Maronite Synaxarion
St. Ephrem the Syriani, Doctor of the Church
St. Palladius. St. Hippolytus, Martyr
St. Maximus the Confessor
Don John Bosco
St. Pionius, Martyr. St. Eutychian, Pope
Presentation of Christ in the Temple, also called the Entrance of Christ to the Temple.
Simeon the Elder and Anna the Prophetess
St. Isadore of Pelusium

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



Please register at our parish office

#### **DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE**

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

# Our Lady of the Cedars of Mount Lebanon MARONITE CATHOLIC CHURCH كنيسة سيدة أرز جبل لبنان المارونية

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

ourladyofthecedarschurch@gmail.com

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

January 28, 2024

Sunday of the **Righteous and The Just** 

> "Amen I say to you, what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me."

> > Matthew 25:45



507 SOUTH CLEVELAND-MASSILLON ROAD, FAIRLAWN, OHIO 44333

# **READINGS**

#### THIS SUNDAY

### Sunday of the Righteous and the Just

Hebrews 12:18-24 Matthew 25:31-46

#### **EPISTLE READERS**

#### Sunday, January 28

8:30am – Stephanie Hamad 11:00am – Freddy Nemr

#### Sunday, February 4

8:30am – Tom Jesser, Jr. 11:00am – Layla Roland

#### Sunday, February 11

8:30am – Cheryl Christ 11:00am – Michelle Reyes

#### Sunday, February 18

8:30am – Chris Abraham 11:00am – Monique Binkley

## **Coming Events**

Parish Advisory Board Meeting - TBA

<u>Ladies' Guild Meeting – TBA</u>

Men's Club Meeting - TBA

<u>Caregivers' Meeting - TBA</u> (Following 8:30 Liturgy)

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

#### **Next special collection:**

January 28, 2024
Eparchial Charities

Next First Friday Divine Liturgy
And Adoration
will be held on
Friday, February 2, 2024

# Counting our Blessings

Weekly Collection January 21, 2024 2,786.00

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:



Dear Parishioners,

As we approach the season of Lent, we kindly request those who took home palm branches from Palm Sunday to return them to the church.

Please bring your palm branches to the church and drop them off in the designated collection area. Your contribution will allow us to continue the meaningful tradition of using last year's palms for this year's Ash Monday. Thank you for your cooperation and participation in this special preparation for the Lenten season.

Blessings,

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



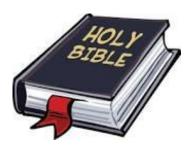
# **Evening with the Scriptures**

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

\*\*Study will resume on January 30th.\*\*

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 RIGHTEOUS AND THE JUST MATTHEW 25:31-46

The conclusion of the long discourse of Jesus which preceded the Passion of Christ and which is peculiar to St. Matthew, portrays the final judgement that will accompany the final great day.

This passage is called "Parable" only because Jesus is depicted as a Shepherd, the righteous as sheep and the wicked people as goats. The Maronite tradition had always applied this Gospel to the Feast of All Saints.

The sheep are designated as representing the righteous and the just, for many reasons; they are mostly in white color, the color of peace, humility, and humbleness. They are also obedient and stuck always together because they have the sense of community life and togetherness.

On the other hand, the goats are mostly not with very agreeable colors. They are also very independent, stubborn and difficult to pasture.

Jesus took this comparison of sheep and goats because in His time, these kinds of animals were the most important sources of revenue for living and surviving. In Lebanon, it is said that those who survived famine during the First World War were mostly shepherds.

Jesus reduces the material off the last Judgement to four elements: I was hungry and you gave me food. I was thirsty and you gave me drink. I was a stranger and you gave me refuge. I was naked and you gave me clothes. I was ill and you gave me remedy. I was imprisoned and you gave me support.

The judgement does not depend on the knowledge we have amassed or the fame we have acquired, or on the fortune that we have gained, but on the help that we have given. God will judge us in accordance with our reaction to human need. We live in a society, in a community of brothers and sisters and we have duties and obligations toward each other. We don't live alone on this globe. On the last judgement God will judge us less on what we did than on what we did not do.

Jesus is asking help in little things; a meal to the hungry, a drink to the thirsty, a shelter to a stranger, a vestment to a naked, a cheering to the sick, and a visit to a prisoner. They are little things which anyone can do. But they are very important because Jesus in this Parable repeats them four times.

Jesus confronts us with the wonderful truth that all such help given is given to himself. Small or big, our help with Jesus will take immense dimensions.

St. Martin of Tours, France, was a Roman soldier and a Christian. On one cold winter day, as he was entering the city, a beggar stopped him. He was blue and shivering with cold. St. Martin took off his soldier's coat, cut it in two with his sword and gave half of it to the beggar.

That night he saw in a dream all the angels of Heaven and Jesus in the middle. Jesus was wearing half of a Roman soldier's cloak. One of the angels said to him: "Master, why are you wearing this old cloak? Who gave it to you?". And Jesus answered softly: "My servant Martin gave it to me."

When we learn the price of generosity we too will know the joy of helping Jesus Christ himself. Generosity can be in material things but especially in love, mercifulness, charity and compassion.

There is a prayer that is almost international saying: "Oh Lord, teach us to be generous." Generosity is the first divine attribute.

Amen





# Thoughts on the Parish Priest.

If the priest preaches for more than ten minutes, we say: How very long-winded he is. If his sermon is short, we say: He didn't prepare well enough. If the parish's income is meager, we say: He is a failed businessman. If he mentions money, we say: He is a slave to money. If he owns a car, we say: He is worldly. If he doesn't own a car, the parish feels embarrassed and considers him exaggerated. If he is cheerful and joyful, we say: He is not serious. If he is dignified and reserved, we say: He is not friendly. If he collects donations and organizes activities, we say: He is draining the people. If he doesn't do these things, we say: He is not sociable. If he takes his time in confession to help the sinner, we say: He is too slow. If he doesn't and acts quickly, we say: He is not a good guide. If he starts his Mass on time, we say: His watch is wrong and he's in a rush. If he is late for Mass, we say: He hinders and delays the congregation. If he rearranges and organizes the church, we say: He is wasteful with money. If he doesn't, we say: He is responsible for the lack of renewal and progress in the church. If he is young, we say: He lacks experience. If he is old, we say: He should retire. 16 "But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates, 17 "'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.' 18 For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon.' 19 The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds." (Matthew 11: 16-19) Dear brothers and sisters, let us pray for our priests so that God may bless their path and guide them in their service. Let us refrain from criticizing them, as we do not want to bear the responsibility for our shortcomings.

(Unknown author)



# United Saghbine Society presents



# Fundraising Halli

# 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 François & 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