

St George Maronite Catholic Church, Thornleigh

Our Parish

7th Sunday of Pentecost - Feast of Sts Peter & Paul

Sunday 30th June 2024

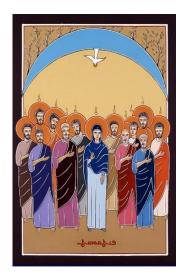
Year 2024, Issue #27

The Gospel

Matt 16: 13-20

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered. You are the Messiah. the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Season of Pentecost



Next Sunday

8th Sunday of Pentecost

Old Testament Reading

Isa 42: 1-8

Epistle Rom 8: 1-11

<u>Gospel</u>

Matt 12: 14-21

الإنجيل

جَاءَ يَسُوعُ إِلَى نَواحِي قَيْصَرِيَّةِ فِيْلِبُّسَ فَسَأَلَ تَلامِيْذَهُ قَائِلاً: «مَنْ يَقُولُ النَّاسُ إِنِّي أَنَا ٱبْنُ الإِنْسَانِ؟ .«فقَالُوا: «بَعْضُهُم يَقُولُون: يُوحَنَّا الْمَعْمَدَان؛ وآخَرُون: إِيْليَّا؛ وغَيْرُهُم: إِرْمِيَا أَو أَحَدُ الأَنْبِيَاءِ.« قَالَ لَهُم: «وأَنْتُم مَنْ تَقُولُونَ إِنِّي أَنَا؟ . « فَأَجَابَ سِمْعَانُ بُطْرُسُ وقَالِ: أَنْتَ هُوَ الْمَسِيحُ ٱبْنُ اللهِ الْحَيّ .«!فأَجَابَ يَسُوعُ وقَالَ لَهُ: «طُوبَى لَكَ يَا سِمْعَانُ بِنَ يُونَا! لأَنَّهُ لا لَحْمَ ولا دَمَ أَظْهَرَ لَكَ ذلِكَ، بَلْ أَبِي الَّذِي فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ .وأَنَا أَيْضًا أَقُولُ لَكَ: أَنْتَ هُوَ بُطْرُسُ، أَي الصَّخْرَة، وعلى هذِهِ الصَّخْرَةِ سَأَبْنِي بِيْعَتِي، وأَبْوَابُ الجَحِيْمِ لَنْ تَقْوى عَلَيْها .سَأُعْطِيكَ مَفَاتيحَ مَلَكُوتِ السَّمَاوَات، فَكُلُّ مَا تَربُطُهُ على الأَرْضِ يَكُونُ مَرْبُوطًا في السَّمَاوَات، ومَا تَحُلُّهُ على الأَرْضِ يَكُونُ مَحْلُولاً في السَّمَاوَات .«حينَئِذِ أَوْصَي تَلامِيْذَهُ أَلاَّ يَقُولُوا لأَحَدِ إنَّهُ هُوَ الْمَسِيحِ.

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

Deacon: Nagi Dimian 0403 750 613

Assistant Parish Priest: Fr Bechara Trad 0403 725 134

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 7th Sunday of Pentecost Feast of Saint Peter and Saint Paul



Dear Brothers and Sisters,
This Sunday, we
commemorate the Feast of
Saints Peter and Paul. Peter
was the first among the
disciples to profess faith in
Christ, and Paul stands as the
greatest missionary in history.
While their martyrdoms are
observed on 29 June, we
celebrate this feast on the

closest Sunday in our Maronite liturgical calendar.

Saint Peter and Saint Paul are inseparable in the tradition of the Church. Each experienced a profound encounter with Christ that transformed their lives. Despite Peter's weaknesses, the merciful love of the Father renewed and strengthened him, establishing him as the foundation of the Church. Paul, through his conversion on the road to Damascus, became a pillar of universality in Christianity.

This feast immerses us in the heart of the mystery of the Church, not only because Peter and Paul are its two principal pillars, but especially because of the responsibility Jesus entrusted to Peter. In examining their lives, we see that the Church is foremost a Church of mercy and forgiveness. Jesus' words to Peter, "Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven" (Matthew 16:19), affirm the Church's authority to bind with love and liberate from sin. The Church represented by Saints Peter and Paul is not rigidly doctrinal but embraces mercy, offering room for sinners to find forgiveness and conversion.

Another image of the Church from this solemnity is a Church of Love. Jesus asked Peter three times, "Do you love me?" This exchange shows that one of the Church's primary missions is to love Jesus and make Him loved. The Church's mission, like its governance and authority, is rooted in God's Love for His people and is at the service of the love of the sheep. Without God's love, mission and authority in the Church are empty.

Lastly, we see the Church as a missionary Church. St Paul said at the end of his life, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith" (2 Timothy 4:7). Paul is a model of missionary dynamism: he made numerous long journeys throughout the Mediterranean basin, seizing every opportunity to proclaim the Gospel.

St Peter shows us the Church's treasure in Acts 3:6, when he tells a lame man, "I have no silver or gold; but what I have I give you: in the name of Jesus Christ, rise and walk." The greatest gift the Church can give is the Gospel, bringing God's light to humanity.

As the Church faces many challenges, we must remember that its treasure is the Gospel, which it must proclaim always. May St. Peter and St. Paul guide us in evangelisation. They are the pillars of the Church, calling us to live our faith and proclaim the Gospel "to the ends of the earth."

+Antoine-Charbel Tarabay

Reflection of the Week: "Slow Down and Meet"

We all know we live in a busy world and life runs at a fast pace. Today's Sunday Gospel passage gives us another responsibility but not to simply add to our busyness. It is something we want to do and see a need for.

'The Lord appointed 70 others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place' (v1). Like Jesus moved around and made himself visible and accessible and present to one and all, the invitation has now been extended to his followers. As Christians, the knowledge of who Christ is, the values, the Good News, is something to be shared, and not simply remain a personal and private choice.

Jesus offers further instructions, that whatever house we enter, we should say, 'Peace to this house!' (v5) and to remain there, for the work of God should always be about peace and should never be rushed. To bring a sense of calm to another's life is needed in this fast-paced world devoid of emotion. Peace is something worth being busy about.

'Remain in the same house, eating and drinking' (v7). Yes, we are busy people, but as God's people our priority is always about taking the necessary time to make and form relationships, to be present to hear the other and to get to know them deeply. That makes the busyness of our lives, less frantic. Moving to approach another, coming into their presence, being under the same roof, is something we want to be busy with. Amen

Sr Margaret Ghosn mshf



كلمة الحياة غذاءً للنفوس

في الأحد السابع من زمن العنصرة، نقرأ دعوة الإثنين وسبعين تلميذًا، أرسلهم يسوع في مهمة البشارة بين ذئاب العالم. سنلاحظ أن دائرة الدعوة تتسّع، والعدد ينمو حتى يومنا هذا.

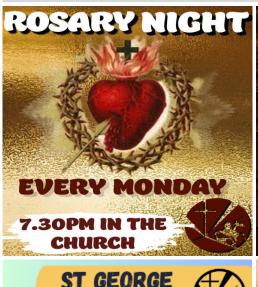
إن الحصاد كثير أمّا الفعلة فقليلون: من المؤسف أن المؤمنين حتى يومنا هذا على كثرة عددهم هم غير آبهين بكرم الرّب ولا بالحصاد. فلا نجد فعلة يجتهدون في دراسة الكتب المقدسة وأسس الإيمان فيذهبوا مبشرين بها. أطاره لمن دري الحصاد: إذها صلاة الكنسة الكنسة الدائمة أن روسال إذا دعوات

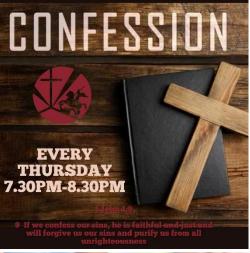
أطلبوا من رب الحصاد: إنها صلاة الكنيسة الدائمة أن يرسل لنا دعوات للعمل في كرمه. إنها ضرورة ماسّة أن نصلّي من أجل دعوات مقدّسة في رعايانا ومنظماتنا. والدعوات متنوّعة: الزواج والكهنوت والتكرّس.

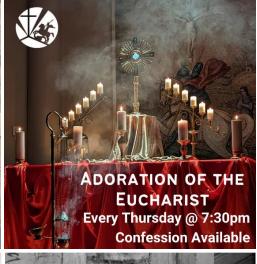
إذهبوا: هي دعوة الله لهذه الدعوات أن تخرج من دائرة راحتها وتذهب للبشارة بكلمة الله. فالعائلة لديها مسؤولية النمو الروحي لأفرادها وتشهد بذلك أمام باقي العائلات. والكاهن لديه دور ليكون قدوة في كنيسته ومجتمعه لعيش الهوية المسيحية الحقيقية. والمكرسون هم بتكرسهم شهود الحياة الأبدية. فلنصل من أجل دعوات مقدسة.

www.kobayat.org

Parish News and Upcoming Events







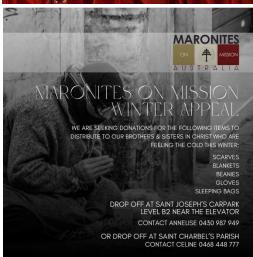


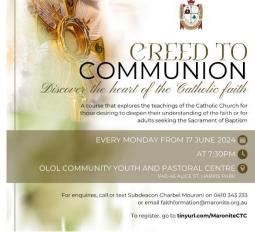


Zaride 0417 427 661

Josephine 0426 239 129

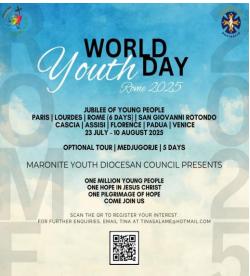




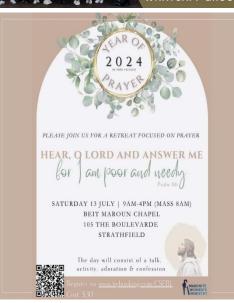












Sunday 7th July 2024

11am

1 Year Mass for the Late Tannous Elias Takchi

قداس السنة المرحوم طنوس الياس الطقشي

11: . .

نوابا القداسات

الاحد ٧ تموز ۲۰۲٤

Congratulations to the Newly Baptised: Willow and Layla Touma

Parish Financial Updates

Memorial Masses

Parish Income (fortnight 24/06/2024 - 07/07/2024)

TBA

To receive our eNewsletter please email

info@stgeorgemcc.org.au

Parish Operations Account \$89,680.50

Parish Loan Balance

\$389,547.52

YouTube

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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)

Business Community Corner





Phone: 9872 8111

Laing +Simmons

Chris Khoudair Principal

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

Pennant Hills

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

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