

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



**The cross is honourable because it is both the sign of God's suffering and the trophy of His victory.**

### DAILY LITURGIES 9am

- MON (Arabic)
- TUE (English)
- WED (Arabic)
- THU (English)

### WEEKEND LITURGIES

- SAT 4:00PM(English)
- SUN
  - 8:00AM (Arabic)
  - 9:00AM (English)
  - 11:00AM (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

### MEET OUR PRIESTS:

- Fr. Elie Mikhael ...305-807-9087  
... [pastor@stanthonylawrence.org](mailto:pastor@stanthonylawrence.org)
- Fr. Edgard (Neemtallah) Oneissy  
857-390-4838...  
[pv@stanthonylawrence.org](mailto:pv@stanthonylawrence.org)

### MEET OUR DEACONS:

- Deacon David Leard
- Deacon Nadim B. Daou
- Sub-Deacon James T. Demers
- Sub-Deacon Antoine Nammour



SaintAnthonyLawrence



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### 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

# Season of the Holy Cross: Exaltation of the Holy Cross

عيد ارتفاع الصليب المقدس

LITURGIES INTENTIONS

## SEASON OF THE HOLY CROSS Exaltation of the Holy Cross

**Saturday, September 10, 2022**

**4:00 pm** For: 40 Day Anniversary- Leila Azar *By Her sisters: Sonia Abou Ezzi, Ghada Khoury & their families*

**Sunday, September 11, 2022**

**8:00 am** For: + Mtannous, Cecilia, Doumit & George Hbaiter *By the Hbaiter Family*

**9:00 am** For: +Roy Bistany, *By His family*

**11:00 am**

For: 40 Day Anniversary- Violette Ata *By Her siblings: Nawal Aoun, Marie Ata, Aziz Ata, the family of the late Tannous Ata and their families*

For: +Salwa Abou Khalil & Nassif Touma & their daughter, Patricia Touma, *By Rita Touma and her Family.*

## 1st SUNDAY OF THE HOLY CROSS

**Saturday, September 17, 2022**

**4:00 pm** For: Christopher John Faris *By His cousins, Donna & Christine Kattar*

**Sunday, September 18, 2022**

*The flight of the Lord Jesus to Egypt*

**8:00 am** For: Private Intentions

**9:00 am** For: +Bessie Ann Daher, *By her Children and families*

**11:00 am**

For: 40 Day Anniversary- Fr. Abdallah Ramy *By His Children and their families*

## WEEKDAY LITURGIES

**Monday, September 12**

*St Cornelius the Centurion  
2Pet 1:1-11 / Jn 3:11-21*

**9AM** For: Deceased members of the Francis Daher Family *By Mr. & Mrs. Francis Daher*

**Tuesday, September 13 (En.) St Christopher**

*2Pet 1:12-21 / Jn 3:21-30*

**9AM** For: +Larry & Dora M. Pereira *By Dora Pereira*

**Wednesday, September 14 (Ar.)**

*Exaltation of the Holy Cross  
1 Cor 1:18-25 / Jn 12:20-32*

**9AM** For: For: Private Intentions

**Thursday, September 15 (En.)**

*St Shaina & St Sassine  
2Pet 3:10-18 / Mk 8:31-38*

**9AM** For: In Honor of Rick & John Elias & For: +Kathy Elias.

**Friday, September 16 -No Liturgy**

*St. Cyprian*



**Sanctuary Lamps**  
*In Loving Memory of  
Fred & Mary Faris,  
By the Solomon Family.*

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

## SECOND COLLECTION

**Catholic Universities of America  
September 10 & 11**

*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

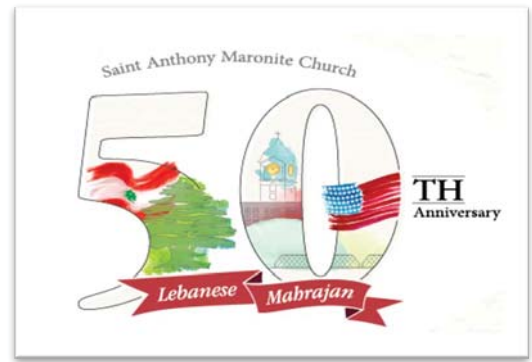
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CELEBRATION OF DIVINE MYSTERIES AND ORDINATION  
ON  
**SEPTEMBER 24, 2022, 11:00 AM**  
AT  
**SANT ANTHONY MARONITE CHURCH**  
145 AMESBURY STREET  
LAWRENCE, MA 01841

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LUNCHEON TO FOLLOW IN CHURCH HALL  
ALL ARE WELCOME

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



**THANK YOU, THANK YOU,  
THANK YOU!**

We are having a difficult time finding exactly the right words to describe our thanks for making our 50<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Mahrajan weekend such a success. To you...volunteers, sponsors, donors, patrons, and parishioners...it is because of your devotion and abundant generosity that we continue to celebrate our heritage, tradition, and faith in the same manner as previous generations. How wonderful it is to honor this great tradition and pass it forward to the generations to come, as it has been passed to us by our parents and grandparents.

We continue to thank God for allowing us to serve in such a phenomenal parish and we pray that He bless and protect each and every one of you.

Fr. Elie & Fr. Neemtallah

### MASS INTENTIONS

Liturgies are offered for many reasons: for the souls in purgatory, in remembrance for someone who is deceased, or in honor of a birthday or special anniversary, and more.

Liturgy stipend or offering given, signifies the sacrificial nature of giving of something of yourself to associate more intimately with Christ who offers himself in the Eucharist.

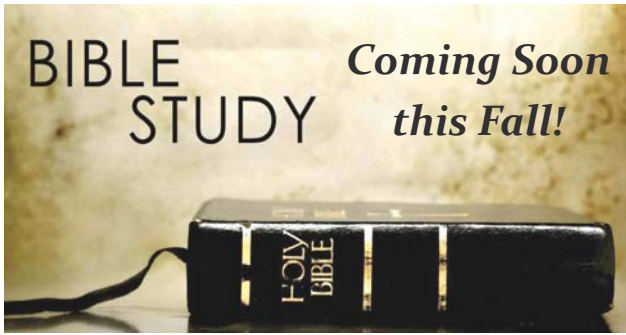
If you would like to have a Liturgy said for someone, please contact the Parish Office by phone or email for help with available dates and times.



*Jesus is longing for your presence.*

Adoration will resume Regular  
Schedule following Liturgy:  
**Thursday, September 15th**





### **Knights of Mary 2022-2023**

[www.stanthonylawrence.org/registration-form-4/](http://www.stanthonylawrence.org/registration-form-4/)

\*Registration ENDS September 25th\*

Kick off is Saturday, October 1st At 3:45PM

Knights of Mary sessions will be Bi Weekly from 5-7PM

### **Knights of the Altar 2022-2023**

<https://www.stanthonylawrence.org/application/>

Sign up to be a Knight & serve on the Altar during Liturgies.

Forms can be auto-filled through the above link. Paper forms are available in the Church Foyer.

**Full Altar Server Schedule can be found:**  
<https://www.stanthonylawrence.org/kinghts-of-the-altar-calendar/>

### **Maronite Youth Organization - MYO**

MYO Regional Lock-in  
Saint Anthony Church Hall

Save the Dates!!!  
**October 8 & 9**

### **BIBLE CAMP 2023**

Looking forward to next year's  
LOL Bible Camp!!! Save the dates -  
July 12 -15, 2023

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2022-2023**

MOVING RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TO  
SATURDAY- TWICE A MONTH  
5PM-6:30 PM

Registration is now open! Sign up your kids today!  
[www.stanthonylawrence.org/registration-form/](http://www.stanthonylawrence.org/registration-form/)

Full Calendar Year  
[www.stanthonylawrence.org/calendar-classes-and-events/](http://www.stanthonylawrence.org/calendar-classes-and-events/)

**In person Registration Saturday and Sunday  
September 10th and 11th after each Mass.**

*First Class is Saturday, September 17th*

Good afternoon Religious Education Families!!!

We hope you are having a wonderful summer. The religious education registration form is up and running on the St. Anthony website. We are looking forward to the return of your children this fall.

We have some exciting news!!!!. Based on feedback we have received, we are thrilled to announce that we will be returning to Saturdays!!! Classes will begin on Saturday, September 17. The class times are 5:00-6:30. Our full calendar can be found on the website. If you prefer in person registration, *we will offer in person registration the weekend of September 10 & 11 after the liturgies.*

If you have a child that will be making First Communion this year, please note, children must have grade 1 religious education in order to be eligible in grade 2 to receive. That means, if your child attends parochial school and attended parochial school in grade 1, they can sign into grade 2 this year. If your child attends public school and did NOT attend grade 1 religious education at St. Anthony, they must enroll in grade 1 this year.

I would also like to welcome Mrs. Ginine Flannigan. Mrs. Flannigan is not new to Religious Education. She has taught the First Communion classes over the past several years. She is taking on new responsibilities and will be assisting with the directing of the program this year. I am excited to have this support. We will be working together so you may reach out to either of us with concerns this year.

We do hope you will make the religious education upbringing of your children a priority. Even if your child attends parochial school, they are not studying our Maronite faith.

We are looking forward to a great year. Please reach out with any questions.

Susan and Ginine

## Maronite Young Adults - MYA



MYA Registration now open to new members, Ages 18-35  
 Contact Ramona for more info:  
 978-350-2965



- 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, & 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 & other materials
- After mass area check



## 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.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Sept 10:** Lola AbouKhalil, Taylor Roy, Rita Zaarour
- Sept 11:** Youssef Bechara, Elias Chaya, Vincent DiTommaso, Tony Harb, Carla Khoder,
- Sept 12:** Gretchen Akiki, Tony Ata, Amanda Belko, Dianne Dewan, Angela Khoury, Fadi Khoury, Irah Roderiguez, Alex Smith, Ashley Switala, Joseph Zaarour,
- Sept 13:** Donna Kattar, Tony Khoury, Nicole Marrero
- Sept. 14:** Georgio Abou Nasser, Brian Conway, Adam Corey, Leila Geha, Sally Nakley, Ghassan Raad, Eva Ramey, Patricia Thomas
- Sept 15:** Olivia Gabriel, Alan Garcia, Mike Homsey
- Sept 16:** Michael Geha, Eric Kissinger, Christopher Nasr, Robert Solomon

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- Sept 10:** Elie & Lina Merheb
- Sept 11:** Robert & Doreen Hamman
- Sept 12:** Mitri & Molly Nader
- Sept 13:** Elie & Tanya Abdilmasih, Danny & Marla Abourjeili
- Sept. 14:** Charles & Chantale Bou Sanayeh, Elias & Guita Bou Habib, Hector & Grace Crespo
- Sept 15:** Ernest & Martha Dow, Joshua & Danielle Garcia, Elie & Mirielle Lalo,
- Sept 16:** Louis & Katia Assaf, George & Teresa Bowles, Rabih & Rana Dahbour, Stephen & Kathleen George, Ross & Julianne Jefferson

## How we react to criticism and opposition

*By Ronald Rolheiser*

Have you ever noticed how we spontaneously react to a perceived threat? Our primal instincts tend to take over and we instantly freeze and begin to shut all the doors opening to warmth, gentleness and empathy inside us. That's a natural reaction, deeply rooted inside our nature. Biologists tell us that whenever we perceive something or someone as threatening, paranoia instinctually arises inside us and has the effect of driving us back towards a more primitive place inside our bodies, to the reptile part of our brain, that remnant still inside us from our evolutionary origins millions of years ago. And reptiles are cold-blooded. So too, it seems, are we when we're threatened.

This, I believe, helps explain much of the paranoia and violence in our world today, as well as the bitter rhetoric that, almost universally, is blocking any real possibility of meaningful discussion about our tensions today within politics, economics and our churches.

We live in a bitterly polarized world. All of us recognize this, and all of us see a lot of cold-bloodedness inside world politics, inside the politics within our own countries and communities, and, sadly, not least, inside our churches. What we see in nearly every discussion today where there is disagreement is a cold, hard rhetoric that is not really open to genuine dialogue and is, invariably, the antithesis of charity, graciousness and respect. What we see instead is paranoia, demonization of those who disagree with us, ridicule of our opponents' sincerity and values, and blind self-defensiveness.

Moreover this bitterness and disrespect, so contrary to all that's in the Gospels and to all that's noble inside us, is invariably "sacralized," that is, it is rationalized as demanded by "God." We believe that what we are doing is for God, or for truth, or for country, or for the poor, or for Mother Nature, or for art, or for something whose transcendent value, we believe, justifies our bracketing both Jesus and common courtesy. If you doubt this, simply turn on any radio or television station that does commentary on politics or religion or listen to any political or religious debate today. We are, as John Shea puts it, more skilled in justification than in self-examination. Then we can sacralize our disrespect and lack of elemental charity.

But, in doing this we are far from the Gospel, far from Jesus, and far from what's best inside us. We're meant to be more than the reptile part of our brains and more than the instincts we inherited from our ancient ancestors, the beasts of prey. We're called to something higher, called to respond to threat beyond the blind response of instinct.

St. Paul's own reaction to threat can serve as a template for what our ideal response should be. He writes: When we are ridiculed, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; when slandered, we respond gently (1 Corinthians 4, 12-13). Earlier, in the same letter, he had given another counsel in regards to dealing with opposition. His counsel: Live with enough patience inside opposition so as not to have to defend yourself, let God and history do that for you: "It does not concern me in the least that I be judged by you or any human tribunal; I do not even pass judgment on myself; I am not conscious of anything against me, but I do not hereby stand acquitted; the one who judges me is the Lord. Therefore, do not make any judgment before the appointed time."

Admittedly, this is difficult. Our instinctual self is not easily subdued. Like everyone else, I struggle a lot with this. Every time I hear or read someone who dismisses my preaching and writing as heretical, or dangerous, or (even more biting) as light-weight fluff, the reptile part of my brain stirs to do its ancient job and my natural instincts bitterly resist the high road that St. Paul so wisely counsels. Natural instinct does not want to try to understand the position of the one who has belittled us, nor does it does not want to bless and endure and respond gently. It wants blood. I suspect that everyone's instincts work in the same way. Natural instinct doesn't easily honour the Gospel.

But, that's the test, indeed one of the litmus tests of Christian discipleship. When we look at the core of Jesus' moral teachings we ask ourselves: What more than anything else sets Jesus apart from other moral teachers, what particular challenge of His might serve as a litmus test for genuine discipleship?

I submit that at the core of Jesus' teaching lies this challenge: Can I love an enemy? Can I bless someone who curses me? Can I wish good to someone who wishes me evil? Can I genuinely forgive someone who's been unfair to me? And, perhaps even more importantly, can I live in patience when I'm in tension, not rushing to defend myself, but leaving that defence to history and to God?



## 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/](http://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" X 8" = \$250

Please submit your request either by

Phone: 978.685.7233 or by E-mail:

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

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

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.

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

or Visit: [www.stanthonylawrence.org/lots-sales/](http://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](mailto:rectory@stanthonylawrence.org)

Tree to be planted : Kousa Dogwood

## Exaltation of the Holy Cross

*Book of Exodus 17,8-15.*

Then Amalek came and fought with Israel at Rephidim. Moses said to Joshua, 'Choose some men for us and go out; fight with Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the staff of God in my hand.' So Joshua did as Moses told him, and fought with Amalek, while Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. Whenever Moses held up his hand, Israel prevailed; and whenever he lowered his hand, Amalek prevailed. But Moses' hands grew weary; so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it. Aaron and Hur held up his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side; so his hands were steady until the sun set. And Joshua defeated Amalek and his people with the sword. Then the LORD said to Moses, 'Write this as a reminder in a book and recite it in the hearing of Joshua: I will utterly blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven.' And Moses built an altar and called it, The LORD is my banner.

*First Letter to the Corinthians 1,18-25.*

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, 'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.' Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

*Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Saint John 12,20-32.*

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour. 'Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say "Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.' Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, 'An angel has spoken to him.' Jesus answered, 'This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.'

### LECTORS SCHEDULE

**Saturday, September 10 -**

**4PM Lisa Abdallah**

**Sunday, September 11-**

**8AM -Mouna Hbaiter**

**9AM Sub-Deacon James Demers**

**11:00AM Eng: Alexa Ata  
Ar: Marcel Saade**

**Saturday, September 17 - 4PM Susan Kalil**

**Sunday, September 18- 8AM -Huguette Sfeir**

**9AM David Brousseau**

**11:00AM Eng: Mounira Daher  
Ar: Sleiman Ramy**



## عيد ارتفاع الصليب المقدس

سفر الخروج 15-17:8

وجاء العمالقة فحاربوا اسرائيل في رفيديم. فقال موسى ليشوع: «اختز لنا رجالا واخرج لمحاربة العمالقة، وغدا أنا أقت على رأس التل وعصا الله في يدي.» ففعل يشوع كما قال له موسى في أمر محاربة العمالقة. أما موسى وهارون وحور فصعدوا إلى رأس التل. فكان إذا رفع موسى يده، يغلب بنو اسرائيل وإذا حطها، تغلب العمالقة. ولما نقلت يدا موسى وحور حجرا وجعلاه تحته، فجلس عليه وأسند هارون وحور يديه، أحدهما من هنا والآخر من هناك. فكانت يداه ثابتتين إلى مغيب الشمس. فهزم يشوع عماليق وقومه بحد السيف. وقال الرب لموسى: «اكتب هذا ذكرا في كتاب، وضع في أذني يشوع أبي سامحو ذكرا عماليق محوا من تحت السماء.» «وبنى موسى مذبحا وسماه «الرب رايي.»»

رسالة القديس بولس الأولى إلى أهل كورنتس 1:18-25

يا إخوتي، إن كلمة الصليب عند الهالكين حماقة، أما عندنا نحن المخلصين فهي قوة الله؛ لأنه مكتوب: «سأبيد حكمة الحكماء، وأرذل فهم الفهماء!». «فأين الحكيم؟ وأين عالم الشريعة؟ وأين الباحث في أمور هذا الدهر؟ أما جعل الله حكمة هذا العالم حماقة؟ فيما أن العالم بحكمته ما عرف الله بحسب حكمة الله، رضي الله أن يخلص بحماقة البشارة الذين يؤمنون؛ لأن اليهود يطلبون الآيات، واليونانيين يهتمون بالحكمة. أما نحن فننادي بمسيح مصلوب، هو عثار لليهود وحماقة للأمم. وأما للمدعوين أنفسهم، من اليهود واليونانيين، فهو مسيح، قوة الله وحكمة الله؛ فما يبدو أنه حماقة من الله هو أحكم من الناس، وما يبدو أنه ضعف من الله هو أقوى من الناس.

انجيل القديس يوحنا 32-20:12

كان بين الصاعدين ليسجدوا في العيد، بعض اليونانيين. فدنا هؤلاء من فيلبس الذي من بيت صيدا الجليل، وسألوه قائلين: «يا سيدي، نريد أن نرى يسوع.» فجاء فيلبس وقال لأندراؤس، وجاء أندراؤس وفيلبس وقالا ليسوع. فأجابهما يسوع قائلًا: «لقد حانت الساعة لكي يمجد ابن الإنسان. الحق الحق أقول لكم: إن حبة الحنطة، إن لم تقع في الأرض وتمت، تبقى واحدة. وإن ماتت تأتي بثمر كثير. من يحب نفسه يفقدها، ومن يبغضها في هذا العالم يحفظها حياة أبدية. من يخدمني فليتبغني. وحيث أكون أنا، فهناك يكون أيضا خادمي. من يخدمني يكرمه الأب. نفسي الآن مضطربة، فماذا أقول؟ يا أبت، نجني من هذه الساعة؟ ولكن من أجل هذا بلغت إلى هذه الساعة! يا أبت، مجد اسمك.» فجاء صوت من السماء يقول: «قد مجدت، وسامجد.» وسمع الجمع الحاضر فقالوا: «إنه رعد.» وقال آخرون: «إن ملاكا خاطبه.» أجاب يسوع وقال: «ما كان هذا الصوت من أجلي، بل من ألكم. هي الآن دينونة هذا العالم. الآن يطرد سلطان هذا العالم خارجا. وأنا إذا رفعت عن الأرض، جذبت إلي الجميع.»

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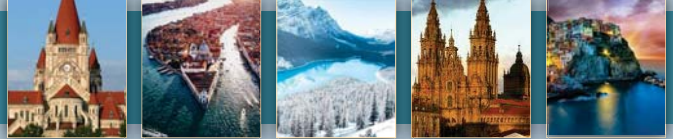


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