

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)

14th Sunday of Pentecost

Year 2022, Issue #36



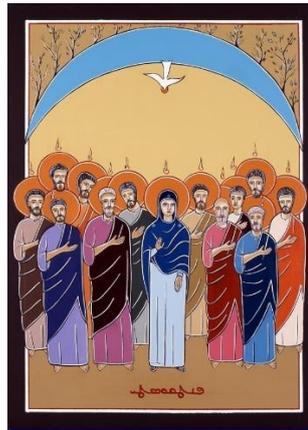
Sunday 4th September 2022

The Gospel

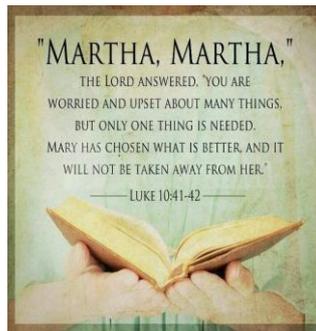
Luke 10: 38-42

Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me.' But the Lord answered her, 'Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.'

Season of Pentecost



Next Sunday
14th Sunday of Pentecost
Epistle
1 Thess 1: 1-10
Gospel
Luke 7: 36-50



الإنجيل

لو ١٠ : ٣٨ - ٤٢

فِيمَا (كَانَ يَسُوعُ وَتَلَامِيذُهُ) سَائِرِينَ ،
دَخَلَ يَسُوعُ إِحْدَى الْقُرَى ، فَاسْتَقْبَلَتْهُ
فِي بَيْتِهَا أَمْرَأَةٌ اسْمُهَا مَرْثَا. وَكَانَ لِمَرْثَا
أُخْتُ تُدْعَى مَرْيَمَ. فَجَلَسَتْ عِنْدَ قَدَمَيْ
الرَّبِّ تَسْمَعُ كَلَامَهُ. أَمَّا مَرْثَا فَكَانَتْ
مُنْهَمِكَةً بِكَثْرَةِ الْخِدْمَةِ ، فَجَاءَتْ
وَقَالَتْ: «يَا رَبِّ ، أَمَا تُبَالِي بِأَنَّ أُخْتِي
تَرَكَتْنِي أَخْدُمُ وَحْدِي؟ فَقُلْ لَهَا أَنْ
تُسَاعِدَنِي!». فَأَجَابَ الرَّبُّ وَقَالَ لَهَا:
«مَرْثَا ، مَرْثَا ، إِنَّكَ تَهْتَمِينَ بِأُمُورٍ
كَثِيرَةٍ ، وَتَضْطَرِّبِينَ! إِنَّمَا الْمَطْلُوبُ
وَاحِدٌ! فَمَرْيَمُ اخْتَارَتْ النَّصِيبَ
الْأَفْضَلَ ، وَلَنْ يُنْزَعَ مِنْهَا».

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 Habkhouk 0422 275 199 Admin Assistant: Rose Zeaiter
Office Hours: Mondays - Fridays 9:00am - 5:00pm; Saturdays 9:00am - 3:00pm Phone: (02) 9481 7388
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
Website: www.stgeorgemcc.org.au Email: info@stgeorgemcc.org.au



Bishop's Corner Year of Hope 14th Sunday after Pentecost



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The Gospel of this 14th Sunday of Pentecost about Martha and Mary seems to present two different behaviours, one of prayer and the other of action. Martha is agitated, running around to ensure that everything is ready to receive the Lord. Meanwhile, Mary is sitting at the feet of Jesus, listening to Him.

Mary and Martha's behaviours are not contradictory, nor mutually exclusive. We are all called to be both Martha and Mary in our lives. The two aspects of prayer and action should be able to be together in our hearts:

- our prayer must be an action, that is to say, a living relationship with God and not just words that we say but do not think about.
- our action must also be prayer, in the sense that everything should be done and lived in the presence of God and with God.

On this special Sunday where we celebrate **Father's Day**, we think of and pray for all fathers that they may find this balance in life between prayer and action at the heart of their families, without losing sight of the most important thing: being in the presence of God.

We thank the Heavenly Father for all the fathers who give so selflessly and lovingly of themselves to their families. We ask Him to watch over the fathers in poor health, to comfort those who are lonely, and to console those separated from their children. We pray that they may always reflect the fatherhood of God the Father.

I also humbly ask you to pray for your spiritual fathers, your clergy, servants of the Eucharist and the Word of God. As per our yearly practice, second collections on this Sunday are dedicated to the clergy retirement and welfare fund in our diocese. This money helps to support our elderly priests and members of the clergy so their needs are provided, and they live their retirement in dignity. I thank you for your support to this fund, and pray for God's abundant blessings upon you and your families.

Beloved, the perfect embodiment of a balance between prayer and action is the Blessed Virgin Mary whose Nativity we celebrate on 8 September. The Nativity of the Virgin Mother of God was the herald of joy to the whole world since from her was born Christ our Lord. We entrust all fathers to her maternal care and ask her to watch over them with her loving gaze and protect them from every harm, guiding them to raise holy families that pray together, and to build homes where Her Son dwells.

Happy Father's Day!

+ Antoine-Charbel Tarabay



The Word from Your Servant

A very happy Father's Day to our fathers, grandfathers, uncles and God fathers. I hope you all enjoy a weekend of love with your families.

Last week, I commenced the outline of *Patris Corde* – Pope Francis' letter about St Joseph and how this applies to our fathers today. As I mentioned, Pope Francis outlined seven features of St Joseph. We discussed the first three last weekend. The fourth feature of St Joseph was he was an accepting father. Pope Francis points out "*Joseph set aside his own ideas in order to accept the course of events and, mysterious as they seemed, to embrace them, take responsibility for them and make them part of his own history.*" He continues, "*The spiritual path that Joseph traces for us is not one that explains, but accepts.*" Our fathers are often faced with these very decisions. Acceptance and lack of fear comes from trust which in turn comes from love. This is what our fathers embrace in our daily lives – this is how they should base their relationship with God in order to face the events of each day.

The fifth feature of St Joseph was he was creatively, courageous father. Pope Francis reminds us that if we face our difficulties, we will find talents and gifts we did not know we have. Pope Francis states "*God acts through events and people. Joseph was the man chosen by God to guide the beginnings of the history of redemption. He was the true "miracle" by which God saves the child and his mother.*" We should always remember that our fathers are a miracle which God has placed in our lives. Why? Because in their ordinariness and normality, they accept the roles which God has asked of them and allow God's plan of redemption to proceed. Fathers do not give up in the face of difficulties. They are courageous with what God has asked of them.

The sixth feature of St Joseph is he was a working father. St Joseph worked to support his family. I see on a daily basis, how much each of the fathers in our Parish work tirelessly to enhance the dignity of their families as well as contributing to social and Parish needs. We must give thanks daily for their generosity and ask God to protect them in their efforts.

The last feature of St Joseph was that he was a father in the shadows. This is perhaps, the most difficult to understand. Pope Francis points out the fatherhood is not just the act of bringing children into the world but also accepting the responsibility for the care of the children. At the same time, Pope Francis goes to length to explain that like St Joseph, loving and caring for our children does not mean controlling every aspect of their life, but rather "*making them capable of deciding for themselves, enjoying freedom and exploring new possibilities.*" The ability for a father to balance these two responsibilities (which on first glance appear to be opposite to each other) will come from the father's relationship with God the Holy Spirit. During this season of Pentecost, let us pray that the gifts of the Holy Spirit including wisdom and fortitude will be constantly showered upon our fathers so that they may fulfil their responsibilities in accordance with God's will.

I continue all my prayers for the fathers in our Parish – may God bless you and your families. May you adopt St Joseph as your spiritual father and emulate his ways in your family life. Have a blessed week.

Fr Claude Rizk



THURSDAY MASS AND LUNCHEON

11am Mass
followed by lunch in the Church Hall

UPCOMING DATES
SEPT- 1ST, 15TH AND 29TH SEPT 2022
OCTOBER - 13TH AND 27TH OCT 2022

Knights of St George

Men's group established to bring the men of the house closer to God.

NEXT GATHERING FRIDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER 2022

EVERY LAST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

For more information or enquiries
Andre Saade 0411 219 139
John Ghosen 0477 237 748



Father's Day Prayer

THINKING OF YOU ON FATHER'S DAY,
AND OFFERING A prayer
THAT GOD
WILL KEEP YOU ALWAYS,
IN THE *shelter* OF HIS CARE—
MAY HE GUIDE YOU IN YOUR DAILY WORK,
BLESS EVERYTHING YOU DO
AND GRANT YOU ALL THOSE *special* JOYS
THAT MEAN THE MOST TO YOU.



ADORATION OF THE EUCHARIST
Every Thursday @ 7:30pm



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



BIBLE STUDIES

Every Monday
7:00pm
Church Hall

Presented in English and Arabic



St George Maronite Catholic Church Presents

21st Anniversary Dinner

Friday 4th November 2022

Ticket cost: \$100pp
Venue: The Renaissance
Room: Ballroom
Time: 7:30pm

Call to secure your seats today!
(02) 9481 7388



WORLD Youth Day 2023

HOLY LAND & PORTUGAL | 22 DAYS
21 July - 11 August 2023
For all Maronite Youth, Adults & Families, join our Australian Maronite WYD 2023 Group to experience an unforgettable faith journey filled with God's Grace as we travel to the Holy Land and then Portugal, together with Monsignor Shora Maree and Fr Charbel Dib as our Chaplains. Join us as we join Pope Francis, with Catholic Youth, Adults and Families from all over the world in Lisbon for the 16th International WYD, a pilgrimage of a lifetime.

MISSION WORK IN LEBANON (OPTIONAL) | 8 DAYS
11th - 20th August 2023
TBC (Mission work and accommodation)




PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST



Memorial Masses

نوايا القداسات

Sunday 4 th Sept 2022	9am	Late Adele Wehbe	قداس المرحومة ادال وهبه	٩ :٠٠	الاحد ٤ ايلول ٢٠٢٢
	11am	40 th Mass for the Late Sleiman Elias Charara	قداس ٤٠ المرحوم سليمان الياس شراره	١١ :٠٠	
Sunday 11 th Sept 2022	9am	40 th Mass for the Late Nadine Antonios Mousallem	قداس ٤٠ المرحومة نادين أنطونيوس مسلم	٩ :٠٠	الاحد ١١ ايلول ٢٠٢٢
	11am	First Holy Communion Mass	قداس أول قربانة	١١ :٠٠	

Congratulations to the Newly Weds: Charles Coorey and Samantha Kazzi

Parish Financial Updates

Parish Income (week ending 28/08/22)

TBA

Parish Operations Account

\$35,031.14

Parish Loan Balance

\$576,941.83

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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Business Community Corner

Laing + Simmons

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- ✓ Development of Daily Life and Life Skills
- ✓ Innovative Community Participation
- ✓ Community, Social and Civic Activities



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