



Saint Maron

Maronite Catholic Church



July 18-19, 2020

EIGHTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

YOU ARE THE CHURCH THE CHURCH IS YOU

Dear Parishioners and Friends of Saint Maron,

This is a follow up letter to the previous one that was sent out when I was first assigned as administrator to Saint Maron parish due to the COVID-19 pandemic which has resulted in the shutdown of the entire world. It's my responsibility to thank each of you for responding generously to our request, and for your assistance in supporting your Church. As a result, the Church was able to continue paying the bills and cover the Church expenses. Therefore, I would like to share with you everything we did, as a united parish, since March 18, 2020 to this day. This financial summary shows how important your support is to your parish through your offerings, donations and participation in all the fundraisers:

- Total Income: \$48,974.71
 - Weekly offering: \$26,682.79
 - Donations: \$11,171.67
 - Fundraise profit: \$11,120.25

- Total Expenses: \$50,891.09

On March 18, 2020 the parish had \$17,596.34 in the bank, and as of today, we have \$15,679.96

We should all remain together, without exception. We all have to remain committed, participate and accept responsibility. It's our duty-- morally, religiously, and as human beings.

In order to maintain our financial stability, we have the following two options:

- Option 1: We have to be responsible and work together with Christian love, respect, and humility by taking part in all the activities and fundraisers that support the parish, or
- Option 2: We can go the easiest route and apply for loans from the banks, which will delay our obligations for few months.

I'm not in favor of this last option, because when we consider ourselves parishioners of this Church, we have to take responsibility in maintaining our success. All the good work that

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

O Divine Ocean of Mercy and Compassion, be with us in our time of trial and difficulties. Today I make an act of spiritual communion with you, the Life-Giving Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. At this time, I am not able to receive the sacred body and blood of my Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ, but I choose to live in union with him and in the unity of the Holy Spirit. I offer my day, my daily life, my joys and sorrows to you, for those around me, and for the whole world. Be with us O life-giving Triune God, for we know that nothing in this world has power over us. O Lover of all people, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Fr. Samir Chebli, Administrator | Fr. David Fisher, Consultant

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

Office: 215-389-2000 | **Hall Reservations:** 215-334-1884 | **For Emergencies:** 914-309-6650

Website: www.saintmaron.org | **Church Office:** saintmaronphiladelphia@hotmail.com | **Instagram Page:** @saintmaronphiladelphia

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.

was done in the history of this church cannot and should not go in vain. This is our identity. This is who we are. This parish is our child "if your child asks for bread, will you give him a stone?" (Matthew 7:9). Each and every one of us is the key to the parish's success; you are all called to join us in the upcoming Church events; some of them have already been announced and others will be announced soon:

- Food Take Out on Wednesday, July 22, 2020 for the feast of St. Sharbel.
- Raffle 2020, will be announced soon.
- September Special Fundraiser; it's an event with a different format to comply with all the safety measurements.

We are learning new ways of being the Church in a worldwide pandemic. My hope is that we will emerge from this crisis as closer friends and closer families. We thank God for a faithful and caring community of St. Maron Church. May He keep all of you safe and healthy.

God bless you and stay safe,
Fr. Samir Chebli

SPECIAL FUNDRAISER MEETING

As you all know, this year we are not able to have our festival and specially now after Mayor Kenney cancelled all large events on public property for six months due to COVID-19 concerns. The festival is our biggest event where all the parishioners work together to make it a success socially and financially. This year we have to be creative and positive.

For that reason, we are looking into having a "September Special Fundraiser", it will be a 3-days take out of food and dessert. People will be able to pre-order online prior to pick up. To make this event a success we will need your assistance.

Every person who is willing to help us in organizing and preparing for this event is invited to join us on **Tuesday, July 21, 2020 at 7:00PM** in the Church Hall to discuss all the details. During this meeting we will respect social distancing and everybody is asked to wear a mask. **Please let us know if you are willing to attend.**

FEAST OF ST. SHARBEL FUNDRAISER

For the feast of St. Sharbel we will have a small fundraiser on **Wednesday, July 22, 2020**. We're hoping that this fundraise will keep our parish active and connected, and it will also serve

as a financial support for our Church that is needed during these challenging times. We will be offering the following items:

- **Grape Leaves Platter:** includes 1 dozen grape leaves, yogurt and bread for \$20.00
- **Kafta Platter:** includes 8 kafta, hummus and bread for \$20.00
- **Aish Saraya:** 1/2 tray for \$20.00
- **Hummus** for \$5.00
- **Yogurt** for \$5.00

You also have the option to order the items above uncooked.

For everybody's safety, the orders will be ready for pick up, by appointment only. You may order your platters by calling the Church office at (215) 389-2000, or by emailing us at office@saintmaron.org **no later than Sunday, July 19, 2020.**

Thank you for your continuous support to Saint Maron Church.


Saint Maron Church
 Hosting
Feast of Saint Sharbel Fundraiser
Wednesday, July 22, 2020


Grape Leaves Platter
 1 dozen Grape Leaves with Yogurt and bread
\$20.00

Kafta Platter
 8 Kafta with hummus and bread
\$20.00

Dessert
Aish Saraya
 1/2 tray
\$20.00

Side Dishes
Yogurt **Hummus**
\$5.00 **\$5.00**





Please place your orders before Sunday, July 19, 2020
office@saintmaron.org
 (215) 389 - 2000

Take Out

DIVINE LITURGIES

Saturday, July 18, @ 6:00PM,
Sunday, July 19, @ 11:00AM,
(Celebration of St. Sharbel)
liturgy is being offered for the souls of Nadia Sara requested by her family. May her soul rest in peace. Also, liturgy is offered for the soul of Layla Chalhoub requested by her family. May her soul rest in peace.

Tuesday, July 22, @ 6:00PM,
(Feast of St. Sharbel)

Saturday, July 25, @ 6:00PM,
liturgy is being offered for the souls of Helene and Dolores Delaney requested by Marlene Mockewich. May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, July 26, @ 11:00AM,

"REMEMBER ME IN YOUR KINGDOM"

The First Tuesday of each month, we will offer a Divine Liturgy for the souls of the deceased members of the parish. Please email us to office@saintmaron.org the names of your beloved ones that you would like us to include during Liturgy. May their souls rest in peace.

GREEN PHASE IS POSTPONED

Philadelphia officials are postponing the transition to the green phase until early August. Therefore, we will keep the same precautions of the yellow phase of the reopening of the Church.

THANK YOU

Thank you for everyone who donated to the Church this past week. As you know, our Church's finances rely on the generosity of our community, including Sunday collections and donations. If you are able to donate, please do so via the following link: <https://saintmaron.org/donate> or you can always mail your weekly envelopes/donations to the Church office. We appreciate your generosity and thank you for your continuous support during these challenging times.

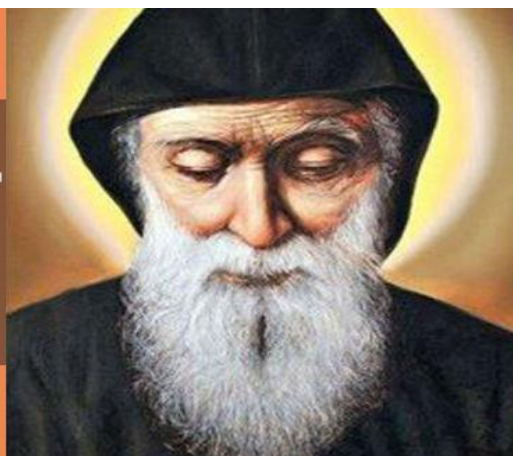
WEEKLY COLLECTION FOR July 11-12, 2020

Collection	\$ 671.00
Donation	\$ 150.00
Online(07/10-07/13)	\$ 160.00
Total:	\$ 981.00

IN OUR PRAYERS

Please keep in your prayers Roseann Carmalingo, Bonnie Gorman, Kevin Khoury, Charles Viccarelli, Sue Flacco, Joe Maglio, Marie McCrea, Kathy Dale, Suzanne Haney, 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, Mirta Ruiz, Tina Grassi, Rita Impo, 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, Lisa Alestra, John Nader, 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.

SAINT SHARBEL
Pray For Us



DIVINE LITURGY DURING THE YELLOW PHASE

Philadelphia will postpone the transition to the green phase of reopening until early August. Therefore, we will keep the same precautions of the YELLOW PHASE to limit the spread of COVID-19. Please read carefully the following requirements. If we don't comply with these requirements, we will lose the privilege of being able to celebrate Divine Liturgy with your presence.

Similar to the CDC Guidelines for houses of worship, the guidance from commonwealth of Pennsylvania makes some exceptions for houses of worship:

"Churches, synagogues, temples, mosques and other places of congregate worship are specifically excluded from the limitations established by this Guidance (cf. the June 1, 2020 document found on the website of the Pennsylvania Department of Health) these instructions are strongly encouraged to institute social distancing and other mitigation measures like masking at their gathering."

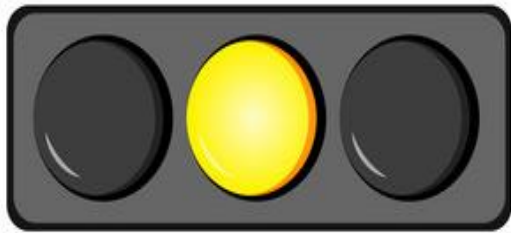
- The faithful continue to be dispensed by Bishop Gregory from the obligation to attend Divine Liturgy on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation until further notice.
- Those who are sick or compromised due to health conditions are still asked not to come to church.
- We will continue to Live Stream Divine Liturgies on Facebook and YouTube.
- Divine Liturgies will still be celebrated in the **Church Hall** where we can accommodate a larger number of parishioners. In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, houses of worship may be occupied up to 50% during

the yellow phase. Therefore, we will be able to accommodate **50 parishioners** at each Liturgy.

- Parishioners wishing to attend Divine Liturgy will be able to **SIGN UP** through the parish website: www.saintmaron.org or through the link the following link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040548A9A822A3FD0-stmaron>. For those who don't have access to the internet you can call the church office and we will assist you to sign up.
- **EVERYONE** (except those 2 years of age and younger) attending is to **WEAR A FACE MASK** throughout the celebration of Divine Liturgy. The face covering or mask should be only removed for the reception of Holy Communion. The faithful may remove their face covering or mask only after they have left the church hall.
- **SIX FEET** distance between individuals is the norm for social distancing.
- Social distancing should be observed between members of different households.
- Members of the same household (such as families) do not need to observe social distancing among themselves and may sit together as normal.
- Holy water fonts will remain empty.
- Doors will be kept open before and after Liturgy.
- There will be **NO SOCIAL HOUR** after Divine Liturgy and no coffee will be offered.
- Gatherings of parishioners are not to take place before or after Divine Liturgy for any reason. As people arrive to the church hall, they are to go immediately to their place.
- Only the single bathroom at the entrance of the hall will be open;

this is a unisex bathroom. All others will be closed.

- All areas of the church hall will be sanitized routinely, according to the guidelines for sanitation provided by the CDC for houses of worship.
- Hand sanitizers will be available at the entrance of the church hall. We encourage everybody to bring their own hand sanitizer and wipes, as they are very difficult to find in the stores.
- Priests and deacons are not expected to wear masks or gloves.
- **Distribution of Holy Communion:** To avoid a real risk of infection with COVID-19 for the priest and the parishioners, Holy Communion will be distributed in the **HAND** at this time.
- While receiving Holy Communion we ask you to keep a space of 6 feet distance between each other by standing on the marks indicated on the floor.
- Holy Communion is not to be distributed wearing gloves.
- Choir members will maintain physical distance and follow all safety measures throughout Divine Liturgy.
- Liturgical Books will not be available, we will use our hall projector to post the service and everybody will be able to pray with us.
- The Church Bulletin will not be printed, we will continue to email it and post it on Facebook.
- The procession with the Gifts during the Offertory is omitted.
- The sign of the peace will be without contact throughout the church.
- The collection baskets will be placed at the entrance of the hall where parishioners can place their offerings before or after Liturgy.



WELCOME BACK!

Hopefully soon we will turn to the
Green Phase

*Proudly Serving The St. Maron Church
And The Lebanese People*



Ronald Rex Piselli, Supervisor, President
Richard G. Piselli, Vice President
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Saint Maron

Maronite Catholic Church



July 18-19, 2020

First Reading

Romans 8:1-11

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Romans. Your blessing father...

Brothers and Sisters:

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Praise be to God always.

فصل من رسالة القديس بولس إلى أهل رومة

يا إخوتي، إِذَا فَلَا حُكْمَ بِالْهَلَاكِ بَعْدَ الْآنَ عَلَى الَّذِينَ هُمْ فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ؛ لِأَنَّ شَرِيعَةَ رُوحِ الْحَيَاةِ فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ، قَدْ حَرَّرْتَنِي مِنْ شَرِيعَةِ الْخَطِيئَةِ وَالْمَوْتِ. فَإِنَّ مَا عَجَزَتْ عَنْهُ الشَّرِيعَةُ، وَقَدْ أضعَفَهَا الْجَسَدُ، أَنْجَزَهُ اللَّهُ، حِينَ أَرْسَلَ ابْنَهُ فِي جَسَدٍ يُشَبِّهُ جَسَدَ الْخَطِيئَةِ، تَكْفِيرًا لِلْخَطِيئَةِ، فَقَضَى فِي الْجَسَدِ عَلَى الْخَطِيئَةِ، لِكَيْ يَتِمَّ بِرُ الشَّرِيعَةِ فِيْنَا، نَحْنُ السَّالِكِينَ لَا بِحَسَبِ الْإِنْسَانِ الْجَسَدِيِّ بَلْ بِحَسَبِ الرُّوحِ؛ لِأَنَّ السَّالِكِينَ بِحَسَبِ الْإِنْسَانِ الْجَسَدِيِّ، يَرْغَبُونَ فِي مَا هُوَ لِلْجَسَدِ، وَالسَّالِكِينَ بِحَسَبِ الرُّوحِ يَرْغَبُونَ فِي مَا هُوَ لِلرُّوحِ. فَرَغْبَةُ الْجَسَدِ مَوْتٌ، أَمَّا رَغْبَةُ الرُّوحِ فَحَيَاةٌ وَسَلَامٌ. لِذَلِكَ فَرَغْبَةُ الْإِنْسَانِ الْجَسَدِيِّ عَدَاوَةٌ لِلَّهِ، لِأَنَّهَا لَا تَخْضَعُ لِشَرِيعَةِ اللَّهِ وَلَا تَسْتَطِيعُ ذَلِكَ. وَإِنَّ السَّالِكِينَ بِحَسَبِ الْإِنْسَانِ الْجَسَدِيِّ، لَا يَسْتَطِيعُونَ أَنْ يُرْضُوا اللَّهَ. أَمَّا أَنْتُمْ فَلَسْتُمْ أَنَاسًا جَسَدِيِّينَ بَلْ رُوحِيِّينَ، إِنْ كَانَ حَقًّا رُوحُ اللَّهِ سَاكِنًا فِيكُمْ. وَلَكِنْ مَنْ لَيْسَ لَهُ رُوحُ الْمَسِيحِ، لَيْسَ هُوَ لِلْمَسِيحِ. أَمَّا إِذَا كَانَ الْمَسِيحُ فِيكُمْ، فَبِرْغَمِ أَنَّ الْجَسَدَ مَيِّتٌ بِسَبَبِ الْخَطِيئَةِ، فَالرُّوحُ حَيَاةٌ لَكُمْ بِفَضْلِ الْبِرِّ. وَإِذَا كَانَ رُوحُ اللَّهِ الَّذِي أَقَامَ يَسُوعَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ سَاكِنًا فِيكُمْ، فَالَّذِي أَقَامَ الْمَسِيحَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ يُحْيِي أَيْضًا أَجْسَادَكُمْ الْمَائِتَةَ بِرُوحِهِ السَّاكِنِ فِيكُمْ.

والتسبيح لله دائماً.

Gospel Reading

Saint Matthew 12:14-21

The Apostle Writes:

But the Pharisees went out and conspired against him, how to destroy him. When Jesus became aware of this, he departed. Many crowds followed him, and he cured all of them, and he ordered them not to make him known. This was to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah: 'Here is my servant, whom I have chosen, my beloved, with whom my soul is well pleased. I will put my Spirit upon him, and he will proclaim justice to the Gentiles. He will not wrangle or cry aloud, nor will anyone hear his voice in the streets. He will not break a bruised reed or quench a smoldering wick until he brings justice to victory. And in his name the Gentiles will hope.'

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

مِنْ إِنْجِيلِ الْقَدِيسِ مَتَّى

خَرَجَ الْفَرِيسِيُّونَ فَتَشَاوَرُوا عَلَى يَسُوعَ لِيُهْلِكُوهُ. وَعَلِمَ يَسُوعُ بِالْأَمْرِ فَأَنْصَرَفَ مِنْ هُنَاكَ. وَتَبِعَهُ كَثِيرُونَ فَشَفَاهُمْ جَمِيعًا، وَحَذَّرَهُمْ مِنْ أَنْ يُشْهِرُوهُ، لِيَتِمَّ مَا قِيلَ بِالنَّبِيِّ إِشَعْيَا: "هُوَذَا فَتَايَ الَّذِي اخْتَرْتُهُ، حَبِيبِي الَّذِي رَضِيتُ بِهِ نَفْسِي. سَأَجْعَلُ رُوحِي عَلَيْهِ فَيُبَشِّرُ الْأُمَمَ بِالْحَقِّ. لَنْ يُمَاجِكَ وَلَنْ يَصِيحَ، وَلَنْ يَسْمَعَ أَحَدٌ صَوْتَهُ فِي السَّاحَاتِ. قَصَبَةً مَرْضُوضَةً لَنْ يَكْسِرَ، وَفَتِيلَةً مُدَخِّنَةً لَنْ يُطْفِئَ، إِلَى أَنْ يَصِلَ بِالْحَقِّ إِلَى النَّصْرِ. وَبِاسْمِهِ تَجْعَلُ الْأُمَمُ رَجَاءَهَا."

حَقًّا وَالْأَمَانُ لِكُلِّكُمْ.