

## 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)



# *Season of the Glorious Epiphany*

## *Sunday Of The Righteous And Just*

### أحد الأبرار والصدّيقين



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## LITURGIES INTENTIONS

## Daily Liturgies

### Sunday of the Righteous and Just

**Saturday, January 27**

*St. Paula*

- 4:00 pm** + 40 Day Anniversary - Joseph (Joey) P. Getchell, *By his parents, Emily & Timothy, his siblings, Chris, Brittany & family*
- + Chukri, Nadia, & Salma Awil, Elias & Mariam Khoder, *By their family*

**Sunday, January 28**

*St. Ephrem*

- 8:00 am** Private Intentions
- 9:30 am** + William A. Stundza, *By his family*
- 11:00 am** + Tannous Ata, *By his wife Leila, children, & family*

### Sunday of the Faithful Departed

**Saturday, February 3**

*St Simeon & St. Anna*

- 4:00 pm** + Christine Kattar, *By Souad Moses*

**Sunday, February 4**

*St Isidore*

- 8:00 am** + Elias Owaida, *By his son Robert Owaida, & family*
- 9:30 am** + 40 Day Anniversary - Larwrence (Larry) Crichton, *By his family*
- 11:00 am** + 1st Anniversary Michel Y. Elghoul, and in memory of Sayde Elghoul, *By their sons, Tony and Walid, their spouses, & their families*
- + Halim and Alice El Hachem, *By their family*
- 5:00 pm** + Wadih, Tony & Jennifer Abourjeili, *By Mr. & Mrs. Jean Abourjeili, & family*

**Monday, January 29** (Eng.)

*St. Hippolytus / Heb 12:1-13 / Mt 5:1-12*

- 9:00 am** + Pierre Wakim, *By Dr. & Mrs. George Abou-Ezzi*

**Tuesday, January 30** (Eng.)

*St. Maximus / Heb 12:14-17 / Mt 5:13-16*

- 9:00 am** + Maria Lannon, *By Dora Pereira*

**Wednesday, January 31** (Ar.)

*St. John Bosco / Heb 12:25-29 / Mt 5:17-20*

- 9:00 am** + Robert Booker Jr., *By Deacon James Demers & family*

**Thursday, February 01** (Eng.)

*St. Pionius & His Companions / Heb 13:1-8 / MT 5:21-26*

- 9:00 am** + Mary Runci, *By the Demers family*
- 9:30 am - 12 pm** Adoration

**Friday, February 02 - Liturgy & candles blessings**

*Presentation of Christ in the Temple*  
*Rom 9:30-10:4 / Lk 2:22-35*

- 11:00 am** Candlemass
- 6:30 pm** Confessions
- 7:00 pm** Good health and blessings of all our parishioners

### UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTION

**United States Catholic Bishops' Worldwide Charities - USCCB January 27 & 28**

*Please remit your Fuel/Utilities Envelope.*  
*Your contribution helps us keep the AC on in the Summer and the Heat on in the Winter!*

### SANCTUARY LAMPS



**In Honor of Chaniel & Chloe Abou Ezzi, By their parents**

Book your Sanctuary lamp Online:  
[www.stanthonylawrence.org/sanctuary-lamp/](http://www.stanthonylawrence.org/sanctuary-lamp/)

### PLEASE NOTE

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

## OBSERVANCES

- \* **Feast of St Maron** - Holy Day of Obligation - OFFICE CLOSED  
Friday, Feb 9 – Liturgy @ 4pm (Eng) & 7pm (Ar & Eng)
- \* **Ash Monday** - Feb. 12 - Liturgies & distribution of ashes  
@ 4pm (Eng) & 7pm (Ar & Eng)
- \* **Presidents Day** - OFFICE CLOSED - Monday, Feb 19, 2024



STAY TUNED! MORE INFORMATION  
COMING SOON



## OFFICE HOURS:

**M-TH** 10:00 am-3:00 pm

**FRI** 10:00 am-2:00 pm

**SAT** By Appointment

**DAILY LITURGIES @ 9 am**

**MON & WED** (Ar)

**TUE & THU** (Eng)

**WEEKEND LITURGIES**

**SAT** 4 pm (Eng)

**SUN** 8 am (Ar)- 9:30 am (Eng)  
11 am (Eng & Ar)

**1st Friday of the Month:**

6 pm - Confession / 7 pm - Liturgy

**1st Sunday of the Month:**

Youth Liturgy @ 5:00 pm

**Holy days of obligation:**

Vigil Liturgy @ 7:00 pm

**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:**

Nadim Daou, James T. Demers &  
David Leard

**Sub-Deacon:** Antoine Nammour

**CLERGY DAY OFF**

**Fr Elie: Mondays**

**Fr. Neemtallah: Wednesdays**

**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.

ST. ANTHONY MARONITE CHURCH  
PRESENTS

**02**  
MARCH

TICKETS  
**100\$**

**HAFLI**

EXQUISITE MAZZA & DINNER INCLUDED - RAFFLE PRIZES

Featuring the Star:

**Brigitte Yaghi**

Guest of Honor:

**THE MAESTRO LEBNEN KHALIL**

Music by:

**DJ ROY**

DOORS OPEN AT 7:30 PM  
145 Amesbury St, Lawrence MA 01841

**FOR RESERVATION , PLEASE CONTACT:**  
**Mary (El-Achi) Francis +1 (978) 960-7479**  
**Mounira Daher +1 (603) 235-0801**  
**Wissam Merheb +1 (978) 853-5145**



**venmo**

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Next session:

**Saturday, February 3 & 17, 2024 @ 5-7 pm**

We are in need of Substitute Teachers! If you are interested, please contact

Ginine Flanagan at: lawrencereligioused@gmail.com

## KNIGHTS OF MARY

Co-Chair: Colette Sadek & Gretta Merheb

Next Sessions:

**Saturday, February 10, 2024 @ 5-7 pm**

Calendar for 2023-2024 Season:

[www.stanthonylawrence.org/events-2/](http://www.stanthonylawrence.org/events-2/)

## MARONITE YOUTH ORGANIZATION

MYO Co-Leaders: Geryes Geha & Gabrielle AbdulNour

Next Meeting:

**Sunday, February 4, 2024 @ 6 - 7:30 pm**

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

## KNIGHTS OF THE ALTAR

Next Meeting:

**Saturday, February 3, 2024 @ 11 am- 12:30 pm**

Remember to bring your handbooks to the meetings

New applicants are always welcome

## FAMILY OF SAINT SHARBEL

**Weekly Zoom Prayer  
Every Tuesday @ 8pm**



Zoom ID: 335616991

Passcode: 816342

Or you can join by clicking this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/335616991>

For more information email:

[communications@familyofsaintsharbel.org](mailto:communications@familyofsaintsharbel.org)

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

-St. Anthony Council 16204

KOC Next Meeting:

Tuesday February 13, 2024 @ 7 pm, church hall  
Men 18yrs and older are encouraged to attend.

For information email: KOFC16204@gmail.com

## Candlemas Liturgy

**Presentation of Christ in the Temple —**

Friday, Feb 2 - Our parish would be hosting the Liturgy @ 11 am for our visitors, The Residents at the Woods at Merrimack Retirement Community. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

## BIBLE STUDY - ENGLISH SESSIONS

*Bishop Robert Barron's Catholicism Series*

**Regular Schedule: Wednesdays from 7:00-8:30 pm**

Location will be in conference room and simulcast on Zoom.

- ♦ January 31
  - ♦ February 7, 21, 28
  - ♦ March 6, 13, 20
  - ♦ April 3, 10, 17, 24 (Makeup Sessions for snow-days)
- \*More sessions to be posted at a later date.

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**THE MEN OF  
ST. JOSEPH**

**Purpose:**

Form a Men of Saint Joseph (MSJ) group at Saint Anthony's church taking the earthly father of Jesus as a guide and intercessor, and create the opportunity to pray, share our experience and grow in faith together on our journey to eternal life promised to us by Jesus the crucified.

**Monthly Meeting Schedule**

One Saturday every month (except 2nd Saturday) at Saint Anthony Maronite Church and Hall.

## YOUTH LITURGY

**Sunday, February 4 @ 5pm**

All our youth, MYO & MYA members, and their families are invited to celebrate with us the first Sunday of the month mass.

*"All are welcome at the table of the Lord"*

## SAINT ANTHONY MARONITE CHURCH

### ANNUAL LENTEN RAFFLE

To Defray: Building insurance \$25,638.00, Bishop's Appeal \$9500, & Eparchial Assessment \$27, 600



### CONGRATULATIONS! Baptized & Confirmed

**Aram Nehme**

**Son of David & Brooke Nehme**

*"Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned." ~Mark 16:16*

## MYA Cook Off & Discussion

**Sunday, February 4th @6pm**

@ Saint Anthony's Maronite Church Parish Hall

**\*After attendance of the 5pm liturgy\***

**Discussion:** *How to S.T.O.P. and Interpret the Bible*

### Pizza Competition

The following ingredients will be provided:

Dough  
Cheese  
Tomato Sauce  
Pepperoni  
Olives  
Mushrooms  
Peppers  
Onions

*\*Can bring your own SPECIAL ingredients\**

**Hope to see you there!**

## BIRTHDAY WISHES

- Jan 27:** Ryan Abraham, George Harb, Andrew Khoury, Jacqueline Moutran, Karen Pappalardo
- Jan 28:** Fred Abboud, Michael Deschene, Elias Karam
- Jan 29:** Rana Abi-Samra, Brooke Abouhamad, Sam Hajj, Alyce Merlino, Paul Ramey
- Jan 30:** Kira Atallah, Justin Bouchrouche, Mia Merheb, Joseph Solomon, Wilson Touma
- Feb 01:** Chloe Abou Ezzi, Joseph Azzi, Carlos Daher, Ginine Flanagan, Alessandra Georges, Mary Pica, Clarice Ramy
- Feb 02:** Alfred Ata, Wissam Merheb, Celine Ramey, Antonio Saad, Nouhad Sadek



All qualified **High School Seniors and College Undergraduates** students are invited to apply for the

### **ALAA Scholarships.**

All applicants are encouraged to use the electronic applications.

Students can access this information at :

[americanlebaneseawarenessassociation.org](http://americanlebaneseawarenessassociation.org)

Or on ALAA Facebook page.

Applications are due by March 1st, 2024.

**TOMORROW AND TOMORROW** *By Ronald Rolheiser*

In his Confessions, St. Augustine describes how his conversion to Christianity involved two separate moments of grace, the first that convinced him intellectually that Christianity was correct, and the second that empowered him to live out what he believed. There were nearly nine years between these two conversions and it was during those nine years that he said his famous prayer: Lord make me a good and chaste Christian – but not yet.

Interestingly, a contemporary of his, also a saint, Ephraim the Syrian (306-373 A.D.) wrote a similar prayer: O my beloved, how daily I default and daily do repent. I build up for an hour and an hour overthrows what I have built. At evening I say, tomorrow I will repent, but when morning comes, joyous I waste the day. Again, at evening I say, I shall keep vigil all night and I shall entreat the Lord to have mercy on my sins. But when the night is come, I am full of sleep.

What Augustine and Ephraim describe with such clarity (and not without a touch of humor) is one of the real difficulties we face in our struggle to grow in faith and human maturity, namely, the tendency to go through life saying: “Yes, I need to do better. I need to bear down and work at overcoming my bad habits, but now is not the time!”

It’s consoling to know that a number of saints struggled for years with mediocrity, laziness, and bad habits, and that they, like us, could for years give in to those things with the shrug: “Tomorrow, I will make a new start!” For a few years, one of Augustine’s expressions was, “tomorrow and tomorrow!”

“Yes, but not yet!” How often does this describe us? I want to be a good Christian and a good person. I want to live more by faith, be less lazy, less selfish, more gracious to others, more contemplative, less given over to anger, bitterness, paranoia, and judgment of others. I want to stop giving in to gossip and slander. I want to be more realistically involved in justice. I want a better prayer life. I want to take time for things, spend more time with my family, smell the flowers, drive slower, be more patient, and be less hurried. I have a number of bad habits that I need to change, there are still areas of bitterness in me, I am defaulting on so many things, I really need to change, but now is not the time.

First, I need to first work through a particular relationship, grow older, change jobs, get married, get rested, get healthy, finish school, have a needed vacation, let some wounds heal, get the kids out of the house, retire, move to a new parish, and get away from this situation – then I will get serious about changing all this. Lord, make me a more mature person and Christian, but not yet!

In the end, that’s not a good prayer. Augustine tells us that, for years, as he said this prayer he was able to rationalize his own mediocrity. However, a cataclysm began building inside him. God is infinitely patient with us, but our own patience with ourselves eventually wears out and, at a point, we can no longer continue as before.

In Book 8 of the Confessions, Augustine shares how one day, sitting in a garden, he was overwhelmed with his own immaturity and mediocrity and “a great storm broke within me, bringing with it a great deluge of tears. ... I flung myself down beneath a fig tree and gave way to the tears which now streamed from my eyes ... in my misery I kept crying, ‘How long shall I go on saying, tomorrow, tomorrow. Why not now?’” When he got up from the ground, his life had changed; he never again finished a prayer with that little nuance, “but not yet”.

We all have certain habits in our lives which we know are bad, but which for a variety of reasons (laziness, addiction, lack of moral strength, fatigue, anger, paranoia, jealousy, or the pressure of family or friends) we are reluctant to break. We sense our mediocrity, but take consolation in our humanity, knowing that everyone (save full-blown saints) often have this spoken or unspoken caveat in their prayers, “Yes, Lord, but not yet!”

Indeed, there is in fact a valid consolation in this prayer in that it recognizes something important inside the infinite understanding and mercy of God. God, I suspect, copes better with our faults than we cope with them and others cope with us. However, like Augustine, even as we say, “tomorrow and tomorrow” a storm steadily continues to build within us and, sooner or later, our own mediocrity will sicken us enough to cause us say, “Why not now?”

When the Psalmist says, “Sing to the Lord a new song”, we might ask ourselves, what is the old song? It’s the one that ends with us praying, Yes, Lord, but not yet!

**OUR LADY OF PURGATORY MARONITE CHURCH**

**ST. MARON'S HAFLI**

**FEB 3, 2024**

4254 ACUSHNET AVE.  
NEW BEDFORD, MA 02745

**CASH BAR & MEZZA 7:30 PM**

**DINNER SERVED 8:30 PM**

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT BY THAER MALKO & BACHIR EL KHOURY BAND**

**DANCE FLOOR SEATING: \$100 FOR ALL AGES**

**GENERAL SEATING: \$75**

**CHILDREN (12-17): \$40**

**CHILDREN UNDER 12 YEARS: NO CHARGE**

**FOR TICKET SALES CONTACT:**  
CHURCH OFFICE: (508) 996-8934  
SOUSOU: (508) 916-1523

**E-BIKE SAINT MARON CHURCH RAFFLE**

**2 Winners**  
1 E-Bike per winner

**\$20.00 per Ticket**

**DRAWING:**  
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215.389.2000 | office@saintmaron.org

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267-582-0107
- Philadelphia Animal Hospital  
www.philadelphiaanimalhospital.com  
215-724-9550

**WINNER NEED NOT TO BE PRESENT TO WIN**  
**NO CASH IN LIEU OF PRIZE**  
**NO SUBSTITUTION OF THE OFFERED PRIZE MAY BE MADE**

**2024 REGIONAL EPARCHIAL LENTEN RETREATS**

**CROSS**

**THE ROAD TO THE**

**SATURDAY MARCH 2 10 AM - 7 PM**  
**NEW ENGLAND**  
SAINT ANTHONY OF THE DESERT - FALL RIVER MA

**SATURDAY MARCH 9 10 AM - 7 PM**  
**MID-ATLANTIC**  
SAINT SHARBEL CHURCH SOMERSET NEW JERSEY

**COST IS \$30 A PERSON**  
LUNCH & DINNER INCLUDED

**REGISTRATION IS OPEN**  
**MYOEARCHYSTMARON.ORG**

## SAINT ANTHONY 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](mailto:rectory@stanthonylawrence.org)**

**or Visit: [stanthonylawrence.org/lots-sales/](http://stanthonylawrence.org/lots-sales/)**

### Cemetery Guidelines

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

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

Tree to be planted: Kousa Dogwood

### TREE OF LIFE

#### BRASS ALUMINUM PLAQUES SIZES:

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Please submit your request either by

Phone: 978.685.7233 or by E-mail:

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

## Sunday of the Righteous and Just

*Book of Wisdom 5:1. 3-6. 8. 15-16*

Then shall the righteous one with great assurance confront his oppressors who set at nought his labors. They shall say among themselves, rueful and groaning through anguish of spirit: "This is the one whom once we held as a laughingstock and as a type for mockery, fools that we were! His life we accounted madness, and death dishonored. See how he is accounted among the heavenly beings; how his lot is with the holy ones! We, then, have strayed from the way of truth, and the light of righteousness did not shine for us, and the sun did not rise for us. What did our pride avail us? What have wealth and its boastfulness afforded us? But the righteous live forever, and in the LORD is their recompense, and the thought of them is with the Most High. Therefore shall they receive the splendid crown, the beautiful diadem, from the hand of the LORD, For he will shelter them with his right hand, and protect them with his arm.

*Letter to the Hebrews 12,18-24.*

You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. (For they could not endure the order that was given, 'If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death.' Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, 'I tremble with fear.') But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

*Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Saint Matthew 25,31-46.*

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

### LECTORS SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 27 - 4 pm - Carla Khoder

Sunday, January 28-

8:00 am - Hitaf Nammour

9:30 am - Brady Barry

11:00 am -(Eng) Mary Saab

(Ar) George Saab

### LECTORS SCHEDULE

Saturday, February 3 - 4 pm - Susan Kalil

Sunday, February 4 -

8:00 am - Hiam Bouhabib

9:30 am - Angela Dahbour

11:00 am -(Eng) Marcel Saade

(Ar) Marie-Christine Daou

## أحد الأبرار والصدّيقين

### سفر الحكمة 15-16 - 1.3 - 5:

حِينَئِذٍ يَقُومُ الْبَارُّ بِجُرْأَةٍ عَظِيمَةٍ فِي وُجُوهِ الَّذِينَ ضَايَقُوهُ وَاحْتَقَرُوا أَتْعَابَهُ. فَيَقُولُ بَعْضُهُمْ لِبَعْضٍ نَادِمِينَ وَنَائِحِينَ مِنْ ضَيْقِ صُدُورِهِمْ: «هُذَا الَّذِي كُنَّا حِينًا نَجْعَلُهُ ضُحْكَةً وَمَوْضُوعَ تَهَكُّمٍ نَحْنُ الْأَغْيَاءُ! لَقَدْ حَسَبْنَا حَيَاتَهُ جُنُونًا وَآخِرَتَهُ عَارًا. فَكَيْفَ أَصْبَحَ فِي عِدَادِ بَنِي اللَّهِ وَصَارَ نَصِيبُهُ مَعَ الْقَدِيسِينَ؟ لَقَدْ ضَلَلْنَا عَنْ طَرِيقِ الْحَقِّ وَلَمْ يُضَيِّ لَنَا نُورُ الْبِرِّ. فَمَاذَا نَفْعَتُنَا الْكِبْرِيَاءُ؟ وَمَاذَا أَفَادَنَا الْغِنَى الَّذِي كُنَّا نَفْتَخِرُ بِهِ؟ أَمَّا الْأَبْرَارُ فَسَيَحْيُونَ لِلْأَبَدِ وَعِنْدَ الرَّبِّ ثَوَابُهُمْ وَلَهُمْ عِنايةٌ مِنْ لَدُنِ الْعَلِيِّ. فَلِذَلِكَ سَيَنَالُونَ إِكْلِيلَ الْبَهَاءِ وَتَاجَ الْجَمَالِ مِنْ يَدِ الرَّبِّ لِأَنَّهُ بِيَمِينِهِ يَحْمِيهِمْ وَبِذِرَاعِهِ يَسْتُرُهُمْ.

### الرسالة إلى العبرانيين 12:18-24

يَا إِخْوَتِي، إِنَّكُمْ لَمْ تَقْتَرَبُوا إِلَى جَبَلِ مَلْمُوسٍ، وَنَارٍ مُنْقَدَةٍ، وَضَبَابٍ وَظَلَامٍ وَزَوْبَعَةٍ، وَهَتَافٍ بُوقٍ، وَصَوْتِ كَلِمَاتٍ طَلَبَ الَّذِينَ سَمِعُوهَا أَلَّا يَزَادُوا مِنْهَا كَلِمَةً؛ لِأَنَّهُمْ لَمْ يُطِيقُوا تَحْمُلَ هَذَا الْأَمْرِ: «وَلَوْ أَنَّ بَهِيمَةً مَسَّتِ الْجَبَلَ تَزَجَمُ!». «وَكَانَ الْمَنْظَرُ رَهيبًا حَتَّى إِنَّ مُوسَى قَالَ: «إِنِّي خَائِفٌ وَمُرْتَعِدٌ!». «بَلِ افْتَرَبْتُمْ إِلَى جَبَلِ صِهْيُونِ، وَإِلَى مَدِينَةِ اللَّهِ الْحَيِّ، أَوْرَشَلِيمَ السَّمَاوِيَّةِ، وَإِلَى عَشَرَاتِ الْأُلُوفِ مِنَ الْمَلَائِكَةِ، وَإِلَى عِيدِ حَافِلٍ، وَإِلَى كَنِيسَةِ الْأَبْكَارِ الْمَكْتُوبِينَ فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ، وَإِلَى اللَّهِ دَيَّانِ الْجَمِيعِ، وَإِلَى أَرْوَاحِ الْأَبْرَارِ الَّذِينَ بَلَغُوا الْكَمَالَ، وَإِلَى وَسِيطِ الْعَهْدِ الْجَدِيدِ، يَسُوعَ، وَإِلَى دَمِ رَشٍّ يَنْطِقُ بِكَلَامٍ أَفْضَلَ مِنْ دَمِ هَابِيلِ!

### إنجيل القديس متى 25:31-46

قَالَ الرَّبُّ يَسُوعُ: «مَتَى جَاءَ ابْنُ الْإِنْسَانِ فِي مَجْدِهِ، وَجَمِيعُ الْمَلَائِكَةِ مَعَهُ، يَجْلِسُ عَلَى عَرْشِ مَجْدِهِ. وَتُجْمَعُ لَدَيْهِ جَمِيعُ الْأُمَمِ، فَيُمَيِّزُ بَعْضَهُمْ مِنْ بَعْضٍ، كَمَا يُمَيِّزُ الرَّاعِي الْخِرَافَ مِنَ الْجِدَاءِ. وَيُقِيمُ الْخِرَافَ عَنْ يَمِينِهِ وَالْجِدَاءَ عَنْ شِمَالِهِ. حِينَئِذٍ يَقُولُ الْمَلِكُ لِلَّذِينَ عَنْ يَمِينِهِ: تَعَالَوْا، يَا مُبَارَكِي أَبِي، رَثُوا الْمَلَكُوتَ الْمُعَدَّ لَكُمْ مِنْذُ إِنْشَاءِ الْعَالَمِ؛ لِأَنِّي جُعْتُ فَأَطْعَمْتُمُونِي، وَعَطِشْتُ فَسَقَيْتُمُونِي، وَكُنْتُ غَرِيبًا فَأَوْثَمْتُمُونِي، وَغُرِيَانَا فَكَسَوْتُمُونِي، وَمَرِيضًا فَرَزْتُمُونِي، وَمَحْبُوسًا فَأَتَيْتُمْ إِلَيَّ. حِينَئِذٍ يُجِيبُهُ الْأَبْرَارُ قَائِلِينَ: يَا رَبِّ، مَتَى رَأَيْنَاكَ جَائِعًا فَأَطْعَمْنَاكَ، أَوْ عَطِشْنَا فَسَقَيْْنَاكَ؟ وَمَتَى رَأَيْنَاكَ غَرِيبًا فَأَوْثَمْنَاكَ، أَوْ غُرِيَانَا فَكَسَوْنَاكَ؟ وَمَتَى رَأَيْنَاكَ مَرِيضًا أَوْ مَحْبُوسًا فَأَتَيْنَا إِلَيْكَ؟ فَيَجِيبُ الْمَلِكُ وَيَقُولُ لَهُمْ: الْحَقُّ أَقُولُ لَكُمْ: كُلُّ مَا عَمَلْتُمُوهُ لِأَحَدٍ إِخْوَتِي هَؤُلَاءِ الصِّغَارِ، فَلِي عَمَلْتُمُوهُ! ثُمَّ يَقُولُ لِلَّذِينَ عَنْ شِمَالِهِ: اذْهَبُوا عَنِّي، يَا مَلَاعِينِ، إِلَى النَّارِ الْأَبَدِيَّةِ الْمُعَدَّةِ لِلْإِبْلِيسِ وَجُنُودِهِ؛ لِأَنِّي جُعْتُ فَمَا أَطْعَمْتُمُونِي، وَعَطِشْتُ فَمَا سَقَيْْتُمُونِي، وَكُنْتُ غَرِيبًا فَمَا أَوْثَمْتُمُونِي، وَغُرِيَانَا فَمَا كَسَوْتُمُونِي، وَمَرِيضًا وَمَحْبُوسًا فَمَا زُرْتُمُونِي! حِينَئِذٍ يُجِيبُهُ هَؤُلَاءِ أَيْضًا قَائِلِينَ: يَا رَبِّ، مَتَى رَأَيْنَاكَ جَائِعًا أَوْ عَطِشْنَا أَوْ غَرِيبًا أَوْ مَرِيضًا أَوْ مَحْبُوسًا وَمَا خَدَمْنَاكَ؟ حِينَئِذٍ يُجِيبُهُمْ قَائِلًا: الْحَقُّ أَقُولُ لَكُمْ: كُلُّ مَا لَمْ تَعْمَلُوهُ لِأَحَدٍ هَؤُلَاءِ الصِّغَارِ، فَلِي لَمْ تَعْمَلُوهُ. وَيَذْهَبُ هَؤُلَاءِ إِلَى الْعَذَابِ الْأَبَدِيِّ، وَالْأَبْرَارُ إِلَى الْحَيَاةِ الْأَبَدِيَّةِ.»

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