

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



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Feast of Our Lady of Lebanon
عيد سيدة لبنان

LITURGIES INTENTIONS

6th Sunday of the Resurrection Our Lady of Lebanon

Daily Liturgies

Saturday, May 4 (English) *St. Monica*

11:00 am First Communion Liturgy
4:00 pm + Peter Bijjani, *By his wife, Lili, his children & their families*

Sunday, May 5 *St. Irene*

8:00 am + Nadia Atallah, *By Mr. & Mrs. Beshara Sfeir*
9:30 am + 1st Anniversary - Elaine Brousseau, *By her children & their families*
11:00 am + Maurice Geha, his parents & siblings, *By his wife, Leila, his children & their families*
5:00 pm The good health & well being of our youths & their families

7th Sunday of the Resurrection

Saturday, May 11 (English) *St. Pontius*

4:00 pm + Fred & Rose Breehey, Mcarmy Syiek, Rasheedy Milan, Agnes Forsley, & Meralda McCann, *By Karen Breehey*

Sunday, May 12 *St. Epiphanius*

Liturgies 8:00 am , 9:30 am , 11:00 am are offered in honor of Living Mothers, and in Loving Memory for the Deceased Mothers.

Monday, May 6 (Ar.)

St. Dominic Savio / Phil 3:1-12 / Jn 11:1-16

9:00 am NO LITURGY

Tuesday, May 7 (Eng.)

St. Antoninus/ Phil 3:13-21 / Jn 11:17-31

9:00 am In Honor of Rebecca Merheb.

Wednesday, May 8 (Ar.)

St. John the Evangelist/ Phil 4:1-7 / Jn 11:32-46

7:00 pm **Feast of the Ascension - Vigil Liturgy**
Well being of our parishioners

Thursday, May 9 (Eng.) - **Office Closed** -

Holy Day of Obligation
2 Kings 2:1, 8-13/ Acts 1:1-14/ Mk 16:15-20

9:00 am **Feast of the Ascension**
Well being of our parishioners

9:30 am -12pm Adoration

Friday, May 10 - **No Liturgy**

St. Simon the Zealot & St. Damien/ Phil 4:8-14 / Jn 3:12-15

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTION

National Shrine of Our Lady of Lebanon:
May 5, 2024

Catholic Communications Campaign:
May 19, 2024

PLEASE NOTE

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

ENERGY COLLECTION

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



Maria Abi Samra

Matthew Karam

Jennyfer Andoun

Angela Khoury

Jake Ata

Mary-Jo Matta

Sharbil Ata

Alexander Mouawad

Kira Atallah

Vincent Mouawad

Gabrielle Dagher

Irah (Brian) Rodriguez

Julian Eid

Adiel Rodriguez

Elias Harb

George Saad

Mark Hachem

Aquilina Saliba

Isabella Imad

Kayla Salloum

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

Fr. Edgard -Neemtallah- Oneissy
(857)390-4838

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.

SANCTUARY LAMPS



In Honor of our First Communicants

In Honor of our Religious Education Teachers & Coordinators

Book your Sanctuary lamp Online:

www.stanthonylawrence.org/sanctuary-lamp/



YOUTH LITURGY — Sunday, June 2 @ 5pm

In Honor of the High School and College Graduates.

Please submit the name of your child to be remembered in our Liturgy and published in our Weekly Bulletin.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

First Communion

Saturday, May 4, 2024 @ 11 am

MARONITE YOUTH ORGANIZATION

MYO Co-Leaders: Geryes Geha & Gabrielle AbdulNour

Next Meeting: Community Service
Sunday, May 5, 2024 @ 6 - 7:30 pm

DAUGHTERS OF SAINT ANTHONY

Next Meeting:
Monday May 6 @ 12 Noon, Church Hall

KNIGHTS OF THE ALTAR

Next Meeting:
Saturday, May 11, 2024 @ 11 am- 12:30 pm
Remember to bring your handbooks to the meetings
New applicants are always welcome

FAMILY OF SAINT SHARBEL & Our Lady of Lebanon Sodality

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>

Thursday, May 16, 2024
Rosary @ 6:30pm followed by
The liturgy & procession

For more information email:
communications@familyofsaintsharbel.org

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
-St. Anthony Council 16204



KOC Next Meeting:
Tuesday May 14, 2024 @ 7pm, Church Hall
Men 18 yrs. and older are encouraged to attend.
For information email: KOFc16204@gmail.com

ARABIC BIBLE STUDY – COMING SOON!

“المسيح احب الكنيسة، وأنت؟”
[قراءة لاهوتية في نص رسالة أفسس ٤-٥]

دراسات في الكتاب المقدس مع الاب ريمون باسيل عبر
Zoom الإلترنيت. مداخلات شخصية من خلال



MAHRAJAN DABKE
~ Kids Troop

Mahrajan Kids Dabke group practice will begin on **May 6th** and will be held every Monday from 6 – 7 with **Reine Ata**. The kids Dabke age group will consist of participants from age 7 to 12. If interested please scan the QR CODE to complete the registration form.

KNIGHTS OF MARY

Co-Chair: Colette Sadek & Gretta Merheb

Final Session: Celebration
Saturday, May 18th

Mass @ 4pm followed by pizza party till 6pm

SAVE THE DATE!
JULY 31-August 2

God is calling YOU...

Vocation Bible Camp

Saint Anthony's Maronite Church, 145 Amesbury St Lawrence MA

Your Call to be Holy
To be a SAINT...
To love & follow Jesus

Presented by the Maronite Servants of Christ the Light
maroniteservants.org

MAHRAJAN 2024

The Mahrajan committee is soliciting interest and commitments from our parishioners and friends for our 52nd Annual Lebanese Mahrajan. Your support and generosity are always crucial to the success of this fundraiser. Please keep us in mind as we are undergoing the planning for a flourishing, successful Mahrajan 2024!

OBSERVANCES

- ◆ **Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord:**
Thursday, May 9, 2024 - Office Closed - Holy Day of Obligation
- ◆ **Memorial Day:** Monday May 27, 2024
Liturgy @ 10am - Cemetery Ground -
WEATHER PERMITTING

LECTORS SCHEDULE

Saturday, May 4 - 4 pm - Meaghan Twing
 Sunday, May 5 -
 8:00 am - Huguette Sfeir
 9:30 am - David Brousseau
 11:00 am - (Eng) Marita Merheb
 (Ar) George Merheb

LECTORS SCHEDULE

Saturday, May 11 - 4 pm - Patricia Ferguson
 Sunday, May 12-
 8:00 am - Hitaf Nammour
 9:30 am - Michael Faris
 11:00 am - (Eng) Angela Dahbour
 (Ar) Gisele Dahbour

CONGRATULATIONS! Baptized & Confirmed

Madison Murphy

Daughter of

Samuel & Renee (Mouawad) Murphy

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

CONGRATULATIONS on your New Baby

Vera Isabella

Daughter of

Danny & Rita Azzi

"Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from him." Psalm 127:3

BIRTHDAY WISHES

- May 04:** Mark Haddad, Marie Jbeily, Claudine Raad, Samantha Ramy, Joseph Thomas
- May 05:** Bassam Aoun, Gisele Asmar, George Azzi, Foutine Daher, Stephanie Deveau, Judith Gurka, Christopher Maroun, William Ryan
- May 06:** Dea Ead, Christian El-Achi, Rima Haddad, Serena Saade
- May 07:** Anthony Abou-Ezzi, Edward Gabriel, Aliana Garcia, Rebecca Merheb
- May 08:** Michael Azzi, Nicole Dow, Allen Pelletier, Frank Shadeed, Max Touma
- May 09:** Chena Farhat, Elias Zouein
- May 10:** Charbel Abi Samra, Abdo Abi Samra, Vicky Abou Zeid, Joseph Cherabie, Melissa Najjar

ANNIVERSARY WISHES

- May 04:** Richard & Sabine Kayrouz
- May 06:** Michael & Vivian Ota
- May 08:** Robert & Rouba Haykal

Saint Anthony Maronite Church

Profit & Loss

January through December 2023

	Jan - Dec 23		
Ordinary Income/Expense		Regular Collections	
Income		2nd Collections to be forwarded	10,085.40
Extraordinary Income		Sunday & Holy Day Collections	237,041.40
Donations for Sacraments-Church		Total Regular Collections	247,126.80
Donations for Funeral	11,900.00	Total Ordinary Income	413,037.78
Donations for Baptism	5,900.00	Programs	
First Communion	4,050.00	Bible Camp	2,050.00
Donations For Liturgy	6,665.00	Basketball Registration	2,596.10
Donations for Wedding	8,150.00	Knights of Mary	2,050.00
Total Donations for Sacraments-Chu...	36,665.00	Men's Club Proceeds	7,150.00
Donations from Organizations	18,363.59	MYO Proceeds	3,294.00
Refund	26.21	Religious Education Income	3,795.00
Donations for Charity		Women's Club Proceeds	
College of St. Sauveur-Joun	47,330.00	Daughters of St Anthony	1,025.00
Beirut Relief Fund	190,093.00	Women's Club Proceeds - Other	4,680.00
Help to the Needy	173.65	Total Women's Club Proceeds	5,705.00
Donations for Charity - Other	5,392.70	Total Programs	26,640.10
Total Donations for Charity	242,989.35	Total Income	869,657.25
Donations for Pastor Charities	4,140.00	Gross Profit	869,657.25
Donations from Individuals		Expense	
Stipend	6,630.00	Bank Service Charges	462.62
In Memory of...	20,443.00	Licenses and Permits	145.00
Donations from Individuals - Other	40,153.00	Security	799.65
Total Donations from Individuals	67,226.00	Benefits	
Other Extraordinary (SPECIFY)		Insurance - Disability	2,400.00
Cemetery Plot Purchase	100.00	Insurance - Medical	29,500.00
Decorations/Flowers	9,034.00	Medical Reimbursements	1,369.80
Total Other Extraordinary (SPECIFY)	9,134.00	Pension Plan Contr to Eparchy	14,400.00
Total Extraordinary Income	378,544.15	Social Security Reimbursement	4,028.00
Fund Raising		Total Benefits	51,697.80
Raffle	18,410.54	Extraordinary Expenditures	
Bake Sale	4,667.15	Shipping and Handling	2,867.72
Special Events Haffi	28,357.53	Furniture & Equipment	4,767.27
Total Fund Raising	51,435.22	Major Repairs/Renovat - Hall	5,365.63
Ordinary Income		Major Repairs/Renovat - Rectory	68,357.73
Church Hall Income	3,600.00	Total Extraordinary Expenditures	81,358.35
Auxiliary Receipts		Fund Raising Events	
Calendars	207.00	Bake Sale	4,967.19
Tree of Life - Plaque	875.00	Raffle	2,169.75
Candles / Other Devotional Item	9,651.71	Calendars	350.00
Fuel	22,657.00	Haffis	
Interest & Dividends	346.16	Liquor Permit	250.00
Miscellaneous (SPECIFY)		Haffis - Other	15,019.75
Insurance Claim	72,486.11	Total Haffis	15,269.75
Total Miscellaneous (SPECIFY)	72,486.11	Total Fund Raising Events	22,756.69
Parking Lot Donations	55,792.00	Household	4,460.37
Sunday Coffee Hour	296.00		
Total Auxiliary Receipts	162,310.98		

Saint Anthony Maronite Church

Profit & Loss

January through December 2023

	Jan - Dec 23		
Ordinary Expenditures		Utilities	
Salaries		Cable / Satellite TV	2,924.06
Clergy	88,200.00	Electric	18,748.53
Clergy Help	500.00	Fuel or Gas	16,500.84
Housekeeping	12,477.00	Total Utilities	38,173.43
Office Work Assistant	1,750.00	Total Other Ordinary	431,289.45
Organist / Singers	10,675.00	Parish Office Administration	
Secretarial	27,342.00	Books, Periodicals & Subscript	
Total Salaries	140,944.00	Payroll Fees	620.29
Total Ordinary Expenditures	140,944.00	Offering Envelopes	3,579.57
Other Ordinary		Parish Directory	708.88
2nd Collections forwarded	10,095.40	Text Messaging Service	5,633.89
Annual Bishop's Appeal	7,500.00	Books, Periodicals & Subscript - O...	3,153.98
Conferences & Retreats (SPECIFY)		Total Books, Periodicals & Subscript	13,696.61
Deacon & Subdeacon Retreats	1,994.37	Advertising & Public Relations	
Clergy Retreat	5,685.98	Bulletin Printing	416.59
NAM Convention	4,027.65	Advertising & Public Relations - Ot...	9,055.87
Total Conferences & Retreats (SPECI...	11,708.00	Total Advertising & Public Relations	9,472.46
Decorations & Flowers	6,459.75	Bank Charges	295.23
Donations to Others (SPECIFY)		Copier (new lease)	3,085.64
Beirut Relief Fund	162,906.00	Miscellaneous Expenses	
Pastor Charities	4,580.00	Tree of Life - Plaque	305.00
Stipend	6,405.00	Total Miscellaneous Expenses	305.00
Charity Assistance/Need		Office Supplies	1,595.38
College of St. Sauveur-Joun	27,000.00	Parking Refund	120.00
Charity Assistance/Need - Other	5,290.00	Postage	2,790.84
Total Charity Assistance/Need	32,290.00	Printing	4,771.44
Donations to Others (SPECIFY) - O...	10,825.00	Professional Fees	2,505.28
Total Donations to Others (SPECIFY)	217,006.00	Telephone & Internet Service	7,589.09
Eparchial Assessment	23,000.00	Travel Expenses	1,699.22
Insurance - Buildings		Total Parish Office Administration	47,926.19
Worker's Comp.	773.00	Parish Programs	
Insurance - Buildings - Other	25,638.00	Daughters of St. Anthony	1,128.63
Total Insurance - Buildings	26,411.00	Basketball	4,735.18
Janitorial Supplies	2,180.79	Choir	246.31
Maintenance & Repairs		Knights of Mary	1,863.29
Equipments Furniture	1,421.67	Knights of the Altar	953.76
Inspection- Extinguishers, Hood	580.00	Men's Club	6,120.00
IT / Audio Visual Equipment	4,084.48	Miscellaneous Prog. (SPECIFY)	792.00
Roof	1,200.00	MYA	264.74
Heating -Boilers	2,393.00	MYO	7,100.94
Service Contracts	2,441.00	Religious Education	
Church Grounds Maintenance	12,227.52	First Holy Communion	1,197.70
Cleaning	24,833.04	Religious Education - Other	746.96
HVAC & Kitchen Equipments	18,209.51	Total Religious Education	1,944.66
Waste Management	4,091.95	Sunday Coffee Hour	852.37
Website Hosting and Domain	640.00	Women's Club	6,750.00
Maintenance & Repairs - Other	5,542.48	Total Parish Programs	32,751.88
Total Maintenance & Repairs	77,664.65	Payroll Expenses	2,285.64
Religious Supplies		Special Events	
Dry Cleaning	1,056.56	Christmas Recital	160.00
Liturgical Vestments	293.22	Ordinations-Deacon, Sub-Deacon	7,037.12
Candles	4,692.82	Children Christmas Party	200.00
Hosts and Wines	731.76	Total Special Events	7,397.12
Religious Supplies - Other	716.34	Total Expense	824,274.76
Total Religious Supplies	7,490.70	Net Ordinary Income	45,382.49
Seminarian Assistance	1,916.08	Net Income	45,382.49
Sewer & Water Assessment	1,683.65		

Saint Anthony Maronite Church Profit & Loss - Mahrajan January through December 2023

Ordinary Income/Expense	Expense	
Income Fund Raising Special Events Mahrajan Mahrajan Deposits Mahrajan Photo 550.00 Mahrajan Coffee 2,235.00 Mahrajan Bar 42,123.00 Mahrajan Food 47,299.00 Mahrajan Sandwiches 41,739.00 Mahrajan Saj 12,737.00 Mahrajan Pastry 26,772.00 Mahrajan Hookah 16,690.00 Mahrajan Baskets 6,199.00 Mahrajan Souvenirs 9,273.49 Mahrajan Henna 1,107.00 Mahrajan Miscellaneous 862.00 Mahrajan Raffle 7,834.00 Mahrajan Donation 3,953.55 <hr/> Total Mahrajan Deposits 219,374.04 Mahrajan Sponsorship 124,660.00 Raffle-Presale 20,320.00 Mahrajan Post Sale Mahrajan Pastry Post Sale 450.00 <hr/> Total Mahrajan Post Sale 450.00 Total Special Events Mahrajan 364,804.04 Total Fund Raising 364,804.04 Total Income 364,804.04 Gross Profit 364,804.04	Fund Raising Events Mahrajan Advertising, Public Relations Banners 1,055.44 Signs 1,001.48 Advertising, Public Relations - O... 6,392.29 <hr/> Total Advertising, Public Relations 8,449.21 Bar Expense Bar Supplies 3,185.28 Bar Liquor 10,438.47 Bar Expense - Other 719.98 <hr/> Total Bar Expense 14,343.73 Cost of Food Saj 128.88 American Cuisine 32.04 Ethnic Cuisine 7,385.85 Bakery 9,851.79 Cost of Food - Other 3,149.35 <hr/> Total Cost of Food 20,547.91 Cost of Refreshments 3,475.16 Cleaning 6,785.00 Entertainment (Singer and Band) 20,031.77 Hookah Supplies 1,665.00 Permits 810.00 Paper Products 7,871.92 Printing & Stationary 813.56 Souvenirs 4,835.00 Raffles 4,710.62 Rentals Tents 18,564.76 Propane Tanks 1,400.80 Dumpster Rental & Removal 3,487.37 Water Closets (WCs) 2,360.00 Transportation - Golf Carts 2,606.40 Rentals - Other 630.00 <hr/> Total Rentals 29,049.33 Mahrajan Detail Police Dept 4,752.00 Fire Dept 2,772.00 <hr/> Total Mahrajan Detail 7,524.00 Sundry Expenses 3,555.43 Equipment 16,432.24 Mahrajan - Beirut Relief 20,000.00 <hr/> Total Mahrajan Expense 170,899.88	
Gross Profit		364,804.04
	Total Expense	170,899.88
	Net Ordinary Income	193,904.16
	Net Income	193,904.16

ST ANTHONY MARONITE CATHOLIC CEMETERY**Profit & Loss**

January through December 2023

	Jan - Dec 23
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Cemetery Plots	
Casket Plot Purchase	42,259.46
Cremation Burial Unit	900.00
Grave Stones & Markers	1,800.00
Urn Plot Purchase	2,900.00
Total Cemetery Plots	47,859.46
Cemetery Preservation	
Perpetual Care	4,717.16
Total Cemetery Preservation	4,717.16
Funerals	59,100.00
Credit Card Processing Fee	208.47
Uncategorized Income	0.00
Total Income	111,885.09
Gross Profit	111,885.09
Expense	
Merchant deposit fees	198.90
Bank Service Charges	36.00
City Hall System Fee	2.00
Cemetery Software	1,990.00
Funeral Fees Paid	34,870.00
Insurance Expense	189.00
Outside Services	642.94
Repairs and Maintenance	
Grave Markers	175.00
Landscaping Expenses	2,587.00
Monthly Maintenance Fee	9,600.00
Repairs and Maintenance - Ot...	1,500.00
Total Repairs and Maintenance	13,862.00
Shipping and Handling	400.00
Utilities	
Dumpster	532.08
Water and Sewer	320.96
Total Utilities	853.04
Total Expense	53,043.88
Net Ordinary Income	58,841.21
Net Income	58,841.21

- ◆ *The first report you see is the Profit & Loss for the church without the income of the Mahrajan.*
- ◆ *The second report is the Profit & Loss of the Mahrajan itself.*
- ◆ *The third report is the Profit & Loss of the Cemetery.*

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

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 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

Tree to be planted: *Kousa Dogwood*

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

CIVILITY HAS LEFT THE BUILDING *By Ronald Rolheiser*

Why do we no longer get along with each other? Why is there such bitter polarization inside of our countries, our neighborhoods, our churches, and even in our families? Why do we feel so unsafe in many of our conversations where we are perpetually on guard so as not to step on some political, social, or moral landmine? We all have our own theories on why this is, and mostly we choose our news channels and friends to bolster our own views. Why? Why this bitter polarization and nastiness among us?

Well, let me suggest an answer from an ancient source, scripture. In the Hebrew scriptures (our Old Testament), the prophet Malachi offers us this insight on the origins of polarization, division, and hatred. Echoing the voice of God, he writes: “Therefore, I have made you contemptible and base before all the people, since you do not keep my ways, but show partiality in your decisions. Have we not all the one Father? Has not the one God created us? Why do we break faith with one another?”

Isn't this particularly apropos for us today, given all the polarization and hatred in our houses of government, our churches, our communities, and our families, where for the most part we no longer respect each other and struggle even to be civil with each other? We have broken faith with each other. Civility has left the building.

Moreover, this afflicts both sides of the ideological, political, social, and ecclesial spectrums. Both sides have their particular ideological wings which are scornfully unsympathetic to those who don't share their view, paranoid about hidden conspiracies, rigidly uncompromising, and disrespectful and belittling of anyone who does not share their perspective. And, for the most part, they preach, advocate, and practice hatred – believing that all this is done in service of God, truth, moral cause, enlightenment, freedom, or nationalism.

Someone once said, not everything can be fixed or cured, but it should be named properly. That's the case here. We need to name this. We need to say out loud, this is wrong. We need to say out loud that none of this can be done in the name of love. And we need to say out loud that we may never rationalize hatred and disrespect in the name of God, the Bible, truth, moral cause, freedom, enlightenment, or anything else.

This needs to be named, irrespective of wherever we find ourselves amid all the divisive and hate-filled debates that dominate public discourse today. Each of us needs to examine himself or herself vis-a-vis our partiality, namely, how little we even want to understand the other side, how much disrespect we have for some people, how civility is often absent from our speech, and how much hatred has unconsciously crept into our lives.

After this, we need a second self-scrutiny. The word “sincere” comes from two Latin words (sine – without and cere – wax). To be sincere is to be “without wax”, to be your real self, outside of others' influence. But that's not easy. How we picture ourselves, what we believe, and our view on most anything at a given moment is heavily colored by our personal history, our wounds, who we live with, what work we do, who our colleagues and friends are, the country we live in, and the political, social, and religious ideologies we inhale with the air we breathe. It's not easy to know what we really think or feel about a given issue. Am I sincere or is my reaction predicated more on who my friends and colleagues are and where I get my news? At the core of my being, who am I really, without wax?

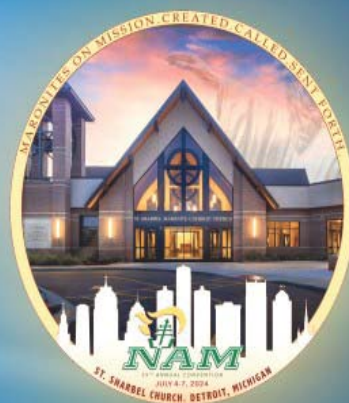
Given our struggle for sincerity, particularly in our present climate of division, disrespect, and hatred, we might ask ourselves, how much of what I am passionate about enough to generate hatred inside me, is really rooted in sincerity as opposed to ideology or my instinctual emotional or intellectual reaction toward something I dislike? This is not easy to answer, understandably so. We are pathologically complex as human persons, and the quest for sincerity is the quest of a lifetime. However, while on that journey towards sincerity there are some non-negotiable human and spiritual rules. The biblical prophet Malachi names one of them: “Do not show partiality in your decisions and do not break faith with each other”. When we parse that out, what is it saying?

Among other things, this: You have a right to struggle, to disagree with others, to be passionate for truth, to be angry sometimes, and (yes) even to feel hateful occasionally (since hate is not the opposite of love, indifference is). But you may never preach hatred and division or advocate for them in the name of goodness; instead, in that place inside you where sincerity resides, you need to nurse a congenital distrust of anyone who does proactively advocate for hatred and division.

Civility has left the building.

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CEMETERY NEWS

Cemetery Spring Clean up & Maintenance is underway! All wreaths, baskets, solar lights, stands & other in-ground decorations NOT within our guidelines must be removed.

We understand the problem with the Geese. We cannot control this, but you can help by cleaning up after your family pets; otherwise, please leave them in the car or at home.

*****Going forward, our grave decorations regulations will be strictly enforced for safety, beauty & uniformity. Kindly take the time to read & adhere to our cemetery guidelines for planting & visiting our Sacred Cemetery Grounds.**

We appreciate your attention and understanding to this matter and apologize for any inconveniences.

For more information on our Cemetery planting policy please visit our website @ www.stanthonylawrence.org/cemetery/

Sixth Sunday of the Resurrection: Apparition to Jesus to the Disciples

Book of Deuteronomy 31,1-3. 6-9.

When Moses had finished speaking these words to all Israel, he said to them, I am now one hundred and twenty years old and am no longer able to go out and come in; besides, the LORD has said to me, Do not cross this Jordan. It is the LORD, your God, who will cross before you; he will destroy these nations before you, that you may dispossess them. (It is Joshua who will cross before you, as the LORD promised.) Be strong and steadfast; have no fear or dread of them, for it is the LORD, your God, who marches with you; he will never fail you or forsake you. Then Moses summoned Joshua and in the presence of all Israel said to him, "Be strong and steadfast, for you shall bring this people into the land which the LORD swore to their ancestors he would give them; it is you who will give them possession of it. It is the LORD who goes before you; he will be with you and will never fail you or forsake you. So do not fear or be dismayed." When Moses had written down this law, he gave it to the levitical priests who carry the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and to all the elders of Israel.

Letter to the Romans 10,1-13.

Brothers and sisters, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved. I can testify that they have a zeal for God, but it is not enlightened. For, being ignorant of the righteousness that comes from God, and seeking to establish their own, they have not submitted to God's righteousness. For Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes. Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that 'the person who does these things will live by them.' But the righteousness that comes from faith says, 'Do not say in your heart, "Who will ascend into heaven?" ' (that is, to bring Christ down) 'or "Who will descend into the abyss?" ' (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? 'The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart' (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, 'No one who believes in him will be put to shame.' For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke 24,36-48.

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.' And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence. Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.'

الأحد السادس من زمن القيامة : ظهور يسوع للرسل في العليّة

سفر تثنية الاشتراع 9-3.6-1:31

مَضَى مُوسَى وَكَلَّمَ إِسْرَائِيلَ كُلَّهُ بِهَذَا الْكَلَامِ، وَقَالَ لَهُمْ: «أَنَا الْيَوْمَ أَبْنُ مِئَةٍ وَعِشْرِينَ سَنَةً، فَلَمْ أَعُدْ أَسْتَطِيعُ الْخُرُوجَ وَالذُّخُولَ، فَقَدْ قَالَ لِي الرَّبُّ: إِنَّكَ لَنْ تَعْبَرَ هَذَا الْأَرْضَ. فَالرَّبُّ إِلَهُكَ يَعْبُرُ أَمَامَكَ، وَهُوَ يُبِيدُ تِلْكَ الْأُمَّةَ مِنْ أَمَامِكَ فَتَرْتُهَا، وَيَشُوغُ هُوَ يَعْبُرُ أَمَامَكَ، كَمَا قَالَ الرَّبُّ. فَتَسَدَّدُوا وَتَسَجَّعُوا وَلَا تَخَافُوا وَلَا تَرْتَعِدُوا أَمَامَهَا، فَإِنَّ الرَّبَّ إِلَهُكَ هُوَ السَّائِرُ مَعَكَ وَلَا يُهْمَلُكَ وَلَا يَنْزُكَكَ». ثُمَّ دَعَا مُوسَى يَشُوغَ، وَقَالَ لَهُ أَمَامَ عِيُونَ إِسْرَائِيلَ كُلَّهُ: «تَسَدَّدْ وَتَسَجَّعْ، فَاتَّكَ أَنْتِ تَدْخُلِي هَذَا الشَّعْبَ الْأَرْضَ الَّتِي أَقْسَمَ الرَّبُّ لِأَبَائِهِمْ أَنْ يُعْطِيَهُمْ إِيَّاهَا، وَأَنْتِ تُورِثُهُمْ إِيَّاهَا. وَالرَّبُّ هُوَ السَّائِرُ أَمَامَكَ، وَهُوَ يَكُونُ مَعَكَ وَلَا يُهْمَلُكَ وَلَا يَنْزُكَكَ، فَلَا تَخَفْ وَلَا تَفْرَغْ». وَكَتَبَ مُوسَى هَذِهِ الشَّرِيعَةَ، وَسَلَّمَهَا إِلَى الْكَهَنَةِ بَنِي لَأوِي، حَامِلِي تَابُوتِ عَهْدِ الرَّبِّ، وَسَائِرِ شِيُوخِ إِسْرَائِيلَ.

رسالة القديس بولس إلى أهل رومة 13-1:10

يَا إِخْوَتِي، إِنَّ بُعِيَةَ قَلْبِي وَتَضَرُّعِي إِلَى اللَّهِ مِنْ أَجْلِ بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ لِيَخْلُصُوا. فَأَنَا أَشْهَدُ لَهُمْ أَنَّ فِيهِمْ غَيْرَةَ لِلَّهِ، وَلَكِنْ بِدُونِ مَعْرِفَةٍ صَاحِبَةٍ. فَقَدْ جَهِلُوا بِرَّ اللَّهِ، وَحَاوَلُوا أَنْ يُثْبِتُوا بِرَّ أَنْفُسِهِمْ، فَلَمْ يَخْضَعُوا لِبِرِّ اللَّهِ؛ لِأَنَّ غَايَةَ الشَّرِيعَةِ إِنَّمَا هِيَ الْمَسِيحُ، لِكَيْ يَنْبَرَّرَ بِهِ كُلُّ مُؤْمِنٍ. وَقَدْ كَتَبَ مُوسَى عَنِ الْبِرِّ الَّذِي هُوَ مِنَ الشَّرِيعَةِ فَقَالَ: «مَنْ يَعْمَلُ بِأَحْكَامِ الشَّرِيعَةِ يَحْيَا بِهَا». «أَمَّا عَنِ الْبِرِّ الَّذِي هُوَ مِنَ الْإِيمَانِ فَيَقُولُ: «لَا تَقُلْ فِي قَلْبِكَ: مَنْ يَصْعَدُ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ؟»، أَيْ لِيُنْزَلَ الْمَسِيحُ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ. وَلَا تَقُلْ: «مَنْ يَهْبِطُ إِلَى الْهَوَايَةِ؟»، أَيْ لِيُصْعِدَ الْمَسِيحُ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ. بَلْ مَاذَا يَقُولُ؟ «الْكَلِمَةُ قَرِيبَةٌ مِنْكَ، فِي فَمِكَ وَقَلْبِكَ»، أَيْ كَلِمَةُ الْإِيمَانِ، الَّتِي تُنَادِي بِهَا. فَإِنْ أَعْتَرَفْتَ بِفَمِكَ أَنَّ يَسُوعَ هُوَ الرَّبُّ، وَأَمَنْتَ بِقَلْبِكَ أَنَّ اللَّهَ أَقَامَهُ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ، تَخَلَّصَ. فَالْإِيمَانُ بِالْقَلْبِ يَقُودُ إِلَى الْبِرِّ، وَالْأَعْتِرَافُ بِالْفَمِ يَقُودُ إِلَى الْخَلَاصِ؛ لِأَنَّ الْكِتَابَ يَقُولُ: «كُلُّ مَنْ يُؤْمِنُ بِهِ لَا يُخْزَى». «فَلَا فَرْقَ بَيْنَ يَهُودِيٍّ وَيُونَانِيٍّ، لِأَنَّ الرَّبَّ هُوَ نَفْسُهُ لِجَمِيعِهِمْ، يُفِيضُ غِنَاهُ عَلَى جَمِيعِ الَّذِينَ يَدْعُونَهُ. فَكُلُّ مَنْ يَدْعُو اسْمَ الرَّبِّ يَخْلُصَ».

إنجيل القديس لوقا 48-36:24

فِيمَا الرُّسُلُ يَتَكَلَّمُونَ بِهَذَا، وَقَفَ يَسُوعُ فِي وَسْطِهِمْ، وَقَالَ لَهُمْ: «السَّلَامُ لَكُمْ!». «فَارْتَاعُوا، وَأَسْتَوْلَى عَلَيْهِمُ الْخَوْفُ، وَكَانُوا يَبْظُنُّونَ أَنَّهُمْ يُشَاهِدُونَ رُوحًا. فَقَالَ لَهُمْ يَسُوعُ: «مَا بِالْكُمْ مُضْطَرِّبِينَ؟ وَلِمَاذَا تُخَالِجُ هَذِهِ الْأَفْكَارُ قُلُوبَكُمْ؟ أَنْظَرُوا إِلَى يَدَيَّ وَرِجْلَيَّ، فَإِنِّي أَنَا هُوَ. جُسُونِي، وَأَنْظَرُوا، فَإِنَّ الرُّوحَ لَا لَحْمَ لَهُ وَلَا عِظَامَ كَمَا تَرَوْنَ لِي!». «قَالَ هَذَا وَرَأَاهُمْ يَدَيْهِ وَرِجْلَيْهِ. وَإِذْ كَانُوا بَعْدُ غَيْرَ مُصَدِّقِينَ مِنَ الْفَرَحِ، وَتَمَتَّعِينَ، قَالَ لَهُمْ: «هَلْ عِنْدَكُمْ هُنَا طَعَامٌ؟». «فَقَدَّمُوا لَهُ قِطْعَةً مِنْ سَمَكٍ مَشْوِيٍّ، وَمِنْ شَهْدِ عَسَلٍ. فَأَخَذَهَا وَأَكَلَهَا بِمَرَأَى مِنْهُمْ، وَقَالَ لَهُمْ: «هَذَا هُوَ كَلَامِي الَّذِي كَلَّمْتُكُمْ بِهِ، وَأَنَا بَعْدُ مَعَكُمْ. كَانَ يَنْبَغِي أَنْ يَتِمَّ كُلُّ مَا كَتَبَ عَنِّي فِي تَوْرَةِ مُوسَى، وَالْأَنْبِيَاءِ وَالْمَزَامِيرِ». «حِينَئِذٍ فَتَحَ أَذْهَانَهُمْ لِيَفْهَمُوا الْكُتُبَ. ثُمَّ قَالَ لَهُمْ: «هَكَذَا مَكْتُوبٌ أَنَّ الْمَسِيحَ يَتَأَلَّمُ، وَيَقُومُ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ فِي الْيَوْمِ الثَّالِثِ. وَبِاسْمِهِ يُكْرَرُ بِالنُّوبَةِ لِمَغْفِرَةِ الْخَطَايَا، فِي جَمِيعِ الْأُمَّمِ، إِبْتِدَاءً مِنْ أُورَشَلِيمِ. وَأَنْتُمْ سَهْوِدُونَ عَلَى ذَلِكَ».



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Fr. Tom Nestor has served as pastor at the Collaborative Parishes of Resurrection and Saint Paul in Hingham for the past ten years, and previously served at St. Eulalia's in Winchester for 17 years. A Harvard graduate and native of West Roxbury, Fr. Nestor is known for fostering a sense of community wherever he goes.

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