



St George Maronite Catholic Church, Thornleigh

# Our Parish

Palm Sunday

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Year 2024, Issue #13

## The Gospel

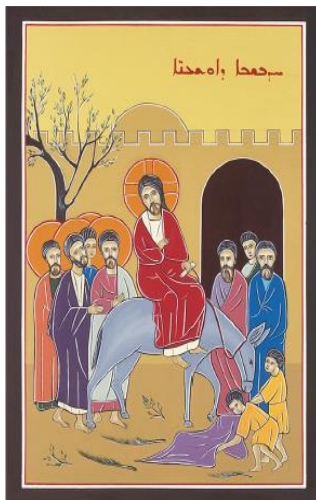
John 12: 12-22

The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, 'Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord the King of Israel!' Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: 'Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!' His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him. So the crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to testify. It was also because they heard that he had performed this sign that the crowd went to meet him. The Pharisees then said to one another, 'You see, you can do nothing. Look, the world has gone after him!' Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus.

## Passion Week

## الإنجيل

يو ١٢: ١٢-٢٢



لَمَّا سَمِعَ الْجَمْعُ الْكَثِيرَ، الَّذِي أَتَى إِلَى الْعِيدِ، أَنَّ يَسُوعَ آتٍ إِلَى أُورُشَلِيمَ، حَمَلُوا سَعَفَ النَّخْلِ، وَخَرَجُوا إِلَى مُلَاقَاتِهِ وَهُمْ يَصْرُخُونَ: «هُوشَعْنَا! مُبَارَكُ الْآتِي بِأَسْمِ الرَّبِّ، مَلِكِ إِسْرَائِيلِ». وَوَجَدَ يَسُوعُ جَحْشًا فَرَكَبَ عَلَيْهِ، كَمَا هُوَ مَكْتُوبٌ: «لَا تَخَافِي، يَا ابْنَةُ صِهْيُونِ، هُوَذَا مَلِكُكَ يَأْتِي رَاكِبًا عَلَى جَحْشِ ابْنِ أَتَانَ». وَمَا فَهَمَ تَلَامِيذُهُ ذَلِكَ، أَوَّلَ الْأَمْرِ، وَلَكِنَّهُمْ تَذَكَّرُوا، حِينَ مُجِدَّ يَسُوعَ، أَنَّ ذَلِكَ كُتِبَ عَنْهُ، وَأَنَّهُمْ صَنَعُوهُ لَهُ. وَالْجَمْعُ الَّذِي كَانَ مَعَ يَسُوعَ، حِينَ دَعَا لِعَازَرَةَ مِنَ الْقَبْرِ وَأَقَامَهُ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ، كَانَ يَشْهَدُ لَهُ. مِنْ أَجْلِ هَذَا أَيْضًا لِقَاءَهُ الْجَمْعَ، لِأَنَّهُمْ سَمِعُوا أَنَّهُ صَنَعَ تِلْكَ الْآيَةَ. فَقَالَ الْفَرِيسِيُّونَ بَعْضُهُمْ لِبَعْضٍ: «أَنْظُرُوا: إِنَّكُمْ لَا تَنْفَعُونَ شَيْئًا! هَا هُوَ الْعَالَمُ قَدْ ذَهَبَ وَرَاءَهُ!». وَكَانَ بَيْنَ الصَّاعِدِينَ لِيَسْجُدُوا فِي الْعِيدِ، بَعْضُ الْيُونَانِيِّينَ. فَدَنَا هُوَ مِنْ فِيلِبُّسَ الَّذِي مِنْ بَيْتِ صَيْدَا الْجَلِيلِ، وَسَأَلُوهُ قَائِلِينَ: «يَا سَيِّدَ، نُرِيدُ أَنْ نَرَى يَسُوعَ». فَجَاءَ فِيلِبُّسُ وَقَالَ لِأَنْدَرَاوُسَ، وَجَاءَ أَنْدَرَاوُسُ وَفِيلِبُّسُ وَقَالَا لِيَسُوعَ.

### Next Sunday

### Resurrection Sunday

### Old Testament Reading

Jonah 2: 1b-3, 4b, 5, 7-11

### Epistle

1 Cor 15: 12-26

### Gospel

Mark 16: 1-8

### 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: Msgr Marcelino Youssef 0404 272 272

Assistant Parish Priest: Fr Bechara Trad 0403 725 134

Deacon: Nagi Dimian 0403 750 613

Subdeacon: Jason Maati 0415 771 461

Administration: Rose Zeiter and Mary Issa Flynn

Phone: (02) 9481 7388 or 0422 275 199

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Fridays 9:00am - 5.00pm; Wednesdays and Thursdays 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)

## Bishops Message Year of Prayer Hosanna Sunday



Dear Brothers and Sisters,  
As we gather to celebrate Hosanna Sunday, we stand at the threshold of Passion Week, the sacred journey that leads our Lord Jesus Christ to the pinnacle of His earthly mission. It is a week of profound significance, where

Jesus, our Saviour, fulfils the Scriptures and willingly ascends the Cross, the instrument of our redemption.

In this Sunday's Gospel, we witness Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, fulfilling the prophecy of the Messiah's arrival. Riding on a humble donkey, the Lord was welcomed by the crowds. They adorned His path with their cloaks, then they cut branches from the trees and began to shout from Psalm 118: "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is coming! Hosanna in the highest!" (v. 9-10). This festive acclamation, recorded by all four evangelists, is a cry of blessing, a hymn of exultation: it expresses the unanimous conviction that, in Jesus, God has visited his people and the longed-for Messiah has finally come. And everyone is there, growing in expectation of the work that Christ will accomplish once he has entered the city (Pope Benedict XVI, 1 April 2012).

Amidst the jubilation, there lay a profound question: Who is Jesus of Nazareth for us? The crowd hailed Him as King of Israel, yet their expectations were soon shattered when Jesus chose the path of humility and sacrifice rather than earthly power and glory. Similarly, we are challenged to examine our own perception of Christ. Do we seek a Messiah who fulfils our worldly desires, or do we embrace the true essence of His kingship, which is not attached to earthly things and leads us to eternal happiness?

During this Passion Week, let us allow two sentiments to resonate within our hearts: praise and thanksgiving. Like those who welcomed Jesus with shouts of "Hosanna!", may our lips be filled with adoration for our Saviour. And in gratitude, let us remember that this week culminates in the greatest gift of all—the sacrifice of Christ's life for our redemption. May our souls wave the branches of victory, acknowledging Jesus as the King of Israel, the conqueror of death.

### Hosanna Sunday Caritas Lebanon Annual Appeal

As we anticipate the joy of Easter, let us remember our brothers and sisters in Lebanon facing immense hardships. This Hosanna Sunday, and as per our annual practice, our Maronite parishes will hold a special collection during Masses to support Caritas Lebanon's vital work. Through your generous donations, we can provide essential assistance to families in need, offering them hope and dignity in their struggles. Volunteers will be standing outside the church doors with collection boxes, or you can donate online at [www.maronite.org.au/appeals](http://www.maronite.org.au/appeals).

Your kindness will make a tangible difference in the lives of those experiencing hardship. Thank you for your generosity and compassion.

I wish you a blessed Hosanna Sunday!

+ Antoine-Charbel Tarabay

## Reflection of the Week "Palm Sunday"

Pompous! Those who are wealthy and hold important titles can display their importance by travelling in style, with paparazzi following them and crowds in a swoon as they glimpse such royalty.

We've all had daydreams of being popular, rich, adored by all, influential and living the dream. And then Jesus makes an entrance!

The people time and time again wanted to hijack Jesus and make him into a superhero who would perform according to their terms. And time and time again Jesus slips away from the crowds, or criticises falsehoods. This time Jesus does something different. He comes, riding on a donkey. An image that if not funny was downright embarrassing. When he could have been raised up and adored and praised for his words and actions, Jesus decides instead to play the role of someone worth mocking. Why?

Jesus' message to the people, and for us today, is that we are not called to make idols of others. We are reminded to remain humble and appreciative of all that we have been given, remembering all is gift from God. We are simply here to offer God's grace in humility to others. Let us remember that as we leave Lent and enter Passion Week. Amen

Sr Margaret Ghosn mshf

St George Maronite Catholic Church, Thornleigh  
**2024 Holy Week & Easter Program**

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2024**  
11:00am Mass celebrated by His Excellency Bishop Antoine-Charbel Tarabay (Ar/Eng)

**Hosanna (Palm) Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March:**  
6:00pm Mass (Eng)

**Hosanna (Palm) Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March:**  
9:00am Mass & Procession of Palms (Ar)  
11:00am Mass & Procession of Palms (Ar/Eng)  
6:00pm Rite of Arrival at Harbour followed by Mass (Ar/Eng)

**Passion (Holy) Monday & Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> March:**  
6:00pm Mass, Adoration and Procession of the Cross (Ar/Eng)

**Passion (Holy) Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March:**  
7:00pm Mass and Rite of the Lamp (Ar/Eng)

**Holy Thursday of the Mysteries 28<sup>th</sup> March:**  
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 (Church open all night)  
Visitation of Seven Churches (Booking Required)

8:30pm

**Great (Good) Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March:**  
7:00am Signing of the Chalice (Ar)  
10:30am Rite of Adoration of the Cross (Ar/Eng)  
2:30pm Chaplet of Divine Mercy (Ar/Eng)  
3:00pm Rite of Adoration of the Cross (Ar/Eng)  
7:30pm Confessions  
\* Church will be open all night until 12pm Holy Saturday

**Holy Saturday of the Light 30<sup>th</sup> March:**  
12:00pm Prayer of Forgiveness, with Confessions (Ar/Eng)  
5:00pm Children's Easter Vigil Mass (Eng)  
7:00pm Children's Easter Vigil Mass (Eng)  
11:00pm Rite of Peace & Solemn Mass of the Resurrection (Ar/Eng)

**Resurrection (Easter) Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March:**  
9:00am Easter Mass (Ar)  
11:00am Easter Mass (Ar/Eng)

**Easter Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April:**  
10:00am Mass (Ar/Eng)

رعية مار جرجس المارونية طورنلي  
**برنامج اسبوع الالام وعيد القيامة ٢٠٢٤**

**أحد ١٧ آذار:**  
١١:٠٠ صباحاً: قداس يترأسه صاحب السيادة المطران أنطون-شربل طربيه (عربي / إنكليزي)

**سبت الشعانين ٢٣ آذار:**  
٦:٠٠ مساءً: قداس (إنكليزي)

**أحد الشعانين ٢٤ آذار:**  
٩:٠٠ صباحاً: قداس وزيار الشعانين (عربي)  
١١:٠٠ صباحاً: قداس وزيار الشعانين (عربي / إنكليزي)  
٦:٠٠ مساءً: رتبة الوصول إلى الميناء و قداس (عربي / إنكليزي)

**الاثنين والثلاثاء الالام ٢٥ و ٢٦ آذار:**  
٦:٠٠ مساءً: قداس ومراسم درب الصليب وزيار (عربي / إنكليزي)

**أربعاء أيوب ٢٧ آذار:**  
٧:٠٠ مساءً: قداس ورتبة القنديل (عربي / إنكليزي)

**خميس الأسرار ٢٨ آذار:**  
٧:٠٠ مساءً: رتبة الغسل و قداس خميس الأسرار (عربي / إنكليزي) وزيار و صمد القربان مع اعترافات (الكنيسة ستبقى مفتوحة طوال الليل)  
٨:٣٠ مساءً: زيارة سبع كنائس (الحجز مطلوب)

**الجمعة العظيمة ٢٩ آذار:**  
٧:٠٠ صباحاً: قداس و رسم الكاس (عربي)  
١٠:٣٠ صباحاً: رتبة سجدة الصليب (عربي / إنكليزي)  
٢:٣٠ بعد الظهر: صلاة مسبحة الرحمة الإلهية (عربي / إنكليزي)  
٣:٠٠ بعد الظهر: رتبة سجدة الصليب (عربي / إنكليزي)  
٧:٣٠ مساءً: اعترافات  
\* الكنيسة ستبقى مفتوحة طوال الليل حتى الساعة ١٢ ظهراً يوم السبت النور

**سبت النور ٣٠ آذار:**  
١٢:٠٠ بعد الظهر: صلاة القربان مع اعترافات (عربي / إنكليزي)  
٥:٠٠ بعد الظهر: قداس القيامة للأطفال (إنكليزي)  
٧:٠٠ مساءً: قداس القيامة للأطفال (إنكليزي)  
١١:٠٠ مساءً: رتبة السلام و قداس القيامة (عربي / إنكليزي)

**أحد القيامة ٣١ آذار:**  
٩:٠٠ صباحاً: قداس القيامة (عربي)  
١١:٠٠ صباحاً: قداس القيامة (عربي / إنكليزي)

**الاثنين العيد ١ نيسان:**  
١٠:٠٠ صباحاً: قداس (عربي / إنكليزي)



# Parish News and Upcoming Events

## DONATIONS FOR EASTER AND FEAST WEEK

We are seeking donations (items or monetary) to assist with our Easter and upcoming Feast Week events and activities.

List of items can be found at the church door. Please write your details against the items you are able to donate.

For more information, please contact the Parish Office  
9481 7388  
info@stgeorgemcc.org.au



*Palm Sunday Candles*  
**ON SALE NOW \$40 EACH**



**MAAMOUL FOR SALE**

**\$35 per 1 kg tray**

Available from Monday 18th March

To order or for more information, please contact the Parish Office 9481 7388

## Palm Sunday

**Sunday 24th March 2024**  
Masses and Procession of Palms at 9am and 11am

**FOOD STALLS OPEN AFTER MORNING MASSES**

- FALAFEL WRAPS
- HOT CHIPS
- MAAMOUL
- FERN MARGERGES

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO ASSIST WITH PREPARATION ON THURSDAY 21ST MARCH, FRIDAY 22ND MARCH, SATURDAY 23RD MARCH**

## 7 Churches Pilgrimage

Holy Thursday, March 28th

Mass: 7:00pm  
Departure @ 8:30pm

Cost: \$30pp

RSVP by: 25th March

Strictly 18+ Youth

To book contact Dominique on 0438 884 495



## EASTER RAFFLE

**1 ticket for \$5  
6 tickets for \$20  
15 tickets for \$50**

**DRAWN ON EASTER SATURDAY**



## ROSARY NIGHT

**EVERY MONDAY IN LENT 7.30PM**

**18+ Youth SGYG Day Retreat to Berrima**

**Sunday 14th April 2024**

**\$30 per person**

Lunch provided but feel free to BYO snacks

For bookings contact Dominique on 0438 884 495

Departing 8am from St George Church and returning late afternoon

## Mother's Day High Tea

**Sunday 5th May 2024  
2:00pm - 5:00pm**

**The Verandah  
128 Copeland Road, Beecroft**

RSVP Wednesday 24th April 2024  
9481 7388  
info@stgeorgemcc.org.au

**\$65 per person (BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL)**

Limited numbers apply. Children are welcome to attend.

## MARONITE Sports Day 2024

**EASTER MONDAY | APRIL 1 | 7 AM**

Georgina 0433 550 425 | David 0433 799 254

**BANKSTOWN BASKETBALL STADIUM, KINCH RESERVE, CONDELL PARK**

**\$30 PLAYERS | \$5 SPECTATORS**  
REGISTER WITH PARISH REPRESENTATIVE

## LEBANESE SCHOOL APPEAL

During this Season of Lent, all Maronite parishes and schools are collecting donations to help pay overdue fees of students in need in schools across Lebanon. The Lebanese School Appeal, which was launched last year during our Eparchy's Golden Jubilee, has raised over \$530,000 to help more than 800 students in 17 schools across Lebanon. However, the need is great so let us continue working together to help those in our homeland who need it most. We kindly ask you to take a small appeal box home if you haven't already done so, to collect donations, and return them to the Parish when ready or during Easter week. No amount is too little and every dollar helps. Donations can also be made at [www.maronite.org.au/appeals](http://www.maronite.org.au/appeals) We are always grateful for your generosity and support.



## Memorial Masses

## نوايا القداسات

Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2024	6pm	Mass for the Late Michel and Rosette Morad	قداس المرحومين ميشال وروزيت مراد	٦ : ٠٠	السبت ٢٣ اذار ٢٠٢٤
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	7pm	Mass for the Late Sadie Nassar	قداس المرحومة سيدة نصار	٧ : ٠٠	الخميس ٢٨ اذار ٢٠٢٤

## Children's Corner: Palm Sunday Find-a-Word

N	S	M	E	J	K	A	C	O	L	T	S	S	H
L	K	E	P	T	N	E	R	D	L	I	H	C	S
C	C	L	A	E	M	H	O	S	A	N	N	A	T
H	R	A	S	D	W	O	R	C	P	A	R	D	O
R	E	S	S	M	E	J	N	H	O	J	R	H	N
I	M	U	O	A	A	X	A	E	D	O	J	R	E
S	E	R	V	R	A	R	P	I	L	U	K	E	S
T	M	E	E	K	I	O	S	E	J	E	U	E	H
R	B	J	R	S	H	C	W	S	C	E	O	S	T
K	E	S	E	O	I	E	H	E	A	T	S	E	P
I	R	E	A	P	R	A	I	S	E	V	E	U	S
N	S	S	L	V	E	K	A	R	O	R	I	D	S
G	C	E	B	B	E	T	H	A	N	Y	P	O	R
A	S	S	P	E	E	S	B	R	A	N	C	H	R

PRAISE  
CHRIST  
REMEMBER  
COLT  
HOPE  
EXPECTED  
SAVIOR  
SAVES  
CHILDREN  
STONES  
PHARISEES  
JERUSALEM  
JOHN  
HOSANNA  
LUKE  
DISCIPLES  
PASSOVER  
JESUS  
MARK  
KING  
BETHANY  
LORD  
CROWD  
BRANCH



## Parish Financial Updates

**Parish Income (fortnight 18/03/2024 – 31/03/2024)**  
TBA

**Parish Operations Account**  
\$75,124.68

**Parish Loan Balance**  
\$436,389.63

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



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## Business Community Corner

Laing + Simmons

Chris Khoudair  
Principal  
0405 122 331 | 02 9875 1777  
[chris.khoudair@lsre.com.au](mailto:chris.khoudair@lsre.com.au)

Pennant Hills  
100 Yarrara Road,  
Pennant Hills NSW 2120  
[lsre.com.au/pennant\\_hills](http://lsre.com.au/pennant_hills)

Homefront  
real estate

BUYING, SELLING or RENTING ?  
Contact your local active Agent  
274 Pennant Hills Road, Thornleigh  
9484 0555 [info@homefront.com.au](mailto:info@homefront.com.au)

For more information on advertising, please contact the Parish Office  
9481 7388  
or email  
[info@stgeorgemcc.org.au](mailto:info@stgeorgemcc.org.au)

  
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& LANDSCAPING

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• HydraFacial  
• Cosmetic Injectables  
• iClinical Skin Care  
• Skin Needling  
• Eyelash Extensions  
• Eyebrows  
• Waxing  
1/500 Old Northern Rd., Dural (02) 8415 0692

  
St. George  
Maronite Catholic Church