

# Saint Maron

## Maronite Catholic Church



### Season of the Glorious Birth of Our Lord

December 24-25, 2022

#### OFFICE HOURS:

**MONDAY OFFICE CLOSED**  
**TUESDAY – FRIDAY 10:30AM – 4:00PM**

#### Contact the office:

**Phone:** 215-389-2000

**For Emergencies:** 978-241-2977

**E-mails:** pastor@saintmaron.org  
office@saintmaron.org

ccd@saintmaron.org | myo@saintmaron.org

#### **Pastor**

Fr. Andrawos (Fadi) El Tabchi

#### **Advisor / Consultant**

Fr. David Fisher

#### **Administrative Assistant**

Claudine ElHajal

#### **Parish Council**

Costa J. Mansour, Michael Marrone, Anne Tayoun, Manal ElHajal, Rosemarie Marrone, Barbara Dahdah, Tony Frangie, Khalil Raie, Nahi Rai, Roger Jebara

#### **Finance Committee**

Philip Rai, Deebanne Tavani, Terri Koway, Fred Haddad, Paul Kouyoumdji, Denise Eddis, Jimmy Jebara, Jano Frangie

#### **Festival Chairmen**

Billy Tayoun, Tony Frangie

#### **Saint Jude**

Denise Eddis, Theresa Barry

#### **CCD**

#### **Director: Janah Szewczyk**

**Teachers:** Rania Sukkarieh, Maha Labbad, Samar Dawlabani, Reine Ghazaly, Janah Szewczyk, Sanaa Rizk

**Advisors:** Rosemarie Marrone,

#### **MYO**

#### **Director: Zeina Topalian**

**Advisors:** Anne Tayoun, Jocelyne Habib, Fadia Salloum, Maha Labbad

#### **MYA**

**Coordinators:** Nahi Rai, Roger Jebara, Frankie Piacentini

#### **Men's Club**

**President:** Amin Al Soueid

**Vice-President:** Samer Hourani

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior,  
who is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:11)

This Christmas, as in all previous years, we celebrate "Immanuel" (God with us). Without Christ's presence among us we would be lost. Through God's presence working within us we are being healed, transformed, reconciled and made whole.

I would like to take a moment to wish you a very Merry Christmas. During this season, we celebrate:

**Hope, Peace, Love & Joy**

I pray that all four of these would fill your life in every way this Christmas and beyond.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

#### **Readings**

**First Reading**  
Hebrews 1:1-12

**Gospel Reading**  
Luke 2:1-20

#### **Glorious Epiphany**

Holy Day of Obligation  
Friday, January 6, 2023  
@ 7pm

#### **Sanctuary Candle**

The Sanctuary Candle is burning  
IMO Peter Koway

## DIVINE LITURGIES

**Saturday, December 24, @ 6:00PM, CHRISTMAS EVE** liturgy is offered in memory of Peter Koway requested by Terry Koway. May his soul rest in peace.

**Sunday, December 25, @ 11:00AM, CHRISTMAS DAY** liturgy is offered for the Safety and Well-being of our Parishioners.

**Saturday, December 31, @ 6:00PM,** liturgy is offered for a special intention.

**Sunday, January 1, @ 11:00AM,** liturgy is offered for Janice Carter. Requested by Harold Smith. May her soul rest in peace.

## DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

If you are sick and homebound and wish to receive communion at home, please contact:

the Church Office at 215-389-2000 or Fr. Andrawos at 978-241-2977.

## GIVING TREE

Once again, I would like to thank everyone who participated in the Giving Tree Project this year. You have helped some celebrate Christmas in a special way. May God Bless You and Keep You Safe.



## WEEKLY COLLECTION FOR

**December 17-18, 2022**

|                            |                    |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Sunday Collection</b>   | <b>\$ 1,262.00</b> |
| <b>PayPal</b>              | <b>\$ 100.00</b>   |
| <b>Donations</b>           | <b>\$ 120.00</b>   |
| <b>Christmas Offerings</b> | <b>\$ 1,285.00</b> |
| <b>Coffee Hour</b>         | <b>\$ 45.00</b>    |
| <b>Total:</b>              | <b>\$ 2,812.00</b> |

### THE MARONITE VOICE

<https://www.maronitevoice.org/>

(ISSUE 6, VOLUME 19)  
PAGE 33

### 2023 CALENDARS

**Available in the church.**

### Eparchial Loan

Loan Principal and Interest Owed:

**\$ 57,125.00**

Total Amount Paid in 2022:

**\$ 31,375.00**

**Remaining Loan Balance:**

**\$ 25,750.00**

## IN OUR PRAYERS

### Please keep in your prayers

Michael Thomas, Barbara Impriano, Mary McKinney, Jessica McKinney, Angela McKinney, Skyla Simon, Peter Labaki, Nancy Murphy, Marentha Young-Heart, Allison Tretina, Stephanie Devinney, Angela S corza Anderson, Robert Nigro, Thomas Jones, Raymond Fitzpatrick, Linda Yeckes, Frankie Olivieri, Richy Grande, Marie Eddis, Mia Andrilla, Natalie Ciancaglini, Ashley Iaconelli, Stephen Bressi, Elissar Ayoub, Joanne Simon-Turing, Suzanne Haney, Linda DiBernardo, Joan Speck, David Joseph Cook, Eddie Tayoun, Dennis Strelchuk, Gladys Dalcourt, Denise Furey, Mirta Ruiz, Rita Impo, Jade Kellam, Marion Thomas Branca, Francesca Impo, Lucy DiLuce, Laurent Chidiac, Tom Hart, John Hart, Fadi Jaber, Joseph Realdine, Lisa Alestra, John Nader, Joey Gdowick, Francis Joseph Kerns, Samer Chokeir, Kathy Newman, Rita Arrigale, Maryann Bratton, Renee Sahar, Sister Nahida Al-Sawa, James Cordisio, Stacey Fuentes, Debbie Freedenberg, Noel Andjuhar, and Angel Salerno.

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 intention.

## Saint Maron Church Men's Club

If you wish to join the men's club in our parish, click on the WhatsApp link below and contact the group admins.

This is an open invitation to all men of our parish.

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/BkRnN2BMcof0vJ4a9bzVmw>



# CHRISTMAS PARTY

DECEMBER 18, 2022

Another prosperous year, Another Successful Christmas Party.

What a blessing it was to see all Saint Maron community joining hands to enjoy a wonderful Christmas Party. I would like to say thank you to every one who worked hard to make this day a memorable one for all of us. Two words can summarize our feelings: Blessed and Grateful.

Thank you, Lord, for every member of this beautiful parish.

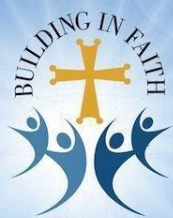
Merry Christmas to All and May God Bless You and Keep You Safe.

Fr. Andrewos





GROWING  
TOGETHER



THURSDAY

**FEB 2, 2023**

PINES MANOR

2085 Lincoln Hwy, Edison, NJ 08817

6:30pm Cocktail Reception

7:30pm Dinner

All Evening Silent Auction

Business Attire

RSVP BY JANUARY 9

## SAINT SHARBEL GALA DINNER

Our Sister Parish, Saint Sharbel, in Somerset, NJ is having their first **Gala Dinner** on **February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023**.

They will be honoring Bishop Gregory Mansour and Chorbishop Michael Thomas for their 40 years of priesthood and service. They will also launch the new church building project.

*to support our sister parish,*

contact the office at 215.389.2000  
or via email [office@saintmaron.org](mailto:office@saintmaron.org)

Or click on the following link:  
<https://saintsharbelnj.org/gala>



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For more information about the Order, contact the Order of Saint Sharbel  
Vice President, Charlene Hiffa at [mchiffa@bellsouth.net](mailto:mchiffa@bellsouth.net) or ask your Parish Priest.

If you are interested in becoming a Priest, Religious Sister, or Deacon, contact Vocations Director  
Father Dominique Hanna at (718) 624-7228 or [cathrectory@verizon.net](mailto:cathrectory@verizon.net).

## THE ANNUAL DISCERNMENT WEEKEND

**“COME AFTER ME, AND I WILL MAKE YOU FISHERS OF MEN.” (MAT 4:19)**



**THE WEEKEND OF MARCH 24-26, 2023  
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# THE MARONITE WOMEN'S ORDER IN OUR EPARCHY



## Maronite Servants of Christ the Light

The Maronite Servants of Christ the Light are a congregation of consecrated religious serving the Church in the parish as spiritual mothers in imitation of Mary, radiating the Light of Christ in their life of contemplative prayer, asceticism, and apostolic mission to children, youth, young adults, families, the sick, dying, and grieving... We serve alongside the priest in pastoral ministry reaching out with a maternal touch to the many needs of the parish family.



“These women will be doing the corporal and spiritual works of mercy and helping in the pastoral work of our communities. They can teach religious education, help with youth, young adults, married couples, programs for children and families, visits to the sick and dying or those who are grieving. They’ll work alongside the priest in a variety of different ministries.”

Most Reverend Gregory J. Mansour

To learn more about the congregation, click on the following link

<https://www.maroniteservants.org>



## IS JESUS CALLING YOU?!

To learn more about vocations and discernment, click on the link below:

<https://www.maroniteservants.org/vocation/>

**Contact Sr. Theresa Maria to learn more about the sisters and how to discern God's will for your life.**



# THE SALESIAN SISTERS OF SAINT JOHN BOSCO

DAUGHTERS OF MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

*"It is not enough that you love the young, they must know they are loved."*  
(St. John Bosco)



The Salesian Sisters of Saint John Bosco are the largest Congregation of religious women with over 11,000 sisters serving in 97 countries.

Founded in 1872 by St. John Bosco and St. Mary Mazzarello, the Salesian Sisters are dedicated to reaching the youth for Christ. In 1908, they began their ministry in America in Paterson, New Jersey, and have been growing their mission of love across North America ever since!

Their legal title is **Missionary Society of Salesian Sisters, Inc.**

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We commit ourselves to the new evangelization of youth. Impelled by our charism, we evangelize by educating. We open up new ways for the education of the young, deepening within them an attitude of respect for the dignity of the human person and an openness to life in all its forms. We commit ourselves to a community lifestyle which is poor, simple, welcoming, and able to create a new educative presence among poor youth.

Between the years of 1871 and 1885, St. John Bosco put together his dreams for the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians. We still strive to live by this profile of the FMA as outlined by Don Bosco in the first Constitutions:

1. **Patient and zealous charity** not only towards children but more especially towards young girls and everyone, without exception, with the aim of doing as much good as possible.
2. **Simplicity** and reserve combined with cheerfulness, a spirit of mortification both interior and exterior; strict observance of poverty.
3. **Obedience** of will and judgement; and humility in accepting willingly and without comment the advice and corrections given and the work entrusted to them.
4. A spirit of **prayer** which helps the Sisters to carry out their works of piety willingly, to remain in the presence of God and to abandon themselves to Divine Providence.

These virtues must be well tested and deeply rooted in the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians, because their lives must harmonize the contemplative and the active life, reproducing Martha and Mary, the life of the Apostles and that of the Angels.

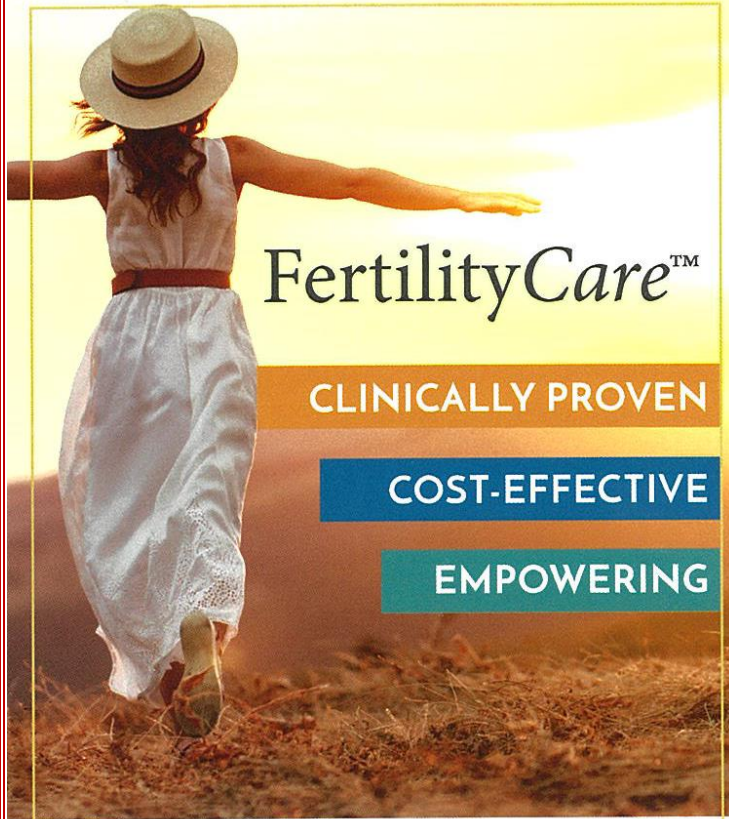
[To learn more about the Salesian Sisters of St. John Bosco click on the link below:](#)



<https://salesiansisters.org/>

(or contact Sr. Elfie Del Rosario, FMA: [happynun@gmail.com](mailto:happynun@gmail.com))

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# Saint Maron

## Maronite Catholic Church



December 24-25, 2022

### First Reading

Hebrews 1:1-12

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

Brothers and Sisters:

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say, 'You are my Son; today I have begotten you'? Or again, 'I will be his Father, and he will be my Son'? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, 'Let all God's angels worship him.' Of the angels he says, 'He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire.' But of the Son he says, 'Your throne, O God, is for ever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepters of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.' And, 'In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end.'

Praise be to God always.

#### فصل من رسالة القديس بولس إلى العبرانيين

يا إِخْوَتِي، إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَلَّمَ الْآبَاءَ قَدِيمًا فِي الْأَنْبِيَاءِ، مَرَّاتٍ كَثِيرَةٍ، وَبِأَنْوَاعٍ شَتَّى، وَفِي آخِرِ هَذِهِ الْأَيَّامِ، كَلَّمَنَا فِي الْابْنِ، الَّذِي جَعَلَهُ وَارِثًا لِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ. وَبِهِ أَنْشَأَ الْعَالَمِينَ. وَهُوَ شِعَاعُ مَجْدِهِ وَصُورَةُ جَوْهَرِهِ، وَضَابِطُ الْكُلِّ بِكَلِمَةِ قُدْرَتِهِ. فَبَعْدَمَا أَتَمَّ تَطْهِيرَ الْخَطَايَا، جَلَسَ عَنْ يَمِينِ الْجَلَالَةِ فِي الْأَعَالِي، فَصَارَ أَعْظَمَ مِنَ الْمَلَائِكَةِ، بِمِقْدَارِ مَا أَلَّاسُمُ الَّذِي وَرِثَهُ أَفْضَلَ مِنْ أَسْمَائِهِمْ. فَلَمَنْ مِنَ الْمَلَائِكَةِ قَالَ اللَّهُ يَوْمًا: «أَنْتَ ابْنِي، أَنَا الْيَوْمَ وَلَدْتُكَ؟» وَقَالَ أَيْضًا: «أَنَا أَكُونُ لَهُ أَبَا، وَهُوَ يَكُونُ لِي ابْنًا؟» أَمَّا عِنْدَمَا يُدْخِلُ ابْنَهُ الْبِكْرَ إِلَى الْعَالَمِ فَيَقُولُ: «فَلْتَسَجُدْ لَهُ جَمِيعُ مَلَائِكَةِ اللَّهِ». وَعَنِ الْمَلَائِكَةِ يَقُولُ: «الصَّانِعُ مَلَائِكَتَهُ أَرْوَاحًا، وَخُدَّامَهُ لِهَيْبِ نَارٍ». أَمَّا عَنِ الْابْنِ فَيَقُولُ: «عَرَّشَكَ يَا إِلَهَ، لِذَهْرِ الدَّهْرِ، وَصَوْلَجَانِ الْأَسْتِقَامَةِ صَوْلَجَانِ مُلْكِكَ. أَحْبَبْتَ الْبِرَّ وَأَبْغَضْتَ الْإِثْمَ. لِذَلِكَ مَسَحَكَ إِلَهُكَ، يَا إِلَهَ، بِذَهْنِ الْبَهْجَةِ أَفْضَلَ مِنْ شُرَكَائِكَ. وَيَقُولُ أَيْضًا: «أَنْتَ، يَا رَبِّ، فِي الْبَدْءِ أَسَسْتَ الْأَرْضَ، وَالسَّمَاوَاتِ صُنْعُ يَدَيْكَ. هِيَ تَزُولُ وَأَنْتَ تَبْقَى، وَكُلُّهَا كَالثَوْبِ تَبْلَى، وَتَطْوِيهَا كَالرِّدَاءِ، وَكَالْثَوْبِ تَتَبَدَّلُ، وَأَنْتَ أَنْتَ وَسُئُوكَ لَنْ تَقْنَى».

والتسبيح لله دائماً.

## Gospel Reading

### Saint Luke 2:1-20

#### From the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!' When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So, they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

**This is the truth. Peace be with you.**

#### مِنْ إِنْجِيلِ الْقَدِيسِ لَوْقَا

فِي تِلْكَ الْأَيَّامِ، صَدَرَ أَمْرٌ مِنْ أَوْسَطُسَ قَيْصَرَ بِإِحْصَاءِ كُلِّ الْمَعْمُورَةِ. جَرَى هَذَا الْإِحْصَاءُ الْأَوَّلُ، عِنْدَمَا كَانَ كِيرِينْيُوسُ وَالِيًا عَلَى سُورِيَا. وَكَانَ الْجَمِيعُ يَذْهَبُونَ، كُلُّ وَاحِدٍ إِلَى مَدِينَتِهِ، لِيَكْتَتِبُوا فِيهَا. وَصَعِدَ يُوسُفُ أَيْضًا مِنَ الْجَلِيلِ، مِنْ مَدِينَةِ النَّاصِرَةِ، إِلَى الْيَهُودِيَّةِ، إِلَى مَدِينَةِ دَاوُدَ الَّتِي تُدْعَى بَيْتَ لَحْمَ، لِأَنَّهُ كَانَ مِنْ بَيْتِ دَاوُدَ وَعَشِيرَتِهِ، لِيَكْتَتِبَ مَعَ مَرْيَمَ خَطِيبَتِهِ، وَهِيَ حَامِلٌ. وَفِيمَا كَانَا هُنَاكَ، تَمَّتْ أَيَّامُهَا لِتِلْدٍ، فَوَلَدَتْ أَبْنَاهَا الْبِكْرَ، وَقَمَطَتْهُ، وَأَضْجَعَتْهُ فِي مَدُودَ، لِأَنَّهُ لَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُمَا مَوْضِعٌ فِي قَاعَةِ الضُّيُوفِ. وَكَانَ فِي تِلْكَ النَّاحِيَةِ رُعَاةٌ يَقِيمُونَ فِي الْحُقُولِ، وَيَسْهَرُونَ فِي هَجَعَاتِ اللَّيْلِ عَلَى قُطْعَانِهِمْ. فَإِذَا بِمَلَاكِ الرَّبِّ قَدْ وَقَفَ بِهِمْ، وَمَجْدُ الرَّبِّ أَشْرَقَ حَوْلَهُمْ، فَخَافُوا خَوْفًا عَظِيمًا فَقَالَ لَهُمُ الْمَلَاكُ: «لَا تَخَافُوا! فَهَذَا أَنَا أَبَشِّرُكُمْ بِفَرَحٍ عَظِيمٍ يَكُونُ لِلشَّعْبِ كُلِّهِ، لِأَنَّهُ وَلَدَ لَكُمْ أَلْيَوْمَ مُخْلِصٌ، هُوَ الْمَسِيحُ الرَّبُّ، فِي مَدِينَةِ دَاوُدَ وَهَذِهِ عَلَامَةٌ لَكُمْ: تَجِدُونَ طِفْلًا مَقْمَطًا، مُضْجَعًا فِي مَدُودَ!» وَأَنْضَمَّ فَجَاءَةً إِلَى الْمَلَاكِ جُمُهُورٌ مِنَ الْجُنْدِ السَّمَاوِيِّ يُسَبِّحُونَ اللَّهَ وَيَقُولُونَ: أَلْمَجْدُ لِلَّهِ فِي الْعُلَى، وَعَلَى الْأَرْضِ السَّلَامُ، وَالرَّجَاءُ الصَّالِحُ لِبَنِي الْبَشَرِ. وَلَمَّا أَنْصَرَفَ الْمَلَايِكَةُ عَنْهُمْ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ، قَالَ الرُّعَاةُ بَعْضُهُمْ لِبَعْضٍ: «هَيَّا بِنَا، إِلَى بَيْتِ لَحْمَ، لِنَرَى هَذَا الْأَمْرَ الَّذِي حَدَّثَ، وَقَدْ أَعْلَمْنَا بِهِ الرَّبُّ». وَجَاءُوا مُسْرِعِينَ، فَوَجَدُوا مَرْيَمَ وَيُوسُفَ، وَالطِّفْلَ مُضْجَعًا فِي الْمَدُودِ. وَلَمَّا رَأَوْهُ أَخْبَرُوا بِالْكَلَامِ الَّذِي قِيلَ لَهُمْ فِي شَأْنِ هَذَا الصَّبِيِّ وَجَمِيعِ الَّذِينَ سَمِعُوا، تَعَجَّبُوا مِمَّا قَالَهُ لَهُمُ الرُّعَاةُ. أَمَّا مَرْيَمُ فَكَانَتْ تَحْفَظُ هَذِهِ الْأُمُورَ كُلَّهَا، وَتَتَأَمَّلُهَا فِي قَلْبِهَا. ثُمَّ عَادَ الرُّعَاةُ وَهُمْ يَمَجِّدُونَ اللَّهَ وَيُسَبِّحُونَهُ عَلَى كُلِّ مَا سَمِعُوا وَرَأَوْا، حَسَبَمَا قِيلَ لَهُمْ. حَقًّا وَالْأَمَانُ لَجَمِيعِكُمْ.