



Saint Maron Maronite Catholic Church



December 14-15, 2019

REVELATION TO JOSEPH

THE SECOND PILLAR OF THE CATHOLIC SPIRITUALITY: DAILY PRAYER

(continue)

“Jesus said: This is an evil generation: they seek a sign; and there shall no sign be given it, but the sign of Jonas the prophet...the people of Nineveh will rise up at the judgement with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the proclamation of Jonah, and see, something greater than Jonah is here.” (Luke 11\32)

I am convinced that in our modern time, it is not that God has stopped speaking to us but rather we have stopped listening to him. We all believe that God can communicate through anyone and anything at any time, but He prefers to speak to us in the silence and solitude- away from the hustle and bustle of the world, we are able to hear Him speaking to us.

In the silence you will find God and there you will find yourself also. In the silence things start to make sense. If you are travelling in a bus and you lost your way, and you are confused, do you ask the people whom you are travelling with to talk louder, to turn the music up or do you ask them to be quiet and to turn

the music off? For sure you will ask them to be quiet and to put the music off why? Because solution for your problem start to take place, and things start to make sense in the silence. Where there is silence and solitude there God can listen to the supplication of the hearts of His faithful. Unless you withdraw from all the noise of your life and the world for few minutes each day you will not be able to find your way with God, you will just become another Cog in the global economic wheel, consuming and being consumed.

Quietness is essential to have a great relationship with Jesus and to grow in the Holy Spirit. Your soul needs silence like your body needs air to breathe, food to eat and water to drink. If we look around us we see that the modern world is filling up with more and more noise. Everyone is busy- everyone is in rush but in the deep of our hearts we hear the voice of God inviting us into the silence of His presence. Why? Because, only in the presence of God, we find rest for our weary restless heart and minds. In the great classroom of silence we will develop resolute hearts and peaceful spirit. Jesus called us to come to Him so we can find rest for our restless hearts believing that He is the only person who can rest to our inside being.

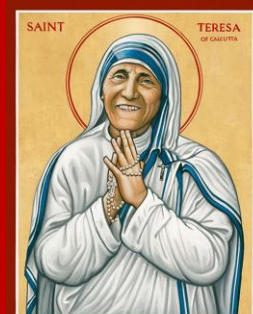
Let us pray; “God of silence and peace, help me today to be more like you. Allow me to separate myself from the noisy of our modern world and listen more closely and attentively to all that you are calling me to do and be. Show me Lord; how to be still in the chaos and the hustle of the world, because my restless and weary heart and mind long for rest and peace in you. Amen.

Fr. El-Badaoui Habib

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“We desire to be able to welcome Jesus at Christmas-time not in a cold manger of our heart, but in a heart full of love and humility, in a heart so pure, so immaculate, so warm with love for one another.”

St. Teresa of Calcutta



Fr. El-Badaoui Habib MLM, Pastor | Fr. David Fisher, Weekend Assistant

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OFFICE HOURS: The Church office will be open Tuesday through Friday from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm.

DIVINE LITURGIES

Saturday, November 14, @ 6:00 PM, (Feast of St. Nemtallah El-Hardini)

Sunday, December 15, @ 11:00 AM, liturgy is being offered for the soul Robert Cherfane requested by St. Maron Church. May his soul rest in peace.

Tuesday, December 17, @ 6:30 PM,

Wednesday, December 18, @ 6:30 PM, (Feast of St. Daniel the Prophet)

Thursday, December 19, @ 6:30 PM,

Friday, December 20, @ 6:30 AM, (Feast of St. Ignatius of Antioch)

Saturday, December 21, @ 6:00 PM, liturgy is being offered as a 40 day memorial for the soul of Walter (Chip) Meixner requested by Diane Kiddy. May his soul rest in peace.

Sunday, December 22, @ 11:00 AM, liturgy is being offered for the souls of Marie El Choli and the deceased members of the Raie and Sholi families requested by George and Laila Sholy and their family. May their souls rest in peace.

SPECIAL SECOND COLLECTION

At this time, our brothers and sisters in Lebanon are going through countless difficulties. Therefore, we will have a special second collection on **Sunday, December 15, 2019.** This collection will be to help *Caritas Lebanon* and/or the other Catholic Service Institutions in Lebanon during this most difficult crisis. Thank you in advance for your generosity and support.



Christmas Divine Liturgies Schedule

Tuesday, December 24, 2019	Christmas Eve	6:00 PM
Tuesday, December 24, 2019	Midnight Mass	11:00 PM
Wednesday, December 25, 2019	Christmas Day	11:00 AM

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

This is the second Banns of Marriage for Frank Gregorio and Elissa Dodeline who will be married on January 10, 2020. If anyone knows of any reason that these two should not be married speak now or forever hold your peace.

CHRISTMAS NOVENA

Our Christmas Novena will start on **Sunday, December 15, and ends on Monday, December 23** it will be every night at **7:00 PM.** During these days, daily Liturgies from Monday to Friday will be at 6:30 PM. Please mark your calendars and make every effort to join us.

POINSETTIAS FOR SALE

We have poinsettia's for sale in the Church Hall, two sizes are available. If you are interested in getting some, they are \$10.00 for large size and \$5.00 for small.

CATHOLIC EXTENSION GRANT

We have been given the opportunity to receive a conditional matching grant of \$10,000.00 from Catholic Extension Society. In order to receive this Grant we need your help to raise donations totaling at least \$10,000.00. To help us reach our goal please make checks payable to "St. Maron Church" and write "Donation" in the memo. Thank you in advance for your generosity and your support to St. Maron Church.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **St. Maron Feast Day Party,** Saturday February 8, 2020 @ 7:00 PM. We will have the details soon. Please mark your calendars.

2020 CHURCH ENVELOPES

The 2020 weekly envelopes are now available in the church hall. If anyone does not have a set of envelopes and would like them please contact the office and we will have a set ready for you. In this way we can give you tax recognition at the end of the year.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Please keep in your prayers Luke Farrell Jr., Linda DiBernardo, Patty Reynolds, Joan Speck, David Joseph Cook, Eddie Tayoun, Martha Simon Casella, Minarva Labbad, Dante Panichi, Dennis Strelchuk, Anthony Leuzzi, Carol Krestos, Gladys Dalcourt, Denise Furey, Chucky Simon, Michael Winter, Kevin McCrea, Kevin Khoury, Mirta Ruiz, Tina Grassi, Rita Impo, Lisa and Henry Schaffer, Jade Kellam, Marion Thomas Branca, Francesca Impo, Raja Kaldany, Lucy DiLuce, Cat Niven Glaze, Laurent Chidiac, Tom Hart, John Hart, Fadi Jaber, Joseph Realdine, Emily Stone, Roseann Anthony, Elaine Nader, Eddie Gussin, Lisa Alestra, John Nader, Aminee Skaf, Yasmine Myers, Joey Gdowick, Francis Joseph Kerns, Samer Chokeir, Kathy Newman, Rita Arrigale, Helen Freedenberg, Maryann Bratton, Renee Sahar, Sister Nahida Al Sawa, Rose De Jesse, James Cordisio, Stacey Fuentes, Debbie Freedenberg, Noel Andjuhar, Angel Salerno, Dennis McGiney, and Bonnie Sabatini. We ask Almighty God to bless them with good health so that they may join us in the Church and give glory and thanksgiving to God. Please notify the Church office of any family member who is ill so that we may remember them in our daily prayers and on our altar of intentions.

WEEKLY COLLECTION FOR

December 7-8, 2019

Collection	\$ 1,914.00
Donation	\$ 2,000.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 40.00
Total:	\$ 3,954.00

First Reading

Ephesians 3:1-13

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians. Your blessing father...

Brothers and Sisters:

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given to me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given to me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him. I pray therefore that you may not lose heart over my sufferings for you; they are your glory.

Praise be to God always.

فصل من رسالة القديس بولس إلى أهل أفسس

يا إخوتي، أنا بولس، أسيّر المسيح يسوع من أجلكم، أيها الأمم... إن كنتم قد سمعتم بتدبير نعمة الله التي وهبت لي من أجلكم، وهو أنني بوحى أطلعت على السر، كما كتبت إليكم بإيجاز من قبل، حينئذ يذكركم، إذا قرأتم ذلك، أن تذكروا فهمني لیسر المسيح، هذا السر الذي لم يُعرف عند بني البشر في الأجيال الغابرة، كما أعلن الآن بالروح لرسوله القديسين والأنبياء، وهو أن الأمم هم، في المسيح يسوع، شركاء لنا في الميراث والجسد والوعد، بواسطة الإنجيل، الذي صرت خادماً له، بحسب هبة نعمة الله التي وهبت لي بفعل قدرته؛ لي أنا، أصغر القديسين جميعاً، وهبت هذه النعمة، وهي أن أبشر الأمم بغنى المسيح الذي لا يُستقصى، وأن أوضح للجميع ما هو تدبير السر المكتوم منذ الدهور في الله الذي خلق كل شيء، لكي تُعرف الآن من خلال الكنيسة، لدى الرئاسات والسلطين في السموات، حكمة الله المتنوعة، بحسب قصدِهِ الأزلّي الذي حققه في المسيح يسوع ربنا، الذي لنا فيه، أي بالإيمان به، الوصول بجرأة وثقة إلى الله. لذلك أسألكم أن لا تضعف عزيمتكم بسبب الضيقات التي أعانيها من أجلكم: إنها مجد لكم!
والتسبيح لله دائماً.

Gospel Reading

Saint Matthew 1:18-25

The Apostle Writes:

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous

man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.' When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

من إنجيل القديس متى

أما ميلاد يسوع المسيح فكان هكذا: لما كانت أمه مريم مخطوبة ليوسف، وقبل أن يسكننا معاً، وجدت حاملاً من الروح القدس. ولما كان يوسف رجلاً باراً، ولا يريد أن يشهر بها، قرّر أن يطلقها سراً. وما إن فكر في هذا حتى ترأى له ملاك الرب في الحلم قائلاً: يا يوسف بن داود، لا تخف أن تأخذ مريم امرأتك، فالمولود فيها إنما هو من الروح القدس. وسوف تلد ابناً، فسّمه يسوع، لأنه هو الذي يخلص شعبه من خطاياهم. وحدت هذا كله لئتم ما قاله الرب بالنبي: ها إن الغدراء تحمّل وتلد ابناً، ويدعى اسمه عمانوئيل، أي الله معنا. ولما قام يوسف من النوم، فعل كما أمره ملاك الرب وأخذ امرأته. ولم يعرفها، فولدت ابناً، وسماه يسوع.
حقاً والأمان لجميعكم.

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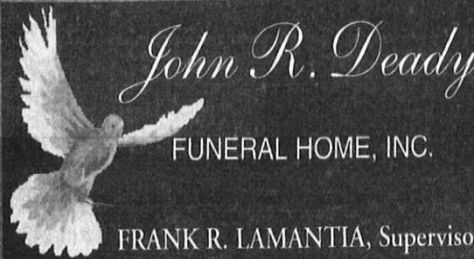
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