



St George Maronite Catholic Church, Thornleigh

Our Parish

13th Sunday of Pentecost and
Feast of the Transfiguration

Sunday 11th August 2024

Year 2024, Issue #33

The Gospel

Mark 9: 1-7

And he said to them, 'Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see that the kingdom of God has come with power.' Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!'

Season of Pentecost



Next Sunday

14th Sunday of
Pentecost

Old Testament
Reading

Deut 6: 4-9

Epistle

1 Thess 2: 1-13

Gospel

Luke 10: 38-42

الإنجيل

مر ٩: ١-٧

قَالَ الرَّبُّ يَسُوعُ: «الْحَقُّ أَقُولُ لَكُمْ: إِنَّ بَعْضًا مِنَ الْقَائِمِينَ هُنَا لَنْ يَذُوقُوا الْمَوْتَ، حَتَّى يَرَوْا مَلَكَوَتَ اللَّهِ وَقَدْ أَتَى بِقُوَّةٍ.» وَبَعْدَ سِتَّةِ أَيَّامٍ أَخَذَ يَسُوعُ بُطْرُسَ وَيَعْقُوبَ وَيُوحَنَّا، وَصَعِدَ بِهِمْ وَحَدَّهُمْ إِلَى جَبَلٍ عَالٍ عَلَى أَنْفِرَادٍ، وَتَجَلَّى أَمَامَهُمْ. وَصَارَتْ ثِيَابُهُ بَيَضَاءً نَاصِعَةً، حَتَّى لَيْعْجُزُ أَيُّ قِصَّارٍ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ أَنْ يُبَيِّضَ مِثْلَهَا. وَتَرَاءَى لَهُمْ إِبِلِيَّا مَعَ مُوسَى، وَكَانَا يَتَكَلَّمَانِ مَعَ يَسُوعَ. فَقَالَ بُطْرُسُ لِيَسُوعَ: «رَبِّي، حَسَنٌ لَنَا أَنْ نَكُونَ هُنَا! فَلْتَنْصِبْ ثَلَاثَ مَظَالٍ، لَكَ وَاحِدَةً، وَلِمُوسَى وَاحِدَةً، وَلِإِبِلِيَّا وَاحِدَةً.» وَلَمْ يَكُنْ يَدْرِي مَا يَقُولُ، لِأَنَّ الْخَوْفَ أَعْتَرَاهُمْ. وَظَهَرَتْ غِمَامَةٌ تُظَلِّلُهُمْ، وَجَاءَ صَوْتُ مِنَ الْغِمَامَةِ يَقُولُ: «هَذَا هُوَ ابْنِي الْحَبِيبُ، فَلَهُ أَسْمَعُوا.»!

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

13th Sunday of Pentecost

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I returned to Australia earlier this week after my trip to Lebanon, where I had the great joy of participating in the Beatification Mass of Blessed Estephan El Douaihy. This beatification was a profound moment of grace and hope, a divine gift from the Lord to Lebanon during one of the most challenging periods in its modern history.

While in Lebanon, I witnessed firsthand the deep faith and incredible resilience of the Lebanese people. The images and stories we sometimes see on social media provide only a glimpse of the situation, not the full picture. Many families are facing immense challenges, struggling to put food on the table, educate their children, and secure life's basic necessities. I urge you to keep Lebanon and its people close to your hearts. Let us pray fervently for an end to the war, for the alleviation of their suffering, and for a brighter future for our homeland.

As we offer our prayers, let us also take a moment to thank the Lord for the blessings we enjoy here in Australia. May we never take our safety, security, and prosperity for granted, and may we always seek ways to support those in need, both near and far.

Feast of the Transfiguration

We celebrate this Sunday in our parishes the Feast of the Transfiguration (moved from 6 August). We reflect on the moment when Jesus Christ revealed His divine glory to His disciples on a high mountain. Peter, James, and John witnessed Jesus transfigured, His face shining like the sun and His clothes becoming white as light. Moses and Elijah appeared, and they heard the voice of God the Father declaring, "This is my beloved Son, listen to him" (Mt 17:5).

At the Transfiguration, Jesus gave the disciples a foretaste of the glory of the Resurrection—a glimpse of heaven on earth. We are called to go up the mountain with Jesus and, like the Apostles, experience His unique love and a moment of grace. When we come back down to our normal lives, we will have the strength and grace to witness His salvation and glory.



Feast of the Assumption

On 15 August, the Catholic Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary. According to Church teaching and Catholic tradition, when Our Lady completed her earthly life, she was assumed into heaven, body and soul. This is a day of obligation for all Catholics, a day to honour Mary's unique role in salvation

history. I will be celebrating a Solemn Mass at Our Lady of Lebanon, Harris Park on the 14th of August at 7pm for this occasion. I encourage you to check the Mass times at your local parishes and make plans for you and your family to attend Mass for the feast of the Assumption.

Our Lady of the Assumption, pray for us.

+ Antoine-Charbel Tarabay

Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord

God wants to share his glory with us! We get a glimpse of this when the disciples see Jesus transfigured in glory on the mountain. Mark's account tells us that Jesus' garments became glistening, intensely white. When Moses met with God on Mount Sinai the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God (see Exodus 34:29). Paul says that the Israelites could not look at Moses' face because of its brightness (2 Cor. 3:7). In this incident Jesus appeared in glory with Moses, the great lawgiver of Israel, and with Elijah, the greatest of the prophets, in the presence of three of his beloved apostles. What is the significance of this mysterious appearance? Jesus went to the mountain knowing what awaited him in Jerusalem - betrayal, rejection, crucifixion. Jesus very likely discussed this decision to go to the cross with Moses and Elijah.

Source: Daily Scripture



كلمة الحياة غذاءً للنفس

رَأَيْتِي، حَسَنٌ لَنَا أَنْ نَكُونَ هُنَا! فَلَنُنْصِبُ ثَلَاثَ مَطَالٍ، لَكَ وَاجِدَةً، وَلِمُوسَى وَاجِدَةً، وَإِلْيَاسَ وَاجِدَةً"

صرخة بطرس هذه هي صرخة كل واحد منا!

فكم مرّة نفقد الواقعيّة ونتمنى لو تدوم إلى الأبد بعض لحظات الفرح التي نخطفها من هنيهات الزمان الغادر الذي لا ينفك ينگل بحياتنا ويقتك بأيامنا وبعمرنا!

ولكن هذا الإنجيل يعيدنا إلى الواقعيّة!

فيعد التجلّي سيعود يسوع ليسيّر على طرقات فلسطين وصولاً إلى أورشليم فالجلجلة حيث سيتألّم ويموت! ولكن...من يريد قراءة النصّ عليه أن يتجاوز الإنبهار والرغبة في ديمومة لحظة المجد هذه نحو قراءة "إستباقيّة" للقيامة فيرى مجد القيامة عبر صورة يسوع المكمل بالشوك وعلى جسمه آثار الجلد وطعنة الرمح وفي عيونه دموع الأسى على البشرية التي لم تفهمه حتى اليوم!

من يريد قراءة النصّ عليه إذاً أن يعيش الرجاء رغم كلّ ألم أو ضيق أو موت لأن الرب قد أعطاه سلفاً عربوناً للقيامة وللحياة الأبدية في هذه اللحظات الخالدة التي شهداها بطرس ويعقوب ويوحنا!

يدعوننا نصّ اليوم إذاً إلى عدم الغرق في أحلام اليقظة وقصور الأحلام فالألم والصعاب جزء لا يتجزأ من هذه الحياة ولكن الفرق يكمن في مدى عمق رجاء المؤمن الحقيقيّ الذي يتمكّن، على الدوام، من الإيمان بالمجد القادم عبر برقع الصعوبات والمآسي والإضطهادات! فما قد وعدنا به الله "الصادق" و"الأمين" "لم تره عينٌ ولم تسمع به أذنٌ ولم يخطر على قلب بشر..."

التجلّي اليوم هو مشهد من مشاهد الحياة الأبدية أرادها الرب أن يحدث ليشجّعنا وليحفّزنا على المسير في طريق الحياة مركزين على الورود لا على الأشواك، على ضوء الشمس لا على الحرّ، على عطية المياه لا على العواصف، على صفاء البحر لا على هيجانه لأنّ كلّ ذلك ما هو إلا جزء من ألأم مخاضٍ سينتهي حتماً بالولادة في الحياة الباقية، آمين!


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FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY
 Thursday 15th August 2024
 Mass @ 6:00pm followed by
 Adoration Evening

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MARONITE DIVINE OFFICE



ST. GEORGE MARONITE PARISH THORNLEIGH
 TUESDAY 27TH AUGUST 7:30 PM
 FOLLOWED BY SOCIAL GATHERING!



2 YARRARA RD, THORNLEIGH NSW 2120

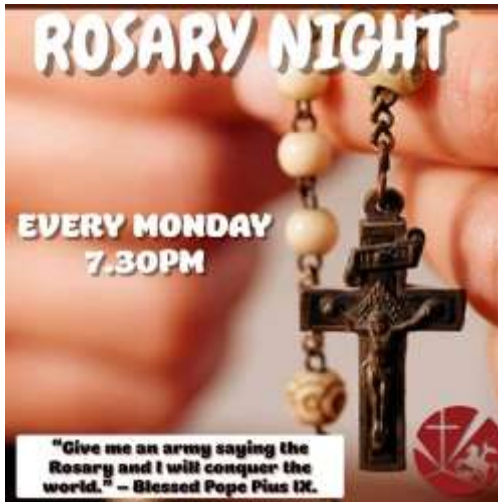


Senior Program
 Wednesdays 9:00am - 4:00pm

If anyone is interested in joining the Seniors Program or volunteering, please contact:
 Zaride 0417 427 661
 Josephine 0426 239 129



ROSARY NIGHT



EVERY MONDAY 7.30PM

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

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 during school term

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Memorial Masses

نوايا القداسات

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|---|---|-------|---------------------|
| Sunday 11 th August 2024 | 9am | Mass for the Late Khalil Khoudair and deceased families | قداس المرحوم خليل خضير وجميع موتاهم | ٩ :٠٠ | الاحد ١١ اب ٢٠٢٤ |
|--|-----|---|---|-------|---------------------|

Congratulations to the Newly Weds:
Jacob Laous and Marie-Bernadette Morad

Parish Financial Updates

To receive our eNewsletter
please email
info@stgeorgemcc.org.au

Parish Income (fortnight 05/08/2024 – 18/08/2024)
TBA

Parish Operations Account
\$70,347.32

Parish Loan Balance
\$382,886.33



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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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Chris Khoudair
Principal

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