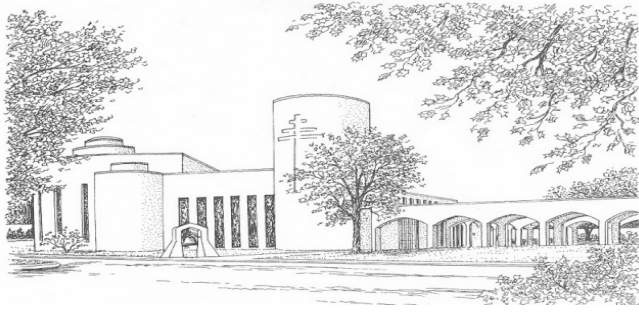


# SAINT GEORGE MARONITE CHURCH



*AN EASTERN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE  
WEST SYRIAC ANTIOCHENE TRADITION*

**Week of November 27, 2011**

**Visitation of the Virgin to Elizabeth**

**Religious Education & Bible Study**

Pre K - 12<sup>th</sup> grade-See bulletin for schedule

**Ladies Altar Society (LAS)**

See bulletin for schedule

**Maronite Youth Organization (MYO)**

See bulletin for schedule

**Adoration**

Tuesday 3:00 PM - 5:30 PM

**Mystery of Reconciliation (Confession)**

30 minutes before Liturgy and upon request

**Mystery of Baptism & Chrismation**

Parents and Godparents must meet with the pastor to make arrangements

**Mystery of Crowning (Marriage)**

Notify the pastor **ONE YEAR** in advance for the necessary arrangements

**Sick and Hospitalized**

Contact the pastor for visitation

**Memorial Sunday and Lebanese Luncheon**

Last Sunday at 11:00 AM

**Qurbono (Divine Liturgy) Regular Schedule:**

**Tuesday 5:30 PM,**

**Wednesday-Friday 12:00 Noon,**

**Saturday 5:00 PM**

**Sunday 8:00 AM & 11:00 AM**

**Saint George Maronite Catholic Church**

**6070 Babcock Road, San Antonio, TX 78240**

**Offices: (210) 690-9569 Fax: (210) 690-5093**

**[www.stgeorgesa.org](http://www.stgeorgesa.org)**

**Hall: (210) 696-5937 [www.stgeorgemaronitecenter.com](http://www.stgeorgemaronitecenter.com)**

**Fr. Ghassan Mattar, MLM – Pastor Ex. 101**

**E-mail: [pastor@stgeorgesa.org](mailto:pastor@stgeorgesa.org)**

**Fr. Charles Khachan, MLM - Assoc. Pastor Ex. 102**

**E-mail: [associate@stgeorgesa.org](mailto:associate@stgeorgesa.org)**

Robert Beathe-Webmaster/Usher Coordinator Ex. 100

Jo Ann Reed - Church Treasurer Ex. 103

K. T. Cockerell-Hall Manager Ex. 104

Deborah Mery Fernandez-Cultural Arts Director

Richard Karam-Church Attorney

Edward Karam-Church Realtor & Lector Coordinator

Sylvana Mery-Greeter Coordinator

Deborah Mery Fernandez-Altar Server Coordinator

Kathy Andera White-Archivist

Fernando Fernandez-Athletic Director Ex. 105

Sylvia Karam-MYA Spiritual Moderator

Marcel Noujeim-Parish Council President

Jamal Tawil-Stewardship Committee Chairman

Nancy Karam-LAS President

Patricia Karam-Scholarship Committee Chairman

Julie Mery, Julia Taylor, Alexis Haase, Gibran Mery-MYO Directors

Samantha Karam Naffah-MYA President

Sylvia Karam-Bereavement Tribute Committee Chairman

Michele Chebib-Religious Education Coordinator Ex.123

Julie Mery-Maronite Young at Heart Seniors Coordinator

Miriam Wells and Julie Mery-NAM Delegates

Dave Sweeney-Veterans Committee Chairman

***A Community of Prayer, Care and Friendship. Come and See!***

# Maronite Minute



**Visitation of the Virgin Mary to Elizabeth**

**November 27, 2011**

Maronites in the United States

## **Home Away from Home**

*By Chorbishop Seely Beggiani*

In the last two decades of the 19th century, Maronite Catholics had already established themselves on both coasts of the United States - indeed, throughout the country. Although some had come from Syria and other parts of the Middle East, most Maronites had arrived from Lebanon. Several factors had influenced their decision to emigrate to the New World. Lebanon in the late 19th century was ruled by pashas appointed by the Ottoman sultan. While some pashas were moderate, the repressive policies of others led to political, economic and religious tensions.

Although deeply attached to their native land, the Maronites had little reason to remain there. Between 1900 and 1914, one-fourth of Lebanon's population, about 100,000 people, most of them Christian, had emigrated, first to Egypt and later to all parts of the globe. Significant numbers left for Argentina, Australia, Canada, Central America and various parts of the African continent, especially South Africa. The largest number of Lebanese Christians settled in the U.S. and Brazil.

The Maronites, by far the largest Lebanese Christian community, trace their spiritual lineage to Saint Maron, a hermit of the fourth century noted for his spiritual wisdom and his gift of healing. After his death, St. Maron's followers established a monastery known as "Beit Maron", the house of Maron. As a result, the faithful who gathered around the monastery became known as Maronites. Their ethos stressed asceticism, community life and communal prayer, as it does today. The monks of the Monastery of Maron were staunch defenders of the Catholic faith, suffering persecution and martyrdom for their defense of the orthodox Christological doctrines declared by the Church Fathers in the fifth and sixth centuries. In the Maronite calendar, July 31st commemorates the massacre of 350 Maronite monks by those Christians who disagreed with these doctrines.

The Muslim invasions of the seventh century forced many Maronites to flee to Mount Lebanon, which provided protection. It was at this time that Maronite Patriarchate of Antioch was formed.

Life for the Maronites was austere. Following the teachings of the Gospel and as a witness to their faith, clergy and laity lived a life of asceticism and prayer. The patriarchs and bishops lived in cave monasteries; many hermits and contemplatives arose among the people. Near the cedars of Lebanon is a valley known as the Valley of the Saints, which is marked with hundreds of caves where hermits once lived. A modern successor to this tradition, St. Sharbel, was canonized in 1977.

Liturgically, the Maronite tradition is diverse. Maronites are the heirs of the rich Syriac patrimony of the Church of Antioch, as exemplified by St. Ephrem. The arrival of Crusaders in the 11th century, and the arrival of Latin (Roman) Catholic missionaries beginning in the 15th century, have also influenced the development of the Maronite Church.

<http://www.saintherese.org/content/usamaronites.html>

# Intentions and Readings of the Divine Liturgy

<b><u>Sat. Nov. 26th</u></b>	5:00 PM,	Liturgy for Emilia Mery, req. by Edward Karam Liturgy for Jamil Karam, req. by Margaret Andry Karam & Family	
		Gal 4:13-20	Lk 10:21-24
<b><u>Sun. Nov. 27th</u></b>	8:00 AM	Liturgy for Byron O'Shaughnessy, req. by John & Margaret Stambouljian Liturgy for Jamil Karam, req. by George & Kathy White	
	11:00 AM	Liturgy for Byron O'Shaughnessy, req. by Roger & Carolyn O'Shaughnessy Liturgy for Emilia Mery, req. by Tony & Cinder Obeid	
		Eph 1:1-14	<i>Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth</i> Lk 1:39-45
<b><u>Mon. Nov. 28th</u></b>		No Liturgy	
		Eph 1:15-23	Lk 1:46-56
<b><u>Tues. Nov. 29th</u></b>		No Liturgy	
		Eph 2:1-10	Lk 10:38-42
<b><u>Wed. Nov. 30th</u></b>		No Liturgy	
		Eph 2:11-16	Lk 19:1-10
<b><u>Thurs. Dec. 1st</u></b>		No Liturgy	
		Eph 2:17-22	Jn 4:39-42
<b><u>Fri. Dec. 2nd</u></b>		No Liturgy	
		Eph 3:14-21	Mk 7:24-30
<b><u>Sat. Dec. 3rd</u></b>	5:00 PM,	Liturgy for Emilia Mery, req. by Joe & Eleanor Khattar Liturgy for Richard Mery (3yr), req. by his loving family	
		Eph 4:131-7	Lk 5:27-32
<b><u>Sun. Dec. 4th</u></b>	8:00 AM	Liturgy for Cecilia Mery, req. by Fred & Julia Russell Liturgy for Byron O'Shaughnessy, req. by Riad & Joslyne Eledelbi	
	11:00 AM	Liturgy for Julia Sfair, req. by the Sfair family Liturgy for Jamil Karam, req. by Sadie Majors	
		Gal 4:21-5:1	<i>Birth of John the Baptist/St. Barbara</i> Lk 1:57-66

## **Stewardship:**

## **2nd Collection-Debt Reduction**

“give and it will be given to you...”

“for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”



Luke 6:38



Elizabeth Abdo,	Muriel Keogh George,	Mary Ann Trad Karam,	Joe Mery,	Leo Reyes,
Ellis Aboud,	Hank Grage,	Shirley Kirkes,	Malake Mery,	Jo Ann Reed,
Virginia Albosta,	Betty Gudat,	Eleanor Khattar,	Maria Mery,	Kaitlyn Reed,
Rocky Anawaty,	Sal Isgro,	Loretta La Monica,	Paul Mery, Jr.,	Kirsten Reed,
Gloria Benson,	Joe Joseph,	Phillip La Monica,	Tony Moawad,	Billie Sahley,
Pamela Gabriel Craig,	Vee Jowdy,	Marie La Monica,	Adele Morrison,	Jeanette Van Delden,
Marina Curie-John,	David Karam,	Richard La Monica,	Thelma O'Shaughnessy,	Gene Viola,
Diana Curi-Ryder,	Margaret Abdo Karam,	Margaret Craig Loyd,	David Palazzo,	Joe Walker
David Emerson,	Mary Ann Karam,	Charles Malouff,	Noel Palazzo,	
Norma Emerson,		Elvira Mery,	Ashley Polley,	
Benita Felan,				

**Salwa Kirkes** - December 7, 2010  
**Phil Sfair** - January 4, 2011  
**Mary Karam** - January 17, 2011  
**Carlie Estefan** - February 17, 2011  
**Byron O'Shaughnessy**- June 12, 2011  
**Cecilia Mery**- July 21, 2011  
**Emilia Mery**- July 27, 2011  
**Jamil Karam**- September 2, 2011  
**Leon Toursarkissian**- October 24, 2011  
**Waddell Nasif**-October 28, 2011




**SATURDAY, Nov. 26th**

**LECTOR:** Joe Khattar (5:00PM)  
**USHERS:** Ralph Karam & Pat Perillo  
**GREETERS:** Nancy Nasif  
**ALTAR SERVERS:** Sean Salisbury & Kyle Salisbury

**SUNDAY, Nov 27th**

**LECTOR:** Frank Westermann (8:00AM)  
**LECTOR:** Edward Karam (11:00AM)  
**USHERS:** JoAnn Andera, Rene Gallegos, Ray Dustin & Lilia Dustin  
**GREETERS:** Sylvana Mery, Genina Mery  
**ALTAR SERVERS:** Joya Noujeim, Federico Chavez, Ceci Chavez, Anel Kuri, Anthony Kuri

**SATURDAY, Dec. 3rd**

**LECTOR:** James Andry (5:00PM)  
**USHERS:** Frank Dieck & Laney McMath  
**GREETERS:** Karen Al-Bahloly  
**ALTAR SERVERS:** Tommy Andry & Chris Khattar

**SUNDAY, Nov Dec. 4th**

**LECTOR:** Donald Karan (8:00AM)  
**LECTOR:** Larry Karam (11:00AM)  
**USHERS:** Alton Wells, Kevin Kearns, Jose Fernandez, & Fredrick Tawil  
**GREETERS:** Miriam Wells  
**ALTAR SERVERS:** Chandler Kearns, Stephanie Younes, Madeleine Younes, Blake Mery

# Community Life

## \* SUNDAY November 27th

- Qurbono (Liturgy) at 8:00 AM & 11:00 AM
- No Faith Formation or Bible Study Today

## \* TUESDAY November 29th

- No Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament .Adoration will resume next week. **NO weekday liturgies Monday November 28-Friday December 2nd.**

## \* SUNDAY Dec 4th

- Qurbono (Liturgy) at 8:00 AM & 11:00 AM
- Faith Formation will begin at 9:00 AM in the MCC.
- Bible Study today begins at 9:30 in the MCC

## \* PATRIARCHAL LITURGY

- A DVD is now available of the patriarchal Liturgy taped by CTSA. The purchase price is 20.00. Place your order by calling the church office or by stopping by between the hours of 8 & 4.

## \* NAM JOURNAL

- The St. George community will be publishing a commemorative journal for the 2012 Eparchial Maronite Convention sponsored by our families, friends and business associates. If interested you may purchase an ad and pay in full or take advantage of a payment plan. For more information you may contact Debbie Fernandez at 415-8260.



## \* PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

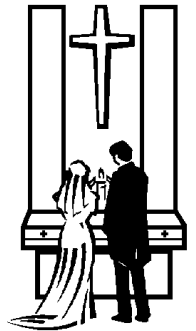
-A nomination committee for parish council elections has been formed. If you wish to stand for election, please contact Julie Mery. To be eligible, one must be **an active parishioner** for at least one full year and in good standing. Remember immediate family members ( siblings, parents/children, etc.) **are prohibited** from serving together on the council. **Deadline is December 4th.** Election will be December 10&11 after all Liturgies.

## \* PROJECT ROOTS

-The Eparchies of St. Maron and Our Lady of Lebanon are joining together to help people reconnect with their Christian spiritual roots in Lebanon and the Middle East . Registration offers many benefits, such as the right to own property, the right to inheritance in Lebanon, and more. For more details go to [www.projectroots.net](http://www.projectroots.net).

## \* BANNES OF MARRIAGE

- Francisco Ortega & Tania Thangi have announced their intention to receive the Holy Mystery of Crowning on December 17, 2011. If anyone has just cause why these two cannot be married, they have a moral obligation to inform the pastor.



## \* REQUESTING MASSES

-Please note that for your convenience, there are mass request envelopes in the back of the church. If you wish to have a mass said, simply fill one out completely, seal your donation inside, and drop it in the collection basket or hand to one of the priests.



## Bible Study Corner

### Fruits of the Holy Spirit:

- |                           |                       |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 7.Faithfulness-December 4 | Chronicles 20:1-30    |
| 8.Gentleness– December 11 | 1Thessalonians 2:1-12 |
| 9.Self-Control– January 9 | 1 Samuel 26           |



## \* EBLAST CENTRAL

If you are not receiving the church eblasts please contact the church office at [rbeathe@stgeorgesa.org](mailto:rbeathe@stgeorgesa.org) so as to verify your email.

# Miscellaneous

## LAS CORNER

- \* December 8: Church Cleaning (9 am)
- \* December 11: LAS Mass (11 am) followed by LAS Christmas Party (12:15 - 2:30 pm) in the small hall
- \* No Luncheon this month
- \* Interested in joining the LAS, contact Janice Gildersleeve at 492-7469 for more info.



# 2011

## Mark Your Calendar

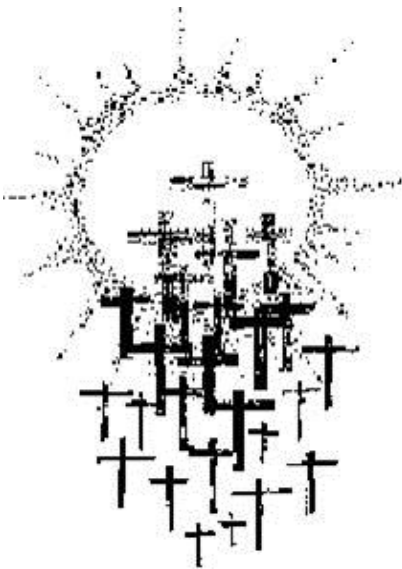


- \* December 8th– Feast of the Immaculate Conception
- \* December 25th– Feast of the Glorious Nativity
- \* January 1st– Feast of the Circumcision of Christ
- \* February 11&12, 2011—St Maron's Weekend
- \* February 20, 2012– Ash (Clean) Monday

## In Memory of the Faithful Departed

### November

**Today's Memorial Liturgy is a prayer offering for the souls of the**



**If for some reason you find that a loved one is not on this list, please call the church office at 690-9569.**

Ablan, Cazoon	Mery, Dennise Allene
Ablan, Judy	Mery, Francis A. "Frank"
Anderson, Roseann	Mery, Louis Miguel
Andry, Eva	Mery, Minnie Karam
Andry, John Nehman	Mery, Susan Mery
Ashmore, Inez Rahaim	Palmer, Harriet E.
Canavati, Jennie Allem	Sada, Helani
Canavati, Solomon S.	Thienpont, Johnnie Aviel
Casseb, Anne	Trad, Chorbishop John
Dean, Floyd "Buzz"	Tuma, Nicholas Assad
Hannah, Wahide G.	Yamin, Elizabeth
Joseph, George	Yamin, Louis
Karam, Tony Abdo	Yancy, Ben Job, Jr.
Kory, Dodette Sfair	Yazbeck, Minnie
Krawicz, Juliette Aboud	Zena, Steve
La Hood, Dorothy Gaertner	

# Catholic college sues federal government over contraception mandate

Part 2

By Patricia L. Guilfoyle  
Catholic News Service

Catholic leaders across the country have decried this exemption as too narrowly drawn -- particularly parts 2 and 3 -- and violates the church's religious liberty.

During a 60-day comment period that followed the regulation's announcement Aug. 1, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, and Catholic universities and schools, hospitals and charitable organizations voiced loud objections to the mandate, which is expected to go into effect in August 2012.



The church's ministries do and should go beyond serving and employing Catholics, they say.

From food pantries to adoption services, refugee resettlement and more, the Charlotte diocese does not scrutinize clients' religious tenets before they help them. The diocese also hires people of all religious faiths, and diocesan schools enroll non-Catholic students.

Abbot Placid Solari, chancellor of Belmont Abbey College, said in a written statement Nov. 11 that the college's board of trustees "voted without dissent" to sue the federal government because the contraception regulation "is in direct opposition to the public and authoritative teaching of the Catholic Church. We therefore believe this is an egregious infringement on the part of the federal government of the right of free exercise of religion guaranteed to all American citizens by the Bill of Rights."

Added the Becket Fund in its statement, "Belmont Abbey, as a small Catholic liberal arts college, teaches that contraception, sterilization and abortion are all against God's law. The government mandate forces Belmont Abbey and others to make the Hobson's choice of either violating their deeply-held religious beliefs or paying a heavy fine and terminating their health insurance plans for employees and students."

In its lawsuit, the college states: "The government's mandate unconstitutionally coerces Belmont Abbey College to violate its deeply-held religious beliefs under threat of heavy fines and penalties. The mandate also forces Belmont Abbey College to fund government-dictated speech that is directly at odds with its own speech and religious teachings.

"Having to pay a fine to the taxing authorities for the privilege of practicing one's religion or controlling one's own speech is un-American, unprecedented, and flagrantly unconstitutional."

This legal battle over health insurance coverage and religious liberty is not new to Belmont Abbey College.