Saint George Maronite Catholic Church

رعية مار جرجس المارونية

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June 25, 2023

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost. FEAST OF STS. PETER AND PAUL

Philippians 3:7-14 (But) whatever gains I had, these I have come to consider a loss because of Christ. More than that, I even consider everything as a loss because of the supreme good of knowing Chris Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have accepted the loss of all things and I consider them so much rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having any righteousness of my own based on the law but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God, depending on faith to know him and the power of his resurrection and (the) sharing of his sufferings by being conformed to his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. It is not that I have already taken hold of it or have already attained perfect maturity, but I continue my pursuit in hope that I may possess it, since I have indeed been taken possession of by Christ (Jesus). Brothers, I for my part do not consider myself to have taken possession. Just one thing: forgetting what lies behind but straining forward to what lies ahead, I continue my pursuit toward the goal, the prize of God's upward calling, in Christ Jesus.

Matthew 10:1-7

Then he summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits to drive them out and to cure every disease and every illness. The names of the

them out and to cure every disease and every illness. The names of the	
twelve apostles are these: first, Simon called Peter, and his brother An- drew; James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bar- tholomew, Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James, the son of Al- phaeus, and Thaddeus; Simon the Cananean, and Judas Iscariot who be- trayed him. Jesus sent out these twelve after instructing them thus, "Do not go into pagan territory or enter a Samaritan town. Go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, make this proclamation: 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.'	Lectors schedule (10:30am) Arabic: Nada Harb English: Rachel Nassif
SACRAMENTSBaptism & Confirmation: One month in advance with the Pastor.Suggested Donation: One month in advance with the Pastor.Suggested Donation: Church: Free WillMatrimony: Arrangements should be made by couples six months prior to thewedding date. Suggested Donation: Church \$500. Priest: Free WillReconciliation:One hour before liturgies, or by appointmentAnointing of the Sick:Please notify the Rectory if a member of your family is ill, hospitalized,or homebound and would like to receive communion at home.	<u>Meet Your Clergy</u> Fr. Tony Saab Pastor frtonysaab@gmail.com Farid Zaarour Deacon

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 (Roman rite) 10:30 am

Exposition of the Holy Eucharist Every Thursday 6:00pm

Weekly collections Saturday \$450.00 Sunday 08:30am \$682.00 10:30am \$785.00 The Church Hall is available for rent for all types of events. Suggested donations are \$300 for parishioners, \$500 for non-parishioners. Please email the office.

GEI

READY

Reach us at!

+1 570 344 2129

St. Ann Maronite Church, Scranton PA

North-Mountain-sea

10 Days Night

Date: Sep 20 - Oct 1-2023

Your **donation** to your church is an act of Faith and commitment to support the gospel of Christ and the ministry of His Church. It is an opportunity for you to contribute from the work of your hands back to God, the source of all blessings.



Scan. Pay. Go.

40 Day Liturgies

are considered a priority. When necessary, they will be scheduled with other previously reserved intentions.

Please let us know if you would like to receive Budget Envelopes by emailing the church office. We will gladly provide it to your home address.

> The opportunity to travel to Lebanon is here! Our sister parish in Scranton, PA has asked us to join them from Sept. 20 to Oct. 1, 2023. Cost is \$3200 (Double occupancy), \$3600 (single occupancy), plus airfare from Boston-Beirut. Please contact St Ann Church or our church office for more information.



Liturgical Intentions	
6/24	
4:00pm	
6/25	
8:30am	Six year memorial for Angelina Vitulli, requested by her loving family.
10:30am	Memorial liturgy for Elias, Rached, and Geryes Saab, requested by their loving family.
7/1	
4:00pm	Memorial liturgy for Michael and Ann Michael, and Michael and
	Mary Michael, requested by their loving family.
7/2	
8:30am	
10:30pm	Memorial liturgy for Alice Boutros Habice, requested by the HRS
7/8	Birthday remembrance of Mary Ann Solomon, requested by her loving
4:00pm	husband Donald and his family
7/9	
8:30am	Forty day liturgy for John Vituli , requested by his loving family.
10:30am	

Lessons from this Sunday's Gospel of Matthew 10:1-7

- 1- *The Authority of Jesus*: Our Lord grants His disciples authority over unclean spirits, enabling them to cast them out and heal various diseases. This highlights Jesus' divine power and His ability to delegate authority to His disciples.
- 2- *The Call to Ministry*: Jesus sends out His disciples, instructing them to go to the lost sheep of Israel and proclaim the message that the kingdom of heaven is at hand. This demonstrates the importance of actively sharing the good news and extending the invitation to enter into a relationship with God. All of us are called by name for ministry.
- 3- Dependence on God's Provision: Jesus advises His disciples not to take gold, silver, or extra garments, but to rely on the hospitality of others. This teaches us to trust in God's provision and to focus on our mission and ministry rather than material possessions.
- 4- *Faithfulness and Perseverance*: Jesus warns His disciples (and us) of the challenges they may encounter, including persecution and opposition. He encourages them to remain steadfast, not to fear, and to trust that God will provide wisdom and guidance in difficult situations.





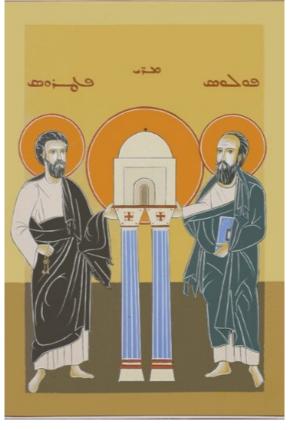
Feast of Saints Peter and Paul

On June 29 the Church celebrates the feast day of Saints. Peter and Paul. As early as the year 258, there is evidence of an already lengthy tradition of celebrating the solemnities of both Saint Peter and Saint Paul on the same day. Together, the two saints are the founders of the See of Rome, through their preaching, ministry and martyrdom there.

Peter, who was named Simon, was a fisherman of Galilee and was introduced to the Lord Jesus by his brother Andrew, also a fisherman. Jesus gave him the name Cephas (Petrus in Latin), which means 'Rock,' because he was to become the rock upon which Christ would build His Church.

Peter was a bold follower of the Lord. He was the first to recognize that Jesus was "the Messiah, the Son of the living God," and eagerly pledged his fidelity until death. In his boldness, he also made many mistakes, however, such as losing faith when walking on water with Christ and betraying the Lord on the night of His passion.

Yet despite his human weaknesses, Peter was chosen to shepherd God's flock. The Acts of the Apostles illustrates his role as head of the Church after the



Resurrection and Ascension of Christ. Peter led the Apostles as the first Pope and ensured that the disciples kept the true faith.

St. Peter spent his last years in Rome, leading the Church through persecution and eventually being martyred in the year 64. He was crucified upside-down at his own request, because he claimed he was not worthy to die as his Lord. He was buried on Vatican hill, and St. Peter's Basilica is built over his tomb.

St. Paul was the Apostle of the Gentiles. His letters are included in the writings of the New Testament, and through them we learn much about his life and the faith of the early Church. Before receiving the name Paul, he was Saul, a Jewish pharisee who zealously persecuted Christians in Jerusalem. Scripture records that Saul was present at the martyrdom of St. Stephen. Saul's conversion took place as he was on his way to Damascus to persecute the Christian community there. As he was traveling along the road, he was suddenly surrounded by a great light from heaven. He was blinded and fell off his horse. He then heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He answered: "Who are you, Lord?" Christ said: "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting."

Saul continued to Damascus, where he was baptized and his sight was restored. He took the name Paul and spent the remainder of his life preaching the Gospel tirelessly to the Gentiles of the Mediterranean world.

Paul was imprisoned and taken to Rome, where he was beheaded in the year 67. He is buried in Rome in the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls.

In a sermon in the year 395, St. Augustine of Hippo said of Sts. Peter and Paul: "Both apostles share the same feast day, for these two were one; and even though they suffered on different days, they were as one. Peter went first, and Paul followed. And so we celebrate this day made holy for us by the apostles' blood. Let us embrace what they believed, their life, their labors, their sufferings, their preaching, and their confession of faith."