



Saint George Maronite Catholic Church

رعية مار جرجس المارونية

1493 Cranston Street, Cranston, RI

Church office: 401-723 8444

Email: stgeorgeri@gmail.com

Website: www.stgeorgeri.com

March 8, 2026

Parable of the Prodigal Son

*"I have sinned against
Heaven and against you"*

(Lk 15:21)

2 Corinthians 13:5-13

Examine yourselves to see whether you are living in faith. Test yourselves. Do you not realize that Jesus Christ is in you?--unless, of course, you fail the test. I hope you will discover that we have not failed. But we pray to God that you may not do evil, not that we may appear to have passed the test but that you may do what is right, even though we may seem to have failed. For we cannot do anything against the truth, but only for the truth. For we rejoice when we are weak but you are strong. What we pray for is your improvement. I am writing this while I am away, so that when I come I may not have to be severe in virtue of the authority that the Lord has given me to build up and not to tear down. Finally, brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the holy ones greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the holy Spirit be with all of you.

Luke 15:11-32

Then he said, "A man had two sons, and the younger son said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of your estate that should come to me.' So the father divided the property between them. After a few days, the younger son collected all his belongings and set off to a distant country where he squandered his inheritance on a life of dissipation. When he had freely spent everything, a severe famine struck that country, and he found himself in dire need. So he hired himself out to one of the local citizens who sent him to his farm to tend the swine. And he longed to eat his fill of the pods on which the swine fed, but nobody gave him any. Coming to his senses he thought, 'How many of my father's hired workers have more than enough food to eat, but here am I, dying from hunger. I shall get up and go to my father and I shall say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers."' So he got up and went back to his father. While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him. His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son.' But his father ordered his servants, 'Quickly bring the finest robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Take the fattened calf and slaughter it. Then let us celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again; he was lost, and has been found.' Then the celebration began. Now the older son had been out in the field and, on his way back, as he neared the house, he heard the sound of music and dancing. He called one of the servants and asked what this might mean. The servant said to him, 'Your brother has returned and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.' He became angry, and when he refused to enter the house, his father came out and pleaded with him. He said to his father in reply, 'Look, all these years I served you and not once did I disobey your orders; yet you never gave me even a young goat to feast on with my friends. But when your son returns who swallowed up your property with prostitutes, for him you slaughter the fattened calf.' He said to him, 'My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours. But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.'"



He said to his father in reply, 'Look, all these years I served you and not once did I disobey your orders; yet you never gave me even a young goat to feast on with my friends. But when your son returns who swallowed up your property with prostitutes, for him you slaughter the fattened calf.' He said to him, 'My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours. But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.'"

Liturgical Intentions

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|-----------------------------|--|
| 3/7 4:00 pm | Memorial liturgy for all the Faithful departed registered in the book of “Remember me in your Kingdom” . |
| 3/8 8:30 am 10:30 am | Twenty-eighth year anniversary liturgy for David Bingham , requested by his loving family. Forty-day memorial liturgy for Bernard Dilullo Sr. , requested by his loving family. |
| 3/14 4:00 pm | Thirtieth birthday liturgy for Alexandria M Saker , requested by her loving family. |
| 3/15 8:30 am 10:30 am | Tenth anniversary liturgy for Micheal Bingham , requested by his loving family. |
| 3/21 4:00 pm | Memorial liturgy for Antoine Barkett , requested by his loving wife and family, and a memorial liturgy for Majid and Alice Farhat requested by their loving family. |
| 3/22 8:30 am 10:30 am | Memorial liturgy for Jay Caron , requested by his loving family. |
| 3/28 4:00 pm | Forty-day liturgy for Ranzel Ramos , requested by his loving family. |
| 3/29 8:30 am 10:30 am | Palm Sunday/ Hosanna Sunday |
| 4/4 4:00 pm | The Glorious Resurrection of the Lord |
| 4/5 8:30 am 10:30 am | Feast of the GLORIOUS RESURRECTION OF THE LORD |

Meet Your Clergy

Fr. Tony Saab, Pastor
frtonysaab@gmail.com

Deacon Farid Zaarour
fzaarour@yahoo.com

Liturgical Schedule

Thursday and Friday

10:00 am

Saturday 4:00 pm

Sunday 8:30 am (Latin
rite)

10:30 am

Exposition of the Holy Eucharist

Thursday 6:00 pm– 8:00
pm

Office Hours:

Mon, Weds, Thurs, and
Friday by appointment.

401-7238444

email:

stgeorgeril@gmail.com

Jihane Ayoub
Office assistant
administrator

Meet our parish teams

Finance Team

Elias Ayoub
Bernie DiLullo
Saba Khoury
Nancy Pasquierello
Anthony Rebello
Tony Simon
Christopher Thomas

Pastoral Team

Peter Abashkroun
Jason Gebara
Marie-Line Raheb
Hannah Saleeba

We celebrate the **Feast of Saint Joseph** this month on March 19. He was not famous. He did not give speeches. He did not stand in the spotlight. He was just a hardworking man trying to take care of his family and do what God asked of him.

Joseph did not have all the answers. When he first learned that Mary was with child, he must have felt confused, hurt, and overwhelmed. When the angel appeared to him, he had a choice. He could walk away. Instead, he chose trust. He chose courage. He chose love.

Many of us can relate to that. We all face moments we did not plan for. Situations we do not fully understand. Responsibilities that feel heavy. Saint Joseph reminds us that holiness is often found right there, in those moments. Not in big dramatic gestures, but in steady faithfulness. Joseph got up in the middle of the night to protect his family and flee to Egypt. He worked long hours as a carpenter. He quietly provided for Mary and Jesus. No applause. No recognition. Just daily sacrifice.

That is why he speaks so powerfully to fathers, workers, and anyone carrying quiet responsibilities. He shows us that being strong does not mean being loud. It means being dependable. It means showing up. It means protecting the people God has placed in your life.

On this feast, we are invited to ask Saint Joseph for one simple grace: the grace to trust God even when you do not see the whole picture. The grace to stay faithful in your daily duties. The grace to lead your family with love and humility.

Saint Joseph, teach us how to be steady. Teach us how to be brave in quiet ways. Pray for our families and for our parish.

And help us say yes to God, even when it costs us something.



Sacraments

Baptism & Confirmation

One month in advance with the Pastor.

Matrimony:

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

Reconciliation:

One hour before liturgies, or by appointment.
Please call the church office or email frtony-
saab@gmail.com

Anointing of the Sick:

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

***“Whatever you do, do
everything for the glory
of God.”***

1 Corinthians 10:31



Announcement corner

- ◇ Join the *Knights of Columbus* prayer meeting every third Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm.
- ◇ Join the parish young adults *pray the Holy Rosary* every First Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm.
- ◇ Saturday March 21: *Saint Joseph Hafli*
- ◇ March 30: *Holy Week*
- ◇ Sunday April 5: *The Glorious Resurrection of the Lord*
- ◇ Sunday April 19: *First Communion*
- ◇ Thursday April 23: *Feast of Saint George*

Stations and Benediction of the Holy Cross درب الصليب

Every Friday 7:00 pm



Weekly Collections

\$1,528.00

Thank you for your great generosity!



Young Adults Bible Study



Join us every other Thursday

March 26, 2026

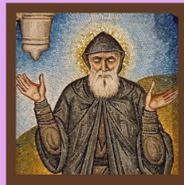
7:30 pm

In the Church Hall

All adults are welcome!

GREAT LENT:

ACCORDING TO OUR MARONITE
LITURGY, SAINTS & TRADITION



Maronite Faith Formation Sessions at 8pm:

February 19- First Pillar: Prayer
(Bishop Gregory Mansour)

February 26- Second Pillar: Fasting
(Fr. Rabi Aoun)

March 5- Third Pillar: Almsgiving
(Fr. Vincent Farhat)



To register scan
QR Code

Hosted by the Maronite Servants of
Christ the Light in conjunction with the
St. Sharbel Spiritual Life Center.

LENT

PRAYING

FASTING

ALMSGIVING

2026 NATIONAL MYO CONFERENCE

SAVE THE DATES

JUN
23

JUN
28

ChatGOD
THE ANSWERS YOU NEED



UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON

SAINT GEORGE MARONITE
CATHOLIC CHURCH
CRANSTON, RHODE ISLAND

77TH ANNUAL ST JOSEPH'S HAFLI

SATURDAY | MARCH 21, 2026

WITH STAR
ANDRE
IBRAHIM



Grand Raffle
With
CASH PRIZES
DRAWING DURING
EVENT

ST SHARBEL CENTER

300 N Eastern Ave, Fall River, MA 02723

Doors Open at 7 pm
Mezza and Dinner Included
CASH BAR

TICKETS
\$100 | \$150
REG | VIP

FOR TICKETS CALL

Rachel Nassif 401-359-6005 | George Thomas 401-480-8812
Church Office 401-723-8444

Pope Leo's Advice for Lent



I would like to invite you to a very practical and frequently unappreciated form of abstinence: that of refraining from words that offend and hurt our neighbor.

Let us begin by disarming our language, avoiding harsh words and rash judgement, refraining from slander and speaking ill of those who are not present and cannot defend themselves. Instead, let us strive to measure our words and cultivate kindness and respect in our families, among our friends, at work, on social media, in political debates, in the media and in Christian communities. In this way, words of hatred will give way to words of hope and peace.



**“Thank you to those who have already stepped forward.
Your generosity leads the way.”**

Saint Joseph Hafli is one of the most beautiful traditions of our parish. For 77 years, generations before us carried it with pride and sacrifice. This year, we are asking for something simple but powerful: that every family participate at some level. If each household does something, no matter how small, we will not only meet our goal, but we will also strengthen our unity.



Purchase a Grand Raffle
Ticket



Participation is simple:

- Repeat last year’s ad
- Sponsor in memory of loved ones
- Place a family blessing line
- Support as a business

“This Hafli is not about ads. It is about saying: this is my parish.”

ST. GEORGE MARONITE CATHOLIC CHURCH
 1493 Cranston Street, Cranston, RI 02920 • 401-723-8444
77th ANNUAL SAINT JOSEPH HAFLI
Program Book Form 2026
Saturday, March 21, 2026, St. Sharbel Maronite Center, Fall River, MA

Specifications: 8½ × 11

Type of Ad & Cost:
Benefactor (Gold Border, Color) – \$250.00
Patron (Silver Border, Black & White) – \$100.00

Premium Placements:
Back Cover – \$1,000.00 **Inside Front Cover** – \$600.00 **Inside Back Cover** – \$600.00

Please attach ad text or business card. Memorial ads: email or mail photo and prepared text.

Contacts:
 Elizabeth Saldana, lizdilullo@gmail.com
 Alexa Stufano, alexa.stufano@gmail.com

Repeat same ad as last year

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Type of Ad: _____ Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Circle: VISA MasterCard AMEX 

Name on Card: _____ Card #: _____

Exp: ____ / ____ CVV: _____

Checks payable to: St. George Maronite Catholic Church
DEADLINE: Monday, March 16, 2026

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1493 Cranston Street, Cranston, RI 02920 • 401-723-8444

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Elizabeth Saldana, lizdilullo@gmail.com

Alexa Stufano, alexa.stufano@gmail.com

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Checks payable to: St. George Maronite Catholic Church

DEADLINE: Monday, March 16, 2026



EPARCHY OF SAINT MARON OF BROOKLYN

Office of the Bishop

109 Remsen Street

Brooklyn, New York 11201-4212

Tel: (718)-237-9913 Fax: (718)-243-0444

chancery@stmaron.org www.stmaron.org

Lent 2026

Prot. No. 011 S / 26

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we prepare for the joy of the Resurrection during Holy Lent, I invite you to reflect upon Saint Francis' prayer, sacrifice and love for the poor as Pope Leo XIV proclaimed 2026 a special Jubilee Year in remembrance of the 800th anniversary of his death. Although most of us will not live out radical poverty like Saint Francis, we can still participate in his profound accompaniment and charity towards others by making a sacrificial gift.

Your generosity assists the many people suffering here and around the world (especially in Lebanon, Syria and the Holy Land). I hope you will consider making the Eparchy a part of your Lenten sacrifice, as we rely upon your generosity to serve the faithful in the Eparchy and the Middle East.

Your gift to this year's Annual Lenten Appeal will support:

- **Seminarians:** We currently have three excellent men preparing for the priesthood. Our seminarians are our future; we need to educate them well so that they can minister effectively as priests someday. The costs of Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Seminary are about \$450,000 per year. **40% of your contribution to this year's Annual Appeal will go for Seminarians.**
- **Ministries:** Our outreach to youth, young people, the elderly, families, and in defense of life from conception to natural death, helps people at the most crucial times in their lives. You can ensure that the Eparchy continues this important work. **20% of your contribution will go to support Ministries.**
- **Retired Priests:** The Eparchy's 14 retired priests served the faithful well. We help them with a modest pension each month. **20% of your contribution will support Retired Priests.**
- **Help for Lebanon and the Middle East:** The Eparchy has provided an unprecedented amount of support to help in Lebanon and the Middle East over the past few years. We can never forget the homeland of our Maronite Church. **10% of your contribution will support Christians in Lebanon and the Middle East.**
- **Endowment:** The Eparchy's Endowment Fund supports today's needs and ensures the Eparchy will have resources in the future. **10% of your contribution will be deposited into the Eparchy's Endowment.**

Please open your heart once again and make a gift. Your participation in this Appeal impacts the lives of many people, both inside the Eparchy, and in the Middle East. Any gift will be appreciated. Please visit <http://www.stmaron.org/lenten-appeal> for more information.

Thank you, and may God bless you for your generosity! I wish you a blessed Lent and Easter.

Gratefully yours in Christ,

+ Gregory

+ Gregory J. Mansour

PS: Please also consider remembering the Eparchy and your parish in your estate plan, or as the beneficiary of an insurance policy, retirement plan or charitable gift annuity. Thank you.



Eparchy of Saint
Maron of Brooklyn

Lent



To Whom Much Is Given, Much Is Required

In this Gospel, Jesus speaks about a servant who is trusted with responsibility while the master is away. The servant is not praised for being impressive or powerful. He is praised for being *faithful*. For simply doing what he was asked to do, with honesty and care.

This speaks to the heart of our parish life. Many of you quietly serve every week. Some teach our children. Some help with the finances. Some clean the church. Some show up just to pray.

These are not small things. These are acts of love and stewardship.

Jesus is reminding us that what we have is not only a gift. It is also a responsibility. If God has given us time, health, influence, or knowledge, He expects us to use it for good. Not later. Not when it is convenient. But faithfully and consistently.

The Lord sees the effort that others may never notice. He sees the sacrifice. He sees the willingness to care for His house and His people. And He promises that those who are faithful in small things will be entrusted with greater things in His Kingdom.

Let us ask for the grace to stay faithful in whatever God has placed in our hands. Whether it is raising our children, serving in a ministry, or simply living our faith with integrity. What matters most to the Lord is not how much we do, but how faithfully we do it.

And today, He gently reminds us that our faithfulness truly matters.