



St George Maronite Catholic Church,  
Thornleigh

# Our Parish

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Glorious Cross

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2022

Year 2022, Issue #43

## The Gospel

Matt 25: 14-30

‘For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, “Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.” His master said to him, “Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.” And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, “Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.” His master said to him, “Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.” Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, “Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.” But his master replied, “You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

## Season of the Glorious Cross



Next Sunday  
7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the  
Glorious Cross

Epistle

Rom 12: 9-21

Gospel

Matt 25: 31-46



## الإنجيل

متى ٢٥: ١-١٣

قال الرب يسوع: «يُشْبِهُ مَلَكُوتَ السَّمَاوَاتِ رَجُلًا أَرَادَ السَّفَرَ، فَدَعَا عَبِيدَهُ، وَسَلَّمَهُمْ أَمْوَالَهُ. فَأَعْطَى وَاحِدًا خَمْسَ وَزَنَاتٍ، وَآخَرَ وَزْنَتَيْنِ، وَآخَرَ وَزْنَةً وَاحِدَةً، كَلَّا عَلَى قَدْرِ طَاقَتِهِ، وَسَافِرًا. وَفِي الْحَالِ مَضَى الَّذِي أَخَذَ الْوَزَنَاتِ الْخَمْسِ، وَتَاجَرَ بِهَا فَرَبِحَ خَمْسَ وَزَنَاتٍ أُخْرَى. وَكَذَلِكَ الَّذِي أَخَذَ الْوَزْنَتَيْنِ رَبِحَ وَزْنَتَيْنِ أُخْرَيَيْنِ. أَمَّا الَّذِي أَخَذَ الْوَزْنَةَ الْوَاحِدَةَ فَمَضَى وَحَفَرَ فِي الْأَرْضِ، وَأَخْفَى فِصَّةَ سَيِّدِهِ. وَبَعْدَ زَمَانٍ طَوِيلٍ، عَادَ سَيِّدُ أَوْلِيكَ الْعَبِيدِ، وَحَاسَبَهُمْ. وَدَنَا الَّذِي أَخَذَ الْوَزَنَاتِ الْخَمْسِ، فَقَدَّمَ خَمْسَ وَزَنَاتٍ أُخْرَى قَائِلًا: يَا سَيِّدُ، سَلَّمْتَنِي خَمْسَ وَزَنَاتٍ، وَهَذِهِ خَمْسُ وَزَنَاتٍ أُخْرَى قَدْ رَبِحْتُهَا! قَالَ لَهُ سَيِّدُهُ: يَا لَكَ عَبْدًا صَالِحًا وَأَمِينًا! كُنْتُ عَلَى صَافِيَتِكَ عَلَى الْكَثِيرِ: ادْخُلْ إِلَى فَرْحِ سَيِّدِكَ! وَدَنَا الَّذِي أَخَذَ الْوَزْنَتَيْنِ فَقَالَ: يَا سَيِّدُ، سَلَّمْتَنِي وَزْنَتَيْنِ، وَهَاتَانِ وَزْنَتَانِ أُخْرَيَانِ قَدْ رَبِحْتُهُمَا. قَالَ لَهُ سَيِّدُهُ: يَا لَكَ عَبْدًا صَالِحًا وَأَمِينًا! كُنْتُ أَمِينًا عَلَى الْقَلِيلِ، سَافِيَتِكَ عَلَى الْكَثِيرِ: ادْخُلْ إِلَى فَرْحِ سَيِّدِكَ! ثُمَّ دَنَا الَّذِي أَخَذَ الْوَزْنَةَ الْوَاحِدَةَ وَقَالَ: يَا سَيِّدُ، عَرَفْتُكَ رَجُلًا قَاسِيًا، تَحْصُدُ مِنْ حَيْثُ لَمْ تَزْرَعْ، وَتَجْمَعُ مِنْ حَيْثُ لَمْ تَبْذُرْ. فَخَفْتُ وَذَهَبْتُ وَأَخْفَيْتُ وَزْنَتَكَ فِي الْأَرْضِ، فَهَا هُوَ مَا لَكَ! فَأَجَابَ سَيِّدُهُ وَقَالَ لَهُ: «يَا عَبْدًا شَرِيرًا كَسْلَانًا، عَرَفْتُ أَنِّي أَحْصُدُ مِنْ حَيْثُ لَمْ أَزْرَعْ، وَأَجْمَعُ مِنْ حَيْثُ لَمْ أَبْذُرْ، فَكَانَ عَلَيْكَ أَنْ تَضَعَ فِصَّتِي عَلَى طَاوِلَةِ الصَّيَارِفَةِ، حَتَّى إِذَا عُدْتُ، أَسْتَرْجِعُ مَا لِي مَعَ قَائِدَتِي. فَخَذُوا مِنْهُ الْوَزْنَةَ وَأَعْطَوْهَا لِمَنْ لَهُ الْوَزَنَاتُ الْعَشْرُ. فَكُلُّ مَنْ لَهُ يُعْطَى وَيُزَادُ، وَمَنْ لَيْسَ لَهُ يُؤْخَذُ مِنْهُ حَتَّى مَا هُوَ لَهُ. وَهَذَا الْعَبْدُ الَّذِي لَا نَفْعَ مِنْهُ أَخْرَجُوهُ وَالْقُوَّةُ فِي الظُّلْمَةِ الْبَرَابِيَّةِ. هُنَاكَ يَكُونُ الْبُكَاءُ وَصَرْيَفُ الْأَسْنَانِ.»

## 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

Acting Parish Priest: Mons Marcelino Youssef 0404 272 272

Assistant Parish Priest: Fr Alain Fares 0433 507 389 Deacon: Nagi Dimian 0403 750 613

Parish Secretary: TBA

Admin Assistant: Rose Zeaiter

Phone: (02) 9481 7388 or 0422 275 199

Office Hours: Tuesdays - Fridays 9:00am - 5:00pm; Saturdays 9:00am - 3:00pm

Parish Safeguarding Officers: Margaret Simpson 0408 895 798, George Takchi 0419 651 229

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

Website: [www.stgeorgemcc.org.au](http://www.stgeorgemcc.org.au)

Email: [info@stgeorgemcc.org.au](mailto:info@stgeorgemcc.org.au)



## Bishop's Message Year of Hope 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Cross



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

On this Sunday, we reflect on the Parable of the Talents. The parable tells the story of a man calling his servants and entrusting his property to them. This man is Christ, and He has entrusted and given talents to each one of us. We all have qualities received from the Lord that we must discover and develop.

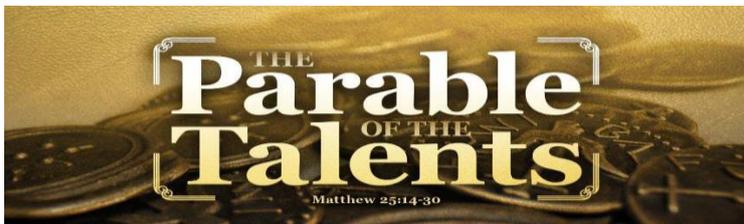
However, these talents do not only correspond to our natural abilities. Pope Benedict XVI reminds us that it is also about "the riches that the Lord Jesus has bequeathed to us as a legacy, so that we may make them productive: his Word, deposited in the Holy Gospel; Baptism, which renews us in the Holy Spirit; prayer the "Our Father" that we raise to God as his children, united in the Son; His forgiveness, which He commanded be offered to all; the Sacrament of His Body sacrificed and His Blood poured out; in a word: the Kingdom of God, which is God himself, present and alive in our midst." (Angelus, 16 November 2008) All these aspects of our faith are also talents that we must make fruitful.

The Gospel goes on to say that this master gave to each according to his ability. In the same way, God has given talents to each one of us, which are different from one another. Even if my neighbour seems more gifted or talented than me, that does not mean that he is better.

In this parable, we can observe that when the master leaves, the servants do what is necessary to bring their talents to fruition. On his return, he congratulates those who have succeeded in making them bear fruit without making distinctions. The Lord also wants us to grow the talents He has given us. He wants us to put these talents and qualities at the service of the community. As Christians, he also asks us to make fruitful our spiritual gifts. Pope Benedict XVI warns us not to bury them within us: "(...) those who after receiving Baptism, Communion and Confirmation subsequently bury these gifts beneath a blanket of prejudice, beneath a false image of God that paralyzes faith and good works, thus betraying the Lord's expectations." (Angelus, 16 November 2008). Let us therefore strive to make fruitful the talents which we have received from the Lord.

The three servants received different sums and their final result is also different. The Lord is Just, he does not ask us more than we can give. This parable reminds us that we will be judged on our actions and on what we have done with our talents. Let us ask the Lord to help us realize all the talents He has given us and all the graces we have received from Him. Aware of this, let us place our talents at the service of the Lord and of others.

+ Antoine-Charbel Tarabay



## Reflection of the Week "Capable"

'To each according to his ability' (v15).

Today's Gospel passage calls us to account. What have we done, what are we capable of and where to from here? The message is



clear – the only way is forward. Stagnation does not cut it. The parable leaves a great deal to our imagination or perhaps more accurately it leaves it to our decision-making capabilities. Three people are given an opportunity to showcase what they can do if given an opportunity. As we know, two prove they can excel, while one did not. The one who stagnated had possibly a great excuse, claiming that the means to the money he had been given, was through unethical. He accused the Master of deceitful measures in claiming his wealth. Maybe so, but the misconduct of others shouldn't be an excuse for our own failures. Quite the contrary. It should be an impelling reason for us to achieve something better.

In the case of the others two who received the extra money, they went on to achieve greater profit. However, we are not told how. So, the parable is left open ended.

There are two messages to take from this Gospel passage. Firstly, we are called to use our capacities to improve ourselves and others. Secondly, gaining success is important but what means we use to achieve our outcome, will be under scrutiny. So, no more excuses for stagnation or unethical practices. We are called to move forward through acts of generosity. Amen

Sr Margaret Ghosn mshf

### كلمة الحياة غذاءً للنفوس

حين يكتفي الإنسان بعيش حياته وفقاً لرتابة يوميّاته، يصبح مستهلكاً للوقت لا شخصاً ينبض بالحياة!

من أبرز إشارات "الوفاة حياتياً" لا جسدياً طمر مواهبنا وقدراتنا في تراب تراكم الوقت وفي سياق الأحداث المكررة يومياً أو حين نمتنع عن إستخدامها أو نحصر هذا الإستخدام في إطارٍ خاصّ وضيق بعيداً عن الإنفتاح على الآخرين!

"وهذا العيبُ الَّذِي لا نَفَعُ منه!" متى ينطبق هذا التوصيف علينا؟ ينطبق في كلّ مرّة نعيش الإكتفاء والطمأنينة ضمن إطارٍ روتيني لا مكان فيه لتجسيد رسالتنا كشهودٍ للربّ في وسط العالم... لناخذ مثلاً العمل التطوّعي...

كم من بيننا يملكون القدرة والوقت والمعرفة ومع هذا يميلون إلى البقاء على هامش مجتمعاتهم لأنهم ببساطة كسالى كالعبد الثالث أو لا يتمتعون بالجرأة الكافية للدخول في معترك الحياة! إنجيل اليوم يدعونا:

- إلى نفض الغبار عن كنوزنا المدفونة فنعود مثمرين في حقول الربّ!
- إلى "نبش" مواهبنا الدفينة ووضعها في خدمة رسالتنا!
- إلى إستثمار حياتنا في كلّ لحظاتها وأوقاتها فالحياة نعمة لا يستفيد منها إلا من أدرك كيفة عيش كلّ لحظة بحماس وفرح يمنحنا الربّ الوقت كهدية ثمينة ويعطينا المواهب والقدرات اللازمة لجعله أجمل وأكثر معنى... ويترك لنا حرية قبوله أو رفضه فماذا سنختار اليوم؟!

[www.kobayot.org](http://www.kobayot.org)

Parish News and Upcoming Events

**WORLD YOUTH DAY LISBON 2023**  
**Australian Maronite Eparchy Group**  
**HOLY LAND & PORTUGAL - 22 DAYS**  
 21 July - 10 August - Cost \$7,500  
**LEBANON (Optional) Mission Work - 8 DAYS**  
 11 - 20 August plus \$1,900  
 For more see WYD Maronite Eparchy Flyer

St George Maronite Catholic Church presents it's  
**21st Anniversary Dinner**  
 Friday 4th November 2022  
 7:30pm  
 The Renaissance - Grand Ballroom  
 \$100/person  
 Entertainment led by Cdarz Entertainment and celebrity  
 MC Rob Shehaide  
 Tickets or more information:  
 Belinda Srouer 0416 012 603  
 Natasha Khoudair 0410 406 878

**JOIN THE PARISH CHOIR**  
 We are seeking new members for our Parish Choirs to serve our weekend Masses  
**Saturdays 6pm**  
**Sundays 9am, 11am, 6pm**  
 If interested, or for more information, please contact the Parish Office.



**MARONITES AUSTRALIA**  
 ON MISSION  
**Volunteers required for monthly food runs.**  
 Contact the Parish Office to register or for more information.

**FERSEN**  
 LOOKING FOR PEOPLE TO JOIN OUR TEAM  
**MUST LOVE CHILDREN**  
 AND HAVE A PASSION TO HELP THEM GROW IN FAITH  
**EVERY SATURDAY 4.00PM-5.30PM**  
 CONTACT EVETTE ZEAITER 0406997100

**Sodality of the Immaculate Conception welcomes new members - any ages!**  
**NOW COMMENCING IN ENGLISH.**  
 For more information, please contact Deacon Nagi or Josephine Zeaiter

**Knights of St George**  
 Men's group established to bring the men of the house closer to God.  
**NEXT GATHERING FRIDAY 28TH OCTOBER 2022**  
**EVERY LAST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH**  
 For more information or enquiries  
 Andre Saade 0411 219 139  
 John Ghosen 0477 237 748

**ADORATION OF THE EUCHARIST**  
 Every Thursday @ 7:30pm

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



The Maronite Eparchy of Australia,  
New Zealand & Oceania

# VOCATIONS RETREAT

*The Priest: A Sign of Hope Today*

"COME, FOLLOW ME"  
MT 4:19

18 - 20 NOVEMBER 2022

Location: Benedict XVI Retreat Centre

Mass | Adoration | Confession |  
Prayers | Spiritual Talks

All meals and accommodation with linen provided

Cost: \$350

Register by Monday 7 November 2022

For more information or bookings,  
please contact Elie Fares on 0490 933 481 or fares\_eliea@hotmail.com



PLEASE JOIN US FOR  
A ONE DAY RETREAT

## Spring Cleaning Our Souls

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew  
a right spirit within me. (Psalm 51:10)

Saturday 19th November

10am - 2.30pm

Registration and morning tea at 9.30am

Beit Maroun

105 The Boulevard Strathfield

Cost \$20 on the day or by donation

The day will include a talk, craft session,  
Eucharistic adoration and confession.  
Morning tea and a light lunch included

Please register with Eventbrite.

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/mwm-one-day-retreat-tickets-440226488277>

### Memorial Masses

### نوايا القداست

Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> Oct 2022	6pm	Late Leila Youssef Nassif	قداس المرحومة ليلي يوسف ناصيف	٦:٠٠	الاحد ٢٣ ت ٢٠٢٢
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### Congratulations to the Newly Weds: Vincent Farhart and Anette Miate

### Parish Financial Updates

To receive our eNewsletter  
please email  
[info@stgeorgemcc.org.au](mailto:info@stgeorgemcc.org.au)

Parish Income (week ending 16/10/2022)  
TBA

Parish Operations Account  
\$21,343.54

Parish Loan Balance  
\$562,265.76



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Catholic Church](#)

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)



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### Business Community Corner

## Laing + Simmons

Chris Khoudair  
Principal

0405 122 331 | 02 9875 1777  
chris.khoudair@lsre.com.au

Pennant Hills

100 Yarrara Road,  
Pennant Hills NSW 2120  
lsre.com.au/pennanthills

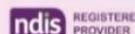


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## Homefront real estate

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