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AUGUST 30, 2026

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

[PAGE 425 IN THE BOOK OF OFFERING]

The liturgy this week is offered for

**ALL OF OUR STUDENTS
AS THEY RETURN TO SCHOOL.
MAY GOD PROTECT THEM
AND GIVE THEM GOOD HEALTH
AND A SUCCESSFUL ACADEMIC YEAR.**

MARONITE DIVINE LITURGY

SUNDAY, 9:30 A.M.
St. Agnes Chapel
7775 Vanderbilt Beach Road
Naples, Florida

WEDNESDAY, 12:00 NOON
Saint Peter the Apostle Catholic Church
5130 Rattlesnake Hammock Road
Naples, Florida

CONFESSION
Father will hear confessions
30 minutes before and 30 minutes after Mass.

MASS REQUESTS
To request a Mass for someone
or some special intention,
please email your request to
Father@NaplesMaronite.org

EPISTLE

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy to the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: grace to you and peace. We give thanks to God always for all of you, remembering you in our prayers, unceasingly calling to mind your work of faith and labor of love and endurance in hope of our Lord Jesus Christ, before our God and Father, knowing, brothers loved by God, how you were chosen. For our gospel did not come to you in word alone, but also in power and in the holy Spirit and (with) much conviction. You know what sort of people we were (among) you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, receiving the word in great affliction, with joy from the holy Spirit, so that you became a model for all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth not only in Macedonia and (in) Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has gone forth, so that we have no need to say anything. For they themselves openly declare about us what sort of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God and to await his Son from heaven, whom he raised from (the) dead, Jesus, who delivers us from the coming wrath.

GOSPEL

LUKE 7:36-50



A Pharisee invited him to dine with him, and he entered the Pharisee's house and reclined at table. Now there was a sinful woman in the city who learned that he was at table in the house of the Pharisee. Bringing an alabaster flask of ointment, she stood behind him at his feet weeping and began to bathe his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them, and anointed them with the ointment. When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who and what sort of woman this is who is touching him, that she is a sinner." Jesus said to him in reply, "Simon, I have something to say to you." "Tell me, teacher," he said. "Two people were in debt to a certain creditor; one owed five hundred days' wages and the other owed fifty.

Since they were unable to repay the debt, he forgave it for both. Which of them will love him more?" Simon said in reply, "The one, I suppose, whose larger debt was forgiven." He said to him, "You have judged rightly." Then he turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? When I entered your house, you did not give me water for my feet, but she has bathed them with her tears and wiped them with her hair. You did not give me a kiss, but she has not ceased kissing my feet since the time I entered. You did not anoint my head with oil, but she anointed my feet with ointment. So I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven; hence, she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little." He said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." The others at table said to themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" But he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."



THE FEAST IN THE HOUSE OF SIMON.
Frans Franken the Younger. c.1630s.
Museum of John Paul II, Warsaw
via Wikimedia Commons

Another saint we celebrate this week (in addition to the ones with quotes in Wisdom of the Saints) is **St. Simeon the Stylite** on September 1. He lived c. 390 - 459. He practiced extreme asceticism from the time he was 16, and was widely recognized as a holy man. Crowds came seeking his advice, so to get away from them, he started to live on a pillar. The crowds increased and he moved to higher and higher pillars, the last one being about 50 feet tall. In all, in spent 37 years on the top of a pillar, where



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LAST SUNDAY'S NUMBERS

Attendance: 35
Collection: \$382.00

When you are out of town, you can still donate to the collection by using this link.
<https://naplesmaronite.org/donate>

We are grateful for all your generous financial support. The bank has requested that all checks must be made out to
Naples Maronite Catholic Community, Inc.

SAINTS FOR THIS WEEK

- 30 Bl. Brother Estephan Ne'mee, C
31 St. Zakhia (Nicholas), C
St. Aegidius (Giles), C
St. Abda, M
1 St. Simeon the Stylite, C
2 St. Mammas the Great, M
3 St. Theodore the Great, M
4 St. Babylas, Patriarch of Antioch, M
5 St. Sharbel of Edessa and His Sister, M
St. Teresa of Calcutta, V

WISDOM FROM THIS WEEK'S SAINTS

Love does not need any education or science; it just comes out of the heart.

Bl. Brother Estephan Ne'mee,
Feast day August 30

If you judge people, you have no time to love them.

Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin.

Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love.

Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless.

God doesn't ask you to be successful; He asks you to be faithful.

St. Teresa of Calcutta, Feast Day
September 5

St. Simeon, continued from page 2

he was exposed to the elements and endured the heat of the sun and the cold of the winter.

Even on the highest of his columns, Simeon was not able to withdraw from the world. If anything, his high pillar attracted even more people, both pilgrims and sightseers. Histories say that Simeon was available each afternoon to talk with visitors. By means of a ladder, visitors were able to ascend within speaking distance. It is known that he wrote letters, that he instructed disciples, and that he also lectured to those assembled beneath. He especially preached against profanity and usury. In contrast to the extreme austerity that he practiced, his preaching conveyed temperance and compassion and was marked with common sense and freedom from fanaticism.

The Patriarch of Antioch, Martyrius, led the funeral liturgy of St. Simeon which was attended by a huge crowd. Pilgrim tokens for Simeon Stylites have been found across the Byzantine Empire, attesting to the popularity of his veneration.

