

Saint Maron Catholic Church

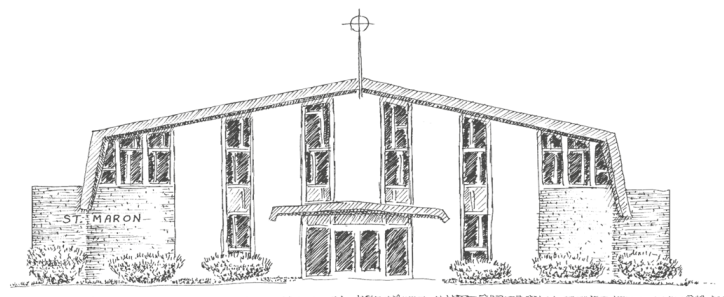
First Sunday After the Epiphany

January 12, 2025

The Maronite tradition beautifully emphasizes the theological and spiritual significance of the Season of Epiphany, or **Denho**, as a profound revelation of the Holy Trinity and the salvific mission of Jesus Christ. Your explanation highlights the deep connection between the birth and baptism of Jesus, celebrating His divine mission and our own spiritual adoption into God's family through baptism.

The shift from celebrating Christmas and Epiphany together to separating the feasts demonstrates the Church's intent to give due emphasis to these distinct yet interconnected mysteries: the Incarnation (God becoming man) and the Theophany (the manifestation of the Holy Trinity).

In this season, the focus on baptism serves as a profound reminder of its transformative power. As you noted, baptism is not merely a ritual but a spiritual re-



birth that unites us with the Holy Trinity and incorporates us into the Body of Christ, the Church. The role of Godparents signifies the communal and familial dimension of our faith, highlighting the responsibility of nurturing and guiding one another in the Christian life.

The reflection on baptism as a *daily calling* is especially poignant. Being a Christian, as you so aptly noted, is not just a title but a mode of life, requiring continuous renewal, testimony, and love in our journey of faith. It is through this daily witness and love that we live out the reality of our adoption as children of God and our membership in His family.

This explanation aligns beautifully with the Maronite liturgical and theological tradition, inviting the faithful to deeper reflection and recommitment to their baptismal vows during this holy year of jubilee. In this year of jubilee, we are all called to a renewal. Through baptism, we are reborn into the family of God, freed from the bonds of sin, and filled with the hope of eternal life in Christ. Similarly, a jubilee represents a time of restoration, grace, and renewed relationship with God and one another. Just as baptism marks the start of our journey in faith, the jubilee of hope invites us to rekindle that baptismal grace, living as witnesses to the hope and joy of the Gospel, and proclaiming God's mercy and love to the world. Together, they call us to embrace our identity as children of God and agents of His hope.



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LITURGY INTENTIONS

Sun Jan. 12: First Sunday after the Epiphany

(Is 40:6-11; 2 Cor 10:1-11; Jn 1:29-34 Lit. p 112)

• 9:30

Liturgy for Theresa Joseph Abood, 8 year Anniversary, by Family

Liturgy for Deceased Members of Ejbeh Family, by Dinah Ejbeh

Liturgy for Joseph A. Michael, by Marie Michaels and Family

• 11:30

Liturgy for Ezzat Gebara, by Naji & Celine Gebara

Liturgy for our Parishioners Intentions

Liturgy for all Christians in the World, especially those Persecuted for their Faith

NEXT WEEK

Sun Jan. 19: Second Sunday after the Epiphany

(Jer 1:4-10; 2 Cor 4:5-15; Jn 1:35-42 Lit. p 107)

• 9:30 am

Liturgy for Deceased Members of Heady & Schrader Families, by Bob & Debbie Schrader

Liturgy for Paul & Isabel Saigh

Liturgy for the Unity of the Christians throughout the World

• 11:30 am

Liturgy for Hanna Shemmai, 16 years anniversary, by Simon & Madice Shemmai and Family

Liturgy for Koshaya Rahi, by Simon & Madice Shemmai and Family

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Marriage in the Lord

This is what the Apostle Paul makes clear when he says: "Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her," adding at once: "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one. This is a great mystery, and I mean in reference to Christ and the Church."

The entire Christian life bears the mark of the spousal love of Christ and the Church. Already Baptism, the entry into the People of God, is a nuptial mystery; it is so to speak the nuptial bath which precedes the wedding feast, the Eucharist. Christian marriage in its turn becomes an efficacious sign, the sacrament of the covenant of Christ and the Church. Since it signifies and communicates grace, marriage between baptized persons is a true sacrament of the New Covenant.

Virginity for the sake of the Kingdom

Christ is the center of all Christian life. the bond with him takes precedence over all other bonds, familial or social. From the very beginning of the Church there have been men and women who have renounced the great good of marriage to follow the Lamb wherever he goes, to be intent on the things of the Lord, to seek to please him, and to go out to meet the Bridegroom who is coming. Christ himself has invited certain persons to follow him in this way of life, of which he remains the model:

"For there are eunuchs who have been so from birth, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. He who is able to receive this, let him receive it."

Virginity for the sake of the kingdom of heaven is an unfolding of baptismal grace, a powerful sign of the supremacy of the bond with Christ and of the ardent expectation of his return, a sign which also recalls that marriage is a reality of this present age which is passing away.

Both the sacrament of Matrimony and virginity for the Kingdom of God come from the Lord himself. It is he who gives them meaning and grants them the grace which is indispensable for living them out in conformity with his will. Esteem of virginity for the sake of the kingdom and the Christian understanding of marriage are inseparable, and they reinforce each other.

Collection January 5, 2025

Sunday Collection	\$ 1,861
Online Donations	\$ 50
Donation by mail	\$ 2,010
Coffee & Donuts	\$ 83
New Year Collection	\$ 324
You can support the Church by mail or through our website donating online www.saintmarondetroit.org/donate-online	

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 2025, in loving memory of **Alger P. LaHood**, by Family.
- Bread and Wine for the month of January 2025, in loving memory of **Tom & Melania LaHood**, by Family.
- Bread and Wine for the month of January 2025, in loving memory of **Dr. Joseph & Elaine LaHood**, by Family.

**I will be attending the Annual Clergy Retreat in Phoenix AZ, on Jan. 13 to 17 (Mon-Fri).
For any emergency, you can send a text message to my cell phone. Fr. Roby!**

ST. MARON MYO
**PAJAMA AND
MOVIE NIGHT**



WEAR PJ's!
5 PM-7 PM

SAT, JANUARY 25



FOOD AND SNACKS PROVIDED
AT ST. MARON PARISH CENTER
SIGN UP WITH THE GOOGLE FORM LINK!

**Saint Maron
Feast Day**

SATURDAY
February 8th, 2025

LITURGY AT
6:00 pm

11466 Kercheval St,
Detroit, MI 48214



SAINT MARON CHURCH

LET'S HAVE SOME FUN



FAMILY

Night

Friday January 24th, 2025 @ 6:00 PM



SAINT MARON CHURCH

Feast Day Party



With
Tony Cid

Dj Abe



BYOB

Saturday, February 8th, 2025 @ 7pm

11466 Kercheval St, Detroit, MI 48214



Tickets: \$100 - \$150

RSVP by Feb. 1st: 313-655-7498