



St George Maronite Catholic Church, Thornleigh

Our Parish

6th Sunday after the Glorious Cross

Sunday 20th October 2024

Year 2024, Issue #43

The Gospel

Matt 25: 14-30

'For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Season of the Holy Cross



Next Sunday

7th Sunday after the Glorious Cross

Old Testament Reading

Job 29: 1-3, 12-16

Epistle

Rom 12: 9-21

Gospel

Matt 25: 31-46

الإنجيل

متى ٢٥: ١٤-٣٠

قَالَ الرَّبُّ يَسُوعَ: «يُشْبِهُ مَلَكُوتُ السَّمَاوَاتِ رَجُلًا أَرَادَ السَّفَرَ، فَذَعَا عَمِيدَهُ، وَسَلَّمَ لَهُمْ أَمْوَالَهُ. فَأَعْطَى وَاحِدًا خَمْسَ وَزَنَاتٍ، وَآخَرَ وَزَنَتَيْنِ، وَآخَرَ وَزَنَةً وَاحِدَةً. كَلَّا عَلَى قَدْرِ طَاقَتِهِ، وَسَافَرَ. وَفِي الْحَالِ مَضَى الَّذِي أَخَذَ الْوَزَنَاتِ الْخَمْسَ، وَتَاجَرَ بِهَا فَرَبِحَ خَمْسَ وَزَنَاتٍ أُخْرَى. وَكَذَلِكَ الَّذِي أَخَذَ الْوَزَنَتَيْنِ رَبِحَ وَزَنَتَيْنِ أُخْرَيْنِ. أَمَّا الَّذِي أَخَذَ الْوَزَنَةَ الْوَاحِدَةَ فَمَضَى وَحَفَرَ فِي الْأَرْضِ، وَأَخْفَى فِصَّةَ سَيِّدِهِ. وَبَعْدَ زَمَانٍ طَوِيلٍ، عَادَ سَيِّدُ أَوْلَادِكَ الْعَمِيدِ، وَحَاسَبَهُمْ. وَدَنَا الَّذِي أَخَذَ الْوَزَنَاتِ الْخَمْسَ، فَقَدَّمَ خَمْسَ وَزَنَاتٍ أُخْرَى قَائِلًا: يَا سَيِّدَ، سَلَّمْتَنِي خَمْسَ وَزَنَاتٍ، وَهَذِهِ خَمْسُ وَزَنَاتٍ أُخْرَى قَدْ رَبِحْتُهَا! قَالَ لَهُ سَيِّدُهُ: يَا لَكَ عَبْدًا صَالِحًا وَأَمِينًا! كُنْتَ أَمِينًا عَلَى الْقَلِيلِ، سَأُقِيمُكَ عَلَى الْكَثِيرِ: ادْخُلْ إِلَى فَرْحِ سَيِّدِكَ! وَدَنَا الَّذِي أَخَذَ الْوَزَنَتَيْنِ فَقَالَ: يَا سَيِّدَ، سَلَّمْتَنِي وَزَنَتَيْنِ، وَهَاتَانِ وَزَنَتَانِ أُخْرَيَانِ قَدْ رَبِحْتُهُمَا. قَالَ لَهُ سَيِّدُهُ: يَا لَكَ عَبْدًا صَالِحًا وَأَمِينًا! كُنْتَ أَمِينًا عَلَى الْقَلِيلِ، سَأُقِيمُكَ عَلَى الْكَثِيرِ: ادْخُلْ إِلَى فَرْحِ سَيِّدِكَ! ثُمَّ دَنَا الَّذِي أَخَذَ الْوَزَنَةَ الْوَاحِدَةَ وَقَالَ: يَا سَيِّدَ، عَرَفْتُكَ رَجُلًا قَاسِيًا، تَحْصُدُ مِنْ حَيْثُ لَمْ تَزْرَعْ، وَتَجْمَعُ مِنْ حَيْثُ لَمْ تَبْدُرْ. فَخَفْتُ وَدَهَبْتُ وَأَخْفَيْتُ وَزَنَتَكَ فِي الْأَرْضِ، فَهَا هُوَ مَا لَكَ! فَاجَابَ سَيِّدُهُ وَقَالَ لَهُ: «يَا عَبْدًا شَرِيرًا كَسَلَانًا، عَرَفْتُ أَنِّي أَحْصُدُ مِنْ حَيْثُ لَمْ أَزْرَعْ، وَأَجْمَعُ مِنْ حَيْثُ لَمْ أَبْدُرْ، فَكَانَ عَلَيْكَ أَنْ تَضَعَ فِصَّتِي عَلَى طَاوِلَةِ الصَّارِفَةِ، حَتَّى إِذَا عُدْتُ، أَسْتَرْجِعُكَ مَا لِي مَعَ فَائِدَتِهِ. فَخَذُوا مِنْهُ الْوَزَنَةَ وَأَعْطَوْهَا لِمَنْ لَهُ الْوَزَنَاتُ الْعَشْرُ. فَكُلُّ مَنْ لَهُ يُعْطَى وَيَزَادُ، وَمَنْ لَيْسَ لَهُ يُؤْخَذُ مِنْهُ حَتَّى مَا هُوَ لَهُ. وَهَذَا الْعَبْدُ الَّذِي لَا تَفَعُّ مِنْهُ أَرْجُوهُ وَالْقُوَّةُ فِي الظُّلْمَةِ الْبَرَانِيَّةِ. هُنَاكَ يَكُونُ الْبُكَاءُ وَصَرَيفُ الْأَسْنَانِ.»

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

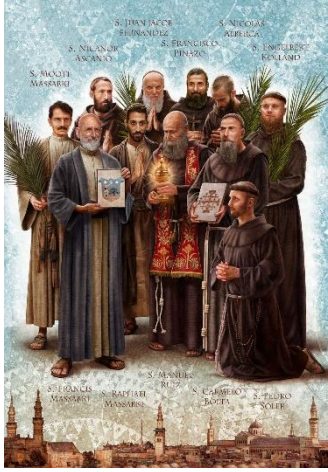
Parish Safeguarding Officers: Margaret Simpson 0408 895 798, George Takchi 0419 651 229

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 Sixth Sunday of the Cross



Dear Brothers and Sisters,
I write to you from Rome, where I have recently arrived to participate in the canonisation of the Massabki Brothers. The Catholic Church is a Church of martyrs, built on the witness of countless saints, including its two foundational pillars: Saints Peter and Paul, who gave their lives in testimony to the Lord through their martyrdom.

This Sunday, we joyfully celebrate the canonisation of 11 new martyrs, known as the Martyrs of Damascus, who gave their lives for their faith in 1860. Among them are three Maronite laymen: Francis, Raphael, and Abdul-Moaty, known as the Massabki Brothers, along with eight Franciscan friars: seven from Spain and one from Austria. They will be declared Saints by Pope Francis this Sunday. Significantly, their canonisation takes place during the Synod on Synodality, giving this event even deeper meaning.

These new saints carry a message for our world today, a world marked by conflict and division. In times of war and violence, they stand as authentic messengers of peace, embodying God's desire for harmony and peace among all people.

Pope Benedict XVI described this peace as "the state of those who live in harmony with God, with themselves, with others, and with nature. Before appearing outwardly, peace is interior" (Ecclesia in Medio Oriente, 9). This is the peace the new saints lived and died for - a peace rooted deeply in their faith and their relationship with God.

Saints serve as role models for us, teaching us not only how to listen to the Word of God but how to live it out in our daily lives. Just as in the parable of the sower, where the seed of God's Word must fall on fertile soil to take root and grow, we too must cultivate hearts that are open and receptive. The saints show us that this requires perseverance and a trust in God's plan, especially when tested by hardships or doubt. By following their example, we learn to nurture the seed of faith so that it bears fruit not only in our personal lives but also in our communities. We are called to be more than just passive recipients of the Gospel; we are called to be active collaborators in building God's Kingdom here on earth.

In these troubling times, especially in our homeland and other countries in the Middle East ravaged by war and violence, the canonisation of these saints offers a powerful reminder. We, as people of faith, should not be preoccupied with geopolitical analysis alone. Rather, we are called to be a community that listens to God's Word and puts it into practice in our daily lives (Luke 8:21), particularly during times of trial.

Let us enrol ourselves in the school of the saints, allowing their witness to nourish us through God's Word, so that we too may become instruments of His mercy and love.

+ **Antoine-Charbel Tarabay**

Reflection of the Week: "Time To Do Something"

The Parable of the Talents is our Sunday Gospel passage, and it scrutinises our actions over time. We know the story – a man entrusts three of his slaves with money. Then he goes off for 'a long time' (v19). So, what happens in that time?

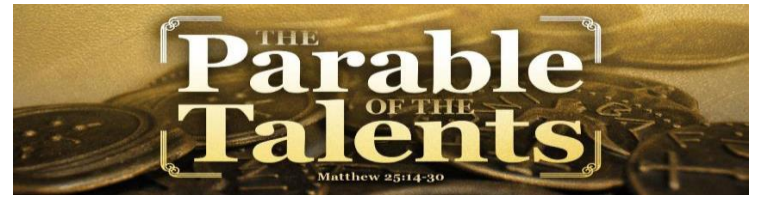
We can interpret the passage in a number of ways, but a few words lead us to the crux. First, the man 'entrusted' property to those slaves. It is not a test of failure he is putting them through. He has deliberately selected particular slaves he considered worth trusting, given he would be absent.

Then he returns 'after a long time' (v19). These three chosen slaves are given ample opportunity to do something with this new responsibility. They are given not only time but also the freedom to be innovative and successful. There is room for trial and error, and time to improve on their ventures.

When the man returns, he is proud of the achievements, saying, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave' (vs 21, 23). He had no major expectations, such as anticipating triple fold or more on the original amount. Doubling the amount or just collecting interest was enough for him. What irked the man was that the last slave accused him of being, 'a harsh man' (v24) and refused to do anything with the opportunity given to him. Wicked and lazy (v26) are the titles the last slave 'earned'.

What have we earned in our lives? What have we created with our time? What can we be relied upon to achieve? These are the questions that we alone can respond to. Amen

Sr Margaret Ghosn mshf



Assistance for New Arrivals from Lebanon and the Middle East

With many people returning to Australia due to the escalation of conflict in Lebanon and the Middle East, we would like to inform you that the Maronite Church in Australia stands by its community members to help them settle here, through our charitable associations, especially Maronites on Mission Australia, and the parish pastoral committees.

We can also assist you in learning about the services provided by the Australian Government, including health and social services, as well as other essential services.

If you need assistance or know someone who does, please contact your parish priest or Maronites on Mission on 0431 111 166 or the Diocesan offices at 02 8831 0000.

مساعدة للوافدين الجدد من لبنان والشرق الأوسط

مع عودة العديد من الأشخاص إلى أستراليا بسبب ارتفاع وتيرة النزاع في لبنان والشرق الأوسط، نود أن نعلمكم أن الكنيسة المارونية في أستراليا تقف إلى جانب أبنائها وبناتها الوافدين لتساعدهم على الاستقرار هنا، من خلال مؤسسة Maronites on Mission Australia ولجاننا الرعوية المختصة بالعمل الاجتماعي.

يمكننا أيضاً مساعدتكم لمعرفة الخدمات التي تقدمها الدولة الأسترالية بما في ذلك الخدمات الصحية والاجتماعية وغيرها من الخدمات الأساسية.

إذا كنتم بحاجة للمساعدة أو تعرفون أحداً يحتاج إلى المساعدة، يرجى التواصل مع كاهن الرعية، أو Maronites on Mission على الرقم

0431 111 166 أو مكاتب الأبرشية على 028831 0000.

Parish News and Upcoming Events



ST GEORGE PARISH IS
LOOKING FOR

FERSAN AND TEEN LEADERS



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT
MSGR MARCELINO YOUSSEF

ST GEORGE MARONITE CATHOLIC CHURCH, THORNLEIGH

CAROLS BY CANDELIGHT

SATURDAY 7TH DECEMBER 2024

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

We are seeking potential sponsors to assist in hosting our Carols by Candlelight. With the support of our sponsors, we hope to cover the expenses in order for the event to operate.

PLATINUM
\$4,000

- Banner display at the event
- Advertising table for your business
- Certificate of Appreciation presentation
- Advertising in the event booklet
- Advertising in the Parish Newsletter and Social Media
- Business recognition on the evening

GOLD
\$2,500

- Advertising in the event booklet
- Certificate of Appreciation presentation
- Advertising in the Parish Newsletter and Social Media
- Business recognition on the evening

SILVER
\$1,000

- Advertising in the event booklet
- Certificate of Appreciation presentation
- Thank you Message in the Parish Newsletter and Social Media
- Business recognition on the evening

EVENT PARTNER
\$500

- Advertising in the event booklet
- Certificate of Appreciation presentation

To sponsor or for more information, please contact the Parish Office 9481 7388



PARISH WORKING BEE



We require as many volunteers as possible to help clean our church and improve it's maintenance.

Saturday 26th October 2024
Starting @ 7:00am

For more information, please contact the Parish Office



ST GEORGE MARONITE CATHOLIC CHURCH, THORNLEIGH

Carols by Candlelight

FREE OUTDOOR EVENT

Saturday 7th December 2024

Mass @ 5:30pm
Carols @ 7:15pm



FINAL WYD25 INFO NIGHT

@ OLOL HARRIS PK



PARIS, LOURDES & WYD Week ROME + Cascia, Assisi
POST-WYD25 | OUR LADY OF MEDJUGORJE, CROATIA

8.30PM after 7pm Mass SUNDAY, 27TH OCTOBER 2024

OLOL SENIORS' ROOM

REGISTRATIONS CLOSE | 30TH NOVEMBER 2024
FINAL PAYMENT | 24TH MARCH 2025
DEPART SYDNEY | 22ND JULY 2025

2025 CALENDAR SPONSORSHIP

To sponsor our 2025 Calendar, please contact the Parish Office 9481 7388

BOOKINGS CLOSE
FRIDAY 1ST
NOVEMBER 2024





Maronite Ladies of the Gospel
present

A Fashion Show
Featuring Designers of
Lebanese Origin

When: Tuesday 29 October 2024
Time: 11.30am
Where: Our Lady of Lebanon Co-Cathedral
Church Hall
Cost: \$120.00 per person
(Includes Lunch & Refreshments)

Join Us for an Incredible day of Fun, Fashion,
Raffles & Entertainment

RSVP:
Noelle 0433 373 720 Leila 0419 339 999
Shirley 0409 330 028 Mona 0414 976 435



ROSARY NIGHT

EVERY MONDAY
7.30PM

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

Congratulations to the Newly Baptised: Gianna and Charbel Taouk

Memorial Masses

نوايا القداسات

Saturday 19 th Oct 2024	6pm	Mass for the Late Tony Hanna Fachkha (passed in Lebanon)	قداس المرحوم طوني حنا فشخا (متوفي في لبنان)	٦:٠٠	السبت ١٩ ت ٢٠٢٤
Sunday 20 th Oct 2024	11am	1 Year Mass for the Late Naim Khamis	قداس السنة المرحوم نعيم خميس	١١:٠٠	الاحد ٢٠ ت ٢٠٢٤

Parish Financial Updates

Parish Income (fortnight 14/10/2024 – 27/10/2024)
TBA

Parish Operations Account
\$75,897.49

Parish Loan Balance
\$376,144.95

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



Subscribe to our Channel
[St George Maronite
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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Laing + Simmons

Chris Khoudair
Principal
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