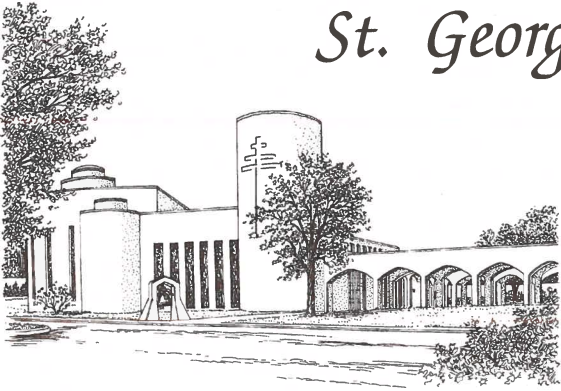


# *St. George Maronite Catholic Church*



May 14, 2020

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I want to start by extending my sincere appreciation to each and every one of you for your continuous and unwavering support during this difficult time. My sincere gratitude to Fr. Joseph, Deacon Tom and the subdeacons for their assistance and support in keeping all of us connected. I am aware that all of us are eager to return to a full participation in the liturgical and sacramental life of our parish. Starting Tuesday, May 19, 2020 we will resume public daily and weekend liturgies following the guidelines provided by the State of Texas, the Archdiocese of San Antonio, and the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles.

As we prepare to return to public celebration of Liturgy, here are some guidelines to ensure the safety and well-being of our community:

- Until further notice from our bishop, there is no obligation to attend Divine Liturgies on Sundays and Holy Days. Parishioners, especially those who are over the age of 65, may also consider attending a weekday Liturgy if preferred.
- We will continue to livestream all service on the church Facebook page and YouTube channel. Weekday liturgies are at 12:00 PM, Saturday at 5:00 PM and Sunday at 8:00 AM and 11:00 AM.
- We ask that parishioners who are feeling sick, or exhibiting symptoms related to COVID-19, to please stay home.
- Masks are required for all parishioners except those who are too young to wear a mask.
- To ensure maintaining a six-foot distance between persons, weekday Divine Liturgies will be celebrated in the main church and weekend Liturgies will be celebrated in the large hall.
- There will be one designated entrance and one designated exit for the church marked by entrance and exit signs.
- Hand sanitizers will be available at the entrance of the church and hall.
- The sacristy and cry room will not be open.

- Holy water fonts will remain empty and devotional candles will not be available at this time.
- Collection baskets will not be passed among parishioners and will be placed at the church entrance. You may drop your donation in the basket as you enter or exit the building. Everyone is strongly encouraged to use our online donation.
- Ministries will be limited to ushers only. A group of ushers will be trained in the proper application of these guidelines and to assist parishioners needing assistance.
- At the Sign of Peace, a greeting with a simple head bow, or some other gesture of greeting while maintaining the required six-foot radial distance.
- Communion will only be given in the hand and under one form (the Body of Christ, consecrated host). Ushers will guide the faithful to receive communion.
- Please refrain from congregating after all liturgies at the church entrance.
- There will be no gathering for fellowship and refreshments after the Sunday Liturgies.
- The church and hall will be sanitized after all liturgies.

I am looking forward to the day when we will gather with no restrictions, until then, I appreciate your patience and understanding. I ask for your assistance in implementing these temporary procedures that are designed to protect the health of our community.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Charles Khachan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Fr. Charles Khachan, MLM  
Pastor