



Our Parish

Sunday of the Revelation to Joseph

Sunday 11th December 2022

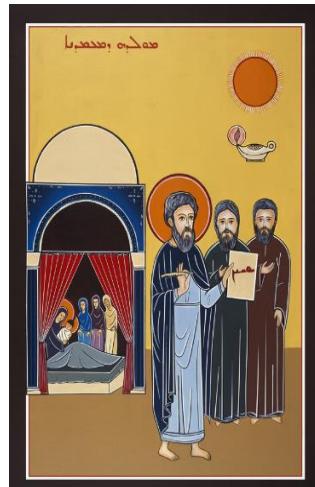
Year 2022, Issue #50

The Gospel

Matt 1: 18-25

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, ‘Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.’ All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ‘Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel’, which means, ‘God is with us.’ When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Season of the Birth of Our Lord



Next Sunday Genealogy of Jesus

Epistle

Rom 1: 1-12

Gospel

Matt 1: 1-17

الإنجيل

متى ١: ٢٥-١٨

أَمَا مِيلادُ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ فَكَانَ هَكَذَا: لَمَّا كَانَتْ أُمُّهُ مَرْيَمُ مَخْطُوبَةً لِيُوسُفَ، وَقَبْلَ أَنْ يَسْكُنَا مَعًا، وُجِدَتْ حَامِلًا مِنَ الرُّوحِ الْقُدُّسِ. وَلَمَّا كَانَ يُوسُفُ رَجُلًا بَارَّا، وَلَا يُرِيدُ أَنْ يُشَهِّرَ بِهَا، قَرَرَ أَنْ يُطْلِقَهَا سِرًّا. وَمَا إِنْ فَكَرَ فِي هَذَا حَتَّى تَرَاءَى لَهُ مَلَائِكَةُ الرَّبِّ فِي الْحُلْمِ قَائِلًا: «يَا يُوسُفُ بْنَ دَاؤِدَ، لَا تَحْفَظْ أَنْ تَأْخُذْ مَرْيَمَ أُمَّرَأَكَ، فَالْمَوْلُودُ فِيهَا إِنَّمَا هُوَ مِنَ الرُّوحِ الْقُدُّسِ. وَسَوْفَ تَلَدُّ أَبْنَاهُ، فَسَمِّهِ يَسُوعَ، لِأَنَّهُ هُوَ الَّذِي يُخْلِصُ شَعْبَهُ مِنْ خَطَايَاهُمْ». وَحَدَّثَ هَذَا كُلُّهُ لِيَتَمَّ مَا قَالَهُ الرَّبُّ بِالنَّبِيِّ: هَا إِنَّ الْعَذْرَاءَ تَحْمِلُ وَتَلَدُّ أَبْنَاهُ، وَيُدْعَى أَسْمُهُ عِمَانُوئِيلُ، أَيْ اللَّهُ مَعَنَّاهُ. وَلَمَّا قَامَ يُوسُفُ مِنَ النَّوْمِ، فَعَلَّ كَمَا أَمْرَاهُ مَلَائِكَةُ الرَّبِّ وَأَخَذَ أُمَّرَأَهُ. وَلَمْ يَعْرِفْهَا، فَوَلَدَتِ أَبْنَاهُ، وَسَمَّاهُ يَسُوعَ.

Divine Liturgy and Services

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

Mondays and Tuesdays: 9:00am **Wednesdays – Saturdays:** 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: Mons Marcelino Youssef 0404 272 272

Assistant Parish Priest: Fr Bechara Trad 0403 725 134 **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 **Email:** info@stgeorgemcc.org.au

Bishop's Message Year of Hope

ARISE Youth Convention



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Last weekend, I had the great joy of joining our Maronite youth from across Australia at the Maronite Youth Convention ARISE III at the Tops Conference Centre in New South Wales from the 2nd to the 4th of December.

The theme of our convention this year was "Mary arose and went with haste" (Lk 1:39), the bible quote chosen by Pope Francis as the motto of World Youth Day 2023. This verse opens the account of the Visitation of Mary to her cousin Elizabeth. It follows the Angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary that she would be the mother of the Son of God, that moment that would change her life completely.

However, the young Mary did not become paralysed, for within her was Jesus. She was not at all lazy or preoccupied with understanding the announcement or preparing herself for the birth of the Lord. In fact, what she decided to do was to rise and go to help and to serve with haste.

Our youth reflected over the 3 days of ARISE on their calling to rise at the heart of the Church. The convention provided all attendees with a spiritual recharge in these weeks preceding Christmas. The program included talks, workshops, adoration and social events. I thank the team who organised this convention, especially Msgr Shora Maree and Fr Charbel Dib, as well as the Maronite Youth Diocesan Council. I also thank every young person who attended.

Mary is the image of the pilgrim Church, going forth for service and to bring the good news to all. Her cooperation in the plan of redemption serves as a model for our own cooperation with God in the building up of His kingdom. So let us ask ourselves daily: how can we have a heart that is as expansive as Mary's? How can we arise and go in haste to share and live our faith with the others?

As Jesus was for His Holy Mother, the Gospel is such a great treasure to us that we cannot keep it all to ourselves. Our mission is to be servants of the joy of the gospel and bearers of hope to the world.

Seeing our young people at the ARISE convention has filled me again with great hope for our Eparchy. They represent more than the sum of our Maronite parishes; they represent the hope for new dawn in our seemingly fragmented world. I pray for every young person to have a unique and fulfilling experience with Jesus Christ, and to reflect this experience and exchange it with their peers and their parish community, so that we may all encourage and build each other up, united in faith and in our love for one another and for our Lord.

May God bless all our young people. I am already looking forward to ARISE IV!

+ Antoine-Charbel Tarabay



Reflection of the Week: "Revelation to Joseph"

Today's Gospel is the shorter version of Jesus' birth, as narrated by Matthew. Luke's is the longer version. Both Mark and John do not have an account of the birth of Jesus, although John does write, 'And the Word became flesh and lived among us' (Jn 1:14). Why is there so little on the birth of Jesus and his early life? Matthew's account in this Sunday's Gospel focuses on Joseph and his response to Mary's disclosure of her pregnancy. The actual birth of Jesus is summed up in a few words, 'she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus' (1:25). Matthew has a great deal more to say about Herod, wise men (magi) and the escape to Egypt. The birth of Jesus seems to encompass others than simply focusing on a baby.

The purpose of God became flesh was never to absorb and seek all praise, thanks and glory. It was not about self-ego. The coming as flesh by Jesus, had an outlook focus. It was meant to be about others, those whom Jesus would come into contact with. It was to be their story, not simply my own story. So, when we read the Gospels about the birth of Jesus, we are not reading simply about a birth, but how God impacts and transforms others through God's presence. We read about Zechariah and Elizabeth, Mary and Joseph, Herod and the three wise men and shepherds. God's birth is also about our birth and our life. All are intimately entwined. Amen

Sr Margaret Ghosn mshf

ST GEORGE MARONITE CATHOLIC CHURCH, THORNLEIGH

2022/2023 Christmas, New Year and Epiphany Program

Saturday 24th December 2022
 4:00pm Christmas Eve Family Mass (Eng)
 6:00pm Christmas Eve Family Mass (Eng)
 10:00pm Confession
 11:00pm Solemn Mass for the Birth of Our Lord (Arb + Eng)

Sunday 25th December 2022
 9:00am Christmas Mass (Arb)
 11:00am Christmas Mass (Arb + Eng)
 6:00pm Christmas Youth Mass (Eng)

Monday 26th December 2022
 10:00am Praise of Mary Mass (Arb + Eng)

Saturday 31st December 2022
 6:00pm New Year's Eve Mass (Arb + Eng)

Sunday 1st January 2023
 9:00am New Year's Day Mass, World Day of Peace
 11:00am New Year's Day Mass, World Day of Peace (Arb + Eng)
 6:00pm New Year's Day Youth Mass, World Day of Peace (Eng)

Thursday 5th January 2023
 7:30pm Adoration of the Eucharist
 10:00pm Feast of the Epiphany Mass with Rite of the Blessing of the Water (Arb + Eng)

Friday 6th January 2023
 6:00pm Feast of the Epiphany Mass with Rite of the Blessing of the Water (Arb + Eng)

كنيسة مار جرجس المارونية، ثورنلي

٢٠٢٣/٢٠٢٢ برنامج عيد الميلاد، رأس السنة والغطاس

السبت ٢٤ كانون الأول ٢٠٢٢
 قداس عيد الميلاد للعائلات (إنكليزي)
 قداس عيد الميلاد للعائلات (إنكليزي)
 اعترافات
 قداس عيد الميلاد - نصف الليل (عربي + إنكليزي)

الأحد ٢٥ كانون الأول ٢٠٢٢
 قداس يوم العيد (عربي)
 قداس يوم العيد (عربي + إنكليزي)
 قداس يوم العيد للشبيبة (إنكليزي)

الاثنين ٣١ كانون الأول ٢٠٢٢
 قداس نهاية العطلة (عربي + إنكليزي)

السبت ٦ كانون الثاني ٢٠٢٣
 قداس ليلة رأس السنة (عربي + إنكليزي)

الأحد ٧ كانون الثاني ٢٠٢٣
 قداس سلام العالم (عربي)
 قداس رأس السنة - يوم سلام العالمي (عربي + إنكليزي)
 قداس رأس السنة - يوم سلام العالمي للشبيبة (إنكليزي)

الخميس ١٥ كانون الثاني ٢٠٢٣
 سجدة القربان - يوم سلام العالم مع رتبة تبريرك الماء (عربي + إنكليزي)

الجمعة ١٦ كانون الثاني ٢٠٢٣
 قداس رأس السنة - يوم سلام العالمي مع رتبة تبريرك الماء (عربي + إنكليزي)

ST GEORGE MARONITE CATHOLIC CHURCH, THORNLEIGH



Carols by Candlelight

FREE OUTDOOR EVENT

Saturday 17th December 2022

Mass @ 5:30pm Carols @ 7:00pm

LIVE PERFORMANCES
(including ELLA E)

STALLS

CHARACTERS

SANTA CLAUS

FACE PAINTING

Performing Live!
TIMOMATIC



FERN MAR GERGES

OPEN @ CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT
Saturday 17th December 2022

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

THURSDAY 15TH DECEMBER 2022
FRIDAY 16TH DECEMBER 2022
SATURDAY 17TH DECEMBER 2022

For more information,
contact
Josephine Zealier
0426 239 129



SWEETS STALL

OPEN @ CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT
Saturday 17th December 2022

We are seeking volunteers to make sweets to sell on our sweet stall.

For more information, please contact the Parish Office 9481 7388



2023 FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

To register your child, please contact Margaret Simpson 0408 895 798



CHRISTMAS NOVENA



Thursday 15th December 2022 until Friday 23rd December 2022

6:00pm

(Sunday 18th December 2022 - 9:00am)



ST GEORGE YOUTH HARBOUR CRUISE



**SAVE THE DATE
17 FEB 2023**

REJOICE WITH THE ANGELS FOR THE STAR OF THE WORLD IS BORN



Order your personalised angel or star bauble to display on our parish family Christmas tree. Choose your preferred bauble in red, silver or gold colour.

Order via a church donation and contacting Margaret Michael 0412198034 before 3 December 2022



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.



ADORATION



**THIS THURSDAY
7.30PM-8.30PM
CONFESION AVAILABLE**

PRAYING FOR WIDOWS

And those who have lost loved ones





MARONITES
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**DONATIONS
NEEDED FOR
MONTHLY
FOOD RUNS**

MEAL ITEMS SUCH AS:
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Meals, Cakes, Bread

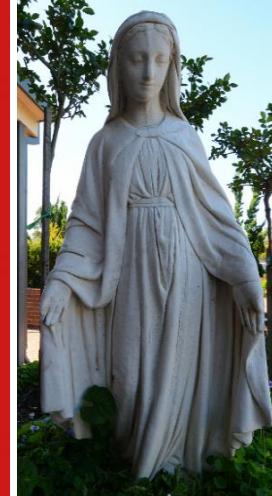
For more information
please contact:
Ann-Marie Boumerhe
0420 309 677
George Takchi
0419 651 229

JOIN OUR
WHATSAPP GROUP

**Maronites on Mission +
St George Youth
Christmas Food Run**



- ✓ 14th December
- ✓ Meet at St George Church at 4:45pm
- ✓ Strictly 18+
- ✓ Contact Natalie 0406654295 or Ann-Marie 0420309677



Sodality of the Immaculate Conception welcomes new members - any ages!

NOW COMMENCING IN ENGLISH.

For more information, please contact Deacon Nagi or Josephine Zeaiter

Deacon Nagi will be on leave from Monday 21st November 2022 until 8th January 2023.

Memorial Masses

نوايا القداسات

Sunday 11 th Dec 2022	9am	Late Rashid Youssef Zeaiter	قداس المرحوم رشيد يوسف زعيتر	٩ :٠٠	الاحد ١١ ٢٠٢٢ ١٠
Sunday 18 th Dec 2022	9am	Late Hallal Hallal	قداس المرحوم Hallal حلال	٩ :٠٠	الاحد ١٨ ٢٠٢٢ ١١
	11am	1 Year Mass for the Late Michael Tadrosse	قداس السنة المرحوم مايكل تادروس	١١ :٠٠	

Congratulations to the newly Baptised: Mia Isabel Baynie

Congratulations to the newly Weds: Nathan Yacoub and Diala Boumerher

Parish Financial Updates

Parish Income (fortnight 28/11/2022 – 11/12/2022)
\$6,384.40

To receive our eNewsletter
please email
info@stgeorgemcc.org.au

Parish Operations Account
\$80,973.16

Parish Loan Balance
\$554,432.76



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[St George Maronite 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
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