### Summer Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Service Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 5:00 PM</td>
<td>English &amp; Aramaic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 11:00 AM</td>
<td>English &amp; Aramaic and Arabic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday-Friday 10:00 AM</td>
<td>(in the Chapel)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Confessions</td>
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<td></td>
<td>30 minutes before every Divine Liturgy</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Eucharistic Adoration</td>
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<td></td>
<td>First Friday of every month 7:00 PM</td>
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We are the Maronite Eastern Catholic Community of Saint Joseph Parish in Sandy Springs GA, part of the Universal Catholic Church. We follow and preserve the rich traditions and heritage of the Monastic Maronite Antiochene Catholic Eastern Syriac rite. Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we are empowered by our baptismal promises and the Lord's disciples as stewards of God’s bountiful gifts. Our purpose is to joyfully proclaim the presence of Christ to the total community by dedicating ourselves to worshipping, teaching, learning and living the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We are a family of God who works together for the spiritual, physical and social growth of the community. We respect every individual regardless of race or ethnic origin and we welcome them as part of our community. We are committed to preserve and pass-on our Eastern Antiochene tradition and spiritual heritage to our children.
Readings of the Week

**Sunday, 9/13**
1 Cor 1:18-25  
Jn 12:20-32

**Monday, 9/14**
2 Pet 1:1-11  
Jn 3:11-21

**Tuesday, 9/15**
2 Pet 1:12-21  
Jn 8:21-30

**Wednesday, 9/16**
2 Pet 3:1-9  
Jn 12:31-36

**Thursday, 9/17**
2 Pet 3:10-18  
Mk 8:31-38

**Friday, 9/18**
Jude 1-7  
Jn 18:33-38

**Saturday, 9/19**
Jude 17-25  
Lk 23:36-43

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**Mass Intentions**

**Sunday, September 13**
11:00 AM  
For Georges, Alice, and Leila Ghorra, Requested by Tony and Rita Ghorra

**Tuesday, September 15**
10:00 AM  
For Sammy and Alicia Najjar

**Wednesday, September 16**
10:00 AM  
For Margaret Chadwick, Requested by Ann Hartle

**Thursday, September 17**
10:00 AM  
For Gerry Mills, Requested by Georgette Samaritan

**Friday, September 18**
10:00 AM  
For Nora Ferris, Requested by Lou and Robin Isaf

**Saturday, September 19**
5:00 PM  
For Oliver and Ann Carole Broz, Requested by Linda and Brian Delgross

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**Order of Saint Sharbel Sunday, October 11**

This year, October 11 is designated as “Order of Saint Sharbel Sunday” in our Eparchy. On October 11, all Maronite parishes will be promoting the Order. The Order of Saint Sharbel is vitally important in providing financial and spiritual support for our seminarians, who are crucial for the future of our Maronite Church. This year we have four men studying in Washington and two in Lebanon for our Eparchy. Please prayerfully consider joining the Order. You may enroll online at [www.orderstsharbel.org](http://www.orderstsharbel.org) or ask Father for more information.
Help for Lebanon!!

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

You have seen the disaster that struck Lebanon on 4 August. This is a country already struggling with the pandemic and crushed by economic collapse. As Maronite Christians, we must do whatever we can to help.

You can contribute through our website: 
https://sjmcc.org/
Click on the “Help Lebanon Fund” link, or on the Bishop’s letter on the homepage.
All of the money collected by the church will be sent to Bishop Gregory who is working directly with the charitable organizations getting immediate relief to the people who need it most.

May God always reward you for your compassion.

In Christ,
Father Tony

Weekend Liturgies for September
Due to the continuing requirement of social distancing and the limitations on size of gatherings, we will continue our current schedule of weekend Liturgies:

Saturdays at 5PM
and
Sundays at 11AM
Guidelines for Liturgy

The Archbishop of Atlanta encourages all who are healthy to return to church for Mass and the Sacraments.

The dispensation from the obligation to attend Divine Liturgy remains in effect through September, if you are in a vulnerable condition and believe it is too soon for you to return to church.

For reasons of health and safety and to conform to our governor’s guidelines, we shall continue to hold our Liturgies in the following manner:

There will be two Divine Liturgies on weekends during August and September, one at 5 PM on Saturday and one at 11 AM on Sunday. In order to ensure that we will have enough room for the required social distancing, please attend the 5PM Liturgy on Saturday if possible, so that the 11 AM Liturgy on Sunday will not be too crowded.
The 11 AM Liturgy on Sunday will be live-streamed on our facebook page: facebook.com/sjmccatl.

• The Divine Liturgy will have a 50% seating capacity. We might not have any music or singing. Acolytes will not serve.
• Every second pew will be available for seating. Members of the same household can sit together. Everyone else should maintain social distance of six feet when seated, in the Communion line, and while entering/leaving church.
• No one will be admitted without a mask (bring your own), which must be worn during the entire Divine Liturgy.
• Parishioners over the age of 65, or those with compromised immune systems, or those who are in contact with persons with vulnerable health conditions are encouraged not to attend the Divine Liturgy. Parents are discouraged from bringing children under the age of 5.
• Our Maronite bishop wants us to continue our practice of receiving Holy Communion on the tongue. However, if you wish to receive in your hands, you may do so.
• Parishioners should not congregate in vestibule or parking lot and should proceed directly to their cars. The Sunday Coffee hour remains canceled until further notice.
These norms will remain in effect until circumstances require or permit a change.

May our Blessed Mother protect all of us from all evil.
Devotedly yours in Christ,
Rev Tony Akoury
We would love for you to join us ....On Sunday, September 27th, at 6:30 p.m., PAC is hosting its 2020 “Evening for Life” fund-raising event, with this year’s theme being “Courageous Love.”

The content-rich program will feature the Archbishop of Atlanta, The Most Reverend Gregory John Hartmayer, OFM Conv., internationally-acclaimed, pro-life speaker, Stephanie Gray, nationally-recognized speaker and best-selling author, Dr. Allen Hunt, and much more...

This will be a fully digital, live-streamed online event. Register now to get full access to an evening of our inspiring speakers, offering hope, affirmation and encouragement in our work to protect life.

(There is no cost to register.)

All registered parties will be invited to the live-streamed event. Password-protected links to be emailed prior September 27th. On-line Silent Auction will be opening soon.

We would greatly appreciate it if you would "spread the word" about this inspiring event.

Additional information may be found at https://www.pregnancyaidclinic.com/love2020.html. Please remember to register -- there is no cost to do this.

We are looking forward to you joining us -- we appreciate you so much....
We are now working with FlowerCraft to create arrangements befitting our beautifully renovated sanctuary! Parishioners are welcome to donate a month’s altar flowers in memory of or in honor of a loved one, and families may like to contribute together. If you would like to donate, please contact Maryse Murad at marysemurad@gmail.com

The flowers for the altar are given by Fred and June Isaf in honor of Christa Isaf and Mark Worley.

The Knights of Columbus have placed donation boxes in the church vestibule for contributions of non-perishable food for various food pantries in Atlanta. The Food Drive will continue through September. Donations thus far have gone to the Ronald McDonald House, Nicholas House, and Our House shelters.

Please continue to be generous. Donations may include paper products (plates, napkins, cups, toilet paper, etc.). As always, Thank you.
Demand a COVID-19 Vaccine Free from Abortion

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has asked all Catholics to contact the Secretary of Health and Human Services, Alex Azar, to prevent the use of cell lines from aborted babies in vaccines for the corona virus. Please follow this link to the website where you will be able to write directly to Secretary Azar.

https://www.votervoice.net/USCCB/Campaigns/73486/Respond

Almighty God, you are our defender and shield against all evil and oppression.

We beg your divine protection upon all your children who face persecution and violence for the sake of your name.

May Christians around the world unite their struggles with the Cross of Christ whenever they are faced with mockery, injustice, exile, or bodily harm.

Help all those displaced from their homes, those sold into slavery and any who have gone missing in the chaos of war.

Have mercy on all the dead who have lost their lives rather than deny their faith in you.

Restore peace and joy to the lives of your suffering people and may all senseless fighting and hatred cease.

God of mercy and justice – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – we place all of our trust in you. Amen.
A Special “Thank You” for our supporters. Our weekly bulletin reaches more than 600 people by both email and print. We encourage you to advertise your business and share the services you can offer to other parishioners. To advertise in the bulletin, send us your business card. Suggested donation $200 per year.

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