



St George Maronite Catholic Church, Thornleigh

Our Parish

4th Sunday of Pentecost

Sunday 9th June 2024

Year 2024, Issue #24

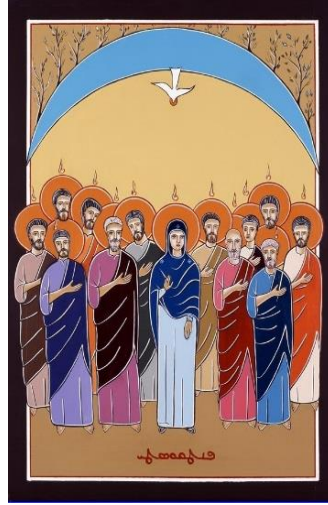
The Gospel

Luke 10: 21-24

At that same hour Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, 'I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, or who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.' Then turning to the disciples, Jesus said to them privately, 'Blessed are the eyes that see what you see! For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, but did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it.'

Season of Pentecost

الإنجيل
لو ١٠: ٢١-٢٤



قَالَ لَوْكَ الْبَشِير: ابْتَهَجَ يَسُوعُ بِالرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ، فَقَالَ: "أَعْتَرِفُ لَكَ، يَا أَبَتِ، رَبِّ السَّمَاءِ وَالْأَرْضِ، لِأَنَّكَ أَخْفَيْتَ هَذِهِ الْأُمُورَ عَنِ الْحُكَمَاءِ وَالْفُهَمَاءِ، وَأَظْهَرْتَهَا لِلْأَطْفَالِ. نَعَمْ، أَيُّهَا الْآبُ، لِأَنَّكَ هكَذَا ارْتَضَيْتَ. لَقَدْ سَلَّمَنِي أَبِي كُلَّ شَيْءٍ، فَمَا مِنْ أَحَدٍ يَعْرِفُ مَنْ هُوَ الْإِبْنُ إِلَّا الْآبُ، وَلَا مَنْ هُوَ الْآبُ إِلَّا الْإِبْنُ، وَمَنْ يُرِيدُ الْإِبْنَ أَنْ يُظَهِّرَهُ لَهُ". ثُمَّ التَفَّتْ إِلَى تَلَامِيذِهِ، وَقَالَ لَهُمْ عَلَى انْفِرَادٍ: "طُوبَى لِلْعُيُونِ الَّتِي تَنْظُرُ مَا أَنْتُمْ تَنْظُرُونَ! فَإِنِّي أَقُولُ لَكُمْ: إِنَّ أَنْبِيَاءَ وَمُلُوكًا كَثِيرِينَ أَرَادُوا أَنْ يَرَوْا مَا أَنْتُمْ تَنْظُرُونَ، فَلَمْ يَرَوْا، وَأَنْ يَسْمَعُوا مَا تَسْمَعُونَ، فَلَمْ يَسْمَعُوا".

Next Sunday

5th Sunday of Pentecost

Old Testament Reading

Exod 1: 1-7

Epistle

Phil 3: 7-14

Gospel

Matt 10: 1-7

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 Maait 0415 771 461

Administration: Rose Zeaiter 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 Email: info@stgeorgemcc.org.au

Bishops Message Year of Prayer 4th Sunday of Pentecost

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Our readings in the Maronite Church this week guide us to reflect on the gift of wisdom, a theme woven throughout our readings and Gospel for this Sunday.

In the Old Testament reading from the Book of Wisdom (7:7-14), we are reminded of the incomparable value of wisdom, which surpasses all material possessions. As Solomon reflects on the gift of wisdom, he acknowledges its worth as more precious than any earthly treasure and paints a beautiful portrait of divine wisdom.

St. Paul echoes this sentiment in his First Letter to the Corinthians, where he speaks of the "wisdom of God" that is revealed to those who are open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor 2:11-16). This wisdom is not the wisdom of the world, which is often fleeting and self-serving, but a wisdom that leads us to the very heart of God's plan for our salvation. It is through the Spirit that we gain some understanding to the mind of Christ, allowing us to discern and understand the mysteries of God's kingdom.

In the Gospel according to Luke (10:21-24), Jesus reveals that this wisdom has been revealed to the "little ones" – those who approach God with humility and trust, rather than relying on their own intellect or status. As Pope Francis reminds us, our task is not to "possess the key to understanding" the mystery of God's will, but to "perceive the call of God and then to do his will" (4 September 2016).

So, what do these readings teach us today in this Season of Pentecost? They invite us to seek after the wisdom of God, the gift of the Holy Spirit, with fervent hearts, knowing that it surpasses all earthly treasures. The Holy Spirit plays the most important role in guiding us into the depths of God's truth, but this knowledge is not reserved for the elite or the educated alone. On the contrary, Jesus tells us that these are hidden from the learned and revealed to those who approach God with the humility and simplicity of a child.

As we reflect on these readings this Sunday, let us pray for the grace to embrace the wisdom of God and allow it to transform us, not for our own glory but for the honour and glory of the One who is the source of all true wisdom.

Feast of St Aquilina of Jbeil

This week, on the 13th of June, we celebrate the feast of a saint who displayed wisdom and courage at a very young age: St Aquilina of Jbeil.

According to the research of Ms. Guita Hourani, Chairperson of the Maronite Research Institute, Aquilina lived in the ancient city of Jbeil (Byblos) during the years 281-293 A.D. Baptised by Bishop Evthalios, she was martyred at the age of 12 for her refusal to renounce Christianity and offer sacrifices to pagan gods. She was buried in Byblos.

In the early Church, the process of canonisation was less formal, often relying on popular acclaim and recognition by local bishops. Aquilina's sanctity was widely acknowledged, and news of her holiness spread throughout the region and reached Constantinople. Her martyrdom was seen as a testament to her heroic virtue and fidelity to Christ. We seek her intercession and prayers to remain strong and steadfast in our faith.

+ Antoine-Charbel Tarabay

Reflection of the Week: "The Joy of Faith"

Our Sunday Gospel passage has Jesus in a good mood stating, 'Jesus rejoiced' (v21). What has made him so happy? It is the fact that the disciples had returned from mission and were overwhelmed by the positive acceptance of what they had to say.

Jesus rejoices not because of so many converts. It is never about competition, numbers or popularity. Rather, he states, his joy is because God has 'hidden these things from the wise and intelligent and have revealed them to infants' (v21). What an odd thing to say or be joyful about. However, there is a great depth to this.

Faith or belief is meant to be simple. It is not meant to be complicated or reserved for the elite. Belief is a free offering of grace on behalf of God. It is Good News that each person is invited to accept and be part of. Wanting to know God is a simple possibility for one and all. Jesus came to make God accessible to all. A God who is warmly inclusive. Why? Because we all need to know love and be loved.

Jesus does not want faith in God to be exclusive or difficult. It is for the very ones who have need of God, who cannot compete with greater people. God is here, present, ready to walk with us in life's challenges, if only we would allow God to. That is God's joy and it gives hope to each one of us. Amen

Sr Margaret Ghosn mshf



كلمة الحياة غذاءً للنفس

مع عودة التلاميذ الاثنتين والسبعون بفرح، معتبرين عن فرحهم بنجاح رسالتهم واختبارهم لعمل الله من خلالهم، نرى يسوع يبتهج بالروح ويتوجه إلى الأب بصلاة تسبيح وشكر. إلا أن البارز في هذه الصلاة أنها تبين أن الأب يشترط إظهار مجده وعمله بأن يكون المؤمن كالطفل. ليست المرة الأولى في الإنجيل التي يعبر فيها يسوع عن أهمية العودة كالأطفال كشرط أساسي، ليس فقط لاختبار الله بل أيضاً لدخول ملكوت السماء. فماذا يعني أن نكون كالأطفال؟

● الطفل يثق بأبيه، يصدق كل ما يقول له، ويشعر بالأمن بقربه. نلاحظ بأن الطفل عندما يحمله والده لا يقبل الذهاب مع أحد، وإذا فعل ذلك، يشعر بالأمان إذا بقي والده بقربه، في المكان نفسه. بكلام آخر، يعتبر الطفل أبيه ضمانته الوحيدة والأساسية. إذاً، يبقى الشرط الأساسي لاختبار الله وعمله في حياة كل منا هو اعتبار الله الضمانة الوحيدة، فطالما نحن نتمسك بضمانات أخرى، فلن نكون قادرين على ملاحظة الاختبار أو تمييز عمل الله، لأن نقص التخلي والتمسك بتعلقات وضمانات أخرى، وعدم القدرة على المغامرة ووضع كل رجاءنا بالرب، يجعلنا غير قادرين على التمييز. فالمشكلة ليست في عدم كشف الرب عن ذاته، فهو ثابت وأمين، بل المشكلة لدينا، لأن قلبنا هو في مكان آخر.

● الطفل يسأل أباه عن كل شيء، لدرجة اللجاجة والاصرار، فيبدأ بطرح الأسئلة ليستفسر عن كل شيء. أن نكون أطفالاً في علاقتنا بالرب هي أن نقيم بالصلاة حواراً معه، لا نتكلم وحسب، بل نسمع ما يقوله لنا هو. بهذا، نكون كالطفل الذي يسأل أباه ليتعلم منه، لا كشخص أصبح يعتبر نفسه كبيراً ويعلم كل شيء، معتبراً بأنه ليس بحاجة للتعلم.

لكي نبتهج بالروح على مثال يسوع، نحن مدعوون لنكون كالأطفال بين يديه، معتبرينه ضمانتنا الوحيدة، متعلمين منه، لأن عنده وحده كلام الحياة الأبدية!

<https://www.kobayat.org>

ROSARY NIGHT



EVERY MONDAY

7.30PM IN THE CHURCH





VOCATIONS DISCERNMENT NIGHT


TUESDAY 25TH JUNE 2024
MASS AT 6PM

AT OUR LADY OF LEBANON CO-CATHEDRAL

FOLLOWED BY TALK IN THE MARY MCKILLOP ROOM

LED BY FATHER ELIAH ABOUD

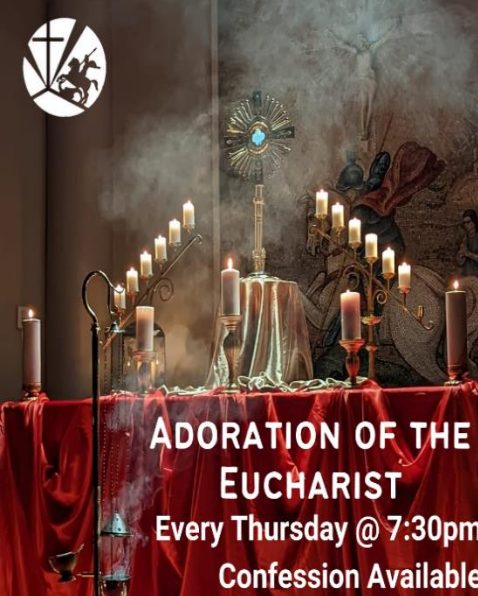

CONFESSION



EVERY THURSDAY
7.30PM-8.30PM

1 John 1:9

9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness

ADORATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Every Thursday @ 7:30pm

Confession Available

ST GEORGE PLAYGROUP



EVERY FRIDAY
10am - 12pm
during school term

Children 0-5 Years

ALL WELCOME

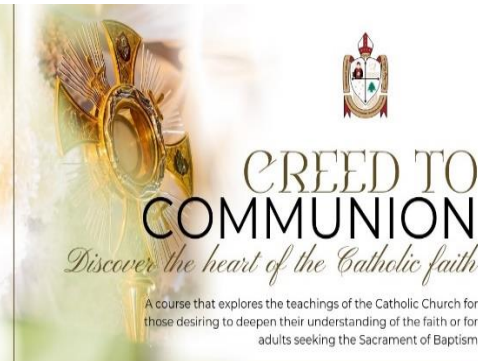

For more information, please contact Mary 0422 871 197




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

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AT 7:30PM

OLOL COMMUNITY YOUTH AND PASTORAL CENTRE
1/40-46 ALICE ST, HARRIS PARK

For enquiries, call or text Subdeacon Charbel Mourani on 0410 343 233 or email faithformation@maronite.org.au

To register, go to tinyurl.com/MaroniteCTC



AN INTRODUCTION TO THE MARONITE CATHOLIC FAITH

17 June	God's Purpose for You
24 June	Belief and Faith
01 July	The Most Holy Trinity
08 July	Our Lord Jesus Christ
15 July	Our Lord's Life, Death and Purpose
22 July	The Holy Spirit
29 July	The One, Holy, Catholic & Apostolic Church
05 August	Scripture and Tradition
12 August	Our Lady Part I
19 August	Our Lady Part II
26 August	Prayer
02 September	Virtue and Sin
09 September	The Ten Commandments
16 September	The Teachings of the Lord
23 September	The Sacrament of Confession
30 September	The Sacraments of Baptism and Chrismation
07 October	The Eucharist
14 October	The Sacrament of Marriage
21 October	The Maronite Saints
28 October	Catholic Social Teaching
04 November	The Divine Liturgy - The Qurbono
11 November	Q&A Night!

Course is held at the Our Lady of Lebanon Community Youth and Pastoral Centre, 40 Alice Street, Harris Park. Classes begin at 7:30 pm and everyone is welcome. To register, go to tinyurl.com/MaroniteCTC

Memorial Masses

نوايا القداسات

Saturday 8 th June 2024	6pm	Late Farid Budwa Zeaiter and his son Joseph Zeaiter	قداس المرحوم فريد بدوي زعيتير وابنه جوزيف زعيتير	٦ : ٠٠	السبت ٨ حزيران ٢٠٢٤
Sunday 9 th June 2024	11am	1 Year Mass for the Late Zeina Hanna Younan	قداس السنة المرحومة زينه حنا يونان	١١ : ٠٠	الاحد ٩ حزيران ٢٠٢٤
Saturday 15 th June 2024	6pm	Mass for the Late Melhem Said Khamis	قداس المرحوم ملحم سعيد خميس	٦ : ٠٠	السبت ١٥ حزيران ٢٠٢٤
Sunday 16 th June 2024	11am	40 th Mass for the Late Samir Massoud	قداس ٤٠ المرحوم سمير مسعود	١١ : ٠٠	الاحد ١٦ حزيران ٢٠٢٤

Parish Financial Updates

Parish Income (fortnight 27/05/2024 – 09/06/2024)
\$7,257.30

To receive our eNewsletter please email

info@stgeorgemcc.org.au

Parish Operations Account
\$86,664.73

Parish Loan Balance
\$389,547.52



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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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