



## 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 – Saturdays:** 7:30 AM

### 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 parish office 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 parish office 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 parish office no later than Wednesday.*

### 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 Intention to be said for a living or deceased family member, friend or loved one by calling the parish office or sending an e-mail to schedule intentions.

## Parish Vocations

**Priesthood:** Chorbishop Joe Kaddo, (Pastor of St. Anthony Fall River)

**Religious Life:** Brother Paul HOOVER of the Most Holy Trinity Monastery

**Candidate to subdiaconate:** Richard THORNTON

## CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS

### Parish Pastoral Council

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

– President: Rosemary PATNODE.

### Daughters of St. Ann

This woman's organization meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM. – President: Patti THORNTON.

### St. Maron Men's Society

This men's organization meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month after Mass. – President: Al PATNODE.

### Junior MYO

The Junior MYO is a group of young people 10 years old and up. The Youth organization meets on the last Sunday of every month after 10 am Mass in the church. – Coordinator: Carol SHUFELT.

### 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: Sr Florence Joseph FLAHERTY, D.C.

### St. Ann Liturgical Choir

Choir practice takes place the first Monday of each month at 6:30 pm. No special training is required. – Director: Richard THORNTON.

### Family & Sanctity of Life Committee

The Purpose of this committee is to promote within our parish prayer, education, and action in the defense of all life. Meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month after 10 AM Mass. – Chairperson: Richard THORNTON.

### Liturgical & Spiritual Committee

## Welcome to our Visitors!

Thank you for joining us today. We hope you will grace us with your presence again. Though not well known in the west, the Catholic Church is comprised of **22 Churches: 21 Eastern and 1 Western Church**. The Eastern Catholic Churches (including our **Maronite Catholic Church**) refer to those that developed in the eastern half of the Roman Empire, including the communities that derived from them, and are in communion with Rome.

The Maronite faithful persevere in the faith of their ancestors, spiritually united with each other in the Church throughout the world. By a consistent Christian witness, animated by the beautiful theological and spiritual heritage which they have received, the Maronite Church contributes in a unique way to the ongoing renewal and upbuilding of the entire Catholic Church. For additional information, see the Catholic Encyclopedia or other online resource.

## Upcoming events – Mark your calendars

Sat	Jul 19	Yankee Stadium Bus Trip
Sat	Sep 6	Annual Charity Golf Tournament (sponsored by SMMS)
Sun	Sep 7	Parish Picnic & Election of New Officers for Parish Organizations
Sat	Sep 13	Memorial Service for Abortion Victims – 2pm, Albany Rural Cemetery
Sun	Sep 14	Maronite Day at the Auriesville Shrine
Sun	Nov 2	Subdiaconate Ordination of Richard Thornton Sr.
Sat	Nov 8	(7pm) 14th Annual Lebanese Hafla

## Upcoming MEETINGS

Th	Jul 17	Daughters of St. Ann Meeting
Su	Aug 3	St. Maron Men's Society Meeting
Su	Aug 3	Family & Sanctity of Life Committee Meeting
Mo	Aug 4	St. Ann Liturgical Choir Meeting
We	Aug 6	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting



## Season of the Glorious Pentecost

### Altar Gifts for July 2014

In memory of our angel, Michael David HANNOUSH and in thanksgiving for Daniel, Joelle and Gabriel HANNOUSH

*Requested by their parents, David and Diana*

*The Sanctuary Lamp burns 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.*

The 2014 Calendar is now available to register your intentions. These are scheduled on a first-come- first-served-basis to ensure an equal opportunity for everyone. Contact the office to arrange your memorial.

### 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost Sunday, July 20

**Elias the Prophet, C**

2 Cor 3:1-6

Lk 10:1-7

*The Divine Liturgy is celebrated in memory of:*

- ✠ Josephine HAJJAR, Harry MARREWA, Sayed FRANGIE and Michael David HANNOUSH, requested by Elias and Georgette Hannoush
- ✠ Theodore Vincent DEEB, requested by the Deeb Family

*For the blessing and special intentions of:*

- ✠ Fr. Maroun Moubarak on the occasion of his priesthood Anniversary and his pastoral visit to St. Ann's
- ✠ Victims in Gaza and for safety of civilians
- ✠ Good health of Cancer patients, our sick & homebound

<b>Ushers</b>	Please Volunteer
<b>Greeter</b>	Rosemary Patnode
<b>Ar. Lector</b>	Michel Boutros
<b>En. Lector</b>	Betty Karrat
<b>Intercessions</b>	Karen Rezey

### Weekly Schedule

**Mon., Jul 21;**

Acts 14:1-7

Lk 10:8-12

No Divine Liturgy

**Tue., Jul 22; St. Nohra, M; St. Mary Magdalene, C;  
St. Ignatius of Loyola, C**

Acts 14:8-18

Lk 10:13-16

7:30 am Divine Liturgy

**Wed., Jul 23; St. Sharbel, C**

Acts 14:19-28

Lk 10:17-20

7:30 am Divine Liturgy

**Thu., Jul 24; St. Christina of Tyre, M**

Acts 15:1-12

Lk 10:25-28

7:30 am Divine Liturgy

**Fri., Jul 25;**

Acts 15:13-21

Lk 10:29-37

No Divine Liturgy

**Sat., Jul 26;**

Acts 15:22-30

Lk 10:38-42

No Divine Liturgy

### 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost Sunday, July 27

**St. Pantaleon, M**

**First Holy Communion of Georges & Catalina BOUTROS**

Rom 8:1-11

Mt 12:14-21

*The Divine Liturgy is celebrated in memory of:*

- ✠ Richard NEAL and Alice MAYHEW, requested by Ann Marie Grady
- ✠ Sayed FRANGIE, requested by Leila Nicholas

*For the blessing and special intentions of:*

- ✠ Good health of Cancer patients, our sick & homebound

<b>Ushers</b>	Please Volunteer
<b>Greeter</b>	Mikayla & Davia Boutros
<b>Ar. Lector</b>	Michel Boutros
<b>En. Lector</b>	Kathy Boutros
<b>Intercessions</b>	Georges & Catalina Boutros

### Pope's July Prayer Intentions

**Sports:** That sports may always be occasions of human fraternity and growth.

**Lay Missionaries:** That the Holy Spirit may support the work of the laity who proclaim the Gospel in the poorest countries.

### Pray for our Sick and Homebound

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

Jim TRAA, Wadad FRANGIE, Chantelle BOUDIWAN, Jay MOONEY, Chas TANGREDI, Paul STAVIS, Foutine FRANGIE, Joyce & Christy FIRSTIUN, Juliann HALLAL, Donata CALDARONI, Alisa BURKE, Jamileh K-MOUAWAD, Caroline-Marjorie FIELDS, Della MAWAD, Katherine RIBUSTELLI, Marilyn MARVIN, Margaret McDonough; Pauline NAHAL, Sarah BRENENSTUHL, Gail MOFFRE, Ellen DEEB; Robert SCHARG; Marian DEEP; Adma Bouchaaya

### Requested prayers from the Book of prayers

- ✠ For those suffering from anxiety and fear of the unknown.
- ✠ For the unemployed who are discouraged and those seeking steady employment.
- ✠ For those undergoing medical tests and surgery.

### July Birthdays

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

July 7 Daniel Hannoush	July 8 Joelle Hannoush
July 10 George Karame	July 8 Riza Haxhillari
July 19 Johnny Karrat	July 17 Sofia Karrat
July 23 Dominica Thornton	July 22 Rick Thornton
	July 24 Mikayla Boutros



July 25 Danielle Rahal      July 29 Kathy Jabour  
 July 30 Patrick Thornton

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

## Schedule of Hospitality Sponsors

*Sign-up sheets are in the binder on the table in front of St.*

*Ann in the main entrance of the church.*

*Please consider sponsoring Sunday refreshments.*

*Thank you.*

Jul 20 Hannoush Family

July 27 Available

## Your Gift to God for Jul 13

*Counted by Marrian Furfaro & Ronald Bagley.*

<b>Weekly Offering</b>	<b>\$1734.00</b>
Building Fund	\$55.00
Assessment / Bishop Appeal	\$130.00
Fuel & Heat	\$15.00
Peter's Pence	\$25.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2039.00</b>

## Schedule for Collection Counters

Jul 13 Marrian Furfaro & Ronald Bagley  
 Jul 20 Rosemary Patnode & Rick Thornton  
 Jul 27 Thomas Riley Sr. & Rolla Mooney  
 Aug 3 Marrian Furfaro & Ronald Bagley  
 Aug 10 Rosemary Patnode & Rick Thornton  
 Aug 17 Thomas Riley Sr. & Rolla Mooney  
 Aug 24 Marrian Furfaro & Ronald Bagley

## Pope Francis via Twitter - @Pontifex

*Do not be afraid to cast yourselves into the arms of God; whatever he asks of you, he will repay a hundredfold.*

## No Parking!

Please DO NOT PARK in front of 313 21<sup>st</sup> Street. This is a 2 story grey house, on the north side of 21<sup>st</sup> St. between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Avenues. The resident is handicapped and has kindly asked us to respect the **NO PARKING** sign prominently displayed on the front of their house. Thank you for your assistance in this regard.

## Welcome to Father Maroun



St. Ann's welcomes the Vicar General of the Congregation of Maronite Lebanese Missionaries, **Reverend Father Maroun MOUBARAK, M.L.M.**, who is making a Pastoral Visit to the US and will be participating in a Pastoral Convention for the "Equipes Notre Dame" (END) in Boston, MA as National Spiritual Director of the END - Lebanon.

Fr. Maroun is a member of the same religious congregation of Fr. George. Fr. Maroun was his Master of Novices in 1996.

Ordained to the priesthood on 07/10/1988, he served his religious community as Master of Novices for 9 years and Rector of the Seminary for 6 years and Secretary General for 3 years,

and in the field of formation of postulants, novices and professed brothers and priests for over 25 years. He was elected General Counselor and Vicar General in August 2013 for a mandate of 6 years.

Expert in Liturgy and Spirituality, he is a member of the Patriarchal Commission of Liturgical Affairs. Fr. Maroun is preacher and spiritual director for several parish retreats, and religious, priests and bishop retreats.

He also serves as Father Superior of the Monastery of St. John the Beloved, Jounieh - Lebanon; and pastor of the Parish of St. Nicholas (Zakhia), Batha - Lebanon. Father Maroun is the General Spiritual Director of the Congregation of Maronite Sisters of Holy Family and the Congregation of the nuns of the Blessed Sacrament.

## Summer Program for Children

Under the guidance of Sr. Florence Joseph, St. Ann's is again offering this fun program, from 10 am to 2pm on Wednesdays: July 23, 30, and August 6, 13. Activities include films, games, and arts & crafts. A snack/lunch is included.

The program, open to children ages 4 and up, is not limited to parish children. However, to ensure its success, all children must register by July 19, at the latest. A sign-up sheet is on the table in the church vestibule. Summer classes will take place at the former church on 4<sup>th</sup> Street in Troy. Safety, security and supervision will be well provided. Should you have any questions, you may contact Sr. Florence at 764-3540. Please ensure your child(ren) leave all electronic devices at home or in the car. Should your child have a medical problem, please provide the necessary information on a slip of paper for Sr. Florence.

## Coming soon ... Saturday Mass

At the request of parishioners, beginning on September 6, an evening vigil mass will be held at 4:30 pm each Saturday. This initiative is tentative, and relies on parishioner participation. Volunteers are needed to serve as sacristans, ushers, lectors, cantors and altar servers. Attendance is also a qualifying factor. Those interested in serving in these ministries, should contact Fr. Bouchaaya as soon as possible, for scheduling purposes. Please share this information with family and friends.

## Maronite Day at the Auriesville Shrine

September 14, 2014 has been set as the date for the celebration of Maronite Day at the Shrine of Our Lady of Martyrs in Auriesville, NY. We will be joining with our sister Maronite parish of St. Louis Gonzaga from Utica, NY for a picnic starting at 12 noon in the shrine's pavilion, followed by celebration of Divine Liturgy in the Coliseum at 4 PM. More information will be provided as the date approaches.

## Please Dress Modestly in Church

With the arrival of warm weather, we kindly remind you to dress modestly when you come to church.

It is God's House and we should give it our utmost respect! Dress as though you were going to visit the most important person in your life, because you are!

Please, no halter or tank tops, short-shorts or mini-skirts. If you get cold easily in church, please remember to bring a sweater or jacket. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

## Summer is here...

Vacations are necessary for reviving our spirit & bodies; some of you may be traveling out of the country or just out of





town. While you are enjoying this time away, remember your parish commitment. Expenses do not take a vacation. Bills still need to be paid. During the summer, the collection tends to drop, so please remember to make up your weekly contribution and have a safe and restful summer. God bless you for your generosity.

## In Case You Want to Know

By Richard Thornton, Sr.

While we are in the middle of our celebration of *the Season of the Glorious Pentecost*, a time when we Maronites commemorate the life of the Spirit which is the life we now lead, and especially this week, when we celebrate the feast of one of the most famous Maronite saints of modern times, St. Sharbel Makhloof, on July 23, let us pause and reflect on our Maronite traditions. Let's start with the Divine Liturgy.

The Maronite Liturgy has both rich theological and human dimensions. This school of faith links the world to heaven. Based upon the life of Saint Maron, a monastic spirit permeates Maronite prayer and liturgical life making *asceticism* (austerity and simplicity) and sacrifice an important part of our relationship with God.

In the Maronite Church, the celebration of the Eucharist is known by several names: *Qurbano* (Syriac), *Quddas* (Arabic), Sacrifice of the Mass, Divine Liturgy, and the Service of the Holy Mysteries. In this celebration, Christ is offered to the Father for our salvation and we also offer ourselves, with Him, as a spiritual sacrifice. By the actions and Words of Institution of the priest and the Invocation of the Holy Spirit, bread and wine are transformed into the Body and Blood of Christ, the sacrifice at the altar is made holy, and so are we.

Before the Holy Mysteries are celebrated, the priest and people prepare themselves. The priest, deacon or sub deacon prepares the bread and wine on a side altar.

The Divine Liturgy begins, first with the *Service of the Word* and then the *Service of the Eucharist (Anaphora)*.

**The Liturgy (Service) of the Word** stems from the ancient Jewish Synagogue service. It is composed of hymns, psalms, the burning of incense, Scripture readings and a homily. The structure of the Service of the Word remains the same for every Divine Liturgy. It starts with a Blessing, and then a prayer of praise in the *Glory to God*. A unique feature of the Service of the Word in the Maronite Church is the *Hoosoyo* or Prayer of Forgiveness which follows. During this time the priest or deacon incenses the altar, cross and all present, as a prayer is recited or chanted, recalling God's mercy to sinful man in times past, and asking His mercy again for today. The *Hoosoyo* prayers themselves change to reflect the feast. These prayers serve as great catechetical texts and are particular for and carry the theme of the particular day/event we are celebrating.

The *Trisagion (Qadishat)* is then chanted in Syriac, followed by three verses of poetry referring to the feast (the *Mazmour*). A passage from the New Testament is then read, followed by an Alleluia verse also referring to the feast being celebrated, and then the Gospel is

proclaimed by either the priest or ordained deacon. The teachings and readings of the day are then elaborated upon and explained during the Homily. After the congregations professes their faith with the Creed, we enter into the PreAnaphora prayers and the Anaphora.

## Our Stained Glass Windows: St. Ann



Christians, from the earliest times, had an interest in knowing more about Jesus' family, especially about his mother and his grandmother. Ann is the name of the Jewish woman who was Jesus' grandmother and the virgin Mary's mother. We know nothing about Ann from the Bible. A third century Greek manuscript called "the revelation of James" tells a fictional story about Mary and her parents Joachim and Ann. The story was probably written around the year 160 AD, by a non-Jewish Christian.

According to the ancient story called the "Gospel of James," Ann the mother of Mary, was born in Bethlehem, where, years later, Jesus would be born. She married Joachim from Nazareth in Galilee. Their marriage was blessed in many ways. Unfortunately, after 20 years of marriage, Ann and Joachim had no children. They prayed and prayed, and even vowed to dedicate to God any child they would have. Ann conceived and bore a daughter, and called her Mary, a common name for Jewish women of the time.

When Mary was three years old, her parents presented her in the Temple in Jerusalem as a gift to the Lord. So as a little girl just three years old, her parents watched her ascend the 15 great steps to the Temple courtyard and approach the altar of sacrifice. God was there and she wished to be near him. And that is what her parents, Ann and Joachim, wished — that their daughter be near her God. The early story says that Mary spent most of her childhood in that holy place.

When Mary was 14, the age Jewish girls married at that time, she wondered what her future would be. Ann and Joachim began to arrange for her marriage, as customary in those days, and sought advice from the Jewish high priest himself. After praying for guidance, the high priest called every unmarried man from the tribe of David to come to the temple with a branch from the fields and lay it on the altar. The one whose branch flowered, he decided, would marry Mary.

Joseph was among those who came at the high priest's call, but he brought no branch with him. Yet God pointed him out as the one who should be Mary's husband. When Joseph finally placed a branch on the altar, it immediately flowered. The two were betrothed in marriage and Mary returned to her parent's home at Nazareth to prepare for the wedding. While she was there, the angel Gabriel appeared to her and announced that she was to be the mother of Jesus. By the power of the Holy Spirit she conceived the child.

The story of Jesus' mother and grandmother as written in the Gospel of James was very popular among early Christians. It had a great influence on Christian worship, art and devotion. Around 550 A.D., a church in honor of Saint Ann was built in Jerusalem near the temple area on the site where Ann, Joachim and their daughter Mary were believed to have lived. In the 6th century the churches in the East celebrated two feasts honoring Mary



based on the story: Mary's birth and her presentation in the Temple.



The oldest church dedicated to St. Anne stands in the Arab Quarter of Jerusalem, built on the site that ancient tradition identifies as the location of the home of St. Anne and St. Joachim, and the birthplace of Mary. The first church was erected on this site about the year

475; it was replaced by the present structure by Crusaders in 1140. The building's elegant architecture and remarkable acoustics make it the finest example of Crusader architecture in the Holy Land. When the Muslims reconquered Jerusalem from the Crusaders, their reverence for Mary led them to preserve the building, converting it a school for Islamic studies. It remained thus until it was restored to Christian use in 1856.

## The Maronite Liturgy

### Influences on the Maronite Liturgy

#### By Chorbishop Seely Beggiani

The Maronite Church in its liturgy is fortunate in being the heir of at least two rich traditions, those of Edessa and Antioch. The Church of Edessa traces its origins to the preaching of the liturgical contributors included St. Ephrem and James of Saroug. The first Christian converts to the Church of Edessa included the earliest Jewish-Christians. Therefore, its liturgy is strongly influenced by the world-view of the Bible. As one of the oldest established churches, it developed its prayer forms before being influenced by Greek thought. Our Maronite liturgy today still has many hymns and prayers from St. Ephrem and James of Saroug. The Anaphora of the Apostles (also known as III Peter and by the Syriac word Sharrar), which the Maronite Church shares in common with the Church of Edessa, is the oldest Anaphora in the Catholic Church, and is still found in adapted form as the Anaphora of the Signing of the Chalice on Good Friday.

The Church of Antioch was the ancient See of Peter and developed its liturgy with influences from the Church of Jerusalem. The Maronite Anaphora of the Twelve Apostles represents the oldest tradition of the Church of Antioch. St. John Chrysostom took this Anaphora with him to Constantinople and became the basis of the Byzantine liturgy. As heir to the Patriarchate of Antioch, the Maronite Church represents the Antiochene liturgy in its fullness. Thus, the Maronite Church, in its prayer life, preserves the way of worship of the Apostles and their earliest disciples.

#### Qorbono (Quddas)

It is fitting that the Maronite name for the divine liturgy is Qorbono in Syriac and Quddas in Arabic. The Syriac term refers to the idea of "offering" and focuses on the sacrificial acts of Christ offering himself, and on our own willingness to render our lives as an oblation. The Arabic term refers to the idea of "making holy" and refers to the fact that in the liturgy the gifts, and by analogy the participants, are divinized by the action of the Holy Spirit.

## Preparation of the Gifts

The Preparation of the Gifts reminds us that the liturgy is an act of offering by the whole community. It is the people that bring their time, treasures, and talents to the Eucharistic celebration. The bread and wine selected from among the gifts are chosen to become the Body and Blood of Christ. Similarly, our gifts and dedication to be of service to Christ are consecrated through the action of the divine liturgy.

*to be continued*

## Maronite Term of the Week

### Anaphora (an APH or a) (Gr: "offering")

The Eucharistic Prayer of the Quorbono. The Anaphora is the central prayer of thanksgiving of the liturgy in which the Trinity is invoked to accomplish the sanctification of the Offerings. The Anaphora is the second basic part of the worship service (the Service of the Word being the first). While trinary in structure, the emphasis differs in the East and West. In the Eastern liturgies, the trinary pattern of prayers is Father-Son-Spirit, culminating in the Epiclesis; while in the West, the pattern is Father-Spirit-Son, culminating in the Consecration, a decidedly Christological emphasis.

*source: Captivated by your Teachings by Fr. Anthony J. Salim*

## Saint of the Week: St. Sharbel Makhlof

Although this saint never traveled far from the Lebanese village of Beka-Kafra, where he was born, his influence has spread widely.

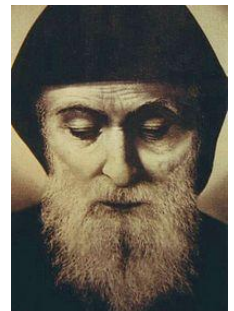
Joseph Zaroun Makhlof was raised by an uncle because his father, a mule driver, died when Joseph was only three. At the age of 23, Joseph joined the Monastery of St. Maron at Annaya, Lebanon, and took the name Sharbel in honor of a second-century martyr. He professed his final vows in 1853 and was ordained six years later.

Following the example of the fifth-century St. Maron, Sharbel lived as a hermit from 1875 until his death. His reputation for holiness prompted people to seek him to receive a blessing and to be remembered in his prayers. He followed a strict fast and was very devoted to the Blessed Sacrament. When his superiors occasionally asked him to administer the sacraments to nearby villages, Sharbel did so gladly.

He died in the late afternoon on Christmas Eve 1896. Christians and non-Christians soon made his tomb a place of pilgrimage and of cures. Pope Paul VI beatified him in 1965 and canonized him 12 years later.

St. John Paul II often said that the Church has two lungs (East and West) and it must learn to breathe using both of them. Remembering saints like Sharbel helps the Church to appreciate both the diversity and unity present in the Catholic Church. Like all the saints, Sharbel points us to God and invites us to cooperate generously with God's grace, no matter what our situation in life may be. As our prayer life becomes deeper and more honest, we become more ready to make that generous response.

*"St. Sharbel is called the second St. Anthony of the Desert, the Perfume of Lebanon, the first Confessor of the East to be raised to the*



*Altars according to the actual procedure of the Catholic Church, the honor of our Aramaic Antiochian Church, and the model of spiritual values and renewal. Sharbel is like a Cedar of Lebanon standing in eternal prayer, on top of a mountain." – Bishop Francis Zayek*

## In The News

### New healthcare resource links Catholic patients, providers

New York City, N.Y., Jul 13, 2014 / 04:07 pm (CNA/EWTN News).- A new healthcare website hopes to link together Catholic patients and healthcare providers in order to address the cultural challenges facing Catholics around the country.

"There's more to being Catholic ... than simply, 'we don't use birth control,'" Dr. Greg Bottaro, PsyD, said to CNA July 7, of how the faith affects participation in the healthcare industry.

"There's an integration between our faith and our professional life as a healthcare provider where we treat the person differently from the start."

Bottaro is the founder of WellCatholic, a website he hopes will link Catholic patients with doctors who uphold Catholic values in their health practices across all medical disciplines.

"We're created to be a resource for Catholics to find Catholic providers," Bottaro said, "and at the same time, it's a resource for Catholic providers to be recognized and supported for practicing according to Catholic values."

He said that while working as a Catholic psychologist in New York he was struck by how many people would ask for recommendations for Catholic doctors elsewhere in the country.

These conversations led him to realize "there's definitely a huge demand for healthcare" that respects a patient's beliefs, as well as those of their health provider.

"Story after story came in saying that there were so many ways that not having that faith in common really hurt the care they were receiving," Bottaro said.

This shared faith, he continued, is an important factor "especially when you're in your most vulnerable state. It hurts that much deeper when your faith is called into question and you're belittled or degraded because of it" in these situations, he continued.

While there are already some services that list Catholic doctors and other health providers, Bottaro said, they are typically not user-friendly and are intended for a small number of people, rather than marketed to the public.

By focusing on linking the public and healthcare professionals in an online community, Bottaro said he hoped WellCatholic could "become a Catholic household name" that Catholics go to when they need a doctor.

However, for the venture to be most successful, communities on the ground need to help build WellCatholic as an online community – specifically in spreading the word among doctors and patients.

"If people really love the vision and feel like they would benefit from this, we really need grassroots support," Bottaro said.

"Right now we're just getting started, so there's definitely a need for community support behind this."

**wellcatholic**

Link: <https://wellcatholic.com/>

July 20, 2014



## National NFP Awareness Week - JULY 20 - JULY 26, 2014

**2014 theme: Natural Family Planning:  
It's Worth It. Join the Revolution!**

*"Celebrate and reverence God's vision of human sexuality."  
Discover Natural Family Planning*

Natural Family Planning Awareness Week is a national educational campaign. The Natural Family Planning Program of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops develops a poster each year with basic supportive materials. It is the individual dioceses however, that offer a variety of educational formats in the local church to focus attention on Natural Family Planning methods and Church teachings which support their use in marriage.

**Natural Family Planning (NFP) is an umbrella term for the safe, natural and effective methods of both achieving and avoiding pregnancy.** NFP methods teach couples how to observe and interpret the woman's signs of fertility and infertility. In the words of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, NFP methods "respect the bodies of the spouses, encourage tenderness between them and favor the education of an authentic freedom." (CCC, no. 2370).

The dates of Natural Family Planning Awareness Week highlight the anniversary of the papal encyclical *Humanae Vitae* (July 25) which articulates Catholic beliefs about human sexuality, conjugal love and responsible parenthood. The dates also mark the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne (July 26), the parents of the Blessed Mother.

Don't have time to attend an in-person class? Learn NFP in the comfort of your home by contacting one of the NFP providers listed at: <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/marriage-and-family/natural-family-planning/nfp-home-study.cfm>

Want to learn more about the methods of NFP, visit the NFP section of the USCCB website at, <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/marriage-and-family/natural-family-planning/what-is-nfp/index.cfm>; or for further information, contact [nfp@usccb.org](mailto:nfp@usccb.org).

The Catholic Church invites all the faithful to embrace God's plan for married love. Learn more about these beautiful teachings which support the use of NFP in marriage at: <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/marriage-and-family/natural-family-planning/catholic-teaching>.

## The Maronite Voice – July 2014

### A Publication of the Maronite Eparchies in the USA

The July issue of *The Maronite Voice* features a reflection on The Massabki Brothers by Bishop Gregory Mansour; An article about Patriarch Rai's Pastoral trip to the Holy Land; An article on Called to Holiness by Fr. Gary George; as well as news from different parishes and institutions.

To Download the latest newsletter, please visit: [http://www.stmaron.org/the\\_Maronite\\_Voice\\_July\\_2014.pdf](http://www.stmaron.org/the_Maronite_Voice_July_2014.pdf) or click here: [July 2014](#) (pdf).





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

<div><div>✝</div><div>In Memory Of <b>Joseph &amp; Helen YAMIN JABOUR</b> <small>Requested by Joe &amp; Kathy JABOUR</small></div></div>	<div><div>✝</div><div>In Loving Memory Of our parents <b>Claramae and Joseph KARAM</b> <small>Requested by the KARAM Family</small></div></div>	<div><div>✝</div><div>In Loving Memory of <b>Rose, Father Paul, Mike, Joe, Peter KORKEMAZ</b> <small>Requested by the KORKEMAZ Family</small></div></div>	<div><div>✝</div><div>In Memory Of <i>the deceased members of</i> <b>RICE &amp; HEALY Families</b></div></div>
<div><div>✝</div><div>In Loving Memory Of <b>Walter J. &amp; Mary GOLDEN</b> &amp; the deceased members of the <b>GOLDEN &amp; VOLKOMER Families</b></div></div>	<div><div>✝</div><div>In Loving Memory of <b>Michael-David Hannoush</b> <small>by his grandparents, Elias &amp; Georgette</small></div></div>	<div><div>✝</div><div>In Memory Of deceased members of the <b>TAMER &amp; THORNTON Families</b></div></div>	<div><div>✝</div><div>For the living and deceased members of the <b>JOSEPH-NACKLEY &amp; PATNODE Families</b></div></div>
<div><div>✝</div><div>In Memory Of <b>Solomon A. &amp; Patricia H. JABOUR</b> <small>by their children &amp; grandchildren</small></div></div>	<div><div>✝</div><div>In Loving Memory of <b>Donald &amp; Edith (Joseph) Patnode &amp; son, Vincent-Paul</b></div></div>	<div><div>✝</div><div>In Memory Of <i>The Deceased Members of</i> the <b>TALARICO &amp; DEEP Families</b></div></div>	<div><div>✝</div><div>In Loving Memory Of the deceased members of the <b>REZEY &amp; NACKLEY, SEE &amp; CLOUGH Families</b></div></div>
<div><div>✝</div><div>In Memory Of <b>David &amp; Jenny REZEY &amp; Nehme FRANGIE</b></div></div>	<div><div>✝</div><div>In Loving Memory of <b>Abraham &amp; Mary Joseph- Nackley and their deceased daughters</b></div></div>	<div><div>✝</div><div>In Memory Of our grandparents <b>Francis &amp; Marsha KADD0, and Suleiman &amp; Jamileh FRANGIE</b> <small>Requested by the KADD0 Family</small></div></div>	<div><div>✝</div><div>In Loving Memory Of <b>Dot RILEY</b> and the deceased members of the <b>RILEY, MANLEY &amp; PETERSON Families</b> <small>Requested by Tom RILEY, Sr.</small></div></div>
<div><div>✝</div><div>In Memory Of <b>Boulos, Georgette &amp; Assaad ABDALLAH Nagieh &amp; Simon FRANGIE</b> <small>Requested by the ABDALLAH Family</small></div></div>	<div><div>✝</div><div>In Loving Memory of <b>Dominic FARINA, Sr.</b> <small>Requested by Edith Farina &amp; Family</small></div></div>	<div><div>✝</div><div><h1>Stena Dry Cleaning</h1><h2>Shirt Laundry</h2><p>451 Albany Shaker Rd, Loudonville, NY 12211 Tel: (518) 459-5944</p><p><b>Hours</b> Monday – Friday 7:00am - 7:00pm; Saturday 9:00am - 3:00pm</p><h1>Erica's Tailoring</h1><h2>Full Service &amp; Alterations</h2><p>451 Albany Shaker Rd, Loudonville, NY 12211 Tel: (518) 459-5944</p><p><b>Hours</b> Monday – Friday 7:00am - 7:00pm; Saturday 9:00am - 3:00pm</p></div></div>	
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