Mass Times

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liturgy Schedule</th>
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| **Saturday 5:00 PM**  
 English & Aramaic |
| **Sunday 11:00 AM**  
 English & Aramaic  
 and Arabic |
| **Tuesday-Friday 10:00 AM**  
 (in the Chapel) |
| **Confessions**  
 30 minutes before every  
 Divine Liturgy |
| **Eucharistic Adoration**  
 First Friday of every  
 month 7:00 PM and every  
 Thursday at 9:30 AM  
 (before Mass) |

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.
Readings of the Week

Sunday, 12/13  
Eph 3:1-13  
Mt 1:18-25

Monday, 12/14  
Rom 10:14-21  
Jn 7:1-10

Tuesday, 12/15  
Rom 11:1-12  
Jn 7:11-18

Wednesday, 12/16  
Rom 11:13-24  
Jn 7:25-30

Thursday, 12/17  
Rom 11:25-36  
Jn 7:31-36

Friday, 12/18  
Rom 12:1-8  
Jn 7:37-44

Saturday, 12/19  
Rom 12:9-21  
Jn 7:45-53

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 12  
5:00 PM  
For Maureen Radhuber  
Requested by Ron Harkins

Tuesday, December 15  
10:00 AM  
For Jeanne Fay  
Requested by Marlene Kolyani

Wednesday, December 16  
10:00 AM  
For Jeanne Fay and Family  
Requested by Marlene Kolyani

Thursday, December 17  
10:00 AM  
For Rosalba Cordero Lares  
Requested by Grisselle Bazzani

Friday, December 18  
10:00 AM  
For Diego Bazzani  
Requested by Grisselle Bazzani

Saturday, December 19  
5:00 PM  
For Mark and Evelyn Stevens  
Requested by the Shamatta Family

Thank You

To all who decorated the church so beautifully for Christmas!

WE NEED LECTORS!!!

Arabic and English

If you would like to serve the church by reading the Epistle in Arabic or English during the Divine Liturgy, please contact the parish office at info@sjmcc.org.
We invite you to join us for a Christmas Eve Service at Saint Joseph Maronite Church.

Thursday 24-DEC
Mass @ 5:00PM, and Midnight Mass @ 12:00 AM

Christmas Day
Friday 25-DEC
Mass @ 11:00 AM

Wearing a mask protects others around you from your germs. It's important that we all do to keep everyone safe.
"My beloved father, all my trust is in you. Let it not be said that I invoked you in vain, and since you can do everything with Jesus and Mary, show me that your goodness is as great as your power."

6025 Glenridge Drive, Sandy Springs GA 30328
THANKS TO ALL WHO GAVE POINSETTIAS! PLEASE PRAY FOR THEIR INTENTIONS!

Cindy and Louie Abdou, in memory of Nora Ferris
Judi Hanna, in memory of Raymond Hanna
Roger and Jocelyne Murad, in memory of Elias Zaarour, and victims of abortion
Fred and June Isaf, in honor of their children
Linda Grise-Grace, in memory of Lillian S. and E. Ray Grise
Marlene Kolyani, in memory of Badih, Margueritte, and Joe Murad
Elizabeth and Paul Joseph, in memory of Joseph Joseph,
John Domit, and Selma Domit
Kam and Judi Nassar, in honor of Father Tony Akoury
Peter Mondalek, in honor of Pete and Effie Mondalek
Linda and Brian Delgross, in honor of Olivia Marianna, Annelise Marie, and William Gregory Delgross.
Mitchell and Diane Domit,
in memory of Joseph and Evelyn Ashkouti
Albert and Diane Ashkouti
Guidelines for Liturgy

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

The obligation to keep a holy Sabbath remains, and Catholics are reminded that, even while homebound, they are to devote themselves to, among other practices, personal prayer, meditation on the readings from the Sunday Mass and the making of a spiritual Communion. While those who are at high risk or who care for someone at risk can and should stay home and participate in an online or televised liturgy, Archbishop Hartmayer encourages those who are healthy and not burdened with the fear of being exposed to the virus to begin returning to Mass and receive the sacraments of reconciliation and the Eucharist.

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 December, 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
From Sunday, December 6 to Sunday, December 20, St. Joseph Knights of Columbus will be collecting new toys (in their original packaging) for the “Toys for Tots” drive. Parishioners who would like to donate a toy should drop it off in the collection box in the church lobby. The toy does not need to be wrapped.

Thank you!

The Ladies Altar and Rosary Society will lead the prayer of the Rosary on Saturday, December 12, at 4:30 PM in English and on Sunday, December 13, at 10:30 AM in Arabic. All are invited to join us!
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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