



Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Cathedral

113 Remsen Street

Brooklyn, New York 11201

(718) 624-7228

OLOLC.org

Cathrectory@verizon.net

Most Reverend Gregory J. Mansour — Eparchial Bishop

Very Reverend Dominique Hanna — Rector

Deacon Peter Frangie

Subdeacon Norbert Vogl

Mrs. Madelyn Russo — Cathedral Secretary

Divine Liturgy Schedule

Tuesday through Saturday at 10:00 AM

Sunday at 9:00 AM and 11:30 AM

Holy Day To Be Announced

St. Sharbel the 22nd of the each month

at 7:30 PM except on Saturday or Sunday

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of the month at 10:40 until noon

Reconciliation

10:15 AM to 10:45 AM Sunday

11:00 AM to 11:45 AM First Friday

and upon request.

Initiation Rites (Baptism—Chrismation)

Parents and Godparents must meet

with the Rector for instruction and

then a time will be set for the Baptism

and Chrismation of the child.

Mystery of Crowning (Marriage)

Rector must be notified at least six

months in advance to set up instruction.

Hospital and Sick Calls

Notify the Rector as soon as possible.

New Parishioners

All are welcome at Our Lady of

Lebanon Cathedral. Please notify the Office

of the Rector to become a member.

Genealogy Sunday/ The Feast of the Glorious Birth

December 23rd, 2018

Sun. December 23	Genealogy Sunday		
	9:00 am	Assad Frangieh	Req. by Deacon & Mrs. Peter Frangieh
	11:30 am	Kozhaya Nicolas Alkhoury	Req. by Lina Fakhoury
Mon. December 24	12 Midnight Christmas Eve Liturgy		
Tues. December 25	9:00 am Christmas Day Divine Liturgy		
	11:30 am Christmas Day Divine Liturgy		
Wed. December 26	10 am Divine Liturgy for Malakeh Ayoub Felicitations to the Virgin Mary		Req. by. Renee Marjieh
Thurs. December 27	10 am Divine Liturgy for Badi El Haj St. Stephen, the First Martyr		Req. by Renee Marjieh
Fri. December 28	10 am Divine Liturgy for Afaf Marjieh The Adoration of the Magi		Req. by Renee Marjieh
Sat. December 29	10 am Divine Liturgy for Fhaid Marjieh Flight into Egypt and the Killing of the Holy Innocents		Req. by Renee Marjieh
Sun. December 30	The Finding of Our Lord in the Temple		
	9:00 am	Healing & Consolation of Elham, Nancy, Natalie, Alex Frangieh	Req. by Deacon & Mrs. Peter Frangieh
	11:30 am	Ibrahim Marji	Req. by Renee Marjieh

Financial Standings for November 2018

Ordinary Income

Sundays & Holy Days Collections: **\$7,953.00**
 Cathedral Stipends from Marriages, Baptisms & Funerals,
 Lower Hall Rent, Candles, Breakfast, Bake Sale, Dues,
 Religious Education: **\$5,781.00**
Total Ordinary Income: \$13,734.00

Ordinary Expense

Payroll, Gas, Electricity, Building and Medical Insurances,
 Lease Equipments, TV, Phone, Internet, Church, Hall
 & Office Supplies, Postage, Regular Maintenance...
Total Ordinary Expense: \$19,669.07
Total Ordinary Income vs Expense: -\$5,935.03

Extraordinary Income: \$20,833.33

(Library Rent, Donations for specific projects, Capital
 Campaign ...)

Extraordinary Expense: 34,760.00

(Major Church Repair such as electricity, roof replacement,
 Boiler, Installation of HV/AC ...)

Total Extraordinary Income vs Expense: -\$13,926.67

**All Thanks for your contribution &
 donation in helping maintaining the
 Church and planning different activities**

Sunday Readings

Lectors and Ushers (age 16 and up) are needed.
Please [email](#) the church to become one.

December 23, 2018 Genealogy Sunday

Reading: Romans 1:1-12

Gospel: Matthew 1:1-17

Lectors: 9:00 am Raymond Gill

11:30 am Roger Shammas - English

11:30 am Edward Antonios - Arabic

December 24, 2018 Vigil of the Glorious Birth

Reading: Hebrews 1:1-12

Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

Lectors: 12 Midnight Norbert Vogl - English

12 Midnight Adonis El-Asmar - Arabic

December 25, 2018 The Glorious Birth of Our Lord

Reading: Hebrews 1:1-12

Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

Lectors: 9:00 am Raymond Gill

11:30 am Tiana Eladem - English

11:30 am Mary Eladem - Arabic

December 30, 2018 Revelation to Joseph

Reading: Hebrews 7:11-19

Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

Lectors: 9:00 am Raymond Gill

11:30 am Lydia Gordon - English

11:30 am Norma Haddad

Dear Beloved Parishioners

The Maronite Prayer of the Faithful where we find the morning and evening prayers has a nice interpretation of Genealogy Sunday. It reads: "There are two versions of the genealogy of Jesus in the New Testament. One is in Matthew 1: 1-17 and the other is in Luke 3: 23-38. The basic aim of any such list of descendants in the scriptures is the connection of each era to God's progressive plan of salvation which reaches its fulfillment in Christ.

"The genealogy of Matthew emphasizes that Jesus is the fulfillment of all the promises God made to Abraham and David. One notes that there are four women, perhaps all gentiles, in the list. The inclusion of these woman may serve to indicate that Jesus came to save all mankind and not just the Jews (Matthew 28:19). David, a sinner guilty of adultery and murder (2 Samuel 11: 6) is also included in the list. It indicates that Jesus, who was without sin, was fully immersed in the sinfulness of humanity.

"The genealogy of Luke's Gospel is even more obvious in highlighting the universal mission of Jesus. Luke goes back from Jesus, to Abraham, and all the way back to Adam, the son of God; thus he shows Jesus as the New Adam, who begets a new humanity.

"The two genealogies are quite diverse in the personages included. In fact, they agree only on two names from David to Joseph. Matthew's royal lineage supports his concept of messianic fulfillment while Luke may have been more authentic in tracing the line through Nathan. In any case, one finds that the theological purpose of the genealogies supersedes any consideration for factual accuracy. The intention of the lists is to demonstrate that Jesus is the fulfillment of all that had been established with David will stand forever: 'The Lord says that his covenant with David stands firm and he will make his posterity endure forever and his throne as the days of heaven' (Psalms 89: 29-30). Not only does the psalmist assure us that the covenant with David and his posterity will last forever, but Micah tells us that the great king will come from Bethlehem, the city of David: 'But you Bethlehem, too small to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth one for me who is to be ruler in Israel; whose origin is from of old, from ancient times' (Micah 5:1). Moreover, Isaiah tells us that the sign that will be given to the people is that the child will be born of a virgin: 'Therefore the Lord himself will give you this sign: the virgin shall be with child and bear a son and shall call him Emmanuel' (Isaiah 7:14).

"The genealogies call us to trust in the salvific plan of God: all will be brought to fulfillment by the Lord in his own time and in his own way."

Abouna Dominique

Christmas Novena December 15th to 23rd

Starting on Saturday, December 15th until Monday, December 23rd, the parish will pray the Christmas Novena every evening at 7:30 pm except Sundays. The tradition of praying nine days before Christmas is a great way to be prepared to welcome God among us.

Pro-life March in DC

All Maronites are invited to join us for the Sixth **Maronite Vigil For Life on Thursday January 17, 2019 at Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Church in Washington DC.** MYO & MYA will have the opportunity to go the Youth Rally on Friday January 18, 2019 before we all participate in the March For Life 2019 at the National Mall. [Click here for more info](#)

Pilgrimage to Italy

Join us from May 01-10 2019 (10-days/ 8 nights) on a pilgrimage to Italy to visit Venice, Padua, Pisa, Florence, Assisi, Cascia, Rome and much more including Papal Audience. \$3,898 per person from New York. [For more information](#), please call Marleine Aflak 917-608-2996 or Tony Tannousis 718-987-3900.

Featuring a CD from the collection in the Social Hall Saint John Paul The Great



Remarkable stories about Pope Saint John Paul II's life from those who knew him, including bishops, students whom he taught, and Swiss Guards who interacted with him daily. Wealth of insights about this holy man who promoted devotion to Divine Mercy and Marian consecration, helped defeat communism in Europe, wrote the *Theology of the Body*, and embraced young people like no other.

New Year's Party in Easton

Our Lady of Lebanon is hosting a New Year's Party. [Please click](#) here for more information

Vocations Awareness Poster-Essay

Students grades K to 12 are encouraged to participate in the [Vocations Awareness Poster-Essay](#) Multimedia Contest through NAM. [Click here for guidelines](#) and [here for applications](#). Also you can see Adonis El-Asmar or Marian Ciaccia for more information. This year let us have more students take part of the contest.

Math Tutoring

Mrs. Ikram Eid would like to assist with Mathematics students (ages 3 to 12) and adults with GED. There is no cost to the tutoring, but a donation to the Church is appreciated. Please [email Mrs. Eid](#) for more information

Housekeeping

The Just Wee Two Daycare that was renting our hall downstairs decided not to renew their contract because of a decrease in their enrollment. They left by the end of August. If you know any daycare interested in the same space, please call the Church at 718-624-7228

Recommendation of the Finance Council

The Finance Council met last week and recommended that parishioners set the Church up for automatic bill pay. This is the best way to keep supporting your spiritual home while on vacation or out-of-town.

Bulletin Advertisement

Business owners who would like to advertise their businesses in the Church bulletin that reaches over 200 households via email, please call the Cathedral at 718-624-7228 for more information.



Christmas Flower Donations

Ms. Debbie Hamid	In Memory- Henry Hamid
Mrs. Carol Hamid	In Memory-Henry Hamid
Ms. Jeanette Kahaly	In Memory-The Kahaly Family
Mrs. Gloria Faour	In Memory-Mrs. Marie Rouadi
Mr. Samir Hosri	In Memory- All Beloved Family
Mr. & Mrs. Ghassan Matli	In Memory-George Matli
Mrs. Phyllis Simon	In Memory- Simon & Raffael Families
Mr. Salim Batrouni	In Memory- Maro & Rita Batrouni
Mr. & Mrs. William Safi	In Memory- Joseph and Dalal El-Hawa
Mrs. Marian Ciaccia	In Memory- Ronald Ciaccia & Joseph & Helen Sahadi
Ms. Caline Mouawad	In Memory-Georges T. Mouawad
Mr. & Mrs. Norbert Vogl	In Memory- Issa & Marina Nassar
Mr. & Mrs. Chaouki El Adem	In Memory- George & Margret Laham & Josephine & Hannah Eladem
Mrs. Jeanette Abi-Habib	In Memory- Youssef & Ghassan Abi-Habib
Ms. Maria Martakis	In Memory- Violet Martakis
Mrs. Lydia Gordon	In Memory- The Nofil Family
Ms. Eleanor Sabbagh	In Memory- Alice Sabbagh
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Padalino	In Memory- Najib & Linda Akel
Mr. & Mrs. Antoine Aflak	In Memory- Habib & Hayat Aflak
Mrs. Salma Vahdat	In Memory - Simon & Hasna Besheer
Ms. Claire Habib	In Memory- Habib, Trabulsi, Abood & Sabath Families
Mr. & Mrs. Fouad Rahme	In Memory- Fouad & Marie Rahme
Ms. Mary Ann Joulwan	In Memory-The Joulwan Family- Living & Deceased
Mr. Donald Shakal	In Memory- John and Helen Shakal
Mr. & Mrs. C. Arnaout	In Memory- Joseph Arnaout
The Nasr Family	In Memory- Annie Barsoum
Ralph, Joanna & Karina Succar	In Memory- Rose Succar
The Tannousis Family	In Memory - Tannousis & Mavbides Families
Mr. & Mrs. John Shaia	In Memory - Philip & Lorraien Shaia
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Jabour	In Memory - Elie Sakis

MARONITE VIGIL FOR LIFE &

MARCH FOR LIFE 2019



**Everyone is unique
from day one.**

For more information

<http://www.cedaroflebanonfcc.com/prolife.html>



Thursday January 17, 2019

The Office of Family and Sanctity of Life of the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn is pleased to host the Sixth Maronite Vigil For Life at:

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Church • 7142 Alaska Avenue N.W. Washington D.C. 20012

All Maronite parishes are invited to join us for an evening of prayer, worship and fun.
Please arrive around 5 pm. Our evening includes dinner, talk, Eucharistic Adoration, fellowship, movie and activities for the youth.

Bring your sleeping bags |

Friday January 18, 2019

MYA and MYO can join thousands of people at the **Youth Rally** at the Capital One Arena. Maronite Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at 8:30am at the parish followed by breakfast.

We will meet with MYA & MYO at the Starbucks at the corner of Indiana Ave. and 7th St. at 11:30 am to join the March For Life.

Please RSVP

with number of people attending by no later than Monday January 14th
Contact Simona Hallal • jhallal@verizon.net • 540-798-8450



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Marise Frangie, CFCE, Director • 914-393-8907 • sanctityoflife@live.com

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Genealogy Sunday

Letter to the Romans 1:1-12

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed throughout the world. For God, whom I serve with my spirit by announcing the gospel of his Son, is my witness that without ceasing I remember you always in my prayers, asking that by God's will I may somehow at last succeed in coming to you. For I am longing to see you so that I may share with you some spiritual gift to strengthen you or rather so that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine.

The Gospel according to Saint Matthew 1:1-17

An account of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, and Aram the father of Aminadab, and Aminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of King David. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asaph, and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Salathiel, and Salathiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called the Messiah. So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David to the deportation to Babylon, fourteen generations; and from the deportation to Babylon to the Messiah, fourteen generations.

أحد النسبة

رسالة القديس بولس إلى أهل رومة 1:1-12

يا إخواني، من بولس عبد المسيح يسوع، الذي دُعي ليكون رسولاً، وفُرز لإنجيل الله، هذا الإنجيل الذي وعد به الله من قبل، بأنبيائه في الكتب المقدسة، في شأن ابنه الذي ولد بحسب الجسد من نسل داود، وجعل بحسب روح القداسة ابن الله بقوة أي بالقيامة من بين الأموات، وهو يسوع المسيح ربنا؛ به نلنا النعمة والرسالة لكي نهدي إلى طاعة الإيمان جميع الأمم، لمجد اسمه؛ ومن بينهم أنتم أيضاً مدعوون لتكونوا ليسوع المسيح؛ إلى جميع الذين في رومة، إلى أحبائنا الله، المدعوين ليكونوا قديسين: النعمة لكم والسلام من الله أبينا والرب يسوع المسيح! قبل كل شيء، أشكر إلهي يسوع المسيح من أجلكم جميعاً، لأن إيمانكم ينادي به في العالم كله. يشهد علي الله، الذي أعده بروحي، بحسب إنجيل ابنه، أنني أذكركم بغير انقطاع، ضارعاً في صلواتي على الدوام أن يتيسر لي يوماً، بمشيئة الله، أن آتي إليكم. فإني أشتوق أن أراكم، لأشرككم في موهبة روحية وأشددكم، أي لأعزى معكم وبينكم بإيماني وإيمانكم المشترك.

إنجيل القديس متى 1:1-17

«كتاب ميلاد يسوع المسيح، ابن داود، ابن إبراهيم: إبراهيم ولد إسحق، إسحق ولد يعقوب، يعقوب ولد يهوذا وإخوانه، يهوذا ولد فارص وزارح من تمار، فارص ولد حصرون، حصرون ولد آرام، آرام ولد عميناداب، عميناداب ولد نحشون، نحشون ولد سلمون، سلمون ولد بوغر من راحاب، بوغر ولد عوبيد من راعوت، عوبيد ولد يسي، يسي ولد داود الملك. داود ولد سليمان من امرأة أوريا، سليمان ولد رحبعام، رحبعام ولد أبيا، أبيا ولد آسا، آسا ولد يوشافاط، يوشافاط ولد يورام، يورام ولد عوزيا، عوزيا ولد يوتام، يوتام ولد آحاز، آحاز ولد حزقيا، حزقيا ولد منسي، منسي ولد أمون، أمون ولد يوشيا، يوشيا ولد يوكنيا وإخوانه، وكان السبي إلى بابل. بعد السبي إلى بابل، يوكنيا ولد شالتيئيل، شالتيئيل ولد زربابل، زربابل ولد أبيهود، أبيهود ولد إلياقيم، إلياقيم ولد عازور، عازور ولد صادوق، صادوق ولد أخيم، أخيم ولد إليهود، إليهود ولد إليعازر، إليعازر ولد مثنان، مثنان ولد يعقوب، يعقوب ولد يوسف رجل مريم، التي منها ولد يسوع، وهو الذي يدعى المسيح. فجميع الأجيال من إبراهيم إلى داود أربعة عشر جيلاً، ومن داود إلى سبي بابل أربعة عشر جيلاً، ومن سبي بابل إلى المسيح أربعة عشر جيلاً.

Feast of the Glorious Birth of Our Lord Letter to the Hebrews 1:1-12

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 scepter 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.'

The Gospel according to Saint Luke 2:1-20

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.

عيد ميلاد الرب يسوع بحسب الجسد لرسالة إلى العبرانيين 12:1-1

يا إخوتي، إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَلَّمَ الْآبَاءَ قَدِيمًا فِي الْأَنْبِيَاءِ، مَرَّاتٍ كَثِيرَةٍ، وَبِأَنْوَاعٍ شَتَّى، وَفِي آخِرِ هَذِهِ الْأَيَّامِ، كَلَّمَنَا فِي الْإِبْنِ، الَّذِي جَعَلَهُ وَارِثًا لِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ. وَبِهِ أَنْشَأَ الْعَالَمِينَ. وَهُوَ شَعَاعٌ مَجْدِهِ وَصُورَةُ جَوْهَرِهِ، وَضَابِطُ الْكُلِّ بِكَلِمَةٍ قَدْرَتِهِ. فَبَعْدَمَا أَنْتَمُ تَطْهِيْرُ الْخَطَايَا، جَلَسَ عَنْ يَمِينِ الْجَلَالَةِ فِي الْأَعَالِي، فَصَارَ أَكْثَمُ مِنَ الْمَلَائِكَةِ، بِمَقْدَارِ مَا الْأَسْمُ الَّذِي وَرِثَهُ أَفْضَلُ مِنْ أَسْمَائِهِمْ. فَلِمَنْ مِنَ الْمَلَائِكَةِ قَالَ اللَّهُ يَوْمًا: «أَنْتَ ابْنِي، أَنَا الْيَوْمَ وَلَدْتُكَ؟» وَقَالَ أَيْضًا: «أَنَا أَكُونُ لَهُ أَبًا، وَهُوَ يَكُونُ لِي أَبْنًا؟» أَمَّا عِنْدَمَا يَدْخُلُ ابْنُهُ الْبِكْرُ إِلَى الْعَالَمِ فَيَقُولُ: «فَلْتَسْجُدْ لَهُ جَمِيعُ مَلَائِكَةِ اللَّهِ». «وَعَنِ الْمَلَائِكَةِ يَقُولُ: «الْصَّانِعُ مَلَائِكَتَهُ أَرْوَاحًا، وَخُدَّامَهُ لَهَيْبِ نَارٍ». أَمَّا عَنِ الْإِبْنِ فَيَقُولُ: «عَزَّشْكَ يَا اللَّهُ، لِيَذْهَبِ الدَّهْرُ، وَصَوْلَجَانِ الْأَسْتِقَامَةِ صَوْلَجَانِ مُلْكِكَ. أَحْبَبْتَ الْبِرَّ وَأَبْغَضْتَ الْإِثْمَ. لِذَلِكَ مَسَحَكَ إِلَهُكَ، يَا اللَّهُ، بِذَهْنِ الْبَهْجَةِ أَفْضَلَ مِنْ شُرَكَائِكَ». «وَيَقُولُ أَيْضًا: «أَنْتَ، يَا رَبِّ، فِي الْبَدْءِ أَسَسْتَ الْأَرْضَ، وَالسَّمَاوَاتِ صُنْعُ يَدَيْكَ. هِيَ تَزُولُ وَأَنْتَ تَبْقَى، وَكُلُّهَا كَالثَّوْبِ تَبْلَى، وَتَطْوِيهَا كَالرِّدَاءِ، وَكَالثَّوْبِ تَبْتَدِّلُ، وَأَنْتَ أَنْتَ وَسُنُوكَ لَنْ تَفْنَى.

إنجيل القديس لوقا 20:1-2

فِي تِلْكَ الْأَيَّامِ، صَدَرَ أَمْرٌ مِنْ أَوْسُطُسَ قَيْصَرٍ بِإِحْصَاءِ كُلِّ الْمَعْمُورَةِ. جَرَى هَذَا الْإِحْصَاءُ الْأَوَّلُ، عِنْدَمَا كَانَ كِيرِينْيُوسُ وَالِيًا عَلَى سُورِيَا. وَكَانَ الْجَمِيعُ يَذْهَبُونَ، كُلُّ وَاحِدٍ إِلَى مَدِينَتِهِ، لِيَكْتَتِبُوا فِيهَا. وَصَعِدَ يَوْسُفُ 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 لِتَلِدَ، فَوَلَدَتْ ابْنَهَا الْبِكْرَ، وَقَطَعَتْهُ، وَأَضْجَعَتْهُ فِي مِذْوَدٍ، لِأَنَّهُ لَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُمَا مَوْضِعٌ فِي قَاعَةِ الضُّيُوفِ. وَكَانَ فِي تِلْكَ النَّاحِيَةِ رُعَاةٌ يُقِيمُونَ فِي الْحُقُولِ، وَيَسْهَرُونَ فِي هَجَعَاتِ اللَّيْلِ عَلَى قُطْعَانِهِمْ. فَإِذَا بِمَلَاكِ الرَّبِّ قَدْ وَقَفَ بِهِمْ، وَمَجَّدَ الرَّبُّ أَشْرَقَ حَوْلَهُمْ، فَخَافُوا خَوْفًا عَظِيمًا. فَقَالَ لَهُمُ الْمَلَاكُ: «لَا تَخَافُوا! فَهَا أَنَا أَبَشِّرُكُمْ بِفَرَحٍ عَظِيمٍ يَكُونُ لِلشَّعْبِ كُلِّهِ، لِأَنَّهُ وَلَدَ لَكُمْ الْيَوْمَ مُخْلَصٌ، هُوَ الْمَسِيحُ الرَّبُّ، فِي مَدِينَةِ دَاوُدَ. وَهَذِهِ عَلَامَةٌ لَكُمْ: تَجِدُونَ طِفْلًا مُقْمَطًا، مُضْجَعًا فِي مِذْوَدٍ». «وَأَنْصَمَ فَجَاءَةً إِلَى الْمَلَاكِ جُمُحُورٌ مِنَ الْجُنُودِ السَّمَاوِيَّةِ يُسَبِّحُونَ اللَّهَ وَيَقُولُونَ: أَلْمَجْدُ لِلَّهِ فِي الْعُلَى، وَعَلَى الْأَرْضِ السَّلَامُ، وَالرَّجَاءُ الصَّالِحُ لِابْنِي الْبَشَرِ. وَلَمَّا أَنْصَرَفَ الْمَلَائِكَةُ عَنْهُمْ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ، قَالَ الرُّعَاةُ بَعْضُهُمْ لِبَعْضٍ: «هَيَّا بَنَاءُ، إِلَى بَيْتِ لَحْمَ، لِنَرَى هَذَا الْأَمْرَ الَّذِي حَدَّثَ، وَقَدْ عَلَّمَنَا بِهِ الرَّبُّ». «وَجَاؤُوا مُسْرِعِينَ، فَوَجَدُوا مَرْيَمَ وَيُوسُفَ، وَالطِّفْلَ مُضْجَعًا فِي الْمِذْوَدِ. وَلَمَّا رَأَوْهُ أَخْبَرُوا بِالْكَلَامِ الَّذِي قِيلَ لَهُمْ فِي شَأْنِ هَذَا الصَّبِيِّ. وَجَمِيعُ الَّذِينَ سَمِعُوا، تَعَجَّبُوا مِمَّا قَالَهُ لَهُمُ الرُّعَاةُ. أَمَّا مَرْيَمُ فَكَانَتْ تَحْفَظُ هَذِهِ الْأُمُورَ كُلَّهَا، وَتَتَأَمَّلُهَا فِي قَلْبِهَا. ثُمَّ غَادَ الرُّعَاةُ وَهُمْ يُمَجِّدُونَ اللَّهَ وَيُسَبِّحُونَهُ عَلَى كُلِّ مَا سَمِعُوا وَرَأَوْا، حَسْبَمَا قِيلَ لَهُمْ.