

# SEASON OF THE GLORIOUS BIRTH OF OUR LORD

*Finding of Our Lord in the Temple*

أَحَدُ وِجُودِ الرَّبِّ يَسُوعَ فِي الْهِيْكَلِ



**LITURGIES INTENTIONS****SEASON OF THE GLORIOUS BIRTH OF  
OUR LORD**  
**Finding of Our Lord in the Temple****Saturday, January 3***Malachi the Prophet***4:00 pm** 40 Day Memorial +Nazha Khoury, *By her husband, Atef, & Family***Sunday, January 4***Pope St. Caius (+296)**St.. Elizabeth Ann Seton***8:00 am** In Honor of Huguette Sfeir, *By her husband, Beshara, & daughter, Tia***9:30 am** Private Intention**11:00 am** +Michel Y. & Sayde Elghoul, *By their sons, Tony & Walid, their spouses & their Families.*For the good health of George Azar,  
*Subdeacon George Merheb & Family.***5:00 pm** First Sunday Liturgy**SEASON OF THE GLORIOUS EPIPHANY**  
**1st Sunday after Epiphany****Saturday, January 10***St. Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa***4:00 pm** +Samuel & Louise (Kattar), Barbara, Christian & Nicole Bistany, *By Louann Bistany***Sunday, January 11***St. Theodosius of Antioch***8:00 am** Private Intention**9:30 am** 40 Day Memorial +George Daher,  
*By his family.***11:00 am** 40 Day Memorial +Anis Dow, *By his wife, Martha & his daughters, Nicole & Nina*1st Anniversary +Andre Younes, *By his sister, Ramonda, wife of Adel Abouhamad & Family*  
+Naifey Moussallem, *By her son, Adel Abouhamad & Family***Daily Liturgies****Monday, January 5***Vigil of the Glorious Epiphany**St. Paul, the First Hermit/St. John Neumann**Rom 5:1-11/Lk 3:1-6***6:00 pm** Epiphany Vigil Liturgy**SEASON OF THE GLORIOUS EPIPHANY****Tuesday, January 6 - OFFICE CLOSED****Feast of the Glorious Epiphany****Holy Day of Obligation***Ezek 36:22-28/Tit 2:11-3:7/Lk 3:15-22***6:00 pm** Epiphany Liturgy**Wednesday, January 7***Praises of St. John the Baptist**Col 1:24-29/Lk 7:18-30***9:00 am** Private Intention**Thursday, January 8***St. Carterius the Priest**Col 2:1-7/Mt 3:13-17***9:00 am** +Larry & Dora M. Pereira, *By Dora Pereira***Friday, January 9 - OFFICE CLOSED***St. Eustratius the Wonderworker**Gal 5:2-15/Jn 5:31-38***NO LITURGY****PLEASE NOTE***40 Day Liturgies are considered a priority. When necessary, they will be scheduled with other previously reserved intentions.***SANCTUARY LAMPS****Birthday remembrance for Edmond Solomon & Thomas Solomon By the Solomon Families**Book your Sanctuary lamp Online:  
[www.stanthonylawrence.org/sanctuary-lamp/](http://www.stanthonylawrence.org/sanctuary-lamp/)



# PASTOR'S CORNER

## Epiphany: The Revelation of the Trinity at the Jordan

Dear Parishioners,

In the Maronite tradition, the Feast of the Epiphany is first and foremost a revelation of the Holy Trinity. It is a feast of divine manifestation, where heaven is opened and the mystery of God is made visible at the Jordan River.

As Christ descends into the waters, the fullness of God is revealed: the Son stands in humility among humanity, the Father's voice is heard from heaven declaring His love, and the Holy Spirit descends and rests upon Him. Epiphany proclaims that God is not distant, but present—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—acting together for the salvation of the world.

Maronite spirituality, deeply shaped by the Syriac Fathers, contemplates this feast as a celebration of light and sanctification. Christ does not enter the Jordan to be purified; He enters it to sanctify the waters, to heal creation wounded by sin, and to restore the original blessing given at the beginning of time. In the language of our hymns, the waters recognize their Creator, creation rejoices, and the world is renewed.

Saint Ephrem the Syrian teaches that in the Jordan, Christ united heaven and earth. The voice from above and the waters below meet in the Person of the Son, revealing that all of creation is called to share in divine life. Through baptism, we are immersed into this same mystery, clothed in light, and sealed with the Spirit.

Epiphany therefore is not only something we commemorate; it is a mystery we live. Having been baptized in the name of the Trinity, we are called to become epiphanies of God's presence—bearing light where there is darkness, unity where there is division, and hope where there is despair.

May this holy feast renew in us the grace of our baptism, deepen our communion with the Holy Trinity, and remind us that God continues to reveal Himself through humble waters, obedient hearts, and lives offered in love.

As we say in Syriac *Denho Breekho* (Blessed Epiphany) to everyone.

*In Christ's love,*  
Fr. Neemtallah (Edgard) Oneissy

### OFFICE HOURS:

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

FRI OFFICE CLOSED

SAT By Appointment

### DAILY LITURGIES @ 9 am

MON & WED (Ar)

TUE & THU (Eng)

### WEEKEND LITURGIES

SAT 4 pm (Eng)

SUN 8am(Ar) 9:30 am (Eng)

11 am (Eng.& Ar)

### Holy days of obligation:

Vigil Liturgy @ 7:00 pm

### MEET OUR PRIEST:

Fr. Edgard -Neemtallah- Oneissy  
pastor@stanthonylawrence.org

### MEET OUR DEACONS:

Nadim Daou, James T. Demers  
& David Leard

**Sub-Deacons:** Antoine Nammour  
& George Merheb

### CLERGY DAY OFF

Fr. Neemtallah: Fridays

### 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.

## DAUGHTERS OF SAINT ANTHONY

*"The Oldest Organization of St. Anthony's Church"*

UPCOMING MEETING  
**Thursday, January 8th @ 12pm**

## Family of St Sharbel & Our Lady of Lebanon Sodality



**Thursday, January 15: Rosary @ 6:30pm  
followed by The Liturgy & procession**

Every Tuesday—Zoom Prayer @ 8pm  
**Zoom ID: 335616991 Passcode: 816342**

Or you can join by clicking this link:  
<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/335616991>

For more information email:  
[communications@familyofsaintsharbel.org](mailto:communications@familyofsaintsharbel.org)



## UPCOMING SESSIONS

For those who signed up for Friday classes:  
**Friday, January 9 @ 6:30pm-8pm**

For those who signed up for Saturday classes:  
**Saturday, January 10 @ 11:30am - 1pm**

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

*-St. Anthony Council 16204*

**"In service to one, in service to all"**



Next meeting:

**Tuesday January 13  
@ 7 pm, Church Hall**

Men 18 yrs. and older are encouraged to attend.

## M-WINE

**"We Serve Better Together"**

**Next Meeting: Monday, January 19 @ 7pm**

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### UPCOMING SESSIONS

**Saturday, January 10 @ 5 - 7pm**

**Saturday, January 24 @ 5 - 7pm**

**Please visit our website for the yearly calendar**

Our Religious Education program is looking for enthusiastic substitute teachers to join our team! If you'd like to learn more or get involved, please reach out to [LawrenceReligious@gmail.com](mailto:LawrenceReligious@gmail.com).



## THE MEN OF ST. JOSEPH

### Monthly Meeting Schedule

*Third Saturday of every month @ 8 am  
at St Anthony Maronite Church Hall.*

## MYO & Jr MYO



### UPCOMING SESSION

**Sunday, January 11th @ 6 - 7:30pm**

## BE PART OF OUR MINISTRIES

### Religious Education

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

### Maronite Youth Organization -MYO

[www.stanthonylawrence.org/registration-form-2/](http://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](mailto:rectory@stanthonylawrence.org)*

### Knights of Mary -KOM

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

### Knights of the Altars

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

**BIRTHDAY WISHES**

**January 3:** Christine Abou Jaoude, Brandon Barry, Cynthia Kazanjian, Della Khoury, Carine Mansour, Hitaf Nammour

**January 4:** Zayn Abou Jaoude, Breanna Ata, Grace Bourouphael, Marie-Christine Daou, Antoine Fadel, Robert Issa, Charbel Maroun, Milad Salame

**January 5:** Ryan Azzi, Huguette Sfeir

**January 6:** Siham Daher, Abdullah Harb, Joan Kalil, Charbel Saouma, Ronald Savastano, Stephen Schultz

**January 7:** DJ Deeb II, Madeleine George, Bodie Khalife, Viviane Korbani, Imad Nassar

**January 8:** Patrick Mullen, Elizabeth Nehme, Yabiel Stifo

**January 9:** Camila Ata, Gloria Azzi, Nadim Daou, Wyatt Goldman, Jameson Khoury, Adele Maroun, Eleanor Souza

**ANNIVERSARY WISHES**

**January 3:** Timothy & Emily Getchell, Elie & Kathleen Rahme, Wissam & Kristin Tarabay

**January 6:** Fred & Christelle Abboud

**January 8:** Shaker & Gisele Asmar, Gaby & Adele Maroun, Dennis & Pauline Vieira

**LECTORS SCHEDULE**

*Saturday, January 3*  
4:00 pm - Anthony Ata

*Sunday, January 4*  
8:00 am - Mouna Hbaiter  
9:30 am - Michael Faris  
11:00 am - (Eng) Mary Saab  
(Ar) George Saab

**LECTORS SCHEDULE**

*Saturday, January 10*  
4:00 pm - Patricia Ferguson

*Sunday, January 11*  
8:00 am - Huguette Sfeir  
9:30 am - Joey Safi  
11:00 am - (Eng) Mounira Daher  
(Ar) Rita Mallat

**WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS**

12/21/2025

Candles	\$132.00
Sunday Collection	\$3,916.00
Utilities, Fuel & Electricity	\$135.00
	<hr/>
	\$4,183.00

Due to Christmas holidays and the bulletin printing deadline, the collection report, for Christmas & the week of December 28 will be published in next week's bulletin.

Please remember to remit your Fuel/Utilities Envelope. Your contribution helps us keep the heat on in the Winter.

**OUR SYMPATHIES TO**

The loving family of **Ernest F. Dow**, beloved husband of **Martha (Karam)**, who passed away on December 9.

We express our sincere condolences to his daughters, Nicole & Nina, as well as his extended family members here & in Lebanon.

*May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace  
and their memories be eternal*

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Liturgies are offered for many reasons:

- ◆ For the souls in purgatory
- ◆ In remembrance of our loved ones who are deceased
- ◆ In honor of someone's birthday
- ◆ Special anniversary, and more

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

Please contact the Parish Office to book your mass intentions or for more inquiries.



## *Epiphany Liturgy Schedule*

### **MONDAY, JANUARY 5**

6PM - EPIPHANY VIGIL LITURGY (AR/ENG)

### **TUESDAY, JANUARY 6**

6PM - EPIPHANY LITURGY (AR/ENG)

**WATER WILL BE BLESSED & DISTRIBUTED AFTER DIVINE LITURGIES ON JANUARY 5 & 6**

### **2026 MARONITE CALENDARS**

Now available in the church foyer.

\$10 donation per calendar





LEBANON IS PROUD OF YOU  
BE PROUD OF YOUR ROOTS

**The Maronite Foundation**  
Proudly Presents

THE MARONITE ACADEMY  
INITIATIVE, 9TH ANNUAL SESSION

In honor of the late **MICHEL ABI NADER**  
Executive Board Member of the  
Maronite Foundation

Hosted by the Maronite Foundation  
In the World and In collaboration with  
the Holy Spirit University of Kaslik  
(USEK)

Are you of  
Lebanese descent,  
living abroad  
and aged between  
20 and 30?

**REGISTER  
ONLINE NOW**

[maronitefoundation.org/MaroniteAcademy](http://maronitefoundation.org/MaroniteAcademy)

to win a trip to Lebanon from  
August 8 to 23, 2026

\*Candidates must be fluent in English

### 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:

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](mailto:rectory@stanthonylawrence.org)

### PARISH DATABASE UPDATE REQUEST

Dear Parishioners,

As we start the new year, we kindly ask you to take a moment to update your information in our parish database.

Please use the link below, or email us at [rectory@stanthonylawrence.org](mailto:rectory@stanthonylawrence.org) to:

Register as a parishioner

Update your family members, mailing address, email, phone number, change in marital status, etc.

<https://www.stanthonylawrence.org/member-information-form/>

Your cooperation helps us keep our records accurate & ensures you stay informed about parish events & updates.

**2025 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS** are available upon request. Please call 978-685-7233 or email the parish office at [rectory@stanthonylawrence.org](mailto:rectory@stanthonylawrence.org)

Thank you for your attention & support.

### 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.

## Finding of Our Lord in the Temple

### 1st Book of Kings 3:5-7 . 9-12. 14

At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, 'Ask what I should give you.' And Solomon said, 'You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart towards you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, 'Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you. I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor all your life; no other king shall compare with you. If you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your life.'

### Letter to the Hebrews 7: 11-19

If perfection had been attainable through the levitical priesthood for the people received the law under this priesthood what further need would there have been to speak of another priest arising according to the order of Melchizedek, rather than one according to the order of Aaron? For when there is a change in the priesthood, there is necessarily a change in the law as well. Now the one of whom these things are spoken belonged to another tribe, from which no one has ever served at the altar. For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, and in connection with that tribe Moses said nothing about priests. It is even more obvious when another priest arises, resembling Melchizedek, one who has become a priest, not through a legal requirement concerning physical descent, but through the power of an indestructible life. For it is attested of him, 'You are a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchizedek.' There is, on the one hand, the abrogation of an earlier commandment because it was weak and ineffectual (for the law made nothing perfect); there is, on the other hand, the introduction of a better hope, through which we approach God.

### Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke 2: 41-52

Every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.' He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

## أحد وجود الرب يسوع في الهيكل

### سفر الملوك الأول 14.12-9. 7-5 :3

في جبّعون ترأَّسَ الرَّبُّ لِسُلَيْمَانَ فِي الْحُلْمِ لَيْلًا وَقَالَ اللَّهُ: "أَتَلْبُ مَا تُرِيدُ أَنْ أُعْطِيَكَ". فَقَالَ سُلَيْمَانُ: "أَنْتَ صَنَعْتَ إِلَيْيَكَ دَأْوَدَ أَبِي رَحْمَةَ عَظِيمَةً بِحَسْبِ سُلُوكِهِ أَمَامَكَ بِالْحَقِّ وَالْبَرِّ وَأَسْتِقَامَةِ الْقَلْبِ مَعَكَ، وَحَفِظْتَ لَهُ هَذِهِ الرَّحْمَةَ الْعَظِيمَةَ، وَأَعْطَيْتَهُ أَبْنَا يَجْلِسُ عَلَى عَرْشِهِ كَمَا هُوَ الْيَوْمُ. وَالآنَ أَيُّهَا الرَّبُّ إِلَيْهِ، أَنْتَ مَلِكُّ عَبْدَكَ مَكَانَ دَأْوَدَ أَبِي، وَأَنَا صَبِّيٌّ صَغِيرُ السِّنِّ، لَا أَعْرِفُ أَنْ أَخْرُجَ وَأَدْخُلَ، فَهَبْ عَبْدَكَ قَلْبًا فَهِيمًا لِيُحْكُمَ شَعْبَكَ وَيُمِيزَ بَيْنَ الْخَيْرِ وَالشَّرِّ، لَأَنَّهُ مَنْ يَقْدِرُ أَنْ يَحْكُمَ شَعْبَكَ هَذَا الْكَثِيرُ؟" فَحَسْنَ فِي عَيْنَيِّ الرَّبِّ أَنْ يَكُونَ سُلَيْمَانَ قَدْ سَأَلَ هَذَا الْأَمْرَ. فَقَالَ لَهُ اللَّهُ: بِمَا أَنْتَ سَأَلْتَ هَذَا الْأَمْرَ، وَلَمْ تَسْأَلْ لَكَ أَيَّامًا كَثِيرَةً، وَلَا سَأَلْتَ لَكَ الْغَنِّيَّ، وَلَمْ تَطْلُبْ نُفُوسَ أَعْدَائِكَ، بَلْ سَأَلْتَ لَكَ التَّمْيِيزَ لِإِجْرَاءِ الْحُكْمِ، فَهَاءَنَّدَا قَدْ فَعَلْتُ بِحَسْبِ كَلَامِكَ. هَاءَنَّدَا قَدْ أَعْطَيْتُكَ قَلْبًا حَكِيمًا فَهِيمًا، حَتَّى إِنَّهُ لَمْ يَكُنْ قَبْلَكَ مِثْلُكَ وَلَا يَقُولُ بَعْدَكَ مِثْلُكَ . وَإِنْ أَنْتَ سِرْتَ فِي طَرِيقِ حَافِظًا فَرَائِضِي وَوَصَائِيَّيِّي، كَمَا سَارَ دَأْوَدُ أَبُوكَ، أَطِيلُ أَيَّامَكَ".

### الرسالة إلى العبرانيين 11-19 :7

يَا إِخْرَتِي، لَوْ كَانَ الْكَمَالُ قَدْ تَحَقَّقَ بِالْكَهْنُوتِ الْلَّاوِيِّ، وَهُوَ أَسَاسُ الشَّرِيعَةِ الَّتِي أُعْطِيَتُ لِلشَّعْبِ، فَأَيُّ حَاجَةٍ بَعْدَ إِلَيْ أَنْ يَقُولَ كَاهِنٌ أَخْرُ عَلَى «رُبْتَهُ مُلْكِيَّصَادِقٍ»، وَلَا يُقَالُ «عَلَى رُبْتَهُ هَارُونٍ»؟ فَمَنْ تَغْيِيرُ الْكَهْنُوتِ، لَا بُدَّ مِنْ تَغْيِيرِ الشَّرِيعَةِ أَيْضًا. فَالَّذِي يُقَالُ هَذَا فِي شَانِهِ، أَيُّ الْمَسِيحِ، جَاءَ مِنْ سِبْطٍ آخَرَ، لَمْ يُلَازِمْ أَحَدٌ مِنْهُ خِدْمَةَ الْمَذْبُحِ، وَمِنَ الْوَاضِحِ أَنَّ رَبَّنَا أَشْرَقَ مِنْ يَهُودَا، مِنْ سِبْطٍ لَمْ يَصْفُهُ مُوسَى بِشَيْءٍ مِنَ الْكَهْنُوتِ. وَيَزِيدُ الْأَمْرُ وُضُوْحًا أَنَّ الْكَاهِنَ الْآخَرَ الَّذِي يَقُولُ عَلَى مِثَالِ مُلْكِيَّصَادِقٍ، لَمْ يَقُمْ وَفَقَ شَرِيعَةَ وَصِيَّةَ بَشَرِّيَّةٍ، بَلْ وَفَقَ قُوَّةَ حَيَاةٍ لَا تَرْزُولُ. وَيُشَهِّدُ لَهُ: «أَنْتَ كَاهِنٌ إِلَى الْأَبَدِ، عَلَى رُبْتَهُ مُلْكِيَّصَادِقٍ!» وَهَذَا يَتِمُّ إِبْطَالُ وَصِيَّةِ الْكَهْنُوتِ السَّابِقَةِ، بِسَبَبِ ضُعْفِهَا وَعَدَمِ نَفْعِهَا، لَأَنَّ الشَّرِيعَةَ لَمْ تُبْلِغْ شَيْئًا إِلَى الْكَمَالِ، وَيَتِمُّ أَيْضًا إِذْخَالُ رَجَاءِ أَفْضَلِ، بِهِ نَقْرَبُ مِنَ اللَّهِ.

### إنجيل القديس لوقا 41-52 :2

كَانَ أَبُوا يَسُوعَ يَدْهَبَ كُلَّ سَنَةٍ فِي عِيدِ الْفَصْحِ إِلَى أُورَشَلِيمَ، وَلَمَّا بَلَغَ يَسُوعَ أَثْنَيْ عَشْرَةَ سَنَةً، صَعَدُوا مَعًا كَمَا هِيَ الْعَادَةُ فِي الْعِيدِ. وَبَعْدَ أَنْقِضَاءِ أَيَّامِ الْعِيدِ، عَادَ الْأَبْوَانُ، وَبِقِيَّ الصَّبِّيِّ يَسُوعُ فِي أُورَشَلِيمَ، وَهُمَا لَا يَدْرِيَانِ. وَإِذْ كَانَا يَظْنَانِ أَنَّهُ فِي الْقَافْلَةِ، سَارَا مَسِيرَةَ يَوْمٍ، ثُمَّ أَخَذَا يَطْلُبَانِهِ بَيْنَ الْأَقْارِبِ وَالْمَعَارِفِ. وَلَمْ يَجِدَاهُ، فَعَادَا إِلَى أُورَشَلِيمَ يَبْحَثَانِ عَنْهُ. وَبَعْدَ ثَلَاثَةِ أَيَّامٍ، وَجَدَاهُ فِي الْهِيْكِلِ جَالِسًا بَيْنَ الْعُلَمَاءِ، يَسْمَعُهُمْ وَيَسْأَلُهُمْ. وَكَانَ جَمِيعُ الَّذِينَ يَسْمَعُونَهُ مُذَهِّلِينَ بِذَكَائِهِ وَأَجْوِيَّتِهِ، وَلَمَّا رَأَهُ أَبُواهُ بُهْتَاهُ، وَقَالَتْ لَهُ أُمُّهُ: «يَا أَبْنِي، لِمَاذَا فَعَلْتَ إِنَّا هَذَا؟ فَهَا أَنَا وَأَبُوكَ كُنَّا نَبْحَثُ عَنْكَ مُتَوَجِّعِينَ!» فَقَالَ لَهُمَا: «لِمَاذَا تَطْلُبَانِي؟ أَلَا تَعْلَمَانِ أَنَّهُ يَتَبَغِي أَنْ أَكُونَ فِي مَا هُوَ لَأَبِي؟» أَمَّا هُمَا فَلَمْ يَفْهَمَا الْكَلَامَ الَّذِي كَلَمُهُمَا بِهِ ثُمَّ نَزَلَ مَعَهُمَا، وَعَادَ إِلَى النَّاصِرَةِ، وَكَانَ خَاصِيًّا لَهُمَا. وَكَانَتْ أُمُّهُ تَحْفَظُ كُلَّ هَذِهِ الْأُمُورِ فِي قَلْبِهَا. وَكَانَ يَسُوعُ يَتَمُّو فِي الْحِكْمَةِ وَالْقَامَةِ وَالثِّنْعَةِ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ وَالنَّاسِ.

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