

Saint George Maronite Catholic Church

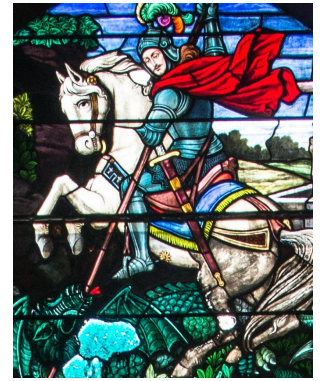
رعية مار جرجس المارونية

1493 Cranston Street, Cranston, RI 02920

Email: stgeorgeri1@gmail.com

Website: www.stgeorgeri.com

Office: 401-723 8444



December 03, 2023

Visitation of the Virgin to Elizabeth

Meet Your Clergy

Rev. Tony Saab, Pastor

frtonysaab@gmail.com

Farid Zaarour, Deacon

ffzaarour@yahoo.com

Subscribe to our Parish
You Tube Channel

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New!! Follow us on
Instagram

[@stgeorgecranston](https://www.instagram.com/stgeorgecranston)

Office Hours

Weds - Friday
from 9am-12pm

Liturgical Schedule

Wednesday 7:00pm,
Thursday and Friday 10:00am

Saturday 4:00 pm
Sunday 8:30 am (Latin rite)
10:30 am

Exposition of the Holy
Eucharist
on Thursday 6:00pm

Weekly collections

Saturday 04:00pm
\$414.00

Sunday
08:30am \$410.00
10.30am \$895.00

Friday December 8

Feast of the Immaculate Conception



Divine liturgy to be celebrated on
Thursday December 7 at 7:00pm

SACRAMENTS

Baptism & Confirmation: One month in advance with the Pastor.

Suggested Donation: Church: \$200 Priest: Free Will

Matrimony: Arrangements should be made by couples six months prior to the wedding date.

Suggested Donation: Church \$500. Priest: Free Will

Reconciliation:

One hour before liturgies, or by appointment

Anointing of the Sick: Please notify the Rectorate if a member of your family is ill, hospitalized, or homebound and would like to receive communion at home.



Ephesians 1:1-14

Salutation / Spiritual Blessings in Christ

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are in Ephesus and are faithful in Christ Jesus: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory. Praise be to God always!

Luke 1:39-45

During those days Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."

Announcement Corner

1– Friday December 8 is the **Feast of the Immaculate conception**, a holy day of obligation.
Liturgy will be celebrated on Thursday 12/7 at 7:00pm in the Church.

2– **Christmas Parish dinner:** Saturday December 9.

3- **Children Christmas Party:** Sunday December 17 after 10:30am liturgy.

Saint Joseph Annual Hafli: March 16, 2024.

4– **Christmas weekend schedule**

Saturday 12/23 Genealogy of Jesus 4:00pm

Sunday 12/24 Genealogy of Jesus 8:30 and 10:30am

Christmas Eve 4:00pm

Monday 12/25 **Christmas Day** 8:30am and 10:30am

5– **New year weekend schedule** Saturday 12/30 4:00pm

Sunday 12/31 8:30am and 10:30am

Monday January 1, 2024 8:30 am and 10:30am

Members of the Holy Rosary Sodality will pray the Holy Rosary on Saturday Dec. 2 at 3:30pm.

12/2 4:00pm	Forty day liturgy for Donald Solomon, Sr. , requested by his children Donald and Cheryl, and their loving family, followed by a Mercy Meal in the Church Hall.
12/3 8:30am 10:30am	Memorial anniversary liturgy for Owen Bingham , requested by his loving family. Forty Day liturgy for John Dougherty , requested by his friends.
12/7 7:00pm	Memorial liturgy for Maria Verdugo and Francisco Covarrubias , requested by their daughter Monica Loskoutov.
12/9 4:00pm	One year anniversary for Anthony Budway , requested by his wife Maureen, his children, his grandchildren, and his Great grandchildren.
12/10 8:30am 10:30am	Remembrance liturgy for Ernest Mari , requested by Maria and Jim Penta. Twenty year anniversary for Elias Saab and the deceased members of the Saabs and Atallah families, requested by his loving family. Memorial liturgy for Father Jean Ledu and Lucienne Moraille , and all deceased members of the Chancy family , requested by Marie Chancy.
12/16 4:00pm	Memorial liturgy for Peter and Mary Michael, and Richard Solomon , requested by their loving family. In honor of the Immaculate Conception and for the deceased members of the Holy Rosary Sodality.
12/17 8:30am 10:30am	Memorial liturgy for Mildred Rocchio , requested by her loving family. In memory of our mother and grandmother Melda (Milada) Roukos DiLullo , and our grandson and nephew Joseph Barish , requested by their loving family.
12/23 4:00pm	Eleventh anniversary liturgy for Samira Thomas , requested by her loving family.
12/24 8:30am 10:30am 4:00pm	Memorial liturgy for Donald Solomon , requested by James and Joan Salem. Christmas Eve
12/25 8:30am 10:30am	Christmas Day
12/30 4:00pm	
12/31 8:30am 10:30am	Memorial liturgy for Ernest Mari JR. , requested by Patricia and Gino Rebussini.

Please join Saint George Maronite Church to celebrate a full of fun

CHRISTMAS DINNER PARTY

1493 Cranston Street, Cranston RI 02920

Saturday December 9, 2023

Live Entertainment by

Nadim Bourjeili

Cocktail hour

Lebanese Mezza

at 6:30pm

Dinner at 7:00pm

Homemade Lebanese and

American food

Cash bar, raffle

Church Hall



Tickets:

\$50 person

\$75 VIP

For reservation please

Elias Ayoub 401-714-6100

Chris Thomas 401-339-9943

50% of the proceeds will go to help our needy families in Lebanon. The rest will support our parish operational expenses.



PARISH REGISTRATION - Many of our parishioners are still not registered with us. Please take a moment and register. Help us to better communicate with you, by filling out the form in the back of the church and returning it to us at your earliest convenience.

كثرت من أسماء و عناوين عائلات رعيتنا غير موجودون في سجلات الكنيسة. نحن بحاجة لتعاونكم من خلال تسجيل الاسم، العنوان، رقم الهاتف، والعنوان البريدي من خلال تعبئة الطلبات الموجودة على باب الكنيسة و تسليمها لنا بعد القداس او ارسالها في البريد.



"Gathered in the one spirit, breathing as though with two lungs – of the East and of the West – and burning with the love of Christ in one heart – having two ventricles."

(Sacri Canones; Pope John Paul II)

DID YOU KNOW that for Catholics united with the Pope in Rome, there is an amazing unity even within the reality of cultural diversity? The **Catholic Church**, comprised of **21 Eastern Churches and 1 Western Church** (Latin Rite Roman Catholic), is a communion of Churches, with the Pope as the visible head. One of the Eastern Catholic Churches is the Maronite Church. She has Her own hierarchy composed of a Patriarch, who is Her father and head, and over forty Bishops who shepherd the many Eparchies (Dioceses) in Lebanon, the Middle East, and throughout the world. The Patriarch governs the Church in a synodal manner with his body of bishops as is customary in the Eastern Churches. Each Catholic Church practices a common faith according to one of the six major traditions.

The Maronite Church follows the Antiochene Tradition. All Churches within the communion of Catholic Churches share the same:

**Dogmatic Faith. Seven Mysteries (Sacraments). Moral Teachings.
Unity with the Pope of Rome.**

All Catholics believe the same truths of the faith, yet worship differently. One could say they share the same essence of faith, but have a different expression of that faith. Each Church embraces its own culture and tradition to express Her faith in Jesus the Risen Lord. Each of the Catholic Churches: Encompasses a unique liturgy, theology, spirituality and discipline; Is characterized by Her own cultural and linguistic tradition; Is guided by a Patriarch, Major Archbishop, Metropolitan or other hierarchy, who along with their Synod of Bishops are in full communion with the Pope, the Successor of Saint Peter in Rome.



**"JOY, PRAYER, AND GRATITUDE
ARE THREE WAYS THAT
PREPARE US TO EXPERIENCE
CHRISTMAS IN AN
AUTHENTIC WAY."**

Pope Francis

Aleteia

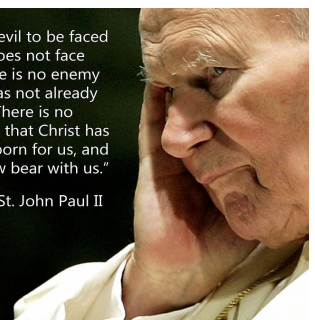
"To believe in Jesus is to accept what he says, even when it runs contrary to what others are saying. It means rejecting the lure of sin, however attractive it may be, in order to set out on the difficult path of the Gospel virtues."

- Pope Saint John Paul II



"There is no evil to be faced that Christ does not face with us. There is no enemy that Christ has not already conquered. There is no cross to bear that Christ has not already borne for us, and does not now bear with us."

St. John Paul II



Ten Lessons from this week's Gospel

1. **The Power of Obedience:** Mary's immediate response to the angel's message demonstrates obedience to God's will. Her journey to visit Elizabeth underscores the importance of promptly responding to God's call in our lives.
2. **Community and Support:** Mary seeks out Elizabeth, her relative, for support and understanding. This emphasizes the importance of community and sharing our spiritual journeys with others who can provide encouragement and wisdom.
3. **Recognition of the Divine in Others:** Elizabeth recognizes the divine presence in Mary and her unborn child. This teaches us to see and acknowledge the work of God in the lives of those around us, celebrating their unique roles in God's plan.
4. **The Joy of Christ's Presence:** John the Baptist leaps for joy in Elizabeth's womb at the presence of Jesus. This teaches us about the transformative and joyous effect of encountering Christ, even in the earliest stages of His earthly existence.
5. **Interconnectedness of God's Plan:** The meeting of Mary and Elizabeth underscores the interconnectedness of God's redemptive plan. It shows how different individuals play vital roles in the unfolding of God's purposes.
6. **The Importance of Humility:** Mary's humble acceptance of her role in God's plan is evident in her actions and words. Her humility serves as a model for us to accept and embrace God's will with humility and grace.
7. **The Role of the Holy Spirit:** Elizabeth is filled with the Holy Spirit, emphasizing the role of the Holy Spirit in guiding, empowering, and revealing God's truth to us.
8. **Blessings Flow from Faith:** Elizabeth's blessing of Mary is rooted in Mary's faith. This teaches us that blessings flow from a genuine and steadfast trust in God's promises.
9. **Prophetic Utterances:** Elizabeth's words contain a prophetic dimension, foreshadowing the roles of Mary and her child in God's plan of salvation. It highlights how God uses individuals to speak His truth and prepare the way for His purposes.
10. **The Value of Patient Waiting:** Elizabeth and Mary both experienced a period of waiting before the fulfillment of God's promises. This teaches us about the value of patient waiting, trusting that God's timing is perfect and that His promises will be fulfilled.

For the word of God is alive and active.
Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates
even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow;
it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12

