



# Saint Maron

## Maronite Catholic Church



December 28-29, 2019

## SUNDAY AFTER THE BIRTH OF OUR LORD

# Happy New Year!

### THE NEW YEAR'S DAY

**New Year's Day** is not just the start of a **New Year**; it is not to say good bye to a year past and to welcome a New Year with fireworks, or going to parties and restaurants.

It is not a day to drink until we get sober with the Alcohol it's also a **Holy Day of Obligation** in the Catholic Church. The Catholic Church celebrates the New Year Day as the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God, a Holy Day of Obligation, where **Catholics** are required to **attend** Mass on that day. It is a time for prayer, worship and refraining from work. It is a day that we have to start with God and to believe that Jesus is the master of all times and seasons.

New Year's Day was formerly the feast of the Circumcision of Our Lord, where all Catholic are called to remember the day of their Baptism and their commitments to the Catholic faith. Then it changed to the Holy Name of Jesus, but now it is the

Solemnity of Mary, The Mother of God. Regardless of the feast, this is a day of hospitality for most people.

The Church begins celebrating the New Year with the Holy Name of Jesus that is now the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Pope John Paul II has restored the Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus to January 3. Liturgically this great feast commemorates the first shedding of His blood on the cross for our redemption. On the same day, along with celebrating the giving of His Name Jesus, which means *Savior*, we also honor Mary's divine Motherhood. Saint Paul in one of his Epistles bids us to circumcise our hearts, as it were, "to live soberly, justly, and godly in this world." In addition to that, the New Year's is a day of hospitality among many people, in some European countries such as France and England, was a day set aside for godparents to bless the bear; and god cakes are still given to children on this day in many places. It should be easy to

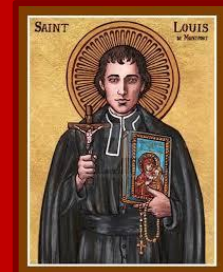
keep New Year's Day as a feast on which we honor godparents and repay them for the responsibility they have assumed toward our children.

**The Catholics used to renew their Baptismal Promises** by Bring out their christening robes,

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*"Pray with great confidence, with confidence based upon the goodness and infinite generosity of God and upon the promises of Jesus Christ. God is a spring of living water which flows unceasingly into the hearts of those who pray."*

*St. Louis de Montfort*



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

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Facebook Page: Saint Maron Maronite Catholic Church of Philadelphia

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

to remember the day of their salvation. With godparents and family gathered in the living room, light the children's baptismal candles, or light a holy candle for each child. When the candles are ready, the father presents one to each child and prays as the Church did at baptism:

Receive this burning light and safeguard your baptism by a blameless life. Keep the Commandments of God, that when our Lord shall come to claim His own, you may be worthy to greet Him, with all the saints in the heavenly court and live forever. Amen.

I hope that the Candle of your faith, love, hope and good deeds and actions will remain burning in your life today and all Year along. Amen.

Fr. El-Badaoui Habib

### **CATHOLIC EXTENSION GRANT**

We have been given the opportunity to receive a conditional matching grant of \$10,000.00 from Catholic Extension Society. In order to receive this Grant we need your help to raise donations totaling at least \$10,000.00. To help us reach our goal please make checks payable to "St. Maron Church" and write "Donation" in the memo.

**Thank you to everyone who contributed toward our goal, so far we have raised \$6300.00 and with your continuous help we will reach our goal soon.**

### **WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY**

This past week we said goodbye to our beloved Roseann Anthony. We extend our deepest sympathy to her children Michael Anthony, Cynthia Anthony-Abreu, and Roseann (Robert) Antar and their extended family. We ask Almighty God to welcome Roseann into His kingdom and may her soul rest in peace. Allah yerhamma!

### **NEW YEAR'S EVE BRING & SHARE**

Some families are gathering in the church hall on New Year's Eve. Each family will bring food and drinks to share. If anybody would like to join them, please contact Priscilla Frangie to get more details.

### **2020 CHURCH ENVELOPES**

The 2020 weekly envelopes are now available in the church hall. If anyone does not have a set of envelopes and would like them please contact the office and we will have a set ready for you. In this way we can give you tax recognition at the end of the year.

### **HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**

The Circumcision of Jesus is a holy day of obligation. Liturgy will be held on **Tuesday, December 31, @ 6:00PM** and **Wednesday, January 1, @ 10:00AM**. Please join us for this special day.

### **DIVINE LITURGIES**

**Saturday, December 28, @ 6:00 PM,**

**Sunday, December 29, @ 11:00 AM, (Killing of the Holy Innocents)** liturgy is being offered for the soul of Peter Koway requested by Terri Koway. May his soul rest in peace.

**Tuesday, December 31, @ 6:00 PM, (The Circumcision of Jesus)**

**Wednesday, January 1, @ 10:00 AM, (The Circumcision of Jesus)**

**Thursday, January 2, NO LITURGY**

**Friday, January 3, @ 9:00 AM,**

**Saturday, January 4, @ 6:00 PM, (Feast of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton)**

**Sunday, January 5, @ 11:00 AM, (Feast of St. Paul the Hermit and St. John Neumann)** liturgy is being offered for the soul of Tanios Zeinoun requested by Dany and Rania Cherfane. May his soul rest in peace. Also, Liturgy is being offered as a 7 days memorial for the soul of Roseann Anthony requested by her family. May her soul rest in peace.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- **St. Maron Feast Day Party,** Saturday February 8, 2020 @ 7:00 PM. We will have the details soon. Please mark your calendars.



## IN OUR PRAYERS

Please keep in your prayers Neil Bohley Sr., Luke Farrell Jr., Linda DiBernardo, Patty Reynolds, Joan Speck, David Joseph Cook, Eddie Tayoun, Martha Simon Casella, 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, Raja Kaldany, 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, 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.

## AMAZON SMILE ACCOUNT

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## WEEKLY COLLECTION FOR December 21-22, 2019

Collection	\$ 1,875.00
Christmas Collection	\$ 2,392.00
Memorial	\$ 400.00
Donation for Lebanon	\$ 285.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 37.00
Total:	\$ 4,989.00

## OFFICE CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAYS

The office will be closed for the New Year on **December 31 and January 1.**

## Prayer For The New Year

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the year that has passed and the many blessings You have showered us in time.

We beg your pardon in our many failings and trespasses and we pray that the coming year be a more fruitful one.

We earnestly pray for the gift of the Holy Spirit and we call upon our Lord Jesus Christ for His intercessions, His guidance and His light to shine our path.



**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



December 28-29, 2019

### First Reading

#### Hebrews 11:23-31

**A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews. Your blessing father...**

Brothers and Sisters:

By faith Moses was hidden by his parents for three months after his birth, because they saw that the child was beautiful; and they were not afraid of the king's edict. By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called a son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to share ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He considered abuse suffered for the Christ to be greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking ahead to the reward. By faith he left Egypt, unafraid of the king's anger; for he persevered as though he saw him who is invisible. By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel. By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

**Praise be to God always.**

#### فصل من الرسالة إلى العبرانيين

يا إخواني، بالإيمان موسى، لمّا وُلِدَ، أَخْفَاهُ آبَاؤُهُ ثَلَاثَةَ أَشْهُرٍ، لِأَنَّهُمَا رَأَيَا الصَّبِيَّ جَمِيلًا، وَلَمْ يَرْهَبَا أَمْرَ الْمَلِكِ. بِالْإِيمَانِ مُوسَى، لَمَّا كَبُرَ، أَبَى أَنْ يُدْعَى ابْنًا لِأُبْنَةِ فِرْعَوْنَ، وَأَخْتَارَ الْمَشَقَّةَ مَعَ شَعْبِ اللَّهِ عَلَى التَّمَتُّعِ الْوَقْتِيِّ بِالْخَطِيئَةِ، حَاسِبًا عَارَ الْمَسِيحِ غِنَى أَعْظَمَ مِنْ كُنُوزِ مِصْرَ، لِأَنَّهُ كَانَ يَتَطَلَّعُ إِلَى الْمُكَافَأَةِ. بِالْإِيمَانِ تَرَكَ مِصْرَ، وَلَمْ يَخْشَ غَضَبَ الْمَلِكِ، وَثَبَّتَ عَلَى عَزْمِهِ، كَأَنَّهُ يَرَى مَا لَا يَرَى. بِالْإِيمَانِ صَنَعَ الْفِصْحَ وَرَشَّ الدَّمِ، لِئَلَّا يَمَسَّهُمْ مُهْلِكُ الْأَبْكَارِ. بِالْإِيمَانِ عَبَّرَ بَنُو إِسْرَائِيلَ الْبَحْرَ الْأَحْمَرَ، كَمَا عَلَى أَرْضِ يَابِسَةٍ، وَلَمَّا حَاوَلَ الْمِصْرِيُّونَ غُبُورَهُ غَرِقُوا. بِالْإِيمَانِ سَقَطَتْ أَسْوَارُ أَرِيحَا، بَعْدَ الطَّوَافِ حَوْلَهَا سَبْعَةَ أَيَّامٍ. بِالْإِيمَانِ رَاحَبُ الْبَغْيِ لَمْ تَهْلِكْ مَعَ الَّذِينَ عَصَوْا، لِأَنَّهُمَا قَبِلَتْ الْجَاسُوسِينَ بِسَلَامٍ.

والتسبيح لله دائماً.



## Gospel Reading

### Saint Matthew 2:13-18

#### The Apostle Writes:

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, ‘Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.’ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, ‘Out of Egypt I have called my son.’ When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: ‘A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.’

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

#### مِنْ إِنْجِيلِ الْقَدِيسِ مَتَّى

بَعْدَمَا أَنْصَرَفَ الْمَجُوسُ، تَرَاءَى مَلَاكُ الرَّبِّ فِي الْحُلَمِ لِيُوسُفَ، وَقَالَ لَهُ: «قُمْ، خُذِ الصَّبِيَّ وَأُمَّهُ، وَاهْرُبْ إِلَى مِصْرَ، وَابْقَ هُنَاكَ إِلَى أَنْ أَقُولَ لَكَ، لِأَنَّ هِيرُودُسَ مُزْمِعٌ أَنْ يَبْحَثَ عَنِ الصَّبِيِّ لِيُهْلِكَهُ.» فَقَامَ يُوسُفُ وَأَخَذَ الصَّبِيَّ وَأُمَّهُ لَيْلًا، وَلَجَا إِلَى مِصْرَ. وَبَقِيَ هُنَاكَ حَتَّى مَاتَ هِيرُودُسُ، لِيَتِمَّ مَا قَالَهُ الرَّبُّ بِالنَّبِيِّ: «مِنْ مِصْرَ دَعَوْتُ أَبْنِي.» وَلَمَّا رَأَى هِيرُودُسُ أَنَّ الْمَجُوسَ سَخِرُوا مِنْهُ غَضِبَ جِدًّا. وَأَرْسَلَ فَقَتَلَ جَمِيعَ الصَّبِيَّانِ فِي بَيْتِ لَحْمٍ وَضَوَاحِيهَا، مِنْ أَبْنِ سَنَتَيْنِ فَمَا دُونَ، بِحَسَبِ الزَّمَنِ الَّذِي تَحَقَّقَهُ مِنَ الْمَجُوسِ. حِينَئِذٍ تَمَّ مَا قِيلَ بِالنَّبِيِّ إِرْمِيَا: صَوْتُ سُمِعَ فِي الرَّامَةِ، بُكَاءٌ وَنَحِيبٌ كَثِيرٌ. رَاحِلُ تَبْكِي أَوْلَادَهَا، وَقَدْ أَبَتْ أَنْ تَتَعَزَّى، لِأَنَّهُمْ زَالُوا مِنَ الْوُجُودِ.  
حَقًّا وَالْأَمَانُ لَجَمِيعِكُمْ.