

# Saint Maron Catholic Church

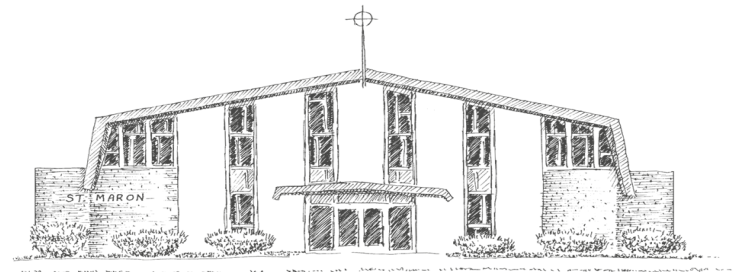
## Healing of the Leper

March 9, 2025

A leper, one of the many lepers whom Jewish Law commanded to keep their distance from healthy people. A leper, his body disfigured by illness; his limbs reduced to stumps. A leper, forced to abandon his family, his home, his work, his village, and to seek refuge in desolate places, surrounded only by those who shared his misfortune. A leper, regarded as impure, cursed, cast out from society.

Yes, it is this leper who approaches Jesus, breaking every social and religious norm, and pleads with him: "If you are willing, you can make me clean!" Jesus is moved, not only by the man's suffering, but also by his loneliness, by the abandonment that has become his daily reality. And it is precisely this deep compassion that leads Jesus to perform an act that is both radical and forbidden: he stretches out his hand and touches him.

Such a simple gesture, one that comes naturally when the heart seeks to express love and closeness.



Love, after all, cannot remain distant, confined by fear, And yet, it is a risky gesture, for leprosy is contagious. To touch a leper means exposing oneself to the possibility of infection. But Jesus does not hesitate. With a spontaneous act of love and with words full of authority, he declares: "I am willing. Be clean!" Nothing extraordinary at first glance, just a touch, just a few words. Yet in that moment, there is everything: there is Jesus' mission, his purpose, his gift to humanity. He has come precisely for this, to reach out, to touch our wounds, to make us feel the nearness of his mercy, his goodness, his grace. He has come to share in our pain, to take upon himself our suffering, to restore what is broken.

The leper is healed instantly. Jesus asks him to keep silent, to tell no one. But how could he possibly remain silent? Overcome with joy, he begins to proclaim the miracle everywhere. He who was once cast out as unclean now becomes a witness, an announcer of the Good News. A similar event will occur on Easter morning when Mary Magdalene, the woman whose life Jesus had transformed, becomes the first to proclaim his resurrection. This Gospel passage is profoundly beautiful. It reveals a Jesus who is deeply compassionate, who does not turn away from our suffering but enters into it. And it carries a message of hope: anyone, no matter their past, no matter their failures, can become a messenger of Christ. If a healed leper can proclaim the Good News, then no one, after encountering Jesus, should consider themselves unworthy of sharing his love with the world.

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## LITURGY INTENTIONS

### Sun. March 9: Healing of the Leper

(2 Kings 5:9-14, Rom 6:12-23, Mk 1:35-45 Lit 196)

• 9:30 am

**Liturgy for Boulos & Margaret Helou**, by Cesar & Diane Helou

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

**Liturgy for Joseph Assad Tonnos**

**Liturgy for Sultana Safadi**

• 11:30 am

**Liturgy for Angel Isakof 5 Year Anniversary**, by Kalia & Albert Fares and Family

**Liturgy for all people who died without confession and receiving the last sacrament**

**Liturgy for Couples struggling in their marriage**

## NEXT WEEK

### Sun. March 16: The Hemorrhaging Woman

(Num 15:37-41, 2 Cor 7:4-11, Lk 8: 40-56 Lit 207)

• 9:30 am

**Liturgy for Joseph Assad Tonnos**, by Marie and Mary Michaels

**Liturgy for Nadia Sukkarieh**

**Liturgy for Yevheniya Shanle**

• 11:30 am

**Liturgy for Moussa & Antoinette Tabet and their son John Tabet**, by Nuha Tabet

**Liturgy for Roger Wehbe**, by Nuha Tabet

**Liturgy for Ousama Safar**

## CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

### *V. The Goods and Requirements of Conjugal Love*

#### *The openness to fertility*

"By its very nature the institution of marriage and married love is ordered to the procreation and education of the offspring and it is in them that it finds its crowning glory."

Children are the supreme gift of marriage and contribute greatly to the good of the parents themselves. God himself said: "It is not good that man should be alone," and "from the beginning (he) made them male and female"; wishing to associate them in a special way in his own creative work, God blessed man and woman with the words: "Be fruitful and multiply." Hence, true married love and the whole structure of family life which results from it, without diminishment of the other ends of marriage, are directed to disposing the spouses to cooperate valiantly with the love of the Creator and Savior, who through them will increase and enrich his family from day to day.

The fruitfulness of conjugal love extends to the fruits of the moral, spiritual, and supernatural life that parents hand on to their children by education. Parents are the principal and first educators of their children. In this sense the fundamental task of marriage and family is to be at the service of life.

Spouses to whom God has not granted children can nevertheless have a conjugal life full of meaning, in both human and Christian terms. Their marriage can radiate a fruitfulness of charity, of hospitality, and of sacrifice.

### *VI. The Domestic Church*

Christ chose to be born and grow up in the bosom of the holy family of Joseph and Mary. the Church is nothing other than "the family of God." From the beginning, the core of the Church was often constituted by those who had become believers "together with all [their] household." When they were converted, they desired that "their whole household" should also be saved. These families who became believers were islands of Christian life in an unbelieving world.

In our own time, in a world often alien and even hostile to faith, believing families are of primary importance as centers of living, radiant faith. For this reason the Second Vatican Council, using an ancient expression, calls the family the *Ecclesia domestica*.



**Collection March 2, 2025**

<b>Sunday Collection</b>	\$ 2,996
<b>Online Donations</b>	\$ 420
<b>Donation by mail</b>	\$ 510
<b>Coffee &amp; Donuts</b>	\$ 34
<b>Votive Candles</b>	\$ 554
<b>You can support the Church by mail or through our website donating online</b> <b><u><a href="http://www.saintmarondetroit.org/donate-online">www.saintmarondetroit.org/donate-online</a></u></b>	

**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 March 2025, in loving memory of **Reem Safadi**, by George & Janet Safadi.
- Bread and Wine for the month of March 2025, in loving memory of **Living and Deceased Members of the Tabet and Fleifel Families**, by Nuha & Family.
- Bread and Wine for the month of March 2025, in loving memory of **Living and Deceased Members of the Mabarak Family**, by Robert L. Mabarak.

**Easter Lily Plants and Spring Bulbs 2025**

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY (\$30 each)

In Memory of:

In Thanksgiving:

For: \_\_\_\_\_

Donated By: \_\_\_\_\_

Return with payment to the office OR put in collection basket by **March 31, 2025**



**SAINT MARON CHURCH**



**Saint Joseph  
Feast day**

**Wednesday March 19th,**

**Liturgy @ 7:00 pm**

**Followed by Refreshments**



# SAINT MARON CHURCH



## God my only Hope!

Lent is a time for Christians to examine their lives, repent from sin, and seek renewal of their faith and relationship with God.

### Lenten Retreat

**Saturday, March 22  
from 11am to 4pm**

**Fr. Piero Masolo**



RSVP BY MARCH 17, TO 313-824-0196

## SAINT MARON CHURCH

### PALM SUNDAY LUNCHEON



**Sunday April 13  
after 11:30am Liturgy**

**Adults \$30 - Kids \$20**

**RSVP By April 1st to 313-824-0196**