

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)

3rd Sunday of the Resurrection

Year 2022, Issue #18



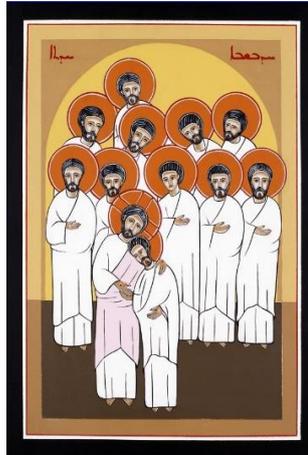
Sunday 1st May 2022

The Gospel

Luke 24: 13-35

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?' He asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.' Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Season of the Resurrection



Next Sunday 4th Sunday of the Resurrection

Epistle

Heb 13: 18-25

Gospel

John 21: 1-14



الإنجيل

لو ٢٤: ١٣-٣٥

في اليوم عينه، كان اثنان من التلاميذ ذاهبين إلى قرية تدعى عماؤس، تبعد نحو سبعة أميال عن اورشليم. وكانا يتحادثان بكل تلك الأمور التي حدثت. وفيما هما يتحادثان ويتساءلان، إذا يسوع نفسه قد اقترب منهما، وراح يسير معهما. ولكن أعينهما أمسكت عن معرفته. أما هو فقال لهما: «ما هذا الكلام الذي تتحادثان به، وأنتما تسيران؟». فوفقا غابسين. وأجاب أحدهما، وأسماه كليوباس، فقال له: «هل أنت وحدك غريب عن اورشليم، فلا تعلم ما حدث فيها هذه الأيام؟». فقال لهما: «وما هي؟». فقال له: «ما يتعلّق بيسوع الناصري، الذي كان رجلاً نبياً قوياً بالقول والفعل، فقام الله والشعب كله. وكيف أسلمه أhabارنا ورؤساؤنا ليحكم عليه بالموت، وكيف صلبوه! وكنا نحن نرجو أن يكون هو الذي سيؤدي إسرائيل. ولكن مع هذا كله، فهذا هو اليوم الثالث بعد تلك الأحداث. لكن بعض النساء من جمعنا أدعشنا، لأنهن ذهبن إلى القبر عند الفجر، ولم يجدن جسد يسوع، فرجعن وقلن إنهن شاهدن ملائكة نراوا لهن وقالوا إنهن! ومضى قوم من الذين معنا إلى القبر، فوجدوه هكذا كما قالت النساء، وأما يسوع فلم يروه». فقال لهما يسوع: «يا عديبي الفهم، وبطيبي القلب في الإيمان بكل ما تكلم به الأنبياء! أما كان يجب على المسيح أن يعاني تلك الآلام، ثم يدخل في مجده؟». وقسر لهما ما يتعلّق به في كل الكتب المقدسة، مبتدئاً بموسى وجميع الأنبياء. واقتربا من القرية التي كانا ذاهبين إليها، فتظاهر يسوع بأنه ذاهب إلى مكان أبعد. فتمسكا به قائلين: «أمكث معنا، فقد حان المساء، ومال النهار». فدخل ليمكث معهما. وفيما كان مكثاً معهما، أخذ الخبز، وبارك، وكسر، وتناول لهما. فانفتحت أعينهما، وعرفاه، فإذا هو قد توارى عنهما. فقال أحدهما للآخر: «أما كان قلبنا مضطرباً فينا، حين كان يكلمنا في الطريق، ويشرح لنا الكتب؟». وقاما في تلك الساعة عنهما، ورجعا إلى اورشليم، فوجدوا الأحد عشر والذين معهم مجتمعين، وهم يقولون: «حقاً إن الرب قام، وترأى ليسمعان!». أما هما فكانا يخبران بما حدث في الطريق، وكيف عرفا يسوع عند كسر الخبز.

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 Administrator: Fr Claude Rizk 0422 819 277

Deacons: Nagi Dimian 0403 750 613, Robert-Pio Al Bayeh 0414 447 883

Parish Secretary: Debrah Habkouk 0422 275 199 & Admin Assistant: Rose Zeaier

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm & Saturday 9:00am – 3:00pm

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: New Sunday



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We reflect this Sunday on the passage about the appearance of the Lord to two disciples on the Road to Emmaus. These two men, disappointed in their expectation of the Messiah who was to save Israel, leave Jerusalem sad and discouraged.

Jesus arrives where they do not expect Him: in the middle of their journey, in the middle of their despair. And they are so sad, so focused on their disappointment, their personal suffering, that they cannot recognize the Lord. The Lord is patient in helping them realize that what happened had to happen.

However, He does not stop there. He joins them for dinner and reveals Himself in the breaking of the bread, because their hearts are now ready to receive the truth of the presence of God, the Risen Lord! Once they recognise Him, Jesus leaves. His living presence remains with them and this good news of the Risen Christ is such a source of joy, that they return to tell the Apostles.

How does this Gospel connect with us in our lives? We know that Jesus is risen; we know that He is present in the Eucharist. But do we really live in the presence of Jesus living in us, living at the heart of our lives? Or are we like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, focussed on our suffering, centred on ourselves, that we no longer see the Lord and recognise His presence? When things get tough, do we drop our prayer life or do we draw closer to Jesus? On this Sunday, let us remember that He is always there, He joins us on our journey and He manifests Himself in many ways, but it is us who do not recognise Him. The Lord will wait patiently until we recognise Him, invite Him and welcome Him.

Lebanese Parliamentary Elections 2022

The election date for Lebanese citizens residing abroad who have enrolled to vote in the upcoming elections has been set for **Sunday 8 May 2022**.

Given the importance of these elections for the future of Lebanon, we invite everyone to participate and vote for the candidates they deem suitable. To facilitate your participation, the Lebanese Embassy and Consulates in Australia has organised polling centres, in accordance with your city council of origin in Lebanon. Kindly refer to listing on this link to find your polling location: www.dgcs.gov.lb/arabic/where-to-vote

We pray that the new parliament embodies the aspirations of the Lebanese people and brings a new hope to our beloved country.

I wish you a Blessed Sunday!

+ Antoine-Charbel Tarabay



The Word from Your Servant

This Sunday we reflect on the disciples trip to Emmaus. The two disciples were weighed down with worries, since they had heard about the angel's announcement that Jesus was alive, but still had doubts about the resurrection. So immersed were they in their own sadness that they were unable to recognise the risen Jesus in the person walking alongside them. The two disciples had a long walk ahead of them that day. And leaving Jerusalem was like leaving behind their faith in Jesus. But the Risen One comes to meet them in order to transform their hearts.

There are two themes that we can take from this Gospel. First, the story is very much like the story of each and every Mass which we attend. We listen to the words of God through the Gospel, and then we take part in our Lord's sacrifice through the sacrifice of the altar. Throughout Mass, we accompany and are accompanied by our Lord Jesus. It is for us to listen to His word and realise that He is truly with us.

The second theme is to remind us that the Crucified and Risen Lord comes to meet us on our daily path, to restore joy to our heart when we need it. Our Lord comes to meet us through the Liturgy and the Eucharist. Pope Benedict XVI said in a general audience on 7 November 2007:

"Ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ.' It is therefore important that every Christian live in contact and in personal dialogue with the Word of God given to us in Sacred Scripture ... The privileged place for reading and listening to the Word of God is the liturgy, in which, celebrating the Word and making Christ's Body present in the Sacrament, we actualise the Word in our lives and make it present among us."

I encourage you all to make a concerted effort to read even a short verse of the Gospel with your family each night. Start from the beginning of the first book of the Gospel. Try to place yourselves in the scene with our Lord and talk to Him so that you can deepen your relationship with Him.

Look for Our Lady as well in the Gospel and speak with her about the scene you have read. We are now entering the month of May – the month which the universal Church dedicates to Our Lady, Mother of God and Mother of us all. Pray a lot to our Lady always, but especially during this month. She is the Spouse of Holy Spirit and therefore is well placed to help us to prepare to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit which will be showered on us at Pentecost.

Deacons Nagi and Robert and I are available to visit your homes during this month of May to pray the Rosary together as a family. Please contact the Church office to book a visit or place your name and contact details on the calendar which is at the desk at the entry of the Church.

We have otherwise, as you are aware, completed our formal celebrations of the feast of our patron Saint. I extend again my deepest gratitude to each volunteer and donor who assisted with the celebrations. Each person's contribution makes this Parish grow stronger as God's family.

This week the new Stewardship committee met for the first time. Significant appreciation was extended by the new committee to the outgoing committee for the hard work and constant efforts that have resulted in the Parish growing this far. Please pray that the new committee will continue to build on the solid foundations laid down by their predecessors.

Fr Claude Rizk

Parish News and Upcoming Events



**Month of May
Month of Mary**

**VISITATION
OF MARY TO
YOUR HOME**

For bookings, please register your details at the Church Door or contact the Parish Office




**Diocesan
Fersan Day**

Saturday 14th May 2022
9:30am - 3:00pm

@ St George Maronite Catholic Church, Thornleigh

All children are invited to join the Fersan children of our Parish and Diocese to celebrate together.

For more information, or if available to volunteer, please contact the Parish Office on 02 9481 7388




**BIBLE STUDY
IN YOUR HOME**

Weekdays from 7:30pm - 8:30pm

Invite us to host a bible study in your home with your family, relatives and friends.

For bookings, please contact the Parish Office.



**St George
Mother's Day
Dinner**

FRIDAY, 6 MAY 2022
Three courses

VENUE: BIVIANCA
628 O'NEILL ST, THORNLEIGH NSW 1585

CONTACT: SAHOU DAIR
02 9481 575

SOLD OUT




ST GEORGE FERSEN

EVERY SATURDAY
DURING THE
SCHOOL TERM
4.00PM - 5.30PM

YEAR 1 - YEAR 6

Scan me to register your children





Weekly Teens Gathering

Every Wednesday (during School Term)
for Teens 13 - 18 Years
Commencing 7:00pm




St George Maronite Catholic Church,
Thornleigh

PLAYGROUP

Ages 0-5 years old
FREE

Every Tuesdays from 9am - 12pm
Commencing Tuesday 5th April 2022

All welcome! Come join us as and build our community family.

For more information, please contact Mary 0422 871 197




**St George
Faith Formation Talks**

The message of the Divine Mercy has changed millions of lives. But what is it?

Come and hear the greatest love story, where God meets us and helps us in the midst of our suffering and sin.

Sunday 1st May
Includes Supper!

Jesus I Trust In You - Divine Mercy
with Father Joseph Gedeon

Time: After 6:00pm Mass
Place: Church Hall




The Maronite Eparchy of Australia, New Zealand and Oceania celebrates

Year of Hope
9 February 2022 - 9 February 2023
REBUILD OUR COMMUNITY

*"Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing."
(1Thes 5:11)*

Maronite Eparchy of Australia, New Zealand and Oceania
65 8131 0000 | info@maronite.org.au | www.maronite.org.au



**ATTENTION
PARISHIONERS**

IN PREPARATION OF THE
50TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE MARONITE EPARCHY
(1973 - 2023)

WE ARE CALLING UPON ALL OUR PARISHIONERS
WHO HAVE ANY

**HISTORICAL
INFORMATION & IMAGES**

KINDLY FORWARD TO YOUR PARISH OFFICE
OR CONTACT THE
MARONITE CHANCERY ON 02 8831 0000

Memorial Masses

Sunday 1st May 2022	11am	40th Mass for Late Nazih Said Beaini
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نوايا القداستات

قداست ٤٠ المرحوم نزیه سعید البعینی	١١:٠٠	الاحد ١ ايار ٢٠٢٢
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**MASS LIVE STREAMING:
Sundays at 9:00am only**

New Stewardship and Youth Committees

Over the last week our Parish has new members in our Stewardship and Youth Committees. We take this opportunity to thank our previous members of our Stewardship and Youth Committees for their service to our Parish. Congratulations to the following members of our new committees:

Stewardship Committee

Coordinator: Ted Nassif

Secretary: Fayad Tohme

Treasurer: Damian Michael

Members: Joe Antoun, Maria Azzi, Michael Azzi, Joe Hadchiti, Sam Hanna, Anthony Nassif, Charlie Sarkis, Buddy Zeaiter

St George Youth Group

Executive Advisor: Marcelin El Khoury

Coordinator: Georgina Simpson

Vice Coordinator: Natalie El-Hage

Secretary: Rachel Mouait

Treasurer: Phillip Abboud

Media Coordinator: Jessica Saliba

Social Events Coordinator: David Nammour

Spiritual Coordinator: Dominique Hassarati



Parish Financial Updates

Parish Income between 11th April – 24th April

TBA

Parish Operations Account

\$14,253.62

Parish Loan Balance

\$611,613.11

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)

To receive our eNewsletter please email

info@stgeorgemcc.org.au



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L'Yvonne's
hair + body

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