

SAINT ANTHONY

MARONITE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Parish Office Hours: Monday - Friday 10am-3pm

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Sunday of the Birth of John the Baptist Feast of the Immaculate Conception 8 December 2024



SUNDAY READINGS

EPISTLE - GALATIANS 4:21-5-1

21 Tell me, you who want to be under the law, do you not listen to the law? 22 For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by the slave woman and the other by the freeborn woman. 23 The son of the slave woman was born naturally, the son of the freeborn through a promise. 24 Now this is an allegory. These women represent two covenants. One was from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; this is Hagar. 25 Hagar represents Sinai, a mountain in Arabia; it corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery along with her children. 26 But the Jerusalem above is freeborn, and she is our mother. 27 For it is written:

*“Rejoice, you barren one who bore no children;
break forth and shout, you who were not in labor;
for more numerous are the children of the deserted one
than of her who has a husband.”*

28 Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of the promise. 29 But just as then the child of the flesh persecuted the child of the spirit, it is the same now. 30 But what does the scripture say?

“Drive out the slave woman and her son!

For the son of the slave woman shall not share the inheritance with the son”
of the freeborn. 31 Therefore, brothers, we are children not of the slave woman but of the freeborn woman.

Chapter 5. 1 For freedom Christ set us free; so stand firm and do not submit again to the yoke of slavery.

GOSPEL - LUKE 1:57-66

57 When the time arrived for Elizabeth to have her child she gave birth to a son. 58 Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy toward her, and they rejoiced with her. 59 [a]When they came on the eighth day to circumcise the child, they were going to call him Zechariah after his father, 60 but his mother said in reply, “No. He will be called John.” 61 But they answered her, “There is no one among your relatives who has this name.” 62 So they made signs, asking his father what he wished him to be called. 63 He asked for a tablet and wrote, “John is his name,” and all were amazed. 64 Immediately his mouth was opened, his tongue freed, and he spoke blessing God. 65 Then fear came upon all their neighbors, and all these matters were discussed throughout the hill country of Judea. 66 All who heard these things took them to heart, saying, “What, then, will this child be?” For surely the hand of the Lord was with him.

PARISH LIFE

Safro (Morning Prayer)

Monday–Friday - 7:30am

Eucharistic Adoration

Friday –9:30am - 10:30am

Reconciliation (Confession)

Saturday 9:30am - 10:15am
and by appointment

Baptism and Chrismation

Make arrangements as soon
after birth as possible

Mystery of Crowning

Contact the pastor 6 months
in advance

Parish Calendar. Please see stanthonymaronitechurch.org for the parish calendar.

Liturgical Hours. Monday through Saturday 9:00am daily Divine Liturgy in the chapel.

Sunday 8:30am and 11am Divine Liturgies. Summer Hours: Sat 5:30 pm, Sun 10 am

First Saturday of the Month. Marian devotions at 9:30am.

St. Sharbel Devotions. Third Sunday of the month at 11:00am Divine Liturgy

POINTS OF INTEREST

WEBSITE UPDATE. We are excited to announce the launch of our new website! We hope you find it both visually appealing and user-friendly. Your feedback is important to us, so please let us know if there are ways we can make it even better to serve your needs. A heartfelt thank you to Pamela Gray and Cathy George for their hard work and dedication in bringing this project to life. Their efforts have been invaluable! <https://www.stanthonymaronitechurch.org/>

2025 Pilgrimage. Please join the pilgrimage to the Marian Shrines in Portugal, Spain, and France from 14–23 September 2025. This promises to be a spiritually enriching journey as we visit some of the most beautiful and sacred sites dedicated to Our Blessed Mother.

Maronite Women’s Fellowship annual Christmas Dinner. All women of the parish 18 and up are invited on Thursday, 12 December from 6 to 8 pm., \$20 per person. If you would like to participate in the White Elephant exchange, bring a wrapped gift - \$10 to \$20. See flier.

Christmas Novena. Join us for the Christmas Novena beginning Sunday, 15 December through Tuesday, 23 December. On Sundays it will be at 12 noon, and weekdays at 6:30 pm. Confessions will be available during the Novena.

MYA is sponsoring a talk by Vincent Mowad, “Who are the Maronites?” on Tuesday, 17 December at 6:30 pm in the hall, followed by a bonfire. See flier.

Christmas Star Program begins on 23 November. Take a star from the tree in the vestibule. **Put your name and phone number next to the number of the star on the signup sheet on the table.** Wrap new items only and attach the star securely to the package. Deadline for return is **15 December.** Gifts will be distributed by the Comboni Sisters to needy families in the area.

Christmas Flowers. Donate flowers in memory of a loved one, \$25 each, by 17 December:
<https://forms.gle/hPuByj4byQQHG3eg6>

End-of-Year Appeal. As we approach the holiday season, I wanted to follow up on the update I previously shared about the life of our parish and my earlier request for contributions to help close our budget gap. Your past generosity has enabled us to do so much good for our parish family, and we are deeply grateful. If you haven’t yet had the opportunity, please consider making a contribution to support our continued efforts. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to our parish community.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Sunday, 8 December at 9:30. MCF All Students

Monday, 9 December at 6:30 pm. Adult Catechumen Class

Sunday, 15 December at 9:30. MCF Preschool - Sixth, Lifeteen Seventh - Twelfth

Tuesday, 17 December at 6:30. MYA Theology on Tap

LITURGY SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS

Sunday, 8 December Birth of John the Baptist, The Immaculate Conception

8:30 am

For a special intention, requested by Barbara Belsky

In memory of Goldie Faris, requested by Mary and Anthony Shaia

11:00 am

In memory of Louis and Roslyn Simon, requested by Ken and Lourie Sledd

In memory of Richelle Faris, requested by Regina Shaar Loehr

Monday, 9 December St. Francis of Paola

No Divine Liturgy

Tuesday, 10 December Pope St. Miltiades

For the intention of Eleanor Lemelin (birthday), requested by Barbara Belsky

In memory of Mark Barton, requested by Darlene Coleman

Wednesday, 11 December St. Daniel the Stylite

In memory of Lucia Tuy Nguyen, requested by the Tran Family

Thursday, 12 December Our Lady of Guadalupe, St. Spyridon the Wonderworker

In memory of Harry, Margaret and Christopher Shaia, requested by Harry and Melissa Shaia

Friday, 13 December St. Lucy

In memory of Harry, Margaret and Christopher Shaia, requested by Harry and Melissa Shaia

Saturday, 14 December St. Nemtallah El-Hardini

In memory of Richelle Faris, requested by Mary and Anthony Shaia

Sunday, 15 December Revelation to Joseph, St. Eleutherius and His Mother

8:30 am

In memory of Richelle Faris, requested by Judith Thomas

In memory of George Mansour, requested by Mary and Anthony Shaia

11:00 am

In memory of Don, Melinda and Caroline Cassidy, requested by Stephanie Cassidy

In memory of Peter Mazloom, Sr., requested by Peter and Alison Mazloom

USHERS SCHEDULE

Dates	8:30 Divine Liturgy	11:00 Divine Liturgy
8 Dec	Andy Shulleeta, William Shulleeta, Frank Greco, Marshall Stephenson	Bill Maust, John Saad, Alex Fabiato, Diana Yaqoo
15 Dec	Anthony Shibley, Dennis Shibley, Joseph Shibley, Jr., Stephen Shibley, Jr.	Peter George, Duane Peppel, Daniel Dailey, Sam LaNeave

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

Dates	8:30 Divine Liturgy	11:00 Divine Liturgy
8 Dec	Asher and Braxton Mclvor, Thomas Shaia, George Oley, Arthur Oley	Patrick Savage, Christian Funk, Grayson Funk
15 Dec	Wilby, Henry, Jack and Ross Craig	Matthew Habboush, Ghady Karam, Luke Salloum

TRANSFER OF GIFTS

Dates	8:30 Divine Liturgy	11:00 Divine Liturgy
8 Dec	Stella Mclvor, Rosie, Lili and Ivy Boykin, Amina Howard	Jenna Chaoul, Kylie Stephan, Helena Haddad, Ana Haddad
15 Dec	Stella Mclor, Rosie Boykin, Amina Howard, Lili Boykin, Emily Carr	Jenna Chaoul, Kylie Stephan, Romi Rustom, Ana Haddad

LECTORS SCHEDULE

Dates	8:30 Divine Liturgy	11:00 Divine Liturgy
8 Dec	Denise Maurer	John Saad
15 Dec	Hannah Roberts	Chloe Saad

STEWARDSHIP

1 December

Collections: \$2810
 Contributions: \$1085
 End of Year Contribution: \$6250
 Christmas Flowers: \$175
 SnackBar (Correction): \$8053.66

COLLECTION COUNTERS

December: David Walton & Paul Shibley
 January: Joe George & Anthony Shibley
 February: George Yesbeck

Please, when you make a contribution to the parish, indicate your envelope number so that we can accurately give you credit. You may want to donate through the parish website stanthonymaronitechurch.org which also provides for automatic giving. Make it easy on yourself.



Christmas

2024 SCHEDULE

Christmas Novena

Sunday 15 December 12 Noon
Monday 16 December 6:30 pm
Tuesday 17 December 6:30 pm
Wednesday 18 December 6:30 pm
Thursday 19 December 6:30 pm
Friday 20 December 6:30 pm
Saturday 21 December 6:30 pm
Sunday 22 December 12 Noon
Monday 23 December 6:30 pm

There will be an opportunity for confession during the Novena.

Nativity Play & Santa Breakfast

Sunday 22 December 9:30am

Divine Liturgies

GENEALOGY SUNDAY

Sun 22 December 8:30 am and 11 am

FEAST OF THE NATIVITY

Tue 24 December 4 pm (Christmas Carols) 4:30 pm

Wed 25 December 10 am

FLIGHT INTO EGYPT, MASSACRE OF THE CHILDREN OF BETHLEHEM

Sun 29 December 8:30 am and 11 am

FEAST OF THE CIRCUMCISION (NEW YEAR) ★

Tue 31 December 6:30 pm

Wed 1 January 10 am



MARONITE WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Christmas Dinner

THURSDAY
December 12
6-8PM

Catered by

Casa Italiana

MENU

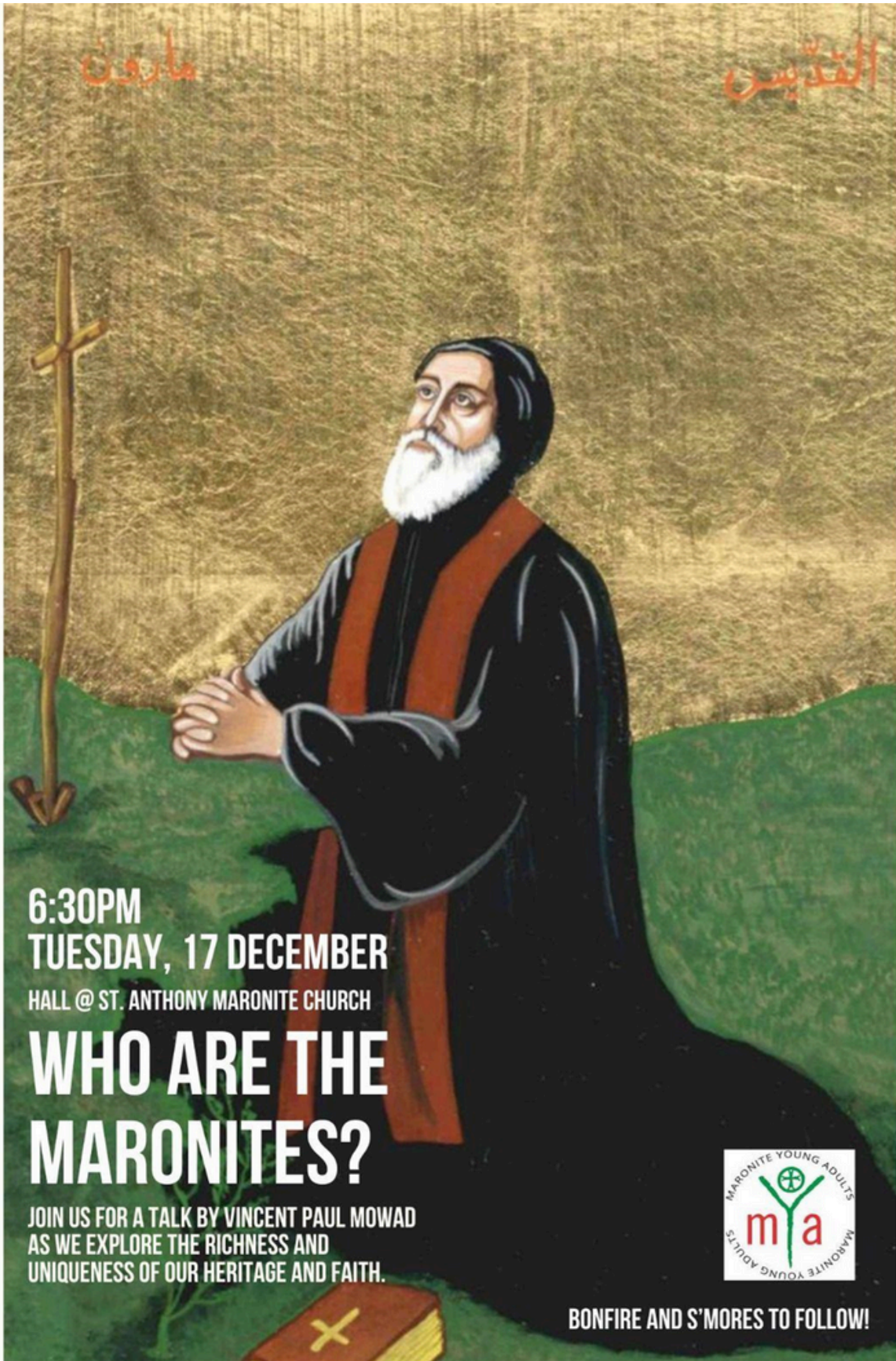
Pan Roasted Salmon
Chicken Piccata over Vegetables
Penne Alfredo with Chicken
Salad and Bread
DESSERT
Mini Cannoli
Tiramisu

TICKETS \$20

White Elephant Gift Exchange

If you would like to participate
bring a \$10-\$20 wrapped gift





6:30PM
TUESDAY, 17 DECEMBER

HALL @ ST. ANTHONY MARONITE CHURCH

WHO ARE THE MARONITES?

JOIN US FOR A TALK BY VINCENT PAUL MOWAD
AS WE EXPLORE THE RICHNESS AND
UNIQUENESS OF OUR HERITAGE AND FAITH.



BONFIRE AND S'MORES TO FOLLOW!

MARONITE CHRISTIAN FORMATION SCHEDULE 2024-2025

8 Dec	All Students Nativity Practice 7-12	9:30 am
15 Dec	PreS-6 LifeTeen for 7-12 Nativity Practice PreS-6	9:30 am 9:30 am - 11 am
22 Dec	Children's Liturgy, Nativity, Santa Breakfast	8:30 am - 11 am
5 Jan	All Students	9:30 am
12 Jan	PreS-8	9:30 am
19 Jan	PreS-6 LifeTeen for 7-12	9:30 am 9:30 am - 11 am
26 Jan	PreS-8	9:30 am
2 Feb	All Students	9:30am
9 Feb	PreS-8	9:30am
16 Feb	PreS-6 LifeTeen for 7-12	9:30 am 9:30 am - 11 am
23 Feb	PreS-8th Parents First Communion Class	9:30am
2 Mar	All Students	9:30am
9 Mar	PreS-8th Parents First Communion Class	9:30am

CHURCH MINISTRIES

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