



## Saint Ann Catholic Church • Maronite Rite

A Catholic Parish of the Antiochian Syriac Maronite Church



**Jurisdiction:** *Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn* (<http://stmaron.org/>)

**Eparchial Bishop:** *Most Reverend Gregory John MANSOUR, S.T.L.*

109 Remsen Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201

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

**Pastor:** *Reverend George BOUCHAAYA, M.L.M.*

(Congregation of *Maronite Lebanese Missionaries*)

**Church, Office & Rectory**

1919 Third Avenue, Watervliet, NY 12189

**Phone:** (518) 272-6073; For Emergency ONLY, call Father George at (518) 466-0868

**E-Mail:** [stann1905@gmail.com](mailto:stann1905@gmail.com) | **Website:** [www.stann1905.com](http://www.stann1905.com)

**Facebook:** <http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/St-Ann-Catholic-Church/317821088244238>

### Mass Schedule

**Sundays:** 10:00 AM **Tuesdays – Thursdays:** 7:30 AM

**Fridays:** 6:30 PM followed by the veneration of the cross

**Saturdays:** 5:00 PM

**Holy Days of Obligation:**

Vigil Liturgy: 6:30 PM | Actual Feast Day: 7:30 AM

### Office Hours

**Tuesday through Friday:** 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

*Mondays: office is closed. | Saturdays: by appointment.*

### LITURGICAL SERVICES

#### Sacraments of Baptism & Confirmation

Please call the rectory for arrangements 3 weeks prior to the celebration of the Sacrament. Parents & Godparents should meet with the Pastor to schedule a date & arrange for proper parental preparation.

#### Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation

Confession can be heard before and after Liturgies or by appointment

#### Sacrament of Matrimony (Marriage)

For Weddings, 6 months advance notice is required in order that proper preparation may be made for the celebration of the Sacrament.

#### Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

If a family member is seriously ill at home or in a hospital, or they are unable to come to Church and would like to receive communion at home, please call the rectory to arrange for Communion, Confession or the Anointing of the Sick with Holy oil.

*The list is updated every Thursday; if you would like to add a name, please call the rectory no later than Wednesday.*

#### Eucharistic Adoration

Every Sunday preceding the morning Liturgy for 30 minutes at 9:30 AM

#### Funerals

Please contact the Pastor as soon as possible after the death of a loved one.

### Mass Intention Dedications

If you would like to have a mass dedicated, Mass cards are available for various intentions including memorials. Your voluntary gifts of any amount are gratefully accepted. Mass reservations should be made in advance.

You can request an announced or an unannounced Mass Intentions to be said for a living or deceased family member, friend or loved one by calling the rectory or sending an e-mail to schedule intentions.

### CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS

#### Pastoral Parish Council

As an advisory Board, this council meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every month.

*President: Joe JABOUR.*

#### Daughters of St. Ann

This women's organization meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month at 6:30 PM.

*President: Eva ABDALLAH.*

#### St. Maron Men's Society

This men's organization meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month at 7:00 PM.

*President: Albert NAHAL.*

#### Junior MYO

The Junior MYO is a group of young people 10 years old and up. We are a Maronite youth organization based in the United States. This Youth's organization meets on the last Sunday of every month after 10:00 Am Mass in the church.

*Coordinators: Patricia THORNTON & Lora KARRAT.*

#### Religious Education

Religious Education is available for all children in 1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grades. Classes are scheduled for 1 Friday and 1 Saturday a month.

*Coordinator: Sister Florence Joseph FLAHERTY.*

#### St. Ann Liturgical Choir

*Director: Rick THORNTON.*



## Altar Gifts for February 2013

In memory of Dorothy RILEY.

*Requested by Thomas M. Riley Sr.*

*The Sanctuary Lamps burn continuously, reminding us of Christ, the eternal and everlasting light.*

*It is proper and fitting to offer our Sanctuary lamp in memory, to honor a loved one or for a special intention.*

*It is scheduled on a first-come-first-served-basis to ensure an equal opportunity for everyone.*

## Divine Liturgy Intentions

### Sun, Feb 17 – Healing of the Leper

Rom 6:12-23

Mk 1:35-45

*The Divine Liturgy intentions are in memory of:*

- ✠ Barbara K. BENET, requested by Fr. Georges Bouchaaya
- ✠ Fr. Paul KORKEMAZ and the KORKEMAZ families
- ✠ Asma KARKAFI (Aunt of Allam EID); requested by St. Ann's
- ✠ Samir EID (first cousin of Mirvatte HANNOUSH); requested by St. Ann's
- ✠ Josselyn WINTER (the sister of Sister Florence J. FLAHERTY); requested by St. Ann's
- ✠ Fawzi FREIHA, the cousin of Diana HANNOUSH

*The Divine Liturgy intentions are for the blessing and special intentions of:*

- ❖ Pope Benedict XVI, for his health and well-being, and in thanksgiving for his service to the Church
- ❖ Gabriel HAKIM and the AWAD & HAKIM families
- ❖ Cancer patients and our sick and homebound

### SUNDAY

**Ushers:** Bob STOLAR / David NICHOLAS  
**Greeter:** Gerard GOLDEN  
**Arabic Lector:** Tony ABDALLAH  
**English Lector:** Denise NAHAL  
**Intercessions:** Mickayla BOUTROS  
**Peace Bearers:** Gabriella MOONEY / Zena EID  
 Natalya & Tatiana KARAME

*Mon, Feb 18; Pope St. Leo the Great, Doctor of the Church, C*

1 Thes 3:6-13

Mt 6:22-24

No Divine Liturgy

*Tue, Feb 19; The 500 Martyrs of Tyre, M*

Gal 2:11-17

Mt 7:1-12

7:30 am Divine Liturgy

*Wed, Feb 20; St. James, Hermit of Cyrrhus, C*

Rom 3:19-27

Mt 12:38-45

7:30 am Divine Liturgy

**In memory of:** Wadih DOWE, requested by John & Vicki HEALY

*Thu, Feb 21; St. Eustathius, Patriarch of Antioch C*

Phil 4:4-10

Lk 8:4-15

7:30 am Divine Liturgy

*Fri, Feb 22 ☩; Establishment of the Chair of St. Peter in Antioch*

2 Thes 3:6-14

Mt 7:13-27

6:30 pm Divine Liturgy followed by Veneration of the Cross

**In memory of:** Elizabeth DOWE, requested by John & Vicki HEALY

*Sat, Feb 23; St. Polycarp of Smyrna, M*

Heb 12:28-13:9

Mk 11:19-25

5:30 pm Divine Liturgy

**In memory of:** Marsha YAMIN, requested by John & Vicki HEALY

### Sun, Feb 24 – Healing of the Hemorrhaging Woman

2 Cor 7:4-11

Lk 8:40-56

*The Divine Liturgy intentions are in memory of:*

- ✠ William SUNDMACKER and deceased members of the L'EVEQUE family, requested by Carolyn Lalli

### SUNDAY

**Ushers:** Al NAHAL / Joe JABOUR  
**Greeter:** Mirvatte HANNOUSH  
**Arabic Lector:** Diana HANNOUSH  
**English Lector:** Patti THORNTON  
**Intercessions:** Gabriella HANNOUSH  
**Peace Bearers:** Riwa & Rhea FRANGIEH  
 Davia & Catalina BOUTROS

### Pope Benedict's Feb. Prayer Intentions

**Migrant Families.** That migrant families, especially the mothers, may be supported and accompanied in their difficulties.

**Peace.** That the peoples at war and in conflict may lead the way in building a peaceful future.

### Pray for our Sick and Homebound

Heal Your servants, who are sick, O Lord, and send them help and comfort from Your holy place.

Wadad FRANGIE, Chantelle BOUDIWAN, Jay MOONEY, Chas TANGREDI, Paul STAVIS, Foutine FRANGIE, Audrey DOWALIBY-FINSON, Joyce & Christy FIRSTIUN, Juliann HALLAL, Donata CALDARONI, Alisa BURKE, Mary GOLDEN, Jamileh MAWAD, Caroline-Marjorie FIELDS, Della MAWAD, Katherine RIBUSTELLI, Marilyn MARVIN, Piero BERGONZELLI, Margaret McDonough, Jeremy WROBLE, Frank DORRITIE, Nawal FAKHOURI

*"Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean." Luke 5:12*



## February BIRTHDAYS

As they celebrate their birthdays this month, we hold up to God the lives of:

- |                   |                       |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Betty Karrat    | 2 Pascal Frangie      |
| 3 Albert Hannoush | Boulos Abdallah       |
| 6 John Karrat     | 20 Gabriella Hannoush |
| 21 Madona Boutros |                       |

We ask that many blessings be theirs in the coming year.

## Upcoming events - Mark your calendars

- |       |  |
|-------|--|
| 05/18 | Pontifical Dedication of Watervliet Church |
| 09/21 | 1 <sup>st</sup> Annual Golf Tournament     |
| 11/09 | Annual Parish Hafli (Diner)                |

## EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY

- |     |    |   |
|-----|----|---|
| Mon | 11 | Ash Monday  |
| Sun | 10 | Daughters Bake / Food Sale                                |
| Sun | 10 | Induction of new members into the St. Maron Men's Society |
| Tue | 19 | St. Maron Men's Society Meeting                           |
| Thu | 21 | Daughters of Saint Ann Meeting                            |

## Religious Education - March

1. Saturday, Mar. 09 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
2. Friday, March 22 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

## Schedule of Coffee Hour Sponsors

*Sign-up sheets are in the binder on the table in front of St. Ann in the main entrance of the church.*

- |         |                                  |
|---------|----------------------------------|
| Feb. 17 | Albert & Mirvatte Hannoush       |
| Feb. 24 | Rosemary Patnode & Carolyn Lalli |
| Mar. 03 |                                  |
| Mar. 10 | Elias & Georgette Hannoush       |
| Mar. 17 |                                  |

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Collections for February

- |       |   |
|-------|---|
| 2/3   | Building Fund                           |
| 2/9   | Feast of St. Maron                      |
| 2/10  | Fuel & Heat                             |
| 2/11* | Ash Monday (Envelope mismarked Feb. 18) |
| 2/17  | Assessment / Bishop's Appeal            |
| 2/24  | Snow Removal                            |

## Mass Collection for February 9, 10 & 11

We do apologize for not posting the collection this week. Thank You for your generosity and continued commitment to your parish! Please consider increasing your weekly donation, and don't forget to make up the Sundays you are absent. We are counting on your efforts.

## Reminder of Ongoing Fundraisers

Please bring in:

- ✓ Unwanted cellphones for credit.
- ✓ Empty plastic bottles and cans for recycling.

## Daughters of St. Ann

The Daughters of St. Ann have moved their meeting from every third Wednesday to **every third Thursday of the month**. All ladies aged 18+ are encouraged to join our organization. Contact Eva Abdallah for details or call her at 518-281-6785.

## My soul finds rest in God alone...

Sincere condolences are extended to:

- Allam & Mona Eid for the passing of their aunt, Asma KARKAFI, in Lebanon.
- Albert & Mirvatte HANNOUSH for the passing of their first cousin, Samir EID, in a tragic accident in Lebanon
- Sister Florence J. FLAHERTY for the passing of her sister, Josselyn WINTER in MA.
- David & Diana HANNOUSH for the passing of their cousin Fawzi FREIHA in Lebanon.

May their memory be eternal in the hearts and minds of their loved ones. Please keep them in your prayers. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord!

## Missal Book, Qurbono

New Liturgical books of the Divine Liturgy should be here in February. **You can sponsor a book in memory / honor of a loved one. Suggested contributions: \$25.00 Envelopes for this purpose are on the table in the rear of the church.**

## Lenten Devotion

Throughout the Season of Great Lent, **every Friday evening at 6:30 PM**, we will celebrate the Divine Liturgy followed by the veneration of the Cross and benediction with the Holy Cross. Your participation will help us grow in the unity and the love of Christ, who poured out His precious blood upon the cross to save us from the slavery of sin.

*We ask all parishioners to take notice of this change and we hope everyone will be able to make it.*

## Lenten Observances 2013

The Most Reverend Bishops Robert Shaheen and Gregory Mansour have issued the following Lenten guidelines for the Maronites of the United States:

- ❖ All Maronites who are physically capable are to abstain from meat on Ash Monday (February 11) and all Fridays of Lent.
- ❖ Ash Monday and the Great Friday of the Crucifixion are also days of fasting. Fasting in the Maronite Church involves eating and drinking nothing at all (except water and





medicine) from midnight until noon. The rest of the day normal meals can be taken but without meat. All Maronites who are physically capable are to fast on these two days.

PS: Women who are pregnant and persons who are sick are not required to fast.

### Lenten Bible Study Program

**Every Thursday, from 7:30 – 8:30 pm at the Church Hall**

Book Reference: the Year of Faith – A bible Study Guide for Catholics

Date	Theme
02/21/2013	Belief in Jesus Christ
02/28/2013	Assent to the Creed
03/07/2013	Conversion
03/14/2013	The Witness of Charity
03/21/2013	Celebrating Faith

### Note from Sayed FRANGIE

Mr. Sayed FRANGIE had a major operation on 01/29/2013. He is recovering now at home. The following is a note from him to parishioners & friends:

*Thank you for coming to visit. I can't tell you how much I appreciate your support. However, I cannot accept any visitors at this time. The past couple of days have been very tiring and my doctor has given me strict orders to not over do it. He also informed me that the more people I see, the slower my recovery will be. Please postpone your visit for a later date. Thank you for understanding.*

**Much Love, Sayed**

### Income Tax Statements

IRS ONLY requires a confirmation letter from the church if your charitable annual donations exceed \$250.00. There is no need to request a record of your donations if you are filing a regular tax form. Only those who do itemized taxes need these letters.

However, a statement of your contributions throughout the last year was mailed to you (for contributions of \$200 and up). Still, if you have not used your weekly envelopes or have paid by check, it will be impossible for us to generate a record or statement with your donations and offerings.

### Our Parish Gratitude

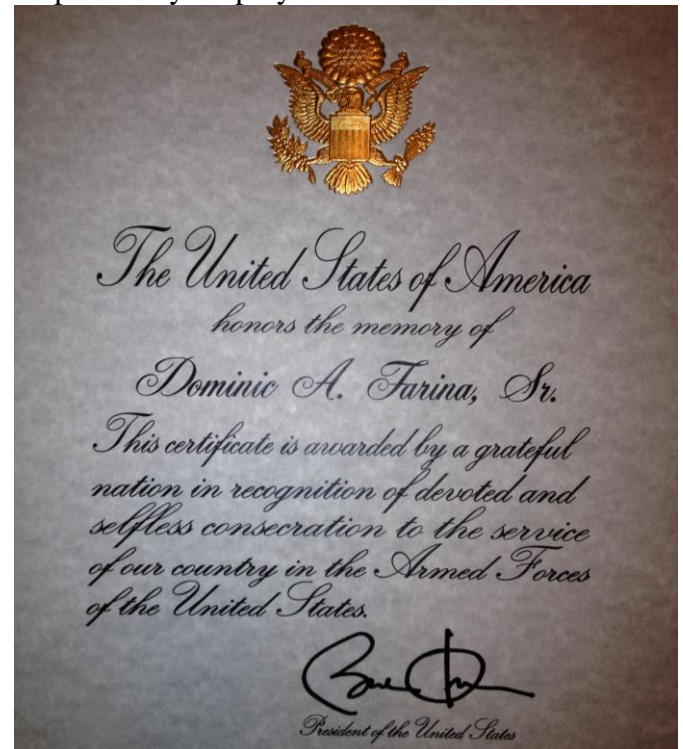
On behalf of St. Ann's, we want to express our gratitude to the "Feast of Saint Maron Committee": Georgette HANNOUSH, Rich & Patti THORNTON, Joe JABOUR, and Michel BOUTROS, for their hard work for the feast of St. Maron luncheon. May God bless you for your support!

### Volunteers Needed

On Sunday, February 17, we will be moving the office from the parish house to the church hall after coffee hour. We will need volunteers to help move office equipment, desks, filing cabinets, book shelves, and all their contents. Please let Father George know if you can volunteer. Thank you in advance for your much needed help.

### Late Dominic Farina, Sr. honored

Edith Farina's late husband, Dominic Farina, Sr. (+2012) was honored by the President of the United States of America for being a World War II veteran. Mrs. Farina was very delighted to receive this certificate by mail. In honor of his memory and in recognition for his service to our country, please keep him in your prayers.



### Lenten Prayer of St. Ephraim the Syriac

O Lord and Master of my life take from me the spirit of sloth faint-heartedness, lust of power and idle talk.

But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to thy servant.

Yea, O Lord and King grant me to see my own errors and not to judge my brother; for Thou art blessed unto the ages of ages. Amen.





## Resources for your Lenten Journey

The forty days in Lent are traditionally marked by fasting, both from foods and festivities, and other acts of penance. The three traditional practices to be taken up with renewed vigor during Lent are: **Prayer:** justice towards God; **Fasting:** justice towards self; **Alms-Giving:** justice towards neighbor.

Source: <http://www.mycatholicvoice.com/>

## Eddy Lifeline

Do you know someone who lives alone, has a tendency to fall or who is recovering from recent surgery? Perhaps this person can benefit from the security of Lifeline! This two-way emergency response system obtains help for people when they are unable to get help for themselves. Eddy Lifeline is offering FREE lifeline installations during the entire month of February. Please make the call to The Eddy: 833-1040 ... don't let an accident turn into a tragedy. (Please note that St. Peter's Lifeline and Seton Lifeline are now part of Eddy Lifeline).

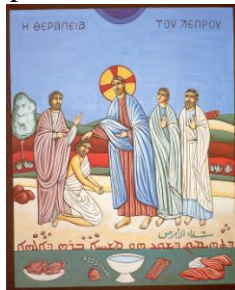
## Season of Great Lent – Healing of the Leper

The miracle of Jesus curing the leper took place when Jesus was visiting the cities of Galilee. The man was suffering with a skin disease known as leprosy. It tortures a person for many years, destroys any human appearance and ultimately kills the individual. In the time of Jesus, the leper was declared to be "unclean" and was separated from the rest of the community.

The physical disease of leprosy can be compared to the spiritual diseases of sin. A person who sins eventually loses the image of the divine imprinted upon his soul. He becomes hateful to others and even to himself. He becomes separated from the rest of the community, the Body of Christ, and forced to dwell alone.

In the Old Testament, a leper who was cured was treated in a manner similar to a repentant and required to offer 2 birds at the Temple. One bird was killed and the second live bird was dipped in the blood of the sacrificed bird then allowed to go free. We are also cleansed by the blood of Christ.

Consider the courage of the leper who approached Jesus for healing. According to the law, the leper was forbidden to go near people. The leper ignored the law because he wanted to be healed. Jesus did not reproach the man for breaking the law; instead, he showed him mercy. Jesus stretched out his hand and touched the leper, an act forbidden by the law. His concern was for the



desperate need of this suffering man. After curing the man, he instructed him to perform the ritual imposed by the law.

The healing of the leper is seen to be not only a physical healing of the body, but also a spiritual cleansing of the soul from the terrible disease of sin. This icon is symbolic of the Sacrament of Baptism, which cleanses us from our sins and gives rebirth by the Spirit and water. As Jesus sees the leper, who is a social outcast, kneeling before Him, Our Lord comes up to him with compassion and heals him; and so Christ restores him to his place in society once more, even as He accepts us back into the fellowship of the Church, cleansed and forgiven. At the bottom of the icon are depicted the symbols of the ritual cleansing of a leper, according to the Old Testament Law- most important the offering of the two birds, one of which to be dipped in the blood of the other and set free, even as we are cleansed and set free from our sins through the sacrificial Blood of Christ.

## Kids Korner

In today's gospel, Jesus heals a man with leprosy. The man showed courage and faith. He trusted that Jesus would heal him. Jesus understands our pain and suffering. He loves us. Jesus is with you always to meet your needs! Whenever you are in trouble, simply say: "Jesus, please help me!" and he's right there. His eyes are never off us!

## Patriarch RAI travels to Syria, prays for peace

For the first time since 1943, a patriarch of the Maronite Catholic Church has traveled from Lebanon to Syria. Cardinal Béchara Boutros Raï visited a church in Damascus on February 9 and prayed for peace.

The prelate, who said he was moved by the sight of people fleeing Damascus, prayed "that the consciences of local, regional and international leaders are inspired to put an immediate end to the war in dear Syria ... and bring peace through dialogue."

Bishops of three Eastern Catholic churches—Maronite, Melkite, and Syrian—as well as the Latin rite, minister to Catholics in the war-torn nation.

*"Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean." Luke 5:12*



## Pope Benedict XVI Announces Resignation – DECLARATIO

Dear Brothers,

I have convoked you to this Consistory, not only for the three canonizations, but also to



communicate to you a decision of great importance for the life of the Church. **After having repeatedly examined my conscience before God**, I have come to the certainty that my strengths, due to an advanced age, are no longer suited to an adequate exercise of the Petrine ministry. I am well aware that this ministry, due to its essential spiritual nature, **must be carried out not only with words and deeds, but no less with prayer and suffering**. However, in today's world, subject to so many rapid changes and shaken by questions of deep relevance for the life of faith, in order to govern the barque of Saint Peter and proclaim the Gospel, both strength of mind and body are necessary, strength which in the last few months, has deteriorated in me to the extent that I have had to recognize my incapacity to adequately fulfill the ministry entrusted to me. For this reason, and well aware of the seriousness of this act, with full freedom I declare that **I renounce the ministry of Bishop of Rome, Successor of Saint Peter**, entrusted to me by the Cardinals on 19 April 2005, in such a way, that as from 28 February 2013, at 20:00 hours, the See of Rome, the See of Saint Peter, will be vacant and a Conclave to elect the new Supreme Pontiff will have to be convoked by those whose competence it is.

Dear Brothers, **I thank you most sincerely for all the love and work with which you have supported me in my ministry and I ask pardon for all my defects**. And now, let us entrust the Holy Church to the care of Our Supreme Pastor, Our Lord Jesus Christ, and implore his holy Mother Mary, so that she may assist the Cardinal Fathers with her maternal solicitude, in electing a new Supreme Pontiff. With regard to myself, **I wish to also devotedly serve the Holy Church of God in the future through a life dedicated to prayer**.

*From the Vatican, 10 February 2013*

**BENEDICTUS PP XVI**

## إعلان تلي البابا بندكتوس السادس عشر عن مهامه

اخواني الاعزاء،

استدعيتكم إلى هذا المجمع الكنسي، ليس فقط من أجل التطويبات الثلاثة، إنما أيضاً لأبلاغكم قراراً بالغ الأهمية بالنسبة إلى مسيرة الكنيسة. بعد أن فحصت تكراراً ضميري أمام الله، وصلت إلى قناعة مفادها أن قواي، نظراً إلى عمري المتقدم، لم تعد تناسب المهام الدقيقة التي يتطلبها موقع البابا.

أنا مدرك تماماً أن كرسي روما، ونظراً إلى طبيعته الروحية الأساسية، يحتاج إلى متابعة ليس فقط عبر الكلام والنوايا الطيبة، بل أيضاً عبر الصلاة والالم. إنما، في عالمنا اليوم الذي هو عرضة للتغيرات السريعة والمهتز بأسئلة عميقة حول الإيمان، وكي يكون كرسي القديس بطرس مخدوماً كما يجب، ونشر الانجيل، يحتاج الأمر إلى القوة العقلية إنما إلى القوة الجسدية أيضاً، وهي القوة التي تدهورت لديّ خلال الأشهر القليلة الماضية إلى حد جعلني اعترف بعدم قدرتي على القيام بواجباتي الدقيقة الملقاة عليّ. ولهذا السبب، ومع إدراكي التام بأهمية القرار، وبكامل حريتي، أعلن أنني استقيل من مهامي كأقف روما، خليفة القديس بطرس، والتي ائتمنت عليها من قبل الكرادلة في ١٩ نيسان ٢٠٠٥، بطريقة أنه واعتباراً من ٢٨ شباط ٢٠١٣، الساعة الثامنة مساءً، يكون مركز القديس بطرس خالياً ويجب بالتالي عقد مجمع انتخابي للكرادلة لانتخاب بابا جديد.

اخواني الاعزاء،

أشكركم بصدق على كل المحبة والعمل التي دعمتموني من خلالهما بملككم واطلب منكم المغفرة على أي خطأ بدر مني. والآن، دعونا نولي كنيستنا المقدسة إلى عناية اسقفنا الإلهي، سيدنا يسوع المسيح، ونرجو والدته القديسة مريم لتكون إلى جانب الكرادلة وترعاهم بأمومتها لانتخاب بابا جديد.

أما بالنسبة إليّ، فأنا أرغب أيضاً في خدمة الكنيسة الله المقدسة في المستقبل بإخلاص، من خلال حياة سأخصصها للصلاة.

الفاتيكان، في ١٠ شباط ٢٠١٣.

البابا بندكتوس السادس عشر





## Pope Benedict thanks faithful, asks them to pray for next pope

*On Wednesday, Feb. 13, 2013, Pope Benedict began his weekly general audience in Paul VI hall at the Vatican with a few remarks about his impending resignation.*

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As you know, I have decided [interrupted with prolonged applause] – thank you for your kindness – to renounce the ministry which the Lord entrusted to me on 19 April 2005. I have done this in **full freedom for the good of the Church, after much prayer and having examined my conscience before God**, knowing full well the seriousness of this act, but also realizing that I am no longer able to carry out the Petrine ministry with the strength which it demands. **I am strengthened and reassured by the certainty that the Church is Christ's, who will never leave her without his guidance and care.** I thank all of you for the love and for the prayers with which you have accompanied me. Thank you; in these days which have not been easy for me, I have felt almost physically the power of prayer – your prayers – which the love of the Church has given me. **Continue to pray for me, for the Church and for the future Pope. The Lord will guide us.**

## Pope Benedict XVI Timeline

<b>April 16, 1927</b>	Joseph Ratzinger Born in Marktl an Inn, Bavaria, Germany and baptized the same day
<b>1939</b>	Entered minor seminary
<b>1951</b>	Ordained a priest for Diocese of Munch
<b>1953</b>	Earns doctorate in theology from University of Munich
<b>1962-1965</b>	Participates in Second Vatican Council as a theological adviser
<b>March 1977</b>	Named archbishop of Munich and Freising
<b>May 1977</b>	Named to the College of Cardinals
<b>1981</b>	Named head of the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith
<b>April 2005</b>	Elected Pope, chooses the name Pope Benedict XVI
<b>February 28, 2013</b>	Resigns from papacy, first such resignation in 600 years

## Message from Bishop Gregory Mansour about the Pope's Abdication

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I awoke this morning, as all of you did, to the surprise news of the Holy Father's renunciation of the Petrine Ministry in the Church, to which he was elected by the College of Cardinals eight years ago. I cannot think of the Church without him at the helm. Nor could I have thought eight years ago of the Church without Blessed John Paul II. We live in Christian hope.

Pope Benedict spoke of the Church as a ship, and the one who serves at the helm, the Pope, serves in Peter, the fisherman's, place. He needs strength of soul and body to do so. Moreover, the Pope said, even though there is suffering and prayer associated with the Petrine ministry, in the modern day a Pope needs much strength to carry the Church's mission well. Pope Benedict examined his conscience many times, and he said he came to a certainty that this is his time to "let go". This is bold, loving and wise.

Notice that the Pope does not "resign". Patriarchs and Bishops resign, because they send in their resignation to the Pope. But the Pope "lets go", he used the word "renounce", which is the word we also embrace during Lent, to renounce whatever does not lead us or those we serve to be closer to God. What an act of humility and love for the Church!

The Holy Father asked all of us once again to entrust the Church to the True Shepherd, Jesus Christ, and he asked the Blessed Mother to intercede for the Church's Cardinal electors, so that by the Holy Spirit they may elect a worthy successor. The Holy Father asked God and us to forgive his shortcomings, and pledged to live the rest of his life in devoted service to the church through prayer.

Wow, what a witness to faith in God, and in his Church! The Holy Father's talk to the Cardinals, a beautiful talk given in Latin, so we know that this was quite freely and soberly thought and prayed out, can be read here:

[http://www.vatican.va/holy\\_father/benedict\\_xvi/speeches/2013/February/documents/hf\\_ben-xvi\\_spe\\_20130211\\_declaratio\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/speeches/2013/February/documents/hf_ben-xvi_spe_20130211_declaratio_en.html)

I hope everyone will read it.

May God bless Pope Benedict the man, the Christian, the Bishop, the Pope, and the faithful "Servant of the Servants of God", and bless the Church, the ship of Peter, as she continues to live and preach the Good News of Jesus Christ.

**+ Gregory**



## Bishop's Appeal 2013

Please take the time to read our beloved Bishop's letter provided here. Many depend on this "appeal" especially our seminarians, retired priests, mission churches, and many other charitable causes. We realize that these are tough economic times, but keep in mind that our dear Lord has given us much and continues to give us so much that our contribution is but a small token for His great generosity. As a reminder, our share of the Bishop's Appeal is **\$2,000.00** (and parish Assessment is **\$4,500.00**) regardless of how much is collected. As always, please... give generously.



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Lent 2013

Prot. No. 107/1/13

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Every year you have responded generously to our appeal to support our many Eparchial services because you know that together we can do so much more than we can do alone.

You train our seminarians (8 of them) and support our retired priests (11 of them), you help to develop programs and catechetical texts for children and youth, support retreats for our deacons and subdeacons. You have helped us prepare translations of our liturgical texts, you help our new religious community for women, the Maronite Servants of Christ the Light, and you assist our Patriarch and Bishops in Lebanon and Syria to reach out to the poor and needy.

In order to be worthy of your continued trust, six years ago we began a pro-active and thorough program of financial accountability and transparency in every parish and institution of the Eparchy. The Eparchy is also audited by an outside accounting firm, Walter Cook and Associates, which investigates all aspects of the Eparchy's financial dealings. We publish this report annually in the *Maronite Voice*.

You have made the success of the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn possible because of your great confidence and generosity. This year we will have 5 ordinations to the priesthood! Yet we have so much more to do. Please open your hearts once again to help your Eparchy to fulfill her God-given calling to make known the face of Christ in the world.

The Annual Eparchial Appeal is one of our most important efforts because each person in the Eparchy is asked to help with the effort. Your donation to the 2013 Appeal is greatly appreciated and much needed. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Gregory J. Mansour

## Fr. George's Personal Thanks

This humble message comes from the heart and with you in mind. I would like to extend my gratitude and sincere thanks for the kindness and generosity shown to me through the many cards and many other expressions of good wishes during the Christmas Season. May the peace and joy of Christ's love be yours throughout the New Year. Thank you and it is greatly appreciated. Please be assured of my prayers for you and your families.

## Church Etiquette

Please observe the following etiquette while attending mass:

1. Arrive 5 minutes prior to mass to prepare yourself for the Divine Liturgy
2. Stay in Church until the Mass final Blessing is given
3. Turn your cell phones to silent mode
4. Refrain from chewing gum, food or drinks, & long and loud personal conversations
5. Refrain from leaving of pews during the reading of the Gospel and the Consecration Words
6. Modest clothing is expected and appreciated

*"Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean." Luke 5:12*





## Requesting a divine liturgy (Mass for the living and the deceased)

Masses are offered for the living or departed as a mean of help to their souls. If possible, Masses are scheduled on the date you request, otherwise the nearest date that is open.

People usually give a free-will offering called "stipend" that goes to the priest's charity. Please contact the Church Offices to schedule a mass for your living or departed.

May the Lord grant rest to your faithful departed and protect your living.

## World Youth Day 2013 Pilgrimage for Eparchy of St. Maron



## World Youth Day 2013 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil July 22—30, 2013



Bishop Gregory invites the youth and young adults of the Eparchy of Saint Maron to journey on a pilgrimage to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, to join Our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, along with Cardinals, Bishops, Priests, Religious and youth from all over the world for a week of worship, prayer and celebration!

World Youth Day is a testimony of the living Church that is continually being renewed. The main goal is to let youth know about Christ's message, and to show through the witness of the young people the "face" of Jesus to the world.

Youth ages 14 - 18 (must be 14 years old before July 1, 2013) and must have at least 1 chaperone per 3 youth / Young Adults ages 19 - 35

### Cost per person is **\$2,300**

\* **Included:** round trip air from USA to Rio, World Youth Day fee, lodging, meals during the official days of the event, WYD Eparchy T-Shirt

\* **Not included:** passport fees, additional meals and sightseeing, purchasing souvenirs, personal items

*For more information, please contact the Eparchial Coordinator:*

Chuck Van Heusen at (910) 988-2421 or [charles.vanheusen@yahoo.com](mailto:charles.vanheusen@yahoo.com)

#### Day 1 July 22 USA / Rio

Depart the USA and arrive in Rio de Janeiro

#### Day 2 July 23 Rio / WYD

Morning is free time to sightsee in Rio. WYD begins in the evening with opening ceremonies held at Copacabana Beach

#### Day 3 July 24 WYD

Catechesis sessions in the morning & festival events in the afternoon and evening

#### Day 4 July 25 WYD

Catechesis sessions in the morning, welcome of Our Holy Father at Copacabana Beach, and festival events in the evening

#### Day 5 July 26 WYD

Catechesis sessions in the morning, Stations of the Cross in the afternoon, and festival events in the evening

#### Day 6 July 27 WYD

Pilgrimage walk to site of evening vigil with the Holy Father and sleep out 'under the stars' at Santa Cruz Air Force Base

#### Day 7 July 28 WYD

Closing Mass with the Holy Father

#### Day 8 July 29 Rio

Free day to sightsee in Rio

#### Day 9 July 30 Rio / USA

Depart from Rio de Janeiro to USA. Arrive home safely!

















"Go and make disciples  
of all nations!"  
(Mt. 28: 19)



"Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean." Luke 5:12



**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord and may perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen**

 In Memory Of <b>Joseph &amp; Helen</b> <b>YAMIN JABOUR</b> Requested by Joe & Kathy JABOUR	 In Loving Memory of <b>Rose, Father Paul,</b> <b>Mike, Joe, Peter</b> <b>KORKEMAZ</b>	 In Memory Of <i>the deceased members of</i> <b>RICE &amp; HEALY Families</b>
 In Loving Memory Of <b>Walter J. GOLDEN</b> & the deceased members of the <b>GOLDEN &amp; VOLKOMER Families</b>	 In Memory Of deceased members of the <b>TAMER &amp; THORNTON</b> <b>Families</b>	 For the living and deceased members of the <b>JOSEPH-NACKLEY &amp;</b> <b>PATNODE Families</b>
	 In Loving Memory Of the deceased members of the <b>REZEY &amp; NACKLEY, SEE</b> <b>&amp; CLOUGH Families</b>	
 In Memory Of <b>David &amp; Jenny REZEY</b> <b>&amp; Nehme FRANGIE</b>	 In Memory Of <i>The Deceased Members</i> <i>of the</i> <b>TALARICO &amp; DEEP</b> <b>Families</b>	 In Loving Memory Of <b>Dot RILEY</b> and the deceased members of the <b>RILEY, MANLEY &amp;</b> <b>PETERSON Families</b> Requested by Tom RILEY, Sr.
 In Memory Of <b>Boulos, Georgette &amp;</b> <b>Assaad ABDALLAH</b> <b>Nagieh &amp; Simon FRANGIE</b> Requested by the ABDALLAH Family	 In Memory Of our grandparents <b>Francis &amp; Marsha</b> <b>KADDU, and Suleiman &amp;</b> <b>Jamileh FRANGIE</b>	 In Loving Memory Of our Mother <b>Clara Mae KARAM</b> Requested by the KARAM Family
 In Memory Of <b>Solomon A. &amp;</b> <b>Patricia H. JABOUR</b> by their children & grandchildren	For Ad info, Call St. Ann's Catholic Church at: 1-518-272-6073	



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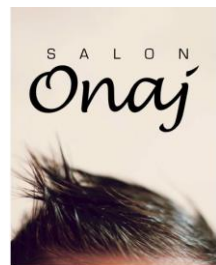
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