

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



SCAN ME



VENMO



PAYPAL



WEEKLY BULLETIN



DAILY READINGS

لانجيل اليومي



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Season of Glorious Pentecost

أحد العنصرة

LITURGIES INTENTIONS

Season of Glorious Pentecost Pentecost Sunday

Saturday, May 18 (Eng.)

- 4:00 pm + Larry Kalil, *By his wife, Linda Kalil, & family*
+ Rita Hatem & her son, Gene Hatem,
By their family

Sunday, May 19

- 8:00 am + Deceased members of the Hbaiter Family, *By Mr. & Mrs Kamil Hbaiter & family*
- 9:30 am + Charles Tarness, *By his wife, Georgette, children & grandchildren*
- 11:00 am + Baby Leo Alexander, *By his parents, Danny & Chantale Maroun, big brother, Lucas, & family*
+ Miguel, Salim, Gloria, Emilio, & Menne Jaar, *By their family*

Sunday of the Most Holy Trinity

Saturday, May 25 (Eng.)

- 4:00 pm + Robert Nuccitelli, *By the Demers Family*

Sunday, May 26

- 8:00 am + Renee & Sleiman Chahine, *By their family*
- 9:30 am + Larry Crichton, *By Gregory & Karen Daher*
- 11:00 am **40 Day Anniversary** - Mary Ata, *By her children & their families*

MEMORIAL DAY

Monday, May 26th @ 10AM, Liturgy will be celebrated at the Ground of St Anthony's Cemetery. Divine Liturgy will be offered for the rest of the Souls of all our beloved faithful departed

Daily Liturgies

Monday, May 20 (Ar.)

St. Thalaleus of Lebanon/ Acts 2:22-28 / Jn 3:5-8

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

Tuesday, May 21 (Eng.)

St. Constantine the Emperor & His Mother St. Helen / Acts 2:29-39/ Jn 4:21-24

- 9:00 am + Geryes & Berthe Cherfane, *By their children*

Wednesday, May 22 (Ar.)

St. Rita of Cascia / Acts 2:40-47/ Jn 7:37-39

- 9:00 am + Daad Cherabie, *By Dr. & Mrs. George Abou-Ezzi*

Thursday, May 23 (Eng.)

St. Tobit/ Acts 3:1-10/ Jn 14:1-7

- 9:00 am + Larry & Dora M. Pereira, *By Dora Pereira*

9:30 am – 12pm **Adoration**

Friday, May 24 - No Liturgy

St. Simeon the Stylite/Acts 3:11-21 / Jn 14:8-14

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTION

Catholic Communications: May 19, 2024

Please remember to remit your Fuel/Utilities Envelope.

Your contribution helps us keep the Heat on in the Winter and the AC on in the Summer.

Thank you!

PLEASE NOTE

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

Dear Esteemed Parishioners and Friends of St. Anthony,

I am writing to express my deepest gratitude for your outpouring of love, support, and condolences during this incredibly difficult time following the loss of my dear brother Joseph. Your kind words, gestures, and presence have provided immense comfort to me and my family during this period of mourning.

Losing Joseph has been a profound and heart-wrenching experience for my family and I, but knowing that we are surrounded by such a caring and compassionate community has been a source of strength and solace. Your expressions of sympathy, whether through heartfelt cards, thoughtful messages, comforting embraces, or acts of kindness, have touched our hearts in ways that words cannot adequately express.

In the midst of our grief, we are reminded of the power of faith and the importance of accepting the will of God. Though we may not always understand His plan, we trust in His infinite wisdom and boundless love. Just as Mary surrendered herself to the divine will at the Annunciation, so too do we surrender our hearts to God's guidance, knowing that His plan surpasses our understanding.

Please know that your thoughtfulness has not gone unnoticed or unappreciated. Each message, each hug, each moment of shared sorrow has reminded us that we are not alone in our grief, but rather, we are surrounded by a network of love and support that extends far beyond our immediate family.

On behalf of myself, my family, and especially my brother Alain and his family in Lebanon, I extend our deepest gratitude to each and every one of you. Your unwavering presence and support have been a beacon of light in our darkest days, and for that, we are profoundly grateful.

I would like also to extend a special thanks to the following ministries and organizations whose support has been invaluable during this time: Knights of Columbus, Our Lady of Lebanon Sodality, Bereavement Ministry, Daughters of Saint Anthony, Saint Charbel Family, Knights of the Altar, Ministry of Saint Joseph, M-Wine, MYA- Maronite Young Adults, MYO- Maronite Youth Organization, Knights of Mary, Religious Education, Sunshine Committee, and Ushers.

Your dedication to serving our parish community and your compassionate outreach have touched our hearts deeply. We are grateful for your generosity and for the love and care you have shown to my family.

While our hearts may still ache with sorrow, knowing that we are surrounded by such incredible love, gives us the strength to carry on. Please continue to keep us in your thoughts and prayers during this journey of grief and healing, as I will always carry you in my prayers.

May God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless you all.

With heartfelt thanks and warmest regards,
Fr. Neemtallah (Edgard).

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** (Ar)**TUE & THU** (Eng)**WEEKEND LITURGIES****SAT** 4 pm (Eng)**SUN** 8 am (Ar)- 9:30 am (Eng)
11 am (Eng.& Ar)**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

Fr. Edgard -Neemtallah- Oneissy

(857)390-4838

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.

SAVE THE DATE!
JULY 31-August 2

God is calling YOU...

Vocation Bible Camp

Saint Anthony's Maronite Church, 145 Amesbury St Lawrence MA

Your Call to be Holy
 To be a SAINT...
 To love & follow Jesus

Presented by the Maronite Servants of Christ the Light
maroniteservants.org

MARONITE YOUTH ORGANIZATION
 MYO Co-Leaders: *Geryes Geha & Gabrielle AbdulNour*

Next Meeting:
Sunday, May 19, 2024 @ 6 - 7:30 pm

DAUGHTERS OF SAINT ANTHONY
 Next Meeting:
Monday June 3 @ 12 Noon, Church Hall

KNIGHTS OF MARY
 Co-Chair: *Colette Sadek & Gretta Merheb*

Final Session: Celebration **Saturday, May 18th**
 Mass @ 4pm followed by pizza party till 6pm

KNIGHTS OF THE ALTAR
 Next Meeting:
Saturday, June 1, 2024 @ 11 am- 12:30 pm
 Remember to bring your handbooks to the meetings
 New applicants are always welcome

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
 Coming Soon
 Registration & Calendar for 2024-2025

ARABIC BIBLE STUDY – COMING SOON!

“المسيح احب الكنيسة، وأنت؟”
 (قراءة لاهوتية في نص رسالة أفسس ٤-٥)

دراسات في الكتاب المقدس مع الاب ريمون باسيل عبر الإنترنت. مداخلات شخصية من خلال Zoom



MAHRAJAN DABKE
 ~ Kids Troop

Mahrajan Kids Dabke group practice will be held every Monday from 6 – 7 with **Reine Ata**. The kids Dabke age group will consist of participants from age 7 to 12. If interested please scan the QR CODE to complete the registration form.



ST. ANTHONY'S CHURCH SHAWARMA LUNCH

A fundraising effort for the MYO retreat in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania

SUNDAY MAY 19, 2024

10:30AM-2:00PM
 145 AMESBURY ST. LAWRENCE, MA

Chicken Shawarma

Garlic, pickles, French fries

- Sandwich \$12
- Plate (includes soda) \$15
- Family platter \$45

(serves 4, includes bread)

Beef Shawarma

Tahini sauce, parsley, tomato, onion, pickles

- Sandwich \$14
- Plate (includes soda) \$17
- Family platter \$55

(serves 4, includes bread)

Sides

- Tabouli, Hummus, Rice or French fries \$5
- Soda or Water \$2

Thank you to the Knights of Columbus for their time, dedication and support hosting!

Graduates' Mass

Sunday June 2 at 9:30am and 11am Liturgies

In Honor of the High School & College Graduates.
Please submit the name of your child to be remembered in our Liturgy and published in our Weekly Bulletin.

OBSERVANCES

- ◆ **Memorial Day:** Monday, May 27, Liturgy @ 10am - Cemetery Ground
WEATHER PERMITTING
- ◆ **Feast of Pentecost:** May 18 & 19, 2024 - Vigil & Sunday Liturgies: Rite of Kneeling with Blessing of Water

MAHRAJAN 2024

The Mahrajan committee is soliciting interest and commitments from our parishioners and friends for our 52nd Annual Lebanese Mahrajan. Your support and generosity are always crucial to the success of this fundraiser. Please keep us in mind as we are undergoing the planning for a flourishing, successful Mahrajan 2024!

CONGRATULATIONS! Baptized & Confirmed Miles Maroon

Son of Stephen & Erica Maroon

"Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned." ~Mark 16:16



**Proudly Announces
2024 Scholarship Program**

All High School & College Students (undergraduates & graduates) are encouraged to apply to the NAM Scholarships. Please click on the QR code and follow the application process!



APPLICATION DEADLINE MAY 31, 2024

BIRTHDAY WISHES

- May 18:** Nicholas Abdilmasih, Gabrielle Dagher, Diane Feghali, Rita Geha, Mona Khoder, Michael Naddif, Lara Ramey
- May 19:** Marwan Dahbour, Jenny El-Helou, Peter El Hachem, Stephen El Tabchi, Elisha Farris, Caleb Hassan, Jesse Plouffe, Irah Rodriguez
- May 20:** Danielle Forristall, Peter Mouawad, Amal Najjar, Katheryn Saade, Waroujian Yeremian
- May 21:** Antoine Bassil II
- May 22:** Abdo Bouraphael, Lauren Corey, Elaine Daher, Ronald Ead, Ralph El-Hayek, Giovanna Lalo, Bob Mason, Jacquelyn Ann Nassar
- May 23:** Habib Chaaya, Alexander Lahood, Aquilina Saliba, Tamara Tannoury
- May 24:** Albert Houry, Mary Saab

ANNIVERSARY WISHES

- May 18:** Brian & Karri Houry
- May 19:** Moussa & Minerva Haddad
- May 20:** Edgard & Joumana Feghali, Jesse & Jennifer Plouffe
- May 21:** Richard & Terry Habib
- May 22:** Charbel & Freicy Bourouphael, William & Christine Ryan
- May 23:** Rabih & Amira Imad, Mark & Nancy Shepherd
- May 24:** Pierre & Jennifer Abou Ezzi, Youssef & Mona Khoder, Teddy & Nicole Saad

PRAYING FOR PENTECOST, *By Ronald Rolheiser*

Every generation needs to experience Pentecost for itself. It needs God’s spirit and it needs it in its own particular way. Indeed scripture assures us that the holy spirit is not a generic force, one-size-fits-all, but a person, a relationship, a spirit that has “particular manifestations” and gives itself to each of us uniquely so that the understanding and strength that we receive are geared to help us in our own particular struggles. If this is true, if Pentecost is so differentiating, an important question arises: Where in life today do we most need the holy spirit to transform us? What are our peculiar spiritual disabilities? Our unique weaknesses, like our strengths, are legion. However, for our generation, a number of things might be singled out as particularly debilitating to the soul: Our propensity for distraction, our tendency to see individual fulfillment as salvation, our proclivity for ideology and fundamentalism, and our obsession with sexuality. We could use a particular infusion from the holy spirit to help us with these. For example: Distraction is perhaps the most powerful narcotic on the planet. Simply put, what this means is that our daily communion, the manna that sustains us, is distraction – television, game-shows, sporting-events, sit-coms, talk-shows, entertainment-news, scandals reported in the daily papers, pop music, movies, theatre, and the like. Not that these are bad. What’s bad is that they eventually anesthetize us: We watch the late-night comedians on TV, scotch in hand, laugh as they spoof the day’s events, let the tensions of the day subside, and sleep pretty well. Not bad, not bad at all, except we do it again the next night and the night after and onwards ever after, slowly numbing ourselves to the deeper issues of meaning, pain, justice, self-sacrifice, love, death.

For our own Pentecost, we need then to pray for the spirit of wisdom, the spirit of depth, the spirit of courage, and (given the over-sophistication of so much of today’s entertainment) the spirit of chastity. Beyond distraction lies another struggle. Aidan Kavanaugh once said: “Today our icon is not a city, whether of man or God, but the lone jogger running through suburbia, in order, we are told, to feel good about himself.” We struggle today with individualism and the problem is not just with the obvious, the all too-common breakdown of our families, neighborhoods, parishes, and communities, the “bowling-alone” syndrome. The deeper struggle is with what Dorothy Day used to call “the harshness of love.” What we can’t deal with is the painful give-and-take of ordinary community, the habitual slights and hurts that arise in every marriage, family, community, parish, and civil group. We can’t interrelate without hurting each other. So we withdraw, jog and bowl alone, not out of an ideology of individualism, but because we haven’t the resiliency needed to deal with the bruises and disappointments that come with bowling and jogging in a group. What Pentecost needs to pour into us today is the spirit of resiliency, the spirit of forgiveness, the spirit of patience, the spirit of long-suffering, the spirit of understanding, and the spirit to not go jogging or bowling alone. We need too a Pentecost that can help us cope with the ideologies and fundamentalism (social and ecclesial) that constantly beset us like so many nasty viruses. We are forever infected with ideologies, be they of the left or the right, that block us from living vital parts of the gospel. Whether we rationalize it as protecting proper values, defending a divine creed, or advocating an issue of justice, over and over again we compromise the hospitality, charity, respect, catholicity, and tolerance called for by the gospels, all in the name of sacred cause. Our hearts, unlike God’s, are forever wanting to lodge in just one room. We need a Pentecost to mellow us with the spirit of mildness, stretch us with the spirit of catholicity, and especially fill us with the spirit of hospitality so as to take us beyond the hardness that we rationalize as creed or cause.

Finally, we need a Pentecost to help us deal with our sexuality. In a world in which sexual intimacy is held up as salvation, we have lost the proper balance between what our sexuality’s DNA seems to demand and the place that marriage, family, friendship, fidelity, inclusive community, and innocence hold in the overall schema for meaning and happiness. We need new tongues of fire to bring us the spirit of chastity, the spirit of full respect, the spirit of fidelity, and the spirit for emotional martyrdom, so that, even as we defend the goodness of sexuality, we are able too, on any given night, to sweat blood in a garden so as to not violate the bigger picture.

1 Corinthians 12, 7 suggests that Pentecost is “the particular manifestation of the spirit, granted to each of us.” We need to pray for such a particularized Pentecost to happen.

59th Annual NAM Convention
 JULY 4-7, 2024 | ST. SHARBEL CHURCH
 DETROIT MARRIOTT RENAISSANCE CENTER

DETROIT, MICHIGAN
 MARONITES ON MISSION: CREATED. CALLED. SENT FORTH.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION Deadline: June 1st
 www.namnews.org | (914) 964-3070 | info@namnews.org

HOTEL BOOKINGS (\$189+/Night, Single/Double)
 https://book.passkey.com/e/50700969 | (313) 568-8000

@NationalApostolateofMaronites - NAM


Canada is across the river! Bring your passports!

**Family of St Sharbel &
 Our Lady of Lebanon Ladies Guild**

Weekly Zoom Prayer- Every Tuesday @ 8pm
 Zoom ID: 335616991—Passcode: 816342
 Or you can join by clicking this link:
<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/335616991>

Thursday, May 16, 2024: Rosary @ 6:30pm
 followed by The liturgy & procession

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
 -St. Anthony Council 16204



KOC Next Meeting:
Tuesday May 14, 2024 @ 7pm, Church Hall
 Men 18 yrs. and older are encouraged to attend.
 For information email: KOFc16204@gmail.com



SANCTUARY LAMPS

In Loving Memory of Boutros Daou,
By Mr. & Mrs. Samir Daou

Book your Sanctuary lamp Online:
www.stanthonylawrence.org/sanctuary-lamp/

OUR SYMPATHIES TO

The family of **David Habib**, who passed away peacefully last week. We express our sympathies to his parents, Richard and Theresa Habib; his siblings, Lynne, Cynthia, & Diane, along with their spouses and families.

*May his soul rest in peace &
his memories be eternal.*

SUMMER LITURGIES SCHEDULE

Please take notice:

Sunday, June 9th begins our Summer Liturgy schedule: 9:30 am (Eng) & 11 am (Eng & Ar)

There will be no 8 am Liturgy on Sundays.

LECTORS SCHEDULE

Saturday, May 18 - 4 pm - Anthony Merheb
Anthony Ata

Sunday, May 19 -
8:00 am - Mouna Hbaiter
9:30 am - Brady Barry
11:00 am - (Eng) Mansour Chaya
(Ar) Amale Chantiri

LECTORS SCHEDULE

Saturday, May 25 - 4 pm - Lisa Abdallah
Sunday, May 26 -

8:00 am - Huguette Sfeir
9:30 am - Joey Safi
11:00 am - (Eng) Anthony Ata
(Ar) Esperance Ata

SECOND BANNIS OF MARRIAGE

Nicholas Albert & Celine Ramey

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
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 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

Pentecost Sunday

Book of Genesis 11, 1-9.

Now the whole earth had one language and the same words. And as they migrated from the east, they came upon a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. And they said to one another, 'Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly.' And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar. Then they said, 'Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves; otherwise we shall be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.' The LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which mortals had built. And the LORD said, 'Look, they are one people, and they have all one language; and this is only the beginning of what they will do; nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them. Come, let us go down, and confuse their language there, so that they will not understand one another's speech.' So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. Therefore it was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.

Acts of the Apostles 2,1-21.

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.' All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?' But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.' But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: "In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Saint John 14,15-20.

'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. 'I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you.

أحد العنصرة

سفر التكوين 11: 1-9

كَانَتْ الْأَرْضُ كُلُّهَا لُغَةً وَاحِدَةً وَكَلَامًا وَاحِدًا. وَكَانَ وَأَتَمُّهُمَا لَمَّا رَحَلُوا مِنَ الْمَشْرِقِ أَنَّهُمْ وَجَدُوا سَهْلًا فِي أَرْضِ شِنْعَارَ فَأَقَامُوا هُنَاكَ. وَقَالَ بَعْضُهُمْ لِبَعْضٍ: «تَعَالَوْا نَصْنَعُ لِبْنًا وَلنَحْرَفُهُ حَرْقًا». فَكَانَ لَهُمُ اللَّيْنُ بَدَلَ الْحِجَارَةِ وَالْحُمْرُ كَانَ لَهُمْ بَدَلَ الطِّينِ. وَقَالُوا: «تَعَالَوْا نَبْنِ لَنَا مَدِينَةً وَبُرْجًا رَأْسُهُ فِي السَّمَاءِ، وَنُقِمَ لَنَا أَسْمًا كَيَّ لَا نَتَفَرَّقَ عَلَى وَجْهِ الْأَرْضِ كُلِّهَا». «فَنَزَلَ الرَّبُّ لِيَرَى الْمَدِينَةَ وَالْبُرْجَ اللَّذَيْنِ بَنَاهُمَا بَنُو آدَمَ. وَقَالَ الرَّبُّ: «هُوَذَا هُمْ شَعْبٌ وَاحِدٌ وَلِجَمِيعِهِمْ لُغَةٌ وَاحِدَةٌ، وَهَذَا مَا أَحَدُوا يَفْعَلُونَهُ. وَالآنَ لَا يَكْفُونُ عَمَّا هُمُوا بِهِ حَتَّى يَصْنَعُوهُ. فَلنَنْزِلُ وَنُبَلِّلُ هُنَاكَ لُغَتَهُمْ، حَتَّى لَا يَفْهَمَ بَعْضُهُمْ لُغَةَ بَعْضٍ». «فَفَرَّقَهُمُ الرَّبُّ مِنْ هُنَاكَ عَلَى وَجْهِ الْأَرْضِ كُلِّهَا، فَكَفُّوا عَنِ بِنَاءِ الْمَدِينَةِ. وَلِذَلِكَ سُمِّيَتْ «بَابِلَ» لِأَنَّ الرَّبَّ هُنَاكَ بَلَّلَ لُغَةَ الْأَرْضِ كُلِّهَا. وَمِنْ هُنَاكَ فَرَّقَهُمُ الرَّبُّ عَلَى وَجْهِ الْأَرْضِ كُلِّهَا.

سفر أعمال الرسل 1: 2 - 21

يَا إِخْوَتِي، فِي تَمَامِ الْيَوْمِ الْخَمْسِينَ، كَانَ الرُّسُلُ مَعًا فِي مَكَانٍ وَاحِدٍ. فَحَدَّثَتْ بَعْتَةُ دَوِيٍّ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ كَأَنَّهُ دَوِيٌّ رِيحَ عَاصِفَةٍ، وَمَلَأَ كُلَّ الْبَيْتِ حَيْثُ كَانُوا جَالِسِينَ. وَظَهَرَتْ لَهُمْ أَلْسِنَةٌ مُنْقَسِمَةٌ كَأَنَّهُا مِنْ نَارٍ، وَأَسْتَقَرَّ عَلَى كُلِّ وَاحِدٍ مِنْهُمْ لِسَانٌ. وَأَمْتَلَأُوا كُلُّهُمْ مِنَ الرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ، وَبَدَأُوا يَتَكَلَّمُونَ بِالسَّنَةِ أُخْرَى، كَمَا كَانَ الرُّوحُ يُؤْتِيهِمْ أَنْ يَنْطِقُوا. وَكَانَ يُقِيمُ فِي أورشليمَ يَهُودٌ، رِجَالٌ أَنْفِيَاءُ مِنْ كُلِّ أُمَّةٍ تَحْتَ السَّمَاءِ. فَلَمَّا حَدَّثَ ذَلِكَ أَلِصَّوْتِ، أَحْتَشَدَ الْجَمْعُ وَأَخَذَتْهُمْ الْحَيْرَةُ، لِأَنَّ كُلَّ وَاحِدٍ مِنْهُمْ كَانَ يَسْمَعُهُمْ يَتَكَلَّمُونَ بِلُغَتِهِ. فَدَهَشُوا وَتَعَجَّبُوا وَقَالُوا: «أَلَيْسَ هَؤُلَاءِ الْمَتَكَلِّمُونَ جَمِيعُهُمْ جَلِيلِيِّينَ؟ فَكَيْفَ يَسْمَعُهُمْ كُلُّ وَاحِدٍ مِنَّا بِاللُّغَةِ الَّتِي وُلِدَ فِيهَا؟ وَنَحْنُ فَرِثِيُّونَ، وَمَادِيُّونَ، وَعِيلَامِيُّونَ، وَسُكَّانُ مَا بَيْنَ النَّهْرَيْنِ، وَالْيَهُودِيَّةِ، وَكَبْدُوكِيَّةِ، وَبُنْتُسُ، وَأَسِيَا، وَفَرِيجِيَّةِ، وَبِمَفِيلِيَّةِ، وَمِصْرَ، وَنَوَاحِي لِيبيَّةِ الْقَرِيبَةِ مِنْ قَيْرَوَانَ، وَرُومَانِيُونَ نُرْلَاءَ، يَهُودٌ وَمُهَنْدُونَ، وَكُرَيْتِيُّونَ، وَعَرَبٌ، نَسْمَعُهُمْ يَتَكَلَّمُونَ بِالسَّنَتِنَا عَنْ أَعْمَالِ اللَّهِ الْعَظِيمَةِ». «وَكَانُوا كُلُّهُمْ مَدَهُوشِيِّينَ حَائِرِينَ يَقُولُ بَعْضُهُمْ لِبَعْضٍ: «مَا مَعْنَى هَذَا؟» لَكِنَّ آخَرِينَ كَانُوا يَقُولُونَ سَاحِرِينَ: «إِنَّهُمْ قَدِ امْتَلَأُوا سُلَافَةً!». «فَوَقَفَ بَطْرُسُ مَعَ الْأَحَدِ عَشَرَ، وَرَفَعَ صَوْتَهُ وَخَاطَبَهُمْ قَائِلًا: «أَيُّهَا الرِّجَالُ الْيَهُودِ، وَيَا جَمِيعَ الْمُقِيمِينَ فِي أورشليمَ، لِيَكُنْ هَذَا مَعْلُومًا عِنْدَكُمْ، وَأَصْغُوا إِلَيَّ كَلَامِي. لَا، أَلَيْسَ هَؤُلَاءِ بِسُكَّارِي، كَمَا تَظُنُّونَ. فَالسَّاعَةُ هِيَ التَّاسِعَةُ صَبَاحًا. بَلْ هَذَا هُوَ مَا قِيلَ بِيُوثِيلِ النَّبِيِّ: وَيَكُونُ فِي الْأَيَّامِ الْآخِرَةِ، يَقُولُ اللَّهُ، أَنِّي أُفِيضُ مِنْ رُوحِي عَلَى كُلِّ بَشَرٍ، فَيَتَنَبَّأُ بِبُوكُمْ وَبِنَاتِكُمْ، وَيَرَى شُبَّانَكُمْ رُؤَى، وَيَحْلُمُ شُبُوحَكُمْ أَحْلَامًا. وَعَلَى عِبِيدِي وَإِمَائِي أَيْضًا أُفِيضُ مِنْ رُوحِي فِي تِلْكَ الْأَيَّامِ فَيَتَنَبَّأُونَ. وَأَعْمَلُ عَجَائِبَ فِي السَّمَاءِ مِنْ فَوْقِ، وَآيَاتٍ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ مِنْ أَسْفَلِ، دَمًا وَنَارًا وَأَعْمَدَةً مِنْ دُخَانٍ. وَتَتَقَلَّبُ الشَّمْسُ ظِلَامًا وَالْقَمَرُ دَمًا قَبْلَ أَنْ يَأْتِيَ يَوْمُ الرَّبِّ، الْيَوْمِ الْعَظِيمِ الْمَجِيدِ. فَيَكُونُ أَنْ كُلُّ مَنْ يَدْعُو بِاسْمِ الرَّبِّ يَخْلُصَ.

إنجيل القديس يوحنا 14: 15 - 20

قَالَ الرَّبُّ يَسُوعُ لِتَلَامِيذِهِ: «إِنْ تُحِبُّونِي تَحْفَظُوا وَصَايَايَ. وَأَنَا أَسْأَلُ الْآبَ فَيُعْطِيكُمْ بَرَاقِبًا آخَرَ مُؤَيَّدًا يَكُونُ مَعَكُمْ إِلَى الْأَبَدِ. هُوَ رُوحُ الْحَقِّ الَّذِي لَا يَقْدِرُ الْعَالَمُ أَنْ يَقْبَلَهُ، لِأَنَّهُ لَا يَرَاهُ، وَلَا يَعْرِفُهُ. أَمَّا أَنْتُمْ فَتَعْرِفُونَهُ، لِأَنَّهُ مُقِيمٌ عِنْدَكُمْ، وَهُوَ فِيكُمْ. لَنْ أَتْرَكَكُمْ يَتَامَى. إِنِّي آتِي إِلَيْكُمْ. عَمَّا قَلِيلٍ لَنْ يَرَانِي الْعَالَمُ، أَمَّا أَنْتُمْ فَتَرَوْنِي، لِأَنِّي أَنَا حَيٌّ وَأَنْتُمْ سَتَحْيَوْنَ. فِي ذَلِكَ الْيَوْمِ تَعْرِفُونَ أَنِّي أَنَا فِي أَبِي، وَأَنْتُمْ فِيَّ، وَأَنَا فِيكُمْ.



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