Please check your calendars for all the spring semester dates.

First Communion families:

If your child was Baptized in a church other than St. Anthony Church, we need proof of Baptism. Please send your baptismal certificate to us as soon as possible. If we do not have proof of Baptism, your child WILL NOT be able to receive in May.

If your child was Baptized at St. Anthony Church, we have a record, and you are all set.

The Religious Education Team

Calendar:

stanthonylawrence.org/calendar-classes-and-events/

KNIGHTS OF MARY

March 11: from 5-7PM

Calendar: www.stanthonylawrence.org/events-2/

MARONITE MONKS in PETERSHAM

The Monks at Petersham are in need of your help. Please donate and show your support! Donations can be left in the Foyer of the Church or at the Rectory.

- Dried Beans (Lima Beans, Pinto Beans, Black Beans Etc.)
- Canned Tuna (In Water)
- Canned Sardines (In Water)
- Canned Green Beans/Carrots/Mushrooms
- Canned Diced Tomatoes/Tomato Paste
- Pasta Sauce (Prego, Regu, etc.)
- Brown Rice/Barley/Quinoa
- Extra Virgin Olive Oil
- Honey
- Molasses
- Prunes/Raisins
- Lemon Juice

MARONITE YOUNG ADULTS -MYA - Ages 18-35

MYA Registration is open to new members.

Contact Ramona for more info: 978-350-2965

MYA NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL RETREAT

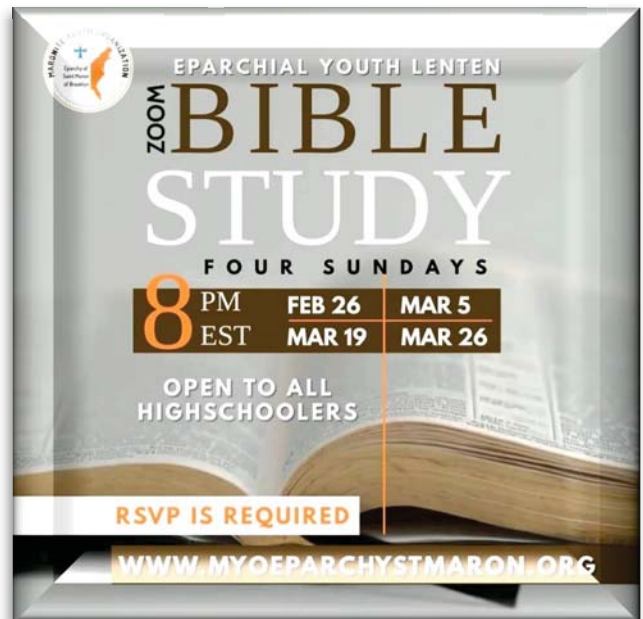


MARONITE YOUTH ORGANIZATION

MYO -Next Session:

Lenten Day Retreat- More info coming soon!

Full Calendar: stanthonylawrence.org/myo/



KNIGHTS OF THE ALTAR

Sign up today to serve on the Altar! Application and full Altar Server Schedule can be found:

www.stanthonylawrence.org/kinghts-of-the-altar-calendar/

LOL BIBLE CAMP 2023

Save the dates - July 12 -15, 2023

LENTEN RETREAT AT ST JOSEPH MELKITE CHURCH, LAWRENCE MA

Arabic Spiritual Retreat-Sat. March 18: 9am-1Pm. Conducted by Fr. Neemtallah Oneissy

English Spiritual Retreat - Sat. March 11: 9am-1pm. Conducted by Fr. Christopher Saad

AWAKEN
WITNESS • TRANSFORM • EVANGELIZE

2023 NATIONAL MYO CONFERENCE
JUNE 27 - JULY 1

REGISTRATION
\$385 BY APRIL 1
\$400 AFTER APRIL 1

WALSH UNIVERSITY
NORTH CANTON, OHIO

12-18 y/o REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN
WWW.MARONITEYOUTH.ORG

Saturday March 25 | 11:30-5pm
at Our Lady of Fatima (future home of OLOP)
4256 Acushnet Ave New Bedford

Maronite Youth
KICK OFF

RSVP to Fr. Vince Farhat by March 20
Ph: 508-996-8934
Email: ourladyofpurgatory@gmail.com

HOW MUCH IS 5%? St. Anthony Church • Lawrence, MA

WEEKLY INCOME	\$150.	\$200.	\$300.
OFFERING	\$7.50	\$10.00	\$15.00

\$400.	\$500.	\$700.	\$800.	\$900.
\$20.00	\$25.00	\$35.00	\$40.00	\$45.00

PLEASE INDICATE AMOUNT	\$	\$100	\$50	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$10
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Please mark the amount of your offering to insure proper credit.

Dear Parishioners
Be an active member of the building and growth of our community. The Lord commands His people to tithe, to donate, so that our hearts will not be attached to the riches of the world *where moth and rust destroy*. Here is a breakdown of donations based on individual income....
Let your charity be at the measure of His Love to us on the Cross

If absent, PLEASE MAIL YOU CONTRIBUTION TO THE PARISH.

BECOME A NAM MEMBER

[Use your credit card and apply online](#)

www.namnews.org

Additional Membership Benefits

- Discount on National & Regional Conventions' pre-registration
- Discount on NAM's Lenten Retreats
- Eligibility for NAM's Silver and Gold Massabki Awards, and Faith of the Mountain Award
- Discount on various items available through NAM
- Eligibility for Scholarships

BE PART OF OUR MINISTRIES

Religious Education

<https://www.stanthonylawrence.org/registration-form/>

Maronite Youth Organization –MYO

<https://www.stanthonylawrence.org/registration-form-2/>

Maronite Young Adults –MYA

Please email the Parish to add your name to the MYA Group: rectory@stanthonylawrence.org

Knights of Mary –KOM

<https://www.stanthonylawrence.org/registration-form-4/>

Knights of the Altars

<https://www.stanthonylawrence.org/application/>

In addition our Parish takes pride and invites you to be part of the other ministries such as:

- *Daughters of St Anthony*
- *Our Lady of Lebanon Sodality*
- *Sunshine Committee*
- *M-Wine*
- *Bereavement Ministry*
- *Ushers*
- *Men's Ministry*

Scholarships offered by NAM for active NAM members. The applications for all scholarships offered by NAM can be found online, through NAM's website, www.namnews.org.

1.NAM General Application for Scholarships:

- **John A. Solomon Memorial - MYO Scholarship;** Two scholarships of \$2000 each, payable over 2 years, available for high school seniors who are **active members** of MYO
- **Abouna Sharbel Scholarship;** Three (3) scholarships of \$1,000, available for 3 High School Seniors.
- **Massabki Brothers Scholarship;** One scholarship of \$2000, payable over 2 years, available for high school seniors
- **Naomi & Paul Kassouf Scholarship;** Two scholarships of \$2000 each, payable over 2 years, available for high school seniors
- **Chagoury Family Undergraduate Scholarship;** One scholarship of \$2000, available for students already in college
- **Thomas and Jennie Ayoob Memorial Scholarship;** One scholarship of \$2000, payable over 2 years, available for students already in college
- **Chagoury Family Graduate Scholarship;** One scholarship of \$2000, available for students already in masters or doctorate program

2.USEK Scholarship: The University of the Holy Spirit-Kaslik, Lebanon. **10 Summer scholarships** will be awarded which will include full tuition and dormitory; and **\$500** once the semester is completed. Available for college students; Summer 2023.

NDU Scholarship: Notre Dame University-Louaize, Lebanon. **12 scholarships for the Spring or Fall semester**, both include full tuition and dormitory; and **\$500** once a semester is completed. Available for college students; Fall/Spring 2023/2024

The details and eligibility requirements are clearly explained in each application. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me directly at 440-821-6303, email me at namscholarships@gmail.com or contact the NAM Office using the information at the bottom of this page.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS May 31, 2023.

LECTORS SCHEDULE

Saturday, February 25 - 4PM - Lisa Abdallah

Sunday, February 26- 8AM- Huguette Sfeir

9AM - Meaghan Twing

11AM -Eng: Nadine Daou

Ar: Marie-Christine Daou

LECTORS SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 4- 4PM- Meaghan Twing

Sunday, March 5

8AM - Mouna Hbaiter

9AM - Elaine Ferris

11:00AM Eng: Selim Matta

Ar: Marcel Saade

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Feb 25: Jake Ata, Pascale Moussa

Feb 26: Ella Atallah, Nida El-Boustany,

Sallu Lanoutte, Raymond Nadira, Madelyn Ryan

Feb 27: Tanios Ata, Bob Dewan, Andrea Doumit,

Melhem Hachem, Benjamin Maroon,

Valentina Maroun

Feb 28: Joanne Comtois, Theresa Hatem, Mouna

Kassarji, Sebastian Ramey, Natalie Saad,

Cecilia Sadek

March 1: Youssef Aboelsaad, Charbel Bou-Chaaya,

Joe Msaddi, Alyssa Nazzaro, Justin Pelletier,

Joseph Rizk

March 2: Elena Abi-Samra, Said Geha, Meg Kannan,

Giovanni Salame, Julianna Taylor

March 3: Pamela Abi-Moussa, Magdalena Bejjani,

Andre Bou-Mitri, Corey Cadell, Sadie Cadell,

Charles Clement, Robert Comtois, Julienne Fares,

Mary Pica

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Feb 26: Rabih & Jihane Abou-Ezzi

St Anthony's Cemetery

Grave Purchase & Burial

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: stanthonylawrence.org/lots-sales/

Cemetery Guidelines

www.stanthonylawrence.org/cemetery/

Headstones & Cemetery Markers

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

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

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.

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 displayed for ten years.

Plant-A-Tree B—For a donation of \$250.00: memorial plaque displayed for five years.

Your Donation is Tax-Deductible

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

TREE OF LIFE

BRASS ALUMINUM PLAQUES SIZES:

1.5" X 3" = \$75 / 3" X 6" = \$150 / 4" X 8" = \$250

Please submit your request either by

Phone: 978.685.7233 or by E-mail:

rectory@stanthonylawrence.org

Second Sunday of Great Lent: Sunday of the Man with Leprosy

2nd Book of Kings 5,1-14.

Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favour with his master, because by him the LORD had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy. Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, 'If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy.' So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, 'Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean.' But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, 'I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?' He turned and went away in a rage. But his servants approached and said to him, 'Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, "Wash, and be clean"?' So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

Letter to the Romans 6,12-23.

Therefore, do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace. What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification. When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Saint Mark 1,35-45

In the morning, while it was still very dark, Jesus got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, 'Everyone is searching for you.' He answered, 'Let us go on to the neighbouring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.' And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons. A leper came to him begging him, and kneeling he said to him, 'If you choose, you can make me clean.' Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, 'I do choose. Be made clean!' Immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean. After sternly warning him he sent him away at once, saying to him, 'See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.' But he went out and began to proclaim it freely, and to spread the word, so that Jesus could no longer go into a town openly, but stayed out in the country; and people came to him from every quarter

الأحد الثاني من الصوم الكبير : أحد شفاء الأبرص

سفر الملوك الثاني 13:1-6:55

كَانَ نُعْمَانُ، رَئِيسُ جَيْشِ مَلِكِ أَرَامَ، رَجُلًا عَظِيمًا عِنْدَ سَيِّدِهِ مُكْرَمًا لَدَيْهِ، لِأَنَّهُ عَنِ يَدِهِ أُعْطِيَ الرَّبُّ خَلَاصًا لِأَرَامَ. وَكَانَ الرَّجُلُ مُحَارِبًا بَاسِلًا، وَكَانَ أَبْرَصًا. وَإِنَّ أَرَامِيِّينَ خَرَجُوا غَازِينَ، فَسَبَّوْا مِنْ أَرْضِ إِسْرَائِيلَ فِتْنَةً صَغِيرَةً، وَأَصْبَحَتْ فِي خِدْمَةِ زَوْجَةِ نُعْمَانَ. فَقَالَتْ لِسَيِّدَتَيْهَا: «يَا لَيْتَ سَيِّدِي أَمَامَ النَّبِيِّ الَّذِي فِي السَّامِرَةِ، فَإِنَّهُ كَانَ يَشْفِيهِ مِنْ بَرَصِهِ». «فَأَقْبَلَ نُعْمَانُ بِخَيْلِهِ وَمَرْكَبَاتِهِ وَوَقَفَ عَلَى بَابِ بَيْتِ أَلِيشَاعَ. فَأَرْسَلَ إِلَيْهِ أَلِيشَاعَ رَسُولًا يَقُولُ لَهُ: «إِمضِ وَأَغْتَسِلْ فِي الْأُرْدُنِّ سَبْعَ مَرَّاتٍ، فَيَعُودَ إِلَيْكَ لَحْمُكَ وَتَطْهَرُ». «فَغَضِبَ نُعْمَانُ وَمَضَى وَقَالَ: «كُنْتُ أَحْسَبُ أَنَّهُ يُخْرِجُ وَيَقِفُ وَيَدْعُو بِاسْمِ الرَّبِّ إِلَهِي، وَيُحْرِكُ يَدَهُ فَوْقَ الْمَكَانِ فَيَشْفِي الْبَرَصَ. أَلَيْسَ أَبَانُهُ وَفَرْفَرُ، نَهْرًا يَمَشُقُ، خَيْرًا مِنْ جَمِيعِ مِيَاهِ إِسْرَائِيلَ؟ أَفَلَا أَغْتَسِلُ فِيهِمَا وَأَطْهَرُ؟» وَانصَرَفَ رَاجِعًا وَهُوَ مُغْضَبٌ. فَتَقَدَّمَ إِلَيْهِ خُدَامُهُ وَخَاطَبُوهُ وَقَالُوا: «يَا أَبِي، لَوْ أَمَرَكَ النَّبِيُّ بِأَمْرٍ عَظِيمٍ، أَمَا كُنْتَ تَفْعَلُهُ؟ فَكَيْفَ بِالْأُخْرَى وَقَدْ قَالَ لَكَ: اغْتَسِلْ وَأَطْهَرُ؟» «فَنَزَلَ وَغَطَسَ فِي الْأُرْدُنِّ سَبْعَ مَرَّاتٍ، كَمَا قَالَ رَجُلُ اللَّهِ، فَعَادَ لَحْمُهُ كُلِّهِ صَبِيًّا صَغِيرًا وَطْهَرَ.

رسالة القديس بولس إلى أهل رومة 23:12-6

يَا إِخْوَتِي، لَا تَمْلِكَنَّ الْخَطِيئَةَ بَعْدَ فِي جَسَدِكُمْ الْمَانِتِ، فَتُطِيعُوا شَهْوَاتِهِ. وَلَا تَجْعَلُوا أَعْضَاءَكُمْ سِلَاحَ ظُلْمٍ لِلْمَخْطِئَةِ، بَلْ قَرِّبُوا أَنْفُسَكُمْ لِلَّهِ كَأَحْيَاءٍ قَامُوا مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ، وَأَجْعَلُوا أَعْضَاءَكُمْ سِلَاحَ بِرِّ اللَّهِ. فَلَا تَتَسَلَّطْ عَلَيْكُمْ الْخَطِيئَةُ، لِأَنَّكُمْ لَسْتُمْ فِي حُكْمِ الشَّرِيعَةِ بَلْ فِي حُكْمِ النِّعْمَةِ. فَمَاذَا إِذَا؟ هَلْ نَخْطَأُ لِأَنَّنا لَسْنَا فِي حُكْمِ الشَّرِيعَةِ، بَلْ فِي حُكْمِ النِّعْمَةِ؟ حَاشَا! أَلَا تَعْلَمُونَ أَنَّكُمْ عِنْدَمَا تَجْعَلُونَ أَنْفُسَكُمْ عَبِيدًا لِأَحَدٍ فَتُطِيعُونَهُ، تَكُونُونَ عَبِيدًا لِلَّذِي تُطِيعُونَهُ: إِمَّا عَبِيدًا لِلْمَخْطِئَةِ الَّتِي تَوُولُ إِلَى الْمَوْتِ، وَإِمَّا لِلطَّاعَةِ الَّتِي تَوُولُ إِلَى الْبِرِّ. فَشُكْرًا لِلَّهِ لِأَنَّكُمْ بَعْدَمَا كُنْتُمْ عَبِيدَ الْخَطِيئَةِ، أُطْعِمْتُمْ مِنْ كُلِّ قَلْبِكُمْ مِثَالَ التَّعْلِيمِ الَّذِي سَلَّمْتُمْ إِلَيْهِ. وَبَعْدَ أَنْ حَرَّرْتُمْ مِنَ الْخَطِيئَةِ، صِرْتُمْ عَبِيدًا لِلْبِرِّ. وَأَقُولُ قَوْلًا بَشْرِيًّا مُرَاعَاةً لِضَعْفِكُمْ: فَكَمَا جَعَلْتُمْ أَعْضَاءَكُمْ عَبِيدًا لِلنَّجَاسَةِ وَالْإِثْمِ فِي سَبِيلِ الْإِثْمِ، كَذَلِكَ أَجْعَلُوا الْآنَ أَعْضَاءَكُمْ عَبِيدًا لِلْبِرِّ فِي سَبِيلِ الْقِدَاسَةِ. فَلَمَّا كُنْتُمْ عَبِيدَ الْخَطِيئَةِ، كُنْتُمْ أَحْرَارًا مِنَ الْبِرِّ. فَأَيُّ ثَمَرٍ جَنَيْتُمْ حِينَئِذٍ مِنْ تِلْكَ الْأُمُورِ الَّتِي تَسْتَحُونَ مِنْهَا الْآنَ؟ فَإِنَّ عَاقِبَتَهَا الْمَوْتُ. أَمَّا الْآنَ، وَقَدْ صِرْتُمْ أَحْرَارًا مِنَ الْخَطِيئَةِ وَعَبِيدًا لِلَّهِ، فَإِنَّكُمْ تَجْنُونَ ثَمَرًا لِلْقِدَاسَةِ، وَعَاقِبَتُهَا الْحَيَاةُ الْأَبَدِيَّةُ. لِأَنَّ أَجْرَةَ الْخَطِيئَةِ هِيَ الْمَوْتُ. أَمَّا مَوْهَبَةُ اللَّهِ فَهِيَ الْحَيَاةُ الْأَبَدِيَّةُ فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ رَبِّنَا.

إنجيل القديس مرقس 45:1-35

قَامَ يَسُوعُ قَبْلَ طُلُوعِ الْفَجْرِ، فَخَرَجَ وَذَهَبَ إِلَى مَكَانٍ قَفْرٍ، وَأَخَذَ يُصَلِّي هُنَاكَ. وَلِحَقِّ بِهِ سَمْعَانَ وَالَّذِينَ مَعَهُ، وَوَجَدُوهُ فَقَالُوا لَهُ: «الْجَمِيعُ يَطْلُبُونَكَ». «فَقَالَ لَهُمْ: «لِنَذْهَبْ إِلَى مَكَانٍ آخَرَ، إِلَى الْقُرَى الْمُجَاوِرَةِ، لِأُبَشِّرَ هُنَاكَ أَيْضًا، فَإِنِّي لِهَذَا خَرَجْتُ». «وَسَارَ فِي كُلِّ الْجَلِيلِ، وَهُوَ يَكْرَهُ فِي مَجَامِعِهِمْ وَيَطْرُدُ الشَّيَاطِينَ. وَأَتَاهُ أَبْرَصٌ يَتَوَسَّلُ إِلَيْهِ، فَجَنَّا وَقَالَ لَهُ: «إِنْ شِئْتَ فَأَنْتَ قَادِرٌ أَنْ تُطَهِّرَنِي!». «فَتَحَنَّنَ يَسُوعُ وَمَدَّ يَدَهُ وَلَمَسَهُ وَقَالَ لَهُ: «قَدْ شِئْتُ، فَاطْهَرُ!». «وَفِي الْحَالِ زَالَ عَنْهُ الْبَرَصُ، فَطْهَرَ. فَأَنْتَهَرَهُ يَسُوعُ وَصَرَفَهُ خَالًا، وَقَالَ لَهُ: «أَنْظُرْ، لَا تُخْبِرْ أَحَدًا بِشَيْءٍ، بَلْ أَذْهَبْ وَأَرِ نَفْسَكَ لِلْكَاهِنِ، وَقَدِّمْ عَنْ طَهْرِكَ مَا أَمَرَ بِهِ مُوسَى، شَهَادَةً لَهُمْ». «أَمَّا هُوَ فَخَرَجَ وَبَدَأَ يُبَادِي بِأَعْلَى صَوْتِهِ وَيُذِيعُ الْخَبْرَ، حَتَّى إِنَّ يَسُوعَ لَمْ يَعُدْ قَادِرًا أَنْ يَدْخُلَ إِلَى مَدِينَةٍ عَلَانِيَةً، بَلْ كَانَ يُقِيمُ فِي الْخَارِجِ، فِي أَمَاكِنَ مُفْفِرَةٍ، وَكَانَ النَّاسُ يَأْتُونَ إِلَيْهِ مِنْ كُلِّ مَكَانٍ.



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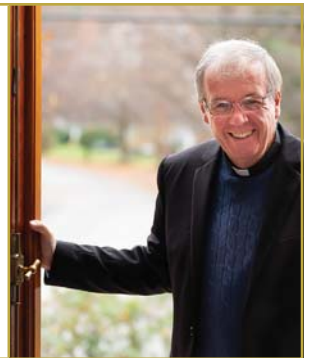
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