



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

الإنجيل

متى ١٦: ١٣-٢٠



جَاءَ يَسُوعُ إِلَى نَوَاحِي قَيْصَرِيَّةِ فِيلِبُّسَ فَسَأَلَ تَلَامِيذَهُ قَائِلًا: «مَنْ يَقُولُ النَّاسُ إِنِّي أَنَا ابْنُ الْإِنْسَانِ؟». فَقَالُوا: «بَعْضُهُمْ يَقُولُونَ: يُوحَنَّا الْمَعْمَدَانُ؛ وَآخَرُونَ: إِيلِيَّا؛ وَغَيْرُهُمْ: إِرْمِيَا أَوْ أَحَدُ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ». قَالَ لَهُمْ: «وَأَنْتُمْ مَنْ تَقُولُونَ إِنِّي أَنَا؟». فَأَجَابَ سِمْعَانَ بُطْرُسُ وَقَالَ: أَنْتَ هُوَ الْمَسِيحُ ابْنُ اللَّهِ الْحَيِّ. «فَأَجَابَ يَسُوعُ وَقَالَ لَهُ: «طُوبَى لَكَ يَا سِمْعَانَ بْنَ يُونَا! لِأَنَّه لَا لَحْمَ وَلَا دَمَ أَظْهَرَ لَكَ ذَلِكَ، بَلْ أَبِي الَّذِي فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ. وَأَنَا أَيْضًا أَقُولُ لَكَ: أَنْتَ هُوَ بُطْرُسُ، أَيِ الصَّخْرَةِ، وَعَلَى هَذِهِ الصَّخْرَةِ سَأَبْنِي بَيْعَتِي، وَأَبْوَابُ الْجَحِيمِ لَنْ تَقْوَى عَلَيْهَا. سَأُعْطِيكَ مَفَاتِيحَ مَلَكُوتِ السَّمَاوَاتِ، فَكُلُّ مَا تَرْتَبِطُهُ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ يَكُونُ مَرْتَبُوطًا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ، وَمَا تَحُلُّهُ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ يَكُونُ مَحْلُولًا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ». حِينَئِذٍ أَوْصَى تَلَامِيذَهُ أَنْ يَقُولُوا لِأَحَدٍ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْمَسِيحُ.

Next Sunday

8th Sunday of Pentecost

Old Testament Reading

Isa 42: 1-8

Epistle

Rom 8: 1-11

Gospel

Matt 12: 14-21

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

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 تلميذاً، أرسلهم يسوع في مهمة البشارة بين ذناب العالم. سلاحظ أن دائرة الدعوة تتسع، والعدد ينمو حتى يومنا هذا.

إن الحصاد كثير أما الفعلة قليلون: من المؤسف أن المؤمنين حتى يومنا هذا على كثرة عددهم هم غير أبيهين بكرم الرب ولا بالحصاد. فلا نجد فعلة يجتهدون في دراسة الكتب المقدسة وأسس الإيمان فيذهبوا مبشرين بها. أطلبوا من رب الحصاد: إنها صلاة الكنيسة الدائمة أن يرسل لنا دعوات للعمل في كرمه. إنها ضرورة ماسة أن نصلي من أجل دعوات مقدسة في رعايانا ومنظماتنا. والدعوات متنوعة: الزواج والكهنوت والتكرس.

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 ومجتمعته لعيش الهوية المسيحية الحقيقية. والمكرسون هم بتكرسهم شهود الحياة الأبدية. فلنصل من أجل دعوات مقدسة.

www.kobayat.org

Parish News and Upcoming Events

ROSARY NIGHT

EVERY MONDAY

7.30PM IN THE CHURCH

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

Children 0-5 Years

EVERY FRIDAY
10am - 12pm
during school term

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

MARONITES ON MISSION AUSTRALIA

WINTER APPEAL

WE ARE SEEKING DONATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS TO DISTRIBUTE TO OUR BROTHERS & SISTERS IN CHRIST WHO ARE FEELING THE COLD THIS WINTER:

- SCARVES
- BLANKETS
- BEANIES
- GLOVES
- SLEEPING BAGS

DROP OFF AT SAINT JOSEPH'S CARPARK LEVEL B2 NEAR THE ELEVATOR
CONTACT ANNABELLE 0430 987 949

OR DROP OFF AT SAINT CHARBEL'S PARISH
CONTACT CELINE 0468 448 777

CREED TO COMMUNION

Discover the heart of the Catholic faith

A course that explores the teachings of the Catholic Church for those desiring to deepen their understanding of the faith or for adults seeking the Sacrament of Baptism

EVERY MONDAY FROM 17 JUNE 2024
AT 7:30PM

OLOL COMMUNITY YOUTH AND PASTORAL CENTRE
140-146 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 Qurbano
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

MARONITES ON MISSION AUSTRALIA

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR MONTHLY FOOD RUNS

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

WORLD Youth DAY Rome 2025

JUBILEE OF YOUNG PEOPLE
PARIS | LOURDES | ROME (6 DAYS) | SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO
CASCIA | ASSISI | FLORENCE | PADUA | VENICE
23 JULY - 10 AUGUST 2025

OPTIONAL TOUR | MEDJUGORJE | 5 DAYS

MARONITE YOUTH DIOCESAN COUNCIL PRESENTS

**ONE MILLION YOUNG PEOPLE
ONE HOPE IN JESUS CHRIST
ONE PILGRIMAGE OF HOPE
COME JOIN US**

SCAN THE QR TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST.
FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES, EMAIL TINA AT TINASALAME@HOTMAIL.COM

MARONITE YOUTH DIOCESAN COUNCIL PRESENTS A

MOVIE NIGHT INDOOR SLEEPOUT THE CHOSEN SEASON 4

FROM FRIDAY 12 JULY 6PM THROUGH SATURDAY 13 JULY MIDDAY

AT OLOL CO-CATHEDRAL HALL, HARRIS PARK

ENTRY | \$50 PP

INCLUDES DINNER & BREAKFAST (POPCORN, CHOCOLATES & DRINKS AVAILABLE FOR SALE DURING THE NIGHT)

BRING YOUR OWN SLEEPING BAGS, BLANKETS AND PILLOWS!

UNDER 18'S WELCOME HOWEVER MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT FAMILY MEMBER THROUGHOUT EVENT

TO REGISTER USE THE QR CODE OR EMAIL TINASALAME@HOTMAIL.COM
ALL PROCEEDS TO GO TOWARDS WYD25

YEAR OF PRAYER 2024

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A RETREAT FOCUSED ON PRAYER

HEAR, O LORD AND ANSWER ME for I am poor and needy

Psalm 86

SATURDAY 13 JULY | 9AM-4PM (MASS 8AM)
BEIT MAROUN CHAPEL
105 THE BOULEVARDE
STRATHFIELD

The day will consist of a talk, activity, adoration & confession

Register via www.tinyurl.com/CSFP1
Cost: \$30

Memorial Masses

نوايا القداسات

Sunday 7 th July 2024	11am	1 Year Mass for the Late Tannous Elias Takchi	قداست السنة المرحوم طنوس الياس الطقشي	١١:٠٠	الاحد ٧ تموز ٢٠٢٤
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Congratulations to the Newly Baptised: Willow and Layla Touma

Parish Financial Updates

To receive our eNewsletter
please email

Parish Income (fortnight 24/06/2024 – 07/07/2024)
TBA

info@stgeorgemcc.org.au

Parish Operations Account
\$89,680.50

Parish Loan Balance
\$389,547.52



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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



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Chris Khoudair
Principal
0405 122 331 | 02 9875 1777
chris.khoudair@lsre.com.au

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100 Yarrara Road,
Pennant Hills NSW 2120
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



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email info@stgeorgemcc.org.au