

# Saint Maron Catholic Church

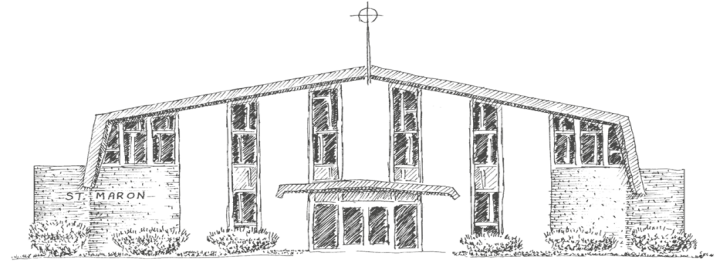
## Fourteenth Sunday of Pentecost

August 23, 2026

This Sunday's liturgy develops the beautiful theme of welcoming God into our human lives. As Jesus continues his journey toward Jerusalem, the Gospel invites us to reflect on a simple but important question: How do we allow God to enter our homes, our hearts, and our daily lives?

Jesus enters the home of Martha and Mary in Bethany. It is a familiar place for him, a home where he is welcomed with love, warmth, and friendship. With their brother Lazarus, Martha and Mary offer Jesus a place where he can rest, speak freely, and simply be among friends. How beautiful it is to think that God himself seeks hospitality! Jesus, who gives us everything, also allows himself to be welcomed.

Our homes can become little "Bethanies," places where Christ is welcomed through prayer, peace, forgiveness, and love. Our prayer can also become Bethany when we learn not only to speak to God and ask for things, but also to sit quietly and listen to him.



Martha and Mary represent two essential dimensions of Christian life: action and contemplation, service and prayer, work and listening. We need both. Action that does not come from an intimate encounter with Christ can become empty, exhausting, or even resentful. At the same time, prayer that never leads us to recognize Christ in the poor, the sick, the lonely, and those in need risks becoming disconnected from real life.

Jesus does not condemn Martha, nor does he oppose one sister to the other. Martha's service is generous and necessary. The problem comes when service becomes so busy and anxious that we lose sight of the person we are serving. We can prepare the meal and forget the guest; organize the event and forget the people; serve in the Church and forget Christ.

Today the Gospel invites us to discover both Martha and Mary within ourselves. We need Mary's heart, ready to sit at the feet of Jesus and listen. We also need Martha's hands, ready to work, serve, and care for others.

So, let us ask ourselves: Do I make time each day to listen to the Lord? And does my prayer lead me to serve someone with greater love? A mature Christian life needs both: a heart that listens and hands that serve. When prayer and service remain united, our homes, our parish, and our lives can truly become Bethany, a place where Jesus feels welcomed. When Jesus is welcomed among us, even work becomes an act of love and a path toward holiness.

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## LITURGY INTENTIONS

### Sun. Aug. 23: Fourteenth Sunday of Pentecost

(Deut 6:4-9; 1 Thes 2:1-13; Lk 10:38-42 Lit. p 492)

- 9:30 am

Liturgy for Marilyn Ann Peters, 11 Year Anniversary, by Mary Michaels

Liturgy for Christopher & Shirley Dasaro

Liturgy for Charles & Bettie Dawood

Liturgy for Herbert John Gast, Three Year Anniversary, by Family

Liturgy for Donors and Supporters of St. Maron Church

- 11:30 am

Liturgy for Donors and Supporters of St. Maron Church

Liturgy for All Sick Members of Our Parish, Especially Those Diagnosed with Cancer

## NEXT WEEK

### 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 Antoine & Marie Jabbour, by the Jabbour Family

Liturgy for All Students Going Back to School

Liturgy for All Sick People Who Died Without Receiving Confession and Without Receiving the Last Sacrament

## CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

### *THE TEN COMMANDMENTS*

#### THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

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

###### *Atheism*

"Many . . . of our contemporaries either do not at all perceive, or explicitly reject, this intimate and vital bond of man to God. Atheism must therefore be regarded as one of the most serious problems of our time."

The name "atheism" covers many very different phenomena. One common form is the practical materialism which restricts its needs and aspirations to space and time. Atheistic humanism falsely considers man to be "an end to himself, and the sole maker, with supreme control, of his own history." Another form of contemporary atheism looks for the liberation of man through economic and social liberation. "It holds that religion, of its very nature, thwarts such emancipation by raising man's hopes in a future life, thus both deceiving him and discouraging him from working for a better form of life on earth."

Since it rejects or denies the existence of God, atheism is a sin against the virtue of religion. The imputability of this offense can be significantly diminished in virtue of the intentions and the circumstances. "Believers can have more than a little to do with the rise of atheism. To the extent that they are careless about their instruction in the faith, or present its teaching falsely, or even fail in their religious, moral, or social life, they must be said to conceal rather than to reveal the true nature of God and of religion."

Atheism is often based on a false conception of human autonomy, exaggerated to the point of refusing any dependence on God. Yet, "to acknowledge God is in no way to oppose the dignity of man, since such dignity is grounded and brought to perfection in God...." "For the Church knows full well that her message is in harmony with the most secret desires of the human heart."



## Collection August 16, 2026

|                                                                                                                                                                                   |          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Sunday Collection                                                                                                                                                                 | \$ 2,368 |
| Online Donations                                                                                                                                                                  | \$ 310   |
| Donation by Mail                                                                                                                                                                  | \$ 10    |
| Coffee & Donuts                                                                                                                                                                   | \$ 35    |
| Second Collection                                                                                                                                                                 | \$ 269   |
| You can support the Church by mail or through our website donating online<br><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.<sup>00</sup>/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 & Family
- Bread and Wine for the month of August 2026, in Loving Memory of **Dr. Daher Rahi**, by Chrissy Kassab and Family

Our deepest condolences to **Hanna Ibrahim** and Family on the passing of his sister **Janet**. A 40 day mass will be celebrated in her memory on Sunday September 27 at 11:30am at St Maron. May her soul rest in peace.

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



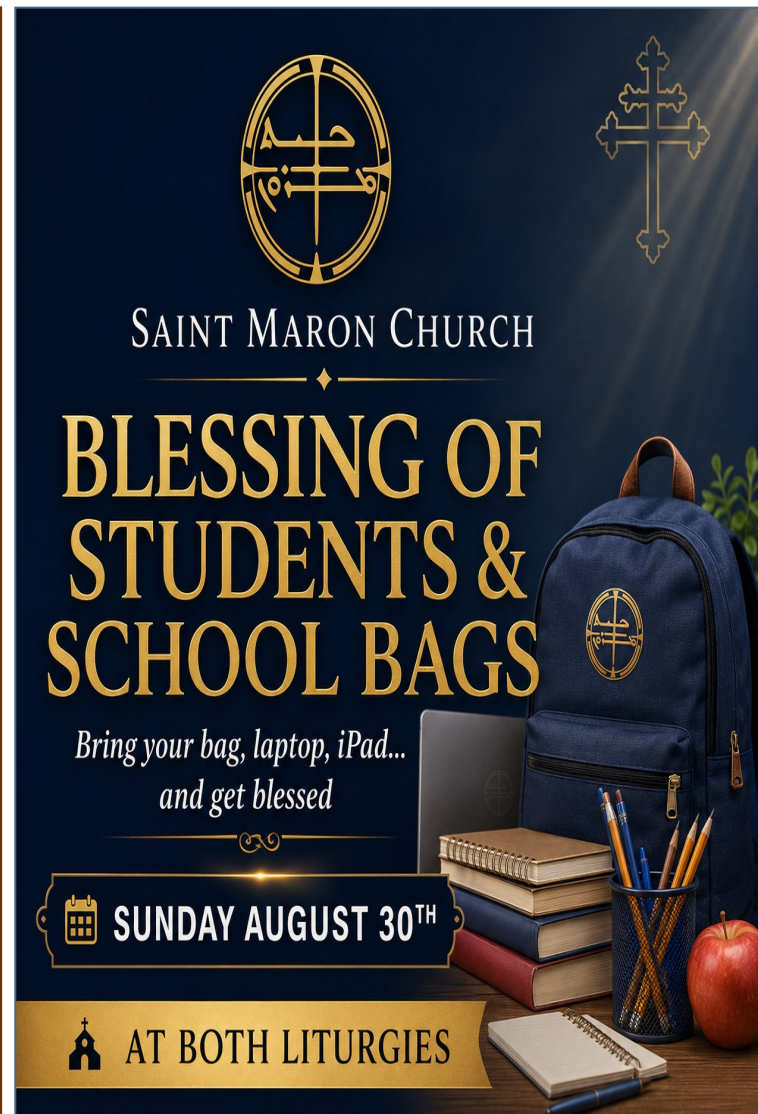
SAINT MARON CHURCH

# BLESSING OF STUDENTS & SCHOOL BAGS

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

 SUNDAY AUGUST 30<sup>TH</sup>

 AT BOTH LITURGIES







# 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 5<sup>TH</sup>  
TO 313-824-0196**



**11466 KERCHEVAL STREET, DETROIT, MI 48214**

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**

