



Our Lady of Lebanon

Maronite Catholic Church

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Fourth Sunday of Pentecost Season

Jesus rejoices in The Spirit

June 05, 2016

Joy in life comes
from trusting God



From the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians 2:11-16

Brothers and Sisters,

Among human beings, who knows what pertains to a person except the spirit of the person that is within? Similarly, no one knows what pertains to God except the Spirit of God.

We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the things freely given us by God.

And we speak about them not with words taught by human wisdom, but with words taught by the Spirit, describing spiritual realities in spiritual terms.

Now the natural person does not accept what pertains to the Spirit of God, for to him it is foolishness, and he cannot understand it, because it is judged spiritually.

The spiritual person, however, can judge everything but is not subject to judgment by anyone.

For "who has known the mind of the Lord, so as to counsel him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

Praise be to God always!

From the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke 10:21-24

At that very moment Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said:

"I give you praise, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned
you have revealed them to the childlike.

Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will.

All things have been handed over to me by my Father.

No one knows who the Son is except the Father,
and who the Father is except the Son
and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him."

Turning to the disciples in private he said,

"Blessed are the eyes that see what you see.

For I say to you, many prophets and kings desired to see what you see,
but did not see it,
and to hear what you hear,
but did not hear it."

This is The Truth, Peace be with you.

Jesus rejoices in the Spirit

St. Luke, in today's Gospel, recorded that Jesus "rejoiced in the Holy Spirit", the only time that he does so. And He rejoices because of the overwhelming love He has at that moment for His heavenly Father, because He sees His divine will of salvation being accomplished. Just think how incredibly strong that love must have been, since it was enough to send Him to death on a cross.

What do we rejoice in? When we are happy, it is usually because something good has happened to us, or we have received something we wanted, it is usually more about us than God, who is the One who really gives us any good that we have.

We must be like children, Jesus said, if we are to enter the Kingdom of God – which means the presence of God. For the children everything in the world is wonder. Everyone has eyes and ears, but NOT everyone can see or hear. The sight is the same, the sound is the same, but the perception is different for each person.

Every Sunday Mass, the word of God is proclaimed. Everyone hears the same proclamation; everyone sees the same liturgy celebrated. But the effect is not the same for everyone. There are some who come out from the Mass the same way as they entered. But there are others who, after hearing the same readings, seeing the same liturgy, go home at peace with God, receiving enlightenment from God.

The Holy Spirit plays a big role in helping a person experience the revelation of God through seemingly ordinary events. But for the Holy Spirit to work, it needs openness from our part, a willingness to listen and make available our hearts for the Holy Spirit to start working and reveal what is hidden.

The danger for some of us is that we don't think God can surprise us with anything. "God" is beyond anything we can imagine!

When we control our lives too much, we don't allow the Lord to use the Holy Spirit to enter our lives giving us new perspective on how we can look at things. Let us trust in the Holy Spirit and take a chance! Let us ask Jesus today to teach us the secret of His Heart.

REMEMBER IT

**"I give you praise, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
for although you have hidden these things from the wise
and the learned you have revealed them to the childlike.**

Luke 10:21

Deacon's Corner

I believe that Love and Forgiveness are really the basis of Christ's walk here on earth. Every act of healing, or kindness, is based on forgiveness. There are so many examples of Jesus' forgiveness in the Bible that can be found just by opening it and reading the different parables that were written.

One of my favorites is the parable of the paralytic in Matthew 9: 1-8. Remember the friends of the paralytic brought him to Jesus and the crowd was so large that they had to lower him down to Jesus through a hole in the roof. Upon seeing this, Jesus said to him; "take heart My son, your sins are forgiven". Then Jesus seeing that the scribes said: "this man is blaspheming" and Jesus knowing their thoughts, said to the paralytic; "rise and walk, so that you know the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins". Then Jesus said; "rise, take up your bed and go home".

This happens in many of the miracles: Jesus forgave their sins before he cured their physical illnesses. So we too should ask for forgiveness of our sins for the sins we carry create the greatest affliction we can imagine. For without asking for God's forgiveness, the doors of Heaven remain closed to us. That is why in our lives, reconciliation is most important. For we know that God is always there to forgive our sins but we must ask, and we can do so by concluding reconciliation with a good Act of Contrition. If you forgot it, here it is:

"O my God I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins because of Thy just punishment, but most of all because they offend Thee my God who art all good and worthy of all my love. I firmly resolve with the help of Thy grace to sin no more and avoid the near occasion of sin. Amen."

Again, as I said last week, read the words carefully. Take each piece of the prayer and commit to being better tomorrow than we are today in avoiding sin. And we can do this by continuing to ask for God's help every day.

Mass Intentions for Next Sunday June 12, 2016

09:30 Mass: **The deceased of the Shaker Family** *(Req. by the Breit Family)*
Peter and Libby Guttas *(Req. by Sara Guttas)*

11:30 Mass: **Paul Struven** *(Rep. by Jeanette Struven)*

Pope encourages children to join Syria's children in praying for peace



(Vatican Radio)

At the conclusion of the May 29 Mass for the jubilee of deacons, Pope Francis delivered a brief Angelus address in which he greeted various groups gathered in St. Peter's Square and encouraged prayers for peace in Syria:

"Next Wednesday, June 1st, on the occasion of International Children's Day, the Christian communities of Syria, both Catholic and Orthodox, will together make a special prayer for peace, which will have children themselves as its protagonists," he said. "The Syrian children invite children from around the world to join their prayer for peace."

Francis' promotion of the event fell the day after giving a speech to children, which he centered on the heartbreaking story of a young Syrian girl who drowned at sea in an attempt to reach Europe, after fleeing the war with her family.

The joint Day of Prayer for Peace, sponsored by the Catholic charity Aid to the Church in Need, is one of several initiatives meant to promote peace in Syria.

MARHABA

مرحبا

Sometimes we forget the original blessings that came with the common greetings we still use today. It is part of our Maronite-Syriac Christian treasure of heritage.

The Real Meaning of “MARHABA”

“**Marhaba**” is an Arabic word used in the Middle East as “Hello”.
But most people don't know its source.

Marhaba comes from a Syriac (Aramaic, Assyrian) origin
and was used by the first Christians

Mar = Master or God

Haba = Love

Marhaba = God is love

مرحبا

إن كلمة "مرحبا" هي كلمة قديمة ذات أصول آرامية
استخدمها المسيحيون الأوائل من السريان وهي ذات شقين:
"مار" ومعناها سيد أو رب
و"حبا" ومعناها محبة
وهي عبارة تعني: "الله محبة"

So... MARHABA!!!

Mass Celebration



Commemoration of the Resurrection: P. 493
Anaphora of Saint John: P. 815

Sunday Readings



Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:11-16
Holy Gospel: Luke 10:21-24

Mass Intentions



09:30 AM

Fouad & Adele Boutros (*Req. by Boutros Family*)

11:30 AM

Aurelio De Jesus (*Req. by Richard and Imelda Allen*)

Tom & Nabiha Basile – Dr. Simon Basile & Chuck Basile

(*Req. by Mr. & Mrs Pierre & Ann Naffah*)

John Thomas Rogers - Frank and Yvonne Balesh Neumann –

Richard and Laurice Balesh Leonetti (*Req. by Salem Rogers*)

Schedules	9:30 A.M. Mass	11:30 A.M. Mass
Altar Servers	Joseph and George Estephan Andres Ballines, Leila Nehra	Youssif and Reem Hattar, Estifan Azzo, Cassandra chahoud, Ramez Sayegh
Readers	Rima Antoon	Rania Lutfallah (Arabic) Richard Allen (English)
Ushers	Nabil Zahra Frank Kermend	Tony Boumitri, William harb John Albani, Sam Sweillem

Announcements

✳ Christians in Syria

In help of the Christians in Syria, a fundraising event will be held in Alhambra Palace Restaurant, on Friday June 10 at 8:30 Pm. For more information please Call Mr. Pierre Azar (224-402-2000) or Dr. Renati Abboud (773-895-9202).

✳ Father's day

In honor of father's day, our parish will host a luncheon following the 11:30 Mass on Sunday June 19 and we invite all the fathers and their families in our parish to attend so we can thank you for your dedication to parish family. For more information, please contact Nakhoul and Manal Nehra.

✳ Lebanese Festival

The Lebanese Festival (September 9 -11, 2016) is our major Parish Event and volunteers are needed and are welcome on all committees. If you are interested in getting involved please contact Rima Antoon (630-881-7536), Jackie Haddad (773-882-7105) or the Parish Office (630-932-9640). Your support through monetary donations, volunteering your time, spreading the word and festival attendance will contribute to the greater good of Our Lady of Lebanon Church.

Let us remember

And pray for our Beloved Ones who died during the month of June

† Mansour Allen	† Genevieve Jage	† Sam Nasser	† Alphonse Salame
† Peter Guttas	† Raymond Kelly	† Edna Cecilia Neely	† George Thomas
† Libby Guttas	† Abe Kay	† Salameh Muhawi	† Bridget J. Toland
† Edward J. Jage			

COLLECTION

Sunday May 29, 2016: \$ 2,307.00

*"We make a living by what we get,
But we make a life by what we give."*
(Winston Churchill)