



Dear Friends,

"The grace and peace of Our Lord Jesus Christ the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." Hope you are keeping well in spite of many things. One thing is sure, you are not alone.

Again today we have three parables trying to give us a further insight into the Kingdom of God which we are not just waiting for but which is deep within us and I pray among us at this moment. The Kingdom; "thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." Jesus is calling us into allegiance with himself.

It involves making choices;-

1. *Sells all he has to buy the field.*
2. *Sells all he has to buy the pearl of great price.*
3. *Decide between the good and the bad.*

It is a slow process, but the enjoyment is in the journey. (with Jesus) Not just in the destination.

Even for Jesus it was a slow process:-

1. *His own public life.*
2. *His death and resurrection.*
3. *A future consummation.*

Syrian cathedral, a glimmer of hope in the midst of chaos

By Xavier Le Normand

Aleppo has long been a martyred city. In the nine years since the outbreak of fighting in Syria, it has been at the heart of the clashes.

As a consequence, it has lost four-fifths of its diverse Christian population. There are only about 30,000 people left from the various denominations. Most of them are elderly. Most of the younger Christians have fled the war torn country.

Despite this dramatic situation, Aleppo's newly restored Maronite Cathedral was due to be re-opened on July 20. St. Elijah's Cathedral suffered severe damage from bombings. Its roof had been totally destroyed.

"It is a sign of hope after the feeling of having lost everything," rejoiced Archbishop Joseph Tobji, Maronite Archbishop of Aleppo.

Volunteers.

22 people have been very faithful and committed since we opened. They are doing a great job, checking people in and out and keeping order in general and they will continue to do so. But some will be going on holiday and we also need to spread the load. Would you be willing to do one mass every two weeks? Please let me know.

GOOD PRACTICE

MASS TIMES.

SUNDAY.....8.30AM

10.00AM

12.00 NOON

MONDAY.....10AM

TUESDAY.....10AM

WEDNESDAY7PM.

THURSDAY.....10AM

FRIDAY.....7PM

SATURDAY.....6PM

PLEASE. PLEASE.

1. **Wear a mask out of respect for others.**
2. **Bring a paper with your name and mobile number or address.**
3. **Respect social distancing.**
4. **Sanitise hands on entry and leaving.**
5. **Come to mass off peak, during the week to avoid overcrowding on Sundays.**
6. **VOLUNTEER.**

SUNDAY OFFERTORY

Again I ask you to please consider doing a standing order. You just tell your bank you wish to give so much to St James every month/week. Even if you have gift aid envelopes you can still do it. Then you don't use your envelopes. Forms on website or I have hard copies.

Thanks to all who have already done so.

Lots of love, Stay safe, Fr Jack