

Saint Charbel's Parish
Maronite Catholic Church - Established 1983



Weekly Bulletin

March 03, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Great Lent: The Prodigal Son

الأحد الرابع من الصوم الكبير : أحد مثل الابن الشاطر

Book of Zechariah 3:1-7

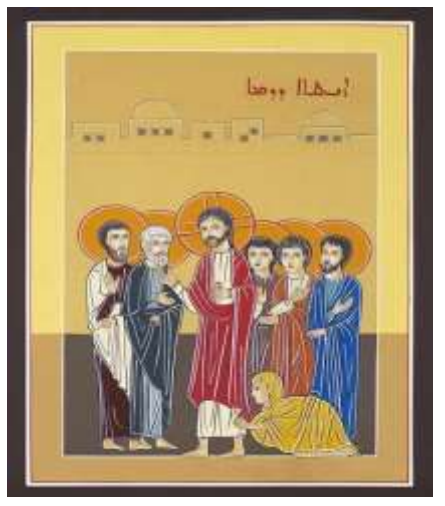
Epistle: 2 Corinthians 13:5-13

Gospel: St Luke 15:11-32

Lent every year is our desert experience, a time to rediscover our connection with our loving parent God. In the desert of Lent we step back and look at where we are in our journey. Each Sunday in Lent we remember one miracle Jesus performed. The Word for Luke is the preached word of Jesus. This man who has two sons therefore represents God, the father also of two peoples, who are like the two strains of the human race, one of those who have remained faithful to the worship of one God, and the other of those who have forgotten the true God, to the point of worshipping idols.

Thus, it is from the beginning of the world and immediately after the creation of men that the eldest son embraces the worship of the one and true God and that the youngest asks his father for the portion of the good that should belong to him. Thus the soul, seduced by the power which it believes to have, asks to be mistress of its life, of its intelligence, of its memory and to dominate by the superiority of its genius; these are gifts of God, but it received them in order to dispose of them according to its will.

Thus the prodigal son is the one who dissolves all his good, that is, the righteousness of his intelligence, the lessons of chastity, the knowledge of the truth, the memory of his father, and the thought of his origin. «Whoever has ears to hear, let him hear



Pastor: Msgr. Pierre Azzi

Sub Deacon: Rev. Pierre Kreidi

Pastoral Parish Council
Richard Nakhle, Chairperson

Administrative & Finance Council
George Youssef, Coordinator

Hall Inquiries
Rabih El-Alam

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Saint Charbel's Parish

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Telephone: 1-506-444-6023

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Office Hours

Tuesday to Friday: 10:00AM to 2:00PM.

Msgr Azzi Cell: 1-902-880-8797

Ministries of Sacraments

Anointing of the Sick:

Please call the Church Office : (506) 444-6023

Confessions:

Available upon Request & 30 minutes prior to mass

Baptism:

Please call the Church Office, One month prior

Marriage:

Please call Church Office, Six months prior

Office Hours:

Tuesday to Friday 10:00AM-2:00PM



تأمل من وحي الإنجيل «أقوم وأمضي إلى أبي وأقول له: يا أبي، خطيت إلى السماء وأمامك»

يتفرد هذا الأحد، بين آحاد الصوم كلها، بأنه لا يذكرنا بأعجوبة يسوع، بل بمثل، هو مثل الابن الشاطر. هو ذروة الأسابيع الثلاثة الأولى من الصوم، التي تركز على ممارسة التوبة بالصوم والسهر والصلاة وأعمال البر والصدقة، وهو منتصف الصوم الكبير في أن معاً: فالله أبونا السماوي لا يريد على الأرض سوى توبتنا إليه وخلصنا الأبدية معه! الرسالة (2 قور 13-5/13): فيها يحرض الرسول المؤمنين على امتحان أنفسهم هل هم راسخون في الإيمان بيسوع المسيح، لئلا يكونوا مرفوضين غير مقبولين، راسبين في الامتحان! فالرسول بولس أشبه بالأب في مثل الابن الشاطر، لأنه لا يريد سوى الخير لأبنائه المؤمنين، وخصوصاً في غيابه عنهم، لكي يعيشوا بحبة وسلام، ويسعوا إلى كمال المشاركة في نعمة الرب يسوع، ومحبة الله الأب، وشركة الروح القدس. 2 - الإنجيل (لو 11/15-32): بعد مثل الخروف الضائع، ومثل الدرهم الضائع، يتفرد لوقا بمثل الابن الضائع. والأمثلة الثلاثة هي رد يسوع على تدمر الفريسيين والكتبة منه، لأنه كان يقبل الخطاة ويأكل معهم. الابن الأصغر أخذ حصته من ميراث أبيه وسافر إلى بلد بعيد، لبيغيب عن نظر أبيه وأخيه... وهناك بدد كل ماله وأمسى أجيئاً جائعاً منجساً بين الخنازير... عاد إلى نفسه فافتشفت خطيئته ففرر وعاد إلى أبيه نادماً مستغفراً. أعاد إليه أبوه بنوته كاملة، وهذا هو معنى الحلّة الفاخرة، والخاتم، والحذاء، وذبح العجل المسمن. هكذا يعامل الله كل إنسان خاطئ يتوب! أما الابن الأكبر الذي رفض الدخول والمشاركة في فرحة الأب، فقد خرج إليه أبوه متوسلاً إليه بالدخول، واستمع إلى جميع اعتراضاته على أخيه، ولكنه أصر عليه بالدخول وقبول أخيه، وإلا فسوف يخسر بنوته الحقيقية!! وهكذا يعامل الله كل إنسان يعتبر نفسه كالفريسيين والكتبة، باراً أمام الله، ويرفض توبة أخيه الخاطئ

Our Sacred Stories by Father John Jennings

Our Covenant of Love with God

What is our relationship with God? In ancient times, there was often an attitude of bargaining or exchange with God. This was the attitude which lay behind the practice of offering sacrifice. Such sacrifices of animals, crops or other gifts were a way of dealing with God. In exchange for the offerings, God would care for and protect the one who sacrificed. This was the role of what we see in the Temple in Jerusalem. The Temple was a concrete sign that God dwells among God's People. It represented the relationship between God and the People of God. For Israel, this relationship was much like a marriage. It was seen as a covenant relationship in which each expressed its commitment to the other. The Old Testament is filled with many examples of such agreements. But the great covenant for Israel was the one founded on Mount Sinai during the Exodus from Egypt. God who had chosen Israel, liberated and led them from slavery in Egypt, through the desert of Sinai to a new land. In the course of this journey, Israel became aware of the special relationship that they had with this saving God. They recognized themselves as special, a people saved from bondage by their God and held in a covenant relationship with this God. In response to their liberation, the People's call is related in the Book of Exodus, more explicitly in Exodus chapter 19 – 20ff on Mount Sinai. This is Israel's responsibility in their covenant with God. The awareness of the covenant relationship evolves over time like any relationship, and we see this evolution expressed later in the Old Testament in the words of some of the prophets. Perhaps one of the most significant growths of the covenant relationship comes with Jeremiah, who looks ahead to a new covenant for God's People. He indicates that it will not be like the covenant made at Sinai on tablets of stone: "This is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel... I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people (Jer.31:33)". In the person of Jesus, we have this new covenant represented. It is a covenant that creates an open relationship with God. Jesus's death and resurrection is the sacrifice of the new covenant, replacing the sacrifices of the Temple. These sacrifices were like prices and costs constantly having to be paid as a sign that the people's relationship with God was a part of a bargain. In John's Gospel (Jn.2:13-25) we find the story of Jesus' cleansing the Temple. It is a story that sometimes surprises us as we see Jesus expressing upset at what he finds there. John tells the story as a lead into seeing our relationship with God in a new light.

Divine Liturgy Time

جدول توقيت الذبيحة

Sunday: 11:30 AM (English & Arabic)
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday
See schedule below (English & Arabic)
Monday & Tuesday: (No Mass)



الأحد: 11:30 ظ (عربي و إنجليزي)
الأربعاء، الخميس، الجمعة والسبت
(عربي و إنجليزي)
الأثنين والثلاثاء (لا قداس)

Sunday March 03 Mass Intentions



تأمل

Sunday, Mars 03, 2024. Mass 11:30 AM
Sunday 4th week of Lent
Parable of the Prodigal Son
For the Parishioners of Saint Charbel

Monday 04/03 No Mass
Tuesday 05/03 , No Mass

Wednesday 06/03 , Mass at 6:30 PM
In Memory of Monzer Chaer

Thursday 07/03 , Mass at 11:30 AM
In Memory of Monzer Chaer

Friday 08/03 , Mass at 11:30 AM
Station of the Cross at 6:30 PM

Saturday 09/03 , No Mass

Sunday, Mars 10, 2024. Mass 11:30 AM
Sunday 5th week of Lent
The Healing of the Paralytic
For the Parishioners of Saint Charbel

• في هذا الأحد تضع أمانة الكنيسة المقدسة نصوصاً تدعونا إلى تجديد ذواتنا بالربّ ومع الربّ.
• في رسالة اليوم، يدعونا مار بولس إلى عيش روح التمييز الدائم وإمتحان رسوختنا في الإيمان على ضوء نور المسيح أي أقواله وتعاليمه وتعاليم كنيسته.
• هذا المثل من أروع الأمثلة التي تشير لقبول الله للخاطئ، وكم جذب هذا المثل الكثيرين من الخطاة لأحضان الله.
• التوبة هي باب الحياة الحقيقيّة مع الله..
أمّا المفتاح فهو قرارنا وإرادتنا بالعودة إليه!



Saint Charbel oil LAMP

Saint Charbel Oil Lamp light for a week is Available in memory of a loved one or for a special intention. Suggested donation \$10.00. See Msgr. Azzi to select a week.

Offertory February 25

Collection: \$ 984.00



Donations to St. Charbel's Parish Use-E-Transfer: to BMO Direct Deposit Via Email: fredericton.stcharbel@gmail.com
Thank you in Advance, God Bless.

Announcements

Saint Charbel Parish Committees

Pastoral Council:

Richard Nakhle (Chairperson), Zmorrod Gerges, Georgette George, Gisele Akouri, Francois Tawil, Charles Youssef, Elianne Abi Shaker, Ramez Moussa, Charlotte Saade, Jimmy Al alam, Marwan Soffee.

Administrative Council:

George Youssef (Coordinator), Rabih El-Alam, Pierre Kreidi, Rabih Nakhle, Elias El-Ghawi

Youth Council:

Joey George (Coordinator)

Religious Education:

Esperance Kreidi (Coordinator)

Lebanese Festival

Reema Youssef (Coordinator)

**SAVE
THE DATES!**

- ❖ St Joseph Feast March 19
- ❖ Feast of Saint Rafqa March 23
- ❖ Annunciation Feast March 25

- ❖ Palm Sunday March 24
- ❖ Good Friday March 29
- ❖ Easter March 31



MAAMOUL FOR SALE

We will be having MAAMOUL FOR SALE, we have 4 varieties: **Dates, Walnuts, Pistachio and Mix for \$40 each Kg.** To order, Plz contact Samantha Gerges at 506- 261 6252. Deadline March 14.



CANDLES FOR PALM SUNDAY

To Reserve your Palm Sunday Candles, Plz contact Msgr Pierre Azzi or Houda Dable



SAVE THE DATE

Maronite Youth Convention
MAY 17-20, 2024



**Lent Seasons:
Fasting, Prayers,
Charity.**



زمن الصوم: صيام،
صلاة، صدقة.

Job offers at St Charbel's parish – Fredericton NB

We are looking for a person can work in the church a full-time job

Job Title: Pastoral animator;

Requirement:

- Have a university degree of theology or Catholic religious science, or equivalent
- Have a knowledge of the liturgy of the Maronite catholic church,
- Language requested: English, Lebanese, and the Syriac language.
- Can provide Maronite-catholic religious education, also spiritual guidance and moral support to parishioners.
- Conduct outreach activities and facilitate community involvement among members and within the city, by planning and managing a different pastoral activity.
- Have a good knowledge of the Microsoft office and admin office work
- Have some major skills like: Leadership, Problem solver, Motivator, Creativity, Multi-tasks, good listener, Team work ...

P.s. hourly schedule will be discussed upon interview. (wages per hour).

For more information and to submit a CV, plz contact church office:506 444 6023 and /or

fredericton.stcharbel@gmail.com

Msgr Pierre Azzi, Pastor

St Charbel's parish

Cell. 902 880 8797