

Saint Maron

Maronite Catholic Church



Season of Great Lent:
Sunday of the Healing of the Leper

March 5-6, 2022

Lenten Reflection by Our Seminarians

If you wish, you can make me clean

Now we begin the second week of Lent. God-willing, we are all carrying out our resolutions for Lent with joy. Perhaps we are driven by excitement. Let us not lose heart when things start to get more difficult. Excitement is not a virtue, but perseverance is. Let us pray for the grace to finish Lent strong, for he who endures to the end shall be saved (Matthew 24:13).

In this week's gospel, we learn the following about our Lord Jesus: He was an early bird. He started His day with prayer. He prayed alone. When He went into towns, He both preached and cast out demons. That is, He combined preaching with works. In like manner, it is not sufficient for us Christians to preach the Gospel alone. Our preaching must be accompanied with good works in order that it not be fruitless: "let your light shine before men, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:16)

In the Old Testament, there was a process for dealing with lepers (Leviticus 13). Lepers were outcasts. To contract leprosy made one ritually unclean, and anyone who contacted a leper was likewise made unclean. Besides the physical discomforts of the disease, the leper also had to suffer separation from the community. In light of this, let us take note of the action of the Lord Jesus, Who had no such fear of the leper, nor did

He become unclean when He touched the leper. Rather, His touch made the leper clean.

Lastly, let us focus on the words the leper spoke to Jesus: If you wish, you can make me clean. We might rightfully conclude that the leper's faith healed Him. We might, then, ask ourselves if we truly believe that Jesus can heal us from any of our afflictions. Do we really believe that Jesus has power over all things and can free us from all things? Do we really believe that no matter how sinful or depraved we are, Jesus has the power to bring us back from the depths of the abyss? Do we really believe that no matter how many times we've committed a sin in the past, Jesus is ready to forgive each and every one of those sins, and to love us as though they never happened? More importantly, do we wish it? Perhaps Jesus is repeating these words to us in the depths of our heart, but He turns them around and says: If you wish, I can make you clean. This Lent, let us be bold in imploring the Lord's grace. Let us truly examine what is keeping us from loving God with all of our hearts, and then asking the Lord to cleanse us of these things. And, if we have not the desire to do so, let us pray for that as well!

Alejandro Landin

Our Lady's Church, Austin, TX

*Eparchy of Our Lady
of Lebanon of Los Angeles*



DIVINE LITURGIES

Saturday, March 5, @ 6:00PM,
Sunday, March 6, @ 11:00AM,
liturgy in offered for the soul of Brian DeSanto requested by the family and Suzanne Haney. May his soul rest in peace.

Friday, March 11, @ 6:00PM,
STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Saturday, March 12, @ 6:00PM,
Sunday, March 13, @ 11:00AM,
liturgy in offered for the soul of Stavro and Edmond Jabra requested by Simon and Zeina Topalian and family. May their souls rest in peace.

TAX CONTRIBUTION LETTER

If you would like to receive your tax contribution letter for 2021, please contact the office and we will prepare the papers needed. These can only be done for those who used the envelope system or made a donation by check. Thank you for your continued support to St. Maron Church.

ELDERLY COMMUNION

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

2022 CHURCH ENVELOPES

The 2022 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 letter at the end of the year.

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 February 26-27, 2022

Sunday Collection	\$ 1,256.00
Ash Monday	\$ 222.00
Online	\$ 500.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 38.00
Total:	\$ 2,016.00

IN OUR PRAYERS

Please keep in your prayers Stephanie Devinney, Angela Scorza Anderson, Lisa McBride, Robert Nigro, Thomas Jones, 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, Suzanne Haney, 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, Lisa Alestra, John Nader, Joey Gdowick, Francis Joseph Kerns, Samer Chokeir, Kathy Newman, Rita Arrigale, Maryann Bratton, Renee Sahar, Sister Nahida Al-Sawa, 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.

Readings

First Reading
Romans 6:12-23
Gospel Reading
Mark 1:35-45

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 the soul of **Joseph Sholy**

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday @ 6:00PM

From March 4 to April 8



FALAFEL SANDWICHES

Sunday, March 20, 2022

After Divine Liturgy



PALM SUNDAY BRUNCH

Sunday, April 10, 2022

Details will be announced soon



ANNUAL BAKE SALE

Sunday, April 10, 2022

Details will be announced soon



HOLY WEEK

Coming to the Harbor

Monday, April 11, 2022 @6:00PM

Coming to the Harbor

Tuesday, April 12, 2022 @6:00PM

Rite of the Lamp

Wednesday, April 13, 2022 @6:00PM

Thursday of the Mysteries

Thursday, April 14, 2022 @6:00PM

Signing of the Chalice

Friday, April 15, 2022 @10:30AM

Adoration of the Cross

Friday, April 15, 2022 @6:00PM

Prayer for Forgiveness

Saturday, April 16, 2022 @12:00PM

FALAFEL SANDWICHES



Saint Maron Church
Philadelphia, PA كنيسة مار مارون

Sunday, March 20, 2022
after Divine Liturgy



**Falafel
Sandwiches \$8.00**

CIRCULAR LETTER FROM THE EPARCHY



EPARCHY OF SAINT MARON OF BROOKLYN OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

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Brooklyn, New York 11201-4212
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chancerystmaron@verizon.net www.stmaron.org

March 3, 2022

Prot. No. 250/1/22
Circ. No. 22.18

Brother Priests, Deacons and Subdeacons, Consecrated Men and Women, Brothers and Sisters;

In my letter of 28 May 2021 (Prot. No. 356/1/21; Cir. No. 21.16), I reinstated the obligation for all to attend Divine Liturgy on Sunday and Holy Days of Obligations on the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul, Sunday June 27, 2021, I also stated the following:

Barring anything unforeseen, we hope to return to the normal exchange of the Greeting of Peace and totally eliminate Holy Communion in the hand, as of August 15, 2021, the Feast of the Assumption.

The Delta, then Omicron variants of the Corona Virus became that “unforeseen” situation. Thus, I have waited until it was safer to return to our ancient practice of communion on the tongue by intinction under both species.

On the Feast of Saint Joseph, March 19, 2022, I ask all pastors to return to this practice and no longer give Holy Communion in the hand. Likewise, the sign of peace is to be returned in the customary way.

I thank the priests once again for their faithful service as true pastors during these difficult times.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ 


+ Gregory

GJM/rb

RICE BOWL

Each Lent, Catholic families across the country unite to put their faith into action through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Through CRS Rice Bowl, families learn about how our sisters and brothers across the globe overcome hardships like hunger and malnutrition, and how through Lenten alms, we have the power to make the world a better place for all. These past two years have been challenging for everyone—and certainly even more challenging for people who already struggled. One in 9 people around the world are hungry. COVID-19 has only increased the threat of food insecurity globally. We encourage you to participate in the crsricebowl.org program. It is family oriented and easy to begin.

You can find the Rice Bowl Boxes in the back of the Church and also in the Hall.




crsricebowl.org
crsplatodearroz.org

2022 CRS Rice Bowl
Maronite Catholic Church Lenten Calendar

February 27 th	Sunday of Cana in Galilee / Entrance into Lent
February 28 th	Ash Monday – the Great Fast begins
March 6 th	Sunday of the Lepers, Second Sunday of Lent
March 6 th -March 12 th	A JOURNEY TO 3 COUNTRIES
March 13 th	Sunday of the Hemorrhaging Woman, Third Sunday of Lent
March 13 th -March 19 th	A STORY OF HOPE-GUATEMALA – <i>Options for the Poor</i>
March 20 th	Sunday of the Prodigal Son, Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 20 th -March 26 th	A STORY OF HOPE- BANGLADESH – <i>Care for God's Creation</i>
March 27 th	Sunday of the Paralytic, Fifth Sunday of Lent
March 27 th -April 2 nd	A STORY OF HOPE-RWANDA – <i>Dignity of the Human Person</i>
April 3 rd	Sunday of Bartimaeus the Blind, Sixth Sunday of Lent
April 3 rd - April 9 th	WE ALL HAVE DREAMS – <i>Dignity of Work</i>
April 10 th - April 17 th	HOLY WEEK
April 10 th	Hosanna Sunday
April 14 th	Thursday of Mysteries
April 15 th	Great Friday of the Crucifixion
April 16 th	Great Saturday of the Light
April 17 th	GREAT SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION

For virtual Rice Bowl please join us at CRSRiceBowl.org





What You Give Up For Lent Changes Lives





PRAY



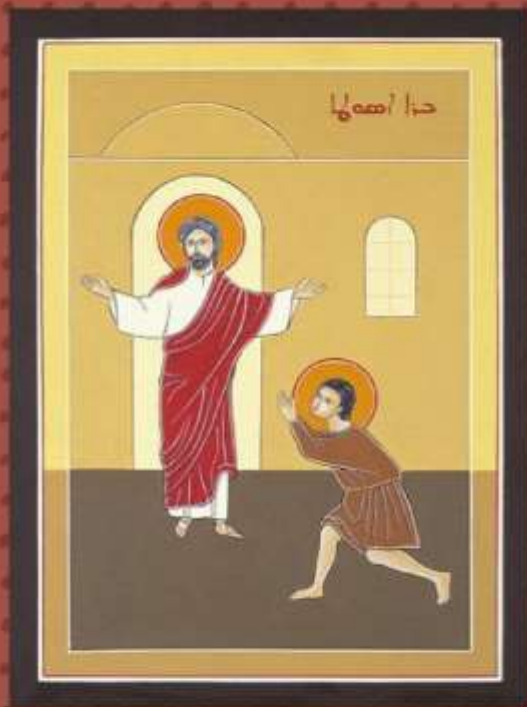
FAST



GIVE

GREAT LENT ADULT FAITH FORMATION

ADULT FAITH FORMATION 2022



GREAT LENT: HEALING AND TRANSFORMATION IN CHRIST

Join the Maronite Sisters and Clergy from our Eparchy of Saint Maron as we reflect and go deeper on applying the message of these powerful Gospels into our lives.

VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS

**FEB. 24: THE SIGNIFICANCE
OF CANA SUNDAY**

MSGR. SEELY BEGGIANI

**MAR. 3: THE HEALING OF
THE LEPER**

FR. RUDY WAKIM

**MAR. 10: THE HEALING OF
THE HEMORRHAGING WOMAN**

DEACON JOE CHEBLI

MAR. 17: THE PRODIGAL SON

FR. VINCE FARHAT

Via Zoom on Thursdays 8:00-9:00PM

[Register Here](#)

HOSTED BY THE MARONITE SERVANTS OF CHRIST THE LIGHT

MYA EPARCHIAL CONFERENCE

THE EPARCHY OF ST. MARON PRESENTS

MYA EPARCHIAL CONFERENCE

RESTORATION:
ARISE & WALK
MARK 2:1-12

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Saint Maron

Maronite Catholic Church



March 5-6, 2022

First Reading

Romans 6:12-23

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

Brothers and Sisters:

Therefore, do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace. What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification. When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Praise be to God always.

فصل من رسالة القديس بولس إلى أهل رومة

يا إخوتي، لا تَمْلِكَنَّ الْخَطِيئَةُ بَعْدُ فِي جَسَدِكُمْ الْمَائِتِ، فَتُطِيعُوا شَهَوَاتِهِ. وَلَا تَجْعَلُوا أَعْضَاءَكُمْ سِلَاحَ ظُلْمٍ لِلْخَطِيئَةِ، بَلْ قَرَّبُوا أَنْفُسَكُمْ لِلَّهِ كَأَحْيَاءٍ قَامُوا مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ، وَاجْعَلُوا أَعْضَاءَكُمْ سِلَاحَ بَرٍّ لِلَّهِ. فَلَا تَتَسَلَّطْ عَلَيْكُمْ الْخَطِيئَةُ، لِأَنَّكُمْ لَسْتُمْ فِي حُكْمِ الشَّرِيعَةِ بَلْ فِي حُكْمِ النِّعْمَةِ. فَمَاذَا إِذَا؟ هَلْ نَخْطَأُ لِأَنَّا لَسْنَا فِي حُكْمِ الشَّرِيعَةِ، بَلْ فِي حُكْمِ النِّعْمَةِ؟ حَاشَا! أَلَا تَعْلَمُونَ أَنَّكُمْ عِنْدَمَا تَجْعَلُونَ أَنْفُسَكُمْ عِبِيدًا لِأَحَدٍ فَتُطِيعُونَهُ، تَكُونُونَ عِبِيدًا لِلَّذِي تُطِيعُونَهُ: إِمَّا عِبِيدًا لِلْخَطِيئَةِ الَّتِي تَوُولُ إِلَى الْمَوْتِ، وَإِمَّا لِلطَّاعَةِ الَّتِي تَوُولُ إِلَى الْبَرِّ. فَشُكْرًا لِلَّهِ لِأَنَّكُمْ بَعْدَمَا كُنْتُمْ عِبِيدَ الْخَطِيئَةِ، أَطَعْتُمْ مِنْ كُلِّ قَلْبِكُمْ مِثَالَ التَّعْلِيمِ الَّذِي سُلِّمْتُمْ إِلَيْهِ. وَبَعْدَ أَنْ حُرِّرْتُمْ مِنَ الْخَطِيئَةِ، صِرْتُمْ عِبِيدًا لِلْبَرِّ. وَأَقُولُ قَوْلًا بَشَرِيًّا مُرَاعَاةً لِيُضَغِّفَكُمْ: فَكَمَا جَعَلْتُمْ أَعْضَاءَكُمْ عِبِيدًا لِلنَّجَاسَةِ وَالْإِثْمِ فِي سَبِيلِ الْإِثْمِ، كَذَلِكَ اجْعَلُوا الْآنَ أَعْضَاءَكُمْ عِبِيدًا لِلْبَرِّ فِي سَبِيلِ الْقِدَاسَةِ. فَلَمَّا كُنْتُمْ عِبِيدَ الْخَطِيئَةِ، كُنْتُمْ أَحْرَارًا مِنَ الْبَرِّ. فَأَيَّ ثَمَرٍ جَنَيْتُمْ حِينَئِذٍ مِنْ تِلْكَ الْأُمُورِ الَّتِي تَسْتَحُونَ مِنْهَا الْآنَ؟ فَإِنَّ عَاقِبَتَهَا الْمَوْتُ. أَمَّا الْآنَ، وَقَدْ صِرْتُمْ أَحْرَارًا مِنَ الْخَطِيئَةِ وَعِبِيدًا لِلَّهِ، فَإِنَّكُمْ تَجْنُونَ ثَمَرًا لِلْقِدَاسَةِ، وَعَاقِبَتُهَا الْحَيَاةُ الْأَبَدِيَّةُ. لِأَنَّ أَجْرَ الْخَطِيئَةِ هِيَ الْمَوْتُ. أَمَّا مَوْهَبَةُ اللَّهِ فَهِيَ الْحَيَاةُ الْأَبَدِيَّةُ فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ رَبَّنَا.

والتسبيح لله دائماً.

Gospel Reading

Saint Mark 1:35-45

The Apostle Writes:

In the morning, while it was still very dark, Jesus got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, 'Everyone is searching for you.' He answered, 'Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.' And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons. A leper came to him begging him, and kneeling he said to him, 'If you choose, you can make me clean.' Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, 'I do choose. Be made clean!' Immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean. After sternly warning him he sent him away at once, saying to him, 'See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.' But he went out and began to proclaim it freely, and to spread the word, so that Jesus could no longer go into a town openly, but stayed out in the country; and people came to him from every quarter.

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

مِنْ إِنْجِيلِ الْقَدِيسِ مَرْقُس

قَامَ يَسُوعُ قَبْلَ طُلُوعِ الْفَجْرِ، فَخَرَجَ وَذَهَبَ إِلَى مَكَانٍ قَفْرٍ، وَأَخَذَ يُصَلِّي هُنَاكَ. وَلَحِقَ بِهِ سَمْعَانُ وَالَّذِينَ مَعَهُ، وَوَجَدُوهُ فَقَالُوا لَهُ: "الْجَمِيعُ يَطْلُبُونَكَ". فَقَالَ لَهُمْ: "لِنَذْهَبَ إِلَى مَكَانٍ آخَرَ، إِلَى الْقُرَى الْمُجَاوِرَةِ، لِأُبَشِّرَ هُنَاكَ أَيْضًا، فَإِنِّي لِهَذَا خَرَجْتُ". وَسَارَ فِي كُلِّ الْجَلِيلِ، وَهُوَ يَكْرِزُ فِي مَجَامِعِهِمْ وَيَطْرُدُ الشَّيَاطِينَ. وَأَتَاهُ أَبْرَصٌ يَتَوَسَّلُ إِلَيْهِ، فَجَنَّا وَقَالَ لَهُ: "إِن شِئْتَ فَأَنْتَ قَادِرٌ أَنْ تُطَهِّرَنِي!". فَتَحَنَّنَ يَسُوعُ وَمَدَّ يَدَهُ وَلَمَسَهُ وَقَالَ لَهُ: "قَدْ شِئْتَ، فَاطْهَرُ!". وَفِي الْحَالِ زَالَ عَنْهُ الْبَرَصُ، فَطَهَّرَ. فَأَنْتَهَرَهُ يَسُوعُ وَصَرَفَهُ حَالًا، وَقَالَ لَهُ: "أَنْظُرْ، لَا تُخْبِرْ أَحَدًا بِشَيْءٍ، بَلِ اذْهَبْ وَأَرِ نَفْسَكَ لِلْكَاهِنِ، وَقَدِّمْ عَنْ طَهْرِكَ مَا أَمَرَ بِهِ مُوسَى، شَهَادَةً لَهُمْ". أَمَّا هُوَ فَخَرَجَ وَبَدَأَ يُنَادِي بِأَعْلَى صَوْتِهِ وَيُذِيعُ الْخَبَرَ، حَتَّى إِنَّ يَسُوعَ لَمْ يَعُدْ قَادِرًا أَنْ يَدْخُلَ إِلَى مَدِينَةٍ عَلَانِيَةً، بَلْ كَانَ يُقِيمُ فِي الْخَارِجِ، فِي أَمَاكِنَ مُقْفَرَةٍ، وَكَانَ النَّاسُ يَأْتُونَ إِلَيْهِ مِنْ كُلِّ مَكَانٍ. حَقًّا وَالْأَمَانُ لَجَمِيعِكُمْ.