

THE PARISH OF Saint Maron

LITURGIES

Weekdays

- 8:30 a.m. Tuesdays & Thursdays
- 7:00 p.m. Wednesday following with Holy Hour
- No Liturgy on Mondays (Except Holy Days)
- Fridays at noon; no liturgies on legal holidays

Weekends

- Saturday evening at 4:30 p.m.
- Sunday morning at 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

CONFESSION

Every Saturday at 3:30 p.m. • Wednesdays 8:00 p.m.
Sundays 30 mins. before Liturgy, or by appointment

COMMUNION CALLS FOR SHUT-INS

Conducted weekly. Please contact the Parish office to arrange for special visits.

HOSPITAL CALLS

If someone is in the hospital, please call the Parish office.

Maronite Center: 330-792-7671

Antonine Sisters: 330-538-2567

Adult Daycare: 330-538-9822

Music Director: Micky Hafely 330-272-7557

Pastor: Rev. Tony Massad

Deacon: William George

Subdeacon: James Essad

Director of Religious Education:

Sr. Samia Abou-Shakra

PRAYER LINE

Please call the office with names of family and friends in need of our prayers.

MYSTERIES OF INITIATION (BAPTISM AND CHRISMATION)

Arrangements for these Mysteries must be preceded by instructional classes for parents and sponsors. (One sponsor must be an active Catholic and both sponsors must be 18 years or older.) It is desirable that classes be taken when a couple learns of pregnancy. Sponsorship forms are required for sponsors. Contact Fr. Tony Massad for instructions.

MARRIAGES

The couple themselves should contact the Parish office at least **six months** in advance.

FUNERAL LITURGY AND PRAYER SERVICES

Have the funeral director contact the Parish Office directly.
Pastor must be consulted to set times for Prayer Service and Funeral Liturgies. The regular Parish Liturgy will be cancelled on the day of the funeral, on weekdays only.

MARONITE CATHOLIC FORMATION (MCF)

From September to May

1555 South Meridian Rd. • Youngstown, Ohio 44511

Office: 330-792-2371

Parish E-mail: parishoffice@stmaronyoungstown.org

Web: www.stmaronyoungstown.org



Beloved Parish Family,

The time of Christmas is a glorious time when every one of our senses is engaged, be it from the beautiful Christmas decorations, the music, the scent of the trees and wreaths, the smiles and greetings of “Merry Christmas,” Christmas parties and events, and of course the special food for this time of year. We see the Christmas lights on homes and businesses and the nativity scenes throughout the city, especially in our churches. We all know that this is a special time; every store we’ve entered since September has had Christmas products ready for sale!

The reason for the season, as the saying goes, is the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. What exactly are we celebrating, though? What is so amazing, glorious, and wonderful about Christmas? We have a prayer in our Maronite Liturgy that sums up the beauty of Christmas in just a few lines: “You have united, O Lord, your divinity with our humanity and our humanity with your divinity, your life with our mortality and our mortality with your life. You have assumed what is ours, and you have given us what is yours for the life and salvation of our souls. To you be glory forever.”

We celebrate the act of love that our Lord made in becoming human, honoring our humanity and life, and becoming vulnerable for us that we may be vulnerable in His presence. He humbled Himself, showing us how to humble ourselves before Him. He entered the world as the most precious gift of God, a pure child, for us to understand how precious we are as children of God called to be pure of heart to know our Father.

Christmas is the beautiful time we recall that the Creator of the World became like us, His creation. As enormous and beyond comprehension as God is, He is not far off but always near. This truth we find in the person of Jesus Christ. We see a great contrast in the birth of our Lord; on one hand, He is the Messiah who fulfills the prophecies of old, and on the other hand, He is born in a lowly, humble manner. This is not an accident; this is by design of the Father for his children to know and feel that He is near.

To God be glory forever - Merry Christmas!

Fr. Tony Massad



DIVINE LITURGIES



We pray the Rosary in church every Saturday at 4:10 pm and before weekday liturgies at 8:10 am on Tuesday and Thursday and at 11:40 am on Friday.
We also pray the Rosary every Wednesday at 6:15 pm in the church and on Facebook.

SAT 20 DEC / GENEALOGY SUNDAY / St. Ignatius of Antioch

4:30 PM

+ Repose of **Jaime Cardenas Duran, Beatriz Ramirez Granados, Anabel Cardenas Ramirez** by Joe & Adriana Bishara and Family
+ Repose of **Amelia Yazbek** by Kathy Kolitsos

SUN 21 DEC / GENEALOGY SUNDAY / St. Julian of Tarsus

08:30 AM

+ Repose of **Frances Stephan Jordan** by Larry & Jo Ann Stephan
+ Repose of **Jackie Danofrio** by Paulette Stanton

11:00 AM

+ Repose of **Carol Desmond** by Michael & Sandra Dohar
+ Repose of **Fady Chamoun** by Yvonne Marzano

MON 22 DEC / St. Anastasia of the Balkans
NO LITURGY

TUE 23 DEC / 8:30 AM / St. Eugenia

+ Repose of **William Michael** by John & Cheryl Cucchiara

WED 24 DEC / VIGIL OF THE GLORIOUS BIRTH OF OUR LORD

5:00 PM (Children's Liturgy)

+ For the Living & Deceased Members of St. Maron Parish

8:00 PM

+ For the Living & Deceased Members of St. Maron Parish

THU 25 DEC / 10:00 AM / THE GLORIOUS BIRTH OF OUR LORD

+ For the Living & Deceased Members of St. Maron Parish

FRI 26 DEC / 12:00 PM / Praises of the Mother of God

+ For the Living & Deceased Members of St. Maron Parish

SAT 27 DEC / SUNDAY AFTER THE GLORIOUS BIRTH OF OUR LORD / St. Stephen

4:30 PM

+ Repose of **Betty Joyce** by Remon Hayek
+ Repose of **Jane Vigorito** by Joe & Linda Warino

SUN 28 DEC / SUNDAY AFTER THE GLORIOUS BIRTH OF OUR LORD / St. Marina

08:30 AM

+ Repose of **Adwane Warchol** by Jerry & Beverly Vross
+ Repose of **Aleda Bukovinsky** by Jane & Allan Orr

11:00 AM

+ Repose of **Camille & Fady Chamoun** by The Chamoun Family
+ Repose of **Richard Anthony Beshara** by Mom Margo and Sisters Laurece & Nawal
+ Repose of **Emile Chahine** by Joe & Tony Chahine and Families



Remember in your prayers

SHUT-INS AT HOME:

Ann Detec, Marie Eckenrode, Joann Knuth,
Vail Rohan, Frank Santisi, Jr.

CONNECT TO LIVE STREAMS:

Website: <https://www.stmaronyoungstown.org>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stmaronyoungstown

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/saintmaronyo>



THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Is 11:1-4a, 6-9; Rom 1:1-12,
Mt 1:1-17



Lectors - December 20 & 21

Saturday

4:30 pm: Mike Dohar
/ Charles Zidian, Jr.

Sunday

8:30 am: Salma Hallett
/ Brian Godsen

11:00 am: Kalyn Sharrow
/ Zach Zidian

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Rev 21:9-10, 21-27;
Mt 2:1-12



Lectors - December 27 & 28

Saturday

4:30 pm: Christopher Brocious

Sunday

8:30 am: Vince Talley

11:00 am: Charbel Farah

ALTAR SERVERS

THIS WEEK - Dec. 20 & 21

Sat. - 4:30 pm Volunteers
Sun. - 8:30 am Ryan / Ava
11:00 am Sergio / Juliani



NEXT WEEK - Dec. 27 & 28

Sat. - 4:30 pm Volunteers
Sun. - 8:30 am Joe / Anna
11:00 am Sergio

Ushers:

Sat: Michael Essad, Bill Alexander,
Buddy Rezek and volunteers, please
Sun: John Farris and Volunteers, please



Please pray for

the following people who have died
in the past years
December 20 - 26

Harry Beshara, Sadie Beshara,
John Koury, George Abraham,
Irene Rohan, Harry M. Beshara,
Violet J. Rushwin, Betsy Featsent,
Anthony J. Garono, Jr.,
Msgr. William Bonczewski,
Naman Rezek, Mary Joseph,
Joseph Mike, Sr., Ray Nakley, Sr.,
Ray Dohar, Florence Wansack,
Roned Deeb, Goundore Tabet,
Raymond Wilkeson, Rizzie Yazbek,
Camille Chamoun, Anna Rushwin,
Farid Rafidi, Joseph J. Farris,
Benjamin Hayek

For emergencies,
Please contact:
Fr. Tony Massad at (810) 691-7055

GENEALOGY SUNDAY

DECEMBER 20 & 21, 2025

SANCTUARY CANDLES - DECEMBER

- ◆ In Loving Memory of **Thomas M. & Mary Zackia Joseph**
by Their children, Grandchildren, and Great-grandchildren.
- ◆ In Loving Memory of **Vince L. Marzano, Sr. & Vince Marzano, Jr.**
by Loving Wife & Mother, Yvonne Marzano and Family
- ◆ In Loving Memory of **Helene D'Apolito & Joni B. Craven**
by Cousin Yvonne Marzano

ALTAR WINE - DECEMBER

- ◆ In Loving Memory of **Joe & Rose Hanna**
by Nina Hanna

ALTAR BREAD - DECEMBER

- ◆ In Loving Memory of **Joseph Hanna**
by Nina Hanna

Happy Birthday!

Dec 20 Myranda Bukovinsky, Jase Halko
Dec 21 John Hallett, Deannleana Mason
Dec 22 Bridgette Vasbinder, Marian Nolletti
Dec 23 Brittany Dohar, Sara Rochon
Dec 24 Kathy Bukovinsky, Berni Hamrock



GOSPEL OF THE WEEK

Matthew 1:1–17, the genealogy of Jesus, may seem like a list of names, but it is a profound proclamation that God works through real, imperfect human history to bring about salvation. This lineage includes saints and sinners, heroes and broken people, outsiders and unexpected figures, showing that God's plan is never limited by human weakness or failure. Through this long journey of generations, God was quietly preparing the world for the birth of His Son, weaving grace through every story until the fullness of time arrived in Jesus Christ. Reflecting on this, we are reminded that God is also at work in our stories, our families, our past, our struggles, and our hopes, bringing light out of darkness and purpose out of confusion. As we prepare for the birth of Jesus, this passage urges us to trust that no part of our lives is beyond God's reach. Advent becomes a time to look at our own family lines, our own histories, and invite Christ into them, healing what is wounded, strengthening what is weak, and blessing what is good. Just as God patiently prepared the world across generations, we are invited now to prepare our hearts: to welcome Jesus with openness, humility, and hope, believing that He desires to write a new chapter of grace in our lives today.



UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

MYO Kolachi Preparation Day - Sat., Dec. 20th (Antioch Hall)
MYO Movie Night - Sunday, December 28th from 6 to 9 PM
New Year Eve Party-Wed., Dec. 31st after 8:00 pm Liturgy (Antioch Hall)
St. Maron Feast Day Hafle - Sat., Feb. 7th after 4:30 pm Liturgy (MC)
St. Maron Festival 2026 - July 11th & 12th, 2026

CHRISTMAS NOVENA

Starting Monday, Dec. 15th through Tuesday, Dec. 23rd.
Weekday novenas are at 7:00 pm, and weekend novenas will be after Saturday 4:30 pm liturgy & Sunday 11:00 am liturgy.



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve: 4:30 pm Christmas concert (Choir)
5:00 pm Children's Liturgy (Vigil)
8:00 pm Divine Liturgy (Vigil)
Christmas Day: 10:00 am Divine Liturgy
New Years Eve: 8:00 pm Liturgy (NYE Party to follow)
New Years Day: 11:00 am Liturgy



LAST MINUTE CHRISTMAS GIFTS!

We have cedar tree caps, Lebanese aprons, and shirts available including fun children's T-shirts, adult tee & polo shirts, and men's Dry-Fit golf shirts. All make great Christmas gifts! Call or stop in our office for size & style availability to select your gifts!



MYO CHRISTMAS KOLACHI BAKE SALE!

If you've placed an order, your delicious kolachi rolls will be ready for pickup after the Liturgies on Saturday, December 20th at 5:30 PM and on Sunday, December 21st at 9:30 AM and 12:30 PM. Thank you for your generosity and supporting the MYO.



MYO NEWS

Join us for Kolachi Preparation Day on Saturday, Dec. 20th, at the Antioch Hall Kitchen. Bring your aprons, rolling pins, and plenty of energy as we come together to prepare the very best kolachis for our annual Christmas sale. Also, mark your calendars for the upcoming MYO Midwest Regional Retreat taking place March 15–17, 2025. This retreat promises inspiring talks, prayer, fun activities, and a chance to grow in faith with youth from across the region.



For more details and registration, please visit www.maroniteyouth.org

NEW YEARS EVE PARTY

Join us for a joyful Family New Year's Eve Party on Wed., Dec. 31st, immediately following the 8:00 pm Liturgy in Antioch Hall.



Everyone is invited, simply bring a side dish or dessert, and feel free to BYOB as we enjoy an evening of music, and fun for all ages. Admission is \$20 for adults, while youth 18 and under are free. To help us prepare, please sign up using the sheet in the foyer or by emailing the parish office, and kindly submit your payment either by mail or by placing it in the offertory basket.



... to all of Saint Maron's **Giving Tree** Angels!

We were able to provide many gifts and needs for the children.

Thank you for your donations for those less fortunate in our community.

Weekly Financial Report

12/14/2025

Offertory Collection (63 envelopes used of 258)	\$4,307.00
Candles	\$153.00
Needy (5 envelopes)	\$85.00
Patriarchal Charities (1 envelopes)	\$50.00
Christmas Offering (2 envelopes)	\$100.00
Christmas Flowers (2 envelopes)	\$80.00
Online Offerings (6 envelopes)	\$575.00

Thank you for your generous donations!

2025 Christmas Flower List



In Loving Memory of...

John T. Abbas, Sr. by Wife Marie, and Children

The deceased members of the Ajaltouni & Abi Salloum Families by Tamine Abi Salloum

William & Isabell Alexander by William & Janice Alexander

Brutus Antolini by Mike & Casey Antolini

Camille Awaida by Rony & Amy Awaida

Toni Awaida by Rony & Amy Awaida

Nazih & Rose Banna by Richard & Judi Bana

Nazih & Patty Banna by Richard & Judi Bana

Robert & Helen Wimer by Richard & Judi Bana

David Joseph Basile by Mom, Dad, and Family

Adwane Warchol by Sister Marie, and Family

Chuck Beshara, Tom & Rose Abeid by Paulette Beshara, and Family

Amelia Yazbek & Janie Vigorito by Larry & Diana Berringer

Norman & Sadie Bishara by Charles & Linda Bishara

Rocco & Mary Lucarell by Charles & Linda Bishara

John Norman Bishara by Charles & Linda Bishara

John Charles Bishara by Charles & Linda Bishara

Michael Lucarell by Charles & Linda Bishara

Joseph Lucarell by Charles & Linda Bishara

Maryann Lucarell Romeo by Charles & Linda Bishara

Jaime Cardenas Duran by Joseph & Adriana Bishara, and Family

Beatriz Ramirez Granados by Joseph & Adriana Bishara, and Family

Anabel Cardenas Ramirez by Joseph & Adriana Bishara, and Family

Jim Borak by Emmalyn Borak, and Family

Sami Bou Rjeily by Fouad Bou Rjeily

Aleda and Joseph Bukovinsky by Children, Grandchildren, and Great Grandchildren

Saada and Michael Beshara by Bukovinsky Grandchildren, Great Grandchildren, and Great-great Grandchildren

Aunt Rema Beshara Lansing by Bukovinsky family nieces & nephews

Uncle Richard M. Beshara by Bukovinsky family nieces & nephews

Uncle Sam and Aunt Connie Beshara by Bukovinsky family nieces & nephews

Uncle Harry Beshara by Bukovinsky family nieces & nephews

Uncle Joseph Beshara by Bukovinsky family nieces & nephews

Richard Anthony Beshara by Bukovinsky family nieces & nephews

Our beloved parents, Katherine and Lawrence Stephan by Larry & Jo Ann Stephan

Our beloved sister, Frances Stephan Jordan by Larry & Jo Ann Stephan

Anna & John Bukovinsky by The Joseph Bukovinsky Children, Grandchildren, and Great Grandchildren

Our Bukovinsky Uncles, Aunts, & deceased children

by The Joseph Bukovinsky Children, Grandchildren, and Great Grandchildren

The deceased Members of the Calabria Family by Joseph & Rosa Calabria

The deceased Members of the Mediati Family by Joseph & Rosa Calabria

The deceased members of the Saadey Family by Kenneth & Linda Carano

The deceased members of the Carano Family by Kenneth & Linda Carano

2025 Christmas Flower List



In Loving Memory of...

John & Fran Dohar by Fred, Annie & Joe Ciarniello

Fred & Mary Ciarniello by Fred, Annie & Joe Ciarniello

Rizzie D. & Genevieve M. Yazbek by David & Madeline Clarke, and Children

Subdeacon Albert & Barbara Dohar by David & Madeline Clarke, and Children

George W. & Jane E. Clarke by David & Madeline Clarke, and Children

Godparents Joan Mullen, Ferris Geoge, & Sr. Gabriel Manley O.S.U. by David & Madeline Clarke, and Children

The Manser Family by John & Cheryl Cucchiara

The deceased members of the Dohar & Julian Families by Michael & Georgia Dohar, and Families

George El-Chammas by Wadad El-Chammas

James & Katherine Essad by Subdeacon James & Paula Essad

James & Florence Carson by Subdeacon James & Paula Essad

Basile & Amira Estephan by Hekmat & Jean Estephan

Robert & Beverly Hildrebrand by Hekmat & Jean Estephan

Dr. Simon, Charles, & Faye Basile by Hekmat & Jean Estephan

The deceased members of St. Maron's Parish by Hekmat & Jean Estephan

Edward & Carmella Farris by Ed & Phyllis Farris

Philip & Joan Colonna by Ed & Phyllis Farris

Joseph & Florence Sosnowski with Love, by John & Laurie Farris, and Family

Edward & Carmella Farris with Love, by John & Laurie Farris, and Family

Margaret Snyder by Louis & Karen Fusillo

Ida Michael by Louis & Karen Fusillo

Diana Torrell by Louis & Karen Fusillo

Gertrude Greco by Barb Gabriel

The Garono Family by Betty Garono

The Saadey Family by Betty Garono

Liz & Parky (Ferris) George by Albert & Tabita George

Betty & Deacon Joe Nohra by Albert & Tabita George

Joe & Rose Hanna by Nina Hanna

Henry & Elizabeth Hanna by Nina Hanna

Joe Hanna by Nina Hanna **Ease Hanna** by Nina Hanna

Shahwan & Busma Koury by Nina Hanna

Mary Koury by Nina Hanna **Victoria Koury** by Nina Hanna

Hassane El Khoury by Nina Hanna

Marcy & Leah Petruzzi by Nina Hanna

John & Anna Stephens by Nina Hanna

John N. Bishara by Nina Hanna

Bill & Sadie Lewis by Nina Hanna

Joe & Eleanor Beshara by Nina Hanna

2025 Christmas Flower List



In Loving Memory of...

Alex, Bessie & Joseph A. Hayek by The Alex K. Hayek Family
Joseph M. & Phillip Hayek by Rosette and David Hayek
John & Josephine Jakubek by Family
Tom & Mary (Zackia) Joseph by Joe & Marilyn Joseph
Francis & Mary Holden by Joe & Marilyn Joseph
Tom Holden by Joe & Marilyn Joseph
Vince Marzano, Sr. by Joe & Marilyn Joseph
Vince Marzano, Jr. by Joe & Marilyn Joseph
Deacon Joe & Betty Nohra by Joe & Marilyn Joseph
John & Fran Dohar by Joe & Marilyn Joseph
John T. Abbas, Sr. by Joe & Marilyn Joseph
George and Alice Rohan by Joe & Marilyn Joseph
Dr. Elias Saadi by Joe & Marilyn Joseph
Dr. Raymond Najem by Joe & Marilyn Joseph
The deceased members of the Dohar & Mike Families by Joe & Marilyn Joseph
Chorbishop Dominic Ashkar by Joe & Marilyn Joseph
Alan Joseph Mike by Joseph & Amanda Khoury
Joseph "Yousef" Khoury by Joseph & Amanda Khoury
Terry Khoury by Husband Tony Khoury
Dr. Richard Marinelli by Wife Beverly Marinelli
George & Agnes Galip and Francis & Lena Marinelli by Beverly Marinelli
Thomas M. & Zackia Joseph by Children & Grandchildren of the Marzano, Joseph, and Yardas Families
Vince L. Marzano, Sr. & Vince Marzano, Jr. by Wife & Mother Yvonne, and Family
Joni B. Craven & Helene D'Apolito by Loving Cousin Yvonne Marzano
Alberta (Birdie) Vantell by Best Friend Yvonne Marzano
Vincent Morgione by Tom & Vinetta Metzinger
John & Joanne Metzinger by Tom & Vinetta Metzinger
The deceased members of the Galip & Morgione Families by Loretta Morgione, and Family
Raymond Sr. & George Nakley by Sue Nakley
Micheline Nawfal by Clara Nawfal
Tamam Nawfal by Clara Nawfal
Lloyd M. Yazbek & Amelia M. Yazbek by Nick, Liz Paris, and Family
The deceased members of the Rafidi Family by Sami & Rita Rafidi
The deceased members of the Sleiman Family by Sami & Rita Rafidi
Edward Rance by Rhonda Rance
Henry & Elizabeth Hanna by Anthony & Sara Rochon
Tony & Jennie Accardi by Anthony & Sara Rochon
Joe Hanna by Anthony & Sara Rochon
Aunt Vicky Koury by Anthony & Sara Rochon
Aunt Mary Koury by Anthony & Sara Rochon
Stephen Rochon by Anthony & Sara Rochon
Aunt Evelyn Gomes by Anthony & Sara Rochon
Uncle Ease Hanna by Anthony & Sara Rochon

2025 Christmas Flower List



In Loving Memory of...

Monsignor Ron Beshara by Anthony & Sara Rochon
Jidoo Joe & Siti Wardée Hanna by Anthony & Sara Rochon
Jidoo Shahwan & Siti Busma Koury by Anthony & Sara Rochon
Nabeh J. and Frances E. Rouhana by Their Children
Dr. Eli Saadi (Jiddi) with Love, by Michel Saadi
The deceased members of the Sahyoun & Banna Families by Salloum & Rose Sahyoun
The deceased members of St. Maron Parish by Chelsey Santucci
Simon Sarkis by Family
John & Barbara Acerra by Family
Nasib & Yamile Sohaiby and Jose N. Castro by Betty Sohaiby
The deceased members of Matta & Stanton Families by Robert & Paulette Stanton
Leslie & Kathryn Sunderlin, Agnes Galip & Alice Ellis by Grandchildren & Great grandchildren
Donald & Shirley Sunderlin by Children & Grandchildren
Mr. & Mrs. Nasef J. Thomas by Mark & Elizabeth Thomas
Mr. & Mrs. Richard P. Killmeyer by Mark & Elizabeth Thomas
Charles B. & Josephine E. Thomas by Children, Grandchildren, and Great Grandchildren
The deceased loved ones by David & Michele Touvelle
John & Barbara Acerra by Family
Joseph A. & Doris D. Warino by Joe, Linda, and the Warino Family
Rizzie & Pudgie Yazbek by Joe & Ginny Yazbek
Joe & Millie Kenney by Joe & Ginny Yazbek
Lloyd M. Yazbek by Linda B. Yazbek & Family
Mary Beth Morton by Linda B. Yazbek & Family
Norman & Sadie Bishara by Linda B. Yazbek & Family
Rizzie & Genevieve Yazbek by Linda B. Yazbek & Family
John N. & John Charles Bishara by Linda B. Yazbek & Family
Norman & Nancy Coury by Linda B. Yazbek & Family
Joe Hayek by Linda B. Yazbek & Family
Father Joseph Hadgkiss by Linda B. Yazbek & Family
Joseph & Helen Saadey by Daughter Karen Warg & Family
Amelia M. Yazbek by Linda B. Yazbek & Family
Rizzie D. & Genevieve M. Yazbek by Marian & Sarah Yazbek
Amelia M. & Lloyd M. Yazbek by Marian & Sarah Yazbek
Mamie H. & Robert Daboul by Marian & Sarah Yazbek

In Honor of...

The Bou Rjeily Family by Fouad Bou Rjeily
Special Intentions by Nina Samarani
Special Intentions by Linda B. Yazbek & Family



A Very Merry Christmas

'Twas the night before Christmas, in the parish so warm,
Not a *shab* was complaining, not even a storm.
The icons were glowing, St. Maron looked pleased,
And the *mabkhara* smoked gently with frankincense breeze.

The *Sitto* made cookies... The *Jiddo* said prayer,
“*Yalla ya Rab*,” he whispered, “send peace everywhere.”
The kids were all sleeping, dreaming big dreams,
Of angels and shepherds and *knefeh* with cream.

When out in the church hall there rose such a sound,
I thought, “*Ya Allah!* Who’s walking around?”
I peeked by the altar, with awe and delight,
And there stood St. Nicholas, glowing so bright!

He smiled and he laughed, said, “*La tkhaf, habibi*,
Trust in what will be.”
His sack was quite full, not gadgets or toys,
But *mahabbé* & forgiveness, for girls and for boys.

“Pray strong like your parents, be joyful, be kind,
Keep Christ in your hearts and your faith intertwined.
Hold fast to your traditions, so ancient, so true
your warmth, your *Dabke*, and *Mjadra* too.”

He winked and he vanished, so peaceful, so fast,
Like incense that fades but its meaning still lasts.
And I heard as he whispered, before leaving the door:

“*Milad Majeed*, today and evermore.”



May the newborn Christ fill your homes with Faith,
Your tables with Laughter,
Your hearts with Peace,
And your gatherings with Joy.



FAMILY NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

2026

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT
DECEMBER 31ST, 2025**

AFTER 8 PM LITURGY

At the Antioch Hall

Main courses will be provided!!

You may bring a side dish or dessert

BYOB!

Cost is \$20 for adults

18 & under are free

For more information,
contact the parish office at 330-792-2371

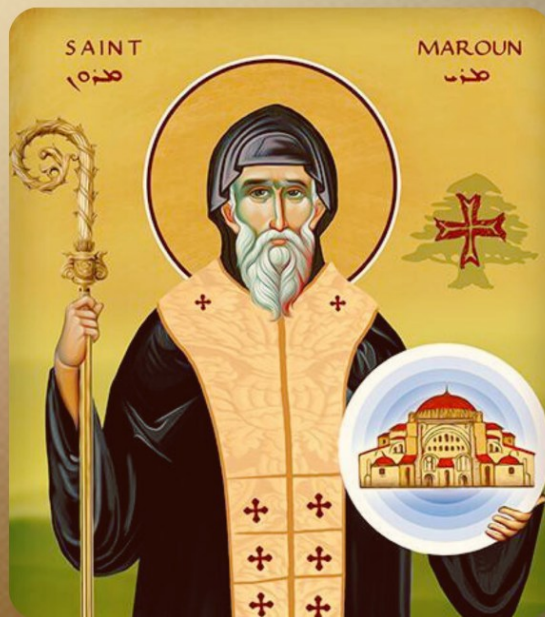
St. Maron's Feast Day Celebration

Saturday, February, 7th
Liturgy at 4:30 pm
Hafli starts at 6:30 pm
at the Maronite Center

Menu:

- Lebanese Appetizers Table
- Fattoush
- Roasted Leg of Lamb
- Mediterranean Chicken
- Rice w/ Orzo
- Green Beans (Lubiya)
- Shells w/ White Clam Sauce
- Cauliflower w/ Tahini Sauce
- Garlic Dip
- Lebanese Desserts

DJ & DANCING
W/ TABL & DERBAKE
PHOTO BOOTH
BYOB



\$25 FOR ADULTS
\$10 FOR 6 YRS - 10 YRS
FREE FOR KIDS 5 & UNDER

***OPEN SEATING UNLESS A
WHOLE TABLE IS RESERVED***

For tickets:

Call - 330.792.2371

Email - stmaronyoungstown@gmail.com

Scan the QR Code →



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Michael Ellis, Jr.
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