



St George Maronite Catholic Church, Thornleigh

# Our Parish

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

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2024

Year 2024, Issue #29

## The Gospel

Luke 4: 14-21

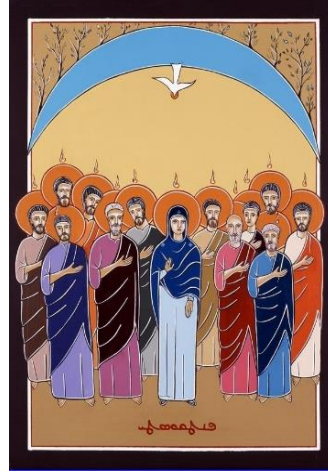
Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.' And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

## Season of Pentecost

## الإنجيل

متى ١٢: ١٤-٢١

عَادَ يَسُوعُ بِقُوَّةِ الرُّوحِ إِلَى الْجَلِيلِ،  
وَدَاعَ خَبْرَهُ فِي كُلِّ الْجَوَارِ. وَكَانَ يُعَلِّمُ  
فِي مَجَامِعِهِمْ، وَالْجَمِيعُ يُمَجِّدُونَهُ.  
وَجَاءَ يَسُوعُ إِلَى النَّاصِرَةِ، حَيْثُ نَشَأَ،  
وَدَخَلَ إِلَى الْمَجْمَعِ كَعَادَتِهِ يَوْمَ  
السَّبْتِ، وَقَامَ لِيَقْرَأَ. وَدَفَعَ إِلَيْهِ كِتَابُ  
النَّبِيِّ اشْعِيَا. وَفَتَحَ يَسُوعُ الْكِتَابَ،  
فَوَجَدَ الْمَوْضِعَ الْمَكْتُوبَ فِيهِ: «رُوحُ  
الرَّبِّ عَلَيَّ، وَلِهَذَا مَسَحَنِي لِأُبَشِّرَ  
الْمَسَاكِينَ، وَأُرْسَلَنِي لِأُنَادِيَ بِإِطْلَاقِ  
الْأَسْرَى وَعَوْدَةِ الْبَصَرِ إِلَى الْعُمَيَّانِ،  
وَأُطْلِقَ الْمَقْهُورِينَ أَحْرَارًا، وَأُنَادِيَ بِسَنَةِ  
مَقْبُولَةٍ لَدَى الرَّبِّ.» ثُمَّ طَوَى الْكِتَابَ،  
وَأَعَادَهُ إِلَى الْخَادِمِ، وَجَلَسَ. وَكَانَتْ  
عُيُونُ جَمِيعِ الَّذِينَ فِي الْمَجْمَعِ شَاخِصَةً  
إِلَيْهِ. فَبَدَأَ يَقُولُ لَهُمْ: «أَلْيَوْمَ تَمَّتْ هَذِهِ  
الْكِتَابَةُ الَّتِي ثَلَيْتُ عَلَى مَسَامِعِكُمْ.»



### Next Sunday

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

**Old Testament Reading**

**2 Kings 1: 2-8**

**Epistle**

**Rom 8: 28-39**

**Gospel**

**Matt 13: 36-43**

### 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 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

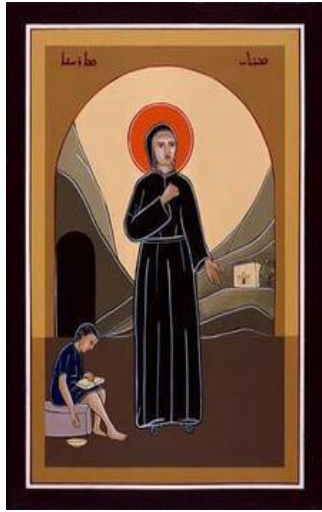
The Gospel reading this week recounts a pivotal moment in Jesus' public ministry—His proclamation in the synagogue at Nazareth. This passage from the Gospel of Saint Luke marks the beginning of Jesus' public ministry.

Jesus enters the synagogue on the Sabbath, a day dedicated to rest and worship. Here, in this sacred space, He stands up to read the Scriptures and chooses a passage from the prophet Isaiah that perfectly encapsulates His mission. The words resonate with hope and promise. They remind us of the return from exile, a time when God's people experienced restoration. As He finishes reading, He declares, "Today this scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing."

In this moment, Jesus is not merely recounting ancient prophecy; He is embodying it. In applying these words to Himself, Jesus is declaring that the long-awaited Messiah has arrived. The fulfilment of this prophecy is found in His very presence among the people. His mission is one of radical compassion and liberation—to bring good news to the poor, freedom to the captives, and sight to the blind.

This is a message of profound hope. As we reflect on this passage today, we are reminded that the proclamation of God's Word is not just a historical event but a living reality. We are invited to experience the fulfilment of God's promises in our lives, to embrace the grace that Jesus offers, and to live in the light of His mercy and love.

### Feast of St Marina



On the 17<sup>th</sup> of July, we celebrate the feast of Saint Marina the Monk, a beloved Maronite saint known for her piety, humility, and extraordinary story. According to the most ancient accounts, she was born in Lebanon in the fifth century. When her mother passed away, she desired to join her father in the monastic life. To do so, she disguised herself as a man. While living in the Monastery of Qannoubine in the Holy Valley of Qadisha, Marina was falsely

accused of fathering a child. Despite her innocence, she did not defend herself against the accusation. The Abbot of the monastery pronounced a severe punishment upon her, which was to leave the monastery and raise the child. Marina accepted this punishment with humility and lived an ascetic life while taking care of the child.

Marina's true identity as a woman was only discovered after her death. This revelation came as a significant shock to those who had known her, given the trials she endured in silence. To this day, her name is intertwined with that of the Monastery of Qannoubine. Her nearby grotto serves as a poignant reminder of her chastity, obedience, asceticism, forgiveness, and sainthood. May her prayers and intercessions be with us all on her feast day and always.

+ Antoine-Charbel Tarabay

## Reflection of the Week: "Deeper Calling"

What is your calling in life? Everyone has a deep passion for something, so what speaks to you in the depth of your being? In today's Gospel, Jesus emerges from his baptism filled with the Holy Spirit. Soon after he reads a passage from Scripture that he identifies himself deeply with.

Jesus reads that the Spirit is upon him and from then on, he knows he has come for a purpose – to bring good news to those most in need of it. The same pattern follows for each of us. In order to know our calling in life we must first recognise who we are in God's sight.

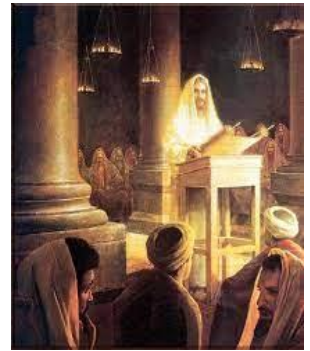
We are not mere humans subject to carnal desires and selfish interests. It is easy to go about life, living on the surface, a shallow commitment, and a wandering with no real purpose. Society also encourages a self-centred, egotistical, hedonistic life-style. However, deeper longing cannot be forever subdued.

Life has a purpose, despite post modern claim that it is just a mechanical process being churned out. If we actually believe God is in the works, then life has a deeper purpose for each one of us. We are made to be richly part of life and to contribute to its flourishing. Knowing we have God's Spirit in us, awakens us to our deeper selves and our call to be really present in this world as a force for good. Amen

Sr Margaret Ghosn mshf

### كلمة الحياة غذاءً للنفس

في هذا الأحد التاسع من زمن العنصرة، نتأمل ببرنامج الرسول من خلال برنامج عمل يسوع الخلاصي. فنسمع بولس الرسول يدعونا في رسالته الثانية إلى أهل كورنثس، لكي "نُظهِرَ أَنفُسَنَا فِي كُلِّ شَيْءٍ أَنَّنَا خُدَّامُ اللَّهِ، بِثَبَاتِنَا الْعَظِيمِ فِي الضِّيقاتِ والشَّدائدِ...". في نبؤة أشعيا: "رُوحُ الرَّبِّ عَلَيَّ، وَلِهَذَا مَسَحَنِي لِأُبَشِّرَ الْمَسَاكِينَ...". ما هو برنامج



حياتنا الرسولية؟ هل هو تحقيق النجاح الدنيوي أم تكميم مشيئة الرب؟ أطلق يسوع رسالته من خلال ليتورجيا السبت وهي تقليد مقدس، فهو إذًا مُتَمِّم الوعود كلها. كانت ليتورجيا السبت تقوم على قراءة الكتب المقدسة قراءة متتالية، في حين كان يُترك للقارئ اختيار نص من الكتب النبوية وشرحه. بناءً عليه، قام يسوع باختيار القراءة النبوية وشرحها. يصف لوقا هذا الإحتفال بالتفصيل ليصل بنا إلى سماع الرب يقول: "اليوم تمت هذه الآية بمسمع منكم". روح الرب عليّ لأنّه مسحني: يسوع هو المسيح المنتظر، الممسوح لخلص البشر، لكنّ مسحته ليست على مثال مسحة أنبياء العهد القديم وكهنته، بل هي مسحة الروح القدس، روح الله. يسوع هو رسول الله يحمل للفقراء البشري الجديدة، ولتحرير المسجونين من قبضة الشرير، سجناء كبريائهم وكذبهم وقلقهم والفساد... يحاول الشر اليوم استمالتنا للقبض علينا بأساليب عديدة مُغرية وسهلة، لكنها في النهاية ليست سوى سجن للموت تحت اسم التحرر. وحدها بشرى يسوع تهب الحرية لمن له أذنان سامعتان. لكن، للعيون المظلمة يسوع هو أيضًا النور. نحن في الظلمة، فلا نرى سوى الألم والحزن والخوف، لكن كلمة الرب نورٌ لكل خطوة في طريقنا. اليوم، نقدم إلى يسوع سلاسل قلوبنا، وكل ما يشلّ محبتنا في حياتنا اليومية، وكل ما يمنع ثقتنا بمستقبلنا الشخصي والجماعي. نحن اليوم، نبحث كالعُميان في صلاتنا وخدمتنا، لكن يسوع القائم من الموت يُنير عيون قلوبنا ويُعطينا روحه.

# Parish News and Upcoming Events

## ORIGIN DECIDER

\$10 ENTRY  
FOOD & DRINKS PROVIDED

17 | JULY  
7PM

PRIZES FOR THE TAKING!



ST GEORGE YOUTH

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 370 641

## ROSARY NIGHT

EVERY MONDAY



7.30PM IN THE CHURCH



## 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

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ON MISSION

### 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

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## 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.  
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For enquiries, call or text Subdeacon Charbel Mourani on 0410 343 233  
or email [faithformation@maronite.org.au](mailto:faithformation@maronite.org.au)

To register, go to [tinyurl.com/MaroniteCTC](https://tinyurl.com/MaroniteCTC)

## Memorial Masses

## نوايا القداسات

Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	6pm	40 <sup>th</sup> Mass for the Late George Moueit	قداس ٤٠ المرحوم جورج معيط	٦ : ٠٠	السبت ١٣ تموز ٢٠٢٤
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	9am	40 <sup>th</sup> Mass for the Late Boulos Youssef Wehbe	قداس ٤٠ المرحوم بولس يوسف وهبه	٩ : ٠٠	الاحد ١٤ تموز ٢٠٢٤
	11am	1 Year Mass for the Late Joe Moussa and his wife Josephine	قداس السنة المرحوم جو موسى وزوجته وجوزفين	١١ : ٠٠	
	6pm	Mass for the Late Khazzoum Nassif Sarkis	قداس المرحومة خزوم ناصر سيف سر كيس	٦ : ٠٠	
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2024	9am	Mass for Youssef Akl Khoudair	قداس لأجل يوسف عقل خضير	٩ : ٠٠	الاحد ٢١ تموز ٢٠٢٤

## Parish Financial Updates

**Parish Income (fortnight 08/07/2024 – 21/07/2024)**  
TBA

To receive our eNewsletter  
please email

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

**Parish Operations Account**  
\$78,020.39

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



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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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