



Saint George Maronite Catholic Church

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Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross

09/12/ 2021

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written: "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the learning of the learned I will set aside." Where is the wise one? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made the wisdom of the world foolish? For since in the wisdom of God the world did not come to know God through wisdom, it was the will of God through the foolishness of the



proclamation to save those who have faith. For Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are called, Jews and Greeks alike, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

John 12:20-32

Now there were some Greeks among those who had come up to worship at the feast. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we would like to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will preserve it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be. The Father will honor whoever serves me. "I am troubled now. Yet what should I say? 'Father, save me from this hour?' But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it and will glorify it again." The crowd there heard it and said it was thunder; but others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered and said, "This voice did not come for my sake but for yours. Now is the time of judgment on this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself."

Mass Schedule

Saturday

4:00 pm

Sunday

8:30 am (Roman rite)

10:30 am (Maronite rite)

Meet Your Clergy

Fr. Tony Saab
Pastor

Farid Zaarour
Deacon

Weekly Collection

Sat 4:00pm \$597.00

Sun 8:30am \$438.00

Sun 10:30am \$538.00

Weekend Collections **\$1573.00**

Sacraments

Baptism and Confirmation:
Please contact the Priest for an appointment.

Reconciliation: Before or after Liturgy or by appointment.

Marriage: Couples must contact the Priest six months before the wedding.

Liturgical Intentions

ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM O LORD, and Let your perpetual Light shine upon them.

9/11 4:00pm	Memorial Liturgy for Nakhle Saker , requested by his loving wife and family
9/12 8:30am 10:30am	For the repose of the soul of Todd Mitchell and his mom Elizabeth, requested by his loving mother.
9/18 4:00pm	
9/19 8:30am 10:30am	40 Day Liturgy for James Maron , requested by his loving family
9/25 4:00pm	One Year Anniversary for Marco Paolo Thomas , requested by his loving family
9/26 8:30am 10:30am	Memorial Liturgy for Fred and Therese Tanury and RoseMarie and Jim Denuzio , requested by their loving family
10/2 4:00pm	5 year Memorial Liturgy for Josephine Harwood and 11 year Memorial Liturgy for Frank J. Viti , requested by their loving family
10/3 8:30am 10:30am	Memorial Liturgy for Marco Paolo Thomas , requested by his loving family 40 Year Anniversary Richard Rebello , and 20 Year Anniversary for Jeanette Rebello , requested by Kevin Sullivan and his family 40 Year Anniversary for Alice Osko , requested by her loving family
10/9 4:00pm	40 Day Liturgy for Mary Ann Solomon , requested by her loving family, followed by a mercy meal in the Church Hall.
10/10 8:30am 10:30am	Birthday remembrance Liturgy for Joseph J. Simon , requested by Terri Barkett
10/16 4:00pm	Anniversary memorial for Jeanette Campagnone , requested by her family
10/17 8:30am 10:30am	

Weekly Announcements

- **Our Pastoral team is always available to minister to your spiritual needs.** Please contact the Church office every time you or your loved ones are in need of a pastoral visit, Communion, or Anointing. We are here for Prayers and support! Please feel free to contact the office at 401-723-8444 or stgeorgeri1@gmail.com
- This Sunday and every Sunday, **Coffee and pastry** will be offered at the 10:30am Liturgy. We will have a **SUNDAY BREAKFAST** on every last Sunday of the month from 9am-12pm. Please let us know if your family would like to sponsor and host a Sunday Breakfast in memory of a loved one.
- Please join us for **Liturgy for Saint Charbel on Weds September 22, 7:00pm**, and every 22nd of the month.
- **All adults**, ages 18-40, are invited to join the MYA group (Maronite Youth Adults), **and all young adults**, ages 13-18 are invited to join the MYO (Maronite Youth Organization). Please contact the advisors or the Church office for more information.
- The **Holy Rosary Sodality** will host its in-person monthly meeting on Tuesday, September 14 at 7 PM in the church hall. Please join us as we continue our spiritual and social mission
- **Religious Education Classes** registration for ALL CLASSES has begun. Please email your Child's registration information (Name, age, grade, address, phone number, etc.), to the church office at stgeorgeri1@gmail.com. Thank you! ALSO, All children celebrating **FIRST COMMUNION** this year or are in Grade 2 are invited to register for preparation classes by emailing your information to the Church office at stgeorgeri1@gmail.com
- **WEARING A MASK INSIDE CHURCH IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**, Whether Vaccinated or not. It is Flu and Cold Season!!!! Please Stay home if you feel sick. Please stay well and healthy.

Live Streaming of Liturgies on Facebook

www.facebook.com/stgeorgemaronitecatholic-churchRI/

Second Collections

Sept. 12 Catholic University

Sept 19 Utility Fund

Oct 10 Fuel offering

THANK YOU!

Food . Bar . Live Music . Saji . Hookas . Raffles . Dancing

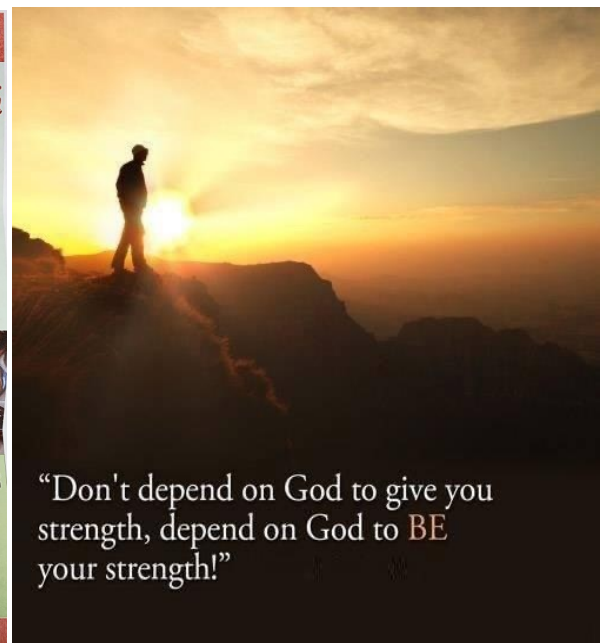
Our Lady Of Purgatory Church
Summer Lebanese Festival
Saturday, September 18, 2021
12:00PM - 11:00PM

Live Entertainment
George Maalouf and Band



Money Raffles Prizes
\$1,000 - \$500 - \$200
Drawing
Saturday, September 18, 2021
10:30PM

11 Franklin Street, New Bedford, MA 02740



"Don't depend on God to give you strength, depend on God to BE your strength!"

Eve of the Feast of the Glorious Cross

September 13th is the eve of the Feast of the Glorious Cross. The feast marks the beginning of the final liturgical season of the Maronite year.

The feast originated after Saint Helen found the True Cross of Christ when she was on a pilgrimage to the Holy land. Born in the 3rd Century, St Helen converted to Christianity and was the mother of the Emperor Constantine who was the first Christian Emperor of Rome.

In the Hoosoyo of the liturgy of the feast we are reminded that the Holy Cross is the instrument of our salvation. The instrument of death became the life-giving tree. The wood of Adam's tree of sin became Christ's tree of life.

Tradition has it, that after converting to Christianity, Saint Helen, the mother of Emperor Constantine, went on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem to search for the cross used in the Crucifixion. She positioned groups of believers on all of the hilltops between Constantinople and Jerusalem. During the search, she found three crosses down in the valley between the hills. To verify which Cross belonged to Jesus, Saint Helen brought sick people with her. Each sick person touched the crosses, and it was when the sick person touched the third one and was healed. That is how she knew it was the True Cross. She lit a bonfire as a signal which was then passed to Constantine with bonfires on all the hills.

In Maronite and Eastern Catholicism, on the night of the feast, huge bonfires and candles illuminate houses and villages as far as the eye can see, in Lebanon. Bonfires are lit on mountains and in villages, huge crosses with lights are hung and candles in sandbags are placed around the houses.

It is a wonderful tradition to teach our children and is one which you can prepare for the eve of the feast the night of 12 September. You can light candles and place them around your house and teach your children of the triumph of light over darkness! (From Livingmaronite.com)



What is the meaning of the Cross for you?

The cross is suffering. We're challenged to take up our own personal cross and carry it, to freely and willingly undergo the sacrifices we encounter in our ordinary existence. Accepting our cross, though, does not translate into tolerating abuse or oppression. Instead, it indicates we are to surrender our wants and wishes for the benefit of others and to humbly give of ourselves even when our desire might be to do otherwise.

The cross is death. A crucifix is a cross with Christ's body still hanging, beaten and defeated, from it. It highlights the death of Jesus. The fact that the cross is a form of execution is not glossed over or kept hidden. The spotlight in this scenario shines on the dying and remains on the torture and pain of Good Friday.

The cross is life. The cross also points to the resurrection of Easter Sunday, moving beyond the conquering of death to the triumphant promise of eternal life. This style of ornate décor does not display Jesus' physical body because the emphasis is that it cannot contain nor restrain Him.

The cross is hope. Being united and joined with Jesus is not reserved only for the next life but is for the here and now. It is a calling for us to decide to live as Christians and to trust in the promise that we will be given the strength to do so. It is a commitment to remain steadfast to our faith no matter how difficult the trials become. It is clinging to the belief that through the aid of the Lamb of God we, too, can endure and continue on like a lion.

The cross is identity. The cross serves as a reminder of these characteristics of our religion and functions as a representation to the world of who we are. It classifies us as followers of Christ. As the body of the church, we are to embody anything the cross is and everything that it stands for — to become so close and familiar with the cross that our words and actions ought to be constantly guided by it, while still remaining distant and foreign enough to it that we can recognize its freshness and innovativeness; to always have our gaze fixed upon it, but to never lose focus of its meaning.

