



St George Maronite Catholic Church, Thornleigh

# Our Parish

Sunday of the Priests

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2024

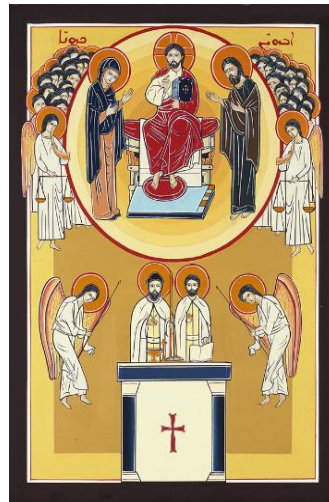
Year 2024, Issue #4

## The Gospel

Luke 12: 42-48

The Lord said, 'Who then is the faithful and prudent manager whom his master will put in charge of his slaves, to give them their allowance of food at the proper time? Blessed is that slave whom his master will find at work when he arrives. Truly I tell you, he will put that one in charge of all his possessions. But if that slave says to himself, "My master is delayed in coming", and if he begins to beat the other slaves, men and women, and to eat and drink and get drunk, the master of that slave will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour that he does not know, and will cut him in pieces, and put him with the unfaithful. That slave who knew what his master wanted, but did not prepare himself or do what was wanted, will receive a severe beating. But one who did not know and did what deserved a beating will receive a light beating. From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required; and from one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded.

## Weeks of Commemoration



Next Sunday  
**Sunday of the  
Righteous and Just**

**Old Testament  
Reading**

**Wis 5: 1, 3-6, 8, 15-16**

**Epistle**

**Heb 12: 18-24**

**Gospel**

**Matt 25: 31-46**

## الإنجيل

لو ١٢ : ٤٢-٤٨

قَالَ الرَّبُّ يَسُوعُ: «مَنْ تَرَاهُ الْوَكِيلُ  
الْأَمِينُ الْحَكِيمُ الَّذِي يُقِيمُهُ سَيِّدُهُ  
عَلَى خَدَمِهِ لِيُعْطِيَهُمْ حِصَّتَهُمْ مِنْ  
الطَّعَامِ فِي حِينِهَا؟ طُوبَى لِدَلِكِ الْعَبْدِ  
الَّذِي، مَتَى جَاءَ سَيِّدُهُ، يَجِدُهُ فَاعِلًا  
هَكَذَا! حَقًّا أَقُولُ لَكُمْ: إِنَّهُ يُقِيمُهُ عَلَى  
جَمِيعِ مُقْتَنِيَاتِهِ. أَمَّا إِذَا قَالَ ذَلِكَ  
الْعَبْدُ فِي قَلْبِهِ: سَيَتَأَخَّرُ سَيِّدِي فِي  
مَجِيئِهِ، وَبَدَأَ يَضْرِبُ الْغُلَّامَانَ  
وَالْجَوَارِي، يَأْكُلُ وَيَشْرَبُ وَيَسْكُرُ،  
يَجِيءُ سَيِّدُ ذَلِكَ الْعَبْدِ فِي يَوْمٍ لَا  
يَنْتَظِرُهُ، وَفِي سَاعَةٍ لَا يَعْرِفُهَا،  
فَيَفْصَلُهُ، وَيَجْعَلُ نَصِيبَهُ مَعَ  
الْكَافِرِينَ. فَذَلِكَ الْعَبْدُ الَّذِي عَرَفَ  
مَشِيئَةَ سَيِّدِهِ، وَمَا أَعَدَّ شَيْئًا، وَلَا  
عَمَلَ بِمَشِيئَةِ سَيِّدِهِ، يُضْرَبُ ضَرْبًا  
كَثِيرًا. أَمَّا الْعَبْدُ الَّذِي مَا عَرَفَ مَشِيئَةَ  
سَيِّدِهِ، وَعَمِلَ مَا يَسْتَوْجِبُ الضَّرْبَ،  
فَيُضْرَبُ ضَرْبًا قَلِيلًا. وَمَنْ أُعْطِيَ كَثِيرًا  
يُطَلَبُ مِنْهُ الْكَثِيرُ، وَمَنْ أُتْمِنَ عَلَى  
الْكَثِيرِ يُطَالَبُ بِأَكْثَرِ.

### Divine Liturgy and Services

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

Mondays – Wednesdays: 9:00am Thursdays – 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: Msgr Marcelino Youssef 0404 272 272

Assistant Parish Priest: Fr Bechara Trad 0403 725 134

Deacon: Nagi Dimian 0403 750 613

Subdeacon: Jason Maait 0415 771 461

Administration: Rose Zeaiter and Mary Issa Flynn Phone: (02) 9481 7388 or 0422 275 199

Office Hours: Tuesdays - Wednesdays 9:00am - 3.00pm; Thursdays - Fridays 9:00am - 5:00pm

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)

## Reflection of the Week "Sunday of the Priests"

So how does one make it in the world? What do we need to do in order to climb the ladder of success? Well, believe it or not, the Biblical passage today could be considered a great word of advice for aspiring employees.

Although the Gospel passage is chosen to speak to the Week of Commemoration of Priests, its message applies to anyone who is employed in service. It begins, 'Who then is the faithful and prudent manager?' (v42). What makes for a good leader or employer or CEO? Surprisingly it is something quite ordinary. As the Gospel puts it, 'Blessed is that slave whom his master will find at work when he arrives' (v43). That's it in a nutshell. Someone willing to work and persevere and commit to the task. Someone who is present, focussed, and willing to put in the hours needed. Hard work and sincerity to the job will get things done and earn one recognition for their efforts.

The Gospel also points out what not to do. Being abusive to others, wielding power inappropriately, self-indulgence, laziness, procrastinating, or simply lacking motivation, will set you far back. There is no tolerance for those who fail to live up to reasonable expectations. If you won't do the basic things, how can you possibly expect to progress to greater things?

The message for us today is that life is about taking your place in the world, shouldering responsibility, and making the most of opportunities to advance your capabilities while improving the lot of those around you. Amen

Sr Margaret Ghosn mshf

## Pray for Your Priests

Pray for your priests, they need your prayers more than you need theirs. Behind every holy priest is a praying parish. Behind every active priest an active parish. Talk to them instead of talking about them. The priests might be professional in spirituality, but they are not with building, management, and business. To lead and build a perfect parish, both lay and priests need to work together, hand in hand and heart to heart for the glory of God. This will lead towards a powerful and successful parish. Priests are chosen by God, but they are still human. They are the servants of God, but they have their own weaknesses as you have. They sin and confess to other priests just as you do. They need God's mercy just as you do. It was the will of God to choose from within a family priests, monks and nuns to serve his Holy Church. It was his will to choose the weakest of the weak so that everyone on earth can praise him by his work and hidden mysteries for the salvation of the world. Happy Sunday of the Priests.

## Priests: Salt of the Earth

Jesus has established the priesthood for his Church and entrusted priests with great responsibilities. The priest is given the task of caring for the spiritual needs of the people of his parish. On this Sunday the people of God come together to pray for those who were entrusted with the divine mysteries and to carry on with the salvific work of Jesus Christ. Priests are called the salt of the earth and the light and the presence of Jesus Christ among the community. He is the faithful servant, and the good shepherd. Priests, Christ's servants, are the image and hands of Jesus Christ our Lord.

## كلمة الحياة غذاءً للنفوس

في أحد الكهنة، تتمتع بهذا الإنجيل الذي يخاطب ضمير كل كاهنٍ ومعه ضمير كل إنسانٍ مسيحيٍّ ليسأل ذاته سؤالين مستوحيين من الآية الختامية لهذا النصِّ وهما: هل أدرك أن الله أعطاني الكثير من النعم وأعرفها سواءً جسديّة أو روحيّة؟ وهل أنا أمينٌ على هذه النعم لأستطيع أن أنقل إيماني للأخريين؟ نعيش جميعاً في عصرٍ يكثر فيه التشكيُّ ممّا لدينا أو الطمع في ما ليس لدينا فيما القناعة غائبةٌ عن الأذهان والقلوب! ربّما أفضل ما يقوم به المرء ليدرك ما لديه هو تصوّر حياته من دون ما لديه حالياً وعندنا سيدرك قيمة الأشخاص الذين يحيطون به أو الأشياء التي يملكها من دون أن يصل إلى مرحلة فقدانها؟! إنجيل اليوم يدعوك كي تحبا من جديد بروح العرفان للربّ على عطاياه وعلى نشر روح الشكر على ما لدينا بقناعة وإدراك بأنّ أهمّ ما نملكه هو محبة الله فهي الوحيدة التي سنستمرّ بعد أن نفقد كل شيءٍ حتّى حياتنا الجسديّة! نختم تأملنا بقولٍ رائعٍ للقديسة تيريزيا الأفيليّة: "من له الله، له كل شيء."

## أحد الكهنة

في زمن الدنح، وتحضيراً للصوم، يفتتح أحد الكهنة اليوم، الأسابيع الثلاثة لذكر الموتى: الكهنة، الأبرار والصدّيقون، والموتى عموماً. في الرسالة ينيّه بولس تلميذه تيموثاوس أن يكون خادماً صالحاً للمسيح في تعليمه وفي التقوى والسيره والمحبة والإيمان والعفاف. ويحدثنا الربّ، من خلال إنجيل القديس لوقا، عن الوكيل الأمين الحكيم. نحن مدعوون اليوم، للتأمل بكلّ مسؤولية أوكلت إلينا. كيف نقوم بها؟ علامٌ وعلى من تدلّ خدمتنا؟ أعلننا أم على الذي أوكلنا هذه الخدمة؟ ماذا تعني لنا الأمانة؟ زدنا يا ربّ، أمانة وحكمة وتقوى في حياتنا والتزامنا معك.



## لنصلي ونشكر

نشكرك أيها الأب القدوس على أمانتك بالرغم من عدم أمانتنا، على ثقافتك بنا، وعلى كل مسؤولية أعطيتنا إياها: الحياة التي فيها، المواهب والنعم التي أوكلتها لينا. نشكرك على أمانتك لابنك الوحيد، والتي أظهرتها له ولنا على الصليب وفي قيامته التي أصبحت ينبوع خلاصنا وعلى الإيمان الذي زرعت في حياتنا. نشكرك على كنيستك التي اسستها وأوكلتها إلى رسلك، على كل كاهن وخادم ورسول. نعدك اليوم، بأن نكون وكلاء أمانة وحكماء، لنستحقّ الطوبى التي وعدتنا بها. أمين



# Parish News and Upcoming Events

**ST GEORGE YOUTH  
HARBOUR CRUISE**



**SAVE THE DATE  
10 FEB 2024**

**CALENDAR  
2024**



**NOW AVAILABLE**

Collect from the Parish through a donation

Two designs available - wall hanging and table stand

**KNIGHTS OF ST GEORGE**



**\$20 ENTRY**

**FUN FOOD FAITH  
MEN'S GATHERING  
FRIDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 2024**





**2024 FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**


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



**ROSARY NIGHTS  
EVERY MONDAY**



**STARTING MONDAY 15th JANUARY 7.30PM**



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AUSTRALIA**

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MEAL ITEMS SUCH AS:  
Sandwiches, Fruit, Hot Meals, Cakes, Bread

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

**JOIN OUR  
WHATSAPP GROUP**





**Senior Program**

**Wednesdays  
9:00am - 4:00pm**

If anyone is interested in joining the Seniors Program or volunteering, please contact:  
Zaride 0417 427 661  
Josephine 0426 239 129



**ST GEORGE PLAYGROUP**



**EVERY FRIDAY  
10am - 12pm  
during school term**

Children 0-5 Years

**ALL WELCOME**

For more information, please contact  
Mary 0422 871 197



**FERSEN  
2024**



**EVERY FRIDAY 4PM-5.30PM**

**COMMENCING TERM 2  
FRIDAY 3RD MAY**

**CHILDREN WILL BE TAUGHT HOW TO SPEAK ARABIC, PRAY IN ARABIC AND LEARN THE MARONITE FAITH AND WILL ALSO HAVE A 15 MINUTE BREAK TO ENJOY SPENDING TIME WITH EACH OTHER**

**ALL CHILDREN MUST BE ENROLLED BY 22ND DECEMBER  
CONTACT EVETTE ZEAITER  
0406997100**



**CHURCH CLEANING**




We are seeking volunteers to assist with the Church cleaning roster.

For more information or if you are able to assist, please contact the Parish Office.




## Children's Corner

Colour in the images below and name the following key priests in our church

Parish Priest	Bishop	Pope
		



## Memorial Masses

## نوايا القداسات

Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2024	9am	Mass for the Late Joe Maroun Maait; Maroun and Damia Maait; John and Kharma Sukari and their son Louie Sukari	قداس المرحومين جو مارون معيط، مارون ودميا معيط، حنا وخرما سكر وبنهم لوي سكر	٩ :٠٠	الاحد ٢١ ك ٢٠٢٤
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2024	9am	Mass for the Late Kalim Sarkis Saliba	قداس المرحوم كلیم سرکيس صلیبا	٩ :٠٠	الاحد ٢٨ ك ٢٠٢٤
	11am	Mass for the Late Georgette Roumanos Zeaiter	قداس المرحومة جورجيت رومانوس زعيتير	١١ :٠٠	

**Congratulations to the Newly Baptised: Zara & Nevaeh Ghosn**

### Parish Financial Updates

**Parish Income (fortnight 08/01/2024 – 21/01/2024)**  
\$12,813.15

**Parish Operations Account**  
\$70,795.68

**Parish Loan Balance**  
\$442,504.21

**To receive our eNewsletter please email**

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



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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

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Pennant Hills NSW 2120  
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real estate

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General Manager



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