

Saint Maron Catholic Church

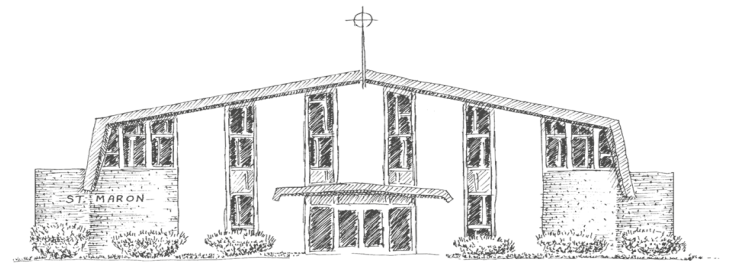
Feast of St. Maron

February 9, 2025

This weekend, the Maronite Church worldwide celebrates the feast of its patron, St. Maron, from whom its name originates. This occasion invites us to reflect on what this feast truly means for us as Maronites and what mission we carry after 1,700 years since our spiritual father, St. Maron.

First and foremost, St. Maron never sought to establish a church or even an entity separate from the greater Antiochian Christian community. His sole desire was to be with God—to love Him wholeheartedly and to dedicate every moment of his life to Him. Maron renounced worldly attachments, uniting himself with the infinite love of God in the poverty of spirit and the warmth of the heart. His life was marked by a singular pursuit: to remain with God despite all circumstances.

His ascetic life quickly became a school of spirituality



drawing many disciples who sought to follow in his footsteps. This is why Theodoret of Cyr, the 5th-century bishop and historian, described this movement as a flourishing spiritual garden: “The spiritual garden planted by blessed Maron is blooming today throughout the region of Cyr.” According to Theodoret, St. Maron “embellished the divine choir of saints” by dedicating his life to the contemplation of the divine mystery and the service of the “community of men,” fostering and strengthening faith in Jesus Christ.

Christian identity, as seen in the legacy of St. Maron, resides in our likeness to Christ. The ultimate goal of every Christian is to be fully identified with Christ, for He is the foundation of our faith and identity. As St. Paul emphasizes, “Indeed, no one can lay any other foundation than that which is there, namely Jesus Christ” (1 Cor 3:11). Christian identity is, therefore, expressed through participation in the life and prayer of the Church, through service to others, and through the proclamation of the faith.

For Maronites to remain faithful to their mission in the world, they are called to continually renew their vocation, deepen their prayer life, strengthen their faith, and reaffirm their commitment to the Church—not just as individuals, but as a collective presence among all other Christian communities.

The Maronite identity is ultimately a call to be a community that loves and worships God wholeheartedly, one that embodies the spirit of praise, service, and fraternal love. As our ancestors lived in devotion and unity, so too must we remain a people deeply rooted in faith, committed to loving God and one another, and ever steadfast in our spiritual journey.

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LITURGY INTENTIONS

Sat. Feb. 8: Feast of St. Maron

(2 Tim 3:10-17; JN 12:23-30 Lit 170)

- 6:00 pm

Liturgy for all Living and Deceased Members of St. Maron Church

Liturgy for all Donors and Supporters of St. Maron Church

Sun. Feb. 9: Feast of St. Maron

- 9:30 am No Liturgy

- 11:30 am

Liturgy for all Living and Deceased Members of St. Maron Church

Liturgy for all Donors and Supporters of St. Maron Church

NEXT WEEK

Sun. Feb. 16: Sunday of the Righteous and Just

(Wis 5:1, 3-6 Heb 12:18-24 Mt 25:31-46 Lit 157)

- 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 Orysia Sozych, by Family

- 11:30 am

Liturgy for Philip Saleh, Anniversary Remembrance, by his children Claire & Charbel Saleh

Liturgy for all the deceased and living priests who served Saint Maron Church

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

III. Matrimonial Consent

Mixed marriages and disparity of cult

Through ecumenical dialogue Christian communities in many regions have been able to put into effect a common pastoral practice for mixed marriages. Its task is to help such couples live out their particular situation in the light of faith, overcome the tensions between the couple's obligations to each other and towards their ecclesial communities, and encourage the flowering of what is common to them in faith and respect for what separates them.

In marriages with disparity of cult the Catholic spouse has a particular task: "For the unbelieving husband is consecrated through his wife, and the unbelieving wife is consecrated through her husband." It is a great joy for the Christian spouse and for the Church if this "consecration" should lead to the free conversion of the other spouse to the Christian faith. Sincere married love, the humble and patient practice of the family virtues, and perseverance in prayer can prepare the non-believing spouse to accept the grace of conversion.

IV. The Effects of the Sacrament of Matrimony

"From a valid marriage arises a bond between the spouses which by its very nature is perpetual and exclusive; furthermore, in a Christian marriage the spouses are strengthened and, as it were, consecrated for the duties and the dignity of their state by a special sacrament."

The Marriage bond

The consent by which the spouses mutually give and receive one another is sealed by God himself. From their covenant arises "an institution, confirmed by the divine law, . . . even in the eyes of society." The covenant between the spouses is integrated into God's covenant with man: "Authentic married love is caught up into divine love."

Thus the marriage bond has been established by God himself in such a way that a marriage concluded and consummated between baptized persons can never be dissolved. This bond, which results from the free human act of the spouses and their consummation of the marriage, is a reality, henceforth irrevocable, and gives rise to a covenant guaranteed by God's fidelity. The Church does not have the power to contravene this disposition of divine wisdom.

Collection February 2, 2025

Sunday Collection	\$ 2, 241
Online Donations	\$ 400
Donation by mail	\$ 510
Coffee & Donuts	\$ 39
Votive Candle	\$ 598
Second Collection	\$ 361
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 February 2025, in loving memory of **Anthony & Delores Neam**, by Gerry & Judy Folk.
- Bread and Wine for the month of February 2025, in loving memory of **Reem Safadi**, by George & Janet Safadi.
- Bread and Wine for the month of February 2025, in loving memory of **Phil Ejbeh**, by Dinah Ejbeh.

Our deepest condolences go to **Robert L. Mabarak** on the passing of his brother **Paul Mabarak**.
May his soul rest in peace.

Saint Maron Church

*Ash
Monday*

March 3rd, 2025



**Liturgies @
10:00 am & 7:00 pm**

SAINT MARON CHURCH

STATIONS & BENEDICTION OF THE CROSS



PRAYER . FASTING . ALMSGIVING
EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT @ 7:00 PM

Join the

Young choir

Age 13 to 35



at Saint Maron Church

Starting Saturday

March 1st, at 11:00am

