

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

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
Fr. Edgard (Neemtallah) Oneissy
857-390-4838
...pv@stanthonylawrence.org

MEET OUR DEACONS:

Deacons: Nadim B. Daou,
James T. Demers & David Leard
Sub-Deacon: Antoine Nammour

DAILY LITURGIES 9am

MON & WED (Arabic)

TUE & THU (English)

WEEKEND LITURGIES

SAT 4:00PM(Eng)

SUN 8:00AM (Ara) /

9:00AM (Eng) /

11:00AM (Eng.& Ara)

Holy days of obligation:

Vigil Liturgy @ 7:00 PM



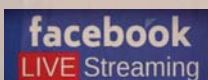
venmo

Scan QR code for payment



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church_id=72](https://members.myeoffering.com/#/landing?church_id=72)



SaintAnthonyLawrence

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 INTENTIONS

5th WEEK OF LENT - Healing of the Paralytic

Saturday, March 18

4:00pm +40 Day Anniversary- Charles El Feghali, & for +Marvin Hobeika, *By Laure El Feghali & Family.*

+Mitchell Moses, *By his family & loved ones.*

Sunday, March 19 *St Joseph*

8:00 am + 1yr Anniversary - Ghazi Jabbour, *By Mouna, wife of Kamil Hbaiter, & Family*

9:00am IHO Saint Anthony's Basketball Teams

11:00 am +Fr. Abdallah Ramey, *By Peter & Jean Sarkis & Family.*

+40 Day Anniversary- Josephine Tohme Aoun *By her family*

Sunday of the Healing of the Paralytic الأحد الخامس من الصوم الكبير : أحد شفاء المفلج

6TH WEEK OF LENT -Healing of Blind Man

Saturday, March 25 *(English)*

Feast of the Annunciation

4:00pm +Albert & Jeanne Farrah, *By their children & grandchildren.*

Sunday, March 26

8:00 am + Peter Bijjani, *By his wife, Lily, & Family.*

9:00 am + Salime Azzi Homsy *By The Pastor*

11:00 am + 40 Day Anniversary For- Wadad Azzi, *By her Children & their Families.*

Weekday Liturgies

Monday, March 20 *(Ar.) St. Theophanes the Chronicler*
2Cor 9:1a, 5-15/ Lk 9: 37-45

9:00am +Private Intentions

Tuesday, March 21 *(En.) St Euphrasia*
1Cor 16:15-24 / Mk 8:22-26

9:00am +All Souls in Purgatory *By Dora Pereira*

Wednesday, March 22 *(Ar.) St. Benedict*
Rom 14:1-13 / LK 7:1-10

9:00am +Private Intentions

Thursday, March 23 *(En.) St Rafka*
2Cor 1:23-2:5 / Mt 15:29-39

9:00am +For: Rosanna Dargoonian,
By Janice & John Gray.

9:30am -12 noon Eucharistic Adoration

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday at 7pm. Confessions are available 30 minutes before the Stations Prayers.

Sanctuary Lamps

Sanctuary Lamps will burn for Private Intentions.

Book your Sanctuary lamp Online:
www.stanthonylawrence.org/sanctuary-lamp/

Clergy Day Off

Fr Elie: Mondays

Fr. Neemtallah's : Wednesdays

PLEASE NOTE:

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

TICKETS have been mailed !!!!

Covering the upcoming expenses:

Building insurance (\$30k) & Bishop's Appeal (\$7500)

St Anthony Maronite Catholic Church
To Cover: Building Insurance (30K) & Bishop Appeal (\$7500)

ANNUAL RAFFLE FUNDRAISING

1st PRIZE: \$2500
2nd PRIZE: \$1000
3rd PRIZE: \$500
4th PRIZE: \$250

1 TICKET for \$10 / 5 for \$40

TO BE DRAWN APRIL 9 - EASTER SUNDAY
rectory@stanthonylawrence.org / 978.685.7233

No. 001

Easter Lily Dedication

In honor of Easter, the sanctuary will be decorated with lilies. You may dedicate one or more lily plant in memory or honor of those near and dear to your own heart for \$15 each.

I would like to dedicate _____

An Easter Flower at \$15 Each. Please specify

"In Memory of" or "In Honor of"

Given by:

Please return this completed form, along with your payment (Check, Cash or Venmo), to the Church office by **12 NOON, Friday March 31**. You are welcome to place this form with your check in the offering plate as it is passed. There will be an insert in the Parish Bulletin on April 8 & 9, suitable for presentation to acknowledge your dedications.



EASTER BAKE SALE

DEADLINE FOR ORDERS: March 23

PROCEEDS TO HELP FAMILIES IN NEED IN LEBANON

Order Form

(Send your order by e-mail or by calling Bassima 603.571.3003 or the office 978.685.7233)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Pick-Up Date: PALM SUNDAY

Maamoul

♦ Dates : 6 for \$10 x Qty: _____ = \$ _____

♦ Walnuts : 6 for \$10 x Qty: _____ = \$ _____

♦ Pistachio: 6 for \$12 x Qty: _____ = \$ _____

Kaak:

Bag (6) for \$6 x Qty: _____ = \$ _____

Ghoraybah:

6 pieces for \$6 x Qty: _____ = \$ _____

Macaroon:

6 pieces for \$6 x Qty: _____ = \$ _____

Kanafe Box: \$50 x Qty: _____ = \$ _____

Total Amount of Order: \$ _____

Method of Donation:

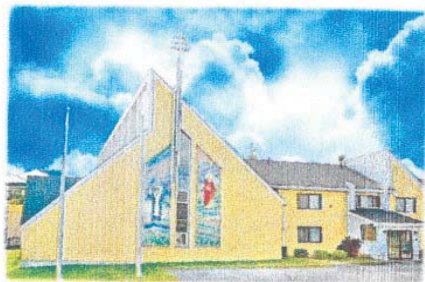
Cash _____ or Check _____

Credit Card _____ Venmo _____

HOW MUCH IS 5%?

WEEKLY INCOME	\$150.	\$200.	\$300.
OFFERING	\$7.50	\$10.00	\$15.00

\$400.	\$500.	\$700.	\$800.	\$900.
\$20.00	\$25.00	\$35.00	\$40.00	\$45.00



If absent, PLEASE MAIL YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO THE PARISH.

St. Anthony Church • Lawrence, MA

PLEASE INDICATE AMOUNT	\$	\$100	\$50	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$10
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Please mark the amount of your offering to insure proper credit.

Dear Parishioners

Be an active member of the building and growth of our community. The Lord commands His people to tithe, to donate, so that our hearts will not be attached to the riches of the world *where moth and rust destroy*.

Here is a breakdown of donations based on individual income....

Let your charity be at the measure of His Love to us on the Cross

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Upcoming Classes- Bi-Weekly- 5PM-6:30 PM

Saturday, March 18 & April 1

Please check your calendars for upcoming sessions.

Calendar:

stanthonylawrence.org/calendar-classes-and-events/

Religious Education Fall 2023 registration now open **in person only**.

If you are planning to enroll your child for Religious Education in the fall of 2023, please see Mrs. Flanigan in the church hall on Saturday, March 18 for a registration form.

We are **currently not opening online registrations**. We will be accepting paper registrations throughout the spring. The early registration will enable the Religious Education team to plan for classrooms and materials by registering now. Additionally, it will help us to start Religious Education classes earlier in September. We appreciate your understanding and look forward to seeing you in person this upcoming weekend!!

KNIGHTS OF MARY

March 25: from 5-7PM

Calendar: www.stanthonylawrence.org/events-2/

KNIGHTS OF THE ALTAR

Sign up today to serve on the Altar!

Application and full Altar Server Schedule can be found:

www.stanthonylawrence.org/kinghts-of-the-altar-calendar/

LOL BIBLE CAMP 2023

Save the dates - *July 12 -15, 2023*

MARONITE YOUNG ADULTS -MYA - Ages 18-35

MYA Registration is open to new members.

Contact Ramona for more info: 978-350-2965

**MYA NEW ENGLAND
REGIONAL RETREAT****EVENTS AROUND THE EPARCHY**

~ **Eparchial Youth Lenten Zoom Bible Study:**
March 19 & 26

RSVP @ www.myoeparchystmaron.org

~ **MYO Kick-Off** at Our Lady of Fatima (the Future home of Our Lady of Purgatory):
March 25th 11:30-5pm

RSVP to Fr. Vincent Farhat @ 508-996-8934
or via email: ourladyofpurgatory@gmail.com

~**AWAKEN-** 2023 National MYO Conference:

June 27-July 1

Register at www.maroniteyouth.org

SPIRITUAL PROGRAM FOR LENTEN SEASON AT
ST ANTHONY MARONITE CHURCH

Lent

A season of reflection, preparation, & renewal.

EVERY TUESDAY @ 7PM

ARABIC BIBLE STUDY

WEDNESDAY @ 7PM

MARCH 22: HEALING PRAYERS

MARCH 29: PRAYING FOR FAMILIES

EVERY THURSDAY @ 7PM

ENGLISH BIBLE STUDY

EVERY FRIDAY @ 7PM

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

+ CONFESSIONS 30 MIN. BEFORE

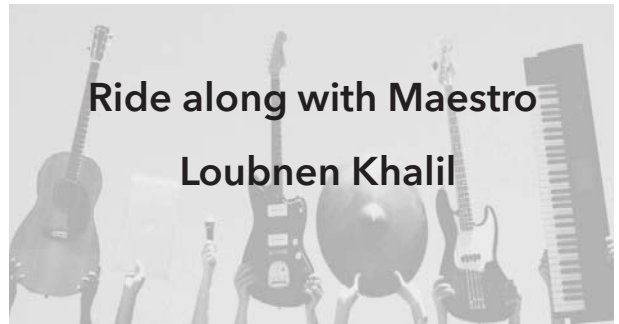
DCG SCHOLARSHIP

Will be available only for parishioners of St Anthony. This endowment will be administered by the development office of Central Catholic. ***The applicants must apply through the financial aid process set forth by Central.***

The awards will be open to all grades and will be based on need and academic potential. ***Applicants must notify the Parish of their intention to apply for financial aid so we can alert the school that they are eligible candidates for the DCG Scholarship.***

Any question, please contact Ken at 508-633-0704.
Thank you,
Ken Gabriel-Maroon Family

Do you play a Musical Instrument



Ride along with Maestro
Loubnen Khalil

If you are interested in participating in an orchestra directed by the Violin Master, Loubnen Khalil, kindly fill out the short form Below and drop it in the collection basket or send your information to our office email @

rectory@stanthonylawrence.org

Name:

Best Contact:

Instrument:

Years of Playing or learning:

Saturday March 25 | 11:30-5pm
at Our Lady of Fatima (future home of OLOP)
4256 Acushnet Ave New Bedford

Maronite Youth KICK OFF

RSVP to Fr. Vince Farhat by March 20
Ph: 508-996-8934
Email: ourladyofpurgatory@gmail.com

BECOME A NAM MEMBER

Use your credit card and apply online

www.namnews.org

Additional Membership Benefits

- Discount on National & Regional Conventions' pre-registration
- Discount on NAM's Lenten Retreats
- Eligibility for NAM's Silver and Gold Massabki Awards, and Faith of the Mountain Award
- Discount on various items available through NAM
- Eligibility for Scholarships

BE PART OF OUR MINISTRIES

Religious Education

<https://www.stanthonylawrence.org/registration-form/>

Maronite Youth Organization –MYO

<https://www.stanthonylawrence.org/registration-form-2/>

Maronite Young Adults –MYA

Please email the Parish to add your name to the MYA Group: rectory@stanthonylawrence.org

Knights of Mary –KOM

<https://www.stanthonylawrence.org/registration-form-4/>

Knights of the Altars

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

In addition our Parish takes pride and invites you to be part of the other ministries such as:

- *Daughters of St Anthony*
- *Our Lady of Lebanon Sodality*
- *Sunshine Committee*
- *M-Wine*
- *Bereavement Ministry*
- *Ushers*
- *Men's Ministry*

Scholarships offered by NAM for active NAM members. The applications for all scholarships offered by NAM can be found online, through NAM's website, www.namnews.org.

1.NAM General Application for Scholarships:

- **John A. Solomon Memorial - MYO Scholarship;** Two scholarships of \$2000 each, payable over 2 years, available for high school seniors who are **active members** of MYO
- **Abouna Sharbel Scholarship;** Three (3) scholarships of \$1,000, available for 3 High School Seniors.
- **Massabki Brothers Scholarship;** One scholarship of \$2000, payable over 2 years, available for high school seniors
- **Naomi & Paul Kassouf Scholarship;** Two scholarships of \$2000 each, payable over 2 years, available for high school seniors
- **Chagoury Family Undergraduate Scholarship;** One scholarship of \$2000, available for students already in college
- **Thomas and Jennie Ayoob Memorial Scholarship;** One scholarship of \$2000, payable over 2 years, available for students already in college
- **Chagoury Family Graduate Scholarship;** One scholarship of \$2000, available for students already in masters or doctorate program

2.USEK Scholarship: The University of the Holy Spirit-Kaslik, Lebanon. **10 Summer scholarships** will be awarded which will include full tuition and dormitory; and **\$500** once the semester is completed. Available for college students; Summer 2023.

NDU Scholarship: Notre Dame University-Louaize, Lebanon. **12 scholarships for the Spring or Fall semester**, both include full tuition and dormitory; and **\$500** once a semester is completed. Available for college students; Fall/Spring 2023/2024

The details and eligibility requirements are clearly explained in each application. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me directly at 440-821-6303, email me at namscholarships@gmail.com or contact the NAM Office using the information at the bottom of this page.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS May 31, 2023.

LECTORS SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 18- 4PM- Patricia Ferguson

Sunday, March 19 8AM - Huguette Sfeir

9AM - Lena Bouchrouche

11:00AM Eng: Marie Charabati

Ar: Mounira Daher

LECTORS SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 25 - 4PM - Susan Kalil

Sunday, March 26- 8AM- Mouna Hbaiter

9AM - Meaghan Twing

11AM -Eng: Elias Azzi

Ar: Sub-Deacon Antoine Nammour

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.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

March 18: Mateo Mazraani, Josephine McDougall, Joseph Msaddi, Josette Nammour, Kayla Ramey, Elias Sfeir

March 19: Matthew Giantonio, , Olivia Samia, John Saad

March 20: Zoe Danus, Marybeth Hashem, Michael Najem,

March 21: George Ata, Rudy Bourouphael, Gisele Dahbour, Miray Hachem, Noreen Mallen, Rita Maroun,

March 22: Martin Akiki, Samantha Asmar, Emma Azzi, Marisa Thompson,

March 23: Sonia Ata, Christophe Phares, Maximus Ranson

March 24: Ali Hajj

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

March 23: Marco & Alexandra (Samia) Solia

St Anthony's Cemetery**Grave Purchase & Burial**

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: stanthonylawrence.org/lots-sales/

Cemetery Guidelines

www.stanthonylawrence.org/cemetery/

Headstones & Cemetery Markers

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

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

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

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 displayed for ten years.

Plant-A-Tree B— For a donation of \$250.00: memorial plaque displayed for five years.

Your Donation is Tax-Deductible

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

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

Fifth Sunday of Great Lent: Sunday of the Man who was Paralyzed

Book of Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

First Letter to Timothy 5:24-25; 6:1-5

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.

Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to 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!'

الأحد الخامس من الصوم الكبير : أحد شفاء المخلع

سفر أشعيا 35:1-10

لَتَفْرَحَ الْبَرِّيَّةُ وَالْقَفْرُ وَلَتُبْتَهِجَ الْبَادِيَةُ وَتُزْهِرَ كَالنَّارِجِسِ، لَتُزْهِرَ أَرْهَارًا وَتُبْتَهِجَ أَبْتَهَاجًا مَعَ هُتَافٍ. قَدْ أُوتِيَتْ مَجْدٌ لُبْنَانُ وَبِهَاءَ الْكَرْمَلِ وَالشَّارُونَ فَهَمَ يَزُونَ مَجْدَ الرَّبِّ وَبِهَاءَ إِلَهِنَا. قُوُّوا الْأَيْدِيَ الْمُسْتَرْخِيَةَ وَشَدِّدُوا الرُّكْبَ الْوَاهِنَةَ. قُولُوا لِفَرْعِي الْقُلُوبِ: «تَقَوُّوا وَلَا تَخَافُوا هُوَذَا إِلَهُكُمْ النِّقْمَةُ آتِيَةٌ هَذِهِ مُكَافَأَةُ اللَّهِ هُوَ يَأْتِي فَيُخَلِّصُكُمْ». «حِينَئِذٍ تَتَفَتَّحُ عُيُونُ الْعُمَيَّانِ وَأَذَانُ الصُّمِّ تَتَفَتَّحُ وَحِينَئِذٍ يَقْفُزُ الْأَعْرَجُ كَالْأَيْلِ وَيَهْتَفُ لِسَانُ الْأَبْكَمِ فَقَدْ أَنْفَجَرَتِ الْمِيَاهُ فِي الْبَرِّيَّةِ وَالْأَنْهَارُ فِي الْبَادِيَةِ. وَيَكُونُ هُنَاكَ مَسَلُّكَ وَطَرِيقٌ يُقَالُ لَهُ الطَّرِيقُ الْمُقَدَّسُ لَا يَعْبُرُ فِيهِ نَجَسٌ بَلْ إِنَّمَا هُوَ لَهُمْ. مَنْ سَلَكَ هَذَا الطَّرِيقَ حَتَّى الْجَهَّالَ لَا يَضِلُّ. بَلْ يَسِيرُ فِيهِ الْمُخَلَّصُونَ وَالَّذِينَ قَدَّاهُمُ الرَّبُّ يَرْجِعُونَ وَيَأْتُونَ إِلَى صِهْيُونَ بِهُتَافٍ وَيَكُونُ عَلَى رُؤُوسِهِمْ فَرْحٌ أَبَدِيٌّ وَيُرَافِقُهُمُ السُّرُورُ وَالْفَرَحُ وَتَنْهَزُهُمْ عَنْهُمْ الْحَسْرَةُ وَالتَّأْوُّهُ.

رسالة القديس بولس الأولى إلى طيموتاوس 5:1-5; 6:24-25

يَا إِخْوَتِي، 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 يَحْسَبُوا أَسْيَادَهُمْ أَهْلًا لِكُلِّ كَرَامَةٍ، لِئَلَّا يُجَدِّفَ عَلَى أَسْمِ اللَّهِ وَتَعْلِيمِهِ. أَمَّا الَّذِينَ لَهُمْ أَسْيَادٌ مُؤْمِنُونَ فَلَا يَسْتَهَيِّنُوا بِهِمْ، لِأَنَّهُمْ إِخْوَةٌ، بَلْ بِالْآخَرَى فَلْيُخْدَمُوهُمْ، لِأَنَّ الْمُسْتَفِيدِينَ مِنْ خِدْمَتِهِمُ الطَّيِّبَةَ هُمْ مُؤْمِنُونَ وَأَحِبَّاءُ، ذَلِكَ مَا يَجِبُ أَنْ تُعَلِّمَهُ وَتُعِظَ بِهِ. فَإِنْ كَانَ أَحَدٌ يُعَلِّمُ تَعْلِيمًا مُخَالِفًا، وَلَا يَتَمَسَّكُ بِالْكَلَامِ الصَّحِيحِ، كَلَامِ رَبَّنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ، وَبِالتَّعْلِيمِ الْمُوَافِقِ لِلنَّقْوَى، فَهُوَ إِنْسَانٌ أَعْمَنَهُ الْكِبْرِيَاءُ، لَا يَفْهَمُ شَيْئًا، بَلْ مُصَابٌ بِمَرَضِ الْمُجَادَلَاتِ وَالْمُمَاحَكَاتِ، الَّتِي يَنْشَأُ عَنْهَا الْحَسَدُ وَالْخِصَامُ وَالتَّجْدِيفُ وَسُوءُ الظَّنِّ، وَالْمُشَاجَرَاتُ بَيْنَ أَنْاسٍ فَاسِدِي الْعَقْلِ، زَائِفِينَ عَنِ الْحَقِّ، يَظُنُّونَ أَنَّ النَّقْوَى وَسِيلَةٌ لِلرَّبْحِ.

إنجيل القديس مرقس 2:1-12

عَادَ يَسُوعُ إِلَى كَفَرْنَاحُومَ. وَسَمِعَ النَّاسُ أَنَّهُ فِي الْبَيْتِ. فَتَجَمَّعَ عَدَدٌ كَبِيرٌ مِنْهُمْ حَتَّى غَصَّ بِهِمُ الْمَكَانُ، وَلَمْ يَبْقَ مَوْضِعٌ لِأَحَدٍ وَلَا عِنْدَ الْبَابِ. وَكَانَ يُخَاطِبُهُمْ بِكَلِمَةِ اللَّهِ. فَاتَّوَّهُ 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 الْكَتَّابَةِ جَالِسِينَ هُنَاكَ يُفَكِّرُونَ فِي قُلُوبِهِمْ: لِمَاذَا يَتَكَلَّمُ هَذَا الرَّجُلُ هَكَذَا؟ إِنَّهُ يُجَدِّفُ! مَنْ يَقْدِرُ أَنْ يَغْفِرَ الْخَطَايَا إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ؟ وَفِي الْحَالِ عَرَفَ يَسُوعَ بِرُوحِهِ أَنَّهُمْ يُفَكِّرُونَ هَكَذَا فِي أَنْفُسِهِمْ فَقَالَ لَهُمْ: «لِمَاذَا تَفَكِّرُونَ بِهَذَا فِي قُلُوبِكُمْ؟ مَا هُوَ الْأَسْهَلُ؟ أَنْ يُقَالَ لِلْمُخْلَعِ: مَغْفُورَةٌ لَكَ خَطَايَاكَ؟ أَمْ أَنْ يُقَالَ: قُمْ وَاحْمِلْ فِرَاشَكَ وَامْشِ؟ وَلَكِي تَعْلَمُوا أَنَّ لَابْنَ الْإِنْسَانِ سُلْطَانًا أَنْ يَغْفِرَ الْخَطَايَا عَلَى الْأَرْضِ؟»، قَالَ لِلْمُخْلَعِ: لَكَ أَقُولُ: قُمْ، احْمِلْ فِرَاشَكَ، وَادْهَبْ إِلَى بَيْتِكَ! فَقَامَ فِي الْحَالِ وَحَمَلَ فِرَاشَهُ، وَخَرَجَ أَمَامَ الْجَمِيعِ، حَتَّى دَهَشُوا كُلُّهُمْ وَمَجَّدُوا اللَّهَ قَائِلِينَ: «مَا رَأَيْنَا مِثْلَ هَذَا الْبَتَّةِ!»



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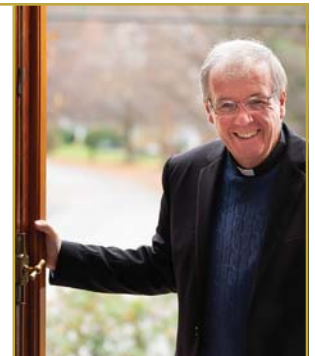
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