



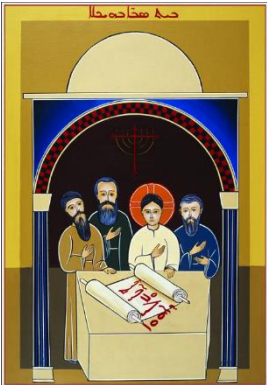
Saint Maron Maronite Catholic Church

1013 Ellsworth Street, Philadelphia, PA 19147

215.389.2000 | 215.334.1884 | office@saintmaron.org

Office Hours: Monday: Office Closed | Tuesday – Friday: 10:30am – 4:00 pm

Pastor: Fr. Andrawos (Fadi) El Tabchi | Consultant/Advisor: Fr. David Fisher



WEEKLY BULLETIN – January 4-5, 2025

The Finding of the Lord in the Temple

READINGS

1st Reading: Hebrews 7:11-19

Gospel Reading: Luke 2:41-52

DIVINE LITURGIES

Saturday, January 4, @ 4:00PM, liturgy is offered in memory of Mike Guttersen requested by Jeannie and Michael O'Neil. May his soul rest in peace.

Sunday, January 5, @ 11:00AM liturgy is offered for the repose of soul of Sister Nahida Al Sawa. May her soul rest in peace.

Monday, January 6, @ 6:00 PM.

Feast of the Glorious Epiphany.

Saturday, January 11, @ 4:00PM, liturgy is offered for a Special Intention.

Sunday, January 12, @ 11:00AM liturgy is offered in memory of Helen Abdalla requested by Philip and Vivian Rai. May her soul rest in peace.

SANCTUARY CANDLE: This week, the sanctuary candle burns for foster children and foster parents. Heavenly Father, God of Love and Mercy, we lift in our prayers all foster children asking You to surround them with Your tender love and guide them toward a future filled with hope and healing. Bless all the foster parents with patience, wisdom and strength to nurture the precious souls entrusted to their care. May Your light shine in their lives bringing comfort and joy and abundant blessings to every family touched by fostering. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.



Feast of the Glorious Epiphany *Monday, January 6, 2025*

The feast of the glorious Epiphany is celebrated on January 6 of each year and it commemorates the revelation of Jesus' Divinity. Epiphany/Theophany comes from the Greek word "theophania," which means "appearance of God" or "manifestation of God."

On this feast, Eastern Churches focus on the Baptism of Jesus Christ in the Jordan River emphasizing on His manifestation as the Son of God as described in the four Gospels.

On the other hand, the Western Tradition, focuses on the Visit of the Magi to Christ the Child emphasizing Jesus Christ's physical manifestation to the Gentiles.

One of the oldest traditions of this feast is blessing the water which symbolizes the renewal of the creation and the renewal of our baptismal promises. The blessed water is used by the faithful to seek spiritual renewal and protection.

If anyone wishes to have their home blessed with this Holy Water, please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

May the Lord Bless You and Your families abundantly and strengthen your faith to do His will. May our hearts be guided by the Holy Spirit and filled with peace.

Blessed Epiphany
Fr. Andrawos

January 2025 at a Glance

WED – Jan 1	New Year's Day The Circumcision of Jesus	
SAT – Jan 4		The Finding of our Lord in the Temple
SUN – Jan 5	CCD & MYO Classes Resume	
MON – Jan 6	Feast of the Glorious Epiphany	
SAT – Jan 11	MYO Get Together	
SUN – Jan 12		
SAT – Jan 18	MYA Game Night	
SUN – Jan 19		
MON – Jan 20	MLK Jr Day: CCD & MYO Service Project	
SAT – Jan 25		3rd Sunday after Epiphany
SUN – Jan 26		
Feast: Wednesday, January 1, 2025: The Circumcision of Jesus Monday, January 6, 2025: Epiphany 2ND Collection: January 26, 2025 - USCCB		

WEEKLY COLLECTION

December 28-29, 2024

Collection	\$ 1,678.00
Online Giving	\$ 50.00
Total	\$ 1,728.00

Other Collections

Christmas Collection	\$ 1,245.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 59.00
2nd Collection: USCCB	\$ 10.00
Eparchial Assessment	\$ 0.00
Insurance	\$ 0.00
Fuel	\$ 292.00
Memorial: Helen Abdallah	\$ 370.00
Memorial: Estephan El Tabchi	\$ 225.00

BIBLE STUDY

With Fr. David



Every Thursday
At 10 am

Via Google meet:

<https://meet.google.com/eit-bfvm-jit>

Maronite Voice

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Nov/Dec 2024

<https://www.maronitevoice.org/>

Saint Maron Church
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IN OUR PRAYERS

Please keep in your prayers

Ed and Theresa Gussin, Barbara Impriano, Paige Moderski, Rita Fortina, Jason Gushue, Lily Gushue, Joann Fontana, Jay O'Donnell, Allison Auld, Carmen Sansweet, 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, Mary McKinney, Jessica McKinney, Angela McKinney, Skylia Simon, Peter Labaki, Nancy Murphy, Marentha Young-Heart, Allison Tretina, Stephanie Devinney, Angela Scorza Anderson, Raymond Fitzpatrick, Linda Yeckes, Frankie Olivieri, Marie Eddis, Mia Andrilla, Ashley Iaconelli, Elissar Ayoub, Joanne Simon-Turing, Suzanne Haney, Linda DiBernardo, Joan Speck, 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.

11-12 JANUARY

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MYO
GET
TOGETHER

\$20 Fee



ACTIVITIES

ICE SKATING, LITURGIES, DABKE, AND MUCH MORE!

ARRIVALS BETWEEN 10A-NOON

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN



SCAN QR CODE TO RSVP
& BRING YOUR OWN SLEEPING BAGS!

MYO JANUARY EVENT GET TOGETHER

We are blessed to have more than 70 MYOs registered for this event from different parishes.

I extend a heartfelt thanks to all the pastors of our sister parishes who have encouraged their MYOs to join us on January 11-12, 2025 for a special weekend.

*A special Thank you goes to
Janah - the Religious Education Coordinator
And Summer – MYO/MYA Coordinator*

for planning such an amazing event that will bring all our kids together for a weekend filled with fun activities and delicious food.

MYA JANUARY EVENT

GAME NIGHT
JANUARY 18, 2024

@8:00 PM

Have Fun With Friends

*Bring Your Favorite
Game With You*

Jan
18th,
2025

MYA Game Night

**\$10
Entry**

Hosted by:
MYA

RSVP HERE

Saint Maron Hall | 1013 Ellsworth St

March For Life 2025



MARCH FOR LIFE 2025
Life: WHY WE MARCH

JANUARY 23-26, 2025
WASHINGTON, D.C.

For more info visit
<https://www.stmaron.org/eparchial-news/2024-march-for-life-announcement-amp-details>



MARCH FOR LIFE 2025
Life: WHY WE MARCH

JAN 23 - 26 WASHINGTON, D.C.

Thursday January 23
5:00 PM Evening vigil at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception
TBD Social Outing

Friday January 24
11:00 AM Meet at Starbucks for the March
5:00 PM Dinner and Talk with Father Rudolph at the Seminary Library
TBD Social Outing

Saturday January 25
10:30 AM Maronite Mass in the Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception
TBD Social Outing

Sunday January 26
11:00 AM Divine Liturgy at Our Lady of Lebanon
12:30 PM Brunch at the Parish Hall
2:00 PM Tour Monuments

Questions? Contact mya.eparchystmaron@gmail.com or the Eparchy Family and Sanctity of Life Office (540)520-1679
Hotel block information can be found at myaeparchystmaron.org/events



*Schedule is subject to change

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity JANUARY 18–25, 2025 “Do You Believe?”

Every year, Christian communities and churches join together to pray for the visible unity of the Church, faithfully abiding by the will of Christ, who prayed “that all may be one” (John 17:21), during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

This year's theme was chosen in recognition of the 1700th anniversary of the First Council of Nicaea (325), at which the words “I believe” were chosen to anchor the Creed as an instrument of universal Christian unity.

For more info, you can visit:
<http://www.christianunity.va/content/unitacristiani/en/news/2024/2024-05-20-wpcu-2025.html>



WEEK of PRAYER for CHRISTIAN UNITY 2025

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2025

2025 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

“Do you believe this?”
(John 11:26)

1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea



Festivals



MIAMI LEBANESE FESTIVAL

FRIDAY 01/24/25 FROM 6PM TO 1AM
SATURDAY 01/25/25 FROM 6PM TO 1AM
SUNDAY 01/26/25 FROM 12PM TO 10PM

Folkloric
Dances

Lebanese Cuisine & Sweets

Entertainment



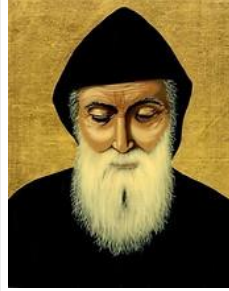
Admission: \$10 Adults • \$5 Kids (12 and under)



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The Order of Saint Sharbel



The Order of Saint Sharbel, established in 1980, is a national organization, of lay people and clergy, that supports the Maronite Seminary in Washington, DC. The organization's goal is to promote and strengthen the Maronite Church in the United States.

The Order provides financial support to seminarians and when it is possible, to support retired priests of the Maronite Church in the United States.

New members to the Order of Saint Sharbel are welcome. The seminarians you help today will be the priests of tomorrow who will serve the Maronite Church in America.

For more info, you can visit:

<https://www.orderstsharbel.org/>

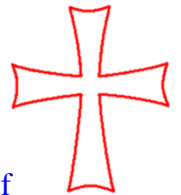
or

<https://maroniteseminary.org/support/>

Maronite Liturgical Calendar 2025

To download the 2025 Eparchial Desk Calendar, Click on the link below:

<https://saintmaron.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/2025-Eparchial-Desk-Calendar.pdf>



2024 Contribution Tax Letter

If you wish to receive your tax contribution letter for 2024, contact the office via email: office@saintmaron.org

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.

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.

فصل من الرسالة إلى العبرانيين

يا إخوتي، لو كان الكمال قد تحقّق بالكهنوت اللاوي، وهو أساس الشريعة التي أُعطيت للشعب، فأبي حاجةٍ بعدُ إلى أن يقوم كاهنٌ آخرٌ على «رتبة ملكيصادق»، ولا يُقال «على رتبة هارون»؟ فمتى تغيّر الكهنوت، لا بدّ من تغيير الشريعة أيضًا. فالذي يُقال هذا في شأنه، أي المسيح، جاء من سبطٍ آخر، لم يلازم أحدٌ منه خدمة المذبح، ومن الواضح أنّ ربنا أشرق من يهوذا، من سبطٍ لم يصفه موسى بشيءٍ من الكهنوت. ويزيد الأمر وضوحًا أنّ الكاهن الآخر الذي يقوم على مثال ملكيصادق، لم يقم وفق شريعة وصية بشرية، بل وفق قوّة حياة لا تتول. ويُشهد له: «أنت كاهنٌ إلى الأبد، على رتبة ملكيصادق!». وهكذا يتمّ إبطال وصية الكهنوت السابقة، بسبب ضعفها وعدم نفعها، لأنّ الشريعة لم تُبلِّغ شيئًا إلى الكمال، ويتمّ أيضًا إدخال رجاءٍ أفضل، به تقترب من الله. والتسبيح لله دائمًا.

من إنجيل القديس لوقا

كان أبوا يسوع يذهبان كل سنة في عيد الفصح إلى أورشليم. ولما بلغ يسوع اثنتي عشرة سنة، صعدوا معًا كما هي العادة في العيد. وبعد انقضاء أيام العيد، عاد الأبوان، وبقي الصبي يسوع في أورشليم، وهما لا يدريان. وإذا كانا يظنان أنّه في القافلة، سارا مسيرة يوم، ثم أخذوا يطلبانه بين الأقارب والمعارف. ولم يجداه، فعادا إلى أورشليم يبحثان عنه. وبعد ثلاثة أيام، وجدها في الهيكل جالسًا بين العلماء، يسمعونهم ويسألهم. وكان جميع الذين يسمعونهُ مندهلين بذكائه وأجوبته. ولما رآه أبواه بهتًا، وقالت له أمه: «يا ابني، لماذا فعلت بنا هكذا؟ فهذا أنا وأبوك كنا نبحثُ عنك متوجّعين!». فقال لهما: «لماذا تطلباني؟ ألا تعلمان أنّه ينبغي أن أكون في ما هو لأبي؟». أمّا هما فلم يفهما الكلام الذي كلمهما به. ثم نزل معهما، وعاد إلى الناصرة، وكان خاضعًا لهما. وكانت أمه تحفظ كل هذه الأمور في قلبها. وكان يسوع ينمو في الحكمة والقامة والنعمة عند الله والناس. حقًا والأمان لجميعكم.

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