



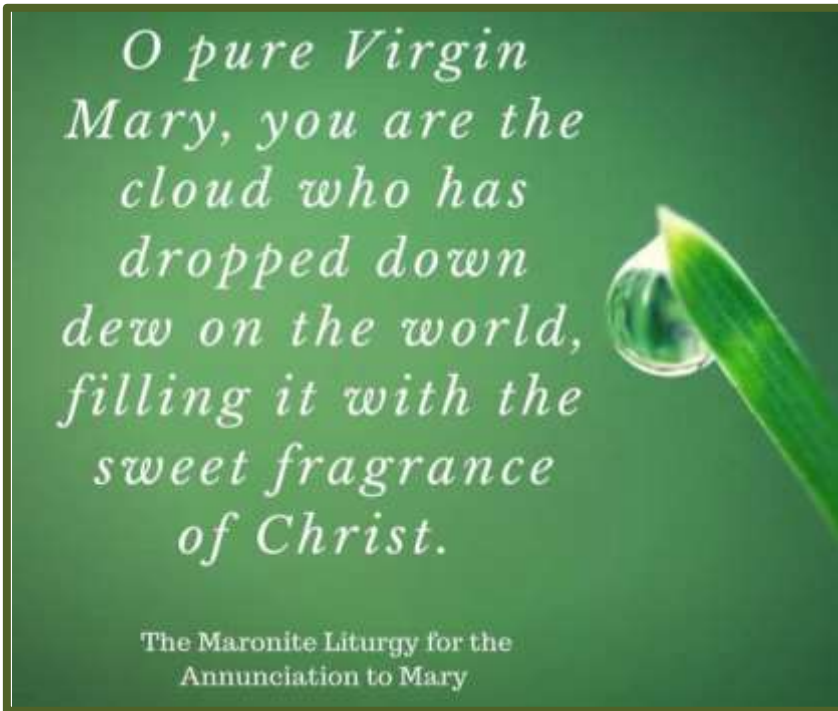
Saint Maron

Maronite Catholic Church



November 21-22, 2020

ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE VIRGIN MARY



41. Outstanding among the saints is Mary, Mother of the Lord and mirror of all holiness. In the *Gospel of Luke* we find her engaged in a service of charity to her cousin Elizabeth, with whom she remained for “about three months” (1:56) so as to assist her in the final phase of her pregnancy. “*Magnificat anima mea Dominum*”, she says on the occasion of that visit, “My soul

Divine Liturgies
will be in the
Church.

Seating is limited
to **15 people**.

Please “SignUp”
before attending.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040548A9A822A3FD0-stmaron>

This week I invite you to read the First Encyclical of Pope Benedict XVI “*DEUS CARITAS EST*” - “God is Love” – signed on December 25, 2005 and promulgated on 25 January 2006. It consists of 42 articles divided into two chapters.

The first, entitled, “The Unity of Love in Creation and in Salvation History,” presents a theological - philosophical reflection on “love” in its various dimensions - “eros,” “philia,” and “agape” - highlighting certain vital aspects of God’s love for man and the inherent links that such love has with human love.

The second chapter, entitled “The Practice of Love by the Church as a ‘Community of Love,’” focuses on the concrete implementation of the commandment to love others. It considers the charitable activities of the Church as an expression of love which draws its efficacy from contemplative union with God.

In the last three articles (40-41-42) that form the conclusion of the encyclical, Pope Benedict XVI gives us some examples of Saints who exercise charity in an exemplary way.

Below is Art. 41 which talks about the Virgin Mary

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Facebook Page: Saint Maron Maronite Catholic Church of Philadelphia

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

magnifies the Lord” (*Lk* 1:46). In these words she expresses her whole program of life: not setting herself at the center, but leaving space for God, who is encountered both in prayer and in service of neighbor—only then does goodness enter the world. Mary's greatness consists in the fact that she wants to magnify God, not herself. She is lowly: her only desire is to be the handmaid of the Lord (cf. *Lk* 1:38, 48). She knows that she will only contribute to the salvation of the world if, rather than carrying out her own projects, she places herself completely at the disposal of God's initiatives. Mary is a woman of hope: only because she believes in God's promises and awaits the salvation of Israel, can the angel visit her and call her to the decisive service of these promises. Mary is a woman of faith: “Blessed are you who believed”, Elizabeth says to her (cf. *Lk* 1:45). The *Magnificat*—a portrait, so to speak, of her soul—is entirely woven from threads of Holy Scripture, threads drawn from the Word of God. Here we see how completely at home Mary is with the Word of God, with ease she moves in and out of it. She speaks and thinks with the Word of God; the Word of God becomes her word, and her word issues from the Word of God. Here we see how her thoughts are attuned to the thoughts of God, how her will is one with the will of God. Since Mary is completely imbued with the Word of God, she is able to become the Mother of the Word Incarnate. Finally, Mary is a woman who loves. How could it be otherwise? As a believer who in faith thinks with God's thoughts and wills with God's will, she cannot fail to be a woman who loves. We sense this in her quiet gestures, as recounted by

the infancy narratives in the Gospel. We see it in the delicacy with which she recognizes the need of the spouses at Cana and makes it known to Jesus. We see it in the humility with which she recedes into the background during Jesus' public life, knowing that the Son must establish a new family and that the Mother's hour will come only with the Cross, which will be Jesus' true hour (cf. *Jn* 2:4; 13:1). When the disciples flee, Mary will remain beneath the Cross (cf. *Jn* 19:25-27); later, at the hour of Pentecost, it will be they who gather around her as they wait for the Holy Spirit (cf. *Acts* 1:14).

To read the full encyclical, Click on the link below

http://www.vatican.va/content/benedict-xvi/en/encyclicals/documents/hf_ben-xvi_enc_20051225_deus-caritas-est.html

Fr. Andrawos (Fadi) El Tabchi

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

A special thank you from our MYO for everyone's generosity in this year's Thanksgiving Food Drive. Because of your generous donations we were able to help many families celebrate Thanksgiving with their loved ones. We wish you all a beautiful Thanksgiving. Please be safe!

2021 CHURCH ENVELOPES

The 2021 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.

DIVINE LITURGIES

Saturday, November 21, @ 6:00PM, (Feast of the Presentation of the Virgin Mary in the Temple) liturgy is being offered for the souls of Debra and Frank Rummell requested by family. May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, November 22, @ 11:00AM, liturgy is offered for the soul of Walter (Chip) Meixner requested by Diane Kiddy. May his soul rest in peace.

Monday, November 23, @ 9:00AM,

Tuesday, November 24, 2020 @ 9:00AM,

Wednesday, November 25, 2020 @ 6:00PM,

Friday, November 27, 2020 @ 6:00PM, (Feast of St. James Intercisus) LITURGY followed by EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Saturday, November 28, @ 6:00PM,

Sunday, November 29, @ 11:00AM, liturgy is offered for the soul of Carmen Marrone requested by Family. May his soul rest in peace.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

We will have Eucharistic Adoration every Friday following the 6:00PM Divine Liturgy. Let us take the time to kneel before Jesus present in the Eucharist, in order to fully appreciate all that our savior endured in His love for us.

NANNY NEEDED

A young couple is looking for a Nanny / Baby sitter for their one-year old boy in the Philadelphia area. The schedule is Monday thru Friday 8AM – 5PM. For more information please contact Carmen at 617-390-6993.

THANK YOU

Thank you for everyone who donated to the Church this past week. Our Church's finances rely on the generosity of our community, including Sunday collections and donations. If you are able to donate, please do so via the following link: <https://saintmaron.org/donate> or you can always mail your weekly envelopes/donations to the Church office. Thank you for your continuous support during these challenging times.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

FOR

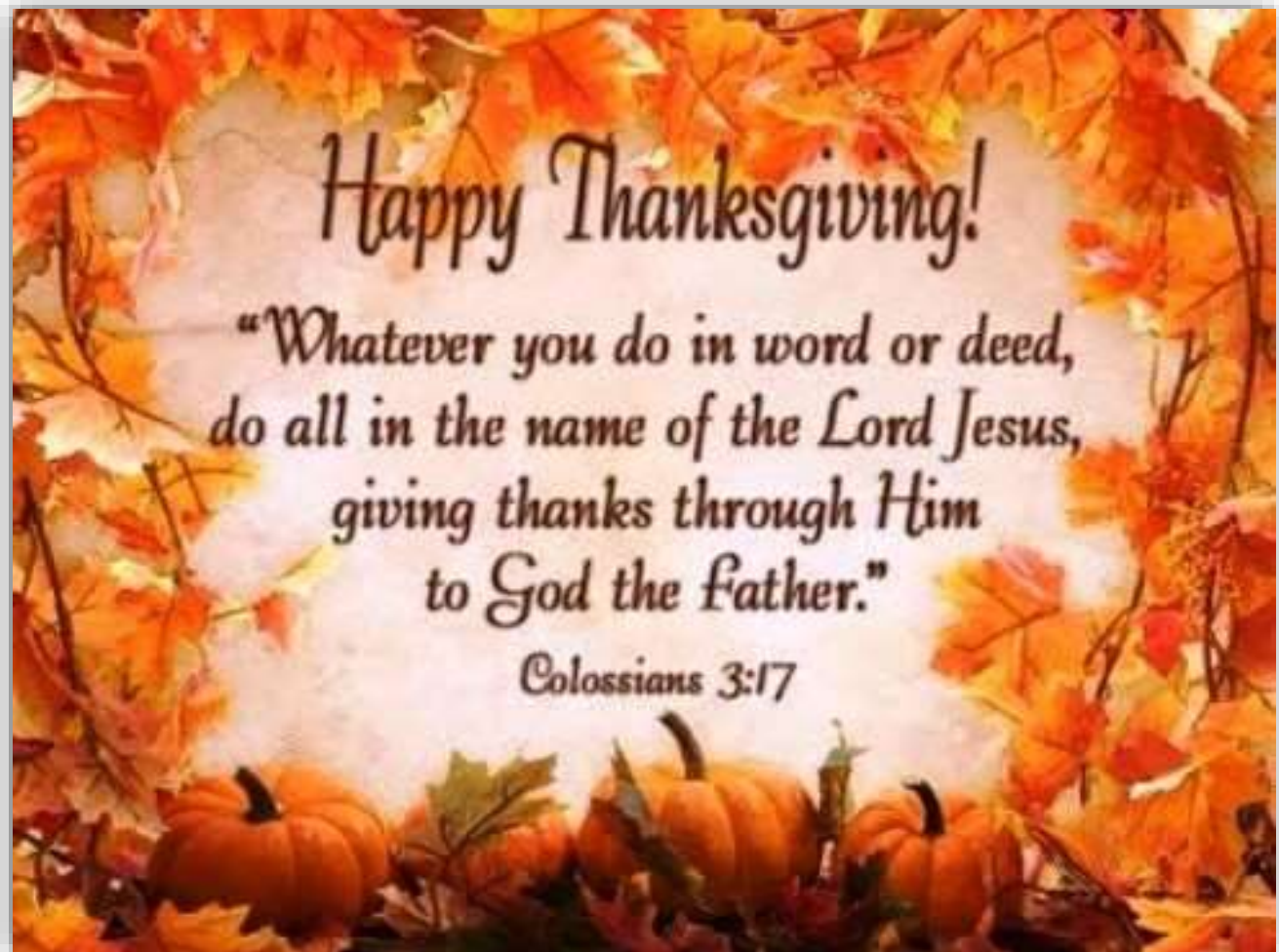
November 14-15, 2020

Collection	\$ 1,201.00
Coffee	\$ 4.00
Online Donations	\$ 360.00
Total:	\$ 1,565.00

IN OUR PRAYERS

Please keep in your prayers Ralph Passio, Theresa Green, Kevin Green, Joanne Simon-Turing, Diane McLaughlin, Bonnie Gorman, Kevin Khoury, Marie McCrea, Suzanne Haney, Luke Farrell Jr., Linda DiBernardo, Joan Speck, David Joseph Cook, Eddie Tayoun, Minarva Labbad, Dante Panichi, Dennis Strelchuk, Carol Krestos, Gladys Dalcourt, Denise Furey, Chucky Simon, Michael Winter, Mirta Ruiz, Rita Impo, Jade Kellam, Marion Thomas

Branca, Francesca Impo, Lucy DiLuce, Cat Niven Glaze, Laurent Chidiac, Tom Hart, John Hart, Fadi Jaber, Joseph Realdine, Emily Stone, Lisa Alestra, John Nader, Joey Gdowick, Francis Joseph Kerns, Samer Chokeur, Kathy Newman, Rita Arrigale, Maryann Bratton, Renee Sahar, Sister Nahida Al-Sawa, Rose DeJesse, 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.



ITALIAN FOOD TAKE OUT

As part of our Fundraiser, we have been planning Lebanese Take Out events. I would like to

take this opportunity to thank all those who participated in the success of the last Chicken Shawarma Take Out.

Our next event will be held on **Thursday, December 3, 2020,**

and this time it will be **ITALIAN FOOD TAKE OUT.** Please find all the details in the flyer below.

God bless you all,
Fr. Andrawos

Saint Maron Church ITALIAN FOOD

Thursday, December 3, 2020
11:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Take Out

MAIN MENU

GARDEN SALAD	\$5.00
<i>(served with Italian dressing)</i>	
ITALIAN WEDDING SOUP	\$8.00
<i>(1 lb. soup)</i>	
MEATBALL & BAKED ZITI PLATTER	\$20.00
<i>(6 pcs. Meatball, Baked Ziti, Bread & Butter)</i>	
CHICKEN PARMESAN PLATTER	\$20.00
<i>(4 pcs. Chicken, Spaghetti, Bread & Butter)</i>	

ADD-ONS

MEATBALL <i>(3 pcs.)</i>	\$8.00
CHICKEN PARMESAN <i>(2 pcs.)</i>	\$8.00
BAKED ZITI	\$5.00
SPAGHETTI	\$5.00

DESSERT

BISCOTTI LOG - LEMON	\$8.00
<i>(makes 12 pcs.)</i>	
BISCOTTI LOG - ANISE	\$8.00
<i>(makes 12 pcs.)</i>	
MINI TIRAMISU	\$4.00



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DIVINE LITURGY NEW RESTRICTIONS

In response to rising COVID-19 cases in Philadelphia, the city and Department of Public Health have announced on Monday November 16, 2020 new restrictions on businesses, events and gatherings, and other activities to help reduce the number of cases and flatten the epidemic curve. **The new “Safer at Home” restrictions are effective as of this Friday, November 20, 2020 through January 1, 2021.**

These restrictions have affected the religious institutions in Philadelphia. All churches are permitted to have people indoors, but density must be capped at **5 ppl per 1,000 sq. ft. or 5 percent of maximum occupancy.** If we don't comply with these requirements, we will lose the privilege of being able to celebrate the Divine Liturgy with your presence. This is how these restrictions affected our Church:

- At Saint Maron Catholic Maronite Church, we can only accommodate **15 parishioners in church during each Liturgy or other prayer services such as the Christmas Novena this year.** The daily masses will remain an option to participate in person.
- For the safety of our children, **the Religious Education Program**, including all activities and classes, **will be postponed until** all the imposed restrictions are lifted God willing by **January 2021.**
- Please continue to follow the **Sunday Liturgy** as it will be **Live Streamed** on our parish **Facebook** page as well as **YouTube** page. When watching Liturgy from home, we invite you to create sacred space, eliminate distractions, and listen attentively and prayerfully.

- During this period of time, the church hall will be closed and **the coffee hour will be cancelled** until further notice.
- The faithful continue to be dispensed by Bishop Gregory from the obligation to attend Divine Liturgy on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation until further notice.
- We must do our share to reduce the risk of the virus. Therefore, everyone who is feeling ill, or considered part of a vulnerable health population is encouraged to stay home. As a community it is imperative that we all work together to keep each other healthy, safe.
- We will continue to **follow the Health and Safety guidelines** issued by the state and local health departments.
- **EVERYONE** (except those 2 years of age and younger) attending is to **WEAR A FACE MASK** throughout the celebration of Divine Liturgy
- Parishioners wishing to attend Divine Liturgy are asked to **SIGN UP** through the parish website: www.saintmaron.org or through the link the following link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040548A9A822A3FD0-stmaron>. For those who don't have access to the internet you can call the church office and we will assist you to sign up.
- **SIX FEET** distance between individuals is the norm for social distancing.
- Holy water fonts will remain empty.
- Doors will be kept open before and after Liturgy.
- Gatherings of parishioners are not to take place before or after Divine Liturgy for any reason. As people arrive to the church hall, they are to go immediately to their place.
- Only the single bathroom at the entrance of the hall will be open; this is a unisex bathroom. All others will be closed.
- All areas of the church will be sanitized routinely, according to the guidelines for sanitation provided by the CDC for houses of worship.
- Hand sanitizers will be available at the entrance of the church. We encourage everybody to bring their own hand sanitizer and wipes, as they are very difficult to find in the stores.
- Priests and deacons are not expected to wear masks or gloves.
- To avoid a real risk of infection with COVID-19 for the priest and the parishioners, **Holy Communion** will be distributed in the **HAND** at this time.
- While receiving Holy Communion we ask you to keep a space of **6 feet** distance between each other by standing on the marks indicated on the floor.
- Choir members will maintain physical distance and follow all safety measures throughout Divine Liturgy.
- Liturgical Books won't be available, we will post the service on a TV in the Church and everybody will be able to pray with us.
- The Church Bulletin will not be printed, we will continue to email it and post it on Facebook.
- The procession with the Gifts during the Offertory is omitted.
- The sign of the peace will be without contact throughout the church.
- The collection baskets will be placed at the entrance of the Church where parishioners can place their offerings. You may also make your donation online through our website.

*Proudly Serving The St. Maron Church
And The Lebanese People*



Ronald Rex Piselli, Supervisor, President
Richard G. Piselli, Vice President
Harry J. Hoch, Office Manager



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Saint Maron

Maronite Catholic Church



November 21-22, 2020

First Reading

Galatians 3:15-22

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Galatians. Your blessing father...

Brothers and Sisters:

I give an example from daily life: once a person's will has been ratified, no one adds to it or annuls it. Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring; it does not say, 'And to offsprings', as of many; but it says, 'And to your offspring', that is, to one person, who is Christ. My point is this: the law, which came four hundred and thirty years later, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to nullify the promise. For if the inheritance comes from the law, it no longer comes from the promise; but God granted it to Abraham through the promise. Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring would come to whom the promise had been made; and it was ordained through angels by a mediator. Now a mediator involves more than one party; but God is one. Is the law then opposed to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could make alive, then righteousness would indeed come through the law. But the scripture has imprisoned all things under the power of sin, so that what was promised through faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

Praise be to God always.

فصل من رسالة القديس بولس إلى أهل غلاطية

يا إخوتي، كَبَشَّرِ أَقُولُ: إِنَّ الْوَصِيَّةَ، وَإِنْ كَانَتْ مِنْ إِنْسَانٍ، إِذَا أُقِرَّتْ، لَا أَحَدَ يُبْطِلُهَا أَوْ يَزِيدُ عَلَيْهَا. فَالْوَعْدُ قِيلَتْ لِإِبْرَاهِيمَ وَلِنَسْلِهِ. وَمَا قِيلَتْ: «وَلَأَنْسَالِهِ»، كَأَنَّهُ لِكَثِيرِينَ، بَلْ «وَلِنَسْلِكَ»، كَأَنَّهُ لِوَاحِدٍ، وَهُوَ الْمَسِيحُ! فَأَقُولُ هَذَا: إِنَّ وَصِيَّةَ سَبَقَ اللَّهُ فَأَقْرَهَا، لَا تُلْغِيهَا شَرِيعَةٌ جَاءَتْ بَعْدَ أَرْبَعِ مِئَةٍ وَثَلَاثِينَ سَنَةً، فَتُبْطَلُ الْوَعْدُ. وَإِذَا كَانَ الْمِيرَاثُ مِنَ الشَّرِيعَةِ، فَهُوَ لَمْ يَعْذُ مِنَ الْوَعْدِ؛ وَالْحَالُ أَنَّ اللَّهَ بَوَّعِدَ أَنْعَمَ بِالْمِيرَاثِ عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ. إِذَا فَلِمَاذَا الشَّرِيعَةُ؟ إِنَّهَا أُضِيفَتْ بِسَبَبِ الْمَعَاصِي، حَتَّى مَجِيءِ النَّسْلِ الَّذِي جُعِلَ الْوَعْدُ لَهُ. وَقَدْ أَعْلَنَهَا مَلَائِكَةٌ عَلَى يَدِ وَسِيطٍ، هُوَ مُوسَى. غَيْرَ أَنَّ الْوَاحِدَ لَا وَسِيطَ لَهُ، وَاللَّهُ وَاحِدٌ! إِذَا فَهَلْ تَكُونُ الشَّرِيعَةُ ضِدَّ وَعْدِ اللَّهِ؟ حَاشَا! فَلَوْ أُعْطِيَتْ شَرِيعَةٌ قَادِرَةٌ أَنْ تُحْيِيَ، لَكَانَ التَّبَرِيرُ حَقًّا بِالشَّرِيعَةِ. وَلَكِنَّ الْكِتَابَ حَبَسَ الْكُلَّ تَحْتَ الْخَطِيئَةِ، لِكَيْمَّا بِالْإِيمَانِ بِيَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ يُعْطَى الْوَعْدُ لِلَّذِينَ يُؤْمِنُونَ.

والتسبيح لله دائماً.

Gospel Reading

Saint Luke 1:26-38

The Apostle Writes:

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

مِنْ إِنْجِيلِ الْقَدِيسِ لَوْقَا

وفي الشهر السادس (بعد بشارة زكريّا)، أُرْسِلَ الْمَلَكُ جِبْرَائِيلُ مِنْ عِنْدِ اللَّهِ إِلَى مَدِينَةٍ فِي الْجَلِيلِ أَسْمُهَا النَّاصِرَةَ، إِلَى عَذْرَاءَ مَخْطُوبَةٍ لِرَجُلٍ مِنْ بَيْتِ دَاوُدَ أَسْمُهُ يُوسُفُ، وَأَسْمُ الْعَذْرَاءِ مَرْيَمَ. وَلَمَّا دَخَلَ الْمَلَكُ إِلَيْهَا قَالَ: «السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ، يَا مَمْلُوءَةٌ نِعْمَةً، أَلَرَّبُّ مَعَكَ!». فَأَضْطَرَبَتْ مَرْيَمَ لِكَلَامِهِ، وَأَخَذَتْ تَفَكَّرُ مَا عَسَى أَنْ يَكُونَ هَذَا السَّلَامُ! فَقَالَ لَهَا الْمَلَكُ: «لَا تَخَافِي، يَا مَرْيَمَ، لِأَنَّكَ وَجَدْتِ نِعْمَةً عِنْدَ اللَّهِ. وَهَا أَنْتِ تَحْمِلِينَ، وَتَلِدِينَ ابْنًا، وَتُسَمِّيْنَهُ يَسُوعَ. وَهُوَ يَكُونُ عَظِيمًا، وَأَبْنَى الْعَلِيِّ يُدْعَى، وَيُعْطِيهِ الرَّبُّ الْإِلَهَ عَرْشَ دَاوُدَ أَبِيهِ، فَيَمْلِكُ عَلَى بَيْتِ يَعْقُوبَ إِلَى الْأَبَدِ، وَلَا يَكُونُ لِمُلْكِهِ نِهَايَةٌ!». فَقَالَتْ مَرْيَمَ لِلْمَلَكِ: «كَيْفَ يَكُونُ هَذَا، وَأَنَا لَا أَعْرِفُ رَجُلًا؟». فَأَجَابَ الْمَلَكُ وَقَالَ لَهَا: «الرُّوحُ الْقُدُسُ يَحِلُّ عَلَيْكَ، وَفُودَةُ الْعَلِيِّ تُظَلِّلُكَ، وَلِذَلِكَ فَالْقُدُّوسُ الْمَوْلُودُ مِنْكَ يُدْعَى ابْنَى اللَّهِ! وَهَا إِنَّ الْيَصَابَاتَ نَسِيبَتِكَ، قَدْ حَمَلْتِ هِيَ أَيْضًا بَابْنٍ فِي شَيْخُوخَتِهَا. وَهَذَا هُوَ الشَّهْرُ السَّادِسُ لِتِلْكَ الَّتِي تُدْعَى عَاقِرًا، لِأَنَّهُ لَيْسَ عَلَى اللَّهِ أَمْرٌ مُسْتَحِيلٌ!». فَقَالَتْ مَرْيَمَ: «هَا أَنَا أَمَةٌ الرَّبِّ، فَلْيَكُنْ لِي بِحَسَبِ قَوْلِكَ!». وَأَنْصَرَفَ مِنْ عِنْدِهَا الْمَلَكُ حَقًّا وَالْأَمَانُ لَجَمِيعِكُمْ.