SAINT MARON CHURCH

December 31, 2023 Pg. 87

Finding of Our Lord in the Temple

The Bible isn't filled with stories of Jesus' childhood. God has given us only a limited view of Jesus before He began His ministry as the Son of God. Mary and Joseph were obedient to God's laws and raised His Son Jesus in a home honoring God's laws. Mary and Joseph went to Jerusalem according to the Jewish custom of the Passover holiday. As good Jewish people they respect the Jewish tradition and they teach their son Jesus implicitly that this is a good way to be close to God. Parents are responsible to transmit their faith to their children. Presence was compulsory for men and optional for women and children. So it is possible that Jesus did not make this trip before the age of 12, but one might think that a pious family would have chosen to travel together many times. It was the custom to go to Jerusalem three times a year: for Passover, Pentecost and the Feast of Tabernacles. These customs were developed out of love for Yahweh.

Joseph accepts the explanation of his Son who remained in the Temple because "I must take care of my Father's affairs". (Lk 2.49) Neither Joseph nor Mary understood this answer from Jesus, just as the disciples will not understand when Jesus announces his Passion to them; But they did not want to oppose God's plan in any way for their son. How do I behave in front of an event that I don't understand? Do I get lost and "get angry" or do I confidently trust in Jesus? Do I have the strength to pray, even in difficult times, even when I don't understand what is happening around me?

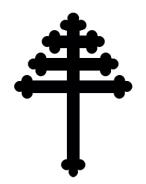
Joseph was a man of God, a righteous man from Israel. God chose Joseph as custodian of his most precious treasures because He found in him a faithful and capable servant. He accomplished his mission: as head of the family of Nazareth, he saw to it that Jesus grew "in wisdom, in size and in grace, before God and before men". We often refer to the family as a "domestic church." Whether we are mother or father of a family or even child, we are called to the light. We are invited to make a pilgrimage to the Father's house. We are called to holiness, following the example of the Holy Family with whom we meditate today. Am I helping my family on this road? Do I try to increase our love for the Father who has sent His Son?

Clergy

Rev. Fr. Elias Yazbeck: Administrator Subdeacon Lattouf Lattouf Subdeacon Ghazi Faddoul Subdeacon Yamen Saada Subdeacon Mario Ghosn

Chapel & Mailing Address
7800 Brookside Road
Independence, Ohio 44131
216-520-5081 Emergency 612-501-6383
www.saintmaron-elev.org

www.saintmaron-clev.org
Cmail: saintmaroneleveland@gmail.com



Liturgy Schedule

Tues & Thurs: Chapel 6:00 p.m.: English/Arabic Saturday: Chapel 5:00 p.m.: English Sunday: Downtown 9:30 a.m.: English 11:00 a.m.: Arabic-English

Church: 1245 Carnegie Ave Cleveland, Ohio 44115

Saint Maron Church in Cleveland saintmaronchurch

Church Organizations

Parish Council

President-Jèan Yaacoub

2ndWed. of the month at 7:00 pm

Finance Council

President- Rick Ganim:

3rd Wed of the month at 7:00 pm

Immaculate Conception Sodality (ICS)

President- Claire Naoum

1st Mon. of every month at 7:00pm

Maronite Christian Formation Program (MCFP)

<u>Director– Elias Kanaan:</u>

Sundays (except Holy Days) 12:00-1:00 pm

MaronKnights Dabke Group Tanya Elasmar:

Maronite Youth Organization (MYO)

Coordinator—Peter Harb:

Maronite Young Adults (MYA)

President- Anessa Kleem

Follow MYA page for updates

Maronite Mothers Club (MMC)

Coordinator- Tina Chamoun

Arabic School: Coordinator: Jihad Kawkabani

Classes Sat. Oct-April (except Holy Days) 10 am -12noon

50+ Social Club Mary Ann Watson

1st Friday of each month. Liturgy: 10:00 am

Book & Cine Club Katia Abboud

Rosary Prayer Group Daad Chamoun

Social Committee

Souheil Farah, Rita Lattouf, Claire Naoum

St. Maron Health Committee Dr. Paul Farah

Social Media Coordinator Jessica Khoury

Order of Saint Sharbel

Samir Farah and Daad Chamoun

Book & Ciné Club

Thursday January 11th

7:00 pm Parish Center (Independence)

Liturgy Intentions

Finding Of The Lord In The Temple

Saturday December 30

5:00 pm: Parishioners Intentions

Sunday December 31

9:30 am: Parishioners Intentions

11:00 am: Parishioners Intentions

Next Week

Glorious Epiphany of Our Lord

Saturday January 6

5:00 pm: Mem Lit for Elias, Tony, Minerva, and Georgette Naoum (Claire Naoum and her children and their families)

Sunday January 7

9:30 am: Parishioners Intentions

11:00 am: One Year Mem Lit for Subdeacon Georges Faddoul (His children, Nada, Joe, Eli, and George, and the Faddoul and Elkhoury families)



Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

ECCLESIASTES 3:11

Memorial Liturgies for 2024

Please remember a 40 day Liturgy will always take precedence.

We DO NOT schedule liturgies on the following dates: St. Maron Feast Day, Palm Sunday, Easter, First Communion, Christmas, and Festival Weekend.

Please email requests to : saintmaroncleveland@gmail.com or drop in collection basket. PRINT CLEARLY				
Mem. Li	it for			
Given by	y:			
Phone: _				
Date:				
Time:	Saturday 5:00 pm Chapel Sunday 9:30 am or 11:00 am			

The Finding of Jesus in the Temple	أحد وجود الربّ يسوع في الهيكل
------------------------------------	-------------------------------

If, then, perfection came through the Levitical priesthood, on the basis of which the people received the law, what need would there still have been for another priest to arise according to the order of Melchizedek, and not reckoned according to the order of Aaron? When there is a change of priesthood, there is necessarily a change of law as well. Now he of whom these things are said belonged to a different tribe, of which no member ever officiated at the altar. It is clear that our Lord arose from Judah, and in regard to that tribe Moses said nothing about priests. It is even more obvious if another priest is raised up after the likeness of Melchizedek, who has become so, not by a law expressed in a commandment concerning physical descent but by the power of a life that cannot be destroyed. For it is testified: "You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek." On the one hand, a former commandment is annulled because of its weakness and uselessness, for the law brought nothing to perfection; on the other hand, a better hope is introduced, through which we draw near to God.

Praise be to God always!

حقاً و الأمانُ لجَميعِكُم

From the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke	2:41-52	إنجيل القدّيس لوقا
	ے أُو رَ شَلَيم	قال لوقا البشير، كَانِ أَبُوا يَسُوعَ يَذْهَبَانِ كُلَّ سَنَةٍ في عِيدٍ الفِصْحِ إِل
15.35 M 15Å.	ا هِيَ الْعَادَةُ فِي الْعِيدِ.	ولَمَّا بَلَغَ يَسُوعُ أَتُنْتَي عَشْرَةَ سَنَّة، صَنَّدُوا مَعًا كَمَّ وبَعِدَ إِنْقِضَاءٍ أَيَّامٍ العِيد، عاد الأبوّان، وبَقِي الصّدِ
وهمه د پدریان. نارب ِ والمَعَارف.	ي يُسُوح في أورنسييم. مُّ أَخَذَا يَطْلُبانِهِ بَيْنَ الأَق	و إِذْ كَانَا يَطْنُانِ أَنَّهُ فَيِ الْقَافِلَةُ، سَارَا مَسِيرَةً يَوْم، تُ
		ولمْ يَجِدَاه، فَعَادَا إِلَى أُورَشَلِيمَ يَبْحَثَانِ عَنْهُ. وَبعْدَ ثَلاثَةِ أَيَّامٍ، وَجَدَاهُ في الهَيكلِ جَالِسًا بَيْنَ إِلعُلَمَ
ا و أَيُو كَ كُنَّا تَبْحَثُ عَنْكَ مُتَوَ جَعَين. «!	تِهِ. ا فَعَلْتَ بِنَا هكَذا؟ فهَا أَنَ	وكَانَ جَمِيعُ الَّذِينَ يَسْمَعُونَهُ مُنْذَهِلِينَ بِذَكَائِهِ وأَجْوِيَ وَلَمَّا رَآهُ أَبْوَاهُ بُهِنَا، وقَالَتْ لَهُ أُمُّهُ: »يما ٱبْنِي، لِمَاذَ
ي؟.«	أَنْ أَكُونَ في مَا هُوَ ۖ لأَب	فَقَالَ لَهُمَا: ۗ المَاذَّا تَطْلُبَانِنِي؟ أَلا تَعْلَمَانِ أَنَّهُ يَنْبُغِي أَلَّا تَعْلَمَانِ أَنَّهُ يَنْبُغِي أَمَّا هُمَا فَلَمْ يَقْهَمَا الكَلامَ الَّذِي كَلَّمَهُمَا بِهِ.
لُّ كُلَّ هذِهِ الأُمُورِ في قُلْبِهَا . وكَانَ يَسُوعُ يَنْمُو في الْحِكْمَةِ والقَامَةِ والنِّعْمَةِ	ا لَهُمَا. وكَانَتْ أُمُّه تَحْفَذ	أُثُمَّ نَزَلَ مَعَهٰهُمَا، وعَادَ إِلَى النَّاصِرَة، وكَانَ خَاضِعًا
		عِنْدَ اللهِ و النَّاسِ

Each year his parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, and when he was twelve years old, they went up according to festival custom. After they had completed its days, as they were returning, the boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Thinking that he was in the caravan, they journeyed for a day and looked for him among their relatives and acquaintances, but not finding him, they returned to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions, and all who heard him were astounded at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety." And he said to them, "Why were you looking 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. He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced [in] wisdom and age and favor before God and

This is the truth! Peace be with you.



Sacrament of Baptism and Confirmation

If you are a new parent and wish to have your child baptized at Saint Maron Church or Chapel you must call the office at least two months in advance. We try very hard to have only one baptism per Saturday and Sunday. Times are after the 5pm Saturday liturgy (Chapel) or following the 11am Sunday liturgy (Church).



Mystery of Crowning (Sacrament of Matrimony)

MANDATORY you contact and meet with Fr. Elias at least 8 months in advance of your desired date.

Couples are required to participate in our pre-Cana classes. Once a couple has met with Father Elias their date will be secured. Call the office to schedule an appointment.: 216.520.5081



House Blessing

Please call the office if you would like your home blessed 216-520-5081



Communion and Anointing of the Sick

Clergy is available to administer Communion or for anointing of the sick to those homebound or hospitalized. Call the office if you or a family

For emergency only call: 612-501-6383

FREEDOM TO

Regardless of the situation, all necessary forms for couples living in the United States or abroad MUST be done. This may MARRY LETTER take weeks or months so call to schedule an appointment with Fr. Elias as soon as possible. 216-520-5081



Confession is available prior to all liturgies. Please let the priest know you are interested.

A Reading from the First Book of Kings.

1 Kings 3:5-14

In Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream at night. God said: Whatever you ask I shall give you. Solomon answered: "You have shown great kindness to your servant, David my father, because he walked before you with fidelity, justice, and an upright heart; and you have continued this great kindness toward him today, giving him a son to sit upon his throne. Now, Lord, my God, you have made me, your servant, king to succeed David my father; but I am a mere youth, not knowing at all how to act—I, your servant, among the people you have chosen, a people so vast that it cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant, therefore, a listening heart to judge your people and to distinguish between good and evil. For who is able to give judgment for this vast people of yours?"

The Lord was pleased by Solomon's request. So God said to him: Because you asked for this—you did not ask for a long life for yourself, nor for riches, nor for the life of your enemies—but you asked for discernment to know what is right— I now do as you request. I give you a heart so wise and discerning that there has never been anyone like you until now, nor after you will there be anyone to equal you. In addition, I give you what you have not asked for: I give you such riches and glory that among kings there will be no one like you all your days. And if you walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and commandments, as David your father did, I will give you a long life.

Praise be to God always.

Saint Maron Feast Day Banquet

Saturday February 10, 2024 Entertainment by Nibal Tickets: Adults \$75 Children 10 yrs. and under \$30 Sponsor Table \$1,000

Tickets will go on sale beginning next week, January 6th until February 6th.

Call: Claire Naoum (216) 337-2851

Rita Lattouf (216) 470-7512

Souheil Farah (440) 503-2517

50+ SOCIAL CLUB

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our Maronite brothers and sisters a Blessed Christmas.

Our group would also like to extend an invitation to those 50 and over to join us whenever you see an activity that may interest you in the bulletin. This club has no dues to pay.

Join us on Friday, January 5- the "Feast of the Three Kings" for 10:00 Liturgy at the Chapel followed by a pot luck lunch as we make plans for 2024.

Mary Ann Watson (mapw47@yahoo.com)

MYO Regional Retreat Meeting for Parents

Saturday January 6, 2024 5-7pm

Saint Maron: Independence

Baptism Claire Wehbe received the
Sacraments of
Baptism and Chrismation
on December 27, 2023

Daughter of Charles Wehbe & Carole Alkhoury Wehbe



Poinsettia Plants can be removed from the church the weekend of January 7th.

Thank you to
everyone who
purchased a poinsettia
plant and helped to
make our church and

chapel beautiful this holiday season.

Gifts of the Altar: December 2023

BREAD in Memory of:

Deceased members of the Richards & Nofel families (Edward P. Richards, Jr.)

Elias Said Sarrouh & Rachid Elias Sarrouh (Martha Sarrouh & family)

Nabil Daher

(Lina Daher & family)

WINE in Memory of:

Deceased members of the Richards & Nofel families (Edward P. Richards, Jr.)

Elias Said Sarrouh & Rachid Elias Sarrouh (Martha Sarrouh & family)

Nabil Daher

(Lina Daher & family)

CANDLES in Memory of:

Deceased members of the Richards & Nofel families

(Edward P. Richards, Jr.)

George & Roma Sessin

(Their children & their families)

Jacob & Juliette Saad & the deceased members of the Saad and Elzeer families (Thomas Saad & family)

Elias Said Sarrouh & Rachid Elias Sarrouh (Martha Sarrouh & family)

Nabil Daher

(Lina Daher & family)

In Thanksgiving

William & Denise Bishilany & family Declan Gordon

December 24, 25, 2023

GENERAL DEPOSIT	\$ 2,169.00
CHRISTMAS DEPOSIT	\$ 17,123.00
Saturday 5:00 pm	\$ 544.00
Sunday 9:30 am	\$ 559.00
Sunday 11:00 am	\$ 466.00
Online	\$ 600.00
Sunday 5:00 pm	\$ 7,401.00
Midnight	\$ 3,148.00
Monday 9:30 am	\$ 629.00
Monday 11:00 am	\$ 5,945.00

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I hope this finds you well.

The month of December is one where we celebrate the Birth of Our Lord, gather with family, and look forward to the coming of the New Year. It is a busy time for us, but it is also a time to give thanks for all the blessings we received during the year and also think about charitable giving.

This year, three new priests were ordained with one more being ordained this weekend. We also have five seminarians and five married men preparing for the priesthood which is a wonderful sign of the growth of our community, but it is also an expensive endeavor.

Our missions also continue to grow, and we have opened two new missions in two new states. We are happy to be able to serve our people across the country and help many people live and raise their families in the faith.

Our ministries also continue to serve the different areas of our Eparchy including our youth, young adults, family ministry, religious education, and much more.

We also support our brothers and sisters in need here, at home, and in Lebanon, Syria, and the Middle East.

The Eparchy is here to serve you, but we cannot continue our efforts without your support. I ask you to pray and reflect and if you, your family, or your friends would like to make a gift this year to the Eparchy, please follow the instructions below on how to donate online or mail a donation:

Eparchy Donation Page

Checks may be mailed to:

Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles 19300 Rinaldi Street Box 8509 Porter Ranch, CA 91327

Thank you for supporting us as we continue our ministry of service and care.

With sincere best wishes and prayers, I remain

Yours in Christ.

+A. Elias Zaidan

Bishop of the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles

Ziad El-Hayek, D.M.D

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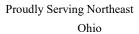
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