



Saint Maron

Maronite Catholic Church



November 23-24, 2019

ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE VIRGIN MARY

The Seven Pillars of the Catholic Spirituality.

Men and women of every age and generation yearned for God. Saint Augustin, speaking to God, once said; “That our hearts is restless until it find rest in you, O God.” We have a longing to draw nearer to God and a desire to be in communion with God. The Catechism of the Catholic Church stated the following. “The desire for God is written in the human heart, because man is created by god and for God, and God never cease to draw man to himself. Only in God man will find the truth and the happiness he never stops searching for.” CCC1. The greatest tragedy of modern Catholicism is that, we are not considered a spiritual people anymore, because as Catholics we tend not to take our spirituality seriously. As parishioners of Saint Maron Church we are going to meditate on the seven pillars of the Catholic spirituality, which are the anchor of our faith because they deep into your life and with them you will be able to weather any storm, such as illness, death of a loved one, employment, financial difficulties, a natural disaster, marital strife or any number of other things. With them you will be like a tree with deep roots that can weather any storm, and you will come to know the abundant life that

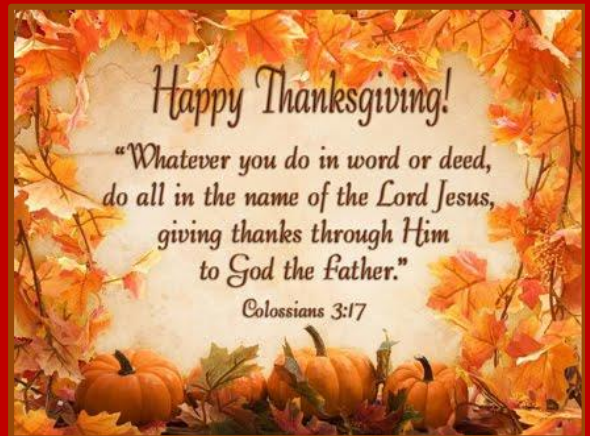
Jesus invites us to experience both here and in the eternity.

The First pillar of the Catholic spirituality is Confession\ Reconciliation.

Why as Catholics have to confess about our sins to the priest and not to God straightaway? Jesus in Caesarea Philippi asked his disciples an important question about his identity. Who do people say that the son of man is and who do you say? Then because of Peter answer; Jesus gave his authority to Peter and to his Church. “You are peter and on this rock I will build my Church... I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, whatever, you bind on earth will be bound in heaven and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” (Matt: 16\16+) We all are called to reconcile to God, Saint Paul said: “So we are ambassador to Christ, since God is making his appeal through us, we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God... for he says, “at an acceptable time I have listened to you. “See, now is the acceptable time, see, now is the day of salvation! (Corinthians5:20-6:2) One question comes to my mind first. Why do

we put reconciliation first? It comes first for few reasons: First, John the Baptist after appearing in the desert of Judea, his message was: “Repent, prepare the way of the Lord.” Later on when Jesus began his ministry he called us to “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” (Matt: 4\17). Why repent? Because repent is a very powerful word. It means the same as it did to the people walking around the dusty pathways in their sandals, trying to inch closer to Jesus as he passed through their town and villages.” Repent simply means to turn back to God.” Every one of us needs to turn back to God many times a day. It is not a matter of guilt and it is not a matter of shameful thing. It is simply that at his side I am a better person, a better son and daughter, a better husband and wife, a better brother

QUOTE OF THE WEEK



Fr. El-Badaoui Habib, Pastor | Fr. David Fisher, Weekend Assistant

Mrs. Rosemarie Marrone, Religious Education Director | Address: 1013 Ellsworth Street, Philadelphia, PA 19147

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OFFICE HOURS: The Church office will be open Tuesday through Friday from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm.

and sister, a better friend and employee and a better citizen. Where do I stand in my relationship with God? Do I need to turn back to God today? Let us pray; God of goodness and mercy, hear my prayer this time. Let me be honest with myself as I look into my heart and soul, noticing the times I turned away from you, and seeking to repent and turn to your love. Amen.

Fr. El-Badaoui Habib

MYO THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE – THANK YOU

A special thanks to this community for your generosity in the MYO Thanksgiving Food Drive. Because of your generous donations we were able to help 40 families celebrate with their loved ones for Thanksgiving. We wish you all a beautiful Thanksgiving with your family and loved ones.

SHAWARMA SUNDAY

As a fundraiser to help in the transportation expenses for our MYO who are going to the Christmas retreat in Connecticut, we are having Shawarma Sandwiches on Sunday, November 24, 2019 following Divine Liturgy. Thank you for your continuous support to our MYO.

GIVING TREE

Thank you for everyone that is participating. Details about the individual are listed on the back of the tags that you picked. **PLEASE BRING ALL GIFTS “UNWRAPPED” WITH THE GIFT CARD TO THE CHURCH NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 15.** These gifts will be wrapped by Annie and the MYO and delivered to St. Cyprian church. If you pick a name and do not bring the gift in by December 15, that child or person will not have a gift. If you have any questions, please contact Annie Dallegro. Thank you for your help.

DIVINE LITURGIES

Saturday, November 23, @ 6:00 PM, liturgy is being offered for the soul of Debra Rummel requested by her family. May her soul rest in peace.

Sunday, November 24, @ 11:00 AM, liturgy is being offered for Lebanon and the Lebanese people. May God protect them always.

Tuesday, November 26, @ 9:00 AM,

Wednesday, November 27, @ 6:00 PM, (Feast of St. James Intercisus)

Thursday, November 28, @ 6:00 PM, HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Friday, November 29, @ 9:00 AM,

Saturday, November 30, @ 6:00 PM, (Feast of St. Andrew)

Sunday, December 1, @ 11:00 AM, liturgy is being offered for the soul George Sholi requested by Sholi and Raie families. May his soul rest in peace.

BIBLE STUDY

We will have bible study with Fr. David Fisher on **Thursday, December 5, 2019 at 7:00PM** in the church hall. Hope you can join us.

SAINTS PETER AND PAUL CEMETERY

John Turrslime, area director of Catholic Cemeteries, will be at our parish on **Sunday, December 8, 2019** immediately following Divine Liturgy. He will be here to answer and help anyone who is interested in cemetery plots at Sts. Peter and Paul. As you may know, an area of that cemetery has been reserved for the parish of St. Maron and St. Sharbel. I know this may be unpleasant for many to think about, however, John is here to help in this process. Also, there will be a discounted price for those who are interested of 30% off the price of the plots.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Fall Hafli Beef and Beer Dance to the Oldies Night**, Saturday, November 30, 7:00 PM – Midnight. Hot roast beef and roast pork sandwiches, beer, and DJ Gio, playing oldies but goodies music.
- **Christmas Party**, Sunday December 15, 2019 following Divine Liturgy.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Please keep in your prayers Linda DiBernardo, Patty Reynolds, Joan Speck, David Joseph Cook, Eddie Tayoun, Martha Simon Casella, Minarva Labbad, Dante Panichi, Dennis Strelchuk, Anthony Leuzzi, Carol Krestos, Gladys Dalcourt, Denise Furey, Chucky Simon, Michael Winter, Kevin McCrea, Kevin Khoury, Mirta Ruiz, Tina Grassi, Rita Impo, Lisa and Henry Schaffer, Jade Kellam, Marion Thomas Branca, Francesca Impo, Raja Kaldany, Lucy DiLuce, Cat Niven Glaze, Laurent Chidiac, Tom Hart, John Hart, Fadi Jaber, Joseph Realdine, Emily Stone, Roseann Anthony, Elaine Nader, Eddie Gussin, Lisa Alestra, John Nader, Aminee Skaf, Yasmine Myers, Joey Gdowick, Francis Joseph Kerns, Samer Chokeir, Kathy Newman, Rita Arrigale, Helen Freedenberg, Maryann Bratton, Renee Sahar, Sister Nahida Al Sawa, Rose De Jesse, James Cordisio, Stacey Fuentes, Debbie Freedenberg, Noel Andjuhar, Angel Salerno, Dennis McGiney, and Bonnie Sabatini. We ask Almighty God to bless them with good health so that they may join us in the Church and give glory and thanksgiving to God. Please notify the Church office of any family member who is ill so that we may remember them in our daily prayers and on our altar of intentions.

WEEKLY COLLECTION FOR

November 16-17, 2019

Collection	\$ 1,282.00
Memorial	\$ 750.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 57.00
Total:	\$ 2,089.00

First Reading Galatians 3:15-22

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Galatians. Your blessing father...

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 and 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.

فصل من رسالة القديس بولس إلى أهل
غلاطية

يا إخوتي، كَبَشَّرِ أَقُولُ: إِنَّ الْوَصِيَّةَ، وَإِنْ كَانَتْ مِنْ إِنْسَانٍ، إِذَا أُقِرَّتْ، لَا أَحَدٌ يُبْطِلُهَا أَوْ يَزِيدُ عَلَيْهَا. فَالْوَعْدُ قِيلَتْ لِإِبْرَاهِيمَ وَلِنَسْلِهِ. وَمَا قِيلَتْ: «وَلِنَسَالِهِ»، كَأَنَّهُ لِكَثِيرِينَ، بَلْ

«وَلِنَسْلِكَ»، كَأَنَّهُ لِوَاحِدٍ، وَهُوَ الْمَسِيحُ! فَأَقُولُ هَذَا: إِنَّ وَصِيَّةَ سَبَقَ اللَّهُ فَأَقَرَّهَا، لَا تُلْغِيهَا شَرِيعَةٌ جَاءَتْ بَعْدَ أَرْبَعِ مِئَةٍ وَثَلَاثِينَ سَنَةً، فَتُبْطَلُ الْوَعْدُ. وَإِذَا كَانَ الْمِيرَاثُ مِنَ الشَّرِيعَةِ، فَهُوَ لَمْ يَعْزُ مِنْ الْوَعْدِ؛ وَالْحَالُ أَنَّ اللَّهَ بِوَعْدِهِ أَنْعَمَ بِالْمِيرَاثِ عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ. إِذَا فَلَمَّاذَا الشَّرِيعَةُ؟ إِنَّهَا أُضِيفَتْ بِسَبَبِ الْمَعَاصِي، حَتَّى مَجِيءِ النَّسْلِ الَّذِي جُعِلَ الْوَعْدُ لَهُ. وَقَدْ أَعْلَنَهَا مَلَائِكَةٌ عَلَى يَدِ وَسِيطٍ، هُوَ مُوسَى. غَيْرَ أَنَّ الْوَاحِدَ لَا وَسِيطَ لَهُ، وَاللَّهُ وَاحِدٌ! إِذَا فَهَلْ تَكُونُ الشَّرِيعَةُ ضِدَّ وَوَعْدِ اللَّهِ؟ حَاشَا! فَلَوْ أُعْطِيتُ شَرِيعَةً قَادِرَةً أَنْ تُحْيِي، لَكَانَ التَّبَرُّيرُ حَقًّا بِالشَّرِيعَةِ. وَلَكِنَّ الْكِتَابَ حَتَسَ الْكُلِّ تَحْتَ الْخَطِيئَةِ، لِكَيْمَّا بِالْإِيمَانِ بِيَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ يُعْطَى الْوَعْدُ لِلَّذِينَ يُؤْمِنُونَ. وَالتَّسْبِيحُ لِلَّهِ دَائِمًا.

Gospel Reading Saint Luke 1:26-38

The Apostle Writes:

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 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.

مِنْ إِنْجِيلِ الْقَدِيسِ لُوقَا

وَفِي الشَّهْرِ السَّادِسِ (بَعْدَ بَشَارَةِ زَكَرِيَّا)، أُرْسِلَ الْمَلَائِكَةُ جِبْرَائِيلُ مِنْ عِنْدِ اللَّهِ إِلَى مَدِينَةٍ فِي الْجَلِيلِ أَسْمُهَا النَّاصِرَةَ، إِلَى عَذْرَاءَ مَخْطُوبَةٍ لِرَجُلٍ مِنْ بَيْتِ دَاوُدَ أَسْمُهُ يُوسُفُ، وَأَسْمُ الْعَذْرَاءِ مَرْيَمَ. وَلَمَّا دَخَلَ الْمَلَائِكَةُ إِلَيْهَا قَالَتْ: «السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ، يَا مَمْلُوءَةٌ نِعْمَةً، أَلَرَّبُّ مَعَكَ!». فَاصْطَرْبَتْ مَرْيَمَ لِكَلَامِهِ، وَأَخَذَتْ تَفَكَّرُ مَا عَسَى أَنْ يَكُونَ هَذَا السَّلَامُ! فَقَالَ لَهَا الْمَلَائِكَةُ: "لَا تَخَافِي، يَا مَرْيَمَ، لِأَنَّكَ وَجَدْتِ نِعْمَةً عِنْدَ اللَّهِ. وَهَا أَنْتِ تَحْمِلِينَ، وَتَلِدِينَ ابْنًا، وَتُسَمِّيْنَهُ يَسُوعَ. وَهُوَ يَكُونُ عَظِيمًا، وَابْنُ الْعَلِيِّ يُدْعَى، وَيُعْطِيهِ الرَّبُّ الْإِلَهَ عَرْشَ دَاوُدَ أَبِيهِ، فَيَمْلِكُ عَلَى بَيْتِ يَهُوَدَا إِلَى الْأَبَدِ، وَلَا يَكُونُ لِمُلْكِهِ نَهَايَةٌ!". فَقَالَتْ مَرْيَمَ لِلْمَلَائِكَةِ: "كَيْفَ يَكُونُ هَذَا، وَأَنَا لَا أَعْرِفُ رَجُلًا؟". فَأَجَابَ الْمَلَائِكَةُ وَقَالَ لَهَا: "الرُّوحُ الْقُدُسُ يَجِلُ عَلَيْكَ، وَقُدْرَةُ الْعَلِيِّ تَظَلِّلُكَ، وَلِذَلِكَ فَالْقُدُوسُ الْمَوْلُودُ مِنْكَ يُدْعَى ابْنُ اللَّهِ! وَهَا إِنَّ الْإِصْبَابَاتِ نَسَبِيَّتِكَ، قَدْ حَمَلْتِ هِيَ أَيْضًا بَابْنٍ فِي شَبُوحَتِهَا. وَهَذَا هُوَ الشَّهْرُ السَّادِسُ لِتِلْكَ الَّتِي تُدْعَى عَاقِرًا، لِأَنَّهُ لَيْسَ عَلَى اللَّهِ أَمْرٌ مُسْتَحِيلٌ!". فَقَالَتْ مَرْيَمَ: "هَا أَنَا أُمَةٌ الرَّبِّ، فَلْيَكُنْ لِي بِحَسَبِ قَوْلِكَ!". وَأَنْصَرَفَ مِنْ عِنْدِهَا الْمَلَائِكَةُ.

حَقًّا وَالْأَمَانُ لِجَمِيعِكُمْ.

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