

# SAINT MARON CHURCH

March 10, 2024

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## Fifth Week of Lent      Healing of the Paralytic

Luke narrates yet another miracle, the healing of the paralytic. This miracle is significant for five reasons. First, it shows that Jesus' authority extends even to the forgiveness of sins. Second, the entire affair is witnessed by the Jewish leaders, the Pharisees and the scribes. They make an instant theological assessment and recognize that Jesus is making unique claims--claims that are blasphemous if they are not true. Third, this is the first time God vindicates Jesus' claims during his ministry. Later Judaism would teach that God does not help sinners or liars, so if Jesus is not who he claims to be, then this man should not walk away healed. The fact that the paralytic walks away healed means that some type of transcendent power operates through Jesus. Later Luke reveals the debate over what or who that power is (11:14-23). Fourth, the miracle pictures what Jesus can do for people. The paralytic is stationary and totally helpless. But after his healing, he can walk through life and praise God. Finally, the text shows the importance of faith. It is the faith of those who bring the paralytic to Jesus that is highlighted. This detail seems to indicate that God honors us as we seek to lead others to the Lord.

Though Mark 2:1 mentions that this event takes place in Capernaum, Luke simply tells the story. The presence of *Pharisees and teachers of the law* shows that word about Jesus has spread to the upper echelons of the Jewish faith. In the midst of such traditional religious authorities, God's power rests on Jesus. He has *the power of the Lord . . . to heal the sick*. Luke is going to great pains to indicate that Jesus did not require official endorsement from the Jewish hierarchy. His commission was unique, coming directly from God, as his baptism had made clear (see 20:1-8).

The paralytic comes on a *mat* or a pallet. But the crowds prevent access, so the friends must scale the ladder on the side of the house to get up on the roof, where they can cut through the roof and lower the man in front of Jesus. What will he do? Jesus pulls a surprise. No doubt the crowd has expected a healing. But instead Jesus talks about sin. This time the parable pictures the presence of the destructive forces of sin in the world. This man is a painting of the effects of the fall. Jesus claims to have the authority to reverse those effects, so he says, "*Friend, your sins are forgiven.*"

In sum, Jesus' claim to have special authority and so to be a unique human being is the issue of the passage. The beauty of Jesus' use of this idiom alongside his action is that it allows him to raise a question about his identity in terms that honor both his unique authority and his humanity. The claim, however, rides on what the paralytic does in the next few moments. *Immediately he stood up in front of them*. The man's walk means God has talked! As the former paralytic praises God, amazement overwhelms the crowd. They have seen *remarkable things*. The Greek term used here is *paradoxa*, a word from which we get our word "paradox." But in Greek the term simply refers to unusual events. Again Luke ends the passage asking the reader implicitly to ponder what has taken place. What happened? What has been claimed about what happened? Events speak louder than words (7:18-23): the Son of Man has authority to forgive sins.

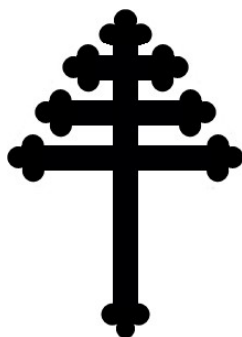
Jesus has just painted a picture that speaks more than a library full of books on Christology. He has backed up his words with action. God is vindicating Jesus' claims. At crunch time Jesus applies his authority with great skill. As the paralytic walks, the question becomes who will walk with him and share the forgiveness Jesus has pictured. Fence-sitting is no longer possible, given the nature of Jesus' claims.

### 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  
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[www.saintmaron-clev.org](http://www.saintmaron-clev.org)  
Email: [saintmaroncleveland@gmail.com](mailto:saintmaroncleveland@gmail.com)



### Liturgy Schedule

**Tues, Wed & 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  
 [saintmaronechurch](https://www.instagram.com/saintmaronechurch)

## Church Organizations

### Parish Council

President– Jèan Yaacoub

2nd Wed. 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)

Director– Elias Kanaan:

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

### MaronKnights Dabke Group Tanya Elasmr:

### 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

## Aitaneet Foundation Scholarship Announcement

Applicant must be of Lebanese Christian descent, a 2024 graduate of an accredited secondary school, and accepted to an accredited post-secondary education institution.

This year the following scholarships will be awarded:

\$2,000 Aitaneet Foundation Scholarship

\$1,000 Thomas & Mary Shaia Scholarship

(Plus additional \$1,000 if Financial need demonstrated)

\$2,000 Edward Nahra Scholarship

\$1,000 Maroun F. Daher Scholarship

Selection based on academic achievement, extracurricular involvement, financial need, & service to school, church and community.

**Completed applications must be postmarked No later than May 6th, 2024.**

Recipients will be notified by June 17, 2024.

You can download the application from Google Drive at the following URL: <https://tinyurl.com/5dt2fubc>

For questions, call Jihad Kawkabani: (440) 544-6260 and leave a message or e-mail us at [aitaneetfoundation@yahoo.com](mailto:aitaneetfoundation@yahoo.com).

## Liturgy Intentions

### Healing of the Paralytic

#### Saturday March 9

**5:00 pm: Mem Lit for Alfred Joseph Habeeb**  
(His sister Rose Habeeb)

#### Sunday March 10

**9:30 am: Parishioners Intentions**

**11:00 am: Forty Day Liturgy for Zeina Youssef Tannous**  
(Her children, her siblings and their families)

**11:00 am: Mem Lit for Elias Tabet**  
(His son Kamal Tabet)

**11:00 am: Mem Lit for Nabil Haika**  
(His wife Lydvine and his children Lydine, Firas and Tony)

## Next Week

### Healing of the Blind Man

#### Saturday March 16

**5:00 pm: One Year Anniversary Lit for Elias George**  
(Norman Saadeh & Rose Farah and their families)

#### Sunday March 17

**9:30 am: Mem Lit for Nassif & Helen Assid**  
(Their grandchildren and their families)

**11:00 am: One Week Liturgy for Liza Antoun El Saikaly**  
(Her brothers Michael & Nehmetallah El Saikaly & family)

We will have Liturgy at the Chapel on  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday  
at 6pm  
during the month of March

## IN SYMPATHY

Our deepest condolences to our parishioner Ghassan Azzi, husband of Joyce Azzi, on the passing of his mother **Juliette Azzi**, who died in Lebanon on March 4, 2024.

The family will receive friends at their home 6229 Coldstream Rd, Highland Hts OH 44143 from 3 to 8 pm on Saturday, March 9.

Our deepest condolences to Michael & Nehmetallah El Saikaly on the passing of their sister **Liza Antoun El Saikaly** who passed away in Lebanon on March 5th and was buried on March 7th.

*May their soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen*

<b>Fifth Sunday of Great Lent: Sunday of the Man who was Paralyzed</b>	<b>الأحد الخامس من الصوم الكبير : أحد شفاء المخلع</b>	
From the letter of St. Paul to the Timothy,	I-5:24-6:5	رسالة القديس بولس إلى تيموثاوس
<p>يا إخوتي،          من الناس من تكون خطاياهم واضحة قبل الحكم فيها، ومنهم من لا تكون واضحة إلا بعده.          كذلك فإن الأعمال الصالحة هي أيضا واضحة، والتي هي غير واضحة فلا يمكن أن تبقى خفية.          على جميع الذين تحت نير العبودية أن يخسبوا أسيادهم أهلا لكل كرامة، لئلا يجذف على اسم الله وتعليمه.          أما الذين لهم أسياد مؤمنون فلا يستهينوا بهم، لأنهم إخوة، بل بالأحرى فليخدموهم، لأن المستقيدين من خدمتهم الطيبة هم مؤمنون وأجباء، ذلك ما يجب أن نعلمه ونعطي به.          فإن كان أحد يعلم تعليما مخالفا، ولا يتمسك بالكلام الصحيح، كلام ربنا يسوع المسيح، وبالتعليم الموافق للتقوى، فهو إنسان أعمته الكبرياء، لا يفهم شيئا، بل مصاب بمرض المجادلات والمماحكات، التي ينشأ عنها الحسد والخصام والتجديف وسوء الظن، والمشاجرات بين أناس فاسدي العقل، زانقين عن الحق، يظنون أن التقوى وسيلة للربح..          والتسبيح لله دائما.</p>		
<p>Some people's sins are public, preceding them to judgment; but other people are followed by their sins. Similarly, good works are also public; and even those that are not cannot remain hidden. Those who are under the yoke of slavery must regard their masters as worthy of full respect, so that the name of God and our teaching may not suffer abuse. Those whose masters are believers must not take advantage of them because they are brothers but must give better service because those who will profit from their work are believers and are beloved. Teach and urge these things. Whoever teaches something different and does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the religious teaching is conceited, understanding nothing, and has a morbid disposition for arguments and verbal disputes. From these come envy, rivalry, insults, evil suspicions, and mutual friction among people with corrupted minds, who are deprived of the truth, supposing religion to be a means of gain.          Praise be to God always!</p>		
From the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark	2:1-12	إنجيل القديس مرقس
<p>قال مرقس البشير:          عاد يسوع إلى كفرناحوم. وسمع الناس أنه في البيت.          فاجتمع عدد كبير منهم حتى غص بهم المكان، ولم يبق موضع لأحد ولا عند الباب. وكان يحاط بهم بكلمة الله.          فأنه بمخلع يحملة أربعة رجال.          وبسبب الجمع لم يستطيعوا الوصول به إلى يسوع، فكشفوا السقف فوق يسوع، ودلوا الفرائش الذي كان المخلع مطروحا عليه.          ورأى يسوع إيمانهم، فقال للمخلع: «يا ابني، مغفورة لك خطاياك.»          وكان بعض الكتبة جالسين هناك يفكرون في قلوبهم: لِمَاذَا يَتَكَلَّمُ هَذَا الرَّجُلُ هَكَذَا؟ إِنَّهُ يُجَدِّفُ! مَنْ يَقْدِرُ أَنْ يَغْفِرَ الْخَطَايَا إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ؟ وفي الحال عَرَفَ يَسُوعُ بِزُوجِهِ أَنَّهُمْ يَفْكُرُونَ هَكَذَا فِي أَنْفُسِهِمْ فَقَالَ لَهُمْ: «لِمَاذَا تَفْكُرُونَ بِهِذَا فِي قُلُوبِكُمْ؟ مَا هُوَ الْإِسْهَلُ؟ أَنْ يَقَالَ لِلْمَخْلَعِ: مَغْفُورَةٌ لَكَ خَطَايَاكَ؟ أَمْ أَنْ يَقَالَ: قُمْ وَاحْمِلْ فِرَاشَكَ وَامْشِ؟ وَلَكِنْ تَعْلَمُوا أَنَّ لَابْنَ الْإِنْسَانِ سُلْطَانًا أَنْ يَغْفِرَ الْخَطَايَا عَلَى الْأَرْضِ»، قَالَ لِلْمَخْلَعِ: لَكَ أَقُولُ قُمْ، احْمِلْ فِرَاشَكَ، وَأَذْهَبْ إِلَى بَيْتِكَ!          فقام في الحال وحمَلَ فِرَاشَهُ، وَخَرَجَ أَمَامَ الْجَمِيعِ، حَتَّى دَهَشُوا كُلُّهُمْ وَمَجَّدُوا اللَّهَ قَائِلِينَ: «مَا رَأَيْنَا مِثْلَ هَذَا النَّبَةِ!..»          حقاً والأمان لجميعكم</p>		
<p>When Jesus returned to Capernaum after some days, it became known that he was at home. Many gathered together so that there was no longer room for them, not even around the door, and he preached the word to them. They came bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. Unable to get near Jesus because of the crowd, they opened up the roof above him. After they had broken through, they let down the mat on which the paralytic was lying. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Child, your sins are forgiven.” Now some of the scribes were sitting there asking themselves, “Why does this man speak that way? He is blaspheming. Who but God alone can forgive sins?” Jesus immediately knew in his mind what they were thinking to themselves, so he said, “Why are you thinking such things in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Rise, pick up your mat and walk’? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority to forgive sins on earth”— he said to the paralytic, “I say to you, rise, pick up your mat, and go home.” He rose, picked up his mat at once, and went away in the sight of everyone. They were all astounded and glorified God, saying, “We have never seen anything like this.”          This is the truth! Peace be with you.</p>		



Lenten Appeal Gifts can be accepted through your local parish.  
Please label your envelope/note/check "Bishop's Appeal". You can  
also make a contribution online at [www.eparchy.org](http://www.eparchy.org).

The Lenten Appeal for the Eparchy of Our lady of Lebanon is now taking place. The Eparchy relies upon you to support our Maronite parishes and train our future Maronite priests. Every family is asked to participate in the Appeal and please be generous. You may make a donation using a check, cash or credit card. Please support you Eparchy. Thank you.

***The Lebanese Syrian American Junior League Scholarship application period is currently open to high school seniors or undergraduate college students of Lebanese and/or Syrian descent***

***residing in the greater Cleveland area.***

***Please obtain applications through your high school's college guidance department or by emailing:***

***[LSAJScholarship@gmail.com](mailto:LSAJScholarship@gmail.com).***

***All applications MUST be received by March 31, 2024.***

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### Israel's Deliverance 35:1-10

The wilderness and the parched land will exult; the Arabah will rejoice and bloom; Like the crocus it shall bloom abundantly, and rejoice with joyful song. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon; They will see the glory of the LORD, the splendor of our God. Strengthen hands that are feeble, make firm knees that are weak, Say to the fearful of heart: Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God, he comes with vindication; With divine recompense he comes to save you. Then the eyes of the blind shall see, and the ears of the deaf be opened; Then the lame shall leap like a stag, and the mute tongue sing for joy. For waters will burst forth in the wilderness, and streams in the Arabah. The burning sands will become pools, 35 and the thirsty ground, springs of water; The abode where jackals crouch will be a marsh for the reed and papyrus. A highway will be there, called the holy way; No one unclean may pass over it, but it will be for his people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray on it. No lion shall be there, nor any beast of prey approach, nor be found. But there the redeemed shall walk, And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy; They meet with joy and gladness, sorrow and mourning flee away. **Praise be to God always.**





## ICS MAMMOUL SALE



Orders for Mammoul will be taken following all Liturgies from Saturday Feb. 24th to Sunday March 17th.

\$20/Dozen

Or you may call:

Lydia Nahra @ 440-785-5079

Claire Naoum @ 216-337-2851

All orders must be paid for before March 17th.

No orders will be taken after March 17th

Pick Up after Liturgy on Saturday March 23rd and Sunday March 24th.



## BENEDICTION AND STATIONS OF THE CROSS

6:30 pm DOWNTOWN

March 8, 15, 22

Followed by meatless pot-luck

Security Provided

## The Guild of St Anthony Annual Recognition Dinner

The Annual Fundraiser that helps raise money to assist the Antonine Sisters in their ministry for the elderly and disabled will be held on **Saturday, April 6th in Cedar Hall at Our Lady of Lebanon National Shrine.**

Cocktails and Hors d'oeuvres begin at 6pm following the 5pm Liturgy.

Cost is \$95 per person. (\$65 is tax deductible).

Please sent a check to the "Antoine Sisters" by April 1st. [www.antoninevillage.org](http://www.antoninevillage.org)

## Gifts of the Altar: March 2024

### BREAD in Memory of:

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

Hanna & Evelyn Ina and the deceased members of the family (Their children)

### WINE in Memory of:

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

William & Genevieve Bishilany (William & Denise Bishilany & family)

Hanna & Evelyn Ina and the deceased members of the family (Their children)

William & Genevieve Bishilany (Timothy & Nayann Pazyniak & 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)

Hanna & Evelyn Ina and the deceased members of the family (Their children)

Call or email the office if you are in need of a contribution statement for 2023.

216-520-5081 or  
saintmaroncleland@gmail.com

## 50+ SOCIAL CLUB

**April 5th 10:00 am Chapel**

Harriet Taylor Upton House (original Woman's Suffrage Museum); Lunch: Hollywood Gaming at Mahoning Valley, Warren Ohio

RSVP: NO LATER than March 26 -  
Mary Ann 216-521-5481

**March 3, 2024**

<b>General Deposit:</b>	<b>\$ 4,637.00</b>
Saturday 5:00 pm	\$ 1,983.00
Sunday 9:30 am	\$ 757.00
Sunday 11:00 am	\$ 1,847.00
Online	\$ 50.00



*Anastasia Rose Rafqa Andreani received the Sacraments of Baptism and Chrismation on Sunday, March 3, 2024*

**Daughter of  
Michael Arthur Andreani and Eleanore Hilow Andreani**

**+**

Saini Maron Cleveland Maronite Youth Organization

**PALM SUNDAY  
CANDLES**

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Candles will be sold after all weekend Liturgies in Independence and DOWNTOWN leading up to Palm Sunday!





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