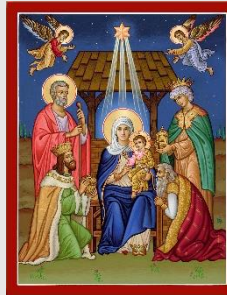




Saint Maron Maronite Catholic Church

1013 Ellsworth Street, Philadelphia, PA 19147

215.389.2000 | 215.334.1884 | office@saintmaron.org



WEEKLY BULLETIN - 12/31/2023

Season of the Glorious Birth of Our Lord

OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY OFFICE CLOSED

TUESDAY – FRIDAY 10:30AM – 4:00PM

Pastor

Fr. Andrawos (Fadi) El Tabchi

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, Deebeanne 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

Advisor: Rosemarie Marrone

Teachers: Rania Sukkarieh, Maha Labbad, Samar Dawlabani, Reine Ghazaly, Janah Szewczyk, Sanaa Rizk, Samer Hourani.

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 Soueidy

Vice-President: Samer Hourani

Happy New Year

Dear Beloved Parishioners,

May the Grace and Peace of our Lord be with you!

In this season of celebrations, my heart overflows with gratitude for the warmth and generosity you have extended to me and our cherished church community. Your considerate gifts, heartfelt cards, and generous contributions have touched my soul profoundly.

Your kindness beautifully mirrors the essence of Christmas - a season that beckons us to embrace the boundless love and compassion shared among God's children. Your unwavering presence and steadfast support enrich the tapestry of our faith community, and I feel truly blessed to stand alongside such a compassionate congregation.

The Christmas gifts, cards, and financial blessings are not merely symbols of your generosity; they serve as profound expressions of the love and unity that define our church family.

I want to convey my deepest thanks for your enduring commitment to our collective journey of faith. As we step into the new year, may the blessings of Christmas echo in our hearts, guiding us along the path of love, understanding, and devoted service.

Your contributions will undoubtedly foster the well-being of our church and its ministries, empowering us to radiate God's love and grace in our community.

Once again, I extend my heartfelt appreciation for your thoughtful gifts, warm wishes, and the joy you infuse into our congregation. May God's abundant blessings shower upon you and your families throughout the unfolding year.

In Christ's boundless love,
Fr. Andrawos (Fadi) El Tabchi
Pastor

New Year Liturgies

The Circumcision of the Lord

Saturday, December 30, @ 4:00PM,
liturgy is offered for a special intention.

Sunday, December 31, @ 11:00AM
liturgy is offered for a special intention.

SUNDAY READINGS

Finding of Our Lord
in The Temple

Hebrew 7:11-19 | Luke 2:41-52

The Circumcision
of Jesus

Eph 2:11-22 | Luke 2:21

Sanctuary Candle Church Volunteers

DIVINE LITURGIES

New Year Liturgies

The Circumcision of the Lord

Saturday, December 30, @ 4:00PM, liturgy is offered for a special intention.

Sunday, December 31, @ 11:00AM liturgy is offered for a special intention.

Feast of the Glorious Epiphany

Saturday, January 6, @ 4:00PM, liturgy is offered for a special intention.

Sunday, January 7, @ 11:00AM liturgy is offered for a special intention.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

December 24-25, 2023

| | |
|--------------|--------------------|
| Collection | \$ 1,485.00 |
| Fuel | \$ 100.00 |
| PayPal | \$ 450.00 |
| Coffee Hour | \$ 5.00 |
| Total | \$ 2,040.00 |

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

\$ 1,514.00

MARCH FOR LIFE

January 17 – 19, 2024



MARCH FOR LIFE

NATIONAL MYO CONFERENCE

June 24 – 29

Registration opens Feb 2024

5 FULL DAYS
JUNE 24-29
 MON - SAT

REGISTRATION OPENS EARLY
FEB 2024

www.maroniteyouth.org

SAVE THE DATE

THE 2024 NATIONAL MYO CONFERENCE
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LIGUORI ACADEMY

On behalf of our students at Liguori Academy, thank you for your continued generosity in ensuring our students had a beautiful Christmas. I wish you could have seen the expressions on our students' face as they opened the gifts you gave them. Beyond the gift, our students experienced Boundless Love from their extended family of Saint Maron. May the coming year bring abundant blessings your way. Happy New Year.

Michael

SHAWARMA - TakeOut

Sunday, January 7, 2023

Following the Divine Liturgy



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.

BREAD ORDERS

No orders will be placed for New Year Weekend.

BIBLE STUDY

with Abouna David

Every Thursday at 10AM

Via Zoom

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87347439104?pwd=eUJRRVpFUyt5NlVpTVXR5bCtBdGpGdz09>

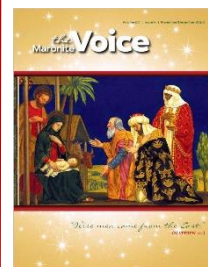
IN OUR PRAYERS

Please keep in your prayers

Larry Cook, Mary Louise Scotti, Janet Labar, Krystal Valianti, Anne Mgrdichian, Carol Bevelhymmer, 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 Chokeur, 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



Volume 20
Issue 6
Nov / Dec 2023
Page 29

Christmas Caroling

Following the Novena Prayers on Friday, December 22, 2023, the CCD and MYO joined by members of the parish, lit the streets of South Philly with Christmas Joy. As we strolled from house to house, we sang Christmas Carols in both English and Arabic. What a joy it brought to all of us especially our cherished elderly.



*Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year.*



May the coming year be abundant with joy and warmth.

Thank
you




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Saint Maron Maronite Catholic Church



December 31, 2023

FINDING OF OUR LORD IN THE TEMPLE

First Reading Hebrews 7:11-19

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

Brothers and Sisters:

If perfection had been attainable through the levitical priesthood for the people received the law under this priesthood what further need would there have been to speak of another priest arising according to the order of Melchizedek, rather than one according to the order of Aaron? For when there is a change in the priesthood, there is necessarily a change in the law as well. Now the one of whom these things are spoken belonged to another tribe, from which no one has ever served at the altar. For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, and in connection with that tribe Moses said nothing about priests. It is even more obvious when another priest arises, resembling Melchizedek, one who has become a priest, not through a legal requirement concerning physical descent, but through the power of an indestructible life. For it is attested of him, 'You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.' There is, on the one hand, the abrogation of an earlier commandment because it was weak and ineffectual (for the law made nothing perfect); there is, on the other hand, the introduction of a better hope, through which we approach God.

Praise be to God always.

فصل من الرسالة إلى أهل رومة

يا إِخْوَتِي، لَوْ كَانَ الْكَمَالُ قَدْ تَحَقَّقَ بِالْكَهَنُوتِ اللَّائِي، وَهُوَ أَسَاسُ الشَّرِيعَةِ الَّتِي أُعْطِيَتْ لِلشَّعْبِ، فَأَيُّ حَاجَةٍ بَعْدُ إِلَى أَنْ يَقُومَ كَاهِنٌ آخَرٌ عَلَى «رُتْبَةِ مَلْكِيسَادِق»، وَلَا يُقَالُ «عَلَى رُتْبَةِ هَارُونَ»؟ فَمَتَى تَغَيَّرَ الْكَهَنُوتُ، لَا بُدَّ مِنْ تَغْيِيرِ الشَّرِيعَةِ أَيْضًا. فَالَّذِي يُقَالُ هَذَا فِي شَأْنِهِ، أَيِ الْمَسِيحِ، جَاءَ مِنْ سِبْطِ آخَرَ، لَمْ يُلَازِمِ أَحَدٌ مِنْهُ خِدْمَةَ الْمَذْبَحِ، وَمِنْ الْوَاضِحِ أَنَّ رَبَّنَا أَشْرَقَ مِنْ يَهُودَا، مِنْ سِبْطِ لَمْ يَصِفْهُ مُوسَى بِشَيْءٍ مِنَ الْكَهَنُوتِ. وَيَزِيدُ الْأَمْرَ وَضُوحًا أَنَّ الْكَاهِنَ الْآخَرَ الَّذِي يَقُومُ عَلَى مِثَالِ مَلْكِيسَادِقِ، لَمْ يَقُمْ وَفُقَ شَرِيعَةً وَصِيَّةً بَشَرِيَّةً، بَلْ وَفُقَ قُوَّةَ حَيَاةٍ لَا تَزُولُ. وَيُشْهِدُ لَهُ: «أَنْتَ كَاهِنٌ إِلَى الْأَبَدِ، عَلَى رُتْبَةِ مَلْكِيسَادِقِ!». وَهَكَذَا يَتِمُّ إِبْطَالُ وَصِيَّةِ الْكَهَنُوتِ السَّابِقَةِ، بِسَبَبِ ضَعْفِهَا وَعَدَمِ نَفْعِهَا، لِأَنَّ الشَّرِيعَةَ لَمْ تَبْلُغْ شَيْئًا إِلَى الْكَمَالِ، وَيَتِمُّ أَيْضًا إِدْخَالُ رَجَاءٍ أَفْضَلَ، بِهِ نَقْتَرِبُ مِنَ اللَّهِ. وَالتسبيح لله دائماً.

Gospel Reading

Saint Luke 2:41-52

The Apostle Writes:

Every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.' He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

مِنْ إِنْجِيلِ الْقَدِيسِ لَوْقَا

كَانَ أَبُو يَسُوعَ يَذْهَبَانِ كُلَّ سَنَةٍ فِي عِيدِ الْفِصْحِ إِلَى أُورَشَلِيمَ. وَلَمَّا بَلَغَ يَسُوعُ اثْنَتَيْ عَشْرَةَ سَنَةً، صَعِدُوا مَعًا كَمَا هِيَ الْعَادَةُ فِي الْعِيدِ. وَبَعْدَ انْقِضَاءِ أَيَّامِ الْعِيدِ، عَادَ الْأَبَوَانِ، وَبَقِيَ الصَّبِيُّ يَسُوعُ فِي أُورَشَلِيمَ، وَهُمَا لَا يَدْرِيَانِ. وَإِذْ كَانَا يَظُنَّانِ أَنَّهُ فِي الْقَافِلَةِ، سَارَا مَسِيرَةَ يَوْمٍ، ثُمَّ أَحَدًا يَطْلُبَانِهِ بَيْنَ الْأَقَارِبِ وَالْمَعَارِفِ. وَلَمْ يَجِدَاهُ، فَعَادَا إِلَى أُورَشَلِيمَ يَبْحَثَانِ عَنْهُ. وَبَعْدَ ثَلَاثَةِ أَيَّامٍ، وَجَدَاهُ فِي الْهَيْكَلِ جَالِسًا بَيْنَ الْعُلَمَاءِ، يَسْمَعُهُمْ وَيَسْأَلُهُمْ. وَكَانَ جَمِيعُ الَّذِينَ يَسْمَعُونَهُ مُنْذَهَلِينَ بِذَكَائِهِ وَأَجْوِبَتِهِ. وَلَمَّا رَأَاهُ أَبُوَاهُ بُهْتًا، وَقَالَتْ لَهُ أُمُّهُ: «يَا ابْنِي، لِمَاذَا فَعَلْتَ بِنَا هَكَذَا؟ فَهَذَا أَنَا وَأَبُوكَ كُنَّا نَبْحَثُ عَنْكَ مُتَوَجِّعِينَ!». فَقَالَ لَهُمَا: «لِمَاذَا تَطْلُبَانِنِي؟ أَلَا تَعْلَمَانِ أَنَّهُ يَنْبَغِي أَنْ أَكُونَ فِي مَا هُوَ لِأَبِي؟». أَمَّا هُمَا فَلَمْ يَفْهَمَا الْكَلَامَ الَّذِي كَلَّمَهُمَا بِهِ. ثُمَّ نَزَلَ مَعَهُمَا، وَعَادَ إِلَى النَّاصِرَةِ، وَكَانَ خَاضِعًا لَهُمَا. وَكَانَتْ أُمُّهُ تَحْفَظُ كُلَّ هَذِهِ الْأُمُورِ فِي قَلْبِهَا. وَكَانَ يَسُوعُ يَنْمُو فِي الْحِكْمَةِ وَالْقَامَةِ وَالنِّعْمَةِ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ وَالنَّاسِ.

حَقًّا وَالْأَمَانَ لَجَمِيعِكُمْ.



Saint Maron

Maronite Catholic Church



January 1, 2024

THE CIRCUMCISION OF JESUS

First Reading Ephesians 2:11-22

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

Brothers and Sisters:

Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh--who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands - that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

Praise be to God always.

فصل من رسالة القديس بولس إلى أهل أفسس

يا إخواني، تذكروا، أنتم الوثنيين في الجسد سابقاً، ألمدعوين أهل عدم الختانة عند المدعوين أهل الختانة، بفعل اليد في الجسد، تذكروا أنكم كنتم في ذلك الوقت بدون مسيح، مبعدين عن رعية إسرائيل، وغرباء عن عهد الوعد، لآ رجاء لكم في العالم ولا إله؛ أما الآن ففي المسيح يسوع أنتم الذين كنتم من قبل بعيدين، صرتم بدم المسيح قريبين. فإنه هو سلامنا، هو جعل الاثنين واحداً، وفي جسده نقض الجدار الفاصل بينهما، أي العداوة، وأبطل شريعة الوصايا بما فيها من فرائض، ليخلق الاثنين في شخصه إنساناً واحداً جديداً، بإحلاله السلام بينهما، ويصالحهما مع الله، كليهما في جسد واحد، بالصليب، قاتلاً فيه العداوة بينهما. فلما جاء وبشركم بالسلام أنتم البعيدين، وبشر بالسلام القريبين، لأننا به بننا نحن الاثنين في روح واحد الوصول إلى الأب. إذا فليستم بعد غرباء ولا نزلأ، بل أنتم أهل مدينة القديسين وأهل بيت الله، بنيتم على أساس الرسل والأنبياء، والمسيح يسوع نفسه هو حجر الزاوية. فيه يتماسك البناء كله، فيرتفع هيكلًا مقدسًا في الرب، وفيه أنتم أيضًا تبنون معًا مسكنًا لله في الروح.

والتسبيح لله دائماً.

Gospel Reading

Saint Luke 2:21

The Apostle Writes:

And when eight days were completed for the circumcision of the Child, His name was called JESUS, the name given by the angel before He was conceived in the womb.

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

مِنْ إِنْجِيلِ رَبَّنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ لِلْقَدِيسِ لَوْقَا الَّذِي بَشَّرَ الْعَالَمَ بِالْحَيَاةِ. فَلْنُضِغْ إِلَى بَشَارَةِ الْحَيَاةِ وَالْخَلَاصِ
لِنُفُوسِنَا.

وَلَمَّا تَمَّتْ ثَمَانِيَةُ أَيَّامٍ لِيُخْتَنُوا الصَّبِيُّ سُمِّيَ يَسُوعَ، كَمَا تَسَمَّى مِنَ الْمَلَائِكِ قَبْلَ أَنْ حُبِلَ بِهِ فِي الْبَطْنِ.

حَقًّا وَالْأَمَانَ لِكُلِّكُمْ.