



'He on whom you see  
the Spirit descend  
and remain,  
this is he who baptizes  
with the Holy Spirit.'



مَنْ تَرَى الرُّوحَ يَنْزِلُ  
وَيَسْتَقِرُّ عَلَيْهِ، هُوَ الَّذِي  
يُعَمِّدُ بِالرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ.

**SUNDAY MASSES: at 11:00 am****Sun. January 11<sup>th</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Epiphany**

✠ For Hanna Youssef Youssef offered  
by Mr. & Mrs. Bakhos Sassine

**Sun. January 18<sup>th</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Epiphany**

✠ For Michel Daher by his wife Julia & family.

**WEEKDAY MASSES: @ 6:00 pm Sat. @ 5:00 pm**

**Tues. Jan 13 Joseph Sleiman** Mike & Marie Rizkallah

**Wed. Jan 14 Joseph Sleiman** Michel Aouad

**Thur. Jan 15 Feast of St. Anthony**

Mass, renewal of the vows of the Maronite Monks  
of the Congregation of the O.A.M. in Ontario.

✠ For the Intentions of all named Antonios, Antoine,  
Anthony, Antoinette... etc.

**Fri. Jan 16 Joseph Sleiman** Camille Melkie

**Sat. Jan. 17** المشتركون بحسنات السبت

1 Year Memorial for Tony Lahoud by the family.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

Jan. 4 \$ 1014.00 Hall \$ 400.00

**SICKNESS:** We pray for the sick in our Parish. God grant them a speedy recovery. Persons unable to attend Mass, please contact your pastor for Holy Communion.



**ENVELOPES 2009** are in the Church corridor. Please don't forget to take your box home. Thank you for your continued support! \* **Please** note if

you see any errors in your address let us know by contacting the Church office. **If** you don't have an envelope number and would like one, please contact the office. Thank you. ☎ 972-0761

**FIRST COMMUNION:** Children in **grade 2** this year wishing to have 1st Communion in our Parish are asked to sign their name on the Bulletin Board.

**YOUTH GROUP:** Any youth interested in joining the youth group are asked to sign their name and telephone number on the bulletin board.

**Meditation**

By the power of the Spirit, John the Baptist recognized Jesus as "*the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!...*" He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit" (John 1:29,33). John understood that Jesus had come not only to cleanse us of our sin, but to baptize us—immerse us—in the power and life of the Holy Spirit.

**Imagine** someone completely underwater. That person is 100 percent wet—in a sense, "at one" with the water. Similarly, baptism with the Holy Spirit means an immersion into the divine life in which we are completely soaked in the life of God. We receive the Holy Spirit when we are baptized, but it is as we mature over time that we can become immersed in the Spirit. Like a field absorbing fresh spring rains, we can continue to soak ourselves in the Spirit's presence, absorbing more and more of the Spirit's life. As the rain soaks into the ground, the water reaches the roots and nourishes all the trees and flowers in the field.

**When** we invite Jesus to come more deeply into our lives, we allow the Holy Spirit to rain down on us. Initially, he covers us with his life and love. But over a period of time—indeed, over the course of our whole lives—the Spirit can reach ever deeper into our hearts. Just as rain comes regularly and nourishes the field, the Spirit wants to come into our hearts again and again to nourish us with Jesus' healing and purifying love.

**Accepting** Jesus into our hearts is only the beginning of our journey with him. Every day, God invites us to soak up more of his life. Set aside some time every day to pray and read scripture. Ask Jesus to reveal his heart to you and to fill you with his love. Allow him to give you more and more of his Spirit as you grow toward his heavenly likeness.

*"Jesus, I want to know the fullness  
of the Holy Spirit.*

*Come and lead me through my days  
and show me your glory.*

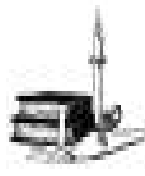
*Every day, may I long for more of you."*

--The Word Among Us

# Sunday Readings

٢ قور ١٠/١-١١

## 2 Corinthians 10: 1-11



I, Paul, myself entreat you, by the meekness and gentleness of Christ--I who am humble when face to face with you, but bold to you when I am away!-- I beg of you that when I am present I may not have to show boldness with such confidence as I count on showing

against some who suspect us of acting in worldly fashion. For though we live in the world we are not carrying on a worldly war, for the weapons of our warfare are not worldly but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every proud obstacle to the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, being ready to punish every disobedience, when your obedience is complete. Look at what is before your eyes. If any one is confident that he is Christ's, let him remind himself that as he is Christ's, so are we. For even if I boast a little too much of our authority, which the Lord gave for building you up and not for destroying you, I shall not be put to shame. I would not seem to be frightening you with letters. For they say, "His letters are weighty and strong, but his bodily presence is weak, and his speech of no account." Let such people understand that what we say by letter when absent, we do when present.

## John 1:29-34

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, for he was before me.' I myself did not know him; but for this I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John bore witness, "I saw the Spirit descend as a dove from heaven, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him; but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."

## Next Sunday

John 1: 35-42 2 Corinthians 4: 5-15

أَنَا بُولُسُ نَفْسِي أَنَا شَدُّكُمْ بَوْدَاعَةِ الْمَسِيحِ  
وَحِلْمِهِ، أَنَا الْمُتَوَاضِعُ بَيْنَكُمْ عِنْدَمَا أَكُونُ  
حَاضِرًا، وَالْجَرِيءُ عَلَيْكُمْ عِنْدَمَا أَكُونُ غَائِبًا.

وَأَرْجُو أَلَّا أُجْبَرَ عِنْدَ حُضُورِي أَنْ أَكُونَ جَرِيئًا، بِالثِّقَةِ الَّتِي لِي  
بِكُمْ، وَالَّتِي أَنْوِي أَنْ أَجْرُوَ بِهَا عَلَى الَّذِينَ يَحْسِبُونَ أَنَّنَا نَسْلُكُ  
كَأَنَّا جَسَدِيَّينَ. أَجَلْ، إِنَّنَا نَحْيَا فِي الْجَسَدِ، وَلَكِنَّا لَا  
نُحَارِبُ كَأَنَّا جَسَدِيَّينَ؛ لِأَنَّ أَسْلِحَةَ جِهَادِنَا لَيْسَتْ جَسَدِيَّةً، بَلْ  
هِيَ قَادِرَةٌ بِاللَّهِ عَلَى هَدْمِ الْحُصُونِ الْمَنِيعَةِ؛ فَإِنَّا نَهْدِمُ  
الْأَفْكَارَ الْخَاطِئَةَ، وَكُلَّ شِمُوخٍ يَرْتَفِعُ ضِدَّ مَعْرِفَةِ اللَّهِ، وَنَأْسِرُ  
كُلَّ فِكْرٍ لَطَاعَةِ الْمَسِيحِ. وَنَحْنُ مُسْتَعِدُّونَ أَنْ نُعَاقِبَ كُلَّ  
عُصْيَانٍ، مَتَى كَمَلْتُمْ طَاعَتَكُمْ. إِنَّكُمْ تَحْكُمُونَ عَلَى الْمَظَاهِرِ!  
إِنْ كَانَ أَحَدٌ وَاتَّقَا بِنَفْسِهِ أَنَّهُ لِلْمَسِيحِ، فَلْيُفَكِّرْ فِي نَفْسِهِ أَنَّهُ كَمَا  
هُوَ لِلْمَسِيحِ كَذَلِكَ نَحْنُ أَيْضًا. فَإِنَّا لَا أَخْجَلُ إِنْ بَالَعْتَ بَعْضَ  
السُّبَالِغَةِ فِي الْاِفْتِخَارِ بِالسُّلْطَانِ الَّذِي وَهَبَهُ الرَّبُّ لَنَا لِبَنِيَانِكُمْ لَا  
لِهَدْمِكُمْ. وَلَا أُرِيدُ أَنْ أَظْهَرَ كَأَنِّي أَخَوْفُكُمْ بِرِسَائِلِي؛ لِأَنَّ بَعْضًا  
مِنْكُمْ يَقُولُونَ: "رِسَائِلُهُ شَدِيدَةٌ اللَّهْجَةَ وَقُوَّةً، أَمَّا حُضُورُهُ  
الشَّخْصِيُّ فَهَزِيلٌ، وَكَلَامُهُ سَخِيفٌ!". فَلْيَعْلَمْ مِثْلُ هَذَا الْقَائِلِ  
أَنَّنَا كَمَا نَحْنُ بِالْكَلامِ فِي الرِّسَائِلِ، عِنْدَمَا نَكُونُ غَائِبِينَ، كَذَلِكَ  
نَحْنُ أَيْضًا بِالْفِعْلِ، عِنْدَمَا نَكُونُ حَاضِرِينَ.

يوحنا ١/٢٩-٣٤

فِي الْغَدِ رَأَى يُوحَنَّا يَسُوعَ مُقْبِلًا إِلَيْهِ فَقَالَ: "هَذَا هُوَ حَمَلُ اللَّهِ  
الَّذِي يَرْفَعُ خَطِيئَةَ الْعَالَمِ. هَذَا هُوَ الَّذِي قُلْتُ فِيهِ: يَأْتِي وَرَائِي  
رَجُلٌ قَدْ صَارَ قُدَّامِي، لِأَنَّهُ كَانَ قَبْلِي. وَأَنَا مَا كُنْتُ أَعْرِفُهُ،  
لَكِنِّي جِئْتُ أَعْمَدُ بِالْمَاءِ لِكَيْ يَظْهَرَ هُوَ لِإِسْرَائِيلَ". وَشَهِدَ  
يُوحَنَّا قَائِلًا: "رَأَيْتُ الرُّوحَ نَازِلًا كَحَمَامَةٍ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ، ثُمَّ اسْتَقَرَّ  
عَلَيْهِ. وَأَنَا مَا كُنْتُ أَعْرِفُهُ، لَكِنَّ الَّذِي أَرْسَلَنِي أَعْمَدُ بِالْمَاءِ  
هُوَ قَالَ لِي: مَنْ تَرَى الرُّوحَ يَنْزِلُ وَيَسْتَقِرُّ عَلَيْهِ، هُوَ الَّذِي يُعْمَدُ  
بِالرُّوحِ الْقُدُّوسِ. وَأَنَا رَأَيْتُ وَشَهِدْتُ أَنَّ هَذَا هُوَ ابْنُ اللَّهِ."