



# **Saint Maron**

## **Maronite Catholic Church**



**February 1-2, 2020**

# **SUNDAY OF THE PRIESTS**

## **THE PRIESTHOOD**

A priest wrote to his brothers in the priesthood, He said: "My brothers in the priesthood, our life is not easy. Those of you who made a choice for more severe monastic orders probably expect a difficult life. Anyone who is familiar with the Trappist monk or any other austere contemplative order is aware of a commitment to self-denial and penance that these lives require.

On the surface, the life of a priest in ministry looks easier. We have some money in our pockets (not much) the appearance of a bit of freedom, and a life that does not look too ascetical or very strict. At one point in our priestly lives most of us have been asked by the laity, "Father what you do all day after you say morning Mass?" Most people think that there is not much things for the priest to do.

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, priesthood is difficult. We might have more vocation to the priesthood if our young people realized how challenging the life really is. Many generous young people want to commit themselves to a life that stretches them and one that, in the end, will mean something. Perhaps this is one of the reasons why the stricter, more traditional religious groups currently receiving increased

vocations. Priesthood, when lived with integrity, is such a life.

One of the greatest asceticism for priests in active ministry is the asceticism of time. Our time is not our own. The parish priest or a chaplain is virtually on call day and night. And people do call us. A saddened and deprived parent will call a priest when a child has died. Adult children, painfully watching their parents suffer in the hospital will ask the priest to visit. The lonely and troubled will look to us for understanding and solace and comfort...

These needs do not fit into a neat nine to five schedule. At times, it feels to us as if we "don't have a life." By that I mean we do not have much private space or private time. This is true. Giving up control over one's time is a great sacrifice. It is similar to the monk who promises stability, that is, to stay at his monastery for the rest of his life. He too loses control over his time and his space. The demand on our time and energy are enormous and at times are huge. Every family in every parish has its own story. Each individual experiences moments of joy and moments of sorrow. The longer we spend in a ministry, the more we become involved in their stories. Sharing in the lives of the people whom we serve is one of our

## **QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

### **Prayer for Priests**

*God, please give to your  
Church today  
many more priests after your  
own heart.*

*May they be worthy  
representatives of Christ the  
Good Shepherd.*

*May they wholeheartedly  
devote themselves to prayer  
and penance;*

*be examples of humility and  
poverty;*

*shining models of holiness;  
tireless and powerful  
preachers of the Word of  
God;*

*zealous dispensers of your  
grace in the sacraments.*

*May their loving devotion to  
your Son Jesus in the  
Eucharist*

*and to Mary his Mother be  
the twin fountains of  
fruitfulness for their  
ministry.*

*St. John Vianney*

**Fr. El-Badaoui Habib MLM, 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.

greatest joys and it is one of our greatest burdens. Our life is emotionally intense and rich but it can also be draining. People do not call us when everything is going fine. They call when they are troubled or where there has been a tragedy. Or they will contact us when there are great joys, someone is about to be married or they are celebrating the birth of a child. It is not uncommon for a pastor to conduct a funeral Mass and then go directly to bless the wedding vows of a young couple followed by a joyous reception.

In this life we are constantly reminded of our limits and of the flood of our human needs everywhere around us. The problem of the priests in our times, especially with big parishes, is they feel overwhelmed with too much work. This, too, is a form of asceticism we must endure: feeling our limits. We cannot say to all because ministry is a bottomless pit. We priests most of the times, want people to think that we are nice guys and we find it pleasure to say yes. It is painful to say no or not to respond to a valid human need when there is no time. It is an asceticism to say no. Every priest needs assistance in setting appropriate limits..."

*(Taken the book: the joy of priesthood)*

### **SAINT MARON FEAST DAY HAFLI**

We will have a St. Maron Feast Day Hafli on **Saturday, February 8, 2020 at 7:00 PM** in the Church Hall. Live music featuring Said Abi Akl. Tickets are now on sale. Adults tickets are \$50.00 per person and children (11 and under) \$25.00. Great food (variety of beef, chicken and fish), good music, dancing and cash bar will be available. The deadline for reserving your tickets is this weekend. Hope to see all of you there.

### **DIVINE LITURGIES**

**Saturday, February 1, @ 6:00 PM,**  
*Divine Liturgy followed by St. Maron Novena*

**Sunday, February 2, @ 11:00 AM,**  
*Divine Liturgy followed by St. Maron Novena (Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple)* liturgy is being offered for the soul of Jamil and Malake Zakharia requested by Dany Zakharia and family. May their souls rest in peace. Also, liturgy is being offered as a 40-day memorial for the soul of Roseanne Anthony requested by her family. May her soul rest in peace.

**Tuesday, February 4, @ 6:00 PM,**  
*Divine Liturgy followed by St. Maron Novena*

**Wednesday, February 5, @ 6:00 PM, (Feast of St. Agatha)** *Divine Liturgy followed by St. Maron Novena*

**Thursday, February 6, @ 6:00 PM,** *Divine Liturgy followed by St. Maron Novena*

**Friday, February 7, @ 9:30 AM,**  
*Divine Liturgy followed by Eucharistic Adoration*

**Friday, February 7, @ 6:00 PM,**  
*Divine Liturgy followed by St. Maron Novena*

**Saturday, February 8, @ 6:00 PM,**  
*Divine Liturgy followed by St. Maron Novena.* Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Michael (Chubby) Simon requested by Chucky Simon. May his soul rest in peace.

**Sunday, February 9, @ 11:00 AM, (Feast of St. Maron)** *Divine Liturgy followed by St. Maron Novena.* Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Rizk Frangie requested by Faraj Frangie and family. May his soul rest in peace. Also, liturgy is being offered for the soul of Nicholas Dib requested by Fawaz and Bushra Dib. May his soul rest in peace.

### **SAINT MARON NOVENA**

Beginning **Friday, February 1,** we will have the Saint Maron Novena. Divine Liturgies will be scheduled during the week at 6:00 PM, and the novena will follow immediately after the Saturday and Sunday Divine Liturgies. I hope all of you will be able to join us to give honor to our Patron Saint.

### **VISIT FROM BISHOP GREGORY MANSOUR**

Bishop Gregory Mansour will be joining us for Divine Liturgy on **Ash Monday, February 24, 2020 at 7:00 PM.** Please mark your calendars and join us for this beautiful service to begin our Lenten Season.

### **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

We will have a parish council meeting on **Monday, February 10, 2020 at 6:30 PM.** Please make every effort to attend this meeting. If you are unable, please let me know. Thank you for your dedication.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- **St. Maron Novena,** February 1-9, 2020.
- **Eucharistic Adoration:** Friday, February 7, 2020 @ 9:30AM.
- **St. Maron Feast Day Party,** Saturday, February 8, 2020 @ 7:00 PM. Tickets are now on Sale.
- **Healing Mass:** Saturday, February 22, 2020 @ 6:00PM.
- **Visit from Bishop Gregory Mansour,** Ash Monday, February 24, 2020 @ 7:00 PM

### **2019 TAX LETTERS**

As the time approaches for tax season, our tax contributions are available at the Church Office. Please email or call the office so that we may prepare the papers needed for your income tax. These can only be done by those who use the envelope system. Thank you for your continued support.

## FESTIVAL GENERAL MEETING

We will have a general festival meeting on **Monday, March 2, 2020 @ 7:00 PM** in the Church Hall. We are inviting everyone who is interested in volunteering this year. Please mark your calendars and make every effort to join us so we can plan another successful festival.

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

On **Friday, February 7, 2020** we will have Divine Liturgy @ 9:30 AM followed by Eucharistic Adoration. Please come and spend some time in prayer in the presence of our Lord.

## HEALING MASS

On **Saturday, February 22, 2020 @ 6:00PM**, we will celebrate a Healing Mass with the intercession of St. Sharbel. May Almighty God hear our prayers through the intercession of St. Sharbel and grant us the gift of healing!

## MYO/MYA LENTEN RETREAT

The MYO/MYA Regional Lenten Retreat day will be on **Saturday, March 7, 2020 from 11:00 AM to 8:00 PM** at Saint John Paul II Maronite Catholic Church at Immaculate Conception, (199 North Broadway Sleepy Hollow NY 10591). The fee is \$25.00 donation per person. Teens (ages 12-18) and young adults (19-35) from the neighboring Maronite parishes in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Pennsylvania are welcomed to join. The Retreat activities will include: Interactive Icebreakers, activities & games, Meals & snacks, Prayer & Divine Liturgy, Presentations & Small group discussions, and Adoration & Confession. If you are interested in participating in this retreat, please notify your MYO advisor or the Church office.

## CATHOLIC EXTENSION GRANT

We have been given the opportunity to receive a conditional matching grant of \$10,000.00 from Catholic Extension Society.

**With everyone's contribution we were able to reach our goal. Thank you for your continuous support to St. Maron Church and God Bless you.**

## 2020 MYA NATIONAL CONFERENCE

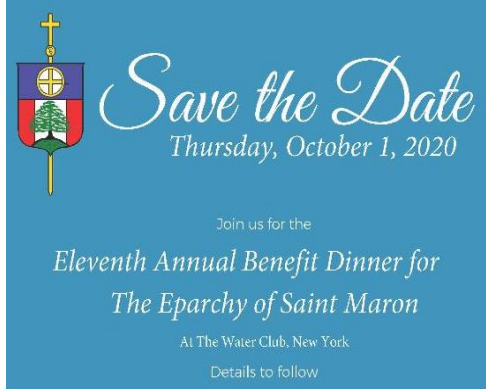
The 2020 MYA National Conference will be hosted at the University of St. Mary on the Lake Conference Center in Mundelein, Illinois **September 4-7, 2020**. The emphasis for this year's conference for our Young Adults (and they are happy to include the MYO advisors as well) will be on leadership and discipleship. Registration details will be announced soon. Please mark your calendar and notify the Church office if you are interested in attending this conference.

## SEEKING CAREGIVER

Seeking the right person, who is a mature female, to take care of our 92 years old mother, in exchange for free room and board. (South Philadelphia area). Please email to: [ninamontrose.1@gmail.com](mailto:ninamontrose.1@gmail.com) or call 215-462-9669, for details and information. References and background check required.

## WEEKLY COLLECTION FOR January 25-26, 2020

Collection	\$ 1,405.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> Col. USCCB	\$ 164.00
Donations	\$ 1,700.00
Memorial	\$ 350.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 46.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 3,665.00</b>



*Save the Date*  
Thursday, October 1, 2020

Join us for the  
*Eleventh Annual Benefit Dinner for  
The Eparchy of Saint Maron*  
At The Water Club, New York  
Details to follow

## IN OUR PRAYERS

Please keep in your prayers Marie McCrea, Kathy Dale, Donna Maglio, Nicole Giordano, Peter Perri, Neil Bohley Sr., Luke Farrell Jr., Linda DiBernardo, Patty Reynolds, Joan Speck, David Joseph Cook, Eddie Tayoun, Minarva Labbad, Dante Panichi, Dennis Strelchuk, 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, Lucy DiLuce, Cat Niven Glaze, Laurent Chidiac, Tom Hart, John Hart, Fadi Jaber, Joseph Realdine, Emily Stone, Elaine Nader, Eddie Gussin, Lisa Alestra, John Nader, Amine Skaf, Yasmine Myers, Joey Gdowick, Francis Joseph Kerns, Samer Chokeir, Kathy Newman, Rita Arrigale, Maryann Bratton, Renee Sahar, Sister Nahida Al-Sawa, Rose DeJesse, 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.





**PLEASE REMEMBER TO SILENCE YOUR  
CELL PHONES AND BEEPERS WHEN YOU  
ENTER THE CHURCH. THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR CONSIDERATION.**

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# Saint Maron

## Maronite Catholic Church



February 1-2, 2020

### First Reading

#### 1 Timothy 4:6-16

**A reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy. Your blessing father...**

Brothers and Sisters:

If you put these instructions before the brothers and sisters, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, nourished on the words of the faith and of the sound teaching that you have followed. Have nothing to do with profane myths and old wives' tales. Train yourself in godliness, for, while physical training is of some value, godliness is valuable in every way, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance. For to this end we toil and struggle, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all people, especially of those who believe. These are the things you must insist on and teach. Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. Until I arrive, give attention to the public reading of scripture, to exhorting, to teaching. Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you through prophecy with the laying on of hands by the council of elders. Put these things into practice, devote yourself to them, so that all may see your progress. Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; continue in these things, for in doing this you will save both yourself and your hearers.

**Praise be to God always.**

#### فصل من رسالة القديس بولس الأولى إلى تيموثاوس

يا إخوتي، إِذَا عَرَضْتَ ذَلِكَ لِلِإِخْوَةِ، تَكُونُ خَادِمًا صَالِحًا لِلْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ، مُتَعَدِّيًا بِكَلَامِ الْإِيمَانِ وَالتَّعْلِيمِ الْحَسَنِ الَّذِي تَبِعْتَهُ. أَمَّا الْخُرَافَاتُ النَّافِثَةُ، حِكَايَاتُ الْعَجَائِزِ، فَأَعْرِضْ عَنْهَا. وَرَوِّضْ نَفْسَكَ عَلَى النُّقْوَى. فَإِنَّ الرِّيَاضَةَ الْجَسَدِيَّةَ نَافِعَةٌ بَعْضُ الشَّيْءِ، أَمَّا النُّقْوَى فَهِيَ نَافِعَةٌ لِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ، لِأَنَّ لَهَا وَعْدَ الْحَيَاةِ الْحَاضِرَةِ وَالْآتِيَةِ. صَادِقَةٌ هِيَ الْكَلِمَةُ وَجَدِيرَةٌ بِكُلِّ قَبُولٍ: إِنْ كُنَّا نَتَعَبُ وَنُجَاهِدُ، فَذَلِكَ لِأَنَّنَا جَعَلْنَا رَجَاءَنَا فِي اللَّهِ الْحَيِّ، الَّذِي هُوَ مُخَلِّصُ النَّاسِ أَجْمَعِينَ، وَلَا سِيَّمَا الْمُؤْمِنِينَ. فَأَوْصِ بِذَلِكَ وَعَلِّمُهُ. وَلَا تَدْعُ أَحَدًا يَسْتَهْيِئُ بِحَدَاثَةِ سِنِّكَ، بَلْ كُنْ مِثَالًا لِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ، بِالْكَلَامِ، وَالسَّيْرَةِ، وَالْمَحَبَّةِ، وَالْإِيمَانِ، وَالْعَفَافِ. وَاضْطِبْ عَلَى إِعْلَانِ الْكَلِمَةِ وَالْوَعْظِ وَالتَّعْلِيمِ، إِلَى أَنْ أَجِيءَ. لَا تَهْمِلِ الْمَوْهَبَةَ الَّتِي فِيكَ، وَقَدْ وَهَبْتُ لَكَ بِالنُّبُوَّةِ مَعَ وَضْعِ أَيْدِي الشُّيُوخِ عَلَيْكَ. إِهْتَمَّ بِتِلْكَ الْأُمُورِ، وَكُنْ مُوَظِّبًا عَلَيْهَا، لِيَكُونَ تَقَدُّمُكَ وَاضِحًا لِلْجَمِيعِ. إِنَّنِي لِنَفْسِكَ وَلِتَّعْلِيمِكَ، وَاثْبُتْ فِي ذَلِكَ. فَإِذَا فَعَلْتَ خَلَّصْتَ نَفْسَكَ وَالَّذِينَ يَسْمَعُونَكَ.

والتسبيح لله دائماً.

## Gospel Reading

Saint Luke 12:42-48

### The Apostle Writes:

The Lord said, 'Who then is the faithful and prudent manager whom his master will put in charge of his slaves, to give them their allowance of food at the proper time? Blessed is that slave whom his master will find at work when he arrives. Truly I tell you, he will put that one in charge of all his possessions. But if that slave says to himself, "My master is delayed in coming", and if he begins to beat the other slaves, men and women, and to eat and drink and get drunk, the master of that slave will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour that he does not know, and will cut him in pieces, and put him with the unfaithful. That slave who knew what his master wanted, but did not prepare himself or do what was wanted, will receive a severe beating. But one who did not know and did what deserved a beating will receive a light beating. From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required; and from one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded.

**This is the truth. Peace be with you.**

### مِنْ إِنْجِيلِ الْقَدِيسِ لَوْقَا

قَالَ الرَّبُّ يَسُوعُ: «مَنْ تَرَاهُ الْوَكِيلُ الْأَمِينُ الَّذِي يُقِيمُهُ سَيِّدُهُ عَلَى خَدَمِهِ لِيُعْطِيَهُمْ حِصَّتَهُمْ مِنَ الطَّعَامِ فِي حِينِهَا؟ طُوبَى لِدَٰلِكَ الْعَبْدِ الَّذِي، مَتَى جَاءَ سَيِّدُهُ، يَجِدُهُ فَاعِلًا هَكَذَا! حَقًّا أَقُولُ لَكُمْ: إِنَّهُ يُقِيمُهُ عَلَى جَمِيعِ مُقْتَنِيَاتِهِ. أَمَّا إِذَا قَالَ ذَلِكَ الْعَبْدُ فِي قَلْبِهِ: سَيَتَأَخَّرُ سَيِّدِي فِي مَجِيئِهِ، وَبَدَأَ يَضْرِبُ الْغُلَمَانَ وَالْجَوَارِي، يَأْكُلُ وَيَشْرَبُ وَيَسْكُرُ، يَجِيءُ سَيِّدُ ذَلِكَ الْعَبْدِ فِي يَوْمٍ لَا يَنْتَظِرُهُ، وَفِي سَاعَةٍ لَا يَعْرِفُهَا، فَيَفْصِلُهُ، وَيَجْعَلُ نَصِيبَهُ مَعَ الْكَافِرِينَ. فَذَلِكَ الْعَبْدُ الَّذِي عَرَفَ مَشِيئَةَ سَيِّدِهِ، وَمَا أَعَدَّ شَيْئًا، وَلَا عَمَلَ بِمَشِيئَةِ سَيِّدِهِ، يُضْرَبُ ضَرْبًا كَثِيرًا. أَمَّا الْعَبْدُ الَّذِي مَا عَرَفَ مَشِيئَةَ سَيِّدِهِ، وَعَمِلَ مَا يَسْتَوْجِبُ الضَّرْبَ، فَيُضْرَبُ ضَرْبًا قَلِيلًا. وَمَنْ أُعْطِيَ كَثِيرًا يُطَلَّبُ مِنْهُ الْكَثِيرُ، وَمَنْ أَنْتَمَنَ عَلَى الْكَثِيرِ يُطَلَّبُ بِأَكْثَرٍ. حَقًّا وَالْأَمَانُ لَجَمِيعِكُمْ.