



Saint Maron

Maronite Catholic Church



December 4-5, 2021

Birth of John the Baptist

Prayer of the Faithful

Sunday Evening Prayer

Second Prayer

The Birth of John the Baptizer

Lord, have mercy on us and save us.

*O God, have compassion on our
lowliness,*

and pity our weakness.

Lend an ear to our pleas,

*accept our petitions and lay your
merciful right hand upon us.*

*On the great Day of your coming,
may we find true joy in you.*

*O Lord, our God, our hope is in you and
we call upon your name; to you be glory
for ever.*

Amen.



Readings

First Reading:

Galatians 4:21 – 5:1

Gospel Reading:

Luke 1:57-66

Our Mission Statement

To seek to know the love of God revealed in Jesus Christ, to celebrate together as a united family of faith, and to share our gifts and talents in loving service to others.

Sanctuary Candle

The Sanctuary Candle is
burning for
all the aborted babies

Fr. Andrewos (Fadi) ElTabchi, Pastor | Fr. David Fisher, Consultant

Janah Szewczyk, Religious Education Director | address: 1013 Ellsworth Street, Philadelphia, PA 19147

Office: 215-389-2000 | Hall Reservations: 215-334-1884 | For Emergencies: 978-241-2977

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.

DIVINE LITURGIES

Saturday, December 4, @ 6:00PM, liturgy is offered the soul of John Joseph requested by Terry Koway and Debra Mosier. May his soul rest in peace.

Sunday, December 5, @ 11:00AM, liturgy is offered the Yvonne and Tony Impo requested by family. May their souls rest in peace.

Saturday, December 11, @ 6:00PM, liturgy is offered in memory of Alfred Jabbour requested by Angela Baggio. May his soul rest in peace.

Sunday, December 12, @ 11:00AM, liturgy is offered in memory of Salim Mikhael requested by Philip and Vivian Rai. May his souls rest in peace.

THANK YOU

Thank you for everyone who donated to the Church this past week. 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. Thank you for your continuous support during these challenging times.

WEEKLY COLLECTION FOR

November 27-28, 2021

Sunday Collection	\$ 869.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 20.00
Donation	\$ 20.00
Online	\$ 460.00
Total:	\$ 1,369.00
Weekly Budget	\$ 3,950.00
Deficit	- \$ 2,581.00



GIVING TREE

Thank you to everyone who participated in the giving tree and chose a name tag.

Please bring **ALL GIFTS UNWRAPPED WITH THE NAME ATTACHED TO THE CHURCH NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12.**

If you have any questions, please contact the office. Thank you for making someone's Christmas special this year! God bless you.

ELDERLY COMMUNION

If you wish to receive communion at home, please contact the Church Office at 215-389-2000.

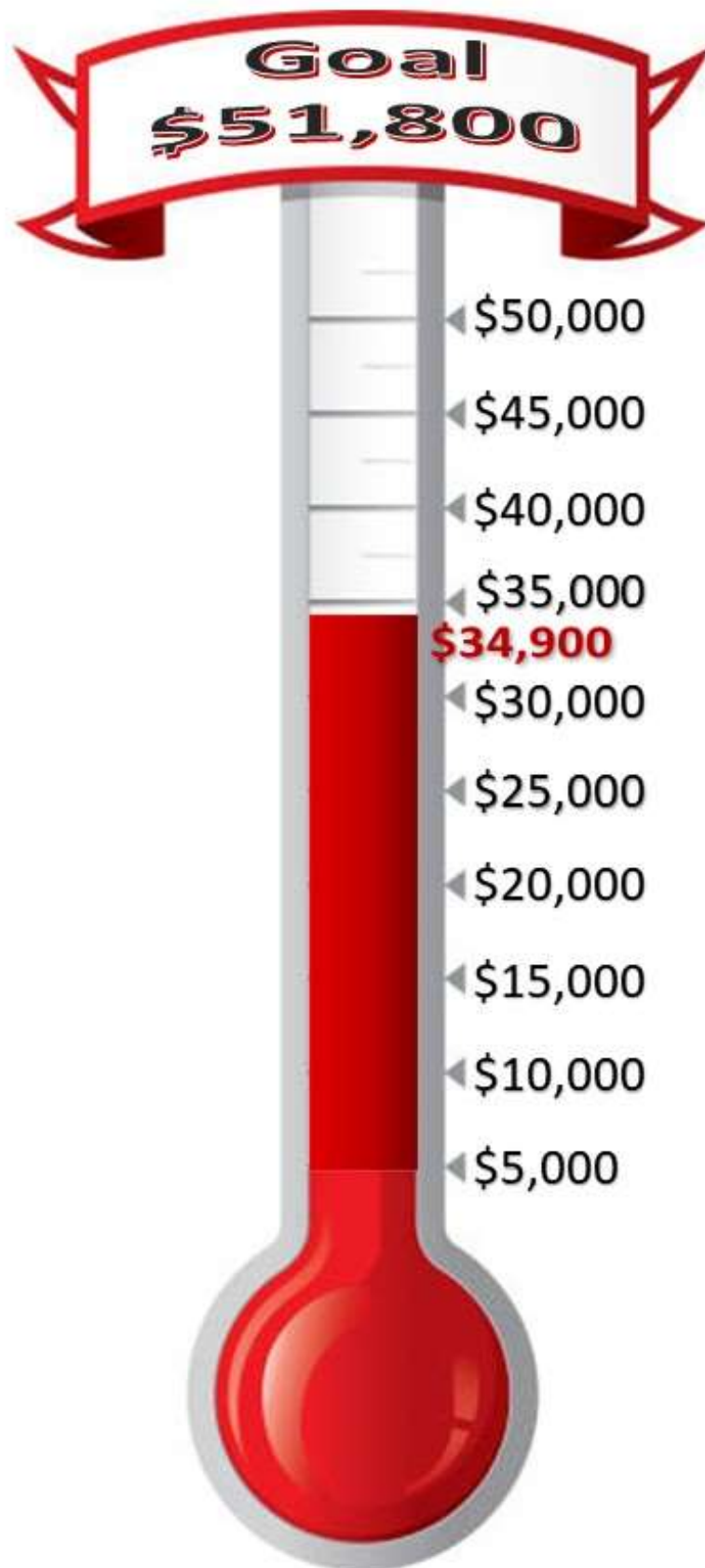
IN OUR PRAYERS

Please keep in your prayers Raymond Fitzpatrick, Henry George, Linda Yeckes, Frankie Olivieri, Richy Grande, Marie Eddis, Mia Andrilla, Jimmy Romeo, Natalie Ciancaglini, Ashley Iaconelli, Stephen Bressi, Elissar Ayoub, Joanne Simon-Turing, Kevin Khoury, Marie McCrea, Suzanne Haney, Luke Farrell Jr., Linda DiBernardo, Joan Speck, David Joseph Cook, Eddie Tayoun, Panichi, Dennis Strelchuk, Gladys Dalcourt, Denise Furey, Mirta Ruiz, Rita Impo, Jade Kellam, Marion Thomas Branca, Francesca Impo, Lucy DiLuce, Laurent Chidiac, Tom Hart, John Hart, Fadi Jaber, Joseph Realdine, Emily Stone, 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, and Angel Salerno. 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 intention.



Church Roof

Capital Campaign Progress



IN OUR DAILY PRAYERS



Be Merciful as Your Father is Merciful

We are not only to receive the mercy of God, but to use it by being merciful to others through our actions, our words, and our prayers; in other words, we are to practice the Corporal and Spiritual Works (Acts) of Mercy.

The Lord wants us to do these works of mercy, because even the strongest faith is of no use without works.

Corporal Works of Mercy

- Feed the hungry
- Give drink to the thirsty
- Clothe the naked
- Shelter the homeless
- Visit the prisoners
- Comfort / Visit the sick
- Bury the dead

Spiritual Works of Mercy

- Teach / instruct the ignorant
- Pray for the living & dead
- Correct sinners
- Counsel those in doubt
- Console the sorrowful
- Bear wrongs patiently
- Forgive wrongs willingly

The seven Capital Sins

- Lust (excessive sexual appetites)
- Gluttony (over-indulgence)
- Greed (avarice)
- Sloth (laziness/idleness)
- Wrath (anger)
- Envy (jealousy)
- Pride (vanity)

The seven gifts of the Holy Spirit

- wisdom
- Understanding
- Counsel
- Fortitude
- Knowledge
- Piety
- Fear of the Lord

UPCOMING EVENTS



CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

Our MYO will wrap the gifts on December 12



CHRISTMAS GATHERING

Sunday, December 19 after Divine Liturgy
Concert by our CCD and MYO
Putlock – Bring a dish to share



CHRISTMAS NOVENA

From December 15 to December 24 @ 7:00PM



NOVENA WITH BISHOP GREGORY

Wednesday, December 22 @ 7:00PM
Followed by a dinner hosted by our MYA

SAINT MARON CHURCH

Christmas Party



POTLUCK LUNCHEON

Bring a Dish to Share



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2021
After Divine Liturgy

CHRISTMAS CONCERT
BY OUR

**CCD & MYO
CHILDREN**



Visit
from a
SPECIAL GUEST

SAINT MARON CHURCH



DIVINE LITURGY &
CHRISTMAS NOVENA

Celebrated by
His Excellency Most Rev.
Bishop Gregory Mansour



Wednesday, December 22
7:00 PM

followed by
Dinner in the Church Hall
hosted by our MYA

MYO ... ARE YOU READY!

The 2022 Mid-Atlantic Regional MYO Retreat will be on April 22-24, 2022
Mark your Calendars!

Save the Date!

The Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn
presents



Mid-Atlantic
Regional MYO
Retreat

Christian
Blue Mountain
Retreat Center
New Ringgold, PA

April 22 - 24, 2022

For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but
rather of power and love and self-control. [2 Tim 1:7]

2021-2022 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Registration is still Open!

We are excited to announce that the 2021-2022 registrations for our youth programs are now open!

We will be running three programs this year:

Sunday CCD, Junior MYO and MYO!

All registrations will be done online using the links below.

All programs kick-off in September.

This year, all our programs will be using a **Grade-system**, not **Age**, to align with the Eparchial standards.

We can't wait to have all our youth back!



[Click here to register your child for CCD](#)

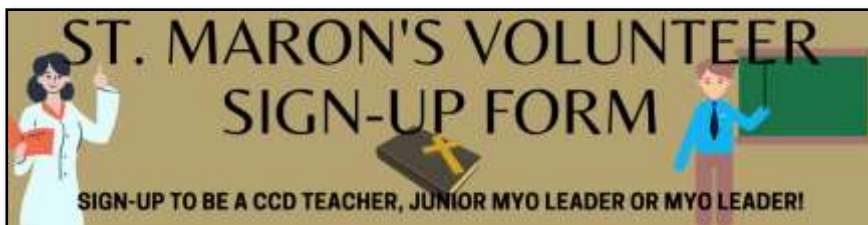


[Click here to register your child for JrMYO](#)



[Click here to register your child for MYO](#)

We are also looking for dedicated parishioners that would volunteer to be a **CCD Teacher, Junior MYO Leader, or MYO Leader!**



[Click here to Sign-Up](#)

We thank you for your continued commitment to **YOUR** parish community.
United we stand. We are Saint Maron's.

GIVE A CHILD A CHANCE AT A BETTER FUTURE

Bank to School is a fundraising initiative to help support children across Lebanon to get back to school; in partnership with arcenciel we have an on-the-ground team that identifies the children who need the most help and support. At the heart of the Bank to School mission is inclusion and equal opportunities for all. To help ensure full transparency and accountability, the raised funds are directly paid to the schools.

We aim to double our donations for the 2021-2022 academic school year, i.e. more than 50,000\$ to financially support more than 1,000 students. We are counting on your generous donations to secure the schooling of our Lebanese youths.



For more information on our initiative, visit our website

www.banktoschool.com or reach out on banktoschool@gmail.com

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so that you can donate it to St. Maron's Church, Philadelphia PA, if you wish.



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Saint Maron

Maronite Catholic Church



December 4-5, 2021

First Reading

Galatians 4:21-31, 5:1

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Galatians. Your blessing father...

Brothers and Sisters:

Tell me, you who desire to be subject to the law, will you not listen to the law? For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and the other by a free woman. One, the child of the slave, was born according to the flesh; the other, the child of the free woman, was born through the promise. Now this is an allegory: these women are two covenants. One woman, in fact, is Hagar, from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery. Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia and corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. But the other woman corresponds to the Jerusalem above; she is free, and she is our mother. For it is written, 'Rejoice, you childless one, you who bear no children, burst into song and shout, you who endure no birth pangs; for the children of the desolate woman are more numerous than the children of the one who is married.' Now you, my friends, are children of the promise, like Isaac. But just as at that time the child who was born according to the flesh persecuted the child who was born according to the Spirit, so it is now also. But what does the scripture say? 'Drive out the slave and her child; for the child of the slave will not share the inheritance with the child of the free woman.' So then, friends, we are children, not of the slave but of the free woman. For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

Praise be to God always.

فصل من رسالة القديس بولس إلى أهل غلاطية

يا إِخْوَتِي، قُولُوا لِي، أَنْتُمْ الَّذِينَ تُرِيدُونَ أَنْ تَكُونُوا فِي حُكْمِ الشَّرِيعَةِ، أَمَا تَسْمَعُونَ الشَّرِيعَةَ؟ فَإِنَّهُ مَكْتُوبٌ: كَانَ لِإِبْرَاهِيمَ أَبْنَانِ، وَاحِدٌ مِنَ الْجَارِيَةِ، وَوَاحِدٌ مِنَ الْحُرَّةِ. أَمَّا الَّذِي مِنَ الْجَارِيَةِ فَقَدْ وُلِدَ بِحَسَبِ الْجَسَدِ، وَأَمَّا الَّذِي مِنَ الْحُرَّةِ فَبِقُوَّةِ الْوَعْدِ. وَفِي ذَلِكَ رَمَزٌ: فَسَارَةُ وَهَاجِرُ تُمَثِّلَانِ عَهْدَيْنِ، عَهْدًا مِنْ جَبَلِ سَيْنَاءَ يَلِدُ لِلْعُبُودِيَّةِ، وَهُوَ هَاجِرُ؛ لِأَنَّ هَاجَرَ هِيَ جَبَلُ سَيْنَاءَ الَّذِي فِي بِلَادِ الْعَرَبِ، وَتُؤَافِقُ أُورُشَلِيمَ الْحَالِيَّةَ، لِأَنَّهَا فِي الْعُبُودِيَّةِ هِيَ وَأَوْلَادُهَا. أَمَّا أُورُشَلِيمُ الْعُلْيَا فَهِيَ حُرَّةٌ، وَهِيَ أُمُّنَا؛ لِأَنَّهُ مَكْتُوبٌ: «إِفْرَحِي، أَيَّتُهَا الْعَاقِرُ الَّتِي لَمْ تَلِدْ؛ إِنْ دَفَعِي بِالْتَرَنِيمِ وَ أَصْرُخِي، أَيَّتُهَا الَّتِي لَمْ تَتَمَخَّضْ؛ لِأَنَّ أَوْلَادَ الْمَهْجُورَةِ أَكْثَرُ مِنْ أَوْلَادِ الْمُتَزَوِّجَةِ». أَمَّا أَنْتُمْ، أَيُّهَا الْإِخْوَةُ، فَإِنَّكُمْ أَوْلَادُ الْوَعْدِ مِثْلُ إِسْحَقَ. وَلَكِنْ، كَمَا كَانَ حَبِينُذُ الْمَوْلُودِ بِحَسَبِ الْجَسَدِ يَضْطَهِدُ الْمَوْلُودَ بِحَسَبِ الرُّوحِ، فَكَذَلِكَ الْآنَ أَيْضًا. وَلَكِنْ مَاذَا يَقُولُ الْكِتَابُ؟ «أَطْرُدِ الْجَارِيَةَ وَأَبْنَاهَا، لِأَنَّ ابْنَ الْجَارِيَةِ لَا يَرِثُ مَعَ ابْنِ الْحُرَّةِ». إِذَا، أَيُّهَا الْإِخْوَةُ، لَسْنَا أَوْلَادَ جَارِيَةٍ، بَلْ أَوْلَادُ الْحُرَّةِ. إِنَّ الْمَسِيحَ قَدْ حَرَّرَنَا لِنَبْقَى أَحْرَارًا. فَاتَّبِعُوا إِذَا وَلَا تَعُودُوا تَخَضَعُونَ لِنِيرِ الْعُبُودِيَّةِ.

والتسبيح لله دائماً.

Gospel Reading

Saint Luke 1:57-66

The Apostle Writes:

Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. But his mother said, 'No; he is to be called John.' They said to her, 'None of your relatives has this name.' Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. He asked for a writing-tablet and wrote, 'His name is John.' And all of them were amazed. Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God. Fear came over all their neighbors, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. All who heard them pondered them and said, 'What then will this child become?' For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him.

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

مِنْ إِنْجِيلِ الْقَدِيسِ لَوْقَا

تَمَّ زَمَانُ الْيَصَابَاتِ لِتَلِدَ، فَوَلَدَتْ ابْنًا. وَسَمِعُ جِيرَانُهَا وَأَقَارِبُهَا أَنَّ الرَّبَّ قَدْ عَظَّمَ رَحْمَتَهُ لَهَا، فَفَرَحُوا مَعَهَا. وَفِي الْيَوْمِ الثَّامِنِ جَاؤُوا لِيُخْتَنُوا الصَّبِيَّ، وَسَمَوْهُ بِاسْمِ أَبِيهِ زَكَرِيَّا. فَأَجَابَتْ أُمُّهُ وَقَالَتْ: «لَا! بَلْ يُسَمَّى يُوْحَنَّا!». فَقَالُوا لَهَا: «لَا أَحَدٌ فِي قَرَابَتِكَ يُدْعَى بِهَذَا الْأَسْمِ». وَأَشَارُوا إِلَى أَبِيهِ مَاذَا يُرِيدُ أَنْ يُسَمِّيَهُ. طَلَبَ لَوْحًا وَكَتَبَ: «إِسْمُهُ يُوْحَنَّا!». فَتَعَجَّبُوا جَمِيعُهُمْ. وَأَنْفَتَحَ فَمُّ زَكَرِيَّا، وَأَنْطَلَقَ لِسَانُهُ، وَجَعَلَ يَتَكَلَّمُ وَيُبَارِكُ اللَّهَ، فَاسْتَوَلَى الْخَوْفُ عَلَى جَمِيعِ جِيرَانِهِمْ، وَتَحَدَّثَ النَّاسُ بِكُلِّ هَذِهِ الْأُمُورِ فِي كُلِّ جَبَلِ الْيَهُودِيَّةِ. وَكَانَ كُلُّ مَنْ سَمِعَ بِذَلِكَ يَحْفَظُهُ فِي قَلْبِهِ قَائِلًا: «مَا عَسَى هَذَا الطِّفْلُ أَنْ يَكُونَ؟». وَكَانَتْ يَدُ الرَّبِّ حَقًّا مَعَهُ.

حَقًّا وَالْأَمَانُ لَجَمِيعِكُمْ.