

Saint Maron Catholic Church

Fifth Sunday After The Holy Cross *Sunday October 18th, 2026*

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus presents God as the bridegroom who comes at an unexpected hour. We do not know when He will arrive. Will it be in the morning of our lives, when we are young? Will it be in the afternoon, when we are busy with family and responsibilities? Or will it be in the evening, as we approach our final years? What matters is not when He comes, but whether we are ready to welcome Him. Jesus reminds us that even if the bridegroom is delayed, He will certainly come.

In this parable, two important things catch our attention: the lamp and the oil. What do they represent in our Christian lives? The lamp represents our faith in God. This faith is a gift offered to everyone, regardless of nationality, background, or social status. Through Baptism, we receive the light of Christ, and through prayer, reading the Bible, attending church, and receiving the sacraments, we strengthen that faith.



The oil represents our good works: our love, charity, forgiveness, service, kindness, and sacrifices for others. Unlike the lamp, the oil requires personal effort. We cannot borrow someone else's good deeds. That is why the wise bridesmaids could not share their oil with the foolish ones. Each person must prepare their own oil through daily choices. In a way, our oil becomes our personal identification card for heaven.

The lamp and the oil must always go together. As Saint James reminds us, "Faith without works is dead." Faith without love and action is like a beautiful lamp without oil. It may look wonderful, but it cannot produce light. Today, we should ask ourselves: How much oil do I have in my lamp? I may attend church every Sunday, pray regularly, and know many prayers. But if I refuse to forgive someone, ignore people in need, or fail to show kindness to my family, my lamp may be running out of oil.

Sometimes we tell ourselves, "I am still young. I have plenty of time to become a better Christian." But Jesus reminds us that tomorrow is never guaranteed. So, starting today, let us add a little oil to our lamps: forgive someone, help a person in need, visit someone lonely, or offer a kind word. Every small act of love adds another drop of oil. Remember, the more oil we have, the brighter our lamps will shine, lighting not only our own path toward Jesus, but also the lives of others along the way.

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LITURGY INTENTIONS

Sun. Oct. 18: Fifth Sunday After Holy Cross

(Song 5:2-8; Phil 2:12-18; Mt 25:1-13 Lit. p 606)

- 9:30 am

Liturgy for Marie Michaels

Liturgy for all sick people in our parish

Liturgy for all the children who have died from abortion

- 11:30 am

Liturgy for Samira Howard, Birthday Remembrance, by Carol, Chris & Riva Monsour and Family

Liturgy for Archbishop Francis Zayek, Birthday Remembrance, by Kathy & Gary Housey

Liturgy for Ray & Delores Mabarak

Liturgy for all children who have died from abortion

NEXT WEEK

Sun. Oct. 25: Sunday of Christ the King

(Job 29:1-16; Rom 12:9-21; Mt 25:14-30 Lit. p 606)

- 9:30 am

Liturgy for Tom & Melania LaHood, by Family

Liturgy for Dr. Joseph & Elaine LaHood, by Family

Liturgy for Alger P. LaHood, by Family

- 11:30 am

Liturgy for Abdallah Bassil, 40 Day Mass, by Family

Liturgy for Mounir, Samir and Antoine Haddad, by the Jabbour Family

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

THE THIRD COMMANDMENT

II. The Lord's Day

Sunday - fulfillment of the sabbath

Sunday is expressly distinguished from the sabbath which it follows chronologically every week; for Christians its ceremonial observance replaces that of the sabbath. In Christ's Passover, Sunday fulfills the spiritual truth of the Jewish sabbath and announces man's eternal rest in God. For worship under the Law prepared for the mystery of Christ, and what was done there prefigured some aspects of Christ:

Those who lived according to the old order of things have come to a new hope, no longer keeping the sabbath, but the Lord's Day, in which our life is blessed by him and by his death.

The celebration of Sunday observes the moral commandment inscribed by nature in the human heart to render to God an outward, visible, public, and regular worship "as a sign of his universal beneficence to all." Sunday worship fulfills the moral command of the Old Covenant, taking up its rhythm and spirit in the weekly celebration of the Creator and Redeemer of his people.

The Sunday Eucharist

The Sunday celebration of the Lord's Day and his Eucharist is at the heart of the Church's life. "Sunday is the day on which the paschal mystery is celebrated in light of the apostolic tradition and is to be observed as the foremost holy day of obligation in the universal Church."

"Also to be observed are the day of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Epiphany, the Ascension of Christ, the feast of the Body and Blood of Christi, the feast of Mary the Mother of God, her Immaculate Conception, her Assumption, the feast of Saint Joseph, the feast of the Apostles Saints Peter and Paul, and the feast of All Saints."

Sunday October 11, 2026

Sunday Collection	\$ 2,349
Online Donations	\$ 100
Donation by Mail	\$ 210
Coffee & Donuts	\$ 40
You can support the Church by mail or through our website donating online www.saintmarondetroit.org/donate-online	

Let us pray for Pope Leo XIV; May God the Father bless him with strength and peace as he faces this illness and unite him ever more closely with His Son Jesus Christ!

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 October 2026, in Loving Memory of **Samira Howard**, by Carol, Chris & Riva Monsour and Family
- Bread and Wine for the month of October 2026, in Loving Memory of **Anne Safadi**, by Hanna & Raghda Safadi
- Bread and Wine for the month of October 2026, in Loving Memory of **Dr. Daher Rahi**, by Chrissy Kassab and Family

Congratulations to **Rony & Chrystal Nakhle** on their new blessing and welcome baby **Reina Ann** to our parish as the youngest member. God bless her!

SAINT MARON CHURCH

Eucharistic Adoration

Every First Friday of the month



Friday November 6th, 2026

LITURGY @ 11.00 am
ADORATION FROM 12:00 pm to 7:00 pm



SAINT MARON CHURCH - DETROIT

Ladies Night

**FRIDAY
OCTOBER 30TH, 2026**

STARTING @ 7:00pm

An evening of Faith, Fellowship & Fun!



Faith Friendship Sisterhood

