

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



*Sunday of the Renewal of the Church*

أحد تجديد البيعة



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## LITURGIES INTENTIONS

### Renewal of the Church

**Saturday, November 11**

*St. Mennas & His Companions*

**4:00 pm** +40 Day Anniversary - Antoine Ghosen,  
By his Daughter Dr. Rola, her husband,  
Bassil Zaza & Family

**Sunday, November 12**

*St. Theodore*

**8:00 am** + Amal Farris Wakim, By Fr. Elie  
*Mikhael*

**9:30 am** + Ibrahim, Sadie, & Dalal Kassas & the  
deceased family members, By their  
son, George Kassas, & family.

**11:00 am** Private Intentions

### Season of the Glorious Birth of Our Lord

#### Announcement to Zechariah

**Saturday, November 18**

*St. Romanos*

**4:00 pm** Good health and blessings of all our  
Religious Education team, members  
and their families

**Sunday, November 19**

*Pope St. Pontian*

**8:00 am** In Honor of Gilbert Fenianos & Diane  
Habchi

**9:30 am** + Jennie & Toufi Ferris, By their Family

**11:00 am** + Jean El Helou, By his son, Tony, his  
daughter, Lola, their spouses & their  
families

### Daily Liturgies

**Monday, November 13 (Ar.)**

*St. John Chrysostom, doctor of the church  
Heb 8:1-6/ Jn 10:1-6*

**9:00 am** + Sheryl Coury.

**Tuesday, November 14 (Eng.)**

*St. Philip / Heb 8:7-13 / Jn 10:7-10*

**9:00 am** + Pauline A. Gallagher, By The Demers  
Family

**Wednesday, November 15 (Ar.)**

*Sts. Gurias, Samonas, & Habib the Deacon  
Heb 9:15-23 / Jn 10:11-16*

**9:00 am** In Honor of Abouna Maroon, By Lola  
& Kozhaya AbouKhalil

**Thursday, November 16 (Eng.)**

*St. Matthew /Heb 9:24-28 / Jn 10:17-21*

**9:00 am** + The deceased members of the Goulart  
& Pereira families, By Dora Pereira

**9:30 am - Noon** Eucharistic Adoration

**Friday, November 17 No Liturgy**

*St Gregory the Wonderworker*

### SANCTUARY LAMPS

#### In Honor and In Memory Of All Our Veterans

Book your Sanctuary lamp Online:

[www.stanthonylawrence.org/sanctuary-lamp/](http://www.stanthonylawrence.org/sanctuary-lamp/)

#### UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTION

**Maronite Patriarchal Charity November 11 & 12**

*Please remit your Fuel/Utilities Envelope.  
Your contribution helps us keep the AC on in the  
Summer & the Heat on in the Winter!*

#### PLEASE NOTE:

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

## MASS INTENTIONS

Liturgies are offered for many reasons: for the souls in purgatory, in remembrance for someone who is deceased, or in honor of someone's 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 offer a Liturgy for someone, please contact the Parish Office by phone or email for more inquiries.

## BIBLE STUDY - ENGLISH SESSIONS

*Bishop Robert Barron's Catholicism Series*

**Regular Schedule: Wednesdays from 7:00-8:30 pm**

Location will be in conference room and simulcast on Zoom.

- ♦ November 8, 15, 29 (no session 22<sup>nd</sup> Thanksgiving)
- ♦ December 6, 13, 20 (no session 27<sup>th</sup> - Christmas)

\*More sessions to be posted at a later date.

## ARABIC BIBLE STUDY & FORMATION

**New sessions coming soon**

### OUR SYMPATHIES TO :

The nephews and nieces of Rose Marie Lahage, and their families, for the loss of their beloved aunt.

Rose Marie was a lifelong parishioner of St. Anthony, and a member of The Daughters of St. Anthony Ministry.

*May the soul of all the departed rest in peace  
& their memories be eternal*

### LECTORS SCHEDULE

Saturday, November 11- 4 pm - Anthony Ata

Sunday, November 12 -

8 am - Huguette Sfeir

9:30 am - Juliette Ata

11:00 am - (Eng) Mansour Chaya  
(Ar) Amale Chantiri

### LECTORS SCHEDULE

Saturday, November 18- 4 pm - Meaghan Twing

Sunday, November 19 -

8 am - Hitaf Nammour

9:30 am - Elaine Ferris

11:00 am - (Eng) John El Helou  
(Ar) Marcel Saade

## OFFICE HOURS:

**M-TH** 10:00 am-3:00 pm

**FRI** 10:00 am-2:00 pm

**SAT** By Appointment

**DAILY LITURGIES @ 9 am**

**MON & WED** (Ara)

**TUE & THU** (Eng)

## WEEKEND LITURGIES

**SAT** 4 pm (Eng)

**SUN** 8 am (Ara)- 9:30 am (Eng)  
11 am (Eng.& Ara)

## 1st Friday of the Month:

6 pm - Confession / 7 pm - Liturgy

## 1st Sunday of the Month:

Youth Liturgy @ 5:00 pm

## Holy days of obligation:

Vigil Liturgy @ 7:00 pm

## MEET OUR PRIESTS:

**Fr. Elie Mikhael** (305) 807-9087

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

**Fr. Edgard -Neemtallah- Oneissy**

(857)390-4838

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

## MEET OUR DEACONS:

**Nadim Daou, James T. Demers &**

**David Leard**

**Sub-Deacon: Antoine Nammour**

## CLERGY DAY OFF

**Fr Elie: Mondays**

**Fr. Neemtallah: Wednesdays**

## 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.

### CHOIR MINISTRY

***“The church choir is the heart of the church, singing praises to the Lord.”***

#### **Love to Sing? Join our Choir Ministry!**

We would love to have you join our music ministry if you enjoy to sing or praising the Lord through songs.  
Not sure if this ministry is for you? You are welcome to try it out with no obligation!  
For further information, please contact Fr. Neemtallah or Patrick Tabet.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Next session:

**November 18 @ 5-7 pm**

We are in need of Substitute Teachers! If you are interested, please contact  
**Ginine Flanagan at: [lawrencereligious@gmail.com](mailto:lawrencereligious@gmail.com)**

### KNIGHTS OF MARY

**Co-Chair: Colette Sadek & Gretta Merheb**

Next Sessions:

**Saturday, November 11 & 25 @ 5-7 pm**

Calendar for 2023-2024 Season:

[www.stanthonylawrence.org/events-2/](http://www.stanthonylawrence.org/events-2/)

### MARONITE YOUTH ORGANIZATION

**MYO Co-Leaders: Geryes Geha & Gabrielle AbdulNour**

Next Meeting:

**Sunday, November 19 @ 6 - 7:30 pm**

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

### KNIGHTS OF THE ALTAR

Next Meeting:

**Saturday, December 2 @ 11 am- 12:30 pm**

*New applicants are always welcome*

### DAUGHTERS OF SAINT ANTHONY

Next Meeting:

**Monday, December 4 @ 12 Noon  
in the church hall**

### New Ministries Appointment

**Ministries Formation Leader & Advisor:**

**Anthony Abi Awad**

**MYA Leaders:**

**George Hashem, Robert Ayoub, Leila Geha & Marita Merheb**



### STARTING NOVEMBER 18

#### **Purpose:**

*Form a Men of Saint Joseph (MSJ) group at Saint Anthony’s church taking the earthly father of Jesus as a guide and intercessor, and create the opportunity to pray, share our experience and grow in faith together on our journey to eternal life promised to us by Jesus the crucified.*

#### **Monthly Meeting Schedule**

*One Saturday every month (except 2nd Saturday) at Saint Anthony Maronite Church and Hall*

#### **WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?**

##### **FIND SUPPORT TO GROW YOUR FAITH**

*Finding support for your newly found or even lifelong pursuit of Catholicism can be a challenge. Need help being affirmed in your daily walk, in gaining new wisdom or in becoming a better man?*

##### **STRENGTHEN YOUR MARRIAGE**

*Want valuable wisdom on how to strengthen your relationship with your wife? Or need to know what the Catholic Church teaches? Or how to live a life that is Christ centered?*

##### **FOSTER FAMILY VALUES**

*Need encouragement to discover new ways to engage yourself, your wife or your children to live and understand your faith every day?*

##### **ENGAGE YOUR COMMUNITY**

*Looking for ways to become an active participant in your Catholic community or to aid others by showing them how to live the Catholic faith and how it can help them live happier and holier lives?*

# Save the date

SAINT ANTHONY MARONITE CHURCH LAWRENCE PRESENTS

**MENS CHRISTMAS PARTY**  
MUSIC - GAMES - FUN - CASH BAR  
\$50

NO TICKETS AT DOOR

**12TH DEC**

PHOENICIAN RESTAURANT  
MICHAEL'S FUNCTION HALL  
12 ALPHA STREET  
HAVERHILL, MA

DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 PM  
DINNER SERVED AT 7:45PM

MENU INCLUDES:  
APPS: HUMMUS, TABOULI, BABA, RAW KIBBEE, VEGETABLE PLATTER, FRIES  
MAIN: CHICKEN KABOB OVER RICE PILAF, TENDERLOIN WITH PEPPERS & ONIONS

FOR INFO OR TICKETS CONTACT:  
FRED COREY | ROD PICA | WISSAM MERHEB | ELIAS AZZI | DANNY AZZI

DECEMBER 16

# Christmas Concert

ANNUAL HAFLI

SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2024

## BIRTHDAY WISHES

- Nov 11:** David Abou Khalil, Tannous Ata, Lydia Belko, Dominic Martino, Najat Rizkallah
- Nov 12:** Christopher Harb, Richard Mallen, Elias Zaarour
- Nov 13:** Dianne Hatem, Alexis Iannuccillo, Paul Iannuccillo, Tori Maroon, Naaman Sader, Stephanie Sader, Melissa Tarness
- Nov 14:** Cynthia Bonanno, Anthony Chamoun, Addyson Plouffe, David Veilleux
- Nov 15:** Melhem Azzi, Laure El Feghali, Katy Kalil, Eden Sfeir
- Nov 16:** Logan Gabriel, Leslie Hassan
- Nov 17:** Natasha Hashem, Serena Uliano, Pascal Zaarour

## ANNIVERSARY WISHES

- Nov 11:** Bob & Venize Mason, Justin & Victoria Pelletier
- Nov 12:** Muhened & Grace Samaan
- Nov 13:** Alex & Ciara Shepherd, Nathaniel & Lindsey St. Jean, Waroujian & Genevieve Yeremian
- Nov 14:** Samer & Diana Geha
- Nov 15:** Bradford & Paula Brooks

## BE PART OF OUR MINISTRIES

### Religious Education

[www.stanthonylawrence.org/registration-form/](http://www.stanthonylawrence.org/registration-form/)

### Maronite Youth Organization –MYO

[www.stanthonylawrence.org/registration-form-2/](http://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](mailto:rectory@stanthonylawrence.org)*

### Knights of Mary –KOM

[www.stanthonylawrence.org/registration-form-4/](http://www.stanthonylawrence.org/registration-form-4/)

### Knights of the Altars

[www.stanthonylawrence.org/application/](http://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*

ST. THERESA CHURCH PRESENTS  
**FRIDAY NOVEMBER 17TH, 2023**



**PIERRE CHAMMASSIAN**

SPECIAL GUEST  
**DJ GABRIEL MASSIH**

INCLUDING  
**MEZZE & CASH BAR**

DOORS OPEN AT 8 PM  
 SHOW STARTS AT 9 PM

**\$100**

TO PURCHASE TICKETS CONTACT  
 MIRNA ISSA 508-725-4786    GEORGE MATTA 774-365-1934

343 North Main Street Brockton, MA  
[www.sttheresabrockton.org](http://www.sttheresabrockton.org)

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

-St. Anthony Council 16204

**KOC Next Meeting:**

Tuesday, November 14 @ 7 pm, church hall  
 Men 18yrs and older are encouraged to attend.  
 For information email: [KOFc16204@gmail.com](mailto:KOFc16204@gmail.com)

<p><b>"MASHAWI" SHISH KABOB DINNER</b></p> <p>SAT, NOV. 18, 2023              4:30PM TO 7:30PM</p> <p><b>SANWICHES</b></p> <p>BEEF KABOB SANDWICH \$10  <small>SIRLOIN, HUMMUS, PICKLE, TOMATO</small></p> <p>CHICKEN KABOB SANDWICH \$10  <small>CHICKEN, GARLIC, PICKLE, FF</small></p> <p><b>DINNERS</b> - 1 SKEWER</p> <p>BEEF KABOB DINNER \$15              CHICKEN KABOB DINNER \$15</p> <p>ALL DINNERS COME WITH HUMMUS, TABOULI, AND CHOICE OF RICE OR FRIES</p> <p>EXTRA SKEWER \$7</p> <p><b>SIDES</b> - AVAILABLE BOTH DAYS</p> <p>HUMMUS \$5              TABOULI \$5              RICE \$5              FRENCH FRIES \$5              SODA/WATER \$2</p>	<p>SAINT ANTHONY  <b>K of C</b>              SPONSORS</p> <p><b>PRE-ORDER AVAILABLE</b></p> <p>CONTACT:              WISSAM MERHEB 978.853.5145              ROBERT OWAIDA 978.423.9407</p> <p>145 AMESBURY ST              LAWRENCE, MA</p> <p><b>CASH OR CHECK</b></p> 	<p><b>SHAWARMA LUNCH</b></p> <p>SUN, NOV. 19, 2023              10:30AM TO 1:30PM</p> <p><b>SANWICHES</b></p> <p>BEEF SHAWARMA \$10  <small>PARSLEY, ONION, TOMATO, PICKLE, TAHINI SAUCE</small></p> <p>CHICKEN SHAWARMA \$10  <small>CHICKEN, GARLIC, PICKLE, FF</small></p> <p>COMBO \$15  <small>INCLUDES FRIES AND SODA</small></p> <p><b>FAMILY PLATTER</b> SERVES 4 \$45</p> <p>SHAWARMA TRAY  <small>INCLUDES CHOICE OF MEAT AND THE ACCESSORIES</small></p> <p>YOUR SUPPORT ALLOWS US TO HELP THOSE IN NEED              THANK YOU</p>
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**Thanksgiving Food Drive**

Please bring your non-perishable food items to the collection bins in the church foyer, to support parish families in need and the Maronite monks monastery in Petersham, MA.

Non perishable food items such as, canned vegetables, fruits and soups, oatmeal, coffee, sugar, spices, pasta, beans, rice, oil, snacks, powdered milk, peanut butter etc. Gift cards to food market are also encouraged.

Thank you!

*Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish Presents*

**CANDLELIGHT ADVENT & CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

December 9th  
 Doors Open at 6:30pm

**ST. THERESA CHURCH**  
 22 Plymouth Street  
 Methuen MA

Celebrate the Christmas Season in peace with beautiful music by the OLGc Choir and Friends, featuring Special Guest Singers  
*Female Trio: Lori Charette McLaughlin, Melanie Noonan & Kasia Sokalla*  
*Male Trio: The Queliz Brothers of St. Mary's Parish of Lawrence, MA*

This is a Freewill Offering Event. Thank you for your support!  
 For additional information and LIVESTREAMING, please visit [www.olgcp parish.com](http://www.olgcp parish.com)




**St. Monica School**

**Christmas Fair**

Saturday, November 18th  
 9AM—5PM

St. Monica School Hall  
 212 Lawrence St., Methuen



**FORMED features many insightful programs for the whole family! Enhance your faith—take advantage of this FREE TO YOU program!**

**How do parishioners sign up for FORMED with a parish account?**

1. Go to [formed.org/signup](http://formed.org/signup)
2. Search for your parish by Zip Code/ Postal Code. Click on your parish.
3. Register with your name and email address
4. Check that email account for a link to begin

*A Note Of Gratitude*



Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Anthony's Church,

We would like to extend our gratitude to each and every one of you for attending and contributing to the St. Joseph Monastery -Tomb of St. Rafqa fundraising event. Your presence and generosity made the evening a tremendous success.

Your contributions will go a long way in helping support the monastery and it reaffirms our belief in the power of coming together to make a difference.

A heartfelt Thank you to Father Elie, Father Neemtallah, the volunteers, and attendees for being part of this journey with us.

Together we were able to raise **\$28,000** for this worthy cause.

We couldn't have done it without you and your support means the world to us. God Bless The Parishioners and Friends of St. Anthony's Church.

Yours Truly,  
**Mother Superior Raghida Younes,  
Mr. & Mrs. Antoine Aboujaoude, &  
The Organizing Committee.**

**SAINT ANTHONY 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](mailto:rectory@stanthonylawrence.org)  
**or Visit:** [stanthonylawrence.org/lots-sales/](http://stanthonylawrence.org/lots-sales/)

**Cemetery Guidelines**

[www.stanthonylawrence.org/cemetery/](http://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/](http://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](http://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](mailto: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"X8" = \$250

Please submit your request either by

**Phone: 978.685.7233** or by E-mail:

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

## Sunday of the Renewal of the Church

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*2<sup>nd</sup> Book of Macc 10: 1-6a+7b+8*

When Maccabeus and his companions, under the Lord's leadership, had recovered the temple and the city, they destroyed the altars erected by the foreigners in the marketplace and the sacred shrines. After purifying the temple, they made another altar. Then, with fire struck from flint, they offered sacrifice for the first time in two years, burned incense, and lighted lamps. They also set out the showbread. When they had done this, they prostrated themselves and begged the Lord that they might never again fall into such misfortunes, and that if they should sin at any time, he might chastise them with moderation and not hand them over to blasphemous and barbarous Gentiles. On the anniversary of the day on which the temple had been profaned by the foreigners, that is, the twenty-fifth of the same month Kislev, the purification of the temple took place. The Jews celebrated joyfully for eight days as on the feast of Booths. They sang hymns of grateful praise to him who had successfully brought about the purification of his own place. By public decree and vote they prescribed that the whole Jewish nation should celebrate these days every year.

*Letter to the Hebrews 9,11-15.*

When Christ came as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), he entered once for all into the Holy Place, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls, with the sprinkling of the ashes of a heifer, sanctifies those who have been defiled so that their flesh is purified, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to worship the living God! For this reason he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, because a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions under the first covenant.

*Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Saint John 10,22-42.*

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, 'How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.' Jesus answered, 'I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one.' The Jews took up stones again to stone him. Jesus replied, 'I have shown you many good works from the Father. For which of these are you going to stone me?' The Jews answered, 'It is not for a good work that we are going to stone you, but for blasphemy, because you, though only a human being, are making yourself God.' Jesus answered, 'Is it not written in your law, "I said, you are gods"? If those to whom the word of God came were called "gods" and the scripture cannot be annulled can you say that the one whom the Father has sanctified and sent into the world is blaspheming because I said, "I am God's Son"? If I am not doing the works of my Father, then do not believe me. But if I do them, even though you do not believe me, believe the works, so that you may know and understand that the Father is in me and I am in the Father.' Then they tried to arrest him again, but he escaped from their hands. He went away again across the Jordan to the place where John had been baptizing earlier, and he remained there. Many came to him, and they were saying, 'John performed no sign, but everything that John said about this man was true.' And many believed in him there.



## أحد تجديد البيعة

سفر المكابيين الثاني 1:10-1:10

أَمَّا الْمَكَابِيُّ وَالَّذِينَ مَعَهُ فَاسْتَرْتُوا الْهَيْكَلَ وَالْمَدِينَةَ بِقِيَادَةِ الرَّبِّ، وَهَدَمُوا الْمَذَابِحَ الَّتِي كَانَ الْأَجَانِبُ قَدْ بَنَوْهَا فِي السَّاحَةِ وَخَرَّبُوا أَمَاكِنَ الْعِبَادَةِ. وَبَعْدَ أَنْ طَهَّرُوا الْهَيْكَلَ، صَنَعُوا مَذْبَحًا آخَرَ، وَأَقْتَرَحُوا حِجَارَةً أَقْتَبَسُوا مِنْهَا نَارًا وَقَدَّمُوا دَبِيحَةً بَعْدَ مُدَّةِ سَنَتَيْنِ، وَهَيَّأُوا الْبُخُورَ وَالسُّرُجَ وَخَبَزَ التَّقْدِيمَةَ. وَلَمَّا أَتَمُّوا ذَلِكَ، جَنُّوا بِصُدُورِهِمْ وَأَبْتَهَلُوا إِلَى الرَّبِّ أَنْ لَا يُصَابُوا بِمِثْلِ تِلْكَ الشُّرُورِ، وَأَنْ يُؤَدِّبَهُمْ هُوَ بِحِلْمٍ إِنْ خَطَبُوا، وَلَا يُسَلِّمُهُمْ إِلَى أُمِّ مُجَدِّفَةٍ وَحَشِيَّةٍ. وَاتَّفَقَ أَنَّهُ فِي مِثْلِ الْيَوْمِ الَّذِي فِيهِ نَجَسَ الْغُرَبَاءُ الْهَيْكَلَ، فِي ذَلِكَ الْيَوْمِ عَيْنِهِ تَمَّ تَطْهِيرُ الْهَيْكَلِ، وَهُوَ الْيَوْمُ الْخَامِسُ وَالْعِشْرُونَ مِنْ ذَلِكَ الشَّهْرِ الَّذِي هُوَ شَهْرُ كِسْلُو. عَيَّدُوا ثَمَانِيَةَ أَيَّامٍ بِفَرَحٍ، كَمَا فِي عِيدِ الْأَكْوَاخِ، وَلِذَلِكَ رَفَعُوا الْأَنَاشِيدَ إِلَى الَّذِي يَسَّرَ تَطْهِيرَ مَكَانِهِ الْمُقَدَّسِ. وَفَرَضُوا فَرِيضَةَ عَامَّةٍ وَمُتَّبَعَةً بِالْإِقْتِرَاعِ أَنْ تُعَيَّدَ جَمِيعُ أُمَّةِ الْيَهُودِ هَذِهِ الْأَيَّامَ فِي كُلِّ سَنَةٍ.

الرسالة إلى العبرانيين 9: 11-15

يَا إِخْوَتِي، أَمَّا الْمَسِيحُ فَقَدْ ظَهَرَ عَظِيمَ أَحْبَابِ الْخَيْرَاتِ الْآتِيَةِ، وَأَجْتَازَ الْمَسْكِنَ الْأَعْظَمَ وَالْأَكْمَلَ، غَيْرَ الْمَصْنُوعِ بِالْأَيْدِي، أَيْ لَيْسَ مِنْ هَذِهِ الْخَلِيقَةِ، فَدَخَلَ إِلَى قُدْسِ الْأَقْدَاسِ مَرَّةً وَاحِدَةً، لَا بِدَمِ الثِّيُوسِ وَالْعُجُولِ، بَلْ بِدَمِهِ هُوَ، فَحَقَّقَ لَنَا فِدَاءً أَبَدِيًّا. فَإِذَا كَانَ رَشُّ دَمِ الثِّيُوسِ وَالثِّيْرَانِ وَرَمَادِ الْعِجْلَةِ عَلَى الْمُنَجَّسِينَ، يُقَدِّسُ أَجْسَادَهُمْ فَيُطَهِّرُهُمْ، فَكَمْ بِالْأَحْرَى دَمَ الْمَسِيحِ، الَّذِي قَرَّبَ نَفْسَهُ لِلَّهِ بِالرُّوحِ الْأَزَلِيِّ قُرْبَانًا لَا عَيْبَ فِيهِ، يُطَهِّرُ ضَمِيرَنَا مِنَ الْأَعْمَالِ الْمَيْتَةِ، لِنَعْبُدَ اللَّهَ الْحَيَّ! وَلِذَلِكَ فَهُوَ الْوَسِيطُ لِعَهْدٍ جَدِيدٍ، وَقَدْ صَارَ مَوْتُهُ فِدَاءً لِتَعَدِّيَاتِ الْعَهْدِ الْأَوَّلِ، حَتَّى يَبَالَ بِهِ الْمَدْعُوعُونَ وَعَدَّ الْمِيرَاثِ الْأَبَدِيِّ.

انجيل القديس يوحنا 10: 22-42

حَانَ عِيدُ التَّجْدِيدِ فِي أُورَشَلِيمَ، وَكَانَ فَصْلُ الشِّتَاءِ. وَكَانَ يَسُوعُ يَتَمَشَّى فِي الْهَيْكَلِ، فِي رِوَاقِ سُلَيْمَانَ. فَأَحَاطَ بِهِ الْيَهُودُ وَأَخَذُوا يَقُولُونَ لَهُ: «إِلَى مَتَى تُبْقِي نَفُوسَنَا حَائِرَةً؟ إِنْ كُنْتَ أَنْتَ الْمَسِيحُ، فَقُلْ لَنَا صِرَاحَةً.» «أَجَابَهُمْ يَسُوعُ: «قُلْتُمْ لَكُمْ، لَكِنَّكُمْ لَا تُؤْمِنُونَ. الْأَعْمَالُ الَّتِي أَعْمَلُهَا أَنَا بِاسْمِ أَبِي هِيَ تَشْهَدُ لِي. لَكِنَّكُمْ لَا تُؤْمِنُونَ، لِأَنَّكُمْ لَسْتُمْ مِنْ خِرَافِي. خِرَافِي تَسْمَعُ صَوْتِي، وَأَنَا أَعْرِفُهَا، وَهِيَ تَتَّبَعُنِي. وَأَنَا أَعْطِيهَا حَيَاةً أَبَدِيَّةً، فَلَنْ تَهْلِكَ أَبَدًا، وَلَنْ يَخْطِفَهَا أَحَدٌ مِنْ يَدِي. أَبِي الَّذِي أَعْطَانِي إِيَّاهَا هُوَ أَعْظَمُ مِنَ الْكُلِّ، وَلَا يَقْدِرُ أَحَدٌ أَنْ يَخْطِفَهَا مِنْ يَدِ الْآبِ. أَنَا وَالآبُ وَاحِدٌ.» «فَأَخَذَ الْيَهُودُ، مِنْ جَدِيدٍ، حِجَارَةً لِيَرْجُمُوهُ. قَالَ لَهُمْ يَسُوعُ: «أَعْمَالًا حَسَنَةً كَثِيرَةً أَرِيكُمْ مِنْ عِنْدِ الْآبِ، فَلَا يِيَّ عَمَلٍ مِنْهَا تَرْجُمُونِي؟.» «أَجَابَهُ الْيَهُودُ: «لَا لِعَمَلٍ حَسَنٍ نَرْجُمُكَ، بَلْ لِتَجْدِيدِ. لِأَنَّكَ، وَأَنْتَ إِنْسَانٌ، تَجْعَلُ نَفْسَكَ إِلَهًا.» «أَجَابَهُمْ يَسُوعُ: «أَمَّا كُنْتُ فِي تَوْرَاتِكُمْ: أَنَا قُلْتُ إِنَّكُمْ إِلَهَةٌ؟ فَإِذَا كَانَتْ التَّوْرَةُ تَدْعُو إِلَهَةً أَوْلِيَاكَ الَّذِينَ صَارَتْ إِلَيْهِمْ كَلِمَةُ اللَّهِ، وَلَا يُمْكِنُ أَنْ يُنْقَضَ الْكِتَابُ، فَكَيْفَ تَقُولُونَ لِي، أَنَا الَّذِي قَدَّسَهُ الْآبُ وَأَرْسَلَهُ إِلَى الْعَالَمِ: أَنْتَ تَجْدِفُ؛ لِأَنِّي قُلْتُ: أَنَا ابْنُ اللَّهِ؟ إِنْ كُنْتُ لَا أَعْمَلُ أَعْمَالَ أَبِي، فَلَا تُصَدِّقُونِي، أَمَّا إِذَا كُنْتُ أَعْمَلُهَا، وَإِنْ كُنْتُ لَا تُصَدِّقُونِي، فَصَدِّقُوا هَذِهِ الْأَعْمَالَ، لِكَيْ تَعْرِفُوا وَتُؤْمِنُوا أَنَّ الْآبَ فِيَّ وَأَنِّي فِي الْآبِ.» «فَحَاوَلُوا مِنْ جَدِيدٍ أَنْ يَفْبِضُوا عَلَيْهِ، فَأَقْلَتَ مِنْ يَدِهِمْ. وَعَادَ يَسُوعُ إِلَى عِبْرِ الْأُرْدُنِّ، إِلَى حَيْثُ كَانَ يُوحَنَّا يُعَمِّدُ مِنْ قَبْلُ، فَأَقَامَ هُنَاكَ. وَأَتَى إِلَيْهِ كَثِيرُونَ وَكَانُوا يَقُولُونَ: «لَمْ يَصْنَعْ يُوحَنَّا أَيَّ آيَةٍ، وَلَكِنْ، كُلُّ مَا قَالَهُ فِي هَذَا الرَّجُلِ كَانَ حَقًّا.» «فَأَمَّنَ بِهِ هُنَاكَ كَثِيرُونَ.»



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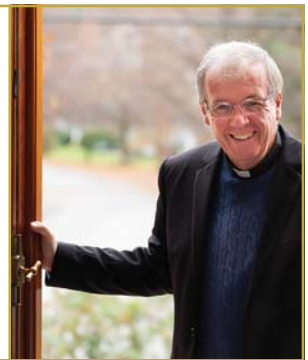
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