

SAINT ANTHONY MARONITE CHURCH SEASON OF THE HOLY CROSS

Second Sunday after Holy Cross

لأحد الثاني بعد عيد الصليب



PARISH OFFICE: 978-685-7233

FAX: 978-688-4475

Website: stanthonylawrence.org

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LITURGIES INTENTIONS

2nd Sunday after Holy Cross

Saturday, September 26

*St. John the Evangelist
Rev 2:18-29/Mt 20:1-16*

4:00 pm +William Torla, *By his wife, Gail Torla, & Family*

Sunday, September 27

St. Vincent de Paul

8:00 am +Deceased Members of the Daoud Family

9:30 am 40 Day Memorial +Richard Mallen, *By his Family*

11:00 am +Antoine Karam Asmar, *By his wife, Nada Asmar, & daughter, Elianne*

3rd Sunday after Holy Cross

Saturday, October 3

*St. Dionysius the Areopagite
St. Mother Theodore Guerin
Rev 6:9-17/Mt 12:43-45*

4:00 pm +Richard Ferguson, *By his wife, Patricia & son, Matthew*
Living & Deceased Members of the BouMitri Family, By Mr. & Mrs. Mounir BouMitri

Sunday, October 4

Holy Rosary Sunday
St. Francis of Assisi

8:00 am +John Purcell, *By his wife, Najla Azzi-Purcell*

9:30 am Private Intention

11:00 am +Salwa Abou Khalil & Nassif Touma & their daughter, Patricia Touma, & Pio, *By Rita Touma & Family*

5:00 pm First Sunday Liturgy

PLEASE NOTE

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

Daily Liturgies

Monday, September 28

*St. Chariton
Rev 3:1-6/Mt 10:16-22*

9:00 am +Ghassan Raad, *By his wife, Claudine, & daughters, Jessica & Bianca*

Tuesday, September 29

*St. Romanos (Cyriacus), known as Rouhanna the Cantor
Rev 3:7-13/Mt 11:20-24*

9:00 am +Jeffrey & Anthony Waters, Mary Rita Costa, Carole Amabello, Kay Wilson & Noreen Duxbury, *By Patricia Waters*

Wednesday, September 30

*St. Gregory the Illuminator
Rev 3:14-22/Mt 12:29-32*

9:00 am +Hinde Khoury Moutran & Mary Bou Jabbour, *By Paul & Jacqueline Bou Jabbour & Family*

Thursday, October 1

*St. Therese of the Child Jesus, Doctor of the Church
Rev 4:1-11/Mt 12:33-37*

9:00 am +Joanne Abdulla, *By Joanne Van Billiard & Family*

9:30am - 12 noon Eucharistic Adoration

Friday, October 2 - OFFICE CLOSED

*St. Cyprian and Justina
Rev 5:1-10/Mt 12:38-42*

7:00 pm First Friday Liturgy



SANCTUARY/EUCHARISTIC LAMPS

For the Living & Deceased Members of the BouMitri Family, By Mr. & Mrs. Mounir BouMitri

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

LITURGIES SCHEDULE

The following services will resume beginning October 1st:

- First Friday & First Sunday Liturgies
- Family of St. Sharbel
- Eucharistic Adoration following the Thursday 9:00AM Daily Liturgy



When Everything Shakes, Remain Faithful

Dear Parishioners,

This Sunday's Gospel can sound frightening. Jesus speaks about wars, earthquakes, famines, persecution, betrayal, false prophets, and even the destruction of the Temple. Yet hidden in the middle of all these disturbing images is one sentence that gives us the key to understanding everything:

"The one who endures to the end will be saved." (Matthew 24:13)

Jesus is not trying to frighten His disciples. He is preparing them.

The disciples were admiring the magnificent Temple of Jerusalem. It looked permanent, strong, untouchable. Yet Jesus tells them that even this great building would one day fall. In other words: do not build your life on things that can collapse.

And this is a lesson we all need.

Sometimes we unconsciously build our security on things we believe will always be there: our health, our family, our career, our money, our plans, our reputation, even certain relationships. Then suddenly something changes. A diagnosis comes. Someone we love dies. A relationship breaks. Financial difficulties appear. A plan we worked hard for fails. Someone disappoints us. And our world shakes. The question of faith is not whether our lives will ever be shaken. They will. The question is: What remains standing when everything else shakes?

Jesus' answer is simple: remain with Me.

Christian faith does not mean that nothing bad will happen to us. It means that nothing that happens to us has the power to separate us from God unless we allow it. Notice that Jesus does not say, "The one who understands everything will be saved." He does not say, "The one who avoids every difficulty." He says, "the one who endures."

Sometimes faith means simply continuing.

Continuing to pray when prayer feels dry.

Continuing to love when love is not returned.

Continuing to forgive when the wound still hurts.

Continuing to come to church when life is confusing.

Continuing to trust God when we do not understand what He is doing.

My dear parishioners, we do not know what tomorrow will bring. But we know who will be there when tomorrow comes. Everything around us may change. Some things may even fall apart. But Christ remains.

And sometimes the greatest act of faith is simply to stand beside Him and say: "Lord, I am still here."

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Edgard

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

MEET OUR OFFICE STAFF:

Marie Azzi
Executive Assistant
rectory@stanthonylawrence.org

Christine Ryan
Administrative Assistant
bulletin@stanthonylawrence.org

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.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Baptized & Confirmed

Sophia Renee Murphy

daughter of

Sam & Renee (Mouawad) Murphy

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

~Mark 16:16

FIRST BANNs OF MARRIAGE

Ibrahim Karam & Kelly Tockett

SECOND BANNs OF MARRIAGE

**Gianny George Ramey
& Taylor Marie Goodnow**

THIRD & FINAL BANNs OF MARRIAGE

Akash Patel & Jessica Chaaya

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS

09/20/2026

Candles	\$91.00
Sunday Collection	\$3,030.00
Fuel	\$75.00
Donations	\$460.00
	\$3,656.00

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

OUR SYMPATHIES TO

The family of **Marie Nammour**, who passed away on September 16.

The family of **Richard Habib**, who passed away on September 18.

We express our sincere condolences to their family members.

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

BIRTHDAY WISHES

September 26: Mary Ann Abdallah, Michael Bijjani, Destiny Geha, Nicole Motta, Derek Shadeed, Laurence Yameen

September 27: Katia Assaf, Adelynn Harvey, Elie Merheb, Rita Rizk

September 28: Dawn Aboelsaad, Elijah Kayrouz, Antoine Nader, Matthew Saab, Mikaela Strobel

September 29: Ramona Bou-Mitri, Pascal Constantine, Laura Dahbour, Tania Mazraani, Charbel Salloum, Manuel Santos, Nina Santos, Dennis Vieira

September 30: Youssef Acevedo, Therese Chahine, Mason Sawyer

October 1: Luna Abi-Moussa, Ibrahim Ata, Christopher Bou Saada, Richard Haddad, Neal Hassan, Tanous Hatem, Jason Martino, Alyce Sader, Antoinette Sader, Christa-Maria Salame, Fadi Saroufim

October 2: Alexander Collins, Afif El Rahi, Patrick Gerges, Dionair Leonardo, Damari Leonardo, Radwan Maroun

ANNIVERSARY WISHES

September 26: Robert & Beverly Schiripo

September 27: Fred & Lori Corey

September 28: Alan & Karen Pelletier

September 29: Anthony & Cristina Chedid, William & Jennifer Kannan

September 30: Lutfi & Mouna Kassarji

October 1: Rabihi & Maya Bou-Chaaya, Ryan & Nicole Jacobs

October 2: Raymond & Claudia Saysouk



ARABIC SCHOOL

For those who signed up for Friday classes:

Friday, October 2 @ 6:30pm-8pm

For those who signed up for Saturday classes:

Saturday, October 3 @ 3:30pm - 5pm

Classes will be held in the CCD classrooms
Please send a little snack & water with your child.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

UPCOMING SESSION

Saturday, October 10

5:00pm - 7:00pm



MYO & Jr MYO

UPCOMING SESSION

Sunday, October 4

6pm - 7:30pm

BE PART OF OUR MINISTRIES

Religious Education

www.stanthonylawrence.org/registration-form/

Maronite Youth Organization –MYO

www.stanthonylawrence.org/registration-form-2/

Maronite Young Adults –MYA

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

Knights of Mary –KOM

www.stanthonylawrence.org/registration-form-4/

Knights of the Altars

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**

LECTORS SCHEDULE

Saturday, September 26

4:00 pm - George Saab

Sunday, September 13

8:00 am - Subdeacon Antoine Nammour

9:30 am - Bethany Pellerin

11:00 am - (Eng) Marie Christine Daou
(Ar) Maribelle Spiridone

LECTORS SCHEDULE

Saturday, October 3

4:00 pm - Patricia Ferguson

Sunday, October 4

8:00 am - Hitaf Nammour

9:30 am - Therese Bou Sanayah

11:00 am - (Eng) Mansor Chaya
(Ar) Amale Chantiri

KEEP YOUR FAMILY INFORMATION CURRENT

To help us keep our parish records accurate and stay connected with you, we kindly ask all parishioners to review and update their information.

Use the form to register as a parishioner or update your family members, mailing address, email, phone number, marital status, or other household information.

Simply scan the QR code to complete or update your information.

Thank you for helping St. Anthony stay connected with our parish families.



St. Anthony Maronite Catholic Church

JOIN THE

Knights of the Altar

Serve God ✦ Build Character ✦ Be Part of Something Greater

*The altar is
where heaven
meets earth...
and you can
be part of it!*

✦ INTERESTED? SIGN UP HERE! ✦

Name: _____

Parents' Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

WHICH LITURGIES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SERVE?
(Circle all that apply)

☐	☐	☐
Saturday 4:00 PM	Sunday 9:30 AM	Sunday 11:00 AM



SAVE THE DATE

**THE FINAL PROFESSION OF VOWS
OF SISTER EMILY MARY**

Monday December 7, 2026 | 7:00PM
Our Lady of Purgatory, New Bedford MA



Formal Invitation to follow.
Pray for Sister Emily Mary as she prepares for her Final
Profession of Vows and for more vocations to our
community. Thank you and God bless you.

EPARCHY OF ST. MARON OF BROOKLYN



Come and see!

If you are interested and
called to become a priest
join us at the
MARONITE SEMINARY

**NOVEMBER
6, 7 & 8, 2026**



Our Lady of Lebanon
Maronite Seminary
1501 Reseda Avenue NW



CONTACT:

✉ maroniteseminary@comcast.net 📍 7164 Alaska Ave. NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20012



REGISTER HERE

JOIN THE AMERICAN LEBANESE AWARENESS ASSOCIATION FOR A NIGHT OF

WINE TASTING

AT THE SEARLES CHAPEL IN WINDHAM, NH

Sip, savor, and discover the rich flavors of Lebanon during an evening of award-winning wines, delicious cuisine, and unforgettable company.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 24TH
5:00 - 9:00 PM



\$65 PER PERSON



PURCHASE TICKETS HERE!

ADMISSION INCLUDES WINE TASTINGS, LEBANESE BUFFET, AND AN EXCLUSIVE ALAA WINE GLASS TO TAKE HOME!

April 26 - May 1, 2027

Guadalupe Pilgrimage Mexico City

Walk in Faith. Discover Mexico. Encounter Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Join Fr. Christian Hbaiter and St. Theresa Maronite Church on a sacred journey to Mexico City, featuring Liturgy at holy sites, the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Blessed Miguel Pro's tomb, historic landmarks, and the ancient ruins of Teotihuacán.

Trip Information

\$3,000 PER PERSON
Based on double occupancy

PRICE INCLUDES

- Round-trip airfare from Boston (BOS)
- All meals
- All ground transportation
- Tips & gratuities

PILGRIMAGE HIGHLIGHTS

- Our Lady of Guadalupe
- Blessed Miguel Pro
- The Fifth Apparition
- Teotihuacán

SAVE YOUR SPOT!
Registration Deadline & \$400 Deposit: November 20, 2026

SCAN TO REGISTER
View the full itinerary & reserve your spot.



CONTACT VOCATIO TRAVEL (214) 307-2144
FOR MORE INFO: INFO@VOCIOTRIVEL.COM

Youth Basketball Skills Camp

Ages 6-12 - Boys & Girls

FULL COURT MINDSET

BASKETBALL SKILLS CAMP

Skills • Drills • Confidence

SAINT ANTHONY'S MARONITE CHURCH SPECIAL
\$10 off your 1st child • \$20 off your 2nd child
Use promo code MARONITE at sign-up

This isn't just dribbling and layups. Every session blends **fundamental basketball training** with the **mental side of the game** — building the focus, resilience, and self-belief kids carry with them on and off the court.

Two hours a week, small-group coaching, real progress. **Spots are limited — sign up soon.**

STARTS
Friday, October 16
First session — see you there!

LOCATION
Knights of Columbus
10 Brook Street, Andover, MA 01810

SESSIONS
Fridays, 4:30-6:30 PM
Two hours, weekly

WHO
Ages 6-12
Boys and girls, all skill levels

\$110 / 4-class package or **\$40 per class**, drop-in

Bring your own ball

COACHES
Elie Aboukhatir & Matt Torrisi
Elie: (978) 288-0309 - Matt: (978) 697-3258
Venmo: @FullCourtMindset
fullcourtmindset@gmail.com

Reserve your spot today
Message or call to sign up

Street parking available for drop-off — or stick around downtown Andover for dinner, shops, and the park while your kid trains.

OUR LADY OF MERCY MARONITE CHURCH
341 JUNE STREET
WORCESTER, MA 01602

Annual MIDDLE EASTERN FESTIVAL

LIVE MUSIC **DABKE** **RAFFLES** **CASH BAR** **HOOKAH** **FAMILY FRIENDLY**

Fun for All!

SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 26
11:00 AM to 11:00 PM

SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 27
11:30 AM to 6:00 PM

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

SATURDAY
MARWAN ZGHEIB

SUNDAY
Music by
RICKY

Authentic Middle Eastern food

RAFFLES **CASH BAR** **HOOKAH** **SWEETS** **FAMILY FRIENDLY** **DABKE** **LIVE MUSIC**

Second Sunday after Holy Cross***Book of Joel 2:1,10-13,15-16a***

Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near. The earth quakes before them, the heavens tremble. The sun and the moon are darkened, and the stars withdraw their shining. The LORD utters his voice at the head of his army; how vast is his host! Numberless are those who obey his command. Truly the day of the LORD is great; terrible indeed who can endure it? Yet even now, says the LORD, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy.

A Reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians 15:19-34

Brothers and Sisters, If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. For 'God has put all things in subjection under his feet.' But when it says, 'All things are put in subjection', it is plain that this does not include the one who put all things in subjection under him. When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the one who put all things in subjection under him, so that God may be all in all. Otherwise, what will those people do who receive baptism on behalf of the dead? If the dead are not raised at all, why are people baptized on their behalf? And why are we putting ourselves in danger every hour? I die every day! That is as certain, brothers and sisters, as my boasting of you a boast that I make in Christ Jesus our Lord. If with merely human hopes I fought with wild animals at Ephesus, what would I have gained by it? If the dead are not raised, 'Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.' Do not be deceived: 'Bad company ruins good morals.' Come to a sober and right mind, and sin no more; for some people have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame.

Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Saint Matthew 24:1-14

As Jesus came out of the temple and was going away, his disciples came to point out to him the buildings of the temple. Then he asked them, 'You see all these, do you not? Truly I tell you, not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.' When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, 'Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?' Jesus answered them, 'Beware that no one leads you astray. For many will come in my name, saying, "I am the Messiah!" and they will lead many astray. And you will hear of wars and rumours of wars; see that you are not alarmed; for this must take place, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places: all this is but the beginning of the birth pangs. 'Then they will hand you over to be tortured and will put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of my name. Then many will fall away, and they will betray one another and hate one another. And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. And because of the increase of lawlessness, the love of many will grow cold. But anyone who endures to the end will be saved. And this good news of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the world, as a testimony to all the nations; and then the end will come.

الأحد الثاني بعد عيد الصليب

سفر يوشع 10:1-2 - 13 - 15 - 16

أَنْفُخُوا فِي الْبُوقِ فِي صِهْيُونَ، وَاهْتَفُوا فِي جَبَلِ قُدْسِي وَلِيَرْتَعْذَ جَمِيعُ سَكَّانِ الْأَرْضِ فَإِنَّ يَوْمَ الرَّبِّ آتٍ وَهُوَ قَرِيبٌ. مِنْ وَجْهِهِ أَرْتَعَدَتِ الْأَرْضُ وَرَجَفَتِ السَّمَاوَاتُ وَأَظْلَمَتِ الشَّمْسُ وَالْقَمَرُ وَسَحَبَتِ الْكَوَاكِبُ ضِيَاءَهَا وَجَهَرَ الرَّبُّ بِصَوْتِهِ أَمَامَ جَيْشِهِ لِأَنَّ عَسْكَرَهُ كَثِيرٌ جَدًّا مُقْتَدِرٌ يَنْقُذُ كَلِمَتَهُ لِأَنَّهُ عَظِيمٌ يَوْمَ الرَّبِّ وَهَانُلْ جَدًّا. فَمَنْ الَّذِي يُطِيفُهُ؟ فَالآنَ، يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ: «ارْجِعُوا إِلَيَّ بِكُلِّ قُلُوبِكُمْ وَبِالصَّوْمِ وَالْبُكَاءِ وَالْإِنْتِحَابِ. مَزَقُوا قُلُوبَكُمْ لَا تِيَابَكُمْ وَارْجِعُوا إِلَى الرَّبِّ إِلَهُكُمْ فَإِنَّهُ حَنُونٌ رَحِيمٌ طَوِيلُ الْأَنَاءِ كَثِيرُ الرَّحْمَةِ وَنَادِمٌ عَلَى الشَّرِّ. أَنْفُخُوا فِي الْبُوقِ فِي صِهْيُونَ وَأُوصُوا بِصَوْمٍ مُقَدَّسٍ وَنَادُوا بِأَحْتِفَالٍ. اجْمَعُوا الشَّعْبَ وَقَدِّسُوا الْجَمَاعَةَ واجْمَعُوا الشُّيُوخَ واجْمَعُوا الْأَطْفَالَ وراضعي الأثداء وليُخْرِجِ الْعَرِيسُ مِنْ مُخَدَعِهِ وَالْعَرُوسُ مِنْ خَدْرِهَا.»

رسالة القديس بولس الأولى إلى أهل كورنثس 15: 19-34

يَا إِخْوَتِي، إِنَّ كُنَّا نَرْجُو الْمَسِيحَ فِي هَذِهِ الْحَيَاةِ وَحَسَبُ، فَكُنْ أَشَقَى النَّاسِ أَجْمَعِينَ! وَالْحَالُ أَنَّ الْمَسِيحَ قَامَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ، وَهُوَ بَاكُورَةُ الرَّاقِدِينَ. فِيمَا أَنَّ الْمَوْتَ كَانَ بِوَاسِطَةِ إِنْسَانٍ، فَبِوَاسِطَةِ إِنْسَانٍ أَيْضًا تَكُونُ قِيَامَةُ الْأَمْوَاتِ. فَكَمَا أَنَّهُ فِي آدَمَ يَمُوتُ الْجَمِيعُ، كَذَلِكَ فِي الْمَسِيحِ سَيَحْيَا الْجَمِيعُ، كُلُّ وَاحِدٍ فِي رُتْبَتِهِ: الْمَسِيحُ أَوَّلًا، لِأَنَّهُ الْبَاكُورَةُ، ثُمَّ الَّذِينَ هُمْ لِلْمَسِيحِ، عِنْدَ مَجِيئِهِ. وَبَعْدَ ذَلِكَ تَكُونُ النَّهَائِيَّةُ، حِينَ يُسَلِّمُ الْمَسِيحُ الْمُلْكَ إِلَى اللَّهِ الْآبِ، بَعْدَ أَنْ يَكُونَ قَدْ أَبْطَلَ كُلَّ رِئَاسَةٍ وَكُلَّ سُلْطَانٍ وَقُوَّةٍ، لِأَنَّهُ لَا بُدَّ لِلْمَسِيحِ أَنْ يَمْلِكَ، إِلَى أَنْ يَجْعَلَ اللَّهُ جَمِيعَ أَعْدَائِهِ تَحْتَ قَدَمَيْهِ. وَآخِرُ عَدُوٍّ يُبْطَلُ هُوَ الْمَوْتُ. لَقَدْ أَخْضَعَ اللَّهُ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ تَحْتَ قَدَمَيْهِ. وَحِينَ يَقُولُ الْكِتَابُ: «أَخْضَعَ لَهُ كُلُّ شَيْءٍ»، فَمَنْ الْوَاضِحُ أَنَّهُ يَسْتَنْتِني اللَّهُ الَّذِي أَخْضَعَ لَهُ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ. وَمَتَى أَخْضَعَ لِلْآبِ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ، فَحِينَئِذٍ يَخْضَعُ الْآبُنُ نَفْسَهُ لِلَّذِي أَخْضَعَ لَهُ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ، حَتَّى يَكُونَ اللَّهُ الْكُلُّ فِي الْكُلِّ. وَإِلَّا فَمَاذَا يَفْعَلُ الَّذِينَ يَتَعَمَّدُونَ مِنْ أَجْلِ الْأَمْوَاتِ؟ إِنْ كَانَ الْأَمْوَاتُ لَا يَقُومُونَ أَبَدًا، فَلِمَاذَا يَتَعَمَّدُونَ مِنْ أَجْلِهِمْ؟ وَنَحْنُ، فَلِمَاذَا نَعْرِضُ أَنْفُسَنَا كُلَّ سَاعَةٍ لِلْخَطَرِ؟ أَقْسِمُ، أَيُّهَا الْإِخْوَةُ، بِمَا لِي مِنْ فَخْرٍ بِكُمْ فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ رَبَّنَا، أَنِّي أَوَاجُهُ الْمَوْتُ كُلَّ يَوْمٍ. إِنْ كُنْتُ صَارَعْتُ الْوُحُوشَ فِي أَفْسُسَ، لِغَايَةِ بَشَرِيَّةٍ، فَأَيُّ نَفْعٍ لِي؟ وَإِنْ كَانَ الْأَمْوَاتُ لَا يَقُومُونَ، فَلِنَأْكُلْ وَنَشْرَبْ، لِأَنَّنَا عَدَا سَنَمُوتُ! لَا تَضِلُّوا! إِنَّ الْمُعَاشِرَاتِ السَّيِّئَةَ تُفْسِدُ الْأَخْلَاقَ السَّالِمَةَ! أَيْقِظُوا قُلُوبَكُمْ بِالنَّفْوَى، وَلَا تَخْطَاوْا، فَإِنَّ بَعْضًا مِنْكُمْ يَجْهَلُونَ اللَّهَ! أَقُولُ هَذَا لِإِخْوَالِكُمْ!

إنجيل القديس متى 1: 24-14

خَرَجَ يَسُوعُ مِنَ الْهَيْكَلِ وَمَضَى. فَدَنَا مِنْهُ تَلَامِيذُهُ يُلْفَنُونَ نَظْرَهُ إِلَى أُنْبِيَةِ الْهَيْكَلِ. فَأَجَابَ وَقَالَ لَهُمْ: «أَلَا تَنْظُرُونَ هَذَا كُلَّهُ؟ الْحَقُّ أَقُولُ لَكُمْ: لَنْ يُتْرَكَ هُنَا حَجَرٌ عَلَى حَجَرٍ إِلَّا وَيُنْقَضُ.» وَفِيمَا هُوَ جَالِسٌ عَلَى جَبَلِ الزَيْثُونِ، دَنَا مِنْهُ التَّلَامِيذُ عَلَى أَنْفَرَادٍ قَائِلِينَ: «قُلْ لَنَا مَتَى يَكُونُ هَذَا، وَمَا هِيَ عَلَامَةُ مَجِيئِكَ وَنَهَايَةِ الْعَالَمِ؟». فَأَجَابَ يَسُوعُ وَقَالَ لَهُمْ: «إِحْذَرُوا أَنْ يُضِلَّكُمْ أَحَدٌ! فَكَثِيرُونَ سَيَأْتُونَ بِأَسْمِي قَائِلِينَ: «أَنَا هُوَ الْمَسِيحُ! وَيُضِلُّونَ الْكَثِيرِينَ. وَسَوْفَ تَسْمَعُونَ بِحُرُوبٍ وَبِأَخْبَارِ حُرُوبٍ، أَنْظَرُوا، لَا تَرْتَعِبُوا! فَلَإِنَّ بَدْءَ أَنْ يَحْدُثَ هَذَا. وَلَكِنْ لَيْسَتْ النَّهَائِيَّةُ بَعْدًا! سَتَقُومُ أُمَّةٌ عَلَى أُمَّةٍ، وَمَمْلَكَةٌ عَلَى مَمْلَكَةٍ، وَتَكُونُ مَجَاعَاتٌ وَزَلَزَلٌ فِي أَمَاكِنَ شَتَّى، وَهَذَا كُلُّهُ أَوَّلُ الْمَخَاضِ. حِينَئِذٍ يُسَلِّمُونَكُمْ إِلَى الضِّيقِ، وَيَقْتُلُونَكُمْ، وَيُبْغِضُوكُمْ جَمِيعُ الْأُمَمِ مِنْ أَجْلِ أَسْمِي. وَحِينَئِذٍ يَرْتَدُّ الْكَثِيرُونَ عَنِ الْإِيمَانِ، وَيُسَلِّمُ بَعْضُهُمْ بَعْضًا، وَيُبْغِضُ بَعْضُهُمْ بَعْضًا. وَيَقُومُ أَنْبِيَاءُ كَذِبَةٌ كَثِيرُونَ وَيُضِلُّونَ الْكَثِيرِينَ. وَلَكِنَّةَ الْإِثْمِ تَقْفَرُ مَحَبَّةُ الْكَثِيرِينَ. وَمَنْ يَصْبِرُ إِلَى النَّهَائِيَّةِ يَخْلُصُ. وَيُكْرَزُ بِإِنْجِيلِ الْمَلَكُوتِ هَذَا فِي الْمَسْكُونَةِ كُلِّهَا شَهَادَةً لِجَمِيعِ الْأُمَمِ، وَحِينَئِذٍ تَأْتِي النَّهَائِيَّةُ.»

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