



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 Blind

Year 2022, Issue #14

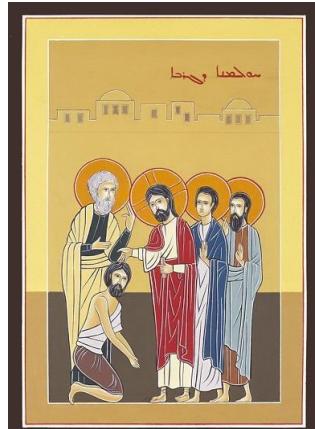
Sunday 3rd April 2022

The Gospel

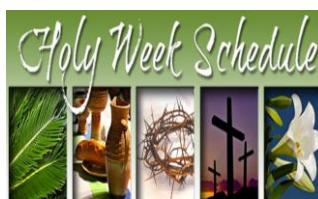
Mark 10: 46-52

They came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!' Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, 'Son of David, have mercy on me!' Jesus stood still and said, 'Call him here.' And they called the blind man, saying to him, 'Take heart; get up, he is calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, 'What do you want me to do for you?' The blind man said to him, 'My teacher, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has made you well.' Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

Season of Lent



Next Sunday
Palm (Hosanna) Sunday
Epistle
Phil 1: 1-13
Gospel
John 12: 12-22



OUT NOW

Available in this Newsletter
and our Parish Facebook page

الإنجيل

مر ١٠ : ٤٦

يَيْمَنَا يَسُوعُ خَارِجٌ مِّنْ أَرِيحا، هُوَ وَتَلَامِيذُهُ وَجَمْعٌ غَفِيرٌ، كَانَ بَرْطِيمَا، أَيْ أَبْنُ طِيمَا، وَهُوَ شَحَّاذٌ أَعْمَى، جَالِسًا عَلَى جَانِبِ الطَّرِيقِ. فَلَمَّا سَمِعَ أَنَّهُ يَسُوعُ التَّاصِرِيُّ، بَدَأَ يَصْرُخُ وَيَقُولُ: «يَا يَسُوعُ أَبْنَ دَاؤَدَ أَرْحَمْنِي!». فَأَنْتَهَرَهُ أَنَاسٌ كَثِيرُونَ لِيَسْكُنْتُ، إِلَّا أَنَّهُ كَانَ يَزْدَادُ صُرَاخًا: «يَا أَبْنَ دَاؤَدَ أَرْحَمْنِي!». فَوَقَفَ يَسُوعُ وَقَالَ: «أَدْعُوكَ!». فَدَعَوْا الْأَعْمَى قَائِلِينَ لَهُ: «شُقْ وَأَنْهَضْ! إِنَّهُ يَدْعُوكَ». فَطَرَحَ الْأَعْمَى رِدَاءَهُ، وَوَثَبَ وَجَاءَ إِلَى يَسُوعَ. فَقَالَ لَهُ يَسُوعُ: «مَاذَا تُرِيدُ أَنْ أَصْنَعَ لَكَ؟».

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, Joseph Maatouk 0413 245 501

Parish Secretary: Debrah Habkouk 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 Paralytic



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The miracle of curing the blind man in our Maronite liturgical calendar, marks the last event or the last miracle of the messianic times according to St Mark, before Jesus enters Jerusalem. This entry has a lot of significance in the story of salvation and we do celebrate it next Sunday, which is Palm Sunday.

In today's gospel, we are told that as the Lord was leaving Jericho, a blind beggar, the son of Timaeus, was sitting by the road side. When he heard that Jesus of Nazareth was coming, he began to shout out "Son of David! Jesus! Have mercy on me!" This is in fact a proclamation of the Messiah, Son of David, and it is a direct preparation for the entry of Jesus to Jerusalem where we are going to hear the same shouting of the crowds: "Hosanna to the Son of David". Certainly the blind is asking Jesus to relieve him from his misery and this is what the Mercy of the Lord does for all of us.

After being told that Jesus is calling him, the blind man jumped up, threw off his outer garment, and went to the Lord. His outer garment was probably all what he had and it is symbol of his old situation.

Then Jesus asked him: what do you want me to do for you? He replied: "Rabbouni, let me see again." 'Rabbouni' is Aramaic for 'my Lord', and this is to express the faith of the blind man and his will to become a disciple of Jesus. Now the relationship is not anymore between strangers but between a Master and a disciple. The Lord then tells the man: "Go, your faith had made well!" The word "go" means the change for misery of the old life to the grace of the new life. From that moment, the blind man follows the Lord.

We can apply this to ourselves: we have heard about Jesus, and we can call out to Him. We should not let other people keep us away from Him, or get between us and Him. He will stand still and send someone to summon us to Him. Perhaps that person is a priest or a teacher, a parent, a relative or a friend. But when the call comes, we simply throw off the old, the sin, the darkness, or anything which would keep us from Him, and we should approach Him, and ask Him for healing. If we have faith in him, that faith is going to heal us and make us well.

Palm Sunday Collection

As per our annual practice, our Eparchy with all its parishes will be holding a special collection for Caritas Lebanon during all masses on Palm Sunday weekend. This campaign is to support the increasing number of Lebanese families in need and will be taking place on **Saturday and Sunday 9 and 10 April 2022**.

Volunteers will be standing outside the Church doors carrying Caritas boxes. Thank you for your support to all our appeals and may the Lord reward your generosity. I wish you a Blessed Sunday!

+ Antoine-Charbel Tarabay



**Caritas
Lebanon**

The Word from Your Servant

This Sunday we reflect on the last of the miracles during Lent – the healing of the Blind Man.

In many ways, this miracle brings together all the prior miracles which we reflected on during Lent – the Leper, the Hemorrhaging Woman, the Prodigal Son and the Paralytic. The Blind Man had heard that Jesus was approaching. Unable to see Him and therefore make his way to Him, he uses his voice to call out to our Lord, despite being rebuked by the people to remain quiet. On hearing his voice, our Lord asks that he be brought to Him. The Blind man then asks our Lord for healing. Our Lord grants his request.

The man follows Jesus.

From the Blind Man we can see that despite all the difficulties which we may have – those we are born with or those thrown our way (such as the people who try to stop the Blind man) – there is always a part of us that can reach Jesus if we truly want and believe that we should. Our Lord said to the Blind man "your faith has healed you". So too, our "faith" will provide us with the fortitude that we need to overcome our difficulties and most importantly, follow our Lord.

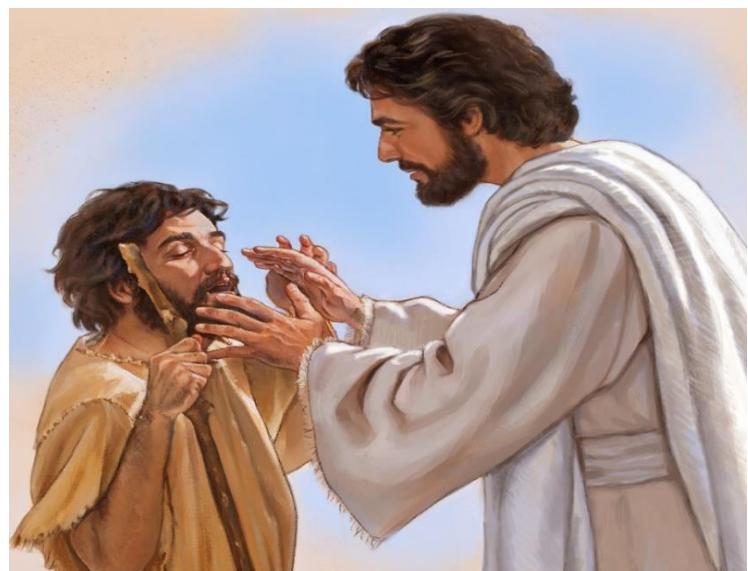
Unlike the prior miracles, this Blind man chose to follow our Lord praising God. And those who saw the healed man, also praised God.

We should not hide the joys and gifts which our Lord gives us and nor should we forget or hide the fact that these come from God. Our joy will bring others to the true faith. As we approach Holy Week, let us exercise the courage that the Blind Man showed and ask our Lord for all the help that we need to follow Him.

This week we will commence the St George Play Group on Tuesday from 9am to 12pm in the Church hall. This will be a great opportunity for our young mothers to meet (and hopefully relax) whilst their children enjoy some play time. There is also Mass at 9am for any mothers who wish to attend.

In the meantime, after an excellent first weekend, the Book Fair continues over this weekend. It is so encouraging to see families keen to take home excellent formation materials to use at home.

Fr Claude Rizk





St George Maronite Catholic Church, Thornleigh

2022 Holy Week Program

Hosanna (Palm) Saturday 9 April:

6:00pm Mass (Eng)

Hosanna (Palm) Sunday 10 April:

9:00am Mass & Procession of Palms (Ar)
11:00am Mass & Procession of Palms (Ar/Eng)
4:00pm Mass & Procession of Palms (Ar/Eng)
6:00pm Rite of Arrival at Harbour followed by Mass (Eng/Ar)
8:30pm Adoration of the Eucharist with Confessions

Passion (Holy) Monday & Tuesday 11 & 12 April:

9:00am Mass (Ar/Eng)
6:00pm Mass and Procession of the Cross (Ar)
8:30pm Stations, and Adoration of the Cross (Eng)

Passion (Holy) Wednesday 13 April:

9:00am Mass (Ar/Eng)
6:00pm Mass, Rite of the Lamp and Procession of the Cross (Ar/Eng)
8:30pm Stations, and Adoration of the Cross (Eng)

Holy Thursday of the Mysteries 14 April:

7:00pm Rite of Washing of the Feet and Mass of the Last Supper (Ar/Eng)
followed by Procession and Exposition of the
Blessed Sacrament, with Confessions (until 10pm)
8:30pm Visitation of Seven Churches (Booking Required)

Great (Good) Friday 15 April:

7:00am Signing of the Chalice (Ar)
8:00am Rite of Adoration of the Cross (Ar/Eng)
10:30am Rite of Adoration of the Cross (Ar/Eng)
2:30pm Chaplet and Novena of Divine Mercy (Ar/Eng)
3:00pm Rite of Adoration of the Cross (Ar/Eng)
7:30pm Confessions & Screening of Movie "The Passion of Christ"

* Church will be open all night until 12pm Holy Saturday

Holy Saturday of the Light 16 April:

12:00pm Prayer of Forgiveness, with Confessions (Ar/Eng)
4.00pm Children's Easter Vigil Mass
6:00pm Children's Easter Vigil Mass
8:30pm Chaplet and Novena of Divine Mercy (Ar/Eng)
11.00pm Rite of Peace & Solemn Mass of the Resurrection (Ar/Eng)

Resurrection (Easter) Sunday 17 April:

9:00am Easter Mass (Ar)
11:00am Easter Mass (Ar/Eng)
6.00pm Easter Mass (Eng)
8:30pm Chaplet and Novena of Divine Mercy (Ar/Eng)

Easter Monday 18 April:

10:00am Mass (Ar/Eng)
6:00pm Mass (Ar/Eng)
8:30pm Chaplet and Novena of Divine Mercy (Ar/Eng)



Parish News and Upcoming Events



St George Mother's Day Dinner

FRIDAY, 6 MAY AT 6.00PM-10.00PM
Three course meal & beverages

VENUE
BIVIANO'S DURAL
628 OLD NORTHERN RD
DURAL

TICKETS \$120PP
KIDS \$60PP*
(up to 12yrs old)

TO SECURE YOUR
TICKETS CONTACT:
NATASHA KHOUDAIR
M: 0410 406 878



WE ARE HIRING
ASSISTANT PARISH SECRETARY

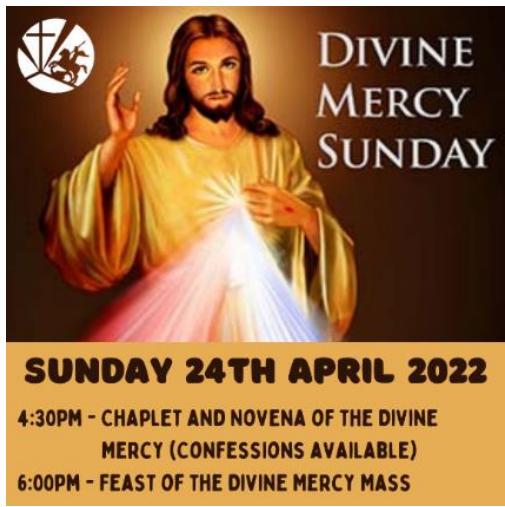
Part Time Position

To apply or for more information, please contact Fr Claude 0422 819 277 or email info@stgeorgemcc.org.au



HOLY THURSDAY
SEVEN CHURCHES PILGRIMAGE

Thursday 14th April 2022
Departing at 8:30pm
(After Holy Thursday Mass)
Cost: \$15/person
For bookings, contact the Parish Office



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

SUNDAY 24TH APRIL 2022

4:30PM - CHAPLET AND NOVENA OF THE DIVINE MERCY (CONFESIONS AVAILABLE)
6:00PM - FEAST OF THE DIVINE MERCY MASS



FERN MAR GERGES

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

PALM SUNDAY
7TH - 10TH APRIL
(ALL DAY)

ST GEORGE FEAST
21ST - 23RD APRIL
(ALL DAY)



ST GEORGE MARONITE CHURCH
BOOK FAIR
26TH MARCH - 1ST MAY

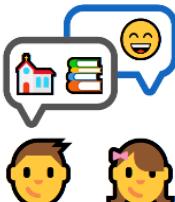
- Books
- Religious Items
- CDs and DVDs
- Statues
- Plus much more!



ST GEORGE FERSEN

EVERY SATURDAY
DURING THE SCHOOL TERM
4.00PM - 5.30PM

YEAR 1 - YEAR 6
Scan me to register your children



PALM SUNDAY CANDLES

On sale now at the Book Fair

PRICES:
\$60 EACH OR 2 FOR \$100



St George Youth

Help us grow our future youth by attending our...

GENERAL MEETING

TO FORM A NEW YOUTH COMMITTEE

April 28th
7:30PM
Church Hall



CHURCH CLEAN UP DAY

Saturday 9th April 2022
9:30am start

Anyone free is welcome to join us and help clean up our Parish.

Activate Window



St George Maronite Catholic Church, Thornleigh

PLAY GROUP

Ages 0-5 years old
FREE

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

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

For more information, please contact Mary 0422 871 197



Lenten LUNCH

Mass @ 11am
Followed by FREE Luncheon in the Church Hall
All are welcome

Every Thursday in the Season of Lent





Bible Study

IN YOUR HOME

Commencing in the first week of March on any evening from 7:30pm – 8:30pm.

Open your home and invite whomever you would like to attend.
The session can be given in Arabic, English or both!

Please contact Fr Claude, Deacon Naji or Michael Azzi if you would like to host a Bible Study.



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

MARONITE SPORTS DAY

EASTER MONDAY
18 APRIL | 2022
FROM 8AM

WHERE: BANKSTOWN BASKETBALL STADIUM/ KINCH RESERVE (1 THIRD AVENUE, CONDELL PARK)

PRICE: \$35 FOR PLAYERS OR \$20 FOR SPECTATORS (INCLUDES LUNCH)




Maronite Youth Diocesan Council

TO PARTICIPATE, PLEASE CONTACT THE ST GEORGE REPS:
NATALIE EL-HAGE 0406 654 295 OR JESSICA GEORGES 0426 114 696

Memorial Masses

Sunday 3 rd April 2022	9am	Late John, Kharma and Louie Sukari	قداس المرحومين هنا، خرمى ولوي سكر	٩ : ..	الاحد ٣ نيسان ٢٠٢٢
	11am	1 Year Mass for the Late Shmouni Mouhayet	قداس السنة المرحومة شمونة معيط	١١ : ..	

MASS LIVE STREAMING: Sundays at 9:00am only

Congratulations to the Newly Baptised: Mason Peter Moait and Antoinette & Layla Mohsen

رعاية مار جرجس المارونية طورنلي

برنامج أسبوع الآلام وعيد القيامة ٢٠٢٢



سبت الشعانين ٩ نيسان:

قداس (إنكليزي)

٦:٠٠ مساءً:

أحد الشعانين ١٠ نيسان:

قداس وزيارة الشenanin (عربي)

قداس وزيارة الشenanin (إنكليزي/عربي)

قداس وزيارة الشenanin (إنكليزي/عربي)

رتبة الوصول إلى المبنية وقداس (إنكليزي/عربي)

سجود القربان وإعترافات

٩:٠٠ صباحاً:

١١:٠٠ صباحاً:

٤:٠٠ بعد الظهر:

٦:٠٠ مساءً:

٨:٣٠ مساءً:

الإثنين والثلاثاء الآلام ١١ و ١٢ نيسان:

قداس (إنكليزي/عربي)

قداس وزيارة الصليب (عربي)

مراحل درب الصليب وزيارة (إنكليزي)

٩:٠٠ صباحاً:

٦:٠٠ مساءً:

٨:٣٠ مساءً:

أربعاء أیوب ١٣ نيسان:

قداس (إنكليزي/عربي)

قداس ورتبة القنديل وزيارة الصليب (إنكليزي/عربي)

مراحل درب الصليب وزيارة (إنكليزي)

٩:٠٠ صباحاً:

٦:٠٠ مساءً:

٨:٣٠ مساءً:

خميس الأسرار ١٤ نيسان:

رتبة الغسل وقداس العشاء السري (إنكليزي/عربي)

زيارة وصمد القربان مع إعترافات (حتى الساعة ١٠ مساءً)

زيارة سبع كنائس (الحجز مطلوب)

٧:٠٠ مساءً:

٨:٣٠ مساءً:

الجمعة العظيمة ١٥ نيسان:

قداس رسم الكأس (عربي)

رتبة سجدة الصليب (إنكليزي/عربي)

رتبة سجدة الصليب (إنكليزي/عربي)

تساعية وصلة المسبحة الرحمة الالهية (إنكليزي/عربي)

رتبة سجدة الصليب (إنكليزي/عربي)

"اعترافات ومشاهد فيلم "The Passion of Christ"

* الكنيسة ستبقى مفتوحة طوال الليل

سبت النور ١٦ نيسان:

صلوة الغفران مع إعترافات (إنكليزي/عربي)

قداس القيامة للأطفال (إنكليزي)

قداس القيامة للأطفال (إنكليزي)

تساعية وصلة المسبحة الرحمة الالهية (إنكليزي/عربي)

رتبة السلام وقداس القيامة (إنكليزي/عربي)

١٢:٠٠ بعد الظهر:

٤:٠٠ بعد الظهر:

٦:٠٠ مساءً:

٨:٣٠ مساءً:

١١:٠٠ مساءً:

أحد القيامة ١٧ نيسان:

قداس القيامة (عربي)

قداس القيامة (إنكليزي/عربي)

قداس القيامة (إنكليزي)

تساعية وصلة المسبحة الرحمة الالهية (إنكليزي/عربي)

٩:٠٠ صباحاً:

١١:٠٠ صباحاً:

٦:٠٠ مساءً:

٨:٣٠ مساءً:

إثنين العيد ١٨ نيسان:

قداس (إنكليزي/عربي)

قداس (إنكليزي/عربي)

تساعية وصلة المسبحة الرحمة الالهية (إنكليزي/عربي)

١٠:٠٠ صباحاً:

٦:٠٠ مساءً:

٨:٣٠ مساءً:

Parish Camera



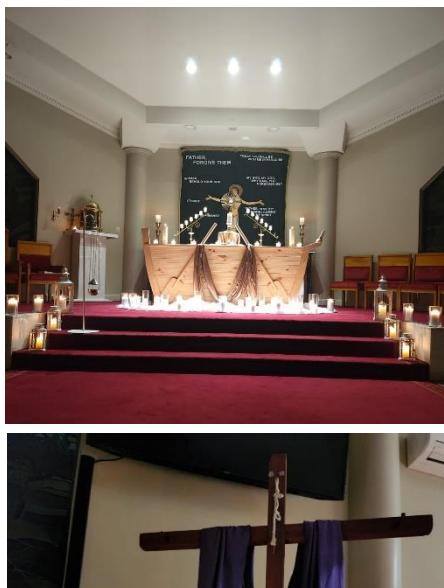
Last weekend our youth group had the pleasure of working with our sister Parish, Christ the Redeemer Youth, on the annual Lenten retreat! They heard some insightful talks, had some fruitful group discussions, formed new friendships and experienced the presence of God in Adoration and Mass.



Our Parish Boor Fair and Gift Shop opened last weekend!

It will be open every weekend after every Mass until the end of April.

Come along and visit our range of gifts, resources and much more.

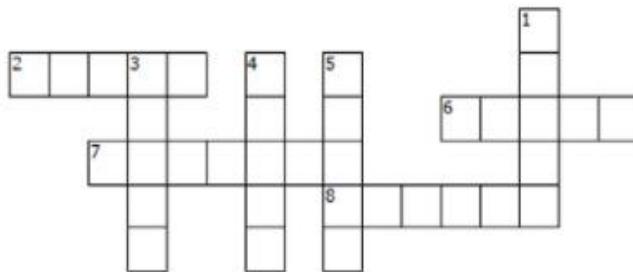


Our weekly Thursday evening Adoration of the Eucharist.

As we approach Holy Week, we invite you to make time on Thursday evening to spend time with Christ to prepare for the journey towards the Resurrection.

Children's Corner: Jesus Heals the Blind Man

Complete the crossword below based on today's Gospel (Mark 10: 46-52)



ACROSS

- 2. Kind or compassionate treatment
- 6. Making little or no noise
- 7. Making an urgent plea; asking for charity
- 8. To be restored to health; cured

DOWN

- 1. Unable to see
- 3. To make happier or more joyful; a shout of encouragement
- 4. Confident belief in the truth
- 5. The ability to see

blind
begging

mercy
quiet

cheer
faith

healed
sight



Parish Financial Updates

1st March – 20th March

Parish Operations Account
\$15,804.19

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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Laing + Simmons

Chris Khoudair

Principal

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Pennant Hills

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L'Yvonne's
hair + body

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