

Saint George Maronite Catholic Church

رعية مار جرجس المارونية

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Office: 401-723 8444



December 17, 2023

Revelation to Joseph

Ephesians 3:1-13

Paul's Ministry to the Gentiles

Brothers and Sisters:

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles — for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him. I pray therefore that you may not lose heart over my sufferings for you; they are your glory. Praise be to God always!

Matthew 1:18-25

Revelation to Joseph

The Apostle said:

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus. This is the truth. Peace be with you.

Meet Your Clergy

Rev. Tony Saab, Pastor
frtonysaab@gmail.com
401-400 1441 (Urgent calls)

Farid Zaarour, Deacon
ffzaarour@yahoo.com

Weekly collections

Saturday 04:00pm
\$1449.00

Sunday
08:30am \$470.00
10:30am \$316.00

Second Collection: \$556.00

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**

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

(Hall rental is available)

Reconciliation:

One hour before liturgies, or by appointment

Anointing of the Sick:

Please notify the Rectory if a member of your family is ill, hospitalized, or homebound and would like to receive Holy Communion at home.

Please join us every night starting Friday
December 15 to December 24 for the
CHRISTMAS NOVENA تساعية الميلاد
7:00pm



Saint George Maronite Catholic Church
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stgeorgeri.com

Subscribe to our Parish **You Tube** Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/@saintgeorge7066/streams>

Like our Parish **facebook** page

<https://www.facebook.com/stgeorgemaronitecatholicchurchRI>

New!! Follow us on **Instagram**



Christmas/ New Year 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

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

Sunday 12/31 8:30am and 10:30am
Monday January 1, 2024 10:30am

Liturgical Intentions

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	Twenty year Anniversary for Elias Saab and the deceased members of the Saab and Atallah families, requested by their loving families.
12/31 8:30am 10:30am	Memorial liturgy for Ernest Mari JR. , requested by Patricia and Gino Rebussini.
1/1/2024 10:30am	New Year! World Peace Day/ Circumcision of the Lord
1/6/24 4:00pm	FEAST OF THE GLORIOUS EPIPHANY One Year anniversary for Michael J Michael, Jr. requested by Brenda Travers
1/7/24 8:30am 10:30am	Birthday remembrance for David Bingham and Michael Bingham , requested by their loving families. One year anniversary for Adel Shalhoub , requested by his son Tony and Joelle, followed by a mercy meal in the Church hall.
1/13/24 4:00pm	Memorial liturgy for Donald and MaryAnn Solomon , requested by RoseAnn Constantine.
1/14/24 8:30am 10:30am	

Ten Lessons from this week's Gospel

Divine Intervention: The story underscores the concept of divine intervention in human affairs. The angelic visitation to Joseph highlights that God actively participates in and directs the course of human history.

Faithfulness of Joseph: Joseph's initial decision to quietly divorce Mary reflects his righteousness and adherence to the law. However, his subsequent obedience to the angelic message demonstrates his willingness to trust and obey God even in challenging circumstances.

Fulfillment of Prophecy: The angel emphasizes that the events surrounding Jesus' birth fulfill the prophecy of Isaiah 7:14, highlighting the importance of recognizing and understanding the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies in the life of Jesus.

Naming of Jesus: The angel instructs Joseph to name the child Jesus, which means "God saves." This underscores the central mission of Jesus—to save humanity from sin and bring reconciliation between God and humanity.

Immanuel - "God with Us": The prophecy from Isaiah 7:14 mentions the name Immanuel, meaning "God with us." This reinforces the idea that Jesus is not just a human being but is also divine, emphasizing the incarnation of God.

Mary's Virginity: The angel confirms the miraculous nature of Jesus' conception, highlighting the virgin birth as a unique and significant aspect of the Messiah's arrival.

God's Sovereignty: The entire episode underscores God's sovereignty in orchestrating events to fulfill His purposes. Despite human plans and expectations, God's divine plan prevails.

Responsibility and Role of Fathers: Joseph's role as a guardian and father figure to Jesus is established in this revelation. It emphasizes the importance of fathers in the family unit and the upbringing of children.

Obedience to Divine Instructions: Joseph's immediate and complete obedience to the angel's instructions reflects the importance of trusting and following God's guidance, even when it seems counterintuitive or challenging.

God's Presence in Difficult Circumstances: Joseph's acceptance of Mary and his willingness to raise Jesus as his own child in challenging circumstances illustrate the idea that God's presence can bring hope and purpose even in difficult situations.

A heartfelt THANK YOU to all who worked hard, donated, and attended our Parish Christmas dinner. It was a great successful event, generating a net income of \$8,476.

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، و العنوان 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.

*IN THE TRUE HOLIDAY SPIRIT OF
CHARITY AND KINDNESS*

*The Holy Rosary Sodality
and
St. George's Church
Invites you to*

*Lets Help
Children in Need*

*This
CHRISTMAS*

*WE WILL BE ACCEPTING
GIFT CARDS OR MONETARY
DONATIONS*

**Checks made payable to
St. George*

**Donations will be accepted until Christmas Eve*



The
CREATOR'S
TOY CHEST

JOHN 1:6-8, 19-28

WA _____ VO _____
MA _____ WILDE _____
_____ ONE _____ RD
_____ IGH _____ LING

"I AM THE ' _____ ICE OF
SOME _____ CAL _____
IN THE _____ RNESS:
_____ KE STRA _____
THE _____ Y FOR THE LO _____."

[Answer: "I am the voice of someone calling in the wilderness. Make straight the way for the Lord."]



WWW.CREATORSTOYCHEST.COM

ILLUSTRATED BY JAMES KOENIG - WWW.FREELANCEFRIDGE.COM

JOHN WAS PREPARING THE WAY FOR JESUS, WHO WOULD SOON FOLLOW HIM.

Draw a path from Jesus to John the Baptist.

MESSAGE

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A 5x8 grid of dots. There are 5 rows and 8 columns of dots, totaling 40 dots. The dots are arranged in a regular grid pattern.