



# **Saint Maron**

## **Maronite Catholic Church**



December 25-26, 2021

# **Felicitation to the Virgin Mary**

## ***Merry Christmas!***



We welcome the Christmas Season through the birth of Baby Jesus, in our midst, our community, our homes, and our hearts. This Holy Birth promises, not what this world offers, but the True Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love which are the virtues of Jesus's good News throughout the Gospel.

On this blessed feast, let us be thankful and grateful for all God's graces He showered on us.

Personally, I am grateful to the Lord for the opportunity He gave to be part of this beautiful community "Saint Maron's Family", may we always be united in Love and service. Your

participation, generosity, caring, and your contributions in every capacity that Our Lord allowed you to undertake is truly a blessing.

May God's grace and mercy guard you from every evil and may He favorably remember our departed and grant them rest, through the prayers of Mary, the Mother of Life and Mother of God, and those of all the saints.

May the True Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love of Christmas be bestowed on you and every member of your family, friends, and loved one. And may we always be saintly bound, joyful, and rejoice always despite the difficulties of the storms and the ups and downs of life by focusing on Christ.

Merry Christmas.

Fr. Andrawos (Fadi) El Tabchi

### **Readings**

#### **First Reading**

Ephesians 1:3-14

#### **Gospel Reading**

Luke 1:46-55

### **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  
**A Special Intention**

Fr. Andrawos (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](http://www.saintmaron.org) | Church Office: [saintmaronphiladelphia@hotmail.com](mailto: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

**Friday, December 24, @ 6:00PM, CHRISTMAS VIGIL,** Liturgy is offered for the safety and well-being of our Parishioners.  
**Saturday, December 25, @ 11:00AM, CHRISTMAS DAY,** Liturgy is offered for the safety and well-being of our Parishioners.

**Saturday, December 25, @ 6:00PM,** liturgy is offered for the soul of Peter Koway requested by Terri Koway. May his soul rest in peace.

**Sunday, December 26, @ 11:00AM,** liturgy is offered for the soul of Nan Farhat (1yr. Anniversary) requested by Patty Impo. May her soul rest in peace.

**Saturday, January 1, @ 6:00PM, Sunday, January 2, @ 11:00AM,** liturgy is offered as 40-day memorial for the soul of Chucky Simon requested by family. May her soul rest in peace.

## CHURCH ENVELOPES

We were informed this week, that our Church Envelopes are still in production. The printing company is doing its best so we can receive them as soon as possible. We will keep you posted.

## 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 Baby J.R., Robert Nigro, Thomas Jones, Marguerite Valentino, 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.

## 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

**December 18-19, 2021**

<b>Sunday Collection</b>	<b>\$ 2,444.00</b>
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	<b>\$ 14.00</b>
<b>Online</b>	<b>\$ 115.00</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 2,573.00</b>
<b>Weekly Budget</b>	<b>\$ 3,950.00</b>
<b>Deficit</b>	<b>- \$ 1,377.00</b>
<b>MYO Hot Chocolate</b>	<b>\$ 400.00</b>

# Church Roof

## Capital Campaign Progress





## UPCOMING EVENTS



### CHRISTMAS LITURGIES

Friday, December 24 @ 6:00PM

Saturday, December 25 @ 11:00AM



### NEW YEAR'S LITURGY

Saturday, January 1 @ 6:00PM

Divine Liturgy



### FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

Wednesday, January 5 @ 6:00PM

Divine Liturgy – Blessing of the Water



### PRESENTATION OF JESUS CHRIST TO THE TEMPLE

Tuesday, February 1 @ 6:00PM

Divine Liturgy – Blessing of the Candles



### SAINT MARON FEAST DAY

Tuesday, February 8 @ 6:00PM

Divine Liturgy



### ST. MARON HAFLI

Saturday, February 12 @ 7:00PM

Mark your Calendars

Details to be announced soon!



From our St. Jude family  
to yours, Merry Christmas  
and Happy Holidays!

December 13, 2021

Dear Friend,

Thank you, friend! On behalf of the children of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, I send you my utmost gratitude for your gift of \$500 in December 2021. Generous gifts like yours do so much to help support our research and treatment for all the children who turn to us each year -- children like Aiden.

Aiden is the bright ray of light in a family filled with busy little boys. He loves building things and playing sports. He excels at school and is known for his kindness and positivity. These past few years his joyful disposition helped him through the unimaginable . . . Aiden had lymph system cancer.

He and his family were referred to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, where he was put on a treatment plan that included chemotherapy.

And thanks to friends like you, his family will never receive a bill from St. Jude for anything -- not for treatment, travel, housing or food -- because we believe all a family should worry about is helping their child live.

Aiden's family is so thankful for generosity like yours that helps make St. Jude a place where hope lives. His mom said, "I am just so amazed how much love people have for the kids at St. Jude. It's all about the kids. We don't have to worry about anything while we're here, so that's pretty amazing and kind of overwhelming. We're just very lucky to be here."

St. Jude is leading the way the world understands, treats and defeats childhood cancer and other life-threatening diseases for kids like Aiden. And we couldn't do it without friends like you. God bless your good heart.

For the children,

*Marlo Thomas*  
Marlo Thomas

P.S. Please enjoy the enclosed photo of Aiden as a reminder of the impact your gift makes for the girls and boys of St. Jude.

# 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



# 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]

# Sales Help Wanted

FULL-TIME & PART-TIME  
POSITIONS AVAILABLE *Termini Bros*

If you would like to  
be one of our  
bulletin's sponsors,  
please contact the  
church office.  
(215) 389-2000



*"A face you can recognize with a  
reputation for excellence"*

2237-41 S 3rd St,  
Philadelphia, PA 19148  
www.murphyruffenach.com  
215-334-1578



**MURPHY RUFFENACH**  
BRIAN W. DONNELLY FUNERAL HOME

**Brian W. Donnelly**  
Supervisor

Winner of the "Civilian of the Year" by the  
Veterans Advisory Commission.  
Voted best of Philadelphia 2015.

A percentage (5% of funeral home and merchandise costs) of your loved ones funeral  
will be donated in their memory returned back to St. Maron's Church

**MONTI RAGO**  
**FUNERAL HOME, INC.**

2531-35 S. BROAD STREET • PHILADELPHIA, PA 19148  
P: (215) 462-0992 F: (215) 462-4699  
[www.monti-ragofuneralhome.com](http://www.monti-ragofuneralhome.com)

Mark J. Rago - Funeral Director  
Samuel J. Monti - Supervisor - Founder  
Nicholas A. DiValentino - Office Manager

Dignified. Personal Service. Pre-planning Specialists.  
Traditional Service and Cremation Service Available.  
Newly renovated facility.




*John R. Deady*  
FUNERAL HOME, INC.

FRANK R. LAMANTIA, Supervisor  
www.deadyfuneralhome.com  
2501 S. Camac St. • 215.468.1200



**TRANSLATION**  
Need documents translated from  
Arabic/French/Italian into English?  
Call William Hanna

**267-808-0287**  
**IMMIGRATION**

We provide you with the best service  
and the least expensive!

**Elias I. Photography**  
*Capture your priceless moments*

Philadelphia, PA  
610-790-3770

Facebook & Instagram  
Elias I. Photography




**SEWELL**  
DENTAL DESIGNS

COSMETIC • RESTORATIVE  
IMPLANT • ORTHODONTICS

DR. FRED HADDAD, D.M.D.

(856) 589-7789 | [sewelldentaldesigns.com](http://sewelldentaldesigns.com)  
477 Greentree Road, Suite C, Sewell, NJ 08080

**Quinn's Flowers**  
*Flowers For All Occasions*




Serving The Philadelphia  
Area For Over 75 Years

**215-468-2881**  
[QuinnFlowers@yahoo.com](mailto:QuinnFlowers@yahoo.com)  
2008 S. 3rd St.  
Phila., PA 19148

**Together We Can Donate More to St. Maron's Church**


For every real estate transaction that we complete with you, you will receive a rebate from our commission,  
so that you can donate it to St. Maron's Church, Philadelphia PA, if you wish.



**AFFINITY**  
REAL ESTATE TEAM  
Tony - 215-285-6435

**Tony & Leen Salloum**  
LICENSED IN PA & NJ  
Leen - 484-432-0424

**TheAffinityTeam.com**  
**COMPASS**  
610-822-3356







# Saint Maron

## Maronite Catholic Church



December 25-26, 2021

### First Reading

Ephesians 1:3-14

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

Brothers and Sisters:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

**Praise be to God always.**

فصل من رسالة القديس بولس إلى أهل أفسس

يا إخوتي، تبارك الله أبو ربنا يسوع المسيح، الذي باركنا بكل بركة روحية في السماوات في المسيح؛ فإنه اختارنا فيه قبل إنشاء العالم، لنكون في حضرة قديسين، لا عيب فينا؛ وقد سبق بمحبته فحددنا أن نكون له أبناء بالتبني بيسوع المسيح، بحسب رضى مشيئته، لمدح مجد نعمته التي أنعم بها علينا في الحبيب؛ وفيه لنا الفداء بدمه، أي مغفرة الزلات، بحسب غنى نعمته، التي أفاضها علينا في كل حكمة وفهم؛ وقد عرفنا سر مشيئته، بحسب رضى الذي سبق فجعله في المسيح، ليحقق تدبير ملء الأزمنة، فيجمع في المسيح تحت رأس واحد كل شيء، ما في السماوات وما على الأرض؛ وفيه أيضًا اختارنا ميراثًا له، وقد سبق فحددنا بحسب قصده، هو الذي يعمل كل شيء بقضاء مشيئته، لنكون مدحًا لمجده، نحن الذين سبقنا فجعلنا في المسيح رجاءنا؛ وفيه أنتم أيضًا، بعد أن سمعتم كلمة الحق، أي إنجيل خلاصكم، وآمنتم، ختمتم بالروح القدس الموعود به، وهو عربون ميراثنا، لفداء شعبه الذي اقتناه، ولمدح مجده.

والتسبيح لله دائماً.

## Gospel Reading

### Saint Luke 1:46-55

#### The Apostle Writes:

Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

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

#### مِنْ إِنْجِيلِ الْقَدِيسِ لَوْقَا

قَالَتْ مَرْيَمُ: "تُعَظِّمُ نَفْسِي الرَّبَّ، وَتَبْتَهِجُ رُوحِي بِإِلَهِ مُخَلِّصِي، لِأَنَّهُ نَظَرَ إِلَى تَوَاضُعِ أَمَتِهِ. فَهَذَا مِنْذُ الْآنَ تُطَوِّبُنِي جَمِيعُ الْأَجْيَالِ، لِأَنَّ الْقَدِيرَ صَنَعَ بِي عَظَائِمَ، وَأَسْمُهُ قُدُّوسٌ، وَرَحْمَتُهُ إِلَى أَجْيَالٍ وَأَجْيَالٍ لِلَّذِينَ يَتَّقُونَهُ. صَنَعَ عِزًّا بِسَاعِدِهِ، وَشَتَّتِ الْمُتَكَبِّرِينَ بِأَفْكَارِ قُلُوبِهِمْ. أَنْزَلَ الْمُقْتَدِرِينَ عَنِ الْعُرُوشِ، وَرَفَعَ الْمُتَوَاضِعِينَ. أَشْبَعَ الْجِيَاعَ خَيْرَاتٍ، وَصَرَفَ الْأَغْنِيَاءَ فَارِغِينَ. عَضَدَ إِسْرَائِيلَ فَتَاهُ ذَاكِرًا رَحْمَتَهُ، لِإِبْرَاهِيمَ وَنَسْلِهِ إِلَى الْأَبَدِ، كَمَا كَلَّمَ آبَاءَنَا".

**حَقًّا وَالْأَمَانُ لَجَمِيعِكُمْ.**