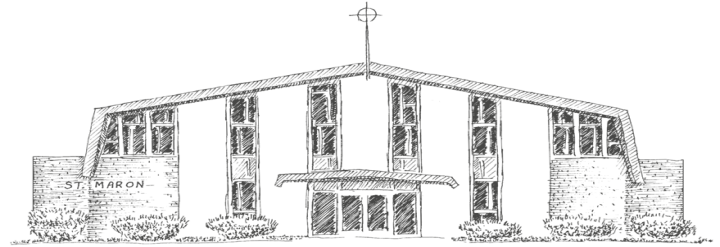


Saint Maron Catholic Church

The Glorious Birth of Our Lord December 25/28, 2025

The Church now proclaims to us: "To you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger". Nothing miraculous, extraordinary, or magnificent is offered to the shepherds as a sign. All they are told to look for is a child wrapped in swaddling clothes—one who, like every child, needs a mother's care; a child born in a stable, lying not in a cradle but in a manger. This is the sign: a child. As Leonardo Boff writes, "Everyone wants to grow in the world; every child wants to be a man. Every man wants to be king. Every king wants to be 'god.' Only God wants to be a child."

God in smallness, this is the disruptive force of Christmas. Humanity strives to rise, to command, to possess. God chooses to descend, to serve, to give. Do not be afraid. God never comes to frighten. If what ap-



proaches your life inspires fear, it is not God. His sign is the baby in need, the child in poverty. Only with the eyes of the heart could the shepherds recognize that this infant fulfills Isaiah's prophecy: "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government will be upon his shoulder". The same sign is given to us. Through the Gospel, the angel invites us to set out interiorly and behold the Child lying in the manger.

God's sign is simplicity. God's sign is smallness. God's sign is the baby who reigns by humility. He does not come with power or splendor. He comes defenseless, needing our care. He does not overwhelm us with greatness; instead, he draws us with love. By becoming a child, he teaches us to enter into his thoughts, his will, and his way of loving. God made himself small so that we might understand him, welcome him, and love him.

He is no longer distant or unknown. He has become our neighbor, restoring in us the image of humanity we often struggle to love. For us, God has become a gift. He has entered time, taking what is ours and raising it to what is his. Christmas becomes the feast of gifts because God has given himself to us. Among all the gifts we exchange, let us not forget the true gift: to give something of ourselves, to give our time, and to open our hearts to God.

The Lord is here. God is truly Emmanuel, God is with us. He has entered our world and remains close. The words of the Risen One are spoken to us: "I am with you always, to the close of the age". For you, for me, and for all of us, the Savior is born.



11466 Kercheval Street, Detroit, MI 48214-330

Office: 313-824-0196

Website: www.saintmarondetroit.org

Email address: SaintMaronDetroit@gmail.com



LITURGY INTENTIONS

Wed Dec. 24: The Glorious Birth of our Lord

(Is 8:23,9:1-6; Heb 1:1-12; Lk 2:1-20 Lit. p 76)

- 6:00 pm & 11:00pm

Liturgy for our Parishioners Intentions

Liturgy for Deceased and Living members of Saint Maron Parish

Thurs Dec. 25: The Glorious Birth of our Lord

(Is 8:23,9:1-6; Heb 1:1-12; Lk 2:1-20 Lit. p 76)

- 11:30 am

Liturgy for our Parishioners Intentions

Liturgy for Deceased and Living members of Saint Maron Parish

Sun. Dec. 28: Sunday after the Birth of our Lord

(Is 11:1-19; Rom 1:1-12; Mt 1:1-17 Lit. p76)

- 9:30 am

Liturgy for Reem Safadi, 12 Year Remembrance, by Family

Liturgy for Mitchel & Josephine Warminski, by Family

Liturgy for Charlotte Khalil, by Family

- 11:30 am

Liturgy for John Makhoul, 1 Year Anniversary, by Dr. Sami Makhoul and Family

Liturgy for Pierre Tamer, 2 Year Anniversary, by Inaam Tamer

Liturgy for Melhem & Hasna Tamer, by Inaam Tamer

NEXT WEEK

Sun. Jan. 4: Finding of Our Lord in the Temple

(1 Kings 3:5-14; Heb 7:11-19; Lk 2:41-52 Lit. p 87)

- 9:30 am

Liturgy for Gary Naseef, by Elizabeth Pipper

Liturgy for Margaret Helou, by Cesar & Diane Helou

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

- 11:30 am

Liturgy for our Parishioners Intentions

Liturgy for Living and Deceased Members of Saint Maron Parish

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

GOD'S SALVATION: LAW AND GRACE

THE MORAL LAW

The moral law is the work of divine Wisdom. Its biblical meaning can be defined as fatherly instruction, God's pedagogy. It prescribes for man the ways, the rules of conduct that lead to the promised beatitude; it proscribes the ways of evil which turn him away from God and his love. It is at once firm in its precepts and, in its promises, worthy of love.

Law is a rule of conduct enacted by competent authority for the sake of the common good. the moral law presupposes the rational order, established among creatures for their good and to serve their final end, by the power, wisdom, and goodness of the Creator. All law finds its first and ultimate truth in the eternal law. Law is declared and established by reason as a participation in the providence of the living God, Creator and Redeemer of all. "Such an ordinance of reason is what one calls law."

Alone among all animate beings, man can boast of having been counted worthy to receive a law from God: as an animal endowed with reason, capable of understanding and discernment, he is to govern his conduct by using his freedom and reason, in obedience to the One who has entrusted everything to him.

There are different expressions of the moral law, all of them interrelated: eternal law - the source, in God, of all law; natural law; revealed law, comprising the Old Law and the New Law, or Law of the Gospel; finally, civil and ecclesiastical laws.

The moral law finds its fullness and its unity in Christ. Jesus Christ is in person the way of perfection. He is the end of the law, for only he teaches and bestows the justice of God: "For Christ is the end of the law, that every one who has faith may be justified."

I. The Natural Moral Law

Man participates in the wisdom and goodness of the Creator who gives him mastery over his acts and the ability to govern himself with a view to the true and the good.

The natural law expresses the original moral sense which enables man to discern by reason the good and the evil, the truth and the lie:

The natural law is written and engraved in the soul of each and every man, because it is human reason ordaining him to do good and forbidding him to sin . . . But this command of human reason would not have the force of law if it were not the voice and interpreter of a higher reason to which our spirit and our freedom must be submitted.

Collection December 21, 2025

Sunday Collection	\$ 3,607
Online Donations	\$ 50
Donation by mail	\$ 1,110
Coffee & Donuts	\$ 65
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 December 2025, in Loving Memory of all **Deceased Members of the Sarkees & Josephine Naseef Family**, by Daughter Beverly Baca
- Bread and Wine for the month of December 2025, in Loving Memory of **Raymond Daher**, by Eddy Daher
- Bread and Wine for the month of December 2025, in Loving Memory of all **Deceased Members of the Mabarak Family**, by Robert L. Mabarak

As the year comes to a close, if you need a letter for tax purposes, please send us an email by the end of this month. We will prepare it and have it ready for you.

SAINT MARON CHURCH

NEW YEAR DAY MASS

Thursday January 1st, 2026

| 11:30 am |

Feast of The Circumcision of the Lord



Saint Maron Church – Detroit

TUESDAY JANUARY 6, 2026



LITURGY @7:00 PM

Liturgy and Blessing of the Water

ST MARON FEAST DAY

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 07, 2026

11466 KERCHEVAL STREET,
DETROIT MI 48214

6:00PM LITURGY
7:30PM HORS D'OEUVRES
8:30PM DINNER
9:30PM PARTY

SINGER DORIS FARHAT

RSVP BY JANUARY 25TH

For more information
Call 313-824-0196



DJ ABE