



St Raymond's Parish

One Family in Love and Joy



Issue 376

2ND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

16 January 2022

THE GOSPEL

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!"

The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

Jn 1:35-42



Next Sunday:

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Gal 3:23-29 / Jn 3:1-16

ADORATION



Spend one hour with Jesus.

**Every Thursday at 7:00pm after
our 6:00pm Mass.**

"What are you looking for?" - Fr Sam Wehbe

Jesus asked this question to the 2 disciples of John the Baptist who followed him (John 1: 35-42). Their response was that they wished to be with him. Then he said to them: "Come and see". After experiencing being with him, they came back overjoyed and started to preach that they found the Messiah and Saviour. Today, Jesus is looking at me and asking: "What are you looking for? What do you need for your life?" And if my response is: "I'm searching for joy, love, peace, rest, good health, success, holiness..." Jesus will say to me: "All you need is to come to me and see", which means to love Him, listen to Him, and live with Him ... and He will grant me what I asked for.

Lord, grant us that we will always search for You and be with You, then we will find what we are looking for. Amen



THE EPISTLE

We do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you. But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with Scripture — "I believed, and so I spoke" — we also believe, and so we speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

2 Cor 4:5-15

**ST RAYMOND'S PARISH FIRST
HOLY COMMUNION**

**SATURDAY 14th May
2022**



Enrolment & Classes February 2022

***For Registrations contact the office
on 9643 0345***

Let us pray for our sick: Linda, Roger, Rose Therese, Joe, Michael, John, Eva, Ray, Tony, Arthur, Rochelle, Simon, Hanna, Milad, Antoinette & all the sick.

Address: ST RAYMOND & ST JOSEPH THE WORKER MARONITE CATHOLIC CHURCH, 37 – 39 Wellington Road Auburn South NSW 2144

Parish Office: 41 Wellington Road Auburn South NSW 2144 | Ph 9643 0345 | M +61 417 171 737 | ABN:53 697 102 280

Saint Anthony The Great - 17 January

St Anthony The Great, was born in Hellenized Egypt around 251 AD and reposed in 356 AD. He is also known as St. Anthony of Egypt and St. Anthony of the Desert. Having inherited his parent's sizable wealth, at age 20 after insuring his younger sister was taken care of, he took to heart Christ's admonition and sold all his remaining riches, gave all his wealth to the poor, and went in poverty into the desert to follow Christ, eventually living in solitude in a cave for many years. He is considered the Father of Christian monasticism, the first of the Desert Fathers of ancient Christianity. The asceticism (spiritual athleticism) St. Anthony was a fierce defender of our Trinitarian Faith and protected the Holy Church from the ancient heresy of Arianism, which falsely taught that Christ did not share in God the Father's nature. It is due to St. Anthony and other Church Fathers like him, that we have been Traditioned (handed down) the one True and Apostolic Faith. St. Anthony taught to the other Desert Fathers is followed to this day at the same hermitage he founded some 1700 years ago located between the Nile and the Red Sea, Dayr Māri Antonios. May his prayers be among us.



مار أنطونيوس الكبير - ١٧ كانون الثاني

وُلد أنطونيوس في مصر نحو السنة ٢٥١ من أبوين مسيحيين تقيين. توفي والداه تاركين له أختاً دونه سناً، فكان لها الأخ الشقيق المحب. سمع يوماً كلام الإنجيل المقدس: "إن كنت تريد أن تكون كاملاً فاهرب وبع كل شيء لك واعطيه للمساكين فيكون لك كنز في السماء وتعال اتبعني" فكان لهذه الآية وقعها العميق في قلبه، فمضى فباع ما يملك، تاركاً لشقيقته نصيبها، ووَزَعَ ما حصَّه على الكنائس والفقراء. واعتزل الدنيا. وأخذ يزور النساك، صارفاً أكثر أوقاته بالصلاة والتأمل ومطالعة الأسفار المقدسة. فحسده الشيطان واخذ يجربه. أمّا أنطونيوس فكان ينتصر على هذه التجارب بالصوم والصلاة والتأمل. ولم يكن يقتات بسوى الخبز والملح وقليل من الماء. وكان أنطونيوس يزور الأديار ويثبّت الرهبان في دعوتهم. وفي السنة ٢١١ ثار الإضطهاد بشدة على المسيحيين، فهبّت نار الغيرة في قلب أنطونيوس فسار إلى الإسكندرية يشدد عزائم الشهداء ويرافق المسيحيين إلى المحاكم ويشجّعهم على الثبات في الإيمان. ولما خدمت نار الإضطهاد، عاد إلى صومعته يتابع حياته النسكية. ومنّ الله عليه بموهبة شفاء الأمراض وطرد الشياطين، فتقاطر الناس إليه أفواجا فخاف من روح الكبرياء، فهرب إلى بركة تيبايس العليا. وبعد أن عثر رهبانه عليه زار أدياره وحثّ الرؤساء والرهبان على مواصلة السير في طريق الكمال، وعاد إلى خلوته. وقد بسلام في ١٧ ك ٢ سنة ٣٥٦ وحسبنا أن نذكر المناسك والنساك الكثر الذين اقتدوا به متخذين طريقته في لبنان. وما وادي قاديشا، ودير مار أنطونيوس قزحياً التاريخي الشهير بمعجزاته في طرد الشياطين إلا دليل على ما لهذا القديس من الشفاعة لدى الله ومن الثقة والكرامة في قلوب اللبنانيين. والرهبانيات المارونيّة الثلاث أبت إلا أن تدعى باسمه المبارك منذ نشأتها وان تتبع طريقته النسكية. ولذلك حق له أن يُدعى "كوكب البرية" ومجد الحياة الرهبانية وشفيع الجماعات والأفراد في كل مكان وزمان. صلاته معنا. آمين.

Caritas Australia Appeal for Lebanon

Lebanon has been plunged into an economic and social crisis that has brought the country to the brink of collapse. Caritas Australia has launched an appeal to aid the Lebanese people. Your support can help provide education, healthcare services, and immediate basic needs to the most vulnerable in Lebanon. For more information and donations, please visit: caritas.org.au/lebanon

حملة كارياتاس أستراليا من أجل لبنان

يمرّ لبنان في أزمة اقتصادية واجتماعية أوصلت البلاد إلى حافة الانهيار. نظراً للحاجة الملّحة، أطلقت كارياتاس أستراليا حملة لمساعدة لبنان وشعبه.

Bishop's Corner—Second Sunday after Epiphany

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The Gospel we read on this Second Sunday after the Epiphany is a rich Gospel. We read that John the Baptist continues to point his followers towards Jesus, "the Lamb of God".

John, who is the forerunner of Christ, does not hold back his own disciples, he lets them go to follow Jesus. For John, it was never a matter of followers or competition but only of preparing the way for the Lord, the Messiah.

This is an important lesson for us in our parishes and in our communities, where sometimes we think we are in competition with each other. We belong to a certain group or a certain community, and we feel it is a competition to have the largest number of members or participants. That is a not what our Christian community should be about. We are all called to follow God's call as it presents itself and where it leads us. We must therefore, like John, learn to let others follow God's call in their lives and rejoice for them.

John and Andrew, the two young fishermen, followed Jesus. He turns around to ask them what they want. And they, surprised by the question, answer Him: "Rabbi, where are you staying?". The Lord answers them: "Come and you will see" (Jn 1:39). He invites them to follow him, to look and to contemplate.

After spending time with Jesus, we read that Andrew found his brother Simon and told him what they had seen and experienced: "We have found the Messiah!" (Jn 1:41). In the Christian life, the essential thing is to allow oneself to be looked at by Jesus, to go and see where He lives, to live with Him and to share in His love. And then our hearts would be set on fire by the love and joy He alone gives us that we cannot but announce this to those around us.

The Evangelist John then tells us that Jesus changes Simon's name to Kefa (Peter). Even though Simon does not know it yet, Jesus knows it, and we know that later He will say to him: "And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church..." (Matt 16:18). When God calls someone to follow him, there is inner transformation, that will take place gradually over the course of the journey. We must enter into this transforming call of God, with complete confidence.

Friends, the past few weeks have been so difficult for many families in Australia with uncertainty and worry about the health of our loved ones. In these moments of hardship, let us never forget that Our Lord is with us. Let us allow Him to use these challenges to transform us, and may we continue to protect one another and especially the most vulnerable amongst us.

I wish you a Blessed Sunday!

+ Antoine-Charbel Tarabay

PARISH NOTICE BOARD

Services of the week

Monday 17 January - Feast of St Anthony the Great:

5:30pm Rosary, 6:00pm Mass

From Tuesday 18 January to Friday 21 January:

5:30pm Rosary, 6:00pm Mass

Thursday 20 January: 5:30pm Rosary, 6:00pm Mass

followed by adoration

Saturday 22 January: 5:30pm Rosary, 6:00pm Mass

Sunday 23 December - 3rd Sunday after Epiphany:

8:00am Arabic Mass

10:00am Eng / Arb Mass

Confessions: will be held Half an hour before and during Masses..

خدمات الأسبوع

الإثنين ١٧ كانون الثاني - عيد مار أنطونيوس الكبير:

٥:٣٠ مساءً المسبحة و ٦:٠٠ مساءً قدّاس

من الثلاثاء ١٨ كانون الثاني إلى الجمعة ٢١ كانون الثاني:

٥:٣٠ مساءً المسبحة و ٦:٠٠ مساءً قدّاس

الخميس ٢٠ كانون الثاني: ٥:٣٠ مساءً المسبحة و ٦:٠٠ قدّاس

لها ساعة سجود

السبت ٢٢ كانون الثاني: ٥:٣٠ مساءً المسبحة و ٦:٠٠ قدّاس

الأحد ٢٣ كانون الثاني - أحد الثالث بعد الدنح:

٨:٠٠ صباحاً: قدّاس باللغة العربية

١٠:٠٠ صباحاً: قدّاس باللغة الإنجليزية والعربية

الإعترافات: نصف ساعة قبل وخلال القداسات



Collections from Christmas till first Sunday of Epiphany
\$ 5,773.95



PARISH FINANCIALS

Amount Owning to the Bank \$11,300.56

Anyone wishing to donate, please find bank details below:

Bank of Sydney: St Raymond's Parish

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Cleaning the House of God

Interested in helping to keep the House of God clean?

Please contact the office on 96430345



With Your Support, We Will Build Our New Parish

KEEP UP TO DATE:

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Saint Raymond's Maronite Parish Sydney



st.raymonds

For Final Rites at home or in hospital please call Fr Sam on 0417171737



Taking the payment responsibility of:

1. Teaching Choir & PowerPoint *Done - Thank you & God bless you*
2. The Mobile Phone Bill *Done - Thank you to Raymond & Georgette Daher*
3. Caltex Fuel Card (\$50 p/w)
4. E-Tag
5. Church Weekly Flowers - \$75 per week
6. Second Parish Office Rent for Pastoral Work - (\$480 per week)
7. Large garbage bin (\$40 per week)
8. Utilities (Gas, Electricity & Water) \$75 per week
9. Parish Priest Accommodation (\$125 per week)
10. Office Phone Bill + Internet (\$100 per week)
11. Technical Network Maintenance . *Done - Thank you & God bless you*
12. Photocopier (\$100 per week)
13. Electricity Bills (\$600 per month)
14. Diocesan Levy (\$750 per week)
15. Cutting Grass (\$160 per month)

For Maronite Care services, or any questions, comments or concerns, please contact us directly at Maronite Care Office: 1300 627 227 (1300 MAR CAR)



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May God Bless you always.

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رعيّة مار رومانوس

عائلة واحدة بمحبة وفرح



١٦ كانون الثاني ٢٠٢٢

الأحد الثاني بعد عيد الدّبح

عدد ٣٧٦

الرسالة

نَحْنُ لَا نُبَشِّرُ بِنَفْسِنَا، بَلْ نُبَشِّرُ بِيَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ رَبَّنَا، وَبِنَفْسِنَا عَبِيدًا لَكُمْ مِنْ أَجْلِ يَسُوعَ؛ لِأَنَّ اللَّهَ الَّذِي قَالَ: "لِيُشْرِقَ مِنَ الظُّلُمَةِ نُورًا"، هُوَ الَّذِي أَشْرَقَ فِي قُلُوبِنَا، لِنَسْتَبِيرَ فَتَعَرَفَ مَجْدَ اللَّهِ الْمُتَجَلِّي فِي وَجْهِ الْمَسِيحِ. نُنَبِّدُ وَلَكِنَّا نَحْمِلُ هَذَا الْكَثْرَ فِي أُنِيَّةٍ مِنْ خَزَفٍ، لِيُظْهِرَ أَنَّ تِلْكَ الْقُدْرَةَ الْفَائِقَةَ هِيَ مِنَ اللَّهِ لَا مِنَّا. يُضَيِّقُ عَلَيْنَا مِنْ كُلِّ جِهَةٍ وَلَكِنَّا لَا نُسْحَقُ، نَحْتَارُ فِي أُمُرِنَا وَلَكِنَّا لَا نِيَأْسُ، نَضْطَهْدُ وَلَكِنَّا لَا نُهْمَلُ، نُنَبِّدُ وَلَكِنَّا لَا نَهْمَلُ، وَنَحْمِلُ فِي جَسَدِنَا كُلَّ حِينٍ مَوْتَ يَسُوعَ، لِكَيْ تَظْهَرَ حَيَاةُ يَسُوعَ أَيْضًا فِي جَسَدِنَا؛ فَإِنَّا نَحْنُ الْأَحْيَاءُ نُسَلِّمُ دَوْمًا إِلَى الْمَوْتِ، مِنْ أَجْلِ يَسُوعَ، لِكَيْ تَظْهَرَ حَيَاةُ يَسُوعَ أَيْضًا فِي جَسَدِنَا الْمَائِتِ. فَالْمَوْتُ يَعْمَلُ فِينَا، وَالْحَيَاةُ تَعْمَلُ فِيكُمْ. وَلَكِنْ بِمَا أَنَّ لَنَا رُوحَ الْإِيمَانِ عَيْنُهُ، كَمَا هُوَ مَكْتُوبُ: "آمَنْتُ، وَلِذَلِكَ تَكَلَّمْتُ"، فَنَحْنُ أَيْضًا نُؤْمِنُ، وَلِذَلِكَ نَتَكَلَّمُ. وَنَحْنُ نَعْلَمُ أَنَّ ذَلِكَ الَّذِي أَقَامَ الرَّبَّ يَسُوعَ، سَيَقِيمُنَا نَحْنُ أَيْضًا مَعَ يَسُوعَ، وَبِجَعْلُنَا وَإِيَّاكُمْ فِي حَضْرَتِهِ. فَكُلُّ شَيْءٍ هُوَ مِنْ أَجْلِكُمْ، لِكَيْ تَكْثُرَ النِّعْمَةُ، فَيَفِضَ الشُّكْرُ فِي قُلُوبِ الْكَثِيرِينَ لِمَجْدِ اللَّهِ.

٢ قور ٥: ١٥



الأحد القادم:

الأحد الثالث بعد عيد الدّبح

غلا ٢٣:٣ - ٢٩ / يو ٣:١ - ١٦

ساعة سجود



تعالوا نسجد
للقرّبان ونتمتع
بحضور يسوع معنا
كل يوم خميس
الساعة ٧:٠٠ مساءً
بعد قدّاس الساعة
٦:٠٠

الإنجيل

فِي الْغَدِ أَيْضًا كَانَ يُوحَنَّا وَاقِفًا هُوَ وَاثْنَانِ مِنَ تَلَامِيذِهِ. وَرَأَى يَسُوعَ مَآرًا فَحَدَّقَ إِلَيْهِ وَقَالَ: "هَا هُوَ حَمَلُ اللَّهِ". وَسَمِعَ التِّلْمِيذَانِ كَلَامَهُ، فَتَبِعَا يَسُوعَ. وَالتَفَتَ يَسُوعَ، فَرَأَهُمَا يَتَّبِعَانِهِ، فَقَالَ لَهُمَا: "مَاذَا تَطْلُبَانِ؟" قَالَا لَهُ: "رَابِّي، أَيَّ يَا مُعَلِّمَ، أَئِنَّ تَقِيمُ؟" قَالَ لَهُمَا: "تَعَالِيَا وَانْظُرَا". فَذَهَبَا وَنَظُرَا أَئِنَّ يَقِيمُ. وَأَقَامَا عِنْدَهُ ذَلِكَ الْيَوْمَ، وَكَانَتِ السَّاعَةُ نَحْوَ الرَّابِعَةِ بَعْدَ الظُّهْرِ. وَكَانَ أَنْدَرَاوُسُ أَخُو سَمْعَانَ بُطْرُسَ أَحَدَ التِّلْمِيذِينَ، اللَّذَيْنِ سَمِعَا كَلَامَ يُوحَنَّا وَتَبِعَا يَسُوعَ. وَلَقِيَ أَوَّلًا أَخَاهُ سَمْعَانَ، فَقَالَ لَهُ: "وَجَدْنَا مَسِيحًا، أَيَّ الْمَسِيحِ". وَجَاءَ بِهِ إِلَى يَسُوعَ، فَحَدَّقَ يَسُوعَ إِلَيْهِ وَقَالَ: "أَنْتَ هُوَ سَمْعَانُ بْنُ يُونَا، أَنْتَ سَتُدْعَى كَيْفَا، أَيَّ بُطْرُسَ الصَّخْرَةِ".

يو ١: ٣٥ - ٤٢

"ماذا تطلبان؟" - الأخوري سام وهبه

هذا السؤال طرّحه يسوع على التلاميذ الذين تركوا يوحنا المعمدان وتبعاه (يو ١: ٣٥-٢٤). أما طلبهما فكان أن يكونا معه، فأجابهما: "تعاليا وانظرا". وبعد خبرة القضاء وقت معه، عادا بفرح كبير لأنهما وجدا رغبة وأمل حياتهما، وأخذا يبشّران به كمسيح ومخلص. واليوم، ينظر إلينا يسوع ويسألنا: "ماذا تطلبون وماذا تحتاجون لحياتكم؟" فإذا كان الجواب أننا نبحث عن الفرح والحب والسلام والراحة والصحة والنجاح والقداسة... عندها يقول لنا يسوع أن كل ما نحتاجه هو الذهاب إليه وتجديد محبتنا له والإصغاء إليه والعيش معه... عندها يمنحنا طلبتنا.

أعطنا يا رب أن نبحث عنك ونقيم معك ونتمتع بحبك وبكلامك، وامنحنا رغبة قلوبنا وحاجة حياتنا. آمين

