

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

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



PARISH OFFICE: ... 978.685.7233 ... FAX: 978-688-4475 ... rectory@stanthonylawrence.org



DAILY LITURGIES *9am*

MON *(Arabic)*

TUE *(English)*

WED *(Arabic)*

THU *(English)*

WEEKEND LITURGIES

SAT 4:00PM *(English)*

SUN

8:00AM *(Arabic)*

9:00AM *(English)*

11:30AM *(English & Arabic)*

Holy days of obligation:

Vigil Liturgy @ 7:00 PM

OFFICE HOURS

M-TH 10:00 AM-3:00 PM

FRI 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

SAT By Appointment



SaintAnthonyLawrence

MEET OUR PRIESTS:

Fr. Elie Mikhael ...305-807-9087

... pastor@stanthonylawrence.org

Fr. Michael Charchaflian ...508-982-5130

... fathermichaeljm@gmail.com

MEET OUR DEACONS:

Deacon David Leard

Deacon Nadim B. Daou

Sub-Deacon James T. Demers

Sub-Deacon Antoine Nammour



venmo

Scan QR code for payment

SACRAMENTS

Baptism & Confirmation: *1 month in advance with the Pastor, Donations: Church: \$200 - Priest: Free Will*

Matrimony: *Arrangements should be made by couples 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.

LITURGIES

FOURTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

الأحد الرابع من زمن العنصرة

Sts. Peter & Paul, Ap 4th Sunday of Pentecost

Saturday, June 25, 2022 *Sts. Zechariah & Elizabeth, Parents of St John the Baptist*

4:00 pm For: +Diane Hatem, *By her husband, Tuffic, daughters, Rosine & Venize, and grandchildren.*

Sunday, June 26, 2022 *St Josemaria Escriva*

9:00 am For: +Joy George, *By her husband, Samuel George, & Family.*

11:00 am For: 1Year Anniversary- Tanos Sadek- *By his wife, Nouhad, his children & their families.*

Fifth Sunday of Pentecost

Saturday, July 2, 2022 *Mary Visits Elizabeth*

4:00 pm For: Special Intention.

Sunday, July 3, 2022 *St Jerome*

9:00 am For: In Honor of Ava Bradley.

11:00 am For: 40 Day Anniversary- Baby Leo Alexander Maroun, *By his Parents, Danny & Chantale Maroun, big brother, Lucas, & Family.*

SECOND COLLECTION

Peter's Pence - June 25- 26

PLEASE NOTE:

40 Day Liturgies are considered a priority. When necessary, they will be scheduled with other previously reserved intentions.

WEEKDAY LITURGIES

Monday, June 27 -(Ar.) *St. Samson*

Daily Readings: Acts 7:44-50 Matthew 18:1-5

9AM For: +Mtannios, Cecilia, & Deceased members of the Hbaiter Family

Tuesday, June 28 (En.) *St. Irenaeus*

Daily Readings: Acts 7:51-8:1a Matthew 16:13-20

9AM For: 5 Year Anniversary- +Edmond Solomon, *By his Family.*

Wednesday, June 29 (Ar.) *Sts. Peter & Paul*

Daily Readings: 2 Cor. 11:21-30 Matthew 16:13-20

9AM For: +Laure Najem, *By Dr. & Mrs. George Abou-Ezzi & Family.*

Thursday, June 30 (En.) *The 12 Apostles*

Daily Readings: Acts 8:9,13b-25 Matthew 18:15-20

9AM For: 2 Year Ordination Anniversary- Abouna Maroun Boukhalil, *By his aunt, Lola, and Jimmy.*

10 am- 12 noon Eucharistic Adoration

Friday, July 1, Pope St. Gregory X

NO LITURGY



Sanctuary Lamps

For safe travels of our Parishioners.

SUMMER LITURGIES SCHEDULE

Please take notice:

Sunday, June 5th began our Summer Liturgy schedule.

There is no 8AM Liturgy on Sundays.

Schedule is as follows:

9 AM-English & 11 AM-English & Arabic



SHARE YOUR MEMORIES

Our 50th Annual Mahrajan is fast approaching. In honor of this Golden Anniversary, we hope to create a documentary, sharing many memories. We continue to seek photos/videos from the 70's & 80s Mahrajan celebrations.

If you find old photos, newspaper clippings, etc., please drop them off at the Rectory during office hours or email them to *Abbas* at: video@atsproduction.com or contact him by phone at 978-390-0150.

What a great way to share the history and memories of what helped shape our traditions and lead us to this wonderful milestone, 50 Years!!! We look forward to sharing your memories as we continue to make more together!

ANNUAL MAHRAJAN NEWS

The Mahrajan committee is planning for our 50th Anniversary. We are seeking volunteers to lead the effort to honor that history during the Mahrajan. As you are well aware, the Mahrajan's success is dependent on volunteers.

The committee encourages individuals to sign up early. If you are interested in volunteering, please let us know as early as possible by emailing us at: mahrajan@stanthonylawrence.org



Open Letter to the Parish,

The Stewardship Council's responsibility is to execute on the

wishes of the parishioners but to do so we need to make sure we are listening to what our parishioners really want. Sometimes, this is difficult due to the broad nature of our parishioners; some have been part of the church for 3 generations and some we have just opened our hearts too. We have created a survey to gather information to hopefully create a vision for tomorrow.

After 2 years of COVID we are finally getting back to normalcy and this awakening is a perfect time to reflect and listen to the voice of the entire parish. We are so proud of how this community always steps up and supports the needs of others, but do we ever ask what you want. We are not asking for money or time or sweat, that will come, today all we want is for you to share with us your vision of the church's future.

Don't answer how you think Father Elie wants you to answer, or your Sitto or Jido wants you to answer - listen to your heart and describe your vision for St Anthony's for the next 10 years or 50 years.

We hope the questions below stimulate your thoughts on where St. Anthony's is headed. We want to hear your voice. Fill in the form online by clicking on the link:

<https://forms.gle/kYYN7yD8uVVLk8co8>

Respectfully,
Stewardship Council

SAVE THE DATE

You Are Cordially Invited
TO
THE ORDINATION OF
SUBDEACON JAMES DEMERS
AND
SUBDEACON CHRISTIAN HBAITER
TO
The Order of Deacons
BY THE IMPOSITION OF HANDS OF
THE MOST REVEREND
GREGORY J. MANSOUR
BISHOP OF THE EPARCHY OF SAINT MARON OF BROOKLYN

CELEBRATION OF DIVINE MYSTERIES AND ORDINATION
ON
SEPTEMBER 24, 2022, 11:00 AM
AT
SAINT ANTHONY MARONITE CHURCH
145 AMESBURY STREET
LAWRENCE, MA 01841

LUNCHEON TO FOLLOW IN CHURCH HALL
ALL ARE WELCOME

DIVINE LITURGY AND ORDINATION WILL BE LIVESTREAMED
VIA PARISH FACEBOOK @SAINTANTHONYLAWRENCE

St. Anthony Dabke Troop Ages 6-11 Years Old Summer Training

We are excited to be gathering children ages 6 to 11 years to learn how to Dabke this summer. Reine Ata and Colette Sadek will be teaching this group. We are asking those who are interested to please be committed to our training dates (9 sessions). Anyone absent more than 3 times, will not be allowed to perform, as we ask that parents respect the time of the volunteers and committed children. Training will be held every Wednesday through the summer at 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm in the church hall. The first session will be held on Wednesday, June 29th, 2022.

The dates are below for our sessions:

- June 29th
- July 6th – No Session
- July 13th
- July 20th
- July 27th
- August 3rd
- August 10th
- August 17th
- August 23rd – TUESDAY
- August 31st

We ask that parents send the following information to Colette *by June 29th* at cocosadek@gmail.com so we have all those interested in these sessions. Also, please send your children with water bottles labeled with their names to the sessions and comfy shoes!!!

- Name of Child
- Age
- Any health conditions that impact dancing
- Parent's name & best phone number

Thank you for trusting us with your children. Reine Ata and Colette Sadek

KNIGHTS OF THE ALTAR



On the Sunday of June 12, the Knights of the Altar chapter of St. Anthony in Lawrence, MA, held its promotional ceremony following the Divine Liturgy. Our Knights received certificates attesting to their completing all the requirements as they progress upward in rank. They publicly renewed their promise to serve faithfully, respectfully, and responsibly.

Fr. Elie Mikhael exhorted them all to persevere in their commitment; he then recognized each Knight personally, pinning the knight's pin for those completing three years of service. He then gave those completing six years a Benedictine cross, replacing the standard oaken servers cross with the support of those who had previously attained the rank of grand knight.

The requirements increase at each level, with the knights learning the names of the vestments, the locations in the church, and the items used during the liturgies. Additionally, they attend monthly meetings for training and mentoring the new members, volunteer at parish events, and learn the prayers, sacraments, and liturgical seasons of our Maronite faith. Congratulations to them all, and thank you to all our parish family who support them.

OUR SYMPATHIES TO:

-Dr. Annlouise Assaf and her husband, Lynn Alan Potter, Darlene Morin and her husband, John, and Cheryl Costello and her husband, Jeffrey; Tuffic Hatem; grandchildren and great-grandchildren **for the loss of their mother & sister, Louise Assaf.**

-Evelyn Saba Ramey and her Children: David Ramey, Marie Fleming and her husband Michael, Joanne Miles and her husband Richard; Grandchildren and Great Grand children **for the loss of their husband & father, Leonard Ramey.**

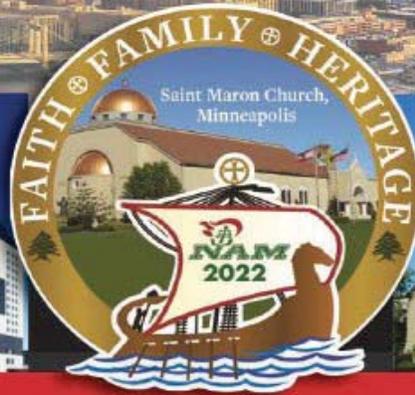
May their souls rest in peace & their memories be eternal.

57th Annual Maronite Convention

MINNEAPOLIS, MN | Jul 13-17, 2022

Sponsored by the National Apostolate of Maronites

Radisson Blu
Mall of America
(MOA) Hotel



Hosted by
St. Maron Maronite Catholic Church

Hotel rate is \$186 + tax per night single/double.
For reservations call 1-800-333-3333 and use Code: NAM Convention.
Rate valid till Wednesday, June 22, 2022.

REGISTER TODAY
www.namnews.org
914-964-3070

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

Third & Final Banns of Marriage:

Elie Ata & Juliette Kassas

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

We offer our gratitude to Saint Anthony's Knights of Columbus for preparing and serving the delicious meal at our Father's Day Luncheon this weekend at St. Basil's.

Also, our appreciation to Raymond Saysouk-DJ Rikon, Cedar's Foods, and Georges Bakery for their generous contributions and continued support. Thank you for your dedication and patronage towards Saint Anthony's Church. We are truly blessed by all of you.

Congratulations to the newly appointed officers of Saint Anthony's Knights of Columbus Council #16204!

- Grand Knight - Charbel Daher*
- Financial Secretary - Robert Owaida*
- Deputy Grand Knight - Issam Ramey*
- Chancellor - Jason Azzi*
- Recorder - Danny Azzi*
- Treasure - Michael Faris*
- Advocate - Sharbel A Azzi*
- Warden - John Belko, Sr.*
- Inside Guard - Danny Abourjeili*
- Outside Guard - Allan Bistany*
- One Year Trustee - Danny Azzi*
- Three Year Trustee - Elias Azzi*
- Lecturer - Wissam Merheb*



Save the Date

LIGHT OF LIFE BIBLE CAMP

July 25-27th from 10am to 3pm
at St. Anthony's Church, Lawrence MA

Sign up Today!!!

<https://forms.gle/zTjpfY3wPzJcy1g89>



Our Best wishes to
Issam Ramey!
Congratulations on
receiving your 4th Degree
& becoming Sir Knight
by District Deputy,
Jack DeCourcy!!

St Anthony-Grave Purchase & Burial

Grave Purchase—*For Active Parishioners

- Grave Purchase–Double Depth: \$1900 (*one time fee*)
 - Perpetual Care: \$200 (*one time fee*)
- Total of Grave (Double Depth) Purchase: \$2100
- Memorial Stone Permit: \$75 (*one time fee paid upon installation*)

Burial Costs (*Itemized*)

- Opening and Closing (Summer Fees): \$1000
- Opening and Closing (Winter Burial): \$1,200
- Church Stipend: \$250
- Church Stipend (Wake in Church): \$450
- Soloist: \$150
- Organist: \$150
- Clergy Stipend: \$200 or left to the Family Discretion

Total of Burial Costs:

- Burial (Summer Fees): \$1,750
- Burial (Summer Fees-Wake in Church): \$1,950
- Burial (Winter Fees): \$1,950
- Burial (Winter Fees-Wake in Church): \$2,150

Prices are subject to change.

**Active Parishioners are considered those who have participated: Socially, spiritually and have contributed regularly in our database.*

Please take the time to review the complete cemetery guidelines by visiting our website www.stanthonylawrence.org/cemetery/

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"X8" = \$250

Please submit your request either by

Phone: 978.685.7233 or by E-mail:

rectory@stanthonylawrence.org

Looking for a Loved one buried at St Anthony's Cemetery?

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.

CEMETERY LOT SALES & AVAILABILITY

St Anthony Cemetery offers affordable payment plans to fit any family's budget.

For more information:

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

Email rectory@stanthonylawrence.org

or Visit: www.stanthonylawrence.org/lots-sales/

Headstones & Cemetery Markers

Kindly review the information provided regarding acceptable dimensions per grave/lot on our website: <https://www.stanthonylawrence.org/lots-sales/>.

Please note: Double-Depth Graves are considered "One Grave Size"

DONATE A TREE IN MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE

Enhancing the beauty of Historic Saint Anthony Maronite Catholic Cemetery.

Plant-A-Tree A—

For a donation of \$400.00 : memorial plaque will be displayed by the tree for a period of ten years.

Plant-A-Tree B—

For a donation of \$250.00: memorial plaque will be displayed by the tree for the period of five years.

Your Donation is Tax-Deductible

Your contribution is tax deductible. You will receive a written acknowledgement of your donation from the Saint Anthony Maronite Catholic Cemetery.

If you like to donate a tree, please call the office at 978.685.7233 or email us at:

rectory@stanthonylawrence.org

Tree to be planted : Kousa Dogwood



**MARONITE-
Women IN the
New
Evangelization**

Coming back with new administration

M-WINE is a creative and inspired ministry to invigorate women’s groups and parishes through encouraging, supporting, and nurturing women in the Maronite Catholic faith and by equipping and mobilizing women as intentional disciples of Christ.



- Yours is the first of Christ’s faces to greet God’s people as they assemble for prayer.
- Yours is the word that welcomes the stranger to be at home.
- Yours is the task of discretion: knowing how to welcome, and when and where to seat the latecomer.
- Yours is the Lord’s face and voice.
- Assist in passing the collection baskets
- Help the Communion flow
- Assist those who become ill or need aid
- Distribute bulletins and other materials
- After mass area check



St. Monica School in Methuen is accepting applications for their Preschool – three-year-old program! Students must be three before September 1st. Please check out the admissions page on their website or call the school office at 978-686-1801 for a tour or to learn more about the application process.

E-mail: smsoffice@methuencatholic.org

Food, Bar, Live Music, Saj, Hookas, Raffles, Dancing

Our Lady Of Purgatory Church

Lebanese Festival

Friday, June 24, 2022 **Saturday, June 25, 2022**
 5:00PM – 11:00PM 12:00PM – 11:00PM

11 Franklin Street, New Bedford, MA 02740

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- June 26:** Anthony Anastassi, Cindy Bistany, Rony El Hayek, Matthew Haddad, Nisrine Safi, Nicholas Shepherd, Marco Solia
- June 27:** Layelle Abou Ezzi, Sebastian Atallah, Maria Azzi, Charbel Bourouphael, Jackson Hajj, Christina Saade
- June 28:** Mark Clement, Natalia Fiato, Mason Lanoue, Alexander Najjar
- June 29:** Anthony Ata, Brooke Gill, George Hand, Joelle Karam, Julie Martino, Lina Merheb, Richard Sadek, Jasmine Tannoury, Tiah Tarabay
- June 30:** Brittany Kanaan, Sandra Naddif, Zakerie Perrault, Peter Ramy, Hilda Rizkallah, Phyllis Thomas
- July 1:** Nina Dow, Elian Dunbar, Tania Farhat, Naya Nassar, Linton Ranson, Donna Rossi

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- June 26:** George & Marie-Rose Korbani
- June 27:** John & Sandra Merheb
- June 29:** Toufic & Jennifer Raad
- July 1:** Raymond & Liliane Maroun, Dauod & Adriana Ramy, Milad & Hanane Salame

Fourth Sunday of Pentecost: Feast of Sts Peter & Paul

Wisdom 7:7-14

Therefore I prayed, and prudence was given me; I pleaded and the spirit of Wisdom came to me. I preferred her to scepter and throne, And deemed riches nothing in comparison with her, nor did I liken any priceless gem to her; Because all gold, in view of her, is a bit of sand, and before her, silver is to be accounted mire. Beyond health and beauty I loved her, And I chose to have her rather than the light, because her radiance never ceases. Yet all good things together came to me with her, and countless riches at her hands; I rejoiced in them all, because Wisdom is their leader, though I had not known that she is their mother. Sincerely I learned about her, and ungrudgingly do I share—her riches I do not hide away; For she is an unfailing treasure; those who gain this treasure win the friendship of God, being commended by the gifts that come from her discipline.

Second Letter to the Corinthians 11,21-30

To my shame, I must say, we were too weak for that! But whatever anyone dares to boast of I am speaking as a fool I also dare to boast of that. Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they descendants of Abraham? So am I. Are they ministers of Christ? I am talking like a madman I am a better one: with far greater labours, far more imprisonments, with countless floggings, and often near death. Five times I have received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I received a stoning. Three times I was shipwrecked; for a night and a day I was adrift at sea; on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from bandits, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers and sisters; in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, hungry and thirsty, often without food, cold and naked. And, besides other things, I am under daily pressure because of my anxiety for all the churches. Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to stumble, and I am not indignant? If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness.

Matthew 16,13-20.

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

LECTORS SCHEDULE

Saturday, June 25- 4PM Lisa Abdallah

Saturday, July 2- 4PM Lisa Abdallah

Sunday, June 26- 9AM David Brousseau

Sunday, July 3- 9AM Angela Dahbour

**11:00AM Eng: Anthony Sadek
Ar: Carine Sadek**

**11:00AM Eng: Selim Matta
Ar: Marcel Saade**

الأحد الرابع من زمن العنصرة: عيد القديسين بطرس وبولس الرسولين

سفر الحكمة 7:14-7

لِذَلِكَ صَلَّيْتُ فَأَوْتَيْتُ الْفِطْنَةَ وَدَعَوْتُ فَأَتَانِي رُوحُ الْحِكْمَةِ. فَفَضَّلْتُهَا عَلَى الصَّوَالِجَةِ وَالْعُرُوشِ وَعَدَدْتُ الْغِنَى كَلَا شَيْءٍ بِالْقِيَاسِ إِلَيْهَا. وَلَمْ أُعِدِلْ بِهَا الْحَجَرُ الَّذِي لَا يُقَدَّرُ لِأَنَّ كُلَّ الذَّهَبِ بِإِزَائِهَا قَلِيلٌ مِنَ الرَّمْلِ وَالْفِضَّةَ عِنْدَهَا تُحْسَبُ طِينًا. وَأَحْبَبْتُهَا فَوْقَ الْعَافِيَةِ وَالْجَمَالِ وَأَثَرْتُ أَنْ أَخْذَهَا قَبْلَ النُّورِ لِأَنَّ رَوْقَهَا لَا يَقْرَأُ لَهُ قَرَارٌ. فَأَتَنَّنِي مَعَهَا جَمِيعُ الْخَيْرَاتِ وَعَنْ يَدَيْهَا غِنَى لَا يُحْصَى. فَسُرَرْتُ بِهَذِهِ الْخَيْرَاتِ كُلِّهَا لِأَنَّهَا بِإِمْرَةِ الْحِكْمَةِ وَلَمْ أَكُنْ عَالِمًا بِأَنَّهَا أُمَّ لَهَا جَمِيعًا. وَمَا تَعَلَّمْتُه بِإِخْلَاصٍ أُشْرِكُ فِيهِ بِسَخَاءٍ وَلَا أَكْتُمُ غِنَاهَا. فَإِنَّهَا كَنْزٌ لِلنَّاسِ لَا يَنْفَدُ وَالَّذِينَ أَقْتَنُوهُ كَسَبُوا صِدَاقَةَ اللَّهِ وَقَدْ أَوْصَتْهُ بِهِمُ الْمَوَاهِبُ الصَّادِرَةُ عَنِ التَّأْدِيبِ.

رسالة القديس بولس الثانية إلى أهل كورنثس 30-21:11

يا إخواني، أقول وأحجل، كما لو كنا ضُعفاء! وأقول كجَاهِلٍ: إِنَّ كُلَّ مَا يَجْرُؤُ عَلَيْهِ هُوَلاءُ، أَجْرُؤُ عَلَيْهِ أَنَا أَيْضًا: أَهْمُ عَبْرَانِيُّونَ؟ أَنَا أَيْضًا عَبْرَانِيٌّ! أَهْمُ إِسْرَائِيلِيُّونَ؟ أَنَا أَيْضًا إِسْرَائِيلِيٌّ! أَهْمُ نَسْلُ إِبْرَاهِيمَ؟ أَنَا أَيْضًا نَسْلُ إِبْرَاهِيمَ! أَهْمُ خُدَّامٌ لِلْمَسِيحِ؟ أَقُولُ كَمَنْ قَدَّ صَوَابُهُ: أَنَا أَكْثَرُ! فِي الْأَتْعَابِ أَكْثَرُ! فِي السُّجُونِ أَكْثَرُ! فِي الضَّرَبَاتِ أَكْثَرُ جِدًّا! فِي أخطارِ المَوْتِ أَكْثَرُ بِمَرَّاتٍ كَثِيرَةٍ! تَلَقَّيْتُ الْجَلْدَ مِنَ الْيَهُودِ خَمْسَ مَرَّاتٍ، كُلَّ مَرَّةٍ أَرْبَعِينَ جَلْدَةً إِلَّا وَاحِدَةً! ضَرَبْتُ بِالْعَصِيِّ ثَلَاثَ مَرَّاتٍ! رُجِمْتُ مَرَّةً وَاحِدَةً! أَنْكَسَرْتُ بِي السَّفِينَةَ ثَلَاثَ مَرَّاتٍ! قَضَيْتُ فِي عَرْضِ الْبَحْرِ لَيْلَةً وَنَهَارًا! قُمْتُ بِأَسْفَارٍ كَثِيرَةٍ، كُنْتُ فِي أخطارٍ مِنَ الْأَنْهَارِ، أخطارٍ مِنَ اللَّصُوصِ، أخطارٍ مِنْ أُمَّتِي، أخطارٍ مِنَ الْأُمَّمِ، أخطارٍ فِي الْمَدِينَةِ، أخطارٍ فِي الصَّخْرَاءِ، أخطارٍ فِي الْبَحْرِ، أخطارٍ بَيْنَ الْإِخْوَةِ الْكَذْبَةِ! عَانَيْتُ التَّعَبَ، وَالْكَدَّ، وَالسَّهْرَ مَرَّاتٍ كَثِيرَةٍ، وَالْجُوعَ، وَالْعَطَشَ، وَالصَّوْمَ مَرَّاتٍ كَثِيرَةٍ، وَالْبَرْدَ، وَالْعَرِيَّ! أَضِفْ إِلَى ذَلِكَ، مَا عَلَيَّ مِنَ الْأَعْبَاءِ كُلِّ يَوْمٍ، وَالْأَهْتِمَامِ بِجَمِيعِ الْكَنَائِسِ! مَنْ يَضْعُفُ وَلَا أَضْعُفُ أَنَا؟ وَمَنْ يَقَعُ فِي الْخَطِيئَةِ وَلَا أَحْتَرِقُ أَنَا؟ وَإِنْ كَانَ لَا بُدَّ مِنَ الْأَفْتِحَارِ، فَأَنَا أَفْتَحِرُ بِأَوْهَانِي!

إنجيل القديس متى 20-13:16

جَاءَ يَسُوعُ إِلَى نَوَاحِي قَيْصَرِيَّةِ فَيْلَيْسَ فَسَأَلَ تَلَامِيذَهُ قَائِلًا: «مَنْ يَقُولُ النَّاسُ إِنِّي أَنَا ابْنُ الْإِنْسَانِ؟» فَقَالُوا: «بَعْضُهُمْ يَقُولُونَ: يُوحَنَّا الْمَعْمَدَانُ؛ وَآخَرُونَ: إِيْلِيَّا؛ وَغَيْرُهُمْ: إِرْمِيَا أَوْ أَحَدُ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ.» قَالَ لَهُمْ: «وَأَنْتُمْ مَنْ تَقُولُونَ إِنِّي أَنَا؟» فَقَاجَبَ سِمْعَانُ بَطْرُسُ وَقَالَ: أَنْتَ هُوَ الْمَسِيحُ ابْنُ اللَّهِ الْحَيِّ! «فَاجَابَ يَسُوعُ وَقَالَ لَهُ: «طُوبَى لَكَ يَا سِمْعَانُ بَنَ يُونَا! لِأَنَّهُ لَا لَحْمَ وَلَا دَمَ أَظْهَرَ لَكَ ذَلِكَ، بَلْ أَبِي الَّذِي فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ. وَأَنَا أَيْضًا أَقُولُ لَكَ: أَنْتَ هُوَ بَطْرُسُ، أَيُّ الصَّخْرَةِ، وَعَلَى هَذِهِ الصَّخْرَةِ سَأَبْنِي بَيْعَتِي، وَأَبْوَابُ الْجَحِيمِ لَنْ تَقْوَى عَلَيْهَا. سَأَعْطِيكَ مَفَاتِيحَ مَلَكُوتِ السَّمَاوَاتِ، فَكُلُّ مَا تَرْتَبُطُهُ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ يَكُونُ مَرْبُوطًا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ، وَمَا تَحُلُّهُ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ يَكُونُ مَحْلُولًا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ.» حِينَئِذٍ أَوْصَى تَلَامِيذَهُ أَلَّا يَقُولُوا لِأَحَدٍ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْمَسِيحُ.

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