



St George Maronite Catholic Church, Thornleigh

Our Parish

Our Lives on Earth are Our Pathway to Heaven

*"But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written:
'Be holy, because I am holy.'" (1 Peter 1: 15-16)*

Sunday of the Righteous and Just

Sunday 13th February 2022

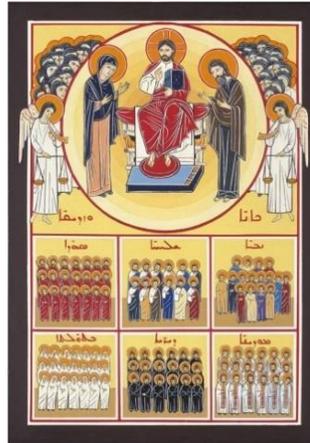
Year 2022, Issue #7

The Gospel

John 12: 23-30

Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour. "Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say - 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine.

Weeks of Commemorations



Next Sunday
Sunday of the Faithful Departed
Epistle
1 Thess 5: 1-11
Gospel
Luke 16: 19-31



الإنجيل

يو ١٢: ٢٣-٣٠

قَالَ الرَّبُّ يَسُوعُ: «لَقَدْ حَانَتْ السَّاعَةُ لِكِي يُمَجَّدَ ابْنُ الْإِنْسَانِ. الْحَقُّ الْحَقُّ أَقُولُ لَكُمْ: إِنَّ حَبَّةَ الْجِنِّطَةِ، إِنْ لَمْ تَقَعْ فِي الْأَرْضِ وَتَمُتْ، تَبْقَى وَاحِدَةً. وَإِنْ مَاتَتْ تَأْتِي بِثَمَرٍ كَثِيرٍ. مَنْ يُحِبُّ نَفْسَهُ يَفْقِدُهَا، وَمَنْ يُبْغِضُهَا فِي هَذَا الْعَالَمِ يَحْفَظُهَا لِحَيَاةٍ أَبَدِيَّةٍ. مَنْ يَخْدُمُنِي فَلْيَتَّبِعْنِي. وَحَيْثُ أَكُونُ أَنَا، فَهُنَاكَ يَكُونُ أَيْضًا خَادِمِي. مَنْ يَخْدُمُنِي يُكْرِمُهُ الْآبُ. نَفْسِي الْآنَ مُضْطَّرِبَةٌ، فَمَاذَا أَقُولُ؟ يَا أَبَتِ، نَجِّنِي مِنْ هَذِهِ السَّاعَةِ؟ وَلَكِنْ مِنْ أَجْلِ هَذَا بَلَّغْتُ إِلَى هَذِهِ السَّاعَةِ! يَا أَبَتِ، مَجِّدْ أَسْمَكَ.» فَجَاءَ صَوْتُ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ يَقُولُ: «قَدْ مَجَّدْتُ، وَسَأُجَدِّدُ. وَسَمِعَ الْجَمْعُ الْحَاضِرُ فَقَالُوا: «إِنَّهُ رَعْدٌ.» وَقَالَ آخَرُونَ: «إِنَّ مَلَكَآ خَاطَبَهُ.» «أَجَابَ يَسُوعُ وَقَالَ: «مَا كَانَ هَذَا الصَّوْتُ مِنْ أَجْلِي، بَلْ مِنْ أَجْلِكُمْ.»

Divine Liturgy and Services

Sundays: 9:00am (Arabic), 11:00am (Arabic/English), 6:00pm (English)

Mondays and Tuesdays: 9:00am

Wednesdays – Fridays: 6:00pm

Saturdays: 9:00am and 6:00pm

Confessions: By Appointment

Sick Visits: Contact Clergy or the Parish Office (contact details below)

Parish and Ministry Team and Contact Details

Parish Priest: Monsignor Shora Maree 0418 969 844

Assistant Parish Priest: Fr Claude Rizk 0422 819 277

Deacons: Nagi Dimian 0403 750 613 and Joseph Maatouk 0413 245501

Parish Secretary: Debrah Habkook 0422 275 199

Office Hours: Tuesdays – Fridays 9:00am - 5:00pm

Parish Safeguarding Officers: Margaret Simpson 0408 895 798, Jessica Georges 0426 114 696, George Takchi 0419 651 229

Parish Address: 2 Yarrara Road (Corner Wells Street), Thornleigh, NSW, 2120

Phone: (02) 9481 7388

Website: www.stgeorgemcc.org.au

Email: info@stgeorgemcc.org.au



Bishop's Corner: Sunday of the Priests



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In this second week of Commemorations, we remember this Sunday the Righteous and the Just, that is, those who preceded us and led holy lives and are now in the company of Our Lord in the eternal dwellings.

The Gospel reading this week is one of the best loved, it is known as "The Judgment of the Nations." This text is both hard but also full of hope. It concerns our judgment after death. God will not ask us for all that we have won, conquered, achieved or piled up, nor for all the human titles we acquired. Only one question will matter then: "Did you love?"

In fact, charity towards others is not possible without love. If we carry out acts of charity or almsgiving without love, then this means that we are doing so out of self-interest, and interest is not love.

The Gospel this Sunday calls us to question and consider our way of life, and even more than, the motivations of our actions. Jesus here does not want to condemn us, but he calls us to question the deep meaning of our life. Believing in God is a good thing, but what good is it if our whole life is in contradiction with His word and His love?

125 Years for the first Maronite Church in Australia

Last week, we celebrated the feast of our patron and spiritual father, St Maroun. It was also an occasion to mark 125 years since the consecration of the first Maronite Church in Australia under the name of St Maroun in 1897.

The Maronites had arrived in Australia long before the first church was consecrated but the establishment of a Maronite parish was a momentous event. Since then, our Church has been immensely blessed in this generous land and has spread to five states and gathered thousands of Maronites around their liturgical roots. May our Church, through the prayers of St Maroun, continue to grow and be a sign of hope and love in Australia and all over the world.

Passing of Bishop Joseph Hitti (1925- 2022)



Our Eparchy and the Maronite Church also farewelled Bishop Joseph Hitti this past week. Bishop Hitti served as the Second Maronite Bishop of Australia. He was 97 years of age, and had been a priest for 71 years and a bishop for 31 years.

The funeral was held in Lebanon. We celebrated a mass in his memory in

Australia on Thursday 10 February at Our Lady of Lebanon, Harris Park. Bishop Hitti was a man of peace and calm. This calm accompanied him over the years of his life. He lived peacefully and peacefully surrendered his soul on the feast of Lord's entrance into the temple of Jerusalem.

With you, I thank the Lord for the life and the witness of Bishop Hitti, who was dearly loved by the Maronites in Australia. We pray that he now rests in peace in the eternal dwellings of light, in the company of the Righteous and the Just. I wish you all a Blessed Sunday!

+ Antoine-Charbel Tarabay

Reflection for this Week:

"Sunday of the Righteous and Just"

In our second Sunday of Commemorations, we dedicate it to the Righteous and Just. In the Roman Catholic Rite they celebrate All Saints day equivalent on 1 November. Our Gospel passage is the Parable of the Judgement of the Nations.

This parable of social justice outlines the expectations anticipated from every person of faith. They are to:

- Feed the hungry
- Give drink to the thirsty
- Welcome the stranger
- Clothe the naked
- Care for the sick
- Visit the imprisoned

Greatness is not found in the spectacular but in the ordinary. In living not indulgently but respectfully. In being attentive not only to our needs but the needs of others.

God is not asking the impossible. God is asking for generosity of heart. To be there for others. To give, share, empathise, assist, attend to and to love. Jesus set the example in living out these virtues. Time and time again he fed, he nourished, he cared, he healed, and he loved. We too are called to follow his lead.

Jesus called us 'the salt of the earth . . . the light of the world' (5:13-14). Jesus called the disciples, 'to cure every disease and every sickness' (10:1). When Jesus saw the hungry crowds he instructed the disciples, 'you give them something to eat' (14:16).

To be a Christian is not a passive personal commitment. It is to walk the way of Christ, personally invested in assuring social justice is achieved for all. Amen

Sr Margaret Ghosn mshf



كلمة الحياة غذاءً للنفوس

نحتفل اليوم باحد الابرار والصديقين، وهو الاحد ما قبل الاخير في زمن الدنج، يليه الاحد القادم تذكرا الموتى المؤمنين واسبوع المرفع. تقدم لنا الكنيسة اليوم مشهد الدينونة الاخيرة في انجيل متى: "جعت فأطعمتموني وعطشت فسقيتموني... هلموا يا مباركي ابي رثوا الملكوت المعد لكم"; ويلتقي هذا المشهد بكلام الرسالة الى العبرانيين: "لقد اقتربتم من مدينة الله ومن بيعة الابكار المكتوبة اسمائهم في السماء ومن الله ديان الجميع". والمسيح لا يريدنا ان نراه لكي نخدمه، وهو ليس بحاجة لخدمتنا له، إنما يريد ان نخدم بعضنا بعضا كما أحب هو كل واحد منا. ونحن هل عرفنا اننا لا ندان إلا على المحبة واعمال الرحمة النابعة من ايماننا وشهادتنا لتحقيق الملكوت؟ وهل عرفنا اننا مدعوون للانضمام الى موكب هؤلاء الابرار والصديقين؟

Parish News and Upcoming Events

St George Maronite Catholic Church, Thornleigh
COVID Guidelines for All Masses



QR Code
Check In to all
Masses



Masks
mandatory to
be worn inside
the Church



Maintain physical
distancing and
avoid social
gatherings outside
the church



If possible, conduct a
rapid antigen test
before coming to
Mass as a
precautionary
measure

15 - 30 min

We look
forward to
welcoming
you to our
Masses.

If you are feeling unwell, we kindly request that you please stay home and get tested. You can join in to Masses that will be live-streamed.

St George Maronite Catholic Church
Presents

21st Anniversary

**POSTPONED UNTIL
FURTHER NOTICE**

25th February 2022
Ticket: \$100pp
Venue: Renaissance Lidcome
Time: 7:30pm
Contact Parish Office Today!
(02) 9481 7388



Church Cleaning

We are seeking assistance from parishioners to be a part of the roster to clean our church. The more volunteers able to assist, the less number of times would be required. If you can assist, please contact the Parish Office.



"From the Eucharist comes the strength to live the Christian life and zeal to share that life with others."
- St Pope John Paul II

Eucharistic Adoration

Every Thursday 7:30 pm
at St George Maronite Catholic Church

First Holy Communion

Please contact the Parish Office to register your child for this year's First Holy Communion.

02 9481 7388
info@stgeorgemcc.org.au



VOCATION DISCERNMENT NIGHT

through vocations camps



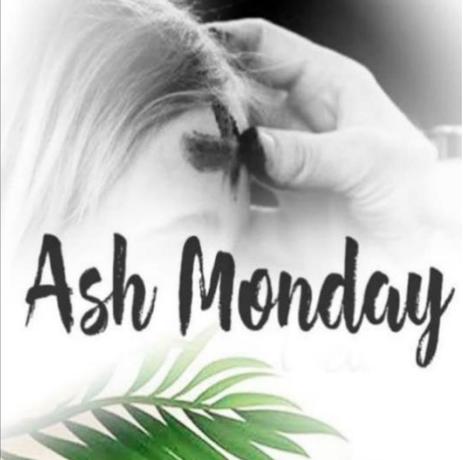
**ROAD TO
priesthood**

WEDNESDAY | 16TH FEBRUARY 2022
TESTIMONY OF FATHER
MICHAEL BOUDAHER

**MASS
at 7PM**

FOLLOWED BY
TESTIMONY TALK & Q&A

CONTACT DETAILS
DIOCESAN VOCATIONS CENTRE
OUR LADY OF LEBANON CO-CATHEDRAL
40-46 ALICE STREET, HARRIS PARK, NSW, 2150
ELIE FARES
MOBILE: 0490 933 481



ASH MONDAY

28TH FEBRUARY 2022

MASS TIMES
7:30AM
5:00PM
7:00PM

'Mary, Queen of Interior Peace'

For St George & CTR Youth Groups

Youth Lent Retreat
Led by Mons Shora & Deacon Joe

**Fri 25th - Sun 27th
March 2022**

Benedict XVI Retreat Centre

Cost \$230
Students \$210
Includes accommodation & meals

Book via link on socials

Enquiries:
(STG) - Jessica Georges
0426 114 696



Memorial Masses			نوايا القديسات		
Sunday 13 th Feb 2022	9am	Late Raymond Ibrahim Khamis	المرحوم ريمون ابراهيم خميس	٩ : ٠٠	الاحد ١٣ شباط ٢٠٢٢
Sunday 20 th Feb 2022	11am	1 Year Mass for Late Hind Antonios Zeaiter	قداس السنة المرحومة هند انطونيوس زعيتير	١١ : ٠٠	الاحد ٢٠ شباط ٢٠٢٢



United with Lebanon
Caritas Australia – Caritas Lebanon Crisis Appeal

DONATE NOW
www.caritas.org.au/lebanon

Give now to help Lebanese families with healthcare, education support and cash grants for small business owners.
All donations made through Caritas Australia are tax deductible and go to support the efforts of Caritas Lebanon.



Congratulations to the Newly Baptised:
Rachael Phillips, George Miate, Jayden El-Baini, Eliana Antoun, and Leah Azar

Maronite on Mission – Monthly Feeding the Homeless

We are back in 2022 with the Maronites on Mission feeding the homeless in our area. Our first feed was held on Wednesday 9th February. A huge welcome to our new volunteers and special thanks to all those who prepared the meals including Zaatar Lebanese Bakery - Dural! We are only able to assist those in need, month after month, because of the overwhelming generosity of our parishioners! If you're interested in donating or volunteering with this initiative, please contact the parish office for more information.



Parish Financial Updates		To receive our eNewsletter please email	
17th January – 6th February		info@stgeorgemcc.org.au	
\$8469.10		 Subscribe to our Channel	St George Maronite Catholic Church
Parish Operations Account	Parish Loan Balance		
\$22597.81	\$614,071.01		
Donations to support our ongoing Parish mission can be made at the Parish Office or by internet banking or direct debit - (Account Name: St George Maronite Church, BSB #062-784, Account # 16948504)		'like' us on Facebook Follow us on Instagram	

Business Community Corner



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We Can Speak Arabic!

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 REGISTERED PROVIDER

Contact May Bou Mansour on 0452 223 714
Email info@magnoliahelpinghands.com.au
NDIS Provider Number: 4050083511

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