

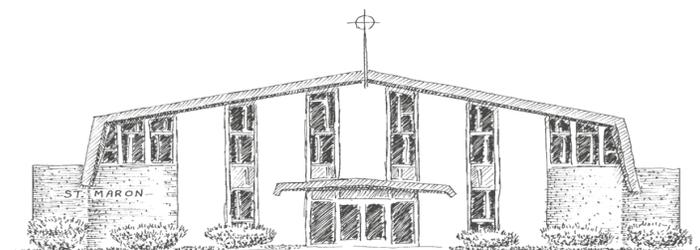
Saint Maron Catholic Church

Healing of the Paralytic

March 15, 2026

The Gospel this Sunday presents to us the healing of the paralytic. The paralytic does not speak, and he does not ask to be healed. Instead, the Gospel says: “When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, ‘Child, your sins are forgiven.’” This raises an important question: can faith be seen? Is faith something visible to the eyes? Not directly. We cannot see faith itself, but we can see faith made visible in action. We can see a believing man or woman through the way they live, act, persevere, and trust. That is what Jesus saw in these men. He saw their faith expressed in their determination as they opened the roof above Him and lowered the paralytic on his mat.

The crowd did not make things easy for them, yet they refused to give up. They were determined to bring their friend to Jesus. They believed firmly that Jesus could

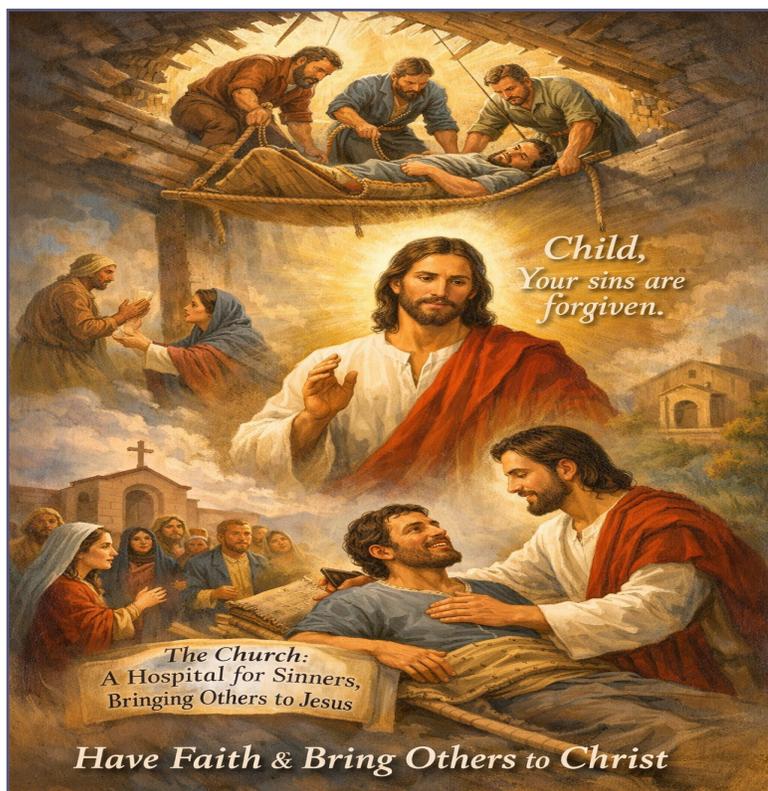


heal him, and because of that, no obstacle could stop them from reaching Him.

The journey of faith is not always easy, but it always leads us to Jesus. Perhaps these men were surprised by Jesus' first words: “Your sins are forgiven.” Maybe they expected Him to say, “Rise and walk.” Perhaps, in their hearts, they wondered why Jesus spoke about forgiveness when the man clearly needed physical healing. But for Jesus, the deepest healing is the healing of the soul. To be reconciled with God is even greater than to recover bodily strength. Physical healing may give someone a few more years of life on earth, but healing of the soul opens the way to eternal life in heaven.

Brothers and sisters, this Gospel also invites us to reflect on the role of the four men. They represent the community of the Church, which brings people to Jesus. The Church gives witness to Christ through prayer, faith, and charity. This community is not perfect, yet it still carries us to the Lord. The Church is not a club for perfect people or an elite society. It is a hospital for sinners, a family of believers walking together toward the Kingdom of God.

All of us need Jesus to forgive us and heal us. At the same time, we are called to carry one another to Him. Each one of us can be like those four men, bringing others to Jesus despite our weaknesses and sins. Have faith in God, and trust that Jesus loves you, heals you, and calls you to be His witness in your family, your work, and your daily life.



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LITURGY INTENTIONS

Sun. Mar 15: Healing of the Paralytic

(Is 35:1-10; 1 Tim 5:24-6:5 Mk 2:1-12 Lit. p 237)

• **9:30 am**

Liturgy for Marie Ferris Michaels, Birthday

Remembrance, by Family

Liturgy for Nadia Sukkarieh

Liturgy for Peace and Stability in the entire World

• **11:30 am**

Liturgy for Sultana & Elias Safadi, by Family

Liturgy for Mariam Said Moghrabi, by Haniyeh Haddad

Liturgy for Antonio & Angel Malkoun, by Joe Malkoun and Family

Liturgy for Fr. Pierre Rahi

Liturgy for Peace and Stability in the entire World

NEXT WEEK

Sun. Mar 22: Healing of the Blind Man

(Is 42:6-18; 2 Cor 10:1-7 Mk 10:46-52 Lit. p 246)

• **9:30 am**

Liturgy for Jack Shanle, by Marion Shanle & Family

Liturgy for Yevheniya Shanle, by Marion Shanle & Family

Liturgy for Peace and Stability in the entire World

• **11:30 am**

Liturgy for Jeanette Elkassouf, 2 Year Anniversary, by Raji Elkassouf and Family

Liturgy for Randy Abud, 27 Year Anniversary, by Gary & Paulette Abud

Liturgy for Peace and Stability in the entire World

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

GRACE AND JUSTIFICATION

III Merit

Filial adoption, in making us partakers by grace in the divine nature, can bestow true merit on us as a result of God's gratuitous justice. This is our right by grace, the full right of love, making us "co-heirs" with Christ and worthy of obtaining "the promised inheritance of eternal life." The merits of our good works are gifts of the divine goodness. "Grace has gone before us; now we are given what is due.... Our merits are God's gifts."

Since the initiative belongs to God in the order of grace, no one can merit the initial grace of forgiveness and justification, at the beginning of conversion. Moved by the Holy Spirit and by charity, we can then merit for ourselves and for others the graces needed for our sanctification, for the increase of grace and charity, and for the attainment of eternal life. Even temporal goods like health and friendship can be merited in accordance with God's wisdom. These graces and goods are the object of Christian prayer. Prayer attends to the grace we need for meritorious actions.

The charity of Christ is the source in us of all our merits before God. Grace, by uniting us to Christ in active love, ensures the supernatural quality of our acts and consequently their merit before God and before men. The saints have always had a lively awareness that their merits were pure grace.

After earth's exile, I hope to go and enjoy you in the fatherland, but I do not want to lay up merits for heaven. I want to work for your love alone.... In the evening of this life, I shall appear before you with empty hands, for I do not ask you, Lord, to count my works. All our justice is blemished in your eyes. I wish, then, to be clothed in your own justice and to receive from your love the eternal possession of yourself.

IV. Christian Holiness

"We know that in everything God works for good with those who love him . . . For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the first-born among many brethren. and those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified."

"All Christians in any state or walk of life are called to the fullness of Christian life and to the perfection of charity." All are called to holiness: "Be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect."

Collection March 8, 2026

Sunday Collection	\$ 1,827
Online Donations	\$ 180
Donation by Mail	\$ 10
Coffee & Donuts	\$ 29
Second Collection	\$ 380
You can support the Church by mail or through our website donating online <u>www.saintmarondetroit.org/donate-online</u>	

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 2026, in Loving Memory of all **Deceased Members of the Mabarak Family**, by Robert L. Mabarak & Melissa A. Gilmore
- Bread and Wine for the month of March 2026, in Loving Memory of **Reem Safadi**, by George & Janet Safadi
- Bread and Wine for the month of March 2026, in Loving Memory of **Dr. Daher Rahi**, by Chrissy Kassab and Family



St. Maron Church
Liturgy for the Feast Day of
ST. JOSEPH
Wednesday, March 18th | 7 PM
St. Maron Church
11466 Kercheval Avenue
Detroit, Michigan

The poster features a painting of St. Joseph holding the infant Jesus. The text is arranged in a vertical layout with decorative banners and a circular logo in the bottom left corner.



St. Maron Church - Detroit
PALM SUNDAY LUNCHEON
SUNDAY MARCH 29TH
AFTER 11:30AM LITURGY
ADULTS \$30 - KIDS \$20
RSVP By March 21st to 313-824-0196

The poster has a light green background with palm fronds on the right side. It includes a circular logo with Arabic calligraphy. The text is bold and clear, with the date and time highlighted in red.

*We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You, because
by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world*

HOLY WEEK

Monday & Tuesday

March 30th & 31st, 2026

Stations & Benediction of the Cross

Wednesday

April 1st, 2026

Rite of the Lamp & Benediction of the Cross

Thursday of the Mysteries

April 2nd, 2026

Rite of the Washing of the Feet

Great Friday of the Crucifixion

April 3rd, 2026

Rite of Adoration of the Holy Cross

Saint Maron Church



**All Services
@ 7:00 PM**

Easter Lily Plants and Spring Bulbs 2026

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 25, 2026**

