St. Therese of the Child Jesus, October 1

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 worshiping, 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.
Mass Intentions

Sunday, September 27
11:00 AM
For Raymond Hanna,
Requested by his wife Judi
and Children

Tuesday, September 29
10:00 AM
For Dr. Jim Parker,
Requested by Abbie Rose Mansour

Wednesday, September 30
10:00 AM
For Isabel Mansour,
Requested by Abbie Rose Mansour

Thursday, October 1
10:00 AM
For Arnold Holder,
Requested by Georgette Samaritan

Friday, October 2
10:00 AM
For Debbie Carroll,
Requested by Fred and June Isaf

Saturday, October 3
5:00 PM
For Teresa Shiner,
Requested by
David and Lisa Nasser

PRAYER REQUESTS

To offer a Mass for a loved one, please stop by the parish office or call us to check the schedule and book your Mass.

Readings of the Week

Sunday, 9/27 1 Cor 15:19-34 Mt 24:1-14
Monday, 9/28 Rev 3:1-6 Mt 10:16-22
Tuesday, 9/29 Rev 3:7-13 Mt 11:20-24
Wednesday, 9/30 Rev 3:14-22 Mt 12:29-32
Thursday, 10/1 Rev 4:1-11 Mt 12:33-37
Friday, 10/2 Rev 5:1-10 Mt 12:38-42
Saturday, 10/3 Rev 6:9-17 Mt 12:43-45
Order of Saint Sharbel Sunday, October 11

JOIN THE ORDER OF SAINT SHARBEL
TO SUPPORT THE EDUCATION OF MARONITE SEMINARIANS
AND HELP BUILD THE FUTURE OF THE MARONITE CHURCH

Meet this year’s Seminarians for the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn

JOIN THE ORDER OF SAINT SHARBEL TODAY
Enroll online at www.orderstsharbel.org or in your Parish.

For more information about the Order, contact the Order of Saint Sharbel
Vice President, Charlene Hiffa at mchiffa@bellsouth.net or ask your Parish Priest.
If you are interested in becoming a Priest, Religious Sister, or Deacon, contact Vocations Director
Father Dominique Hanna at (718) 624-7228 or cathrectory@verizon.net.
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 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 Divine Liturgy will have a 50% seating capacity. 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

YOU ARE INVITED to attend OUR Eparchy’s First Virtual Benefit!

Bishop Gregory Mansour will be our host for this virtual event which begins
Thursday, October 1, 2020 at 7:00 pm

Bishop Gregory Mansour will be our host for this virtual 35-minute event in which he will also answer questions live.

We will all be together using Zoom technology. There will be no need to travel to New York to participate. This year is more important than ever considering the situation in Lebanon. And you can attend from the comfort of your own home.

The theme of this benefit is to honor the priests of our Eparchy. Ten priests will speak on the joy of the priesthood. In addition to learning more about the priesthood and the joy of priestly service, this event raises money to help educate seminarians, give retired priests the housing, healthcare and reasonable retirement which they deserve after many years of working for our spiritual and temporal good. Money raised will also be used to support Maronite missions and youth ministries. In addition to these important goals we need to enough money so that our Eparchy can continue to help those in need in Lebanon and the Middle East.

See the website www.stmaron.org for detailed information on the event and to register for free.

The Eparchy is asking everyone who can to please make a donation online beforehand at https://www.stmaron.org/virtual-benefit-2020.

We can attend the event October 1st at 7pm by going to Zoom (http://www.zoom.us) and entering the Meeting ID and Password, as follows:

Meeting ID: 846 7541 6786
Passcode: 266457

Thank you for helping us make a difference in life of the Maronite Church both in our Eparchy and abroad!
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

Thank Sanofi Pasteur for Pro-life Vaccines

The FDA recently approved Sanofi Pasteur’s request to switch from using an aborted fetal cell line (MRC-5) to using an ethical animal cell line to produce its polio combination vaccines Pentacel and Quadracel. The drug company has also chosen to discontinue production of its stand-alone polio vaccine, Poliovax, which also used MRC-5 for its production, and to retain another stand-alone polio vaccine, IPOL, that is ethically produced. Furthermore, Sanofi-Pasteur’s ongoing effort to develop a vaccine for COVID-19 also does not rely on cell lines linked to elective abortion.

One important step we can take to ensure the production of ethical vaccines is to recognize and thank drug companies, like Sanofi Pasteur, when they move away from unethical vaccine production. We can hope that, with some encouragement, other vaccine manufacturers may consider creating other morally acceptable vaccines.

Any motivation to create additional, morally acceptable products will certainly be strengthened if we can show a market demand for ethical sources.

Please **TAKE ACTION NOW** to thank Sanofi-Pasteur and to encourage others to do so as well.
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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