

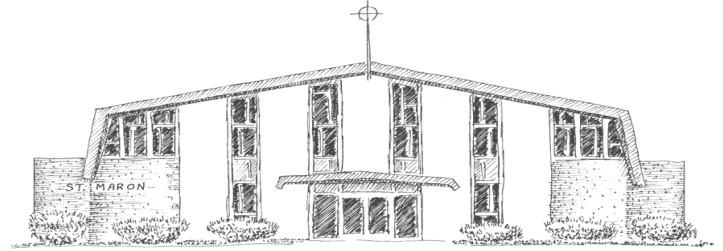
Saint Maron Catholic Church

Fifteenth Sunday of Pentecost

August 30, 2026

The Woman of the Perfume! Traditionally known as the “sinful woman” or the “repentant sinner,” the woman of the perfume is one of the many anonymous women who appear in the Gospel of Luke. Throughout history, some have identified her with Mary of Bethany, the sister of Martha and Lazarus; others with Mary Magdalene, from whom Jesus cast out seven demons; and still others with the woman caught in adultery. Yet the Gospel does not give us her name. For us, she can simply remain “the woman of the perfume,” the woman who approached Jesus with an alabaster jar and poured perfume upon his feet.

In Luke, this woman comes to Jesus carrying something much heavier than the alabaster jar: she carries the burden of her past. She is not blind, deaf, leprous, paralyzed, or physically sick. She is not possessed by a demon.



Her wound is deeper and more hidden. She is a woman whose life has been marked by sin, and everyone in the room seems to know her reputation.

But Jesus looks at her differently. The others see her past; Jesus sees her heart. The others remember her sins; Jesus recognizes her repentance. The others judge her; Jesus allows her to come close. Without many words, she expresses everything through her actions. Her tears wash the feet of Jesus. Her hair dries them. Her lips kiss them, and the expensive perfume fills the house with its fragrance. She cannot explain with words what is happening inside her heart, so her love speaks through her gestures.

Jesus responds with a medicine more powerful than any human remedy: forgiveness. He does not humiliate her, classify her sins, or remind her again of her failures. He sets her free. “Your sins are forgiven... your faith has saved you; go in peace.” Forgiveness creates something new within her. A heart once wounded by sin becomes a heart filled with love and gratitude. This is why Jesus tells Simon that “the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little.” The woman loves greatly because she understands how greatly she has been forgiven.

Her story is also our story. We all carry an invisible alabaster jar containing failures, regrets, and wounds. Jesus invites us to bring it to him. When we encounter his mercy, our past no longer has the final word. Forgiven by Christ, we too can rise, love deeply, and go forward in peace.

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LITURGY INTENTIONS

Sun. Aug. 30: Fifteenth Sunday of Pentecost

(Mic 7:7-20; 1 Thes 1:1-10; Lk 7:36-50 Lit. p 425)

- 9:30 am

Liturgy for All Students Going Back to School

Liturgy for Anne Safadi, by Hanna & Raghda Safadi

Liturgy for Deceased Members of the Mabarak Family, by Robert L. Mabarak

- 11:30 am

Liturgy for All Students Going Back to School

Liturgy for Antoine & Marie Jabbour, by the Jabbour Family

Liturgy for all sick people who died without receiving confession and without receiving the Last Sacrament

NEXT WEEK

Sun. Sept. 6: Sixteenth Sunday of Pentecost

(Amos 5:21-24; Rom 8:18-27; Lk 18:9-14 Lit. p 492)

- 9:30 am

Liturgy for Margaret Helou, by Cesar & Diane Helou

Liturgy for Margaret & Boulus Helou and Victoria, Charbel, and Katrine Fares, by Cesar & Diane Helou

Liturgy to Honor the Hard Work and Sacrifice of Laborers Across the County

- 11:30 am

Liturgy for Rev. Ronald G. DesRosiers SM, Repose of his soul, by Kathy & Gary Housey

Liturgy to Honor the Hard Work and Sacrifice of Laborers Across the County

Liturgy for all Our Parishioners Intentions

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

III. "You Shall Have No Other Gods Before Me"

Agnosticism

Agnosticism assumes a number of forms. In certain cases the agnostic refrains from denying God; instead he postulates the existence of a transcendent being which is incapable of revealing itself, and about which nothing can be said. In other cases, the agnostic makes no judgment about God's existence, declaring it impossible to prove, or even to affirm or deny.

Agnosticism can sometimes include a certain search for God, but it can equally express indifferentism, a flight from the ultimate question of existence, and a sluggish moral conscience. Agnosticism is all too often equivalent to practical atheism.

IV. "You Shall Not Make For Yourself a Graven Image..."

The divine injunction included the prohibition of every representation of God by the hand of man. Deuteronomy explains: "Since you saw no form on the day that the Lord spoke to you at Horeb out of the midst of the fire, beware lest you act corruptly by making a graven image for yourselves, in the form of any figure...." It is the absolutely transcendent God who revealed himself to Israel. "He is the all," but at the same time "he is greater than all his works." He is "the author of beauty."

Nevertheless, already in the Old Testament, God ordained or permitted the making of images that pointed symbolically toward salvation by the incarnate Word: so it was with the bronze serpent, the ark of the covenant, and the cherubim.

Basing itself on the mystery of the incarnate Word, the seventh ecumenical council at Nicaea (787) justified against the iconoclasts the veneration of icons - of Christ, but also of the Mother of God, the angels, and all the saints. By becoming incarnate, the Son of God introduced a new "economy" of images.

Collection August 23, 2026

Sunday Collection	\$ 2,123
Online Donations	\$ 50
Donation by Mail	\$ 10
Coffee & Donuts	\$ 40
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 August 2026, in Loving Memory of all the **Living and Deceased Members of the Mabarak Family**, by Robert L. Mabarak and Melissa A. Gilmore
- Bread and Wine for the month of August 2026, in Loving Memory of **John Tabet**, by Nuha Tabet & and Family
- Bread and Wine for the month of August 2026, in Loving Memory of **Dr. Daher Rahi**, by Chrissy Kassab and Family

Pope's intention - For evangelization in the city

Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

SAINT MARON CHURCH

Eucharistic Adoration

Every First Friday of the month
Friday September 4th, 2026

 LITURGY @ 11.00 am

 ADORATION FROM 12:00pm to 7:00 pm



St. Maron Church

Catechism Class

Faith – Bible - Church

 Every Sunday 10:30am - 11:25am

 Classes Start Sunday October 4

 Please fill out the form before September 27





Saint MARON

FALL FESTIVAL



**SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 12, 2026**



5 P.M. - 11:00 P.M.



FOOD



FUN



**MUSIC WITH
DJ ABE**

\$30 PER PERSON



**RSVP BY SEPTEMBER 5TH
TO 313-824-0196**



11466 KERCHEVAL STREET, DETROIT, MI 48214



Feast of the Holy Cross

“The cross is the school of love!”

St. Maximilian Kolbe

SAINT MARON CHURCH DETROIT



**Monday
September 14th, 2026**



**Liturgy at
7:00 pm**



**Followed by an
outdoor procession
and Bonfire**

