



St Raymond's Parish

One Family in Love and Joy



Issue 368

Visitation to Elizabeth

28 November 2021

THE GOSPEL

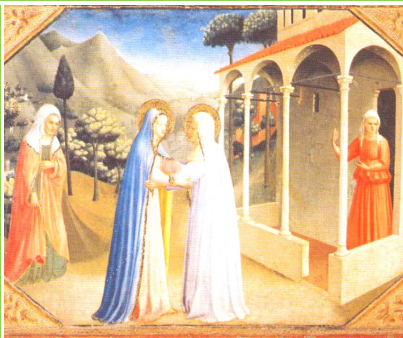
In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

Luke 1: 39-45

"A SPECIAL VISIT!" - Fr Sam Wehbe

Mary went to visit Elizabeth not to have a coffee, or because she was bored, or to gossip, but:

1. To help and serve the old lady Elizabeth (cooking, cleaning, gardening...) and she stayed there three months until the birth of John the Baptist. Mary is calling us not to forget to help and serve with love.
2. To share with Elizabeth what God has done in their lives, and about love and the fulfilment of his promises. Then they praised and glorified Him. In our visits to church, houses..., let's talk about God, not about money, work, politics, sport. Mary's visit caused joy to Elizabeth, to John and to Mary. Let us visit each other and carry Jesus and His love, peace, joy and praise of God. Amen.



Next Sunday:

Birth of John the Baptist

Gal 4:21-5:1 / Lk 1:57-66

ADORATION



Spend one hour
with Jesus.

Every Thursday at 7:00pm.

"Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me?"

THE EPISTLE

Brothers and sisters, Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, to the saints who are in Ephesus and are faithful in Christ Jesus: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

Eph 1: 1-14

St Saba – 5 December

St Saba was born of Christian parents in the year 439. When he was 17 years old, he entered the monastery where he grew in perfection through fasting and prayer. In 456, after spending ten years at the monastery, he received permission not to leave his hermitage at all. After several years, a number of disciples began to gather around him seeking the monastic life. He died on December 5, 522. May his prayers be with us.



WE THANK GOD FOR ST RAYMOND'S FEAST WEEK 2021.

THE PROFIT WAS \$26,008.40

(\$3933.40 PLATE COLLECTION, \$8,075 SWEET & HRISSI / \$14,000 RAFFLES)

THANK YOU SO MUCH TO ALL SPONSORS, VOLUNTEERS, DONORS & VISITORS . YOU ARE A GIFT FROM GOD & MAY JESUS REWARD YOU AND POUR UPON YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES HIS GRACES, HIS PROTECTION & HIS BLESSINGS.

May Jesus bless you and your families.

Let us pray for our sick: Linda, Roger, Rose Therese, Joe, Michael, John, Eva, Ray, Tony, Arthur, Rochelle, Simon, Hanna, Milad, Antoinette & all the sick.

Address: ST RAYMOND & ST JOSEPH THE WORKER MARONITE CATHOLIC CHURCH, 37 – 39 Wellington Road Auburn South NSW 2144

Parish Office: 41 Wellington Road Auburn South NSW 2144 | Ph 9643 0345 | M +61 417 171 737 | ABN:53 697 102 280

St Barbara– 4 December

When Barbara was a little girl, her father imprisoned her in a high tower. One day a priest passed under her tower. He was singing about Jesus Christ. Barbara heard him. She asked him about his song. He told her all about the Saviour. Barbara was overjoyed. "I love Jesus too," she cried. "I am a Christian." When her father heard this, he was furious. In those days, it was against the law to be a Christian. So this cruel father dragged his own daughter to the judge. "My daughter is a Christian," he cried. "She is not my daughter any longer." "What shall we do with her?" the judge asked. For he saw that Barbara was good and pure. "Do what the law orders," her father shouted. "Beat her until she is almost dead. Then chop off her head." So the soldiers carried out that cruel order. But suddenly they saw angels coming. The angels carried the soul of Barbara to heaven. May her prayers be with us. Amen.

Some of the popular traditions from the Feast of Barbara are:

- 1- People wear masks to hide their faces, remembering how Barbara used to hide from her father who wanted to kill her.
2. People eat boiled wheat with sugar. The wheat symbolises Barbara hiding in the fields of wheat; boiled wheat symbolises the persecution and suffering that she experienced; sugar symbolises Jesus "sweetening" the bitterness of her suffering and strengthening her in her faith.



الشَّهيدة بربارة - ٤ كانون الأول

ولدت القديسة بربارة سنة ٢٣٦. كان أبوها غنياً ووثنياً يكره المسيحيين. ماتت والدتها وهي صغيرة. كانت بربارة جميلة جداً وذكية فخاف عليها أبوها، فبنى لها قصراً عالي الأسوار ووضع لها خُدّاماً و حُرّاساً وأحضر لها أساتذة ليعلموها علوم ذلك العصر حتى تنشأ على حبّ آلهتهم. وكان بين خُدّامها أناس مسيحيون شرحوا لها الكتاب المقدس وعن بتولية العذراء مريم وجمال البتولية، فأمنت وإعتمدت وتناولت جسد الرب يسوع ودمه، ثمّ خصّصت بتوليتها للرب على مثال العذراء. طلبها كثيرون للزواج وكانت ترفضهم. أخبرت أباهما بأنها لا تريد أن تتزوج لأنها أصبحت مسيحية ونذرت نفسها للرب يسوع، فغضب غضباً شديداً خاصة بعد أن رأى بأنها قد حطّمت الأصنام في البيت ووضعت صليباناً بدلاً منها، فاستلّ سيفه ليقتلها. هربت منه فلحق بها عند صخرة كبيرة فانفتحت الصخرة وجازت بربارة فيها ثم أطبقت، ولما عرف أبوها مكانها أمسكها وجرّها من شعرها ووضعها في قفو مظلم. توفيت بربارة بقطع رأسها في أواخر القرن الثالث. صلاتها معنا. آمين. ومن التقاليد الشعبية في عيد البربارة:

- ١- يلبس الناس وجوه ليخفوا وجوههم مُتذكّرين كيف كانت بربارة تتخفى هرباً من والدها الذي لحقها ليقتلها.
- ٢- يأكل الناس القمح المسلوق وعليه السكر: ألقمح رمزاً إلى أن بربارة كانت تختبئ في حقول القمح؛ مسلوق رمزاً للعذابات والإضطهادات التي احتملتها؛ والسكر رمزاً إلى أنّ المسيح كان معها "يُحليّ" مرارة عذاباتها ويقوّي إيمانها وثباتها ويقودها إلى الملكوت معه في السماء.

Bishop's Corner—Year of St Joseph—Sunday of the Visitation to Elizabeth

Dear brothers and sisters,

We read on this Sunday the Gospel of the Visitation. At the word of the Angel that her cousin was pregnant, Mary sets out to help her before the birth of John the Baptist. She understands that the word of the Angel is not only to inform her, but to call her to help, therefore to love her cousin concretely. So, without any delay she leaves. Mary's heart is in the joy of service.

When she sees Mary, Elizabeth's soul and face are filled with joy, and the child leaped in her womb. The very words of Mary's cousin will be passed down through the ages: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb" (Lk 1:42). The Visitation is such a joyful event that it is part of our Joyful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary.

This is a real mystery! An explosion of deep joy for Mary who has just become a mother, through the grace and action of the Holy Spirit! It is a deep, intimate joy that is not revealed to the outside. Yet the mountains of Judea were filled with joy. Mary will not derive glory from it, but she will glorify the Lord, the Almighty, in her Magnificat. Such is the humility of Mary's heart!

This encounter between Mary and Elizabeth is joyful, yet marked with simplicity, humility, even discretion.

Friends, joy is inseparable from faith. "And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me?" (Lk 1:43). The joy of God and of Mary has spread throughout the world. If we open ourselves by faith to the constant action of God in our life, and become pilgrims with the Child Jesus, and with Mary who believed, and if we hold on to the strong and loving hand of Saint Joseph, we also become vessels of this joy in our world. As Christians, we should always carry within us the two dimensions of the faith: union with God and service to others. One remains incomplete without the other. The world will know we are Christians by our joy, by our love and by our service. On this Sunday, let us ask ourselves: do we really know how to welcome the Lord who makes himself present in our lives? Do we live our faith with joy? Do we spread this joy wherever we go, as Mary did? And when we are in the presence of the Lord, do we rejoice and praise, in the example of Elizabeth?

I wish you a Blessed Sunday!

+ Antoine-Charbel Tarabay

PARISH NOTICE BOARD

Services of the week

From Monday 29 to Friday 3 December: 5:30pm

Rosary, 6:00pm Mass

Thursday 2 December: 5:30pm Rosary, 6:00pm
Mass followed by adoration

Saturday 4 December: 5:30pm Rosary, 6:00pm Mass

Sunday 5 December - Birth of John the Baptist:

8:00am Arabic Mass

10:00am Eng / Arb Mass

Confessions: will be held Half an hour before and during Masses.

خدمات الأسبوع

من الإثنين ٢٩ تشرين الثاني إلى الجمعة ٣ كانون الأول: ٥:٣٠ مساءً مسيحية العذراء و ٦:٠٠ مساءً قَدَّاس

الأخميس ٢ كانون الأول: ٥:٣٠ مساءً مسيحية العذراء، ٦:٠٠ مساءً قَدَّاس يليه ساعة سجود

السبت ٤ كانون الأول: ٥:٣٠ مساءً مسيحية العذراء و ٦:٠٠ مساءً قَدَّاس

الأحد ٥ كانون الأول - أحد مولد يوحنا المعمدان:

٨:٠٠ صباحاً: قَدَّاس باللغة العربية

١٠:٠٠ صباحاً: قَدَّاس باللغة العربية والإنكليزية

الإعترافات: نصف ساعة قبل وخلال القداسات



Last week's collections

\$3,933.40

PARISH FINANCIALS

Amount Owning to the Bank \$11,300.56

Anyone wishing to donate, please find bank details below:

Bank of Sydney: **St Raymond's Parish**

BSB: 942 206 A/C: 1109719

Cleaning the House of God

Interested in helping to keep the House of God clean?

Please contact the office on 96430345



MASS BOOKINGS

Essential for **Saturday 6pm and Sunday 10am** Masses via the parish website: **www.straymondparish.org.au** whilst no bookings are required for Monday to Friday Masses.

Geneze, 40 day & 1 year Masses will be celebrated at a special times.

With Your Support, We Will Build Our New Parish

KEEP UP TO DATE:

Email: admin@straymondparish.org.au



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Saint Raymond's Maronite Parish Sydney



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For **Final Rites** at home or in hospital please call **Fr Sam on 0417171737**



Taking the payment responsibility of:

1. Teaching Choir & PowerPoint *Done - Thank you & God bless you*
2. The Mobile Phone Bill *Done - Thank you to Raymond & Georgette Daher*
3. Caltex Fuel Card (\$50 p/w)
4. E-Tag
5. Church Weekly Flowers - \$75 per week
6. Second Parish Office Rent for Pastoral Work - (\$480 per week)
7. Large garbage bin (\$40 per week)
8. Utilities (Gas, Electricity & Water) \$75 per week
9. Parish Priest Accommodation (\$125 per week)
10. Office Phone Bill+ Internet (\$100 per week)
11. Technical Network Maintenance . *Done - Thank you & God bless you*
12. Photocopier (\$100 per week)
13. Electricity Bills (\$600 per month)
14. Diocesan Levy (\$750 per week)
15. Cutting Grass (\$160 per month)

For Maronite Care services, or any questions, comments or concerns, please contact us directly at Maronite Care Office: **1300 627 227 (1300 MAR CAR)**



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May God Bless you always.



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عائلة واحدة بمحبة وفرح



٢٨ تشرين الثاني ٢٠٢١

أحد زيارة العذراء لأليصابات

عدد ٣٦٨

الرسالة

يا اخوتي، مِنْ بُولُس، رَسُولِ الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ بِمَشِيئَةِ
الله، إِلَى الْقَدِيسِينَ الَّذِينَ هُمْ فِي أَفْسُسَ وَالْأُمْنَاءِ فِي
الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ: أَلْتَعْمَهُ لَكُمْ وَالسَّلَامُ مِنَ اللَّهِ أَبِيْنَا
وَالرَّبِّ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ! تَبَارَكَ اللَّهُ أَبُو رَبَّنَا يَسُوعَ
الْمَسِيحِ، الَّذِي بَارَكَنَا بِكُلِّ بَرَكَهٍ رُوحِيَّةٍ فِي
السَّمَاوَاتِ فِي الْمَسِيحِ، فَإِنَّهُ اخْتَارَنَا فِيهِ قَبْلَ إِنْشَاءِ
العَالَمِ، لِنَكُونُ فِي حَضْرَتِهِ قَدِيسِينَ، لَا غَيْبَ فِيْنَا،
وَقَدْ سَبَقَ بِمَحَبَّتِهِ فَحَدَّدَنَا لِلْبُنُوَّةِ بِيَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ،
وَمِنْ أَجْلِهِ، بِحَسَبِ رِضَى مَشِيئَتِهِ، لِمَدَحِ تَجْدِ نِعْمَتِهِ
الَّتِي أَنْعَمَ بِهَا عَلَيْنَا فِي الْحَبِيبِ؛ وَفِيهِ لَنَا الْفِدَاءُ
بِدَمِهِ، أَيْ مَغْفِرَةُ الزَّلَّاتِ، بِحَسَبِ غِنَى نِعْمَتِهِ، الَّتِي
أَقَاصَاهَا عَلَيْنَا فِي كُلِّ حِكْمَةٍ وَفَهْمٍ؛ وَقَدْ عَرَفْنَا سِرَّ
مَشِيئَتِهِ، بِحَسَبِ رِضَا الَّذِي سَبَقَ فَجَعَلَهُ فِي
الْمَسِيحِ، لِيُحَقِّقَ تَذْبِيرَ مِلءِ الْأَزْمَنَةِ، فَيَجْمَعَ فِي
الْمَسِيحِ تَحْتَ رَأْسٍ وَاحِدٍ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ، مَا فِي
السَّمَاوَاتِ وَمَا عَلَى الْأَرْضِ؛ وَفِيهِ أَيْضًا اخْتَارَنَا
مِيرَاثًا لَهُ، وَقَدْ سَبَقَ فَحَدَّدَنَا بِحَسَبِ قَصْدِهِ، هُوَ
الَّذِي يَعْمَلُ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ بِقَضَاءِ مَشِيئَتِهِ، لِنَكُونُ مَدْحًا
لِمَجْدِهِ، نَحْنُ الَّذِينَ سَبَقْنَا فَجَعَلْنَا فِي الْمَسِيحِ
رَجَاءً نَا؛ وَفِيهِ أَنْتُمْ أَيْضًا، بَعْدَ أَنْ سَمِعْتُمْ كَلِمَةَ
الْحَقِّ، أَيْ إِنْجِيلَ خَلَاصِكُمْ، وَأَمَنْتُمْ، خُتِمْتُمْ بِالرُّوحِ
الْقُدُّسِ الْمَوْعُودِ بِهِ، وَهُوَ عُرْبُونُ مِيرَاثِنَا، لِفِدَاءِ شَعْبِهِ
الَّذِي افْتَنَاهُ، وَلِمَدَحِ تَجْدِهِ.

أف ١ : ١ - ١٤



الأحد القادم:

أحد مولد يوحنا المعمدان

أف ١ : ١ - ١٤ / لو ١ : ٣٩ - ٤٥

ساعة سجود:



كل يوم خميس الساعة ٧ مساءً.

عدد الأشخاص ما زال محدوداً لا ضرورة
للحجز "والتسجيل على الباب إلزامي".

**مُبَارَكَةٌ أَنْتِ فِي النِّسَاءِ،
وَمُبَارَكَةٌ ثَمَرَةُ بَطْنِكَ!
وَمَنْ أَيْنَ لِي هَذَا أَنْ تَأْتِي إِلَيَّ
أُمُّ رَيِّ؟**

الإنجيل

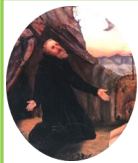
فِي تِلْكَ الْأَيَّامِ، قَامَتْ مَرْيَمُ وَذَهَبَتْ مُسْرِعَةً إِلَى الْجَبَلِ،
إِلَى مَدِينَةٍ فِي يَهُوذَا. وَدَخَلَتْ نَيْتَ زَكَرِيَّا، وَسَلَّمَتْ عَلَى
إِلِيسَابَات. وَلَمَّا سَمِعَتْ إِلِيسَابَاتُ سَلَامَ مَرْيَمَ، ارْتَكَضَ
الْجَنِينُ فِي بَطْنِهَا، وَأَمْتَلَأَتْ مِنَ الرُّوحِ الْقُدُّسِ. فَهَتَفَتْ
بِأَعْلَى صَوْتِهَا وَقَالَتْ: "مُبَارَكَةٌ أَنْتِ فِي النِّسَاءِ، وَمُبَارَكَةٌ
ثَمَرَةُ بَطْنِكَ! وَمَنْ أَيْنَ لِي هَذَا أَنْ تَأْتِي إِلَيَّ أُمُّ رَيِّ؟ فَهَذَا
مُنْذُ وَقَعِ صَوْتُ سَلَامِكِ فِي أُذُنِي، ارْتَكَضَ الْجَنِينُ
ابْتِهَاجًا فِي بَطْنِي! فَطُوبَى لِّلَّتِي آمَنَتْ أَنَّهُ سَيَكُونُ مَا قِيلَ لَهَا
مِنْ قِبَلِ الرَّبِّ!".

لو ١ : ٣٩ - ٤٥

"زيارة مُبَيَّنَّة" - أَخُوْرِي سَام وَهْبِ

ذهبت مريم تزرع إليصابات لا لتشرب قهوة، أو لأنها
ضجرانة، ولا لتفتح أحاديث عن الناس... بل زارتها:
١- لتخدمها وتساعدنها، لأن إليصابات عجوز
وحبلى بحاجة للمساعدة (طبخ، غسل، حقلة...)
وبقيت مريم لمدة ثلاثة أشهر حتى ولد يوحنا. تدعونا
مريم اليوم أن لا ننسى عمل المحبة والخدمة والمساعدة أبداً.
٢- ليتشاركا بالحديث عما صنعه الله في حياتهما،
وعن محبته وتحقيق عودوه وأخذتا تسبحانه وتعظمانه.
ونحن في زيارتنا (للكنيسة، لبعضنا).؟ لتتحدث عن
الله ومحبيته لا عن بعضنا وعن المال، البيوت، الشغل،
السياسة، والرياضة؟

زيارة مريم سببت فرح لإليصابات، وللجنين يوحنا،
ولمريم. فلنزرع بعضنا ونحمل في زيارتنا يسوع
والحب والمساعدة والفرح والسلام وتسبب الله.



مار سابا - ٥ كانون الأول

ولد القديس سابا في إقليم الكبادوك سنة ٤٣٩ من أبوين مسيحيين. هرب إلى البرية ودخل ديراً هناك ليعبد الله، فعاش حياة
الصلاة والطاعة وأصبح مثلاً للجميع. عاش في الدير عشر سنوات ثم توغل في الصحراء وعاش في مغارة ثم أعاده البطريرك إلى
ديره وعمله بالرغم من إعتذار سابا عن ذلك وإدعائه بقلّة الدراية في تدبير أمور رهبانه. أما هو فلوداعته وتواضعه وافق وبقي
يسهر على الرهبان. إمتاز في حياته بالوداعة والتواضع والفطنة، وكان شفوفاً على القريب، خادماً للضعيف والغريب، كثير الإماتات والأصوام
ولذلك منحه الله صنع العجائب. رقد القديس سابا في ٥ كانون الأول سنة ٥٢٢. فلتكن صلاته معنا.