



St George Maronite Catholic Church, Thornleigh

# Our Parish

10<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost and Feast of St Charbel

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

Year 2024, Issue #30

## The Gospel

Matt 13: 36-43

Jesus left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, 'Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.' He answered, 'The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

## Season of Pentecost

## الإنجيل

متى ١٣: ٣٦-٤٣

تَرَكَ يَسُوعُ الْجُمُوعَ وَآتَى إِلَى الْبَيْتِ، فَدَنَا مِنْهُ تَلَامِيذُهُ وَقَالُوا لَهُ: «فَسِّرْ لَنَا مَثَلَ زُرَّانِ الْحَقْلِ». فَأَجَابَ وَقَالَ: «زَارِعُ الزَّرْعِ الْجَيِّدِ هُوَ ابْنُ الْإِنْسَانِ، وَالْحَقْلُ هُوَ الْعَالَمُ، وَالزَّرْعُ الْجَيِّدُ هُمْ أَبْنَاءُ الْمَلَكُوتِ، وَالزُّرَّانُ هُمْ بَنُو الشَّرِّيرِ، وَالْعَدُوُّ الَّذِي زَرَعَ الزُّرَّانَ هُوَ إِبْلِيسُ، وَالْحِصَادُ هُوَ نِهَآيَةُ الْعَالَمِ، وَالْحِصَادُونَ هُمْ الْمَلَائِكَةُ. فَكَمَا يُجْمَعُ الزُّرَّانُ وَيُحْرَقُ بِالنَّارِ، كَذَلِكَ يَكُونُ فِي نِهَآيَةِ الْعَالَمِ. يُرْسَلُ ابْنُ الْإِنْسَانِ مَلَائِكَتَهُ، فَيَجْمَعُونَ مِنْ مَمْلَكَتِهِ كُلَّ الشُّكُوكِ وَفَاعِلِي الْإِثْمِ، وَيُلْقَوْنَهُمْ فِي أَتُونِ النَّارِ. هُنَاكَ يَكُونُ الْبُكَاءُ وَصَرِيْفُ الْأَسْنَانِ. حِينَئِذٍ يَسْطَعُ الْأَبْرَارُ كَالشَّمْسِ فِي مَلَكُوتِ آبِيهِمْ. مَنْ لَهُ أُذُنَانِ فَلْيَسْمَعْ!



### Next Sunday

11<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost

### Old Testament Reading

Ezk 18: 1,21-23,27-28

### Epistle

Eph 2: 17-22

### Gospel

Luke 19: 1-10

### 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](http://www.stgeorgemcc.org.au)

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

## Bishops Message Year of Prayer 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost Feast of St Charbel

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This Sunday, we celebrate the feast of Saint Charbel, a heavenly gift to us and a gift from the Maronite Church to the world. This humble monk, born in Bekaakafra in 1828, has become a beacon of faith for millions. On this feast, let us strive to emulate Saint Charbel and aim to be people of action, not just words, and in the face of challenges and difficulties, live with renewed trust in God, as he did.

Maronites in Australia have a great love and devotion for Saint Charbel, with three parishes dedicated to him: Punchbowl NSW, Greenvale VIC, and East Cannington WA. He is our constant companion as we live far from our homeland. He is our example of living our Maronite spirituality, having entered the Lebanese Maronite Order, walked the path of perfection to God, and become an exemplary monk, holy priest and hermit.

Despite living a life of simplicity and poverty, Saint Charbel left us a wealth of spiritual blessings and grace. In his silence, he spoke volumes. In his humility, he gave witness to the immensity of the union between humanity and the divine.

Saint Charbel stands as a paradox—a man of humble means, yet possessing extraordinary greatness. His miraculous interventions, spanning continents and cultures, have touched the lives of countless individuals. Saint Charbel brings healing to both body and soul. From South America, where locals believe him to be a native, to North America, across Africa, and from the coasts of Europe to the farthest reaches of China, this great saint, buried on a small mountain in Annaya, has become a wonder worker. He is an image of faith, a man of prayer, a man for all faiths, and for people of no faith.

We pray that the feast of Saint Charbel be also a source of renewed hope for Lebanon and its people. Throughout our history, we see that as our people reach the brink of despair and frustration, the hand of God, through the intercession of the saints, lifts us and rescues us. May God's love and mercy, through the intercession of Saint Charbel, grant security, peace and stability to Lebanon.

On this blessed feast, many non-Lebanese and non-Christians around the world join us in prayer. Thousands will make pilgrimages to monasteries and churches dedicated to Saint Charbel, especially in Annaya and Bekaakafra, to seek his prayers and intercession. May these prayers rise like incense and be pleasing to the Lord, as the Psalmist says, "Let my prayer be counted as incense before you..." (Psalm 141:2). As we light candles and offer our prayers, we are reminded of Saint Charbel's communion with God inspiring us to seek a closer relationship with the Divine.

We raise a prayer of thanksgiving to God for the grace of holiness in our church. We thank Him for our great saint, Saint Charbel, the shining example in our journey on this earth.

A blessed feast day to all!

+ Antoine-Charbel Tarabay

## Reflection of the Week: "Feast of St Charbel"

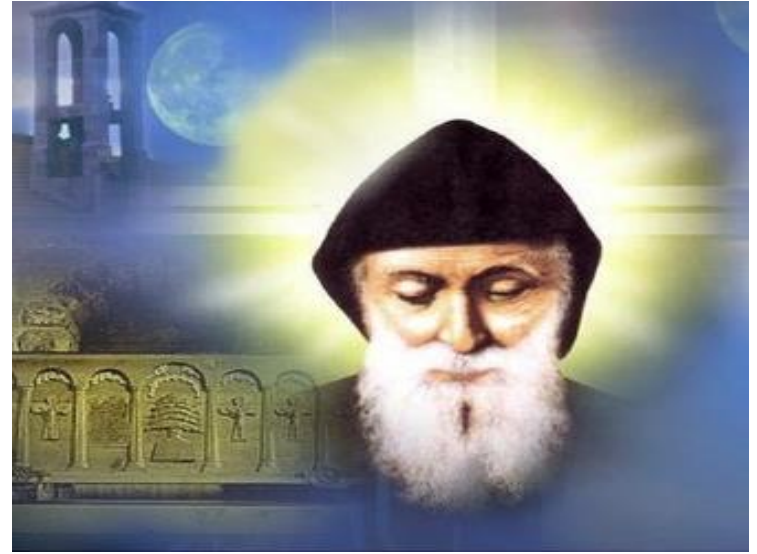
Jesus' parable teaches us patience lest we judge before the time is right. Jesus also warns that there is an enemy who seeks to destroy the good seed of his word before it can bear fruit. Both good and evil can be sown in our hearts like tiny seeds which germinate, and in due time yield a harvest of good or bad fruit. We must stand guard lest evil take root in our hearts and corrupt us.

In the Day of Judgment each will reap what he or she has sown in this life. Those who sow good will shine in the kingdom of their Father. They will radiate with the beauty, joy, and fullness of God's love.

Joseph Makhlof was born in 1828 at Beqa-Kafra, Lebanon. His family lived a strong faith, were attentive to the Divine Liturgy, and had a great devotion to Mary. At the age of 23, Charbel left his family to enter the Lebanese-Maronite Monastery at Mayfouk.

Following studies and perpetual profession at St. Cyprian de Kfifane Monastery, he was ordained in 1859. For the next seven years, Charbel lived in Annaya. After that he spent the next 23 years in complete solitude at Sts. Peter and Paul Hermitage near Annaya. He died on Christmas Eve, 1898.

Charbel had a reputation for his austerity, penances, obedience & chastity. Charbel was gifted with levitations during prayer, and he had great devotion to the Eucharist.



### كلمة الحياة غذاءً للنفوس

في انجيل اليوم، وفي عيد قديس لبنان مار شربل اليوم، مثل القمح والزؤان في انجيل متى، وقول بولس الى اهل روما، باسمه وباسم مار شربل ومار الياس وكل اصفياء الله: "اذا كان الله معنا فمن يكون علينا؟ ومن يفصلنا عن محبة المسيح؟"، نحن المختارين بالنعمة، والمدعوين الى الجواب بالايمان والاعمال. أعطنا يا رب ان نحبك مثل مار شربل ونخدم رسالتك الخلاصية مثل إيليا ونختار النصيب الافضل، فنضيء كالشمس في ملكوتك.

### حياة مار شربل

ولد في ٨ أيار سنة ١٨٢٨ في بلدة بقاعكفرا وسمي يوسف. نشأ في عائلة تحلت في تكريمها للمسيح. دخل دير ميفوق عازماً الترهيب واتخذ اسم "شربل" ومنه الى دير مار مارون عنايا فدير مار قبريانوس ويوستينا كفيفان حيث درس الفلسفة واللاهوت على يد معلمه الأب نعمة الله الحرديني. سيم كاهناً سنة ١٨٥٩ وبقي في عنايا مدة ١٦ سنة وطلب مراراً الدخول الى المحبسة. أخيراً وافق الرئيس العام ودخل المحبسة سنة ١٨٧٥ حيث ضاعف أعمال التقشف والتأمل والصلاة. وقد أجرى الله على يده آيات عديدة في حياته وبعد مماته. أعلنت قداسته في ٩ تشرين الأول ١٩٧٧. لتكن صلاته معنا آمين.

# Parish News and Upcoming Events

ST GEORGE YOUTH PRESENTS

## WINTER WONDERLAND

WESTELLA SKY LOUNGE

FRIDAY 23RD AUGUST | 7PM

EARLY BIRD TICKETS - 16+

\$90PP OR \$850 PER TABLE

DRESS CODE: FORMAL

CONTACT DAVID: 0433 799 254 OR VERONICA: 0447 370 041

**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



## ROSARY NIGHT

EVERY MONDAY  
7.30PM

"Give me an army saying the Rosary and I will conquer the world." – Blessed Pope Pius IX.



**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



## ADORATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Every Thursday @ 7:30pm  
Confession Available




CREED TO COMMUNION SERIES:  
DISCOVERING THE HEART OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH

# THE HOLY SPIRIT

PRESENTED BY MONSIGNOR SHORA MAREE

MONDAY | 22 JULY 2024 AT 7:30PM  
LOCATION: OLOL COMMUNITY YOUTH AND PASTORAL CENTRE  
NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED



## 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




## Memorial Masses

## نوايا القداسات

Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2024	9am	Mass for Youssef Akl Khoudair	قداس لأجل يوسف عقل خضير	٩ : ٠٠	الاحد ٢١ تموز ٢٠٢٤
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2024	10:30am	Funeral for the Late Sadie Challita Khamis	دفن المرحومة سيدة شليطا خميس	١٠ : ٣٠	الاثنين ٢٢ تموز ٢٠٢٤
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	11am	40 <sup>th</sup> Mass for the Late Karma Youssef Edaith Chahine	قداس ٤٠ المرحومة كرمه يوسف قديح شاهين	١١ : ٠٠	الاحد ٢٨ تموز ٢٠٢٤

## Parish Financial Updates

**Parish Income (fortnight 08/07/2024 – 21/07/2024)**  
\$10,978.80

**To receive our eNewsletter  
please email**

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

**Parish Operations Account**  
\$88,105.03

**Parish Loan Balance**  
\$386,192.57



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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



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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/pennanthills

**Homefront**  
real estate

**BUYING, SELLING or RENTING ?**  
Contact your local active Agent  
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9484 0555 info@homefront.com.au



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please contact the Parish Office 9481 7388  
or email [info@stgeorgemcc.org.au](mailto:info@stgeorgemcc.org.au)