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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

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

MEET OUR PRIESTS:

Fr. Elie Mikhael305-807-9087.... pastor@stanthonylawrence.org

Fr. Manuel Rahmeh ...978-873-5363...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 & WEEKLY LITURGIES

Sunday of the Glorious Resurrection- أحد القيامة المجد

Sat April 3 For: The Good Health and Protection of Our Parishioners
4:00 PM English

Sun. April 4 **Easter Midnight & Sunday Liturgies**
12AM-Midnight(Ar. & Eng.).....9AM (English)..... 11:00AM (Church & Hall)
For: The Good Health and Protection of Our Parishioners

Week of the Glorious Resurrection - أسبوع الحواريين

Mon April 5 **Felicitations to Mary—عيد تهنة العذراء**
7:00 PM For: Nakhle, Victoria, John and Joseph Jabbour, *By Kamil and Mouna Hbaiter.*

Tue April 6 For: Private Intentions.
9:00 AM

Wed April 7 For: In honor of the family of Jimmy and Lola Abou Kalil and for the
9:00 AM blessings of all families *By Jimmy and Lola Abou Kalil*

Thu April 8 For: +Larry and Dora M. Pereira & All Souls in Purgatory *By Dora Pereira*
9:00 AM 9:30am-12 Noon: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Fri April 9 **NO LITURGIES**

New Sunday: Divine Mercy- أحد الجديد: أحد الرحمة الالهية

Sat April 10 For: 40 Day Anniversary - Salim Sawan *By His daughter, Sylvie, wife of Carl*
4:00 PM English *Faris, and Family*

For: +Melvin, Rosanna and Phillip Gallant *by their family.*

Sun. April 11

9:00 AM English For: Private Intention.

For: 40 Day Anniversary - Pierre Hajj *By The Demers Family*

For: 40 Day Anniversary - Joseph T. Moussa *By His daughter, Katia, wife of Louis Assaf and family*

11:00 AM Arabic & English For: 1st Year Anniversary-Mariam Abou Khalil *By Her Children: Jimmy, Hanane, Camille, Joseph, Claudine and their families*

For: Kamal Merheb Basil & deceased family members *By his sister, Renee Merheb, and Family*

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

VENMO REGISTER ONLINE




stanthonylawrence.org/donate-now/

Guidelines For Public Liturgies During Pandemic –Capacity 50%

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.

What should I do if I cannot come to Liturgy?

We will continue to livestream our Liturgies on our [Facebook page](#).

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. 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.

Parishioners who would like to have Holy Communion brought to their homes should contact the office @ 978.685.7233 during normal business hours.

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.

Easter Flowers In Memory & In Honor of...

<i>By</i>	<i>For</i>
Victor Azzi	In Memory of: Mr. & Mrs. Khalil S. Azzi, Mr. & Mrs. Elias Naffah, and Mr. & Mrs. Said Dagher
Mabel Beshara	In Memory of George Beshara and Deceased Members of their Family
The Mansour and Laliberte Families.	In Memory of Elias and Rose and their Children
Antoine BouMitri	In Memory of Therese BouMitri
Andre BouMitri	In Memory of Therese BouMitri
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Owaida & Family	In Memory of Therese BouMitri
Mr. & Mrs. Antoine Nammour	In Memory of Romanos Nammour & Joseph Bou Sanayeh
Mary and Rodney Pica	In Memory of Douglas Pica
Kurt Bistany	In Memory of Roy Bistany
Abdo Abou Raad	In Memory of Abou Raad And Azzi Family
Mr. & Mrs. Elias Chaya	In Memory of Maurice Najib Maroun
Tuffic Hatem	In Memory of Diana B. Hatem & Johnny Hatem & George Hatem & Edward Hatem
Jean Foley	In Memory of E.D. Foley & Peter and Nellie Ackarey
Kamil & Mouna Hbaiter	In Honor of Kamil Hbaiter & Family
Marie Akiki Haddad	In Memory of Rashid, Fadwa, Michel, George, Joseph & Sonia, Rizkallah, Georgette & Hiam
Christine Hassan	In Honor of Christine Hassan and Family
Michael Jesionowski	In Memory of Charles Tarness
Evon Danus	In Memory of Robert J. Danus and Maria Danus Moujaes
Barbara Kramer	In Memory of Bomar Kramer
Mr. & Mrs. Jihad Riskallah	In Honor of our parents: Mounir & Najat Rizkallah, Samih & Hoda Hasbani

The Maronite Servants of Christ the Light are opening their convent in Dartmouth, MA, for young adult women (ages 18-35) to come and visit during the week of May 1-8, 2021. This will be an opportunity to make a mini retreat, participate with the sisters in their day-to-day life and be rejuvenated in the Lord.

The sisters encourage any woman open to serving the Lord in a special way interested to contact Sister Marla Marie for more information.

Please RSVP by April 17, 2021

by Phone: 508-996-1753 or by

Email: sister@maroniteservants.org

Website: www.maroniteservants.org



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 انتمناك 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.

BIBLE STUDY

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

DAUGHTERS OF ST ANTHONY

The Daughters of St. Anthony would like to take this opportunity to reach out to all of our members whom we have not seen over the past year due to Covid 19. We have not forgotten about you! Once all of our members have received their Covid vaccine, we look forward to starting our monthly meetings back up again....both safely and with God's blessings. Meanwhile, both you and your families are remembered in our prayers to remain in good health, safe and at peace with the Lord!

Religious Education

Next class for Religious Education will be held: *Saturday, April 10, from 5:15 PM - 6:30.*

The *final* class for Religious Education will be *Saturday, April 17.*

On behalf of the Religious Education team, we wish you & your families a Happy Easter!!

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 @ 1:30 PM

First Communion liturgy

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

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/>

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

April 4: Mitchel Algoul, Celia Ephram,
Vivian Hunnfeld, Alexander Nazarro

April 5: Kimberly Azzi, Marie Haddad,
Camryn Khoury, Leonard Ramey,
Carole Saad, George Saad, Marisa Safi,
Rita Touma

April 6: Bachir Atallah, Maya Bou-
Chaaya, Charbel Maroun, Meghan
Rizk, Theresa Solomon

April 7: Elaine Azzi, Terry Habib

April 8: Stacey Gabriel

April 9: Pamela Alghoul, Elise Jbeily,
Jessica Matar

April 10: Jeremy Hashem, Abdo Iskander,
Marita Merheb, Charbel Merheb,
Bryan Rembis, Tania Sfeir, Kevin
Vincent

IN REMEBRANCE OF OUR LOVED ONES

April 5: Youssef Kassis, Daniel Martin

April 6: Mahassen Khalil

April 8: George Peters

April 9: Adelle Cherabie, Edith
McAllister, Evelyn Gabriel

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 Or

by visiting: 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
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 and we will attach that to your loved one's record.

ALTAR CANDLES WILL BURN**The Good Health and Protection of Our Parishioners****THE EMPTY TOMB***By Ronald Rolheiser*

Believers and non-believers alike have been arguing about the resurrection since the day Jesus rose. What really happened? How was he raised from the dead? Did an actual dead body really come back to life and step out of the grave or was the resurrection a monumental life-changing event inside the consciousness of Jesus' followers? Or was the resurrection both, a real physical event and an event inside the consciousness of believers?

Obviously nobody was there to see what actually happened. Those who claimed Jesus was alive again didn't see him rise and emerge from the tomb, they met him only after he had already risen and, immediately, believers and sceptics began to divide from each other, persons who claimed to have touched him and persons who doubted that testimony.

There have been sceptics and believers ever since and no shortage of persons, professional theologians and non-scholarly Christians alike, who believe in the resurrection of Jesus as a faith event but not as a physical event, where an actual body came out of a grave. The faith event is what's important, they claim, and it is incidental whether or not Jesus' actual body came out of the grave.

Was Jesus' resurrection a faith event or a physical event? It was both. For Christians it is the most monumental event, faith and otherwise, in history. Two thousand subsequent years cannot be explained, except by the reality of the resurrection. To understand the resurrection of Jesus only as a literal fact, that his body rose from the grave, is to cut the resurrection off from much of its meaning. However, that being admitted, for Christians, the resurrection must also be a radically physical event. Why?

First, because the Gospels are pretty clear in emphasizing that the tomb was empty and that the resurrected Jesus was more than a spirit or ghost. We see, for instance, in Luke's Gospel where Jesus invites a doubting Thomas to verify his physicality: "Look at my hands and my feet. It's really me. Touch me. You can see that I have a living body; a ghost does not have a body like this."

As well, and very importantly, to cut the resurrection off from the literal fact that there was real physical transformation of a once dead corpse is to rob it of some of its important meanings and perhaps of the deepest root of its credibility. For the resurrection of Christ to have full meaning it must, among other things, have been a brute physical fact. There needs to be an empty tomb and a dead body returned to life. Why?

Not as some kind of miracle proof, but because of the incarnation. To believe in the incarnation and not to believe in the radical physical character of the resurrection is a contradiction. We believe that in the incarnation the Word was made flesh. This takes the mystery of Christ and the reality of the resurrection out of the realm of pure spirit. The incarnation always connotes a reality that's radically physical, tangible, and touchable, like the old dictionary definition of matter as "something extended in space and having weight."

To believe in the incarnation is to believe that God was born into real physical flesh, lived in real physical flesh, died in real physical flesh, and rose in real physical flesh. To believe that the resurrection was only an event in the faith consciousness of the disciples, however real, rich, and radical that might be imagined, is to rob the incarnation of its radical physical character and to fall into the kind of dualism that values spirit and denigrates the physical. Such a dualism devalues the incarnation and this impoverishes the meaning of the resurrection. If the resurrection is only a spiritual event then it is also only an anthropological one and not also a cosmic one. That's a way of saying that it's then an event only about human consciousness and not also about the cosmos.

But Jesus' resurrection isn't just something radically new in terms of human consciousness; it's also something that's radically new in terms of atoms and molecules. The resurrection rearranged hearts and minds, but it also rearranged atoms. Until Jesus' resurrection, dead bodies did not come back to life; they stayed dead, so when his came back to life there was something radically new both at the level of faith and at the level of the atoms and molecules. Precisely because of its brute physicality, Jesus' resurrection offers new hope to atoms as well as to people.

I believe that Jesus was raised from the dead, literally. I believe too that this event was, as the rich insights within contemporary theology point out, highly spiritual: an event of faith, of changed consciousness, of new hope empowering a new charity and a new forgiveness. But it was also an event of changed atoms and of a changed dead body. It was radically physical, just as are all events that are part of the incarnation wherein God takes on real flesh.

OUR MINISTRIES: FORMING A COMMUNITY _ONE BODY

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ccd@stanthonylawrence.org

Our Religious Program prepares our children on the Maronite Spirituality, Liturgy and Sacraments.

A ministry dedicated to enrich our children with a Maronite sense of pride and belonging.

KNIGHTS OF MARY kom@stanthonylawrence.org

A spiritual and Social ministry enriching children from 1st grade till 8th grade with Maronite Tradition and Spirituality. Registration will be open during the Summer. All are welcomed!

MARONITE YOUTH - MYO myo@stanthonylawrence.org

Forming a Catholic mind and heart based on the teaching of the Bible, Catholic Morality and Ethics. The Ministry based on high School Parishioners.

MYA - MARONITE YOUNG ADULTS

An Open and Healthy environment of moral, theological and Spiritual discussions .

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

• *Daughters of St Anthony: Women Ministry of 50+ caring and catering for spiritual and social animation*

• *Our Lady of Lebanon Sodality- أخوية سيدة لبنان*

Women Ministry for Arabic Speaking emphasizing on prayers, devotions and supporting the church through social events and activities.

• *M_WINE- Maronite Women in New Evangelization: Evangelizing at home through building a nucleus of prayer groups*

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

Bringing Solace and consolation to the heart of grieving families helping them to prepare the funeral liturgy and celebrate the life of their loved ones in the outmost revered liturgical ambiance

KNIGHTS OF THE ALTAR

Forming and Shaping Altar Boys Servers to serve the liturgical celebrations with awe and respect. Registrations are open to all our Boys from 2nd grade and up.

ST ANTHONY CHOIRS

Four choirs serve the liturgies and the liturgical celebrations at St Anthony. Doors are open for everyone!

FAMILY OF ST SHARBEL— عائلة مار شربل

Dedicated to spread St Charbel Devotion.

ARABIC SCHOOL Hitafnammour@gmail.com

For Families who are open to teach their kids the Arabic language

MAHRAJAN COMMITTEE

Shining our culture, tradition and heritage in the Merrimack Valley area and New England.

Easter Vigil & Midnight Readings

Epistle: Philippians 2:1-11

Brothers and

sisters, If there is any encouragement in Christ, any solace in love, any participation in the Spirit, any compassion and mercy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, with the same love, united in heart, thinking one thing. Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves, each looking out not for his own interests, but (also) everyone for those of others. Have among yourselves the same attitude that is also yours in Christ Jesus, Who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel: Saint Matthew 28:1-10

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb. And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, approached, rolled back the stone, and sat upon it. His appearance was like lightning and his clothing was white as snow. The guards were shaken with fear of him and became like dead men. Then the angel said to the women in reply, "Do not be afraid! I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him.' Behold, I have told you." Then they went away quickly from the tomb, fearful yet overjoyed, and ran to announce this to his disciples. And behold, Jesus met them on their way and greeted them. They approached, embraced his feet, and did him homage. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me." This is the Truth. Peace be with you.

رسالة القديس بولس إلى أهل فيلبّي 2:1-11

يا إخوتي، إن كان لكم تشجيع في المسيح، أو تعزية في المحبة، أو شركة في الروح، أو حنان أو رحمة، فاثموا فرجي بأن تكونوا على رأي واحد، ومحبة واحدة، ونفس واحدة، وفكر واحد. لا تفعلوا شيئا عن خصام ولا بعجب، بل بائضاع، وليحسب كل واحد منكم غيره أفضل منه. ولا تنظروا كل واحد إلى ما هو لنفسه، بل بالحري إلى ما هو لغيره. ليكن فيكم من الأفكار ما هو في المسيح يسوع. فهو، مع كونه في صورة الله، لم يحسب مساواته لله غنيمة، بل أخلى ذاته، متخذاً صورة العبد، صائراً في شبه البشر. ولما ظهر في هيئة إنسان، واضع ذاته، وصار مطيعاً حتى الموت، الموت على الصليب. فذلك رفعه الله جداً، وهبه الاسم الذي يغلو كل اسم، لكي تجنوا باسم يسوع كل ركبة، في السماء وعلى الأرض وتحت الأرض، ويعترف كل لسان أن يسوع المسيح هو الرب لمجد الله الأب.

إنجيل القديس متى 28:1-10

لما انقضى السبت وطلع فجر الأحد، جاءت مريم المجدلية ومريم الأخرى تعانين القبر، وإذا زلزلة عظيمة حدثت، لأن ملاك الرب نزل من السماء، ودنا فخرج الحجر، وجلس عليه. وكان منظره كالبرق، ولباسه أبيض كالثلج. فارتعد الحراس خوفاً منه، وصاروا كالأموات. فأجاب الملاك وقال للمراتين: «أنتما، لا تخافا! أنا أعلم أنكما تطلبان يسوع المصلوب. فهو ليس هنا، لأنه قام مثلما قال. تعاليا وانظرا المكان الذي كان موضوعاً فيه. واذهبا حالا إلى تلاميذه وقولا لهم: إنه قد قام من بين الأموات! وها هو يسبقكم إلى الجليل، وهناك ترونه. ها أنا قد قلت لكم». فعادرتا القبر مسرعين، وهما في خوف وفرح عظيم، تركضان حاملتين البشري إلى التلاميذ، فإذا يسوع يلاقيهما ويقول: «السلام لكم!». فتقدمتا وأمسكتا بقدميه ساجدتين له. حينئذ قال لهما يسوع: «لا تخافا! اذهبا وبشرا إخوتي ليذهبا إلى الجليل، وهناك يرونني».

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:12-26

1قورنثس 15:12-26

Brothers and sisters, If Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

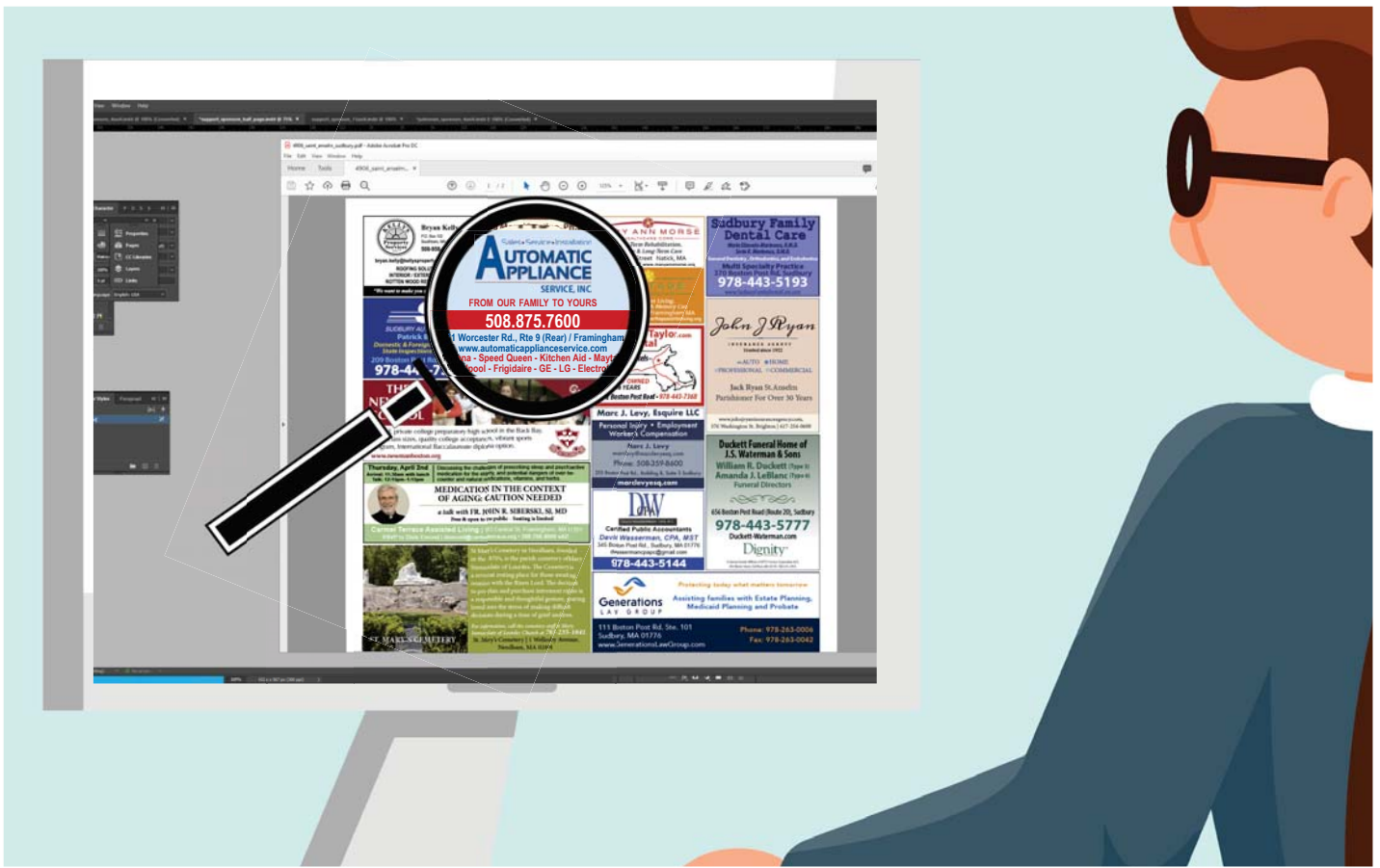
Gospel: Saint Mark 16: 1-8

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.' So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

يا إخواني، إن كان المسيح يُبَسَّرُ بِهِ أَنَّهُ قَامَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ، فَكَيْفَ يَقُولُ بَعْضُ مِنْكُمْ أَنْ لَا قِيَامَةَ لِلْأَمْوَاتِ؟ فَإِنْ كَانَ لَا قِيَامَةَ لِلْأَمْوَاتِ، فَالْمَسِيحُ أَيْضًا لَمْ يَقُمْ! وَإِنْ كَانَ الْمَسِيحُ لَمْ يَقُمْ، فَبَاطِلٌ تَبَشِيرُنَا وَبَاطِلٌ إِيْمَانُكُمْ، وَتَكُونُ نَحْنُ شُهُودَ زُورٍ عَلَى اللَّهِ، لِأَنَّنا شَهِدْنَا عَلَى اللَّهِ أَنَّهُ أَقَامَ الْمَسِيحَ، وَهُوَ مَا أَقَامَهُ، إِنْ صَحَّ أَنَّ الْأَمْوَاتَ لَا يَقُومُونَ. فَإِنْ كَانَ الْأَمْوَاتَ لَا يَقُومُونَ، فَالْمَسِيحُ أَيْضًا لَمْ يَقُمْ! وَإِنْ كَانَ الْمَسِيحُ لَمْ يَقُمْ، فَبَاطِلٌ إِيْمَانُكُمْ، وَتَكُونُونَ بَعْدَ فِي خَطَايَاكُمْ. إِذَا فَالَّذِينَ رَفَعُوا فِي الْمَسِيحِ قَدْ هَلَكُوا. إِنْ كُنَّا نَرْجُو الْمَسِيحَ فِي هَذِهِ الْحَيَاةِ وَحَسَبُ، فَنَحْنُ أَشَقَى النَّاسِ أَجْمَعِينَ! وَالْحَالُ أَنَّ الْمَسِيحَ قَامَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ، وَهُوَ بَاكُورَةُ الرَّاقِدِينَ. فَبِمَا أَنَّ الْمَوْتَ كَانَ بِوَاسِطَةِ إِنْسَانٍ، فَبِوَاسِطَةِ إِنْسَانٍ أَيْضًا تَكُونُ قِيَامَةُ الْأَمْوَاتِ. فَكَمَا أَنَّهُ فِي أَدَمَ يَمُوتُ الْجَمِيعُ، كَذَلِكَ فِي الْمَسِيحِ سَيَحْيَا الْجَمِيعُ، كُلُّ وَاحِدٍ فِي رُتْبَتِهِ: الْمَسِيحُ أَوَّلًا، لِأَنَّهُ الْبَاكُورَةُ، ثُمَّ الَّذِينَ هُمْ لِلْمَسِيحِ، عِنْدَ مَجِيئِهِ. وَبَعْدَ ذَلِكَ تَكُونُ النِّهَائِيَّةُ، حِينَ يُسَلِّمُ الْمَسِيحُ الْمُلْكَ إِلَى اللَّهِ الْآبِ، بَعْدَ أَنْ يَكُونَ قَدْ أُبْطِلَ كُلُّ رِئَاسَةٍ وَكُلُّ سُلْطَانٍ وَقُوَّةٍ، لِأَنَّهُ لَا بُدَّ لِلْمَسِيحِ أَنْ يَمْلِكَ، إِلَى أَنْ يَجْعَلَ اللَّهُ جَمِيعَ أَعْدَائِهِ تَحْتَ قَدَمَيْهِ. وَأَخْرُ عَدُوٌّ يُبْطَلُ هُوَ الْمَوْتُ

إنجيل القديس مرقس 16:1-8

لَمَّا أَنْقَضَى السَّبْتِ، أَشْتَرَتْ مَرْيَمُ الْمَجْدَلِيَّةُ، وَمَرْيَمُ أُمُّ يَعْقُوبَ، وَسَالُومَةَ، طَيُوبًا لِإِيْمَانِيْنَ وَيُطَيَّبِينَ جَسَدَ يَسُوعَ. وَفِي يَوْمِ الْأَحَدِ بَاكِرًا جِدًّا، أَتَيْنَ إِلَى الْقَبْرِ مَعَ طُلُوعِ الشَّمْسِ. وَكُنَّ يَقُلْنَ فِيمَا بَيْنَهُنَّ: «مَنْ يُدْخِرُ لَنَا الْحَجَرَ عَنْ بَابِ الْقَبْرِ؟» وَتَفَرَّسْنَ فَشَاهَدْنَ الْحَجَرَ قَدْ دُخِرَ، وَكَانَ كَبِيرًا جِدًّا. وَدَخَلْنَ الْقَبْرَ، فَرَأَيْنَ شَابًّا جَالِسًا عَنِ الْيَمِينِ، مُتَوَشِّحًا خُلَّةً بَيْضَاءَ، فَأَنْذَهُنَّ. فَقَالَ لَهُنَّ: «لَا تَنْذَهُنَّ! أَنْتُنَّ تَطْلُبْنَ يَسُوعَ النَّاصِرِيِّ الْمَصْلُوبِ. إِنَّهُ قَامَ، وَهُوَ لَيْسَ هُنَا. وَهَا هُوَ الْمَكَانُ الَّذِي وَضَعُوهُ فِيهِ. أَلَا أَدْهَبَنَّ وَقُلَّنَّ لِتَلَامِيذِهِ وَلِبَطْرُسَ: إِنَّهُ يَسْبِقُكُمْ إِلَى الْجَلِيلِ. وَهُنَاكَ تَرَوْنَهُ، كَمَا قَالَ لَكُمْ.» فَخَرَجْنَ مِنَ الْقَبْرِ وَهَرَبْنَ مِنْ شِدَّةِ الرَّعْدَةِ وَالذُّهُولِ وَمِنْ خَوْفِهِنَّ لَمْ يَقُلْنَ لِأَحَدٍ شَيْئًا

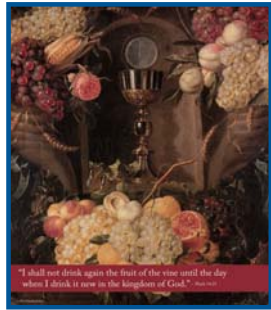


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