



ST. THERESA

MARONITE CATHOLIC CHURCH



Sunday of the Parable of the Prodigal Son
احد مثل الابن الشاطر

March 22-23, 2025

“DO YOU REALIZE THAT JESUS IS THERE IN THE TABERNACLE EXPRESSLY FOR YOU – FOR YOU ALONE? HE BURNS WITH THE DESIRE TO COME INTO YOUR HEART.” – **ST. THERESE OF LISIEUX**

OUR CHURCH

343 N MAIN ST, BROCKTON, MA, 02301
PO BOX 2567, BROCKTON, MA, 02305
office@sttheresabrockton.org
(508) 586 - 1428

Office Hours:

Mon: Office Closed/Clergy Day Off
Tue-Fri: 10am-3pm

CLERGY

REV. CHRISTIAN HBAITER

ADMINISTRATOR

pastor@sttheresabrockton.org
(978) 857-4815

SUBDEACON GORDON MCKINNON

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

MS. PAULA F. SAMIA

RELIGIOUS ED. COORDINATOR

MRS. MIRNA ISSA

CHOIR COORDINATOR

MR. JOHN AWAD

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

MRS. FLAVIA SAADE

MS. MICHELLE NESSRALLA

YOUTH MINISTRY

MRS. JOELLE EL HAYEK

MR. ADIB ELIAS

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

MR. ADIB ELIAS

FINANCE/BUILDING COMMITTEE

MS. JOYCE NESSRALLA

MR. JOE SAYAH

MRS. SHIRLEY ASACK-YOUNES

MS. SALMA HAIKAL

MR. RABIH BECHARA

PASTORAL COUNCIL

MR. COPAL AWAD

MRS. ALISON SAADE

MRS. MIRNA ISSA

MR. GEORGE MATTA

MRS. SOLANGE BADRAN

MS. HANNE NESSRALLA

MRS. RANDA EL-HAYEK

MR. JACQUES ELIAS

MR. YOHANNA ABOUJAOUDE

MRS. KATIE BAROUD

OUR INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, MARCH 22

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

[St. Sergius Paulus]

4:00 PM: **40 Day Memorial for +Roseann (Akeke) O'Connor** as requested by the family

SUNDAY, MARCH 23

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

[St. Rafka]

10:30 AM: **+Chafic and Halloun Saade, and daughter Therese Saade** as requested by the family

TUESDAY, MARCH 25

No Liturgy - Eparchial Clergy Retreat

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26

No Liturgy - Eparchial Clergy Retreat

THURSDAY, MARCH 27

No Liturgy

No Adoration - Eparchial Clergy Retreat

FRIDAY, MARCH 28

6:30 PM: **STATIONS OF THE CROSS / BENEDICTION**

SATURDAY, MARCH 29

Healing of the Paralytic

[St. Cyril of Baalbek]

4:00 PM: **+Intention available on request**

SUNDAY, MARCH 30

Healing of the Paralytic

[St. John Climacus]

10:30 AM: **+Intention available on request**

LET US PRAY FOR OUR LOVED ONES AND THE INTENTIONS OF OUR HEARTS. CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE TO SCHEDULE AN INTENTION.

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

DIVINE LITURGIES

SATURDAY 4:00PM
SUNDAY 10:30AM
TUESDAY 9:00AM
WEDNESDAY 9:00AM
THURSDAY 9:00AM

CONFESSION

TUESDAY 8:15AM – 8:45AM
WEDNESDAY 8:15AM – 8:45AM
THURSDAY 8:15AM – 8:45AM
6:30PM - 7:15PM

***ALSO AVAILABLE
BY APPOINTMENT**

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION



THURSDAY
6:30PM-7:30PM

BAPTISM

Please make arrangements with the Pastor at **least one (1) month** in advance. Godparents must meet requirements of church law. To discuss and to schedule a baptism, please contact the parish office.

MARRIAGE

Please consult with the Pastor to make arrangements at **least six (6) months** in advance of proposed date. To discuss and to schedule a marriage, please contact the parish office.

FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH

BREAD & WINE

IN LOVING MEMORY OF **+GEORGE SARKIS ASACK, SR.**
OFFERED BY MADELINE ASACK AND FAMILY

VIGIL CANDLE FOR THE SHRINE OF ST. THERESA
IN LOVING MEMORY OF **+ALL DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE TOM ABRAHAM
SAADE FAMILIES AND FARAH FAMILIES**
OFFERED BY GEORGE AND ALSION SAADE AND FAMILY

SANCTUARY CANDLE FOR THE TABERNACLE
IN LOVING MEMORY OF **+ALAN J. POIRIER**
OFFERED BY DONNA POIRIER

VIGIL CANDLE FOR THE BLESSED MOTHER
IN LOVING MEMORY OF **+ALL DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE TOM ABRAHAM
SAADE FAMILIES AND FARAH FAMILIES**
OFFERED BY GEORGE AND ALSION SAADE AND FAMILY

VIGIL CANDLE FOR THE GOSPEL THRONE
IN LOVING MEMORY OF **+NAJA AND SAMERA NESSRALLA**
OFFERED BY MR. AND MRS. MANSUR NESSRALLA AND FAMILY

LECTORS

SATURDAY, MARCH 22
ENGLISH - TOM

SUNDAY, MARCH 23
ARABIC - RANDA
ENGLISH - MIRNA

ALTAR SERVERS

SATURDAY, MAR. 22
GIO B.
CHARBEL B.

SUNDAY, MAR. 23
MARVIN G.
MATEO G.
ELIE G.
ALEX S.

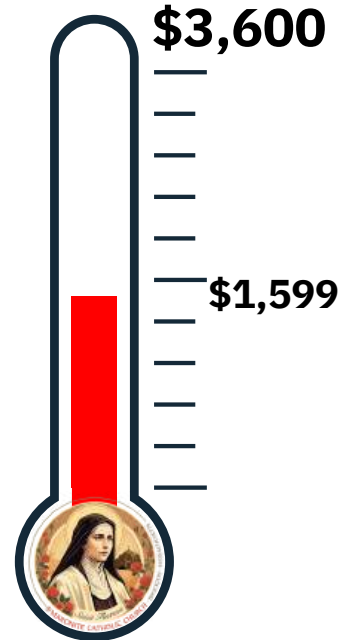
SATURDAY, MAR. 29
DANIEL Z.
CHARBEL S.

SUNDAY, MAR. 30
CHARBEL C.
MARTIN B.
ALEX S.
CHARLIE S.

OUR OFFERING

SATURDAY - 3/15/25	\$254.00
SUNDAY - 3/16/25	\$1,323.00
EASTER FLOWER DONATION 3/18/25	\$100.00
TOTAL WEEKLY OFFERING	\$1,677.00
WEEKLY OPERATIONAL EXPENSES	\$3,400.00
DEFICIT	-\$1,723.00

EPARCHIAL LENTEN APPEAL



OUR TITHE

WE RELY ON YOUR GENEROSITY TO BE ABLE TO OPERATE OUR CHURCH! IN ADDITION TO USING YOUR ASSIGNED ENVELOPES, YOU MAY USE VENMO TO MAKE YOUR CONTRIBUTION. MAY GOD REWARD YOU BACK FOR ALL YOU GIVE AND DO.

VENMO
@sttheresabrockton



RELIGIOUS ED

CLASSES ARE FROM 2PM-3:45PM

Please make sure your child arrives by 1:50pm and is picked up at 3:45pm

UPCOMING CLASSES

APRIL 5
APRIL 26



MYO

MYO

OPEN TO ALL 7TH-12TH GRADERS

UPCOMING SESSIONS

Mar 29 - Regional Retreat

WOMEN'S MINISTRY



9:45AM - 11:45AM
(CHURCH HALL)

UPCOMING SESSIONS
MAR 22 APR 12
MAY 3

YOUNG ADULTS

SCRIPTURE & SPIRITS

RSVP TO ADIB ELIAS

UPCOMING SESSION

APR 6 MAY 4

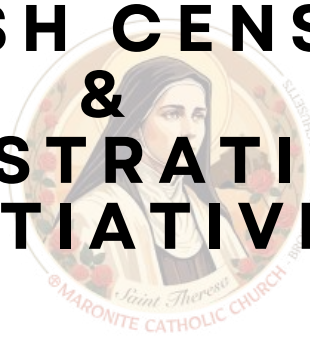




TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS
REGISTERED TO DATE:

194

PARISH CENSUS & REGISTRATION INITIATIVE



Note: The Parish WhatsApp group will be ending in March because of our transition to a NEW Database/ Communication System. Please be sure to REGISTER!

Register online at this link: <https://form.jotform.com/243413465230145>

REMEMBER ME IN YOUR KINGDOM

Would like to invite you to a Day Retreat
on Saturday, March 29, 2025 from 9:00 AM –3:00 PM at
Our Lady of the Annunciation Cathedral, 7 VFW Parkway, West Roxbury, MA 02132



The Day Retreat Schedule:

9:00 AM—Mass
9:45 AM—Coffee Break
10:15 AM—First talk and Discussion
12:15 PM—Lunch
1:00 PM—Second talk and Discussion
3:00PM—Final prayer

For more information and to register contact Zeina at 1-781-789-0432 or Karen 1-857-222-9777

EASTER FLOWERS

If you wish to honor someone or remember a loved one, please complete the envelope that was provided for you in your box, there are also envelopes in the back of the church. Please send them in no later **March 30, 2025**, so that we can begin to prepare the special section of the bulletin.



THIS WEEK, ALL THE PRIESTS OF OUR EPARCHY WILL GATHER FOR THEIR ANNUAL CLERGY RETREAT. PLEASE KEEP OUR PRIESTS IN YOUR PRAYERS. THERE WILL BE NO WEEKDAY LITURGIES OR ADORATION THIS WEEK. PLEASE JOIN US ON FRIDAY FOR STATIONS & BENEDICTION OF THE CROSS. FR. JOSEPH DICKAN WILL BE PRESIDING.



LENT

2025 SCHEDULE

MARCH

3

ASH MONDAY

9:00 am & 6:30 pm



5

SPIRITUAL TALK - REV. GEORGES ANTABY

Theme: Tree of Hope - Part 1

5:45 pm - Talk in Arabic

6:30 pm - Evening Prayer

7:00 pm - Talk in English

7

STATIONS OF THE CROSS / BENEDICTION

6:30 pm

14

STATIONS OF THE CROSS / BENEDICTION

6:30 pm

21

STATIONS OF THE CROSS / BENEDICTION

6:30 pm

*MOVIE AND A MEAL TO FOLLOW



28

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

6:30 pm

APRIL

4

STATIONS OF THE CROSS / BENEDICTION

6:30 pm

*MOVIE AND A MEAL TO FOLLOW



9

SPIRITUAL TALK - REV. GEORGES ANTABY

Theme: Tree of Hope - Part 2

5:45 pm - Talk in Arabic

6:30 pm - Evening Prayer

7:00 pm - Talk in English

11

STATIONS OF THE CROSS / BENEDICTION

6:30 pm

*MOVIE AND A MEAL TO FOLLOW





SAINT THERESA CHURCH OF BROCKTON, MA *Presents*

**APRIL
26**



SPRING HAFLI

FEATURING STAR SINGER **GEORGE DEEB**

COCKTAIL HOUR 7PM | DINNER 8PM | NO TICKETS SOLD AT DOOR
TICKET DONATION \$100 | DANCE FLOOR SEATING \$125 | KIDS MENU (6-12YRS) \$50

VENUE ST. SHARBEL MARONITE CENTER, 300 N EASTERN AVE, FALL RIVER, MA 02723

COPAL AWAD 508.922.3331

RSVP

RANDA HAYEK 508.250.6306



NAM 2025 CONVENTION

FAITH IGNITED - HOPE RENEWED
60 YEARS ROOTED IN MARONITE TRADITION

July 3-6, 2025
Raleigh - NC

Hosted by Saint Sharbel Church
Hilton Hotel, Raleigh North Hills



THE MASSABKI BROTHERS



60TH CONVENTION ANNIVERSARY



Follow Us for More Details   NAMConvention

60th NAM Convention Key Functions and Highlights

Faith Ignited – Hope Renewed
60 Years Rooted in Maronite Tradition

EXCURSIONS & ACTIVITIES

St Sharbel Neighborhood (All Ages)

Enjoy the beautiful Falls of Neuse Dam, tucked between lush forests and the serene waters of Falls Lake, then continue to visit St. Sharbel church.

Guided Umstead Park Walk (All Ages)

For nature lovers, immerse yourself in the beauty of Umstead Park on a guided walk through lush forests and peaceful trails.

Raleigh Highlights (All Ages)

Tour The Cathedral of The Sacred Heart Of Jesus & Explore Raleigh famous Sunflower fields.

The Museum Of Natural Sciences (Youth & Kids)

The largest in the Southeast, with Dinosaurs, fossils, butterfly conservatory, storm simulators, and scientists in action.

After-Party Karaoke: Be the Star of NAM!

Enjoy Lebanese oldies, favorite hits, and on-demand songs every night! Send us your requests, grab the mic, and join the fun for an unforgettable sing-along experience after the party!

Trolley Pub (MYA)

An MYA favorite, the Raleigh Trolley Pub is a fun, pedal-powered bar crawl through the city's best spots! Bring your friends, enjoy drinks, and explore downtown in a unique, lively way. (Fri 3-5 PM)

Theology On TAP (MYA)

Have a drink and dive deep into an exciting discussion about our faith with our incredible Bishop Elias Zaidan and Bishop Gregory Mansour!

Escape Room (MYA & MYO)

Available all convention long—grab friends, book a slot, and test your skills in this thrilling experience.

Dance, Mobility & Wellness (All Ages)

Stay active with dance, fitness, and expert mobility guidance for all ages. There's something for everyone to keep moving and feeling great!

Midnight Bite: Late-Night Cravings, Covered!

Keep the night going with delicious bites available for order after party hours. Whether you're craving a snack or a full meal, enjoy a late-night treat before calling it a night!

Fun, Food & Friendship With Father Boutros (MYA)

Catch up with old friends, make new ones, and enjoy dinner with heartfelt conversations

Dinner & Icebreakers (All Ages)

By age groups, where we'll get to know each other and our fellow convention-goers. The perfect way to make connections.

MYO Lounge: Connect & Play

A space for MYO to Enjoy games, creating friendships that will last beyond the convention.

Kids Zone (age 5 to 12)

Enjoy a mix of indoor and outdoor games, fun activities. A perfect space for kids to play, explore, and create unforgettable memories!

Board Games Lobby

Join friends or participate in a tournament with a wide array of cards, backgammon, and board games available at any time.

Opening Our Hearts: A Night of Adoration & Hymns

Starting our weekend with Adoration and sacred time of prayer, reflection, and confession. Continue the evening with uplifting hymns and prayers, bringing everyone together in song through our beloved sacred chants.



Jubilee Year Pilgrims of Hope (All Ages)

We're blessed to have our NAM Convention in a Jubilee Year, so let's make the journey leading up to it a pilgrimage of ignited faith and renewal of hope. As we prepare, we'll reflect on the lives of saints like Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, the Massabki Brothers, and Carlo Acutis, showing that holiness is for everyone. We'll collect images and stories to celebrate 60 years of heritage, setting the path for a future of holiness.

Stay tuned to our emails and social media for updates!

WORKSHOPS

AI-Powered Growth

Discover how to start and scale your business using modern tools, especially AI. Explore beginner-friendly AI concepts, interactive projects, and ethical strategies to leverage AI while staying true to your Christian vocation.

Faithful Success

Achieve career and entrepreneurial success while staying true to your faith and values. Learn how to thrive in this world with purpose, integrity, and abundance—keeping your heart set on heaven.

The Sanctity of Life and Marriage

We are created in God's image, and every stage of life, from conception to death, is sacred. This session explores the divine value of life and the importance of marriage in the Church, where vows are not only sacred but reflect our commitment to God's love and plan.

The Commission For Lebanon

A workshop focussing on the Church's stance regarding current events in Lebanon.

Understanding The Maronite Liturgy

We will delve deeper into the meaning and significance of the Maronite Liturgy—exploring what happens during the celebration and why each part is important.

ENTERTAINMENT

DJ Gilbert

Enjoy a great mix of Arabic and American hit songs the whole weekend as we dance the nights away!

Friday Hafli

Charbel Bassil & USA Special

Friday Night Hafli - Dress in your best traditional Lebanese outfit, dance and dabke to the voice of Lebanese Singer Charbel Bassil! We'll honor American Independence Day with a special celebration, featuring vibrant sound and light displays!

Saturday Gala Dinner

Lebanese Star Hisham El Hajj

An unforgettable evening with Star Hisham El Hajj, as he fills the night with his captivating music and lively performances. Enjoy a night of elegance, celebration, and entertainment at this exclusive event!

www.namconvention.org

info@namconvention.org

@NAMCONVENTION

[#YallaRaleigh](#) [#NAMRaleigh](#) [#NAMConvention](#) [#NAM2025](#) [#NAM25](#)

ST. THERESA CHURCH
HOSANNA [PALM] SUNDAY
APRIL 12-13, 2025

BAKE SALE FUNDRAISER



HOSANNA SUNDAY

Beautiful Custom-Made Candles

Order Today!

Prepare for Palm Sunday with our beautiful,
handcrafted candles!

ALL ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 4

Order Yours Today!

*Available in various sizes and designs
Limited Quantities*

Donation:
\$25/Candle
(\$22 if ordering 2+)

Reserve yours early!
Contact Mrs. Sandra Mouawad
(857) 400-4085

Cash / Venmo / Checks Made Payable to St. Theresa Church



Women's Retreat Day



"Living in Hope"

April 12, 2025 | 10am to 3pm
includes lunch & refreshments. Cost: \$40

St. Theresa Maronite Parish,
343 N Main Street,
Brockton, MA

Sponsored by St. Theresa's Women Ministry
& Presented by the
Maronite Servants of Christ the Light

To register, contact Flavia, Michelle,
or the Parish Office.

SPRING BIBLE Camp

Pilgrims of Hope

Join Us for our Light of Life Bible Camp!

APRIL 22, 23, 24

St. Theresa Maronite Church Hall
343 N Main Street, Brockton, MA

10AM TO 2PM

GRADES K-6

FAITH & FUN

**GRADES 7+ ARE WELCOME
VOLUNTEER AS HELPERS**

Sponsored by St. Theresa's Religious Education Program &
Presented by the Maronite Servants of Christ the Light

Cost: \$75. To register contact Parish Office.

OUR EPISTLE READING

A Reading from the Second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians 13:5-13

Brothers and Sisters: Examine yourselves to see whether you are living in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not realize that Jesus Christ is in you? Unless, indeed, you fail to pass the test! I hope you will find out that we have not failed. But we pray to God that you may not do anything wrong not that we may appear to have passed the test, but that you may do what is right, though we may seem to have failed. For we; cannot do anything against the truth, but only for the truth. For we rejoice when we are weak and you are strong. This is what we pray for, that you may become perfect. So I write these things while I am away from you, so that when I come, I may not have to be severe in using the authority that the Lord has given me for building up and not for tearing down. Finally, brothers and sisters farewell; put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you. **Praise be to God always.**

فصل من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول الثانية إلى أهل كورنتس

يَا إِخْوَتِي، إِخْتَبِرُوا أَنْفُسَكُمْ، هَلْ أَنْتُمْ رَاسِخُونَ فِي الْإِيمَانِ. إِمْتَحِنُوا أَنْفُسَكُمْ. أَلَا تَعْرِفُونَ أَنَّ الْمَسِيحَ يَسُوعَ فِيكُمْ؟ إِلَّا إِذَا كُنْتُمْ مَرْفُوضِينَ! فَأَرْجُوا أَنْ تَعْرِفُوا أَنَّا لَسْنَا مَرْفُوضِينَ! وَنُصَلِّي إِلَى اللَّهِ كَيْ لَا تَفْعَلُوا أَيَّ شَرٍّ، لَا لِنَنْظَهَرَ نَحْنُ مَقْبُولِينَ، بَلْ لِكَيْ تَفْعَلُوا أَنْتُمْ الْخَيْرَ، وَنَكُونَ نَحْنُ كَأَنَّا مَرْفُوضُونَ! فَإِنَّا لَا نَسْتَطِيعُ أَنْ نَفْعَلَ شَيْئًا ضِدَّ الْحَقِّ، بَلْ لِأَجْلِ الْحَقِّ! أَجَلْ، إِنَّا نَفْرَحُ عِنْدَمَا نَكُونُ نَحْنُ ضَعَفَاءَ، وَتَكُونُونَ أَنْتُمْ أَقْوِيَاءَ. مِنْ أَجْلِ هَذَا أَيْضًا نُصَلِّي لِكَيْ تَكُونُوا كَامِلِينَ. أَكْتُبُ هَذَا وَأَنَا غَائِبٌ، لِئَلَّا أُعَامِلَكُمْ بِقَسَاوَةٍ وَأَنَا حَاضِرٌ، بِالسُّلْطَانِ الَّذِي أَعْطَانِي إِيَّاهُ الرَّبُّ، لِئِنِّي أَنْتُمْ لَا لِهَدْمِكُمْ. وَبَعْدُ، أَيُّهَا الْإِخْوَةُ، إِفْرَحُوا، وَأَسْعَوْا إِلَى الْكَمَالِ، وَتَشَجَّعُوا، وَكُونُوا عَلَى رَأْيٍ وَاحِدٍ، وَعِيشُوا فِي سَلَامٍ، وَإِلَهُ الْمَحَبَّةِ وَالسَّلَامِ يَكُونُ مَعَكُمْ! سَلِّمُوا بَعْضُكُمْ عَلَى بَعْضٍ بِقَبْلَةٍ مُقَدَّسَةٍ. جَمِيعُ الْقَدِيسِينَ يُسَلِّمُونَ عَلَيْكُمْ. نِعْمَةُ الرَّبِّ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ، وَمَحَبَّةُ اللَّهِ، وَشَرِكَةُ الرُّوحِ الْقُدِّسِ مَعَكُمْ أَجْمَعِينَ!

والتسبيح لله دائماً

OUR GOSPEL READING

Gospel: Luke 15:11-32

The Lord Jesus says: 'There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me." So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, "How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son." But the father said to his slaves, "Quickly, bring out a robe the best one and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!" And they began to celebrate. 'Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, "Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound." Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, "Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes; you killed the fatted calf for him!" Then the father said to him, "Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found."

من إنجيل ربنا يسوع المسيح للقديس لوقا

قَالَ الرَّبُّ يَسُوعُ: "كَانَ لِرَجُلٍ ابْنَانِ. فَقَالَ أَصْغَرُهُمَا لِأَبِيهِ: يَا أَبِي، أَعْطِنِي حِصَّتِي مِنَ الْمِيرَاثِ. فَفَسَمَ لَهُمَا نَزْوَتَهُ. وَبَعْدَ أَيَّامٍ قَلِيلَةٍ، جَمَعَ الابْنُ الْأَصْغَرُ كُلَّ حِصَّتِهِ، وَسَافَرَ إِلَى بَلَدٍ بَعِيدٍ. وَهُنَاكَ بَدَدَ مَالَهُ فِي حَيَاةِ الطَّيِّشِ. وَلَمَّا أَنْفَقَ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ، حَدَّثَتْ فِي ذَلِكَ الْبَلَدِ مَجَاعَةٌ شَدِيدَةٌ، فَبَدَأَ يُحْسِ بِالْعَوَزِ. فَذَهَبَ وَلَجًا إِلَى وَاحِدٍ مِنْ أَهْلِ ذَلِكَ الْبَلَدِ، فَأَرْسَلَهُ إِلَى حُقُولِهِ لِيَرْعَى الْخَنَازِيرَ. وَكَانَ يَشْتَهِي أَنْ يَمْلَأَ جَوْفَهُ مِنَ الْخَرْوَبِ الَّذِي كَانَتْ الْخَنَازِيرُ تَأْكُلُهُ، وَلَا يُعْطِيهِ مِنْهُ أَحَدٌ. فَارْجَعَ إِلَى نَفْسِهِ وَقَالَ: كَمْ مِنَ الْأَجْرَاءِ عِنْدَ أَبِي، يُفْضَلُ الْخُبْزُ عَنْهُمْ، وَأَنَا هَهُنَا أَهْلِكُ جُوعًا! أَقُومُ وَأَمْضِي إِلَى أَبِي وَأَقُولُ لَهُ: يَا أَبِي، خَطِئْتُ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ وَأَمَامَكَ. وَلَا أَسْتَحِقُّ بَعْدَ أَنْ أَدْعَى لَكَ ابْنًا. فَأَجْعَلْنِي كَأَحَدِ أَجْرَائِكَ! فَقَامَ وَجَاءَ إِلَى أَبِيهِ. وَفِيمَا كَانَ لَا يَزَالُ بَعِيدًا، رَأَاهُ أَبُوهُ، فَتَحَنَّنَ عَلَيْهِ، وَأَسْرَعَ فَأَلْقَى بِنَفْسِهِ عَلَى عُنُقِهِ وَقَبَّلَهُ طَوِيلًا. فَقَالَ لَهُ ابْنُهُ: يَا أَبِي، خَطِئْتُ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ وَأَمَامَكَ. وَلَا أَسْتَحِقُّ بَعْدَ أَنْ أَدْعَى لَكَ ابْنًا... فَقَالَ الْأَبُ لِعَبِيدِهِ: أَسْرِعُوا وَأَخْرِجُوا الْحِلَّةَ الْفَاحِرَةَ وَالْبِسُوهُ، وَاجْعَلُوا فِي يَدَيْهِ خَاتَمًا، وَفِي رِجْلَيْهِ جِذَاءً، وَأَثُوا بِالْعِجْلِ الْمُسَمَّنِ وَأَذْبَحُوهُ، وَلِنَأْكُلْ وَنَتَنَعَّمَ! لِأَنَّ ابْنِي هَذَا كَانَ مَيِّتًا فَعَاشَ، وَصَائِعًا فَوُجِدَ. وَبَدَأُوا يَتَنَعَّمُونَ. وَكَانَ ابْنُهُ الْأَكْبَرُ فِي الْحَقْلِ. فَلَمَّا جَاءَ وَأَقْتَرَبَ مِنَ الْبَيْتِ، سَمِعَ غِنَاءً وَرَقْصًا. فَدَعَا وَاحِدًا مِنَ الْغِلْمَانِ وَسَأَلَهُ: مَا عَسَى أَنْ يَكُونَ هَذَا؟ فَقَالَ لَهُ: جَاءَ أَخُوكَ، فَذَبَحَ أَبُوكَ الْعِجْلَ الْمُسَمَّنَ، لِأَنَّهُ لَقِيَهُ سَالِمًا. فَغَضِبَ وَلَمْ يَرِدْ أَنْ يَدْخُلَ. فَخَرَجَ أَبُوهُ يَتَوَسَّلُ إِلَيْهِ. فَأَجَابَ وَقَالَ لِأَبِيهِ: هَا أَنَا أَعْدَمُكَ كُلَّ هَذِهِ السَّنِينَ، وَلَمْ أُخَالِفْ لَكَ يَوْمًا أَمْرًا، وَلَمْ تُعْطِنِي مَرَّةً جَدِيًّا، لِأَتَنَعَّمَ مَعَ أَصْدِقَائِي. وَلَكِنْ لَمَّا جَاءَ ابْنُكَ هَذَا الَّذِي أَكَلَ نَزْوَتَكَ مَعَ الزَّوَانِي، ذَبَحْتَ لَهُ الْعِجْلَ الْمُسَمَّنَ! فَقَالَ لَهُ أَبُوهُ: يَا وَلَدِي، أَنْتَ مَعِيَ فِي كُلِّ حِينٍ، وَكُلُّ مَا هُوَ لِي هُوَ لَكَ. وَلَكِنْ كَانَ يَنْبَغِي أَنْ نَتَنَعَّمَ وَنَفْرَحَ، لِأَنَّ أَخَاكَ هَذَا كَانَ مَيِّتًا فَعَاشَ، وَصَائِعًا فَوُجِدَ."



Keep it SIMPLE!:

- Bagels & Cream Cheese
- Danishes
- Muffins
- Croissants
- Manouche (Zaatar / Cheese)
- Sweets or Pastries
- Donuts / Munchkins

UPCOMING COFFEE HOURS

Date	Offered By
Sunday, Mar 23	Saade Family
Sunday, Mar 30	Mirna Issa
Sunday, April 6	Gebrael Family

OUR LENTEN SUPPERS

Date	Offered By
Friday, March 21	Adel Zghaib, Layal Gebreal, Mariam Gebrael
Friday, April 4	Roukoz Joumaa, Marie Berkachi, Marya/Rouhana Saade
Friday, April 11	Saide Nessralla/Joyce Madi, Solange Badran, Joelle El Hayek

**Please join us on these days following Friday Prayer Services
for a light Lenten Supper and a movie on a Saint's Life.
Be Many!**

GET CONNECTED

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