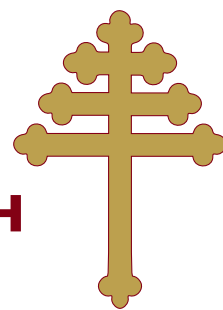




# Welcome to SAINT MARON MARONITE CATHOLIC CHURCH



## ABOUT ST. MARON PARISH

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PARISH EMAIL  
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860-489-9015

DEACON  
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SUB-DEACON  
**Michael Soliani**

FINANCE  
**Dr Jorge Baujin**  
**Richard Noujaim**  
**Carlos Nejaime**  
**Mike Nejaime**

PARISH COUNCIL  
**Judy Theeb**  
**Helen Piechocki**  
**Pascale Nejaime**

## SACRAMENTS

### BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION

Please contact our priest ASAP  
after the birth of your child.

### RECONCILIATION

Before or after Liturgy or  
by appointment

### MARRIAGE

Couples must contact our priest  
six months before the wedding.

Find us on 

<https://www.facebook.com/SaintMaronTorrington>

Be sure to visit from time to time for National  
Maronite News, pictures of parish events and  
other announcements!

## SUNDAY OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE VIRGIN MARY

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23**

Adoration 4:00 p.m.; Liturgy at 4:30 p.m.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24**

Rosary at 9:30 a.m.; Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.

## GOSPEL

LUKE 1:26-38



The Birth of Jesus Foretold

The Evangelist said:

In the sixth month  
the angel Gabriel  
was sent by God to  
a town in Galilee

called Nazareth, to a virgin  
engaged to a man whose name  
was Joseph, of the house of  
David. The virgin's name was  
Mary. And he came to her and  
said, "Greetings, favored one! The  
Lord is with you." But she was  
much perplexed by his words and  
pondered what sort of greeting  
this might be. The angel said to  
her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for  
you have found favor with God.

And now, you will conceive in  
your womb and bear a son, and  
you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son  
of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his  
ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of  
his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can  
this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will  
come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow  
you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son



THE ANNUNCIATION. *The Maronite Icons: Modern Sacred Art.* Dar Sader Publishers: Beirut 1999.  
Via Maronite Heritage.com/icons

*continued on page 3*

Father will pray the  
**ANAPHORA OF THE SAINT JAMES**  
beginning on page 794

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, November 23 at 4:30 p.m.

For the repose of the soul of Ray Hubert  
Requested by his wife Madeleine Hubert

For the repose of the soul of Luis Tacoronte  
Requested by his family

### Sunday, November 24 at 10:00 a.m.

For the repose of the soul of Egidio Recidivi  
For the repose of the soul of Nazeerah Sookey  
For the repose of the soul of Noel "Terese" Nejaime  
Requested by Deacon Steve and Renee Marcus

For the repose of the souls of  
Juan and Hortensia Tacoronte  
Requested by the family

### Saturday, November 30 at 4:30 p.m.

For the repose of the souls of  
Maurice and Tania Barakat  
Requested by Ninette Barakat and family

For the repose of the souls of  
Fred & Alexandra Hubert  
Requested by Madeleine Hubert

### Sunday, December 1 at 10:00 a.m.

For the repose of the soul of Michael Nejaime  
Requested by Nellie and children Carlos, John,  
Jackie and Lori

For Mike Hintz and his family

### Saturday, December 7 at 4:30 p.m.

For Marie Gagne and Andre Hubert  
Requested by Madeleine Hubert

### Sunday, December 8 at 10:00 a.m.

#### The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

For the repose of the souls of  
Juan & Ana Maria Tacoronte  
Requested by the family

### Saturday, December 14 at 4:30 p.m.

For the repose of the souls of  
Manuel & Ana Maria Baujin  
Requested by the family

For the repose of the souls of Rita & Philip Fournier  
Requested by Madeleine Hubert

### Sunday, December 15 at 10:00 a.m.

For the repose of the souls of  
Roberto & Juana Maria Fernandez-Baujin  
Requested by the family

## CHURCH SUPPORT

### Weekend of November 16/17

#### Saturday Offering:

1st Collection **\$534.00**  
2nd Collection **\$209.00**

#### Sunday Offering:

1st Collection **\$792.00**  
2nd Collection **\$280.00**

Mail In: **\$140.00**

Bingo: **\$1,078.50**

*Thank You!*

## EPISTLE

GALATIANS 3:15-22

The Promise to Abraham

Brothers and Sisters:

I give an example from daily life: once a person's will has been ratified, no one adds to it or annuls it. Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring; it does not say, "And to offsprings," as of many; but it says, "And to your offspring," that is, to one person, who is Christ. My point is this: the law, which came four hundred thirty years later, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to nullify the promise. For if the inheritance comes from the law, it no longer comes from the promise; but God granted it to Abraham through the promise. Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring would come to whom the promise had been made; and it was ordained through angels by a mediator. Now a mediator involves more than one party; but God is one. Is the law then opposed to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could make alive, then righteousness would indeed come through the law. But the scripture has imprisoned all things under the power of sin, so that what was promised through faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. Praise be to God always!

*He who is not awestruck by this Virgin's spirit and does not admire her soul is ignorant of how great God is.*  
—St. Peter Chrysologus speaking of Mary

of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her. This is the truth. Peace be with you.

**MELTO D'MORONHOYO: A SEASON OF ANNOUNCEMENTS  
TO PREPARE FOR OUR LORD'S BIRTH**

In the Maronite liturgical calendar, we are now in the Season of the Nativity, otherwise referred to as the Season of Announcements, preparing the church for the birth of the Messiah. It is a season full of miracles—not symbolic but actual miracles, where God sends forth the powers of heaven to work his wonders on earth. The feasts we celebrate on each Sunday of this season are also observed on each day of the week which follows them. They are the path that will lead us on our Christmas journey. There are nine such feasts: The Announcement to Zechariah, The Announcement to Mary, The Visitation of the Virgin to Elizabeth, The Birth of John the Baptist, The Revelation to St Joseph, Genealogy Sunday, Christmas, Sunday of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple, The Circumcision of Our Lord, New Year's Day.

Each week of announcements reveals to us how God plans all things according to his divine will, completely independent of our own limitations or expectations. Take for example the response given by Zechariah to the Angel Gabriel. Zechariah is seen to doubt the power of God, despite having prayed for years that he and his wife (considered to be barren and too old to conceive) would be blessed with a child. When the Archangel Gabriel appeared before him and declared that his wife would bear him a son, he reacted in disbelief. Yet, the mercy of God prevailed and his word was fulfilled in the birth of John the Baptist, just as it was in the Blessed Virgin Mary's Announcement (the Annunciation) and Conception.

Throughout this Season of the Nativity, we hear stories of birth and renewal. Today we still hear of miracles relating to impossible cases relating to couples who cannot conceive. Through the intercession of patron saints, many families have been blessed with children under these circumstances, by the grace of God. St Charbel, being the most renowned in our Maronite hagiography, is not the only intercessor for childless couples, amongst other supplications. St Gerard Majella and St Gianna Molla are also well known for their patronage and intercession for expectant mothers and those hoping to conceive.

The people of Lebanon, wherever they may be located across the globe, are deeply conscious of the powerful intercession of the saints, especially during times of discord and uncertainty. The soil of Lebanon has been nourished by the blood of martyrs, the unnamed saints of our ancestors, but it doesn't prevent the Cedars of God from growing in this holy land. So it is with all people of



## The Pastor's Corner

SHORT ARTICLES AND NOTES

My Dear Friends:

I would like to share with you, the article to the left, on our Maronite Season of Announcements. Portions of it, written by "a guest contributor," first appeared in the Australian Catholic Weekly on November 18, 2023, and I think it should be one of those classic articles that we read every year, reminding us how blessed and fortunate we are to have this season in our Church.

May you have a blessed week ahead.

Fr. Fadi

Pastor's Corner is sponsored by Torrington Savings Bank



### FROM BISHOP GREGORY

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, has called for a Jubilee Year December 24, 2024, through December 28, 2025. He has asked us to be "pilgrims of hope" during this year and to deepen our personal encounter with Christ.

Six parishes, including the Cathedral, will be designated as places of pilgrimages:

Saint Anthony of the Desert Church in Fall River, MA  
Our Lady of Victory in Pittsburgh, PA  
Our Lady of Lebanon in Washington, DC  
Saint Joseph Church in Atlanta, GA  
Our Lady of Lebanon Church in Miami, FL  
Our Lady of Lebanon Cathedral in Brooklyn, NY

In addition, this Jubilee Year we will promote a special Pilgrimage to Washington, DC for the Annual March for Life in January, as well as on August 15" for the Feast of Assumption at the National Shrine in North Jackson, Ohio.

More information will follow in the coming weeks about the Jubilee year, including the plenary indulgence available for making a pilgrimage.

faith. For Maronites in Australia, and around the world, nothing can come between us and the love of Christ, as we continue to grow and prosper.

It is in the Announcements, mentioned mostly in the Gospel of Luke's first chapter, where our faith in miracles has been confirmed and our trust in the Lord reaffirmed. Every Sunday's Liturgy, from now until Christmas, will reveal to us the variety of ways in which God answers prayer.

May this holy season keep us focused on the reality of Jesus, the new born king who can change our lives. Let us welcome him into our hearts and allow the miracles of this season to radically change our lives.





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