



SCAN ME



VENMO



PAYPAL



WEEKLY
BULLETIN



DAILY
READINGS

لأنجيل اليومي



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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

Office E-mail: rectory@stanthonylawrence.org Website: stanthonylawrence.org

*in beatings, in imprisonments, in riots,
in labors, in watchings, in fastings;*

2 Corinthians 6:5 WEB

Pentecost Season - زمن العنصرة

LITURGIES INTENTIONS

9th Sunday of Pentecost

Saturday, July 13 (Eng.) *Joel the Prophet*
4:00 pm + 1st Anniversary - Donald Martineau, his son, John D. Martineau, *By their family*

Sunday, July 14 *St. Bonaventure*
9:30 am + Paul Bijjani, *By Lili Bijjani.*
11:00 am + Boutros Merheb & all the deceased members of the Merheb Family, *By their family.*

8th Sunday of Pentecost

Saturday, July 20 (Eng.) *St. Elias the Prophet*
4:00 pm For the good health and well being of Rose Ann Denuccio, *By Anthony Merheb & Family.*

Sunday, July 21 *Celebration of St. Sharbel*
9:30 am Private Intentions
11:00 am +George Rached, *By his wife, Yvonne, children, Christian & Joelle, & their Families.*

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Take St Anthony's Church with you on your vacation! Please keep your online donations active while you're away to help our doors remain open, awaiting your return.

Thank You & Have Safe travel!

PLEASE NOTE

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

Daily Liturgies

Monday, July 15 (Ar.)
St. Cyriacus & Julitta/Acts 18:18-28 / Lk 11:37-41

9:00 am Private Intentions

Tuesday, July 16 (Eng.)
The Scapular of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
Acts 19:1-10 / Lk 11:42-46

9:00 am +Mr. & Mrs. Boutros, *by Mr. & Mrs. Samir Daou.*

Wednesday, July 17 (Ar.)
St. Marina/ Acts 19:11-12 / Lk 11:42-46

9:00 am Private Intentions

Thursday, July 18 (Eng.)
St. Symphorosa & her 7 Sons
Acts 19:23-29, 35-40 / Lk 11:47-51

9:00 am +Deceased Family Members of the Goulart & Pereira Families, *By Dora Pereira.*

9:30 am – 12pm Adoration

Friday, July 19 - NO LITURGY
St. Margaret/Acts 20:6-16 / Lk 11:52-54

MAHRAJAN UPDATES

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.

Mahrajan Raffle: has been sent electronically and paper form will be mailed soon.

Mahrajan Baskets: Relying on your creativity, but we are also here to help! Drop your donations and we can take over assembly!

Mahrajan Sponsors: See form above for this year's sponsorship levels. Letter will be mailed soon!

Mahrajan Volunteers: More help is needed! Sign up sheet will be available and published soon!



BECOME A SPONSOR

CHANGING *****	SUSTAINING *****	GROWING *****	OUTREACH *****
\$7,500	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$1,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LOGO PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED ON ALL DIGITAL LED SCREEN DURING MAHRAJAN WEEKEND AND SHORTLY AFTER LOGO LISTED ON ST. ANTHONY'S WEBSITE, PARISH BULLETIN, AND ON MAHRAJAN WEBSITE, PUBLICATIONS, AND SOCIAL MEDIA 2 RESERVED PARKING SPACES 4 DINNER TICKETS (VALUE OF \$100) 4 MAHRAJAN RAFFLE BOOKS LOGO ON EVENT PROMOTIONAL T-SHIRTS BUSINESS NAME AND SPONSORSHIP CATEGORY RECOGNITION IN DESIGNATED SECTION IN 50TH MAHRAJAN SLIDESHOW 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LOGO PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED ON ALL DIGITAL LED SCREEN DURING MAHRAJAN WEEKEND AND SHORTLY AFTER LOGO LISTED ON ST. ANTHONY'S WEBSITE, PARISH BULLETIN, AND ON MAHRAJAN WEBSITE, PUBLICATIONS, AND SOCIAL MEDIA 1 RESERVED PARKING SPACES 4 DINNER TICKETS (VALUE OF \$100) 4 MAHRAJAN RAFFLE BOOKS LOGO ON EVENT PROMOTIONAL T-SHIRTS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> INDIVIDUAL DIGITAL ADVERTISEMENT SLIDE WITH LOGO TO RUN ON SCREENS DURING MAHRAJAN WEEKEND AND SHORTLY AFTER LOGO LISTED ON ST. ANTHONY'S WEBSITE, PARISH BULLETIN, AND ON MAHRAJAN WEBSITE, PUBLICATIONS, AND SOCIAL MEDIA 2 DINNER TICKETS (VALUE OF \$50) 2 MAHRAJAN RAFFLE BOOKS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> INDIVIDUAL DIGITAL ADVERTISEMENT SLIDE WITH LOGO TO RUN ON TELEVISION DURING THE MAHRAJAN WEEKEND WITH LIMITED SCREEN TIME LOGO LISTED ON ST. ANTHONY'S WEBSITE, PARISH BULLETIN, AND ON MAHRAJAN WEBSITE, PUBLICATIONS, AND SOCIAL MEDIA 1 DINNER TICKETS (VALUE OF \$25) 1 MAHRAJAN RAFFLE BOOKS

FRIENDS *****	HELPING *****
\$250	\$500
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SPONSOR'S NAME WILL BE MENTIONED ON THE COMMON "FRIENDS OF THE MAHRAJAN" DIGITAL SLIDE ADVERTISEMENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT IN PARISH BULLETIN 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SHARED DIGITAL ADVERTISEMENT WITH NAME/LOGO IN THE MAHRAJAN COMPANY NAME OR LOGO LISTED ON ST. ANTHONY'S WEBSITE AND PARISH BULLETIN 1 RAFFLE BOOK

NAME/BUSINESS: _____
 CONTACT PERSON: _____ PHONE: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 EMAIL: _____
 MAHRAJAN SPONSORSHIP LEVEL: _____
 SPONSORSHIP IN MEMORY OR IN HONOR OF: _____
*CHECKS PAYABLE TO "ST. ANTHONY MARONITE CATHOLIC CHURCH" (MEMO MAHRAJAN SPONSORSHIP)
 *SPONSOR MUST PROVIDE HIGH RESOLUTION ELECTRIC LOGO AT ITS EXPENSE. SPONSORSHIPS ACCEPTED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE PASTOR AND THE MAHRAJAN COMMITTEE. ALL DECISIONS ARE FINAL.

RAFFLE TICKETS

Mahrajan Raffle Tickets have been sent out electronically to parishioners who are registered via email! Your continuous support is very much appreciated towards our major fundraiser!

**Scan the QR Code Now
to Buy your Tickets:**



RAFFLE BASKETS

We appeal to your creativity! Pick a theme, put it together, and donate towards this year's Basket Raffles! Want to donate and not sure what to do, simply don't have the time? We can help! Tell us your budget and we will put together a basket in your name! All donations can be dropped off at the Rectory during office Hours.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Online Registration is now open for 2024-2025
www.stanthonylawrence.org/registration-form/

KNIGHTS OF MARY

Co-Chair: Colette Sadek & Gretta Merheb

Now accepting Online registration for 2024-2025
www.stanthonylawrence.org/registration-form-4/

Family of St Sharbel & Our Lady of Lebanon Ladies Guild

Every Tuesday—Zoom Prayer @ 8pm
 Zoom ID: 335616991—Passcode: 816342
 Or you can join by clicking this link:
<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/335616991>



Special Guest:
 Raymond Nader,
 founder of the Family of
 Saint Sharbel will be
 praying with us on:
 Thursday, July 18, 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 August 13, 2024
@ 7pm, Church Hall

Men 18 yrs. and older are encouraged to attend. For
 information email: KOC16204@gmail.com

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 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.

CONGRATULATIONS on your New Baby

Khalil Elias Hayek

Son of Elie & Joanna Hayek

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

ST. ANTHONY ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT**~SAVE THE DATE~**

Weather Permitting, St. Anthony's Golf Tournament has been scheduled for:

Monday, September 23, 2024

at the Merrimack Valley Golf Club.

For more information, or to Sponsor this event, reach out to George Kassas at georgekassas@comcast.net, or email the rectory at rectory@stanthonylawrence.org.

Dear Parishioners,

I hope this message finds you well. I wanted to extend my sincerest apologies for my previous decision not to attend your wedding receptions.

Upon further reflection, and after receiving several requests from dear parishioners, I have realized that my initial choice was hasty and may have caused disappointment.

Therefore, I wanted to inform you that I am reversing my decision and will be attending the reception after all. I understand if this causes any inconvenience or confusion, and I hope you can accept my apologies for any inconvenience caused.

Looking forward to celebrating this joyous occasion with you and your families

Warm regards, Fr. Elie Mikhael

SANCTUARY LAMPS

**In Loving Memory Mr. & Mrs. Boutros,
by Mr. & Mrs. Samir Daou**

Book your Sanctuary lamp Online:

www.stanthonylawrence.org/sanctuary-lamp/

LECTORS SCHEDULE

Saturday, July 13 - 4 pm - Patricia Ferguson

Sunday, July 14 -

9:30 am - Catherine Abou Khalil

11:00 am - (Eng) Marita Merheb

(Ar) George Merheb

LECTORS SCHEDULE

Saturday, July 20 - 4 pm - Anthony Merheb

Sunday, July 21 -

9:30 am - Michael Faris

11:00 am - (Eng) Mary Saab

(Ar) George Saab

BIRTHDAY WISHES

July 13: Majd El Hachem, Gabrielle Kazzi

July 14: Jomaira Daher, Alyson Frias

July 15: Britney Awad, Pierre Azzi, Emily Bechara, Francis Daher, Carol Hatem, Nadine Sfeir, Prestly Sfeir, Leila Younes,

July 16: Joel McMinn, Elie Rahme

July 17: Remy Cherabie, Khalil Matta, Stephanie Nader, Michael Rahme, Kathleen Rahme, Meagan Roberts, Isabella Tabet

July 18: Joe Abi Samra, Laure El-Boustany, Andrew Haddad, John Hassan, Matthew Rizkallah, Ryan Shepherd, Mia Tjionas, Samuel Yazbek

July 19: Laurence Bejjani, Mansour Boustani, Christian Merheb, Andre Switala

ANNIVERSARY WISHES

July 13: Marwan & Gisele Dahbour, Dave & Ginine Flanagan

July 14: Andrew & Micheline Dabrowski, John & Paula Daher

July 15: Adam & Jessica Avedisian

July 16: Michel & Hinde Asmar, Jean Pierre & Patricia El Hachem, Albert & Joelle Ziade

July 17: Antoine & Sharon Assaf, Dany & Joelle Karam, Ziad & Michelle Saab

July 18: Albert & Colleen Abraham, George & Desiree Saab,

July 19: Matthew & Melissa tarbess, Elias & Eliane Yammine

SACRED PERMISSION TO BE IN AGONY , *By Fr. Ron Rolheiser*

We live this life “mourning and weeping in a valley of tears.” This was part of a prayer my parents prayed every day of their adult lives, as did many others in their generation. In the light of contemporary sensitivities (and one-sided spiritualities) this might sound morbid. Are we to understand our lives as time of grieving in a world that cannot deliver happiness? Is this really what God wants of us?

Taken without nuance, this can indeed be morbid. God didn’t put us into this world to suffer in order to go to heaven. No. God is a good parent. Good parents bring children into this world with the intent that they should flourish and find happiness. So why might our Christian faith ask us to understand ourselves as mourning and weeping in a valley of tears?

For my parents, that phrase brought a certain consolation, namely, that their lives didn’t have to deliver the full symphony, heaven right now. It gave them sacred permission to accept that in life there will be disappointments, suffering, poverty, sickness, loss, frustrated dreams, heartbreak, misunderstanding, and death. They never over-expected and understood that it is normal to experience pain and disappointment. Paradoxically, by accepting this limitation, they were able to give themselves permission to thoroughly enjoy life’s good moments without guilt.

My fear is that we are not equipping ourselves nor the next generation with the tools needed to undergo frustration, disappointment, and heartbreak without breaking down in faith (and sometimes too in psyche and body). Today, for the most part, our normal expectation is that we shouldn’t be finding ourselves mourning and weeping, but rather that life should be delivering a full symphony. We no longer feel that we have sacred permission to be weeping.

The spirituality we breathe in today from our churches, theologians, and spiritual writers has many strong points (just as the one my parents breathed in had its weaknesses). However, to my mind, for the most part spiritualities today do not leave sufficient space for grieving, a lacuna shared by most of the secular world.

We are not making enough space for grief, either in our churches or in our lives. We are not giving people the tools they need to handle frustration, loss, and heartbreak, nor how to grieve when they are beset by them. Outside of our funeral rituals, we make very little room for grief. Worse still, we tend to give the impression that there is something wrong in our lives if there are tears. What’s the place and value of grieving?

First, as Karl Rahner poetically explains, it is a way of accepting that in the torment of the insufficiency of everything attainable we ultimately learn that here in this life there is no finished symphony. Grieving is also, as Rachel Naomi Remen writes, a critical way of self-care. Not to grieve, she submits, is a denial of our own wholeness. People burn out because they don’t grieve. British novelist Anita Brookner repeats a particular refrain in several of her books. Commenting on marriage, she suggests that the first task in a marriage is for the couple to console each other for the fact that they cannot not disappoint each other.”

My parents had not read Karl Rahner, Rachel Naomi Remen, or Anita Brookner, but in their daily prayer they reminded themselves that in this life there is no finished symphony, that grieving is healthy self-care, and that it’s consoling to accept that neither of them could ever be quite enough for the other since only God can provide that.

What do we need to grieve? Our human condition and all that comes with it, namely, impermanence, the loss of our youth, the loss of a youthful body, wounds, betrayals, frustrated dreams, heartbreaks, the loss of loved ones, the death of our honeymoons, the perennial flow through our lives of people, places, and institutions and then disappearing, our incapacity to not be disappointing to others, the loss of our health, and our eventual deaths, that’s what we need to grieve.

And how do we grieve? Jesus left us a template for this when he grieved in the garden imminent death? He prayed, prayed a prayer that openly and honestly expressed his agony, that recognized his distance from others inside this suffering, which acknowledged his own helplessness to do anything to change the situation, that repeatedly begged God to alter things, but that expressed a trust in God despite the present darkness. That’s the way Jesus wept.

If Jesus wept, so must we. The disciple is never superior to the master. Moreover, we can learn from Jesus that mourning and weeping in our lives do not necessarily mean that there is something wrong. It might well mean that this is where we are meant to be.

We have sacred permission to sometimes be in agony.

Account Totals By Week

For 06/01/2024 - 06/30/2024

Week of 06/02/2024

Baptism Donation	200.00	Body and Blood of Christ	20.00
Candles	173.75	Catholic Communication Appeal	25.00
Church Hall Use	500.00	Donation for Masses	100.00
Feast of Saints Peter & Paul	25.00	In Memory of	100.00
Pentecost Offering	50.00	Peter's Pence	90.00
Sunday Collection	3,799.00	Utilities, Fuel & Electricity	100.00
Wedding Liturgy	500.00		

Total \$5,682.75

Week of 06/09/2024

Candles	121.00	Donation	500.00
Donation for Masses	80.00	Feast of Saints Peter & Paul	25.00
In Memory of	120.00	M-WINE	2,033.86
MYO Retreat	2,740.00	Peter's Pence	25.00
Stipend	28.00	Sunday Collection	3,323.00
Utilities, Fuel & Electricity	150.00	Wedding Liturgy	500.00

Total \$9,645.86

Week of 06/16/2024

Candles	181.48	Coffee Hour	248.00
Donation	25.00	Donation for Masses	570.00
Feast of Saints Peter & Paul	80.00	In Memory of	100.00
MYO Retreat	450.00	Pentecost Offering	15.00
Peter's Pence	60.00	Stipend	120.00
Sunday Collection	3,063.00	Utilities, Fuel & Electricity	675.00

Total \$5,587.48

Week of 06/23/2024

Candles	99.00	CCD Registration	45.00
Donation	600.00	Donation for Masses	75.00
Knights of Mary Registration	25.00	LoL Bible Camp	75.00
Stipend	475.00	Sunday Collection	2,540.00
Utilities, Fuel & Electricity	180.00		

Total \$4,114.00

Total \$25,030.09

CHURCH WAKE SERVICE OR CALLING HOURS

After much consideration, regarding the Wake/Calling hours in Church, we will no longer be scheduling wake one day followed by funeral liturgy the next. Moving forward, Wake/calling hours will be allowed ONLY directly followed by Funeral Liturgy, same day. Thank you in advance for your understanding.

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

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

Ninth Sunday of Pentecost: Jesus in the Synagogue of Nazareth

Book of Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-10a.

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; He has sent me to bring good news to the afflicted, to bind up the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, release to the prisoners, to announce a year of favor from the LORD and a day of vindication by our God; To comfort all who mourn; to place on those who mourn in Zion a diadem instead of ashes, To give them oil of gladness instead of mourning, a glorious mantle instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of justice, the planting of the LORD to show his glory. They shall rebuild the ancient ruins, the former wastes they shall raise up And restore the desolate cities, devastations of generation upon generation. For I, the LORD, love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, an everlasting covenant I will make with them. Their offspring shall be renowned among the nations, and their descendants in the midst of the peoples; All who see them shall acknowledge them: "They are offspring the LORD has blessed." I will rejoice heartily in the LORD, my being exults in my God;

Second Letter to the Corinthians 5:20-21, 6:1-10.

We are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, 'At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you.' See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labours, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke 4:14-21

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.' And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

الأحد التاسع من زمن العنصرة: يسوع في مجمع الناصرة

سفر أشعيا 1:61 - 4-10a-8

هُوَرُوحُ السَّيِّدِ الرَّبِّ عَلَيَّ، لِأَنَّ الرَّبَّ مَسَحَنِي لِأُبَشِّرَ الْمَسَاكِينَ، أَرْسَلَنِي لِأُضَمِّدَ جِرَاحَ الْمُتَكْسِرِي الْقُلُوبِ، لِأُنَادِيَ لِلْمَسْبِيَّينَ بِالْعِتْقِ وَلِلْمَأْسُورِينَ بِالْحَرِّيَّةِ، لِأُعلنَ سَنَةَ الرَّبِّ الْمَقْبُولَةَ، وَيَوْمَ انْتِقَامٍ لِّإِلَهِنَا. لِأُعْزِّيَ جَمِيعَ النَّائِحِينَ. لِأَمْنَحَ نَائِحِي صِهْيُونَ تَاجَ جَمَالٍ بِدَلِّ الرَّمَادِ، وَدُهْنَ السُّرُورِ بِدَلِّ النُّوحِ، وَرَدَاءَ تَسْبِيحٍ بِدَلِّ الرُّوحِ ِ الْيَائِسَةِ، فَيُذْعَوْنَ أَشْجَارُ الْبَرِّ وَغَرْسَ الرَّبِّ لَكِي يَتَمَجَّدَ. فَيَعْمِرُونَ الْخُرَابِيبَ الْقَدِيمَةَ، وَيَبْنُونَ الدَّمَارَ الْغَابِرَ، وَيُرَمِّمُونَ الْمُدْنَ الْمُتَهَدِّمَةَ، وَالْخِرْبَ الَّتِي انْقَضَتْ عَلَيْهَا أَجْيَالٌ. لِأَنِّي أَنَا الرَّبُّ أَجِبُ الْعَدْلَ وَأَمُقِّتُ الْإِخْتِلَاسَ وَالظُّلْمَ، وَأُكَافِئُهُمْ بِأَمَانَةٍ، وَأَقْطَعُ مَعَهُمْ عَهْدًا أَبَدِيًّا. وَتَشْتَهَرُ دُرِّيَّتُهُمْ بَيْنَ الْأُمَمِ، وَنَسْلُهُمْ وَسَطَ الشُّعُوبِ، وَكُلُّ مَنْ يَرَاهُمْ يَعْرِفُهُمْ، وَيَقْرَأُ أَنَّهُمْ شَعْبُ بَارِكَةِ الرَّبِّ. إِنِّي أَبْتَهِجُ حَقًّا بِالرَّبِّ وَتَفْرَحُ نَفْسِي بِالْإِلَهِ!

رسالة القديس بولس الثانية إلى أهل كورنتس 10:1-21:20

يَا إِخْوَتِي، نَحْنُ سُفَرَاءُ الْمَسِيحِ، وَكَأَنَّ اللَّهَ نَفْسَهُ يَدْعُوكُمْ بِوَاسِطَتِنَا. فَنَسْأَلُكُمْ بِاسْمِ الْمَسِيحِ: تَصَالِحُوا مَعَ اللَّهِ! إِنَّ الَّذِي مَا عَرَفَ الْخَطِيئَةَ، جَعَلَهُ اللَّهُ خَطِيئَةً مِنْ أَجْلِنَا، لِنَصِيرَ نَحْنُ فِيهِ بَرَّ اللَّهِ. وَبِمَا أَنَّنَا مُعَاوَنُونَ لِلَّهِ، نُنَاشِدُكُمْ أَلَّا يَكُونَ قَبُولُكُمْ لِنِعْمَةِ اللَّهِ بِغَيْرِ فَائِدَةٍ؛ لِأَنَّهُ يَقُولُ: «فِي وَقْتِ الرِّضَى أَسْتَجِبْتُكَ، وَفِي يَوْمِ الْخَلَاصِ أَعْنُتُكَ». فَهِيَ هِيَ الْآنَ وَقْتُ الرِّضَى، وَهِيَ هِيَ الْآنَ يَوْمُ الْخَلَاصِ. فَإِنَّمَا لَا نَجْعَلُ لِأَحَدٍ سَبَبَ زَلَّةٍ، لِيَلَّا يُلْحَقَ خِدْمَتُنَا أَيُّ لَوْمٍ. بَلْ نُظْهِرُ أَنْفُسَنَا فِي كُلِّ شَيْءٍ أَنَّنَا خُدَّامُ اللَّهِ، بِثَبَاتِنَا الْعَظِيمِ فِي الضِّيقاتِ وَالشَّدَائِدِ وَالْمَشَقَّاتِ، فِي الضَّرَبَاتِ، وَالسُّجُونِ، وَالْفِتَنِ، وَالتَّعَبِ، وَالسَّهَرِ، وَالصَّوْمِ، وَبِالنَّزَاهَةِ، وَالْمَعْرِفَةِ، وَالْأَنَاءَةِ، وَاللُّطْفِ، وَالرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ، وَالْمَحَبَّةِ بِلا رِيَاءٍ، فِي كَلِمَةِ الْحَقِّ، وَقُوَّةِ اللَّهِ، بِسِلَاحِ الْبِرِّ فِي الْيَدَيْنِ الْيُمْنَى وَالْيُسْرَى، فِي الْمَجْدِ وَالْهَوَانِ، بِالصِّبَةِ الرَّدِيءِ وَالصِّبَةِ الْحَسَنِ. نُحْسَبُ كَأَنَّنَا مُضِلُّونَ وَنَحْنُ صَادِقُونَ! كَأَنَّنَا مَجْهُولُونَ وَنَحْنُ مَعْرُوفُونَ! كَأَنَّنَا مَائِثُونَ وَهَآ نَحْنُ أَحْيَاءُ! كَأَنَّنَا مُعَاقِبُونَ وَنَحْنُ لَا نَمُوتُ؛ كَأَنَّنَا مَحْرُوفُونَ وَنَحْنُ دَائِمًا فَرِحُونَ! كَأَنَّنَا فَقَرَاءُ وَنَحْنُ نُغْنِي الْكَثِيرِينَ! كَأَنَّنَا لَا شَيْءَ عِنْدَنَا، وَنَحْنُ نَمْلِكُ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ!

إنجيل القديس لوقا 4:14-21

عَادَ يَسُوعُ بِقُوَّةِ الرُّوحِ إِلَى الْجَلِيلِ، وَذَاعَ خَبْرُهُ فِي كُلِّ الْجَوَارِ. وَكَانَ يُعَلِّمُ فِي مَجَامِعِهِمْ، وَالْجَمِيعُ يَمَجِّدُونَهُ. وَجَاءَ يَسُوعُ إِلَى النَّاصِرَةِ، حَيْثُ نَشَأَ، وَدَخَلَ إِلَى الْمَجْمَعِ كَعَادَتِهِ يَوْمَ السَّبْتِ، وَقَامَ لِيَقْرَأَ. وَدَفَعَ إِلَيْهِ كِتَابَ النَّبِيِّ أَشْعِيَا. وَفَتَحَ يَسُوعُ الْكِتَابَ، فَوَجَدَ الْمَوْضِعَ الْمَكْتُوبَ فِيهِ: «رُوحُ الرَّبِّ عَلَيَّ، وَلِهَذَا مَسَحَنِي لِأُبَشِّرَ الْمَسَاكِينَ، وَأَرْسَلَنِي لِأُنَادِيَ بِإِطْلَاقِ الْأَسْرَى وَعَوْدَةِ الْبَصَرِ إِلَى الْعُمْيَانِ، وَأُطْلِقَ الْمَقْهُورِينَ أَحْرَارًا، وَأُنَادِيَ بِسَنَةِ مَقْبُولَةٍ لَدَى الرَّبِّ». ثُمَّ طَوَى الْكِتَابَ، وَأَعَادَهُ إِلَى الْخَادِمِ، وَجَلَسَ. وَكَانَتْ عِيُونَ جَمِيعِ الَّذِينَ فِي الْمَجْمَعِ شَاحِصَةً إِلَيْهِ. فَبَدَأَ يَقُولُ لَهُمْ: «الْيَوْمَ تَمَّتْ هَذِهِ الْكِتَابَةُ الَّتِي ثَلَيْتُ عَلَى مَسَامِعِكُمْ.»



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