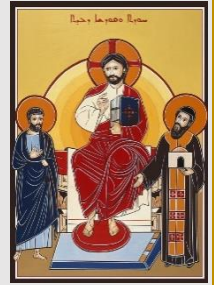




# Saint Maron Maronite Catholic Church

1013 Ellsworth Street, Philadelphia, PA 19147

215.389.2000 | 215.334.1884 | office@saintmaron.org



## WEEKLY BULLETIN - 11/05/2023

# 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Liturgical Year

### OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY OFFICE CLOSED

TUESDAY – FRIDAY 10:30AM – 4:00PM

#### Pastor

Fr. Andrewos (Fadi) El Tabchi

[pastor@saintmaron.org](mailto:pastor@saintmaron.org) | 978.241.2977

#### Advisor / Consultant

Fr. David Fisher

#### Administrative Assistant

Claudine ElHajal

#### Parish Council

Costa J. Mansour, Michael Marrone, Anne Tayoun, Manal ElHajal, Rosemarie Marrone, Barbara Dahdah, Tony Frangie, Khalil Raie, Nahi Rai, Roger Jebara

#### Finance Committee

Philip Rai, Deebanne Tavani, Terri Koway, Fred Haddad, Paul Kouyoumdji, Denise Eddis, Jimmy Jebara, Jano Frangie

#### Festival Chairmen

Billy Tayoun, Tony Frangie

#### Saint Jude

Denise Eddis, Theresa Barry

#### CCD

#### Director: Janah Szewczyk

**Teachers:** Rania Sukkariah, Maha Labbad, Samar Dawlabani, Reine Ghazaly, Janah Szewczyk, Sanaa Rizk, Marie-Joe Dib, Samer Hourani.

**Advisors:** Rosemarie Marrone

#### MYO

#### Director: Zeina Topalian

**Advisors:** Anne Tayoun, Jocelyne Habib, Fadia Salloum, Maha Labbad

#### MYA

**Coordinators:** Nahi Rai, Roger Jebara, Frankie Piacentini

#### Men's Club

**President:** Amin Al Soueid

**Vice-President:** Samer Hourani

## Consecration of the Church

*“Do not fear God because of the greatness of His majesty,  
but fear Him because of the greatness of His love”.*

*(Saint Isaac the Syrian)*

### Reflection by: Rev. David Fisher

The Fathers of the Church especially the Eastern Fathers, in their preaching and writings, constantly express that the Christian life is a process of metanoia (transformation), theosis/deification (becoming God-like), because the Father has bestowed the Holy Spirit upon those who have been baptized and entered into the community of faith; the Church. What we call the “life of grace” is nothing more than living in and with the Holy Spirit, the Spirit that Scripture says, “groans within us,” shaping us into the “image and likeness of God” as we were intended to be from the moment of creation.

In a very real way, the Holy Cross speaks to us of God’s intention in creating us. If we examine Sacred Scripture, we find that the first words of Genesis in the Septuagint Version (Greek Version) of the Old Testament begins with the same words that we find in the first verse of John’s Gospel, “Ev αρχή” (en arché) “In the beginning...” In the beginning according to Genesis unlike all the other things God created; on the sixth day, “God created mankind in his image; in the image of God, he created them; male and female he created them.”

What Genesis and John’s Gospel reveals to us is that the Word of the Father, the Word who is God was present from the moment of our creation, in fact we are created in his image. So, when from the Holy Cross, Jesus says, “It is finished” (John 19:30) we must ponder what is finished? What is finished in this sacrifice, in this act of redemption, this victory of love over hate, this act of freedom from the bondage of ignorance and sin? What is finished is the act of creation, for now through the power of the Holy Spirit, we can truly enter the path of theosis, of being formed in the image and likeness of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

Jesus on the Holy Cross reveals to us the God who is love. That from the Holy Cross the veil that has veiled the truth of God has been lifted. Now with eyes that see in the light, we see that God has never left us alone, that he calls us to be formed into the image of the Son, which means we too must take up our crosses and follow him, to learn, imitate, and become the children of God, heirs of God through Christ: beings of love.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection

Sunday, November 5, 2023

Maronite Patriarchal Charities

All the Proceeds from this collection are sent directly to our Patriarch for his charitable works.

### SUNDAY READINGS

**First Reading**

Hebrews 9:1-12

**Gospel Reading**

Matthew 16:13-20

### Sanctuary Candle

For the safety and well-being of our youth

**Sun, Nov 5, 2023**

**FALL BACK**



**Don't forget to change your clocks BACK ONE HOUR**

### DIVINE LITURGIES

**For your intentions please call the office at 215.389.2000**

**Saturday, November 4, @ 4:00PM,** liturgy is offered for the souls of Alex Bonavitacola requested by Yasmine Alice. May his soul rest in peace.

**Sunday, November 5, @ 11:00AM** liturgy is offered for the safety and well-being of our children.

**Saturday, November 11, @ 4:00PM,** liturgy is offered for All our Veterans requested by Terri Koway.

**Sunday, November 12, @ 11:00AM** liturgy is offered for the soul of Walter (Chip) Meixner requested by Diane Kiddy. May his soul rest in peace.

### WEEKLY COLLECTION

**October 28-29, 2023**

Collection	\$ 1,127.00
PayPal	\$ 75.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 36.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,238.00</b>

### DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

If you are sick and homebound and wish to receive communion at home, please contact: the Church Office at 215-389-2000 or Fr. Andrawos at 978-241-2977.

### Soumaya Bakery Orders

**Orders are placed each Friday.**

If you wish to purchase bread, please place your order before Friday.

### First Communion Update

**Saturday, April 13, 2024**

**Retreat & Rehearsal**

**Sunday, April 14, 2024**

**First Holy Communion Liturgy**

### FIRST LITURGICAL SUNDAY

The first Sunday in the liturgical year is the Feast of Consecration and Renewal of the church.

The feast is either celebrated on one Sunday or two consecutive Sundays.

If November 1st, falls on either a Monday or Tuesday, only one Sunday is observed as it is the case this year.

If November 1st, falls on a day other than Monday or Tuesday, two Sundays are observed.

But whether we celebrate one Sunday or two Sundays, the core essence of the feast should not change.

### BIBLE STUDY

**with Abouna David**

**Every Thursday at 10AM**

Via Zoom

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87347439104?pwd=eUJRRVpFUyt5NVpTVXR5bCtBdGpGdz09>

### Saint Sharbel

### Spiritual Life Center

(820 Crane Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15216)

[www.saintsharbelcenter.org](http://www.saintsharbelcenter.org)

### SUPPORT THE DREAM

We seek your help. Would you be open to a donation? Do you also know someone whom you or we can approach?

For online donations please visit:

[www.stmaron.org](http://www.stmaron.org)

You can also make a donation by check to the Eparchy of St. Maron (109 REMSEN STREET, BROOKLYN, NY, 11201).

### Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive

Oct 22 -Nov 12

#### ITEMS NEEDED

- Turkey (frozen)
- Stove Top Stuffing
- Yams (can)
- Macaroni
- Corn (can)
- Gravy
- Cranberry Sauce
- String Beans (can)
- Mashed Potato (box)
- Cornbread mix
- Fruit (can)
- Cookies and/or Candy

**Jesus himself fed the hungry.**

To Feed the Hungry is the first corporal work of mercy.

It was given by Jesus when He spoke to His disciples about the Judgment of the Nations (Mt 25:31-46), and it stands at the top of His list.

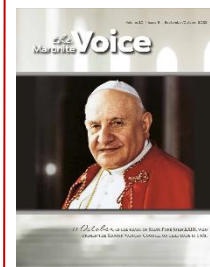
### IN OUR PRAYERS

**Please keep in your prayers**

Larry Cook, Mary Louise Scotti, Janet Labar, Krystal Valianti, Anne Mgrdichian, Carol Bevelhymer, Mary V. (Nelson) Scotti, Mike Devinney, Debbie Freedenberg, Allan Emilio Domingez, Rev. Subdeacon Dr. Mallard T. George, Landon Reid, Tamara Lewis, Michael Thomas, Barbara Impriano, Mary McKinney, Jessica McKinney, Angela McKinney, Skyla Simon, Peter Labaki, Nancy Murphy, Marentha Young-Heart, Allison Tretina, Stephanie Devinney, Angela Scorza Anderson, Robert Nigro, Thomas Jones, Raymond Fitzpatrick, Linda Yeckes, Frankie Olivieri, Marie Eddis, Mia Andrilla, Natalie Ciancaglini, Ashley Iaconelli, Stephen Bressi, Elissar Ayoub, Joanne Simon-Turing, Suzanne Haney, Linda DiBernardo, Joan Speck, David Joseph Cook, 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, Noel Andjuhar, and Angel Salerno.

### The Maronite Voice

[www.maronitevoice.org](http://www.maronitevoice.org)



**Volume 20**

**Issue 5**

**Sep - Oct**

**2023**

# CCD & MYO CORNER

## MYO REGIONAL RETREAT

OCTOBER 27-29/2023



Pray for  
the youth of our  
Church!



“Each retreat keeps getting better and better. and this regional proved that. every minute, from seeing my friends again, adoration/confession, and the hafli, made this weekend one of the best weekends. I love going to these and I’m so excited for nationals!”

(Maria)

“This retreat taught me the importance of being deeply involved in the divine community of the church. It was a great way to meet new people and have meaningful interactions/experiences.”

(Anthony)

“The regional retreat was one to remember. the prayers were really nice and so was the fun parts. it was a very nice environment and I love being there. I overall think that this retreat was one of the best.”

(Nai)

# Annual Bishop’s Appeal 2023

The contributions are divided as follows

- 40% education of seminarians
- 20% outreach ministries
- 10% retired priests
- 10% Christians in Lebanon and the Middle East
- 10% Eparchy’s Endowment Fund

Yearly Amount Due	\$ 3,500.00
Total Collected	\$ 2,600.00
<b>Balance</b>	<b>- \$ 900.00</b>

## My Offering Envelopes 2024

Don’t forget to pickup your envelopes. You can find them at the entrance of the church hall.

The Envelopes serve a dual purpose:

1. A reminder of our commitment and obligation toward our church.
2. Accurately record your contributions so we can provide you with a “Donation Letter” for your taxes.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

**Annual MYO Thanksgiving Food Drive**  
October 22 to November 12

Let's be thankful and give back to the community

BE THANKFUL  
BE GRATEFUL  
BE BLESSED

Our MYO will deliver the donated food on  
Sunday  
November 12, 2023

**ITEMS NEEDED**

- Turkey (frozen)
- Stove Top Stuffing
- Yams (can)
- Macaroni
- Corn (can)
- Gravy
- Cranberry Sauce
- String Beans (can)
- Mashed Potato (box)
- Cornbread mix
- Fruit (can)
- Cookies and/or Candy

Thank  
you



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

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# Saint Maron

## Maronite Catholic Church



November 4-5, 2023

### First Reading

#### Hebrews 9:1-12

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

Brothers and Sisters:

Even the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly sanctuary. For a tent was constructed, the first one, in which were the lampstand, the table, and the bread of the Presence; this is called the Holy Place. Behind the second curtain was a tent called the Holy of Holies. In it stood the golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant overlaid on all sides with gold, in which there were a golden urn holding the manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tablets of the covenant; above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy-seat. Of these things we cannot speak now in detail. Such preparations having been made, the priests go continually into the first tent to carry out their ritual duties; but only the high priest goes into the second, and he but once a year, and not without taking the blood that he offers for himself and for the sins committed unintentionally by the people. By this the Holy Spirit indicates that the way into the sanctuary has not yet been disclosed as long as the first tent is still standing. This is a symbol of the present time, during which gifts and sacrifices are offered that cannot perfect the conscience of the worshipper, but deal only with food and drink and various baptisms, regulations for the body imposed until the time comes to set things right. But when Christ came as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), he entered once for all into the Holy Place, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption.

**Praise be to God always.**

فصل من الرسالة إلى العبرانيين

يا إخوتي، كانت للعهد الأول أيضًا شعائر عبادة، وبيتٌ قدسٍ أرضي. فبنى المسكن الأول، وهو الذي يُدعى «القدس»، وكان فيه المنارة، والمائدة، وخبز التقدمة، ووراء الحجاب الثاني بني المسكن الذي يُدعى «قدس الأقداس»، ويحتوي مجمرًا ذهبيًا للبخور، وتابوت العهد، مُعشَى كُلُّهُ بالذهب، وفيه جرةٌ من ذهبٍ تحتوي المن، وعصا هارون التي أفرخت، ولوحا العهد، وفوق التابوت كروبا المجد يظللان الغشاء: أشياء لا مجال الآن للكلام عنها بالتفصيل. وإذ بُنيَت تلك الأشياء على هذا الترتيب، كان الكهنة يدخلون إلى المسكن الأول في كل وقت، ليقيموا العبادة، أما المسكن الثاني فكان عظيم الأخبار يدخل إليه وحده مرة واحدة في السنة، ولا يدخل إليه إلا ومعه دم يقرِّبه عن نفسه وعن جهالات الشعب. وبهذا يوضح الروح القدس أن الطريق إلى قدس الأقداس لم يكن بعد قد كُشف، ما دام المسكن الأول قائمًا. وهذا رمزٌ إلى الوقت الحاضر، وفيه تُقرب تقادم وذبايح، لا يمكنها أن تجعل من يقرِّبها كاملًا من جهة الضمير. إنَّها شعائرٌ جسديَّةٌ تقتصر على أطعمة وأشربة، وأنواع شتى من الأغتسال، مفروضة إلى أن يأتي وقت الإصلاح. أما المسيح فقد ظهر عظيم أخبار الخيرات الآتية، وأجتاز المسكن الأعظم والأكمل، غير المصنوع بالأيدي، أي ليس من هذه الخليقة، فدخَلَ إلى قدس الأقداس مرة واحدة، لا بدم الثيوس والعجول، بل بدمه هو، فحقَّق لنا فداءً أبدًا.

والتسبيح لله دائماً.

## Gospel Reading

### Saint Matthew 16:13-20

#### The Apostle Writes:

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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

#### مِنِ انْجِيلِ الْقَدِيسِ مَتَّى

جَاءَ يَسُوعُ إِلَى نَوَاحِي قَيْصَرِيَّةِ فِينِيُوسَ فَسَأَلَ تَلَامِيذَهُ قَائِلًا: "مَنْ يَقُولُ النَّاسُ إِنِّي أَنَا ابْنُ الْإِنْسَانِ؟". فَقَالُوا: "بَعْضُهُمْ يَقُولُونَ: يُوحَنَّا الْمَعْمَدَانُ؛ وَآخَرُونَ: إِيلِيَّا؛ وَغَيْرُهُمْ: إِزْمِيَا أَوْ أَحَدُ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ". قَالَ لَهُمْ: "وَأَنْتُمْ مَنْ تَقُولُونَ إِنِّي أَنَا؟". فَأَجَابَ سَمْعَانُ بَطْرُسُ وَقَالَ: أَنْتَ هُوَ الْمَسِيحُ ابْنُ اللَّهِ الْحَيِّ!". فَأَجَابَ يَسُوعُ وَقَالَ لَهُ: "طُوبَى لَكَ يَا سَمْعَانُ بَنَ يُونَا! لِأَنَّهُ لَا لَحْمَ وَلَا دَمَ أَظْهَرَ لَكَ ذَلِكَ، بَلْ أَبِي الَّذِي فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ. وَأَنَا أَيْضًا أَقُولُ لَكَ: أَنْتَ هُوَ بَطْرُسُ، أَيِ الصَّخْرَةِ، وَعَلَى هَذِهِ الصَّخْرَةِ سَأَبْنِي بِنِعْتِي، وَأَبْوَابُ الْجَحِيمِ لَنْ تَقْوَى عَلَيْنَا. سَأُعْطِيكَ مَفَاتِيحَ مَلَكُوتِ السَّمَاوَاتِ، فَكُلُّ مَا تَرْبِطُهُ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ يَكُونُ مَرْبُوطًا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ، وَمَا تَحُلُّهُ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ يَكُونُ مَحْلُولًا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ". حِينَئِذٍ أَوْصَى تَلَامِيذَهُ أَلَّا يَقُولُوا لِأَحَدٍ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْمَسِيحُ. حَقًّا وَالْأَمَانُ لِكُلِّكُمْ.