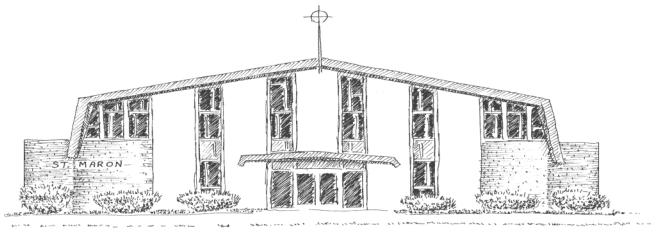
Saint Maron Catholic Church

Second Sunday after Epiphany
January 16, 2022

The Baptism at the Jordan is the scene with which Jesus' public life begins: after about thirty years of hidden life, Jesus does not present himself with a miracle, or by rising to the podium to teach. He lines up with the people who were going to receive baptism from John. Jesus shares the plight of us sinners, he *comes down* towards us; he descends into the river, and at the same time into the wounded history of humanity, he immerses himself in our waters to heal them, and he immerses himself with us, in our midst. He does not rise up above us, but rather comes down towards us with a bare soul, with bare feet, like the people. He does not come by himself, nor does he come with a select, privileged group.



No: he comes with the people. He belongs to the people, and he comes with them to be baptized, with these humble people.

At the moment in which Jesus receives Baptism, the text says that he "was praying". It is good for us to contemplate this: Jesus prays. But why? He, the Lord, the Son of God, prays like us? Yes, Jesus – the Gospels repeat this many times – spends a lot of time in prayer: at the beginning of every day, often at night, before making important decisions… His prayer is a dialogue, a relationship with the Father. Thus, in today's Gospel, we can see the "two moments" in the life of Jesus: on the one hand, he *descends* towards us into the waters of the Jordan; on the other, he *raises* his eyes and his heart, praying to the Father.

It is a tremendous lesson for all of us: we are all immersed in the problems of life and in many complicated situations, called upon to face difficult moments and choices that get us down. But, if we do not want to be crushed, we need to raise everything upwards. And this is exactly what prayer does. It is not an escape route; prayer is not a magic ritual or a repetition of memorized jingles. No. Prayer is the way we allow God to act in us, to understand what he wants to communicate to us even in the most difficult situations, prayer is having the strength to go forward.

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LITURGY INTENTIONS

Sun. Jan 16 : Second Sunday of Epiphany

(Readings: 2 Cor 4:5-15; Jn 1:35-42 Lit. p 107)

- **9:30 am**

Liturgy for Theresa Joseph Abood and deceased members , by family

Liturgy for James Eckerman

Liturgy for Emily Michael and Josephine Saigh

Liturgy for the Intentions and Donors of Catholic Extension Society

- **11:30 am**

Liturgy for Edmund & Bettejean Ahee and their Children Edmund Jr. and John Ahee

Liturgy for Fodel & Samha Ganem and the living and deceased members of their Children, by Laila & Richard Fuher

Liturgy for Antonio & Angel Malkoun

Liturgy for Marie Cherfan

Liturgy for Michael Kassis, 5 year anniversary, by George Kassis and Family

NEXT WEEK

Sun. Jan 23 : Third Sunday of Epiphany

(Readings: Gal 3:23-39; Jn 3:1-16 Lit. p 107)

- **9:30 am**

Liturgy for Joseph El Asmar

Liturgy for Amy & Joseph Laus

Liturgy for all sick people, and people who died from Covid-19 and their families

Liturgy for the Intentions and Donors of Catholic Extension Society

- **11:30 am**

Liturgy for Moufid Eid, by Family

Liturgy for all sick people, and people who died from Covid-19 and their families

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Outside the Church there is no salvation

How are we to understand this affirmation, often repeated by the Church Fathers? Reformulated positively, it means that all salvation comes from Christ the Head through the Church which is his Body:

Basing itself on Scripture and Tradition, the Council teaches that the Church, a pilgrim now on earth, is necessary for salvation: the one Christ is the mediator and the way of salvation; he is present to us in his body which is the Church. He himself explicitly asserted the necessity of faith and Baptism, and thereby affirmed at the same time the necessity of the Church which men enter through Baptism as through a door. Hence they could not be saved who, knowing that the Catholic Church was founded as necessary by God through Christ, would refuse either to enter it or to remain in it.

This affirmation is not aimed at those who, through no fault of their own, do not know Christ and his Church:

Those who, through no fault of their own, do not know the Gospel of Christ or his Church, but who nevertheless seek God with a sincere heart, and, moved by grace, try in their actions to do his will as they know it through the dictates of their conscience - those too may achieve eternal salvation.

"Although in ways known to himself God can lead those who, through no fault of their own, are ignorant of the Gospel, to that faith without which it is impossible to please him, the Church still has the obligation and also the sacred right to evangelize all men."

Collection January 09, 2021

Sunday Collection	$ 2,264
Donation by mail	$ 510
Online Donations	$ 265
Second Collection	$ 325
Coffee & Donuts	$ 58

You can support the Church by mail or through our website donating online

www.saintmarondetroit.org/donate-online

Our Congratulations and Best Wishes to

GIANNA CHARBEL BARRAK

&

MILA GRACE SPENCER KADO

who were Baptized at St. Maron Church

on Sunday January 09, 2022.

May God bless them and their families to be a great disciples of Jesus Christ!

ST. MARON CHURCH, DETROIT

BLESSED SUNDAY KNAFEH

Join us for Knafeh and Ask about the NAM Convention

01.23.22 After 9:30 & 11:30 mass

BREAD AND WINE

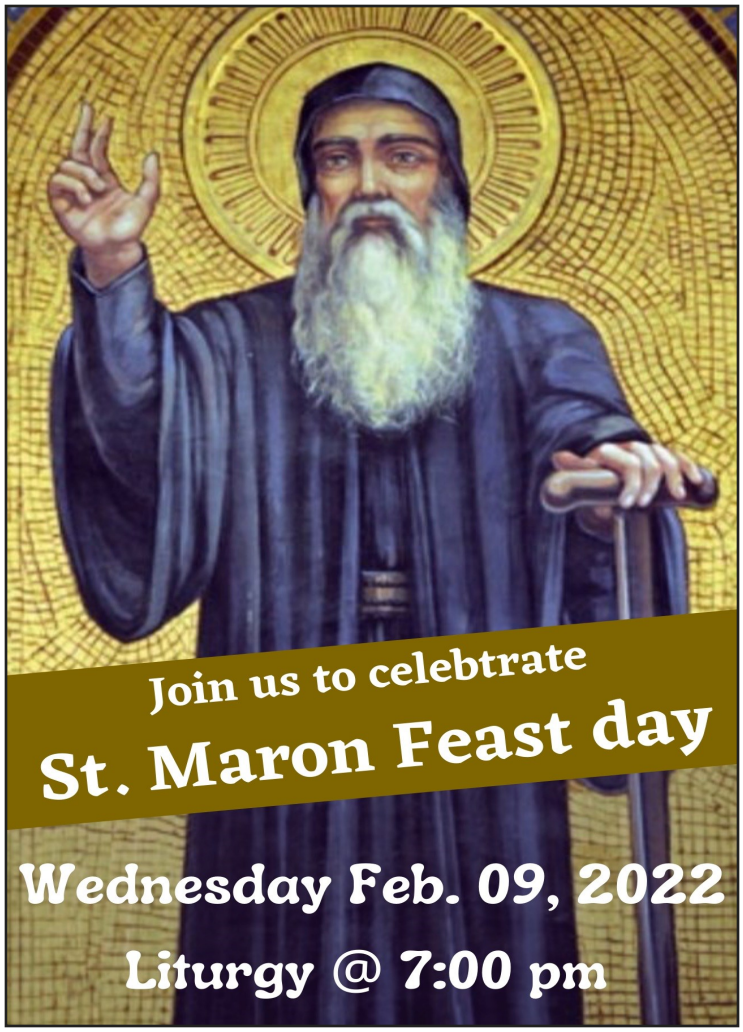
Please contact the Rectory to donate the Host and Wine for $50.00/month, we will be accepting donations from three different families each month.

- Bread and Wine for the month of January 2022, in loving memory of **Bettejean Ahee,** by Chuck & Pamela Thomas
- Bread and Wine for the month of January 2022, in loving memory of **Moufid Eid,** by Joelle Alibri
- Bread and Wine for the month of January 2022, in loving memory of **Nader and Fayez Shaer, and Mariam Nimri**, by Amal Shaer

MARRIAGE BANNS

Third Marriage Banns between

Boutros Ghafari & Meghan Ulmer



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