

# Saint Maron Catholic Church

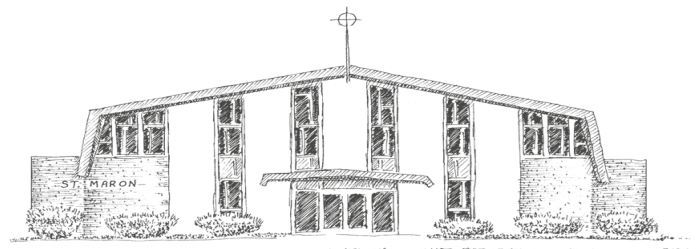
## Twelfth Sunday of Pentecost

August 24, 2025

How fascinating is it that an infant almost inherently knows property ownership? Or at least the desire for possession. Before a baby's first words, the baby knows how to latch on to a toy, a pacifier, a blanket, or any trivial object. If a baby's first word is mama, shortly following that, the baby will quickly learn mine.

It is easy to see that we are territorial by nature. We are attached to material things. Likewise, we are attached to the earth in some form or another. All creatures are, for that matter: plants have to grow in soil, and will react negatively when dug up and moved around; dogs mark their territory when taken out for a walk; humans mark off their land and build a fence to say "this is mine."

Being territorial is not a bad thing. It is part of creation. In the first book of the Bible, we see that God ma-



de humans in a garden. A garden is a marked off territory that is intentionally cultivated for a purpose. Living in time and space – living in this reality – we are created to feel connected to the land.

A lot of characteristics can be told about a person by their land. Desert people are made resilient to survive with rare resources whereas beach life is laid back. Mountain people are hardened by the terrain and weather. The Maronite people find their identity in the formative experiences of surviving persecution by taking refuge in the mountains. Our religious education series is even descriptively titled Faith of the Mountain. Connection to the land goes beyond personality, livelihood, leisure, or sentimentality. It extends also to the faith.

We have heard the phrase used to describe rural America as God's Country. America is an infant country in comparison to world history. About 1400 years earlier, Armenia was the first nation to be officially God's country, to adopt Christianity as a national identity. And long before Armenia, the ancient world understood that faith was attached to a people, to a national identity. We've read about the God of Israel, the god of the Canaanites, the god of the Egyptians and so on.

The connection of faith and national identity was an infant concept in human history. We get a glimpse of it with Ruth and Naomi in the Old Testament. But now having matured through our Lord Jesus Christ, we know that all people belong to the One, True God.



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## LITURGY INTENTIONS

### Sun. August 24: Twelfth Sunday of Pentecost

(Ruth 1:15-19a; Eph 3:1-13; Mt 15:21-28 Lit. p 492)

- 9:30 am

**Liturgy for Herbert Gast, Two Year Anniversary,**  
by Eva Gast and Family

**Liturgy for all the Donors and Supporters of St.  
Maron Church**

- 11:30 am

**Liturgy for Julia Housey, by Family**

**Liturgy for Hazel Saul, by Family**

**Liturgy for Abouna Naji Kiwan**

**Liturgy for all the Donors and Supporters of St.  
Maron Church**

## NEXT WEEK

### Sun. August 31: Thirteenth Sunday of Pentecost

(Gen 2:8-17; 1 Cor 3:1-11; Lk 8:1-15 Lit. p 425)

- 9:30 am

**Liturgy for Marie Michael, by Veronica Asmar**

**Liturgy for Abouna Naji Kiwan**

**Liturgy Toubia Harb**

**Liturgy for the Students for a Safe and Blessed  
Academic Year**

- 11:30 am

**Liturgy for Antoine Jabbour, Birthday  
Remembrance, by Family**

**Liturgy Terese Hazkial**

**Liturgy for Sameer Eid**

**Liturgy for the Students for a Safe and Blessed  
Academic Year**

## CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

### *THE VIRTUES*

#### *I. The Theological Virtues*

The theological virtues are the foundation of Christian moral activity; they animate it and give it its special character. They inform and give life to all the moral virtues. They are infused by God into the souls of the faithful to make them capable of acting as his children and of meriting eternal life. They are the pledge of the presence and action of the Holy Spirit in the faculties of the human being. There are three theological virtues: faith, hope, and charity.

#### *Faith*

Faith is the theological virtue by which we believe in God and believe all that he has said and revealed to us, and that Holy Church proposes for our belief, because he is truth itself. By faith "man freely commits his entire self to God." For this reason the believer seeks to know and do God's will. "The righteous shall live by faith." Living faith "work(s) through charity."

The gift of faith remains in one who has not sinned against it. But "faith apart from works is dead": when it is deprived of hope and love, faith does not fully unite the believer to Christ and does not make him a living member of his Body.

The disciple of Christ must not only keep the faith and live on it, but also profess it, confidently bear witness to it, and spread it: "All however must be prepared to confess Christ before men and to follow him along the way of the Cross, amidst the persecutions which the Church never lacks." Service of and witness to the faith are necessary for salvation: "So every one who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven; but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven."

#### *Hope*

Hope is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit. "Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful." "The Holy Spirit . . . he poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that we might be justified by his grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life."

## Collection August 17, 2025

Sunday Collection	\$ 1, 396
Online Donations	\$ 210
Donation by mail	\$ 15. <sup>12</sup>
Coffee & Donuts	\$ 42
Votive Candle	\$ 258
You can support the Church by mail or through our website donating online <a href="http://www.saintmarondetroit.org/donate-online">www.saintmarondetroit.org/donate-online</a>	

## BREAD AND WINE

Please contact the Rectory to donate the Host and Wine for \$50.00/month, we will be accepting donations from three different families each month.

- Bread and Wine for the month of August 2025, In Loving Memory of **Dr. Daher Rahi**, by Chrissy Kassab and Family
- Bread and Wine for the month of August 2025, In Loving Memory of **Antoine & Marie Jabbour**, by Family
- Bread and Wine for the month of August 2025, In Thanksgiving for the Recovery of **Tony Bassil**, by Zako Bassil



SAINT MARON CHURCH

Bring your bag, laptop, ipad... and get blessed

**BLESSING OF STUDENTS & SCHOOL BAGS**

GROUP ACTIVITIES

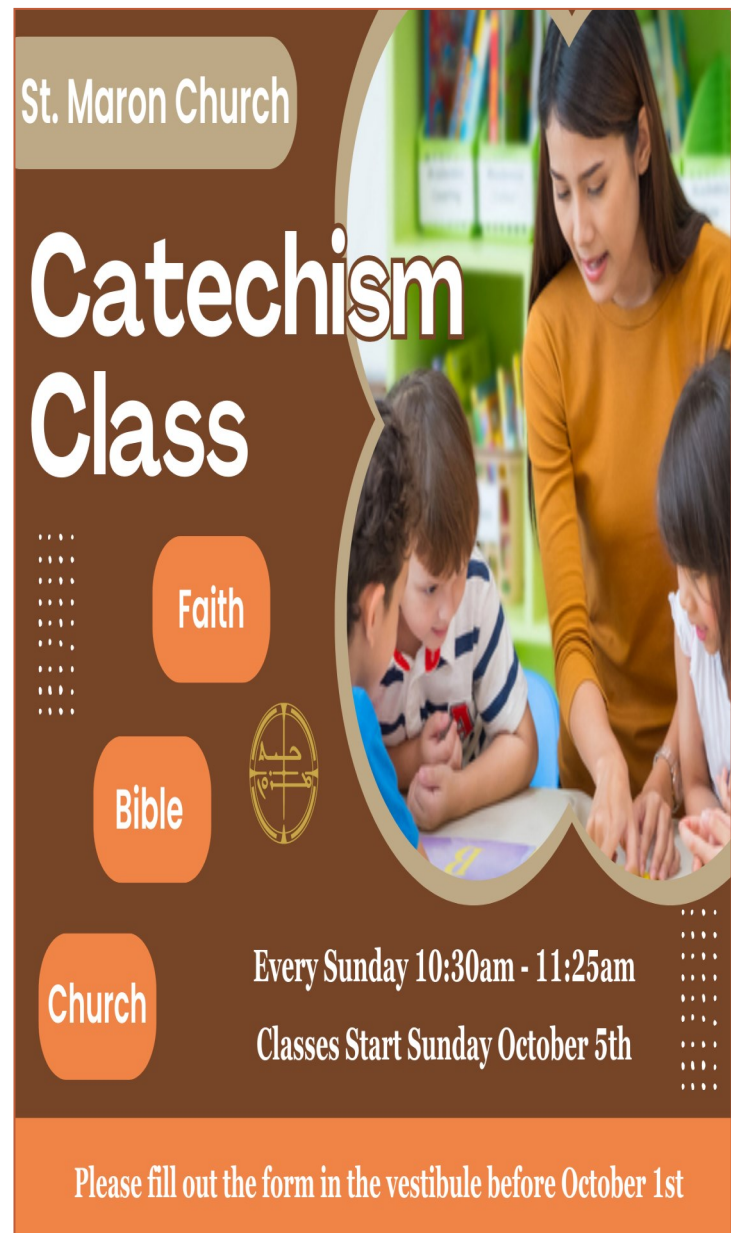
INTERACTIVE LEARNING

INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT

MATH, BIOLOGY, HISTORY

SUNDAY AUGUST 31<sup>ST</sup>  
AT BOTH LITURGIES

The poster features a large yellow cross on the left, a lightbulb icon on the top right, and a circular icon with Arabic calligraphy in the center. At the bottom, there is a photo of a smiling young man and woman, and a pink backpack icon on the left.



St. Maron Church

**Catechism Class**

Faith

Bible

Church

Every Sunday 10:30am - 11:25am  
Classes Start Sunday October 5th

Please fill out the form in the vestibule before October 1st

The poster has a brown background with a large photo of a woman teaching two children at a table. It includes icons for a book, a cross, and a circular icon with Arabic calligraphy. The text is in white and orange.



# SAINT MARON CHURCH

Connect with your Maronite and Lebanese heritage

Learn to read, write, and speak Arabic

Strengthen your cultural and spiritual identity

Fun, engaging, and beginner-friendly lessons



## ENROLL IN OUR ARABIC CLASS



**Start Date: Sunday, October 12, 2025**

**Taught by instructors with experience in language and culture**

**Weekly classes for all ages (children, youth, and adults)**



**Registration is Now Open!**

**Sign up after Mass at the parish hall**

**OR contact the church office.**

**Phone: 313-824-0196.**

**Email: SaintMaronDetroit@gmail.com**

## St. Maron Church 60th Anniversary

If you were married or baptized at St. Maron, We warmly invite you to join us in celebrating our Church Anniversary! Come and be part of this special weekend filled with gratitude, worship, and fellowship.

- ✓ Guest Speaker + Local Tour
- ✓ Fellowship Lunch
- ✓ Thanksgiving Liturgy
- ✓ Parish Talent Spotlight

 **SATURDAY & SUNDAY**  
October 11-12, 2025

**Saturday 3pm-7pm**  
**Sunday 11:30am -3:00pm**





**JOIN US**  **313-824-0196**  **11466 Kercheval Street, Detroit MI 48214**