

DIVINE LITURGY INTENTIONS

Maronite Synaxarion

<p>Sunday, February 4th 8:30am Deacon Bob Foster by Sandy Hamad Nouha Abou Chehade by Deacon Tom and Bernie Maroon 11:00am Violette Choueiry by the OLC Caregivers Josephine Akiki by Maria and Nathan Stewart</p>	<p>St. Isadore of Pelusium</p>
<p>Monday, February 5th No Service</p>	<p>St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr</p>
<p>Tuesday, February 6th 9:00am – Divine Liturgy Francois, Christiane and Kristen Risha for Health and Blessings from Sdn. Chuck and Mary Beth Abraham</p>	<p>St. Bicolus, Bishop of Smyrna. St. Fausta, Martyr</p>
<p>Wednesday, February 7th 9:00am – Divine Liturgy John El-Mahrouk by the Sabbagh family</p>	<p>St. Parthenius, Bishop of Lampsacus. St. Anterius, Pope and Martyr</p>
<p>Thursday, February 8th No Service</p>	<p>Zachariah, Prophet</p>
<p>Friday, February 9th 9:00am – Divine Liturgy Deacon Bob Foster by Rick and Marty Thiemann</p>	<p>St. Maron (Holy Day of Obligation)</p>
<p>Saturday, February 10th 9:00am – Divine Liturgy</p>	<p>St. Apollonia and St. Dorothy, Martyrs.</p>
<p>Sunday, February 11th 10:30am Deacon Bob Foster by the Community of Our Lady of the Cedars Joe, Lena and Audry Ellis by Paul and Nila Ellis Nouha Abou Chehade by OLC Caregivers</p>	<p>St. Charalampias, Martyr</p>



Our Lady of the Cedars of Mount Lebanon

MARONITE CATHOLIC CHURCH

كنيسة سيّدة أرز جبل لبنان المارونيّة

PASTOR **FATHER RONALD EID** (330) 666-3598

ourladyofthecedarschurch@gmail.com

PARISH OFFICE HOURS TUESDAY – FRIDAY 9:00AM – 1:00PM

Welcome New Parishioners

Please register at our parish office

DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE

Sunday	8:30am. & 11:00am
Monday	No Service
Tuesday	9:00am
Wednesday	9:00am
Thursday	No Service
Friday	9:00am
Saturday	9:00am

CONFESSION

Available following Saturday
 Divine Liturgy
 or by appointment

SACRAMENTS

Baptism & Chrismation
Contact the Parish Office

Marriage
*Contact the Parish Office at least
 6 months before the wedding*

Sick Calls & Anointing
*Notify Fr. Ronald
 Text/call 330-509-0098*

DEACON Thomas Maroon, Sr.

SUBDEACON Paul Boulos
SUBDEACON Chuck Abraham

CAREGIVERS Chuck Abraham

www.Ourladyofthecedarschurch.org

Banquet. Hall / Caterer:
 Tangier's – Angelica George
 (330) 418-4778

Contact Fr. Ronald directly
(330) 509-0098.

*Contact Fr. Eid via email,
 calling, or text message. If you
 receive voicemail, he will return
 your call*



February 4, 2024

Commemoration of the Faithful Departed

“My child, remember that you received what was good during your lifetime while Lazarus likewise received what was bad; but now he is comforted here, whereas you are tormented.”

Luke 16:25



507 SOUTH CLEVELAND-MASSILLON ROAD, FAIRLAWN, OHIO 44333

**Please don't forget to offer intentions for your Loved ones; living or deceased.
 We believe in the power of the Eucharist.**

READINGS

THIS SUNDAY

Sunday of the Faithful Departed

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Luke 16:19-31

EPISTLE READERS

Sunday, February 4

8:30am – Tom Jesser, Jr.

11:00am – Layla Roland

Sunday, February 11

10:30am – Cheryl Christ

Sunday, February 18

8:30am – Chris Abraham

11:00am – Monique Binkley

Sunday, February 25

8:30am – Cynthia Maroon

11:00am – Mike Kelly

Coming Events

Parish Advisory Board Meeting – TBA

Ladies' Guild Meeting – TBA

Men's Club Meeting - TBA

Caregivers' Meeting - TBA

(Following 8:30 Liturgy)

Next special collection:

March 3, 2024

Caritas Lebanon

Next First Friday Divine Liturgy

And Adoration

will be held on

Friday, March 1, 2024

Counting our Blessings

Weekly Collection

January 28, 2024

2,063.00

Thank you for your generosity!

Electronic Giving

If you would like to make your Sunday contributions, or give a donation please scan the QR Code below:



Be At Peace

By St. Francis de Sales

Do not look forward in fear
to the changes in life;
rather, look to them with full hope
that as they arise, God,
whose very own you are,
will lead you safely through all things;
and when you cannot stand it,
God will carry you in His arms.
Do not fear what may happen tomorrow;
the same understanding Father
who cares for you today
will take care of you then and every day.
He will either shield you from suffering
or will give you unfailing strength to bear it.
Be at peace and put aside all
anxious thoughts and imaginations.

ACME CASH BACK PROGRAM
Please return your Acme receipts
To the Church as soon as possible
So that they can be tallied for the
Acme Cash Back Program.

Thank you for your participation in
This fundraising effort for our
Parish!

From: The Ladies Guild



Evening with the Scriptures

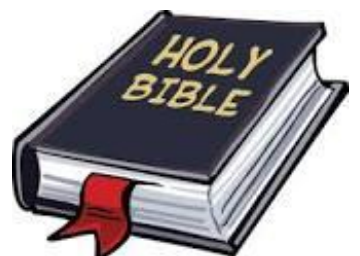
On the last Tuesday of each Month, at 7:00pm, Father Ronald will be leading a Scripture Study at the Church.

****Next study will be held on February 27, 2024****

All are welcome! Come and expand your knowledge of the Word of God.

*"Seek the Lord and His Strength; seek
His presence continually!"*

1 Chronicles 16:11



Sunday of the Faithful Departed

Our old Maronite tradition consecrates at the end of the Epiphany Season and before the beginning of the Great Lent, three Sundays and three weeks for the remembrance of the deceased members of the church. After the remembrance of the deceased members from the Bishops and the Priests there are also in the second Sunday the remembrance of the deceased members from the righteous and the just. The third Sunday, like today, the church remembers all the faithful departed who left us for their eternal reward.

For that occasion, the church has chosen the Gospel of St. Luke, in the parable of the rich man and Lazarus. This parable is constructed with such masterful skill that not one phrase is wasted and it is found only in St. Luke's Gospel. It evolves around two characters: the rich and the poor.

The rich man, in the Latin version is called "Dives". Every phrase adds something to his luxury: he was clothed in purple and fine linen, like the robe of the High Priest, which was very expensive, he was feasting every day and was feeding on erotic and costly dishes with lots of meat and this every day.

The poor man also has a name, Lazarus. Strangely enough this parable is the only one where "a character" has a name. That means that the parable is real and not fictive. Lazarus was a beggar, hungry with ulcerated sores, waiting for the crumbs falling from the table of the rich man.

In that time, there were no knives, no forks, and no napkins. Food was eaten with the hands and in wealthy houses the hands were cleansed by wiping them on pieces of bread which were then thrown away. That was what Lazarus was waiting for.

Lazarus died and went to Heaven and Dives died also and went to Hell. But what was the sin of the rich man? Jesus was not against richness. This rich man had not removed Lazarus from his door. He had no problem in letting him eat the pieces of bread falling on the ground. He did not kick him in passing. He was not cruel to him. The sin of this rich man was that he never noticed the poor man at his door. He ignored him totally. As someone said: "It was not what he did that got him in Sheol. It was what he did not do that got him into Hell." It was his total indifference that merited his punishment. The sin of Dives was not that he did wrong, but that he did nothing.

The church teaches us that the Holy Catholic Church has three entities: the militant church on earth, the suffering church in the purgatory, and the glorious church in Heaven. It teaches us also that our prayers could be a good help for the suffering church and that the glorious church could be a great intercessor for us.

The prayer for the dead existed always in the tradition of the church. It is rooted in the life of the church liturgy. In fact, it goes back to the end of the second century before Christ. In the second book of the Maccabees, chapter 23:39-46, we experience the fact of the power of the living to offer prayers and sacrifices for the dead.

In fact, the prayer for the dead is a very rich prayer in our Maronite liturgy. On one hand, we have two kinds of masses consecrated for the dead: every Saturday of the year and the Sunday of the Faithful Departed, like today. On the other hand, we have the book of Gennazat, which is the book of burials, and the prayers of the breviary in the fourth station.

Finally, we should remember that faithful people have a special interest for the prayer said for the forgotten souls. It remains the most precious prayer and the most fruitful.

Amen



From the Desk of The Pastor



Dear Parishioners,

Greetings in the spirit of faith and devotion! As we approach the Feast of Saint Maron on February 9th, it is an opportune moment for us to reflect on the rich heritage and enduring faith of the Maronite Catholic community.

Saint Maron, a devout monk from the fourth century A.D., dedicated his life to holiness, miracles, and the defense of the true faith against prevailing heresies. His commitment to God's Word transformed a pagan temple into a thriving monastery along the banks of the Orontes River in Aram. Through his teachings, hundreds of Arameans embraced Christianity, becoming the foundation of what we now know as the Maronite Church.

Zayek, first bishop of the Maronites in the United States, proudly says, "We were never separated from the Holy Father." Because of this unwavering fidelity, Maronites have been called "the Irish of the East.". The Maronites have faced numerous hardships throughout their history. Despite challenges, including political unrest and persecution, they have stood firm in their commitment to the Holy Father. Their enduring faith and courage have made them a beacon of inspiration for Catholics worldwide.

As we celebrate the Feast of Saint Maron, let us remember the roots of our spiritual journey and the sacrifices made by our ancestors. The Maronite Church, with its origins in ancient Aram, has preserved its unique identity by resisting external influences and maintaining the Syriac-Aramaic culture and language.

Our spirituality, rooted in Old Testament teachings, emphasizes the mysterious and unknowable nature of God, revealed through Christ. The Maronite devotion to the Blessed Sacrament and deep reverence for Mary, the Mother of the Light, shape our prayerful and symbolically rich expressions of faith.

This Feast is not just a commemoration but an opportunity for us to renew our commitment to simplicity, readiness for the Lord, and a spirit of pilgrimage. Saint Maron's teachings on traveling light and the monastic counsel continue to guide us on our journey towards heaven, our ultimate home.

In recent years, efforts to return our Divine Service and sacraments to their original Eastern form have been underway, restoring the austere beauty of our liturgy. Though we use the vernacular, we preserve the traditional Syriac or Arabic languages in many prayers and hymns.

As we celebrate the Feast of Saint Maron, let us rejoice in the spiritual heritage handed down to us and strive to embody the prophecy of Isaiah: "It shall bud forth and blossom, and shall rejoice with joy and praise: the glory of Lebanon is given to it: the beauty of Carmel and Sharon."

May the celebration of Saint Maron's feast be a source of spiritual enrichment for each one of us. Let our faith continue to blossom and spread its radiant light to all corners of our lives.

In faith and fellowship,

Fr. Ron



UNITED SAGHBINE SOCIETY PRESENTS



OUR ANNUAL *Fundraising Hafli*

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2024

Our Lady of the Cedars Church

507 SOUTH CLEVELAND-MASSILLON ROAD – FAIRLAWN, OHIO

DOORS OPEN AT 7:00PM ~ MAZZA AT 7:30PM

DINNER SERVED AT 8:30PM ~ LIVE MUSIC 9:30PM

LEBANESE MAZZA AND 5 STAR CUISINE DINNER

Proceeds to benefit St. Anthony school in Saghbine, Lebanon.

Established in 1955, St. Anthony provides education for the children of Saghbine and neighboring villages.

Unable to attend but would still like to help, please consider a contribution. Donations are tax deductible.
Make checks payable to United Saghbine Society.



Featuring Andre Ebrahim and Band

Tickets DONATION
\$150 PER PERSON

\$150 OF YOUR DONATION
IS TAX DEDUCTIBLE

CALL OR TEXT FOR TICKETS AND INFORMATION:

GEORGE MAROUN 330-697-2528

SAM KAHWAJI 330-283-9619

*Please call early
for reservations*

ST. MARON FEAST DAY DINNER

*Sunday, February 11th
Following the 10:30am Liturgy*

St. Maron Feast Day
Sponsors:

Chris & Stephanie Hamad
Sandy Hamad
Roger & Nina Hamad
Mark & Jackie Hamad
Jim & Beverly Peters
Elias & Nada Rami
George & Nancy Sahlani
Paul & Gena Boulos
Zu & Clarissa Kahwaji
Francois & Christiane Risha
Patti Staeger
Tom & Paula Hadley
Walid & Autumn Kahwaji
Elie & Violette Shamatta
John & Erin Jesser
Ace & Patty Morcos
Kamil & Hanan Khoury
Camile & Jessica Ghorayeb
Dr. Louis & Dr. Andrea Saliba
Leila Baker
Fares Jasser

MEAL MENU

To Be Announced...

I am sure it will be
worth waiting for!

For Table Reservations
(for groups of 4 or more)

Call Roger Hamad
330-338-9719

Or
Parish Office
330-666-3598