



[facebook.com/SaintAnthonyLawrence](https://facebook.com/SaintAnthonyLawrence)

#### OUR CHURCH AT PRAYER

Hours of Liturgical services changed due to COVID-19

#### Weekday Liturgies

Mon - Thu: 9:00 AM

#### Saturday Liturgies:

4:00 PM Vigil (English)

#### Sunday Liturgies:

9:00 AM (English)

11:00 AM (English & Arabic)

#### Holy days of obligation:

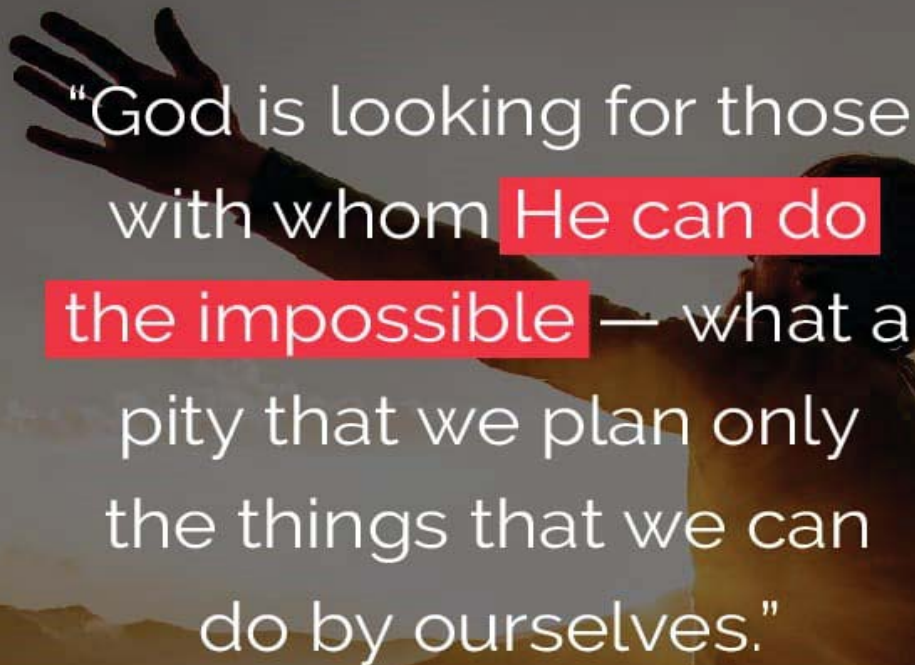
Vigil Liturgy @ 7:00 PM

#### OFFICE HOURS

M-TH: 9:00 AM-4:00 PM

Friday: 9:00 AM-2:00 PM

Saturdays: By Appointment



"God is looking for those  
with whom He can do  
the impossible — what a  
pity that we plan only  
the things that we can  
do by ourselves."

- AW Tozer

#### PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

*You are welcomed and loved by St Anthony Community. We are transformed through prayer, acts of love, forgiveness, service and stewardship.*

**PARISH SECRETARY: 978.685.7233 ...** [rectory@stanthonylawrence.org](mailto:rectory@stanthonylawrence.org)

#### MEET OUR PRIESTS:

Fr. Elie Mikhael ....**305-807-9087**.... [pastor@stanthonylawrence.org](mailto:pastor@stanthonylawrence.org)

Fr. Manuel Rahmeh ...**978-873-5363**...[pv@stanthonylawrence.org](mailto:pv@stanthonylawrence.org)

#### MEET OUR DEACONS

Deacon Nadim B. Daou /Deacon Michael Charchaflian

Sub-Deacon James T. Demers / Sub-Deacon Antoine Nammour

#### SACRAMENTS

**Baptism & Confirmation:** 1 month in advance with the Pastor

**Donations:** Church & Priest: \$200

**Matrimony:** Couples should make arrangements six months prior to the wedding date

**Donations:** Church \$500—Priest : Free Will

**Reconciliation:** One hour Before Thursday & Saturday Liturgies, or by appointment

**Anointing of the Sick:** Please notify the Rectory if a member of your family is ill, hospitalized, or unable to come to Church and would like to receive communion at home

Please refer to our website for more Sacrament Celebrations Guidelines.

## SUNDAYS &amp; WEEKLY LITURGIES

## Healing of the Paralytic - أحد شفاء المخلّع

### Fifth Sunday of Great Lent - الأحد الخامس من الصوم الكبير

<b>Sat</b> 4:00 PM	<b>Mar. 13</b> <i>English</i>	<b>For: 1st Year Anniversary - Assad Saysouk</b> <i>By his daughter Rima wife of Mr. Beshara Wazen and family</i>
<b>Sun</b> 9:00 AM	<b>Mar. 14</b> <i>English</i>	<b>For: + Thomas &amp; Dorothy Hajj</b> <i>By their Children</i>
11:00 AM	<i>Ara/Eng.</i>	<b>For: 40 Day Anniversary - Helena Lalo</b> <i>By her Son Elie Lalo and Family</i>
<b>Mon</b> 9:00 AM	<b>Mar. 15</b>	<b>For: + All Souls in Purgatory</b> <i>By Lili Bijjani</i>
<b>Tue</b> 9:00 AM	<b>Mar. 16</b>	<b>For: The good health of Kozhaya, Lola, Jennifer, George, Matthew, Anthony, Charbel and David Abou Khalil</b> <i>By Mr. &amp; Mrs. Kozhaya Abou Khalil</i>
<b>Wed</b> 9:00 AM	<b>Mar. 17</b>	<b>For: + Marvin Hobeika (2 Years Anniversary)</b> <i>By his Grandmother and Family</i>
<b>Thu</b> 7:00 PM	<b>Mar. 18</b>	<b>FEAST OF ST JOSEPH - VIGIL LITURGY</b> <b>For: Parish Families</b> <i>By Fr Elie and Fr. Manuel</i>
<b>Fri</b> 9:00 AM	<b>Mar. 19</b>	<b>FEAST OF ST JOSEPH - FEAST DAY LITURGY</b> <b>For: Parish Families</b> <i>By Fr Elie and Fr. Manuel</i>
<b>Fri</b> 7:00 PM	<b>Mar. 19</b>	<b>Stations of the Cross</b>




## Sunday—Healing Man who was Blind - أحد شفاء الأعمى

### Sixth Sunday of Great Lent - الأحد السادس من الصوم الكبير

		<b>For: + Yvonne Yameen</b> <i>By Fred Yameen and Family</i>
<b>Sat</b> 4:00 PM	<b>Mar. 20</b> <i>English</i>	<b>For: 1st Year Anniversary - Rosanna Dargoonian</b> <i>By her daughters Lina Kalil and Janice Gray and their spouses, her grandchildren and her great-grandchildren</i>
<b>Sun</b> 9:00 AM	<b>Mar. 21</b> <i>English</i>	<b>For: + Patricia Devine</b> <i>By Rita Bejjani</i>
11:00 AM	<i>Ara/Eng</i> <i>Church</i>	<b>For: + Massoud El-Achkar</b> <i>By his Friends and Sagesse School Alumni</i> <b>For: + Georges Feghali</b> <i>By his wife Antoinette and his Family</i>

**TITHES & OFFERINGS  
WEEKLY / MONTHLY / ANNUAL  
GIVING COMMITMENT**

VENMO REGISTER ONLINE

[stanthonylawrence.org/donate-now/](http://stanthonylawrence.org/donate-now/)

**EASTER BAKE SALE**

Pay with ..... Venmo, Cash , Check & CC

Maamoul ..... 6pieces: \$9  
.....walnuts .....pistachios.....dates

Kaak ..... 6pieces: \$5

Sablet ..... 6pieces: \$5  
*(w/apricot jam)*

Macaroon.....6pieces: \$5  
*(with walnuts)*

Ghraybeh ..... 6pieces: \$5

Nammoura.....6pieces: \$7

Knafe Box ..... \$40

Pick Up.....weekend of Palm Sunday

Order Now ..... Bassima 603.571.3003  
Rectory 978.685.7233

**PALM SUNDAY - HOLY WEEK—  
EASTER**

**PALM SUNDAY**  
**SATURDAY MARCH 27 @ 4PM**  
**SUNDAY MARCH 28**  
8 AM -ARABIC  
9AM -ENGLISH  
11AM-CHURCH & HALL  
*(Arabic & English)*

**HOLY WEEK**

**MONDAY MARCH 29 @ 7PM**  
*Coming to Harbor*

**WEDNESDAY MARCH 31 @ 7PM**  
*Rite of Lamp*  
*Blessing & Anointing with Oil*

**THURSDAY APRIL 1 @ 7PM**  
*Washing of Feet*  
*followed by Adoration (10pm)*

**GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 2**  
*Adoration of the Cross*  
5PM *(English)* 7PM *(Arabic & English)*

**EASTER VIGIL APRIL 3**  
4PM -ENGLISH  
MIDNIGHT LITURGY -*(Arabic & English)*

**EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 4**  
9AM -ENGLISH  
11AM-CHURCH & HALL  
*(Arabic & English)*

**To defray the following expenses:**

**Building Insurance: \$18,68.00**  
**Diocesan Appeal: \$23,000.00**  
**Bishop Appeal: \$ 7,500.00**  
**Existing Salaries**

The drawing will be held Easter weekend and the prizes will be

**Prize 1: \$5000**  
**Prize 2: \$2500**  
**Prize 3: \$1000**

**Tickets Collected:**  
**300 Tickets**  
**Out of 945 tickets mailed**



**ST ANTHONY RAFFLE  
COVID 19 RELIEF**

**CASH PRIZES**  
Prize 1: \$5000  
Prize 2: \$2500  
Prize 3: \$1000  
CASH, CHECKS, CC & VENMO ACCEPTED!

**RAFFLE DRAWING  
SUNDAY APRIL 4, 2021 @ NOON**

## DCG FOUNDATION - APPLY NOW

Awarded in memory of Dorothy C. Gabriel.  
Awarded to members of St Anthony Maronite Church who will be attending Central Catholic High School.

### Application Form:

<https://www.dcgfoundation.com/>



Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life.

Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen.

السلام عليك يا حامي المخلص، وخطيب العذراء  
مريم. لقد انتمك الله على ابنه؛ وبك وضعت  
مريم ثقتها؛ ومعك صار يسوع رجلاً. أيها  
الطوباوي يوسف، كن أباً لنا نحن أيضاً، وأرشدنا  
في درب الحياة. التمس لنا النعمة والرحمة  
والشجاعة، واحمنا من كل شر. آمين.

*Prayer by Pope Francis. "Year of Saint Joseph" from 8 December 2020 to 8 December 2021.)*

## BIBLE STUDY

Arabic and English Sessions are taking place every Wednesday. For more info send an email to: [rectory@stanthonylawrence.org](mailto:rectory@stanthonylawrence.org)

## MYO

Meeting: March 14, 2021 @ 6:00 PM

**Adoration & Confessions**

Pot luck to follow : **Parish Hall**

## MYA

Snowmobiling Activities: **March 14, 2021**

Liturgy @ 9AM followed by breakfast

Departure at 10:30AM

## Religious Education

Hello Religious Ed Families.

We are down to the final three classes of the year!! Does not seem possible. We have a very special activity planned for the students next class. They will be participating in a virtual workshop in honor of St Joseph. Our next class, on **March 20, will begin at 4:30 p.m.** Please drop your child off by 4:15. Pick up time will be at **6:00.**

**Remaining classes for 2020- 2021 :**

Saturday March 20

Saturday April 3

Saturday April 17 Last class for the 2020-2021 year!!!

## First Communion

If your child is making First Communion in May, please note the following important dates and times. **We will be having only one liturgy this year.**

Your child should be able to recite The Our Father, The Hail Mary, and the Act of Contrition. These have been provided and are reviewed in class, but your practice with your child is necessary.

**Saturday, May 1, 2021 @ 1:300 PM**

**First Communion liturgy**

See your guidelines for further information on communion dress and expectations.

## TREE OF LIFE

REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONES BY  
PUTTING THEIR NAMES ON TREE OF  
LIFE BRASS ALUMINUM PLAQUES

SIZES:

1.5" X 3" = \$75 / 3" X 6" = \$150 / 4" X 8" = \$250

Please submit your request either by

Phone: 978.685.7233

or by E-mail:

[rectory@stanthonylawrence.org](mailto:rectory@stanthonylawrence.org)

### AVAILABLE ONLINE

[www.stanthonylawrence.org](http://www.stanthonylawrence.org)

Membership Registration

*Under Welcome*

Baptism & Confirmation:

**Guidelines & Registration**

*Under Sacraments –Baptism*

Sacrament of Marriage:

**Guidelines, Foccus & Pre-Cana**

*Under Sacraments-Marriage*

Banquet Hall Guidelines:

**Contract Form & Donations**

*Under Events*

PARISH RESOURCES

Religious Education:

[cd@stanthonylawrence.org](mailto:cd@stanthonylawrence.org)

Knights of Mary:

[kom@stanthonylawrence.org](mailto:kom@stanthonylawrence.org)

Maronite Youth -MYO:

[myo@stanthonylawrence.org](mailto:myo@stanthonylawrence.org)

Publishing: Bulletin:

[bulletin@stanthonylawrence.org](mailto:bulletin@stanthonylawrence.org)

Choirs (*English, Arabic & Syriac*)

Daughter's of St. Anthony—Family of St.

Sharbel - Kids Choir -Knights of the Altar

Maronite Young Adults -M-WINE

Bereavement Ministry -Cenacle of the Rosary

- Cenacle of Divine Mercy -Sacristan (s) -

Sunshine Committee—Women's Ministry

## CEMETERY LOT SALES AND AVAILABILITY

Saint Anthony Cemetery offers affordable payment plans to fit any family's budget. For more information:

**By Phone** (*During Office Hours*) 978-685-7233

or email [rectory@stanthonylawrence.org](mailto:rectory@stanthonylawrence.org) Or

by visiting: [www.stanthonylawrence.org/lots-sales/](http://www.stanthonylawrence.org/lots-sales/)

### Burial Pre-Arrangements

Making arrangements for a burial in advance should be no more difficult than providing insurance or having a will. It is a sensible thing to do. By pre-arranging your burial, you can avoid the unnecessary confusion plus the financial and emotional stress that death often brings. Funeral pre-arrangements are available and recommended with guarantees of no increase in cemetery charges at the time of interment.

Pre-Arrangement Funds are placed in a separate account and are withdrawn at the time of the interment. An interest free Time-Payment Plan is available for your convenience.

## ONLINE BURIAL SEARCH

UPDATE YOUR LOVED ONES RECORD !!

The following steps will help you access the tool:

1. Go to [www.stanthonylawrence.org](http://www.stanthonylawrence.org)
2. Scroll to the bottom and click on BURIAL ONLINE SEARCH.
3. Type in the last/first name or in some cases just last name and click search.
4. Click on the name.
5. In the middle of the page, look for "Do you know more about this person or their ancestors"? **Click here.**
6. You can then complete any or all the fields and click submit.
7. If desired, you may send obituary notice, special documents, letters, receipts etc. to [rectory@stanthonylawrence.org](mailto:rectory@stanthonylawrence.org) and we will attach that to your loved one's record.

## Guidelines For Public Liturgies During Pandemic –Capacity %25

### ***Should I come to Liturgy?***

Anyone who is ill, symptomatic, or has been exposed to someone else with the coronavirus within 14 days cannot enter the church. This is in accord with national, state, and local health directives. We also ask everyone to check their temperature at home before deciding if you are coming to Liturgy. You can find the current symptoms of the coronavirus at the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's website [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

Those who are at risk because of an underlying health issue or who are over 60 are strongly encouraged, for their own health, to avoid the risk of attending public celebrations of the Liturgy.

### ***What should I do if I cannot come to Liturgy?***

We will continue to livestream our Liturgies on our [Facebook page](#). Monday through Thursday Liturgy will be at 9:00 am. Saturday Liturgy will be at 4:00 pm and Sunday liturgies will be at 9:00 am & 11:00am .

Parishioners who would like to have Holy Communion brought to their homes should contact the office @ 978.685.7233 during normal business hours. The frequency of our visits for Holy Communion will depend upon the number of requests.

### ***How will we be kept safe when we come to Liturgy?***

All pews are wiped down with disinfectant; and all Qurbono Books are removed; and all surfaces used frequently (restroom facilities, door handles, etc.) are sanitized before each service.

Everyone attending Liturgy is obligated to wear a mask or other facial covering. The only exception during Liturgy is when receiving Holy Communion.

You'll be asked to observe social distancing – staying at least six feet from people not in your household. Only certain pews are available for seating. When you arrive, please use your good judgment about where to sit. Be respectful and accommodating towards others as they arrive and look for seating.

You'll find the holy water fonts are empty and that there is hand sanitizer available. You'll notice there will be no offertory procession, no sign of peace, and no passing of the collection basket.

You can drop your donation in a stationary basket, or continue to use the online provided by your parish.

### ***Can we receive Holy Communion?***

Yes, but only the Most Precious Body and only by hand. Floor markings shall be placed six feet apart in the aisles in which the congregation approaches the sanctuary for Holy Communion to facilitate proper social distancing.

When approaching the Communion minister, the communicant is to present one hand resting on the palm of the other. Moving in front of one of the side alter the communicant pulls their mask or other facial covering below their chin and reverently places the Eucharist in his or her mouth and immediately replaces their mask or other facial covering and returns to their place.

### ***What do we need to keep in mind as we leave Liturgy?***

Please leave Liturgy together as a household, wearing your masks or other facial covering and observing six feet of distance from others. You will not be permitted to congregate in the foyer, and no receptions or social gathering following Liturgy can be held.

**Decorate our Altar with an Easter Flowers  
Donation: \$15 - Deadline March 31**

In Memory of:

In Memory of:

In Memory of:

In Memory of:

In Honor of:

In Honor of:

In Honor of:

In Honor of:



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

**Mar 14:** Marc Abou-Ezzi, Zeidan Ata, Jessica Avedisian, Assaad Eid, Kamal Haddad, Christian Mazraani

**Mar 15:** Anthony Azzi, Kristen Kassas, Adriana Ramy

**Mar 16:** Andrew Nadira, Tayla Rahme

**Mar 17:** Patrick Becotte, Roy Rossi

**Mar 18:** Mateo Mazraani, Josephine McDougall, Josette Nammour, Kayla Ramey

**Mar 19:** John Saad

**Mar 20:** Zoe Danus, Marybeth Hashem, Michael Najem

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

**Mar 16:** Jim & Ali Hajj

**IN REMEBRANCE OF OUR LOVED ONES**

**Mar 14:** Alfred George Maroun

**Mar 15:** Louise T. Kattar

**Mar 17:** Lulu R. St. Hilaire

**Mar 20:** Samuel Bistany

**MENTAL HEALTH &  
SEVERE AUTISTIC  
HOMES  
DEIR el SALEEB  
HOLY CROSS MENTAL  
HEALTH INSTITUTION  
FOOD & MEDICINE  
DRIVE: ITEMS NEEDED**

**RAISINS  
TABLE SALT  
SUGAR  
LENTILS  
RED BEANS  
BURGHOL  
JELLY  
HOMMUS  
CANILLA RICE  
PASTA  
SPAGETTI SAUCE  
MACARONI & CHEESE**

**TOOTH BRUSHES  
TOOTH PASTE  
SHAMPOOS  
DISH DETERGENT  
ADULT DIAPERS  
BAR SOAP  
BODY WASH  
SPORT SOCKS  
TOWELS**

**INSTNAT POTATOES  
RICE  
CANNED VEGETABLES  
CANNED MEAT: CHICK-  
EN, BEEF, TUNA,  
SARDINES  
TEA  
FLOUR  
HONEY  
DRY MILK**

**Epistle: First Letter to Timothy 5: 24-25, 6: 1-5**

**Brothers and sisters,** The sins of some people are conspicuous and precede them to judgement, while the sins of others follow them there. So also good works are conspicuous; and even when they are not, they cannot remain hidden. Let all who are under the yoke of slavery regard their masters as worthy of all honour, so that the name of God and the teaching may not be blasphemed. Those who have believing masters must not be disrespectful to them on the ground that they are members of the church; rather they must serve them all the more, since those who benefit by their service are believers and beloved. Teach and urge these duties. Whoever teaches otherwise and does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that is in accordance with godliness, is conceited, understanding nothing, and has a morbid craving for controversy and for disputes about words. From these come envy, dissension, slander, base suspicions, and wrangling among those who are depraved in mind and bereft of the truth, imagining that godliness is a means of gain.

**Gospel: Saint Mark 2: 1-12**

When Jesus returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door; and he was speaking the word to them. Then some people came, bringing to him a paralysed man, carried by four of them. And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, 'Son, your sins are forgiven.' Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, 'Why does this fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?' At once Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were discussing these questions among themselves; and he said to them, 'Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, "Your sins are forgiven", or to say, "Stand up and take your mat and walk"? But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins' he said to the paralytic 'I say to you, stand up, take your mat and go to your home.' And he stood up, and immediately took the mat and went out before all of them; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, 'We have never seen anything like this!'

**ALTAR CANDLES WILL BURN IN LOVING MEMORY OF ROSANNA DARGOONIAN**

**Easter Men's Retreat: "The 10 Wonders of St. Joseph"**

*Year of St. Joseph-Patron Saint of the Universal Church and The Catholic Family*

**Saturday March 20, 2021—From 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM**

To Register, please call : The rectory at (978) 685-7233 or Deacon Michael at (508) 982-5130



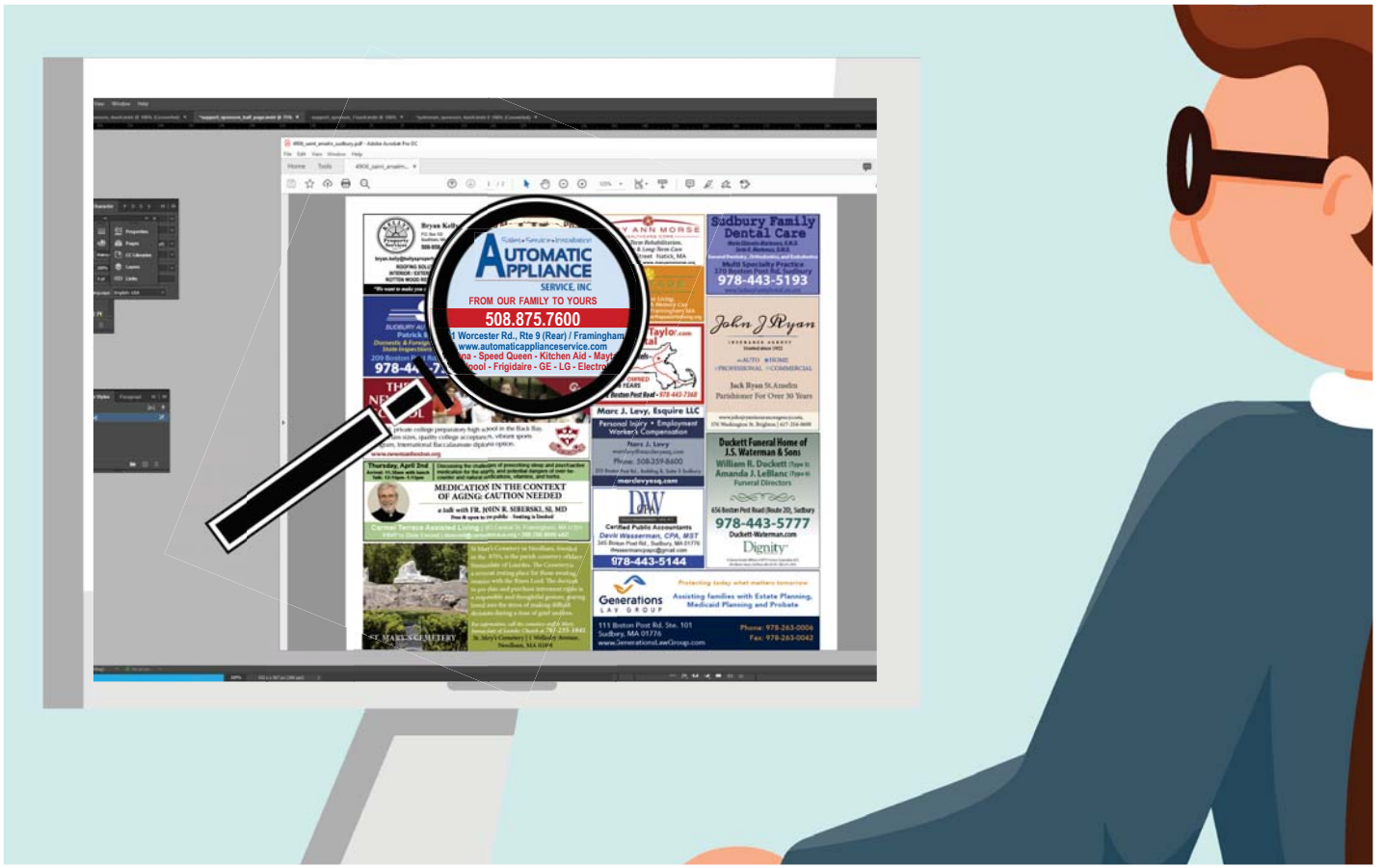
رسالة القديس بولس الأولى إلى طيموتاوس 5: 24-25، 6: 1-5 يا إخواني، مِنَ النَّاسِ مَنْ تَكُونُ خَطَايَاهُمْ وَاضِحَةً قَبْلَ الْحُكْمِ

فِيهَا، وَمِنْهُمْ مَنْ لَا تَكُونُ وَاضِحَةً إِلَّا بَعْدَهُ. كَذَلِكَ فَإِنَّ الْأَعْمَالَ الصَّالِحَةَ هِيَ أَيْضًا وَاضِحَةٌ، وَالَّتِي هِيَ غَيْرُ وَاضِحَةٍ فَلَا يُمَكِّنُ أَنْ تَبْقَى خَفِيَّةً. عَلَى جَمِيعِ الَّذِينَ تَحْتَ نِيرِ الْعُبُودِيَّةِ أَنْ يَحْسُبُوا أَسْيَادَهُمْ أَهْلًا لِكُلِّ كَرَامَةٍ، لِئَلَّا يُجَدِّفَ عَلَى اسْمِ اللَّهِ وَتَعْلِيمِهِ. أَمَّا الَّذِينَ لَهُمْ أَسْيَادٌ مُؤْمِنُونَ فَلَا يَسْتَهَيُّنُوا بِهِمْ، لِأَنَّهُمْ إِخْوَةٌ، بَلْ بِالْأُخْرَى فَلْيَخْدُمُوهُمْ، لِأَنَّ الْمُسْتَفِيدِينَ مِنْ خَدْمَتِهِمِ الطَّيِّبَةَ هُمْ مُؤْمِنُونَ وَأَحِبَّاءُ، ذَلِكَ مَا يَجِبُ أَنْ تُعَلِّمَهُ وَتَعْظَمَ بِهِ. فَإِنْ كَانَ أَحَدٌ يُعَلِّمُ تَعْلِيمًا مُخَالَفًا، وَلَا يَتَمَسَّكُ بِالْكَلَامِ الصَّحِيحِ، كَلَامِ رَبِّنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ، بِالتَّعْلِيمِ الْمُوَافِقِ لِلتَّقْوَى، فَهُوَ إِنْسَانٌ أَعْمَتُهُ الْكِبْرِيَاءُ، لَا يَفْهَمُ شَيْئًا، بَلْ مُصَابٌ بِمَرَضِ الْمُجَادَلَاتِ وَالْمُمَاحَكَاتِ، الَّتِي يَنْشَأُ عَنْهَا الْحَسَدُ وَالْخِصَامُ وَالتَّجْدِيفُ وَسُوءُ الظَّنِّ، وَالمُشَاجَرَاتُ بَيْنَ أَنْاسٍ فَاسِدِي الْعَقْلِ، زَانِفِينَ عَنِ الْحَقِّ، يَظُنُّونَ أَنَّ التَّقْوَى وَسِيلَةٌ لِلرَّبْحِ.

إنجيل القديس مرقس 2: 1-12 عادَ يَسُوعُ إِلَى كَفَرْنَاحُومَ. وَسَمِعَ النَّاسُ أَنَّهُ فِي الْبَيْتِ.

فَتَجَمَّعَ عَدَدٌ كَبِيرٌ مِنْهُمْ حَتَّى غَصَّ بِهِمِ الْمَكَانَ، وَلَمْ يَبْقَ مَوْضِعٌ لِأَحَدٍ وَلَا عِنْدَ الْبَابِ. وَكَانَ يُخَاطِبُهُمْ بِكَلِمَةِ اللَّهِ. فَأَتَوْهُ بِمُخْلَعٍ يَحْمِلُهُ أَرْبَعَةُ رِجَالٍ. وَبِسَبَبِ الْجَمْعِ لَمْ يَسْتَطِيعُوا الْوُصُولَ بِهِ إِلَى يَسُوعَ، فَكَشَفُوا السَّقْفَ فَوْقَ يَسُوعَ، وَنَبَشُوهُ، وَدَلَّوْا الْفِرَاشَ الَّذِي كَانَ الْمُخْلَعُ مَطْرُوحًا عَلَيْهِ. وَرَأَى يَسُوعُ إِيمَانَهُمْ، فَقَالَ لِلْمُخْلَعِ: "يَا ابْنِي، مَغْفُورَةٌ لَكَ خَطَايَاكَ!" وَكَانَ بَعْضُ الْكُتَّابَةِ جَالِسِينَ هُنَاكَ يُفَكِّرُونَ فِي قُلُوبِهِمْ: لِمَاذَا يَتَكَلَّمُ هَذَا الرَّجُلُ هَكَذَا؟ إِنَّهُ يُجَدِّفُ! مَنْ يَقْدِرُ أَنْ يَغْفِرَ الْخَطَايَا إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ؟ وَفِي الْحَالِ عَرَفَ يَسُوعُ بِرُوحِهِ أَنَّهُمْ يُفَكِّرُونَ هَكَذَا فِي أَنْفُسِهِمْ فَقَالَ لَهُمْ: لِمَاذَا تُفَكِّرُونَ بِهِذَا فِي قُلُوبِكُمْ؟ مَا هُوَ الْأَسْهَلُ؟ أَنْ يُقَالَ لِلْمُخْلَعِ: "مَغْفُورَةٌ لَكَ خَطَايَاكَ؟" أَمْ أَنْ يُقَالَ: قُمْ وَأَحْمِلْ فِرَاشَكَ وَامْشِ؟ وَلَكِي تَعْلَمُوا أَنَّ لِابْنِ الْإِنْسَانِ سُلْطَانًا أَنْ يَغْفِرَ الْخَطَايَا عَلَى الْأَرْضِ، قَالَ لِلْمُخْلَعِ: لَكَ أَقُولُ: قُمْ، إِحْمِلْ فِرَاشَكَ، وَأَذْهَبْ إِلَى بَيْتِكَ!. فَقَامَ فِي الْحَالِ وَحَمَلَ فِرَاشَهُ، وَخَرَجَ أَمَامَ الْجَمِيعِ، حَتَّى دَهَشُوا كُلَّهُمْ وَمَجَّدُوا اللَّهَ قَائِلِينَ: "مَا رَأَيْنَا مِثْلَ هَذَا الْبَيْتَةِ!"

The next best thing to being wise oneself is to live in a circle of those who are. – C.S Lewis

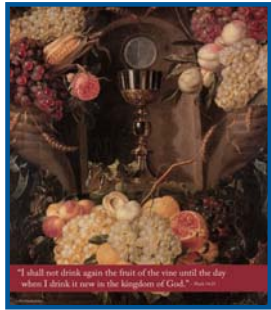


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