

## DAILY MINISTRIES

### **MONDAY:**

Assyrian Church of the East Religious Radio Program.  
6:00pm – 7:30pm (In the Assyrian Language)  
7:30pm – 8:00pm (In the English Language)  
On **2GLF FM 89.3** on your FM dial.

### **TUESDAY:**

Assyrian Preaching by Father Genard Lazar.  
From 7:30pm – 8:30pm.  
St. Mary's Church: 94 Polding St, Fairfield.

### **WEDNESDAY:**

English Bible Studies for persons aged 12 years and over.  
From 7:30pm – 9:00pm.  
St. Hurmizd's Assyrian School: 5–9 Greenfield Rd, Greenfield Park.

### **FRIDAY:**

English Preaching.  
From 8:00pm – 9:00pm.  
St. Mary's Church: 94 Polding St, Fairfield.  
Followed by fellowship in Church hall.

### **SUNDAY:**

English Mass. The Holy Eucharist offered by Father Genard Lazar.  
Starting 6:00pm.  
St. Hurmizd's Cathedral: 5 – 9 Greenfield Rd, Greenfield Park.

For Further details, or if you would like to talk to someone personally, please contact Father Genard Lazar on:

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# Assyrian Church of the East Diocese of Australia & New Zealand

## St. Peter & Paul Parish

### ***ENGLISH MASS***

### **Propers Appointed for Qurbana (Oblation)**

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2005**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Annunciation**

## Lection Reading: The book of Isaiah 43: 14 – 44: 5

This is what the LORD says--  
your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel:  
"For your sake I will send to Babylon  
and bring down as fugitives all the Babylonians,  
in the ships in which they took pride.

I am the LORD, your Holy One,  
Israel's Creator, your King."

This is what the LORD says--  
he who made a way through the sea,  
a path through the mighty waters,

who drew out the chariots and horses,  
the army and reinforcements together,  
and they lay there, never to rise again,  
extinguished, snuffed out like a wick:

"Forget the former things;  
do not dwell on the past.

See, I am doing a new thing!  
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?  
I am making a way in the desert  
and streams in the wasteland.

The wild animals honor me,  
the jackals and the owls,  
because I provide water in the desert

## Priest's Corner Father Genard Lazar, Parish Priest

Under Surveillance

*"Can anyone hide himself in secret places,  
so I shall not see him?" says the Lord'  
Jeremiah 23:24*

Imagine what it would feel like, being under some kind of surveillance. Someone following you. Your telephone being bugged. Your every click on your computer mouse recorded...

Most of us don't know what it's like to live under that kind of surveillance. Yet in reality, we do live every moment of every day under the watchful eyes of the Lord. He sees everything we do and He hears everything we say.

For those who love and trust the lord, this is an awesome yet comforting truth. But for those who are determined to resist Him, it is a different story. Amos told Israel that God was pleading with them to turn from their sins (5:4-15), and warned them that there would be no hiding place for those who refused to repent (9:1-6).

Father, have mercy on those who are rebellious. We lift our heart to You on behalf of those who think they can somehow elude Your constant surveillance and final judgment.

***Live today as you will wish you had lived  
When you stand before God.***

**From the book of Daily Prayers of the  
Assyrian Church of the East.**

**Sunday Morning Prayer of Glory (TISHBUKHTA).**

*By Mar Abraham, Doctor*

Turn to the prayer of Your servants, O our Saviour,  
And receive our request and return answer to our petitions †

Because You are the refuge and hope of the weak,  
By Your help can we conquer the wiles of the evil one †

For he at all times sets snares for our souls,  
And wishes in his cunning to defile us with his wickedness †

Send, O my Lord, Your strength and let it destroy his enticement,  
That he may not pursue after us  
and that we don't fall into the gulf of sin †

May the strength of Your loving-kindness  
strengthen us when we show weakness,  
That we may be approved before You in our deeds,  
O' compassionate One †

And make us worthy to sing to You in the day of Your coming,  
The praise that does not cease for ever and ever, Amen †

and streams in the wasteland,  
to give drink to my people, my chosen,

the people I formed for myself  
that they may proclaim my praise.

"Yet you have not called upon me, O Jacob,  
you have not wearied yourselves for me, O Israel.

You have not brought me sheep for burnt offerings,  
nor honored me with your sacrifices.  
I have not burdened you with grain offerings  
nor wearied you with demands for incense.

You have not bought any fragrant calamus for me,  
or lavished on me the fat of your sacrifices.  
But you have burdened me with your sins  
and wearied me with your offenses.

"I, even I, am he who blots out  
your transgressions, for my own sake,  
and remembers your sins no more.

Review the past for me,  
let us argue the matter together;  
state the case for your innocence.

Your first father sinned;  
your spokesmen rebelled against me.

So I will disgrace the dignitaries of your temple,  
and I will consign Jacob to destruction  
and Israel to scorn.

"But now listen, O Jacob, my servant,  
Israel, whom I have chosen.

This is what the LORD says--  
he who made you, who formed you in the womb,  
and who will help you:  
Do not be afraid, O Jacob, my servant,  
Jeshurun, whom I have chosen.

For I will pour water on the thirsty land,  
and streams on the dry ground;  
I will pour out my Spirit on your offspring,  
and my blessing on your descendants.

They will spring up like grass in a meadow,  
like poplar trees by flowing streams.

One will say, 'I belong to the LORD';  
another will call himself by the name of Jacob;  
still another will write on his hand, 'The LORD's,'  
and will take the name Israel.

He has filled the hungry with good things  
but has sent the rich away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel,  
remembering to be merciful

to Abraham and his descendants forever,  
even as he said to our fathers."

Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months and then  
returned home.

country of Judea, where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed is she who has believed that what the Lord has said to her will be accomplished!"

And Mary said:

"My soul glorifies the Lord  
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
for he has been mindful  
of the humble state of his servant.  
From now on all generations will call me blessed,  
for the Mighty One has done great things for me--  
holy is his name.  
His mercy extends to those who fear him,  
from generation to generation.  
He has performed mighty deeds with his arm;  
he has scattered those who are  
proud in their inmost thoughts.  
He has brought down rulers from their thrones  
but has lifted up the humble.

## **St. Paul's Epistle: Colossians 4: 2 – 18**

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

Tychicus will tell you all the news about me. He is a dear brother, a faithful minister and fellow servant in the Lord. I am sending him to you for the express purpose that you may know about our circumstances and that he may encourage your hearts. He is coming with Onesimus, our faithful and dear brother, who is one of you. They will tell you everything that is happening here.

My fellow prisoner Aristarchus sends you his greetings, as does Mark, the cousin of Barnabas. (You have received instructions about him; if he comes to you, welcome him.) Jesus, who is called Justus, also sends greetings. These are the only Jews among my fellow workers for the kingdom of God, and they have proved a comfort to me. Epaphras, who is one of you and a servant of Christ Jesus, sends greetings. He is always wrestling in prayer for you, that you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature and fully assured. I vouch for him that he is working hard for you and for those at Laodicea and Hierapolis. Our dear friend Luke, the doctor, and Demas send greetings. Give my greetings to the brothers at Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church in her house.

After this letter has been read to you, see that it is also read in the church of the Laodiceans and that you in turn read the letter from Laodicea.

Tell Archippus: "See to it that you complete the work you have received in the Lord."

I, Paul, write this greeting in my own hand. Remember my chains. Grace be with you.

## **The Gospel reading: Luke 1: 26 – 56**

In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end."

"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month. For nothing is impossible with God."

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.

At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill