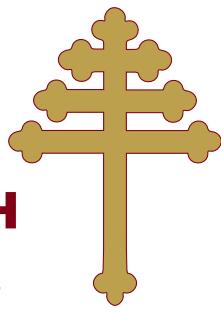




# Welcome to SAINT MARON MARONITE CATHOLIC CHURCH

A prayer to begin every day: *Good morning my good and my beloved Lord.*



## ABOUT ST. MARON PARISH

**613 Main Street**  
**Torrington, CT 06790**

**PARISH OFFICE**  
**(860) 489-9015**

**PARISH EMAIL**  
**office@saintmaronchurch.org**

**PASTOR**  
**Fr. Fadi Khawand**  
860-489-9015

**DEACON**  
**Steven Marcus**

**SUB-DEACON**  
**Michael Soliani**

**MUSIC DIRECTOR**  
**Melanie Libby**

**FINANCE**  
**Dr Jorge Baujin**  
**Richard NouJaim**  
**Carlos NeJaime**  
**Mike NeJaime**

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

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

## SAINTS FOR THIS WEEK

- 8 Zechariah the Prophet
- 9 St. Maron, C
- 10 St. Apollonia, V, M
- 11 St. Charalampus, M  
Our Lady of Lourdes (USA)
- 12 St. Meletius of Antioch, C
- 13 St. Catherine de Ricci, C  
St. Beatrice of Ornacieux, C
- 14 Sts. Cyril and Methodius, C  
St. Valentine the Priest, M

## SUNDAY OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

**[PAGE 166 IN THE BOOK OF OFFERING]**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7**

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

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8**

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

## GOSPEL

LUKE 16:19-31



The Lord Jesus Said: "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.' But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house — for I have five brothers — that he may warn them, *continued on page 3*

The story teaches that what we do for the poor today matters forever. So the question is: Do I notice Lazarus at my door before it is too late?



IMAGE OF ST. MARON HOLDING  
THE BOOK OF THE GOSPELS

Father will pray the  
**THE ANAPHORA OF THE TWELVE APOSTLES**  
beginning on page 754

## MASS INTENTIONS

• **Saturday, February 7 at 4:30 p.m.**

For the people of St. Maron Parish

• **Sunday, February 8 at 10:00 a.m.**

For the repose of the souls of  
Raymond and George Simpson  
Requested by Jane and Sam Slaiby

• **Saturday, February 14 at 4:30 p.m.**

For the repose of the soul of Celina NeJaime  
Requested by her daughters Dulce, Lili and Jemeli

• **Sunday, February 15 at 10:00 a.m.**

For the repose of the soul of John L. Curtis  
Requested by Jane and Sam Slaiby

• **Ash Monday, February 16 at 6:00 p.m.**

For the people of St. Maron Parish

• **Ash Wednesday, February 18 at 6:00 p.m.**

For the people of St. Maron Parish

• **Friday, February 20 - Stations of the Cross 6:00 p.m.**

• **Saturday, February 21 at 4:30 p.m.**

For the repose of the soul of Robert Schierholz  
Requested by Sub Deacon Mike & Lisa Soliani

For the repose of the soul of Charlie Nader

Requested by his wife Dulce and family

• **Sunday, February 22 at 10:00 a.m.**

For the repose of the soul of David Murelli  
Requested by Jane and Sam Slaiby

• **Friday, February 27 - Stations of the Cross 6:00 p.m.**

• **Saturday, February 28 at 4:30 p.m.**

For the repose of the soul of Jorge NeJaime  
Requested by his daughters Dulce, Lili and Jemeli

• **Sunday, March 1 at 10:00 a.m.**

For the repose of the soul of Jack, Doris & Jeanne Belding  
Requested by Jane and Sam Slaiby

## From Bishop Gregory

During Lent, we are invited to encounter God in a deeper way through prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

The USCCB has established CRS Rice Bowl as a Lenten faith-in-action program, inviting us to encounter God and our global family by practicing the traditional Lenten pillars and by reflecting on how the *Eucharist – the Bread of Life* – compels us to share *bread for life* with all members of our human family.

I invite you to use CRS Rice Bowl this Lent as a way to fulfill the Gospel's command to love and serve our neighbors in a communal way.

As in past years, St. Maron's will have the CRS Rice Bowls available at the back of the church. Please use them during this holy season, returning them to the church at the end of Lent, so that we may forward your alms to Bishop Gregory for Catholic Relief Services.

## CHURCH SUPPORT

Numbers for January 31/February 1 will be reported next week.

### From the Parish Council

We are excited to share that we have sold the four store fronts next door to the church allowing us to completely pay off our mortgage. This transaction closed on Thursday, January 29. We sold the stores for \$300,000, which we used to pay off the \$302,914.66 mortgage on the church. Thanks be to God now that we have no mortgage, we can begin to rebuild our savings and do the needed repairs to our roof, bell tower and other deferred maintenance projects.

The stores were sold to local businessman Vesel Nasufi. Mr. Nasufi owns and operates several businesses in Torrington and nearby communities, and we know that he will be a good neighbor and friend to Saint Maron's.

This is exciting news and we thank all who worked diligently to assist with this transaction. May God continue to bless our faith community and may Saint Maron's continue to be a beacon of light to all.

**BECOME A LECTOR!** We would like to develop a corps of trained lectors to read the Epistle at Masses. If interested, please email your contact information to [stmaronchurchtorrington@gmail.com](mailto:stmaronchurchtorrington@gmail.com) or [samslaiby@snet.net](mailto:samslaiby@snet.net) or call the rectory at (860) 489-9015 and leave a message.



Starting Friday, February 20, we will have Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent at 6 p.m. in the church.

HEAD OF CHRIST CRUCIFIED. Master of Liesborn c.1480. London, The National Gallery.

*In Honor of St. Maron's Feast Day  
A Traditional Prayer to Saint Maron*

*O God, who in your kindness called your holy servant Maron to the following of Christ, grant, we pray, through his intercession, that, denying ourselves, we may hold fast to you with all our heart. O Lord, accept the prayers we offer in memory of our Father, St. Maron. Bless and protect the people who bear your name. Make us worthy of his holy legacy that we may carry the message of your Gospel throughout the world. Grant faithfulness to his people and courage to his inheritance. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

## EPISTLE

1 THESSALONIANS 5:1-11

Brothers and Sisters:

Concerning the times and the seasons, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing. Praise be to God always!

## GOSPEL

*continued from page 1*

so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' He said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'".



KEITH THOMAS LAWSON

JUNE 24, 1966 – JANUARY 28, 2026

Keith Thomas Lawson, 59, passed away at home with his family by his side on Wednesday, January 28. He was known for his strong work ethic, kind and generous spirit, and willingness to lend a helping hand to those in need.

On behalf of Fr Fadi and Deacon Steven, we offer our heartfelt condolences to Keith's children, his family and especially to Gia. Keith's funeral took place here at Saint Maron's on Tuesday. May his soul be with our loving God and may the family feel the love and support from this parish community.

WISDOM FROM THE SAINTS: *Listen and attend  
with the ear of your heart.* --St Benedict



## The Pastor's Corner

SHORT ARTICLES AND NOTES

My Dear Friends:

Continuing on with the Acts of the Apostles, in chapter 25 Saint Paul stands before the new governor Festus after two years in prison. The Jewish leaders accuse him and try to have him brought to Jerusalem to kill him on the way. But Paul calmly defends himself and says he has done nothing against the law or the emperor. When Festus wants to please the crowd, Paul uses his right as a Roman citizen and appeals to Caesar, trusting that God is guiding his path.

The chapter teaches us to remain faithful and wise when truth is threatened, knowing that God can use even trials to lead us to His greater purpose.

This week I want you to ask yourselves a question: "God, what do you think I should do?"

I wish you all a warm and blessed week ahead.

Fr. Fadi

## THE OLD TESTAMENT: JUDGES

The book of Judges shows Israel living in the Promised Land without a king. They forgot the Lord. They turned to idols. Each time they fall into trouble they cry out to God. And God raises Judges such as Deborah, Gideon, and Samson to save them. The book reveals a repeated cycle of sin, suffering, prayer, and deliverance. It teaches us that when people follow their own path instead of God's will, life becomes confused, but when they return to Him, He brings rescue and hope.

It is a powerful message for us today.

## OUR PARISH PRAYER INTENTION FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY IS FOR RAISING CHILDREN IN THE WORD OF THE LORD

Lord God, we entrust our children to Your loving care. Guide us as parents to train them in the way they should go so that they may grow in faith, love and obedience to You. As the author of Proverbs said: "Train a boy in the way he should go; even when he is old, he will not swerve from it" (Proverbs 22:6). Amen.

Each year the USCCB designates the observance of National Marriage Week during February 7-14, and World Marriage Day this year on Sunday February 8. The theme selected for 2026 is: "Man and Woman He Created Them: Together with Purpose."

*The Couples Ministry & the Sharbel Center will host a ZOOM meeting on February 10th at 8:00 p.m. to discuss the Doctrinal Note released by the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith on the Value of Marriage as an "exclusive union and mutual belonging."*

*The meeting ID is 853 7619 7295 and the passcode is 250823. All couples and young adults are welcome to attend.*



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