



OUR LADY OF THE CEDARS CHURCH

A MELKITE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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REV. ROGER BOUCHER - Weekend Ministry

REV. DEACON THOMAS MOSES

*"Enter the Church and repent ... for here is the physician, not the judge.
Here one is not investigated, one receives remission of sins." (St. John Chrysostom)*

May 19, 2019

The Fourth Sunday After Great and Holy Pascha

The Commemoration of the Holy Hiromartyr Patrick, Bishop of Prussia in Bythinia,
and his Companions, Acacios, Menander, and Polyenos

THE SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN

Parish Advisory & Finance Council:

KEN MONTY (PRESIDENT), ROBERT ANDERSON, ROBIN ANDERSON, JOHN CULLEN,
MARTHA DAGHER, TIM ERMATINGER, KEN KOMISAREK, MARYLOU LAZOS, JESSICA LOMANNO,
MAURICE PARÉ, RAFAEL PESCHIERA, PAUL ST. GERMAIN, AND JOHN SIWIK

Parish Secretary: ROBIN ANDERSON

Cedars Society President: MARYLOU LAZOS

Sunday School Coordinator: MARTHA DAGHER

N.A.M.Y. Advisor: ROBIN ANDERSON

HOLY MYSTERY OF CONFESSION: Before or after any service, or by appointment;

HOLY MYSTERY OF CHRISTIAN ILLUMINATION: Please contact the clergy in advance to arrange for the required baptismal instructions;

HOLY MYSTERY OF CROWNING: At least six months prior to the proposed wedding, please contact the clergy to arrange for the required interview and instructions;

HOLY MYSTERY OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Please contact the pastor at any time when this sacrament is needed;

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK: Anyone too infirm to attend our services may receive Communion in the home. Please advise the clergy whenever this sacrament is needed.

THE ORDER OF TODAY'S LITURGY

The Troparion of the Resurrection (4th Tone) Page 52

The Troparion of Mid-Pentecost (8th Tone):

At the middle point of this festive season, give my thirsty soul to drink of the waters of true worship. For You called out to all men, "Whoever is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink!" O Christ God, Fountain of Life, glory to You!

The Troparion of the Dormition of the Theotokos (1st Tone): Page 16

Kondakion of Pascha (2nd Tone)

Though You went down in the tomb O Immortal One, You overthrew the power of Hades and rose victorious, O Christ God. You greeted the ointment-bearing women saying, "Rejoice!" You gave peace to Your Apostles, and to those who had fallen, resurrection.

THE PROKIMENON:

HOW GREAT ARE YOUR WORKS, O LORD!

IN WISDOM YOU HAVE WROUGHT THEM ALL!

Bless the Lord, O my soul! You are very great indeed, O Lord, my God!

Today's Readings: Acts 11: 19-30 and John 4: 5-42

Hirmos of Pascha (1st Tone)

The angel cried out to the one who is full of grace: "Hail, O Immaculate Virgin! Hail again! For your Son is risen from the tomb on the third day!" Shine! Shine, O New Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord has shown upon you. Rejoice and be glad, O Sion, and you O Pure One, O Mother of God, exalt in the resurrection of your Son.

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday (May 18) 4:30 PM:

**For the repose of Fred Coriarty (71st), Lamia Solomon (34th), John Jadda (61st),
Joseph Nasser (5th), Freda George (28th), and Peter Abood (39th)**

Sunday, (May 19) 10:30 AM:

**For the repose of Micheline Nicolas Nassoura
(40 Day Memorial),
by her brother Pierre Nassoura,
her sister Marcelle Nassoura, and Families**

Next Saturday, (May 25) 4:30 PM:

**For the repose of Ernest Elias (16th), Richard Thomas (2nd), Gertrude Beadle (6th),
Ned Kfoury (59th), Eassa Maloley (36th), and Michael Baroody (58th),**

Next Sunday (May 26) 10:30 AM:

**For the repose of our former pastor, Fr. Joseph Dagher (22nd Anniversary)
For the repose of our former pastor, Fr. Dominic Ledbetter (23rd Anniversary)**

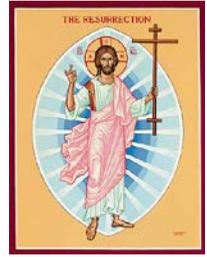


TROPARION OF PASCHA

Christ is risen from the dead, and by His death He has trampled upon Death, and has given life to those were in the tombs!

Christos Anesti ek nekron thanato thanaton bateesas keh tis en dees mmimasi zo-een kharisamenos!

Al-Massehu-qama min bayn il-amwat wa wati al-mawta bil-mawt wa wahab al hayat lil lazeena fil qubor!



The Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

OUR SAVIOUR, THE LORD JESUS, the Source of Life, came to the well of Jacob, Father of the Patriarchs, and asked a drink of water from the hands of a Samaritan woman. But she refused to serve Him, saying that Jews had no dealings with Samaritans. But the wise Creator changed her heart through the sweetness of His words so that she sought from Him the words of everlasting life; and having received it, she cried out and proclaimed to all: “Come and see the Knower of Secrets, God Himself who has appeared in the flesh so that mankind may be saved by Him!” -from *Matins*

Today was the final day of the Sunday School year! Many thanks to the teachers, the parents, and the students for another great year!

Mahrajan 2019 News!

It is time to begin food preparation for Mahrajan 2019! We need help in the kitchen for food preparation on the evenings that follow, 6:00 PM start time for each evening.

If you grow or gather grape leaves, please help us keep our costs down by donating them to the Mahrajan. Grape leaves will be needed for the July 9 food prep session, so please wash and pack them in your freezer as they become available. We need about 3,000 grape leaves so keep us in mind as the season approaches.

May 21	Kibbee	June 11	Chicken Kabobs
May 28	Beef Kabobs	June 18	Ghrybe & Nut Maamoul
June 4	Lamb Kabobs	July 9	Grape Leaves

Attendance Last Sat. 4:30 PM: 41 Sun. 10:30 AM: 84

Last Weekend's Collection: \$1,200.⁰⁰

The average Sunday envelope donation: \$34.¹⁴

The balance on our mortgage is: \$65,580.¹⁴

SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

Wed. May 22	7:00 PM	Divine Liturgy: <i>offered for the deceased members of the parish</i>
Sat., May 25	4:30 PM	Divine Liturgy: The Sunday of the Man Born Blind
Sun., May 26	9:45 AM	Sunday Orthros
Sun., May 26	10:30 AM	Divine Liturgy: The Sunday of the Man Born Blind

The Samaritan Woman: The Holy Martyr Photina

The Samaritan name of the woman, whose encounter with Christ at Jacob's Well is commemorated today, is not known. However in the tradition of the Church she is remembered as St. Photina (Svetlana) the Samaritan Woman, which means "the enlightened one." Remembered with her are her sons Victor (named Photinus) and Joses; and her sisters Anatola, Phota, Photis, Paraskeva, Kyriake; Nero's daughter Domnina; and Sebastian, all of whom suffered martyrdom.

During the time of the emperor Nero (54-68), who displayed excessive cruelty against Christians, St Photina lived in Carthage with her younger son Joses and fearlessly preached the Gospel there. Her eldest son Victor fought bravely in the Roman army against barbarians, and was appointed military commander in the city of Attalia (Asia Minor). Later, Nero called him to Italy to arrest and punish Christians.

Sebastian, an official in Italy, said to St Victor, "I know that you, your mother and your brother, are followers of Christ. As a friend I advise you to submit to the will of the emperor. If you inform on any Christians, you will receive their wealth. I shall write to your mother and brother, asking them not to preach Christ in public. Let them practice their faith in secret."

St Victor replied, "I want to be a preacher of Christianity like my mother and brother." Sebastian said, "O Victor, we all know what woes await you, your mother and brother." Then Sebastian suddenly felt a sharp pain in his eyes. He was dumbfounded, and his face was somber. For three days he lay there blind, without uttering a word. On the fourth day he declared, "The God of the Christians is the only true God." St Victor asked why Sebastian had suddenly changed his mind. Sebastian replied, "Because Christ is calling me." Soon he was baptized, and immediately regained his sight. St Sebastian's servants, after witnessing the miracle, were also baptized.

Reports of this reached Nero, and he commanded that the Christians be brought to him at Rome. Then the Lord Himself appeared to the confessors and said, "Fear not, for I am with you. Nero, and all who serve him, will be vanquished." The Lord said to St Victor, "From this day forward, your name will be Photinus, because through you, many will be enlightened and will believe in Me." The Lord then told the Christians to strengthen and encourage St Sebastian to persevere until the end.

All these things, and even future events, were revealed to St Photina. She left Carthage in the company of several Christians and joined the confessors in Rome.



At Rome the emperor ordered the saints to be brought before him and he asked them whether they truly believed in Christ. All the confessors refused to renounce the Savior. Then the emperor gave orders to smash the martyrs' finger joints. During the torments, the confessors felt no pain, and their hands remained unharmed.

Nero ordered that Sts Sebastian, Photinus and Joses be blinded and locked up in prison, and St Photina and her five sisters Anatola, Phota, Photis, Paraskeva and Kyriake were sent to the imperial court under the supervision of Nero's daughter Domnina. St Photina converted both Domnina and all her servants to Christ. She also converted a sorcerer, who had brought her poisoned food to kill her.

Three years passed, and Nero sent to the prison for one of his servants, who had been locked up. The messengers reported to him that Sts Sebastian, Photinus and Joses, who had been blinded, had completely recovered, and that people were visiting them to hear their preaching, and indeed the whole prison had been transformed into a bright and fragrant place where God was glorified.

Nero then gave orders to crucify the saints, and to beat their naked bodies with straps. On the fourth day the emperor sent servants to see whether the martyrs were still alive. But, approaching the place of the tortures, the servants fell blind. An angel of the Lord freed the martyrs from their crosses and healed them. The saints took pity on the blinded servants, and restored their sight by their prayers to the Lord. Those who were healed came to believe in Christ and were soon baptized.

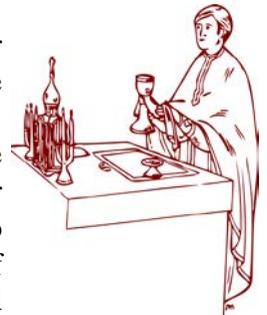
These holy Saints all endured unspeakable tortures at the order of the Emperor Nero and received the crown of martyrdom. As for St. Photina herself, after suffering many cruel torments, she was locked up in prison for twenty days.

After this Nero had her brought to him and asked if she would now relent and offer sacrifice to the idols. St Photina spit in the face of the emperor, and laughing at him, said, "O most impious of the blind, you profligate and stupid man! Do you think me so deluded that I would consent to renounce my Lord Christ and instead offer sacrifice to idols as blind as you?"

Hearing such words, Nero gave orders to again throw the martyr down the well, where she surrendered her soul to God (+ ca. 66).

Vocation View

In the Gospel, Jesus tells His apostles to see the need for harvesting, for evangelizing people, bringing them to know and experience God, as He had just done with the Samaritan woman. Touched by Christ, she went on to evangelize those of her own community. In the Acts, the Apostles are concerned to find men to keep up this ministry, to care for new peoples, to form new communities. Our Bishop is concerned today to find men to serve in the priesthood to carry on this vital work in the life of the Church. Have you heard the call? Are you aware of others who should be encouraged to it? Pray for an increase of laborers for the harvest.



May 21: Sts. Constantine and Helena, Enlighteners of the Empire



THE CHURCH HAS USED MANY TERMS to describe the saints. Some of these are common to all the historic Churches, such as apostles or martyrs. The Eastern Churches also speak of some saints as “Equal to the Apostles,” believers who were responsible for bringing the Gospel to significant groups of people or nations throughout the world. The first of them were St Mary Magdalene, who announced the Resurrection to the dispirited followers of Jesus, St Photini, the Samaritan woman who converted her town, and St Thecla, the first woman martyr.

The Church has called Equal to the Apostles those who have been responsible for bringing the Gospel to previously pagan territories, such as Ss Cyril and Methodius and St Clement of Ochrid, who evangelized the Slavs of Moravia and Macedonia during the ninth century. An unlikely evangelist given this title is St Nino, the enlightener of Georgia. The Roman historian Tyrranius Rufinus (c345-410) recounts her story as told him by a Georgian prince. Nino, taken captive during the early fourth century, came to the attention of the queen when a sick child was healed by her prayers. She eventually brought the queen and then the king to Christ. Mass conversions followed.

Among the Equals to the Apostles honored in the Eastern Churches are those rulers who first established or championed the Church in their realms. Chief among them are Ss Constantine and Helena whose feast is observed on May 21.

The Conversion of Constantine

Son of a pagan father and a mother perhaps already sympathetic to Christianity (Helena), Constantine followed a military career like his father, Constans, who became senior emperor in the West in AD 305. Constantine was then given the military rule of Britain, Gaul and Spain. When Constans died in 306, Constantine’s troops acclaimed him as his father’s successor. Constantine defeated one challenger after another until becoming sole emperor of both East and West by 324.

During his struggle for control of Rome, Constantine had the experience which would transform his future and that of the empire as well. In 312, on the eve of a decisive battle for the city of Rome, Constantine had a dream or vision leading him to inscribe the monogram of Christ on his soldiers’ shields and standards. His biographer, the Church historian Eusebius tells that the image was accompanied by the message, “With this sign, you will conquer.”

Constantine's troops won the battle and Constantine began the religious transformation of the Roman Empire.

The next year Constantine and Licinius, who controlled part of the Eastern Empire, agreed on a policy of religious toleration, ending the persecution of Christians. Constantine's victories in the East – and his own adoption of the Christian faith – assured the final end of persecution and the triumph of Christianity as the leading religion in his empire.

Empire and Church Are Transformed

After becoming sole ruler of the empire Constantine embarked on a series of actions which transformed both empire and Church. Most significantly he abolished the division of eastern and western empires, unifying his realm with a new single monetary system as well. He established a new capital, the New Rome, on the site of the ancient town of Byzantium, thus minimizing the influence of the old pagan elite and the shrines with which the Old Rome abounded. The New Rome would eventually take on its founder's name as Constantinople.

In 325 Constantine embarked on a program to unify the Church as well. He summoned bishops from all over the empire to the First Ecumenical Council (Nicea I) to give it a universally recognized faith and structure. This council would produce the first part of the Symbol of Faith which we recite at every Liturgy to this day. It would also determine the regional primacies of Rome, Alexandria and Antioch as well as unify the date for celebrating Pascha. Later councils would complete the creed and establish the five major primacies of Rome, Constantinople, Alexandria, Antioch and Jerusalem.

Focus on the Holy Land

Besides erecting a great church (St Peter's) in Old Rome, Constantine strove to renew Palestine as a "Holy Land." After the Jewish revolt in AD 135 the city had been closed to Jews by the Emperor Hadrian and maintained as a Roman city, Aelia Capitolina. Hadrian had built a Roman temple over the site of the Lord's tomb and maintained pagan worship there.

Constantine appointed his mother Helena as Empress, and put the imperial treasury at her disposal to adorn the Christian holy places. In 326-328 Helena journeyed to Palestine where she built the Churches of the Nativity in Bethlehem and the Eleona on Jerusalem's Mount of Olives to commemorate Christ's ascension. She had Hadrian's temple destroyed and began the construction of the Church of the Resurrection. During the excavation three crosses were unearthed and, according to fourth century sources, Helena identified the Lord's cross when a sick woman was healed by touching it. Helena brought part of the cross to Old Rome and enshrined it in her palace which is now the Basilica of the Holy Cross.

St Helena is also credited with establishing churches on Mount Sinai (site of St Catherine's Monastery), and in Cyprus (site of the Stavrovouni Monastery). She reposed in 328/329 and was buried near St. Peter's in Old Rome.

Other rulers celebrated as Equals of the Apostles are St Boris I, ninth century ruler of Bulgaria and Ss Vladimir and Olga, tenth century rulers of Kievan Rus, who spearheaded the Christianization of their respective lands.

Please remember to pray for the health and protection of Genevieve Allen, Donna Andruskiewicz, Olivia Aragon, Elizabeth Ashooh, Elsie Ashooh, Erin Baroody, Michael Baroody, Henry Bilodeau, Anthony Blando, Helena Burkush, Fr. Michael Carl, Danielle Caron, Michael Cavanaugh, Meghan Connors, Sarah Cullen, Theresa Cullen, Sarah Dagher, Bishop John Elya, Sher Farrow, Julie Fregeau, Peter Fregeau, John Gallagher, Marguerite Ganem, Mary Ann Garvey, Loretto Gauvin, Bonnie Gomez, Gail Fisher, Laurice Haddad, Nick Haddad, Lucille Harper, Laura Jorba, Virginia Kearney, Leila Khoury, Shirley Lanoue, Susan Latvis, Diana Lebel, Haley Lesmerises, Ramona Matias, Susan Merrill, Maria Moser, Joanne Nader, Mimi Nasser, Alfred Nasr, Afef Nasr, Raymond Nehme, Samira Nehme, Stefan Notter, Steven O'Leary, Ellen Osgood, Alice Paymant, Marco Enrique Peschiera, MaryJo Pond, Ellen Powell, Sheila Quinn, Daniel Quintal, Deborah Roberts, Julia Rose, Adam Rubin, Fr. Andre St. Germain, Kara Salvas, Barbara Schultz, Raymond Sherburne, Lody Slaybe, Tarrant Smith, Iris Angelina Velasquez, Catherine Waldron, George Webber, Martha Webber, Kathy Wise, and Marilyn Whitmore.

If you are visiting our church, our parish family is delighted to welcome you here! Please give us the chance to get to know you by joining us for some coffee, pastry, and conversation in the church hall following the Divine Liturgy. If you would like to know more about the Melkite Catholic Church, check out the brochure entitled *“Welcome to this Holy House,”* located on the table in the back of the church.



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<p>THE STEPHEN GROUP</p> <p>814 Elm Street, Suite 309 Manchester, NH 03101 Office 603.625.8825 Cell 603.419.9592</p> <p>JOHN STEPHEN <i>Managing Partner</i> jstephen@stephengroupinc.com www.stephengroupinc.com</p>		 <p>Stephen LAW GROUP PLC</p> <p>Robert Stephen, Attorney at Law 582 Chestnut Street Manchester, NH 03104 phone 603-663-1007 www.StephenLaw.com</p>
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Today's Readings:

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (11: 19-30)

In those days when the disciples were dispersed by the persecution that had broken out over Stephen, they went all the way to Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to none but the Jews. But some of them were Cypriots and Cyreneans, and as they reached Antioch, they were speaking to the Greeks, announcing the Good News of the Lord Jesus. And the Lord's hand was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord.

And word concerning them came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem and they sent Barnabas as far as Antioch. And when he got there and saw the grace of God, he rejoiced and encouraged them all to stay in the Lord with steadfast hearts: for he was a good man, and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great multitude was added to the Lord. And Barnabas traveled to Tarsus, looking for Saul, and when he found him, he brought him back to Antioch. And it happened that for a whole year they took part in the church meetings and taught a large number of people, and it was in Antioch that the disciples were first called "Christians."

Now in those days some prophets from Jerusalem came down to Antioch, and one of them named Agabus got up and revealed through the Spirit that a dire famine was threatening the whole world — and it occurred during the reign of Emperor Claudius. And so, the disciples decided to send relief to the brethren living in Judea — each one as much as he could afford — and this they did, sending it to the presbyters by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

الرسالة (أعمال الرسل 11: 19 - 30)

في تلك الأيام، لما تبدد الرسل من أجل الضيق الذي حصل بسبب استفانس، إجتازوا الي فينيقية وقيرس وانطاكية، وهم لا يكلمون أحداً بالكلمة إلا اليهود فقط. ولكن قوماً منهم كانوا قبرسيين وقبروانيين. فهؤلاء لما دخلوا انطاكية أخذوا يكلمون اليونانيين، مبشرين بالرب يسوع. وكانت يد الرب معهم، فأمن عدد كثير ورجعوا الى الرب. فبلغ خبر ذلك الى مسامع الكنيسة التي بأورشليم، فأرسلوا برنابا ليجتاز الى انطاكية. فلما اقبل ورأى نعمة الله فرح، ووعظهم كلهم بأن يثبتوا في الرب بعزيمة القلب. لأنه كان رجلاً صالحاً وممثلناً من الروح القدس ومن الايمان. فانضم الى الرب جمع كثير. ثم خرج برنابا الى طرسوس في طلب شاول، ولما وجدته أتى به الى انطاكية. وتردداً معاً سنة كاملة في هذه الكنيسة، وعلماً جمعاً كثيراً. وفي انطاكيةً أولاً دعى التلاميذ مسيحيين. وفي تلك الايام اندر أنبياء من أورشليم الى انطاكية. فقام واحد منهم أسمه أغابوس، فأنبأ بالروح ان ستكون مجاعة شديدة في جميع المسكونة. وقد وقع ذلك في أيام كلوديوس. فعزم التلاميذ أن يرسلوا بحسب ما تيسر لكل واحد منهم خدمة الى الاخوة الساكنين في اليهودية. ففعلوا ذلك وبعثوا الى الشيوخ على أيدي برنابا وشاول.

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the Evangelist (4:5-42)

At that time Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sichar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, wearied as he was from the journey, was sitting at the well. It was about the sixth hour.

There came a Samaritan woman to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me to drink," for his disciples had gone away into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman therefore said to him, "How is it that you, although you are a Jew, ask drink of me, who am a Samaritan woman?" For Jews do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus answered and said to her, "If you only knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give me to drink,' you perhaps would have asked of him, and he would have given you living water."

The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no pail, and the well is deep. Where can you get living water from? Are you greater than our father Jacob who gave us the well, and drank from it, himself, and his sons, and his flocks?" In answer Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again. He, however, who drinks of the water I will give him shall never thirst; but the water I will give him shall become in him a fountain of water, springing up unto life everlasting."

The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water that I may not thirst, or come here to draw." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband and come here." The woman answered and said, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You have said well, I have no husband, for you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. In this you have spoken truly. "

The woman said to him, "Sir, I see you are a prophet. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, but you say Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship." Jesus said to her, "Woman believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. For the Father also seeks such to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth." The woman said to him, "I know that the Messiah is coming (who is called Christ), and when he comes he will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak with you am he."

And at this point his disciples came; and they wondered that he was speaking with a woman. Yet no one said, "What do you seek?" or "Why do you speak with her?" The woman therefore left her water-jar and went away into the town, and said to the people, "Come and see a man who has told me all I have ever done. Can he be the Christ?" They went out from the town and came to meet him. Meanwhile, his disciples begged him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." But he said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." The disciples therefore said to one another, "Has someone brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of the one who sent me, to accomplish his work. Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, and then comes the harvest'? Well, I say to you, lift up your eyes and behold that the fields are already white for the harvest. And the one who reaps receives a wage, and gathers

fruit unto life everlasting, so that the sower and the reaper may rejoice together. For herein is the proverb true, 'One sows, another reaps.' I have sent you to reap that on which you have not labored. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labors."

Now many of the Samaritans of that town believed in him because of the word of the woman who bore witness, "He told me all I have ever done." When, therefore, the Samaritans had come to him, they begged him to stay there; and he stayed two days. And far more believed because of his word. And they said to the woman, "We no longer believe because of what you have said, for we have heard for ourselves and we know this is in truth the Savior of the world," the Christ.

الانجيل (يوحنا 4: 5-42)

في ذلك الزمان، أتى يسوع إلى مدينة من السامرة تُسمى سبخار، بقرية القرية التي أعطاها يعقوب ليوسف ابنه. وكانت هناك عين يعقوب. وكان يسوع قد تعب من المسير. فجلس على العين. وكان نحو الساعة السادسة. فجاءت امرأة من السامرة تستقي ماءً. فقال لها يسوع: أعطني لأشرب. وكان تلاميذه قد مضوا إلى المدينة لبتاعوا طعاماً. فقالت له المرأة السامرية: كيف تطلب أن تشرب مني وأنت يهودي وأنا امرأة سامرية. واليهود لا يخالطون السامريين؟ أجاب يسوع وقال لها: لو كنت تعرفين عطية الله ومن الذي قال لك أعطني لأشرب. لكنت تسألينني فيعطيك ماءً حياً. قالت له المرأة: يا سيدي إنه ليس معك ما تستقي به والبرن عميقة. فمن أين لك الماء الحي؟ أعلك أعظم من أبنينا يعقوب الذي أعطانا هذه البرن. ومنها شرب هو وبنوه وماشيئته؟ أجاب يسوع وقال لها: كل من يشرب من هذا الماء يعطش أيضاً. وأما من يشرب من الماء الذي أنا أعطيه له فلن يعطش إلى الأبد. بل الماء الذي أعطيه له يصير فيه ينبوع ماء ينبوع إلى الحياة الابدية. قالت له المرأة: يا سيدي أعطني من هذا الماء لكيلا أعطش. ولا أجيء أستقي من ههنا. قال لها يسوع: إذ هبني وأدعي رجلك وهلمي إلى ههنا. أجابت المرأة وقالت إنه لا رجل لي. فقال لها يسوع: قد أحسنت حيث قلت إنه لا رجل لي. لأنه قد كان لك خمسة رجال والذي معك الان ليس رجلك. هذا فلتته بالصدق. قالت له المرأة: يا سيدي أرى أنك نبي. آباؤنا سجدوا في هذا الجبل. وأنتم تقولون إن المكان الذي ينبغي أن يسجد فيه هو في أورشليم. قال لها يسوع: أيتها المرأة آمني بي. إنها ستأتي ساعة تسجدون فيها للآب لا في هذا الجبل ولا في أورشليم. أنتم تسجدون لما لا تعلمون. ونحن نسجد لما نعلم. لأن الخلاص هو من اليهود. ولكن ستأتي ساعة وهي الان حاضرة. إذ الساجدون الحقيقيون يسجدون للآب بالروح والحق. أن الآب إنما يريد مثل هؤلاء الساجدين له. إن الله روح. والذين يسجدون له فبالروح والحق ينبغي أن يسجدوا. قالت له المرأة: قد علمت أن ماسياً الذي يقال له المسيح يأتي. فإذا جاء ذلك فهو يُخبرنا بكل شيء. قال لها يسوع: أنه المتكلم معك هو. وعند ذلك جاء تلاميذه، فتعجبوا أنه يتكلم مع امرأة. ومع ذلك لم يقل أحد ماذا تريد أو لماذا تكلمها. فتركت المرأة جرتها وانطلقت إلى المدينة. وقالت للناس: تعالوا أنظروا إنساناً قال لي كل ما فعلت. أعل هذا هو المسيح؟ فخرجوا من المدينة وأقبلوا نحوه. وفي أثناء ذلك ألق تلاميذه قائلين: يا معلم كل. أما هو فقال لهم: إن

لي طعاماً أَكَلُهُ لا تَعْرِفُونَهُ أَنْتُمْ. فقال التلاميذُ فيما بَيْنَهُمْ: أَلَعَلَّ أَحَدًا أَنَاهُ بما يَأْكُلُ؟ قالَ لهم يسوع: إِنَّ طَعَامِي أَنْ أَعْمَلَ
مَشِيئَةً مَنْ أَرْسَلَنِي وَأَتَمَمَ عَمَلَهُ. أَفَمَا تَقُولُونَ إِنْ الْحَصَادَ يَأْتِي بَعْدَ أَرْبَعَةِ أَشْهُرٍ؟ وَهَا أَنَا ذَا أَقُولُ لَكُمْ: إِرْفَعُوا أَعْيُنَكُمْ
وَانظُرُوا إِلَى الْمَزَارِعِ، فَإِنَّهَا قَدْ أَبْيَضَتْ لِلْحَصَادِ. وَالذِي يَحْصُدُ يَأْخُذُ أَجْرَةً، وَيَجْمَعُ ثَمَرًا لِلْحَيَاةِ الْأَبَدِيَّةِ. لَكِي يَفْرَحَ الزَّارِعُ
وَالْحَاصِدُ مَعًا. وَفِي هَذَا يُصَدِّقُ الْقَوْلَ: إِنَّ وَاحِدًا يَزْرَعُ وَآخَرَ يَحْصُدُ. وَأَنَا أَرْسَلْتُكُمْ لَتَحْصُدُوا مَا لَمْ تَتَّعَبُوا فِيهِ. لِأَنَّ آخِرِينَ
تَعَبُوا وَأَنْتُمْ دَخَلْتُمْ عَلَى تَعَبِهِمْ. فَأَمَنْ بِهِ مِنْ تِلْكَ الْمَدِينَةِ سَامِرِيونَ كَثِيرُونَ، مِنْ أَجْلِ كَلَامِ الْمَرْأَةِ الَّتِي كَانَتْ تَشْهَدُ أَنَّ قَدْ
قَالَ لِي كُلُّ مَا فَعَلْت. وَلَمَا سَارَ إِلَيْهِ السَامِرِيُّونَ طَلَبُوا إِلَيْهِ أَنْ يُقِيمَ عِنْدَهُمْ. فَمَكَثَ هُنَاكَ يَوْمَيْنِ. فَأَمَنْ أَنْاسٌ أَكْثَرُ مِنْ
أُولَئِكَ جَدًّا مِنْ أَجْلِ كَلَامِهِ. وَكَانُوا يَقُولُونَ لِلْمَرْأَةِ: لَسْنَا بَعْدُ مِنْ أَجْلِ كَلَامِكَ نُؤْمِنُ، وَلَكِنْ لِأَنَّ قَدْ سَمِعْنَا وَعَلَّمْنَا أَنَّ هَذَا هُوَ
بِالْحَقِيقَةِ الْمَسِيحُ مَخْلَصُ الْعَالَمِ