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.
December 27, 2020

Sunday after the Birth of Our Lord

Readings of the Week

**Sunday, 12/27**
2 Cor 11:1-9  
Mt 23:29-24.2

**Monday, 12/28**
Rev 21:9-10, 21-27  
Mt 2:1-12

**Tuesday, 12/29**
Heb 11:23-31  
Mt 2:13-18

**Wednesday, 12/30**
Acts 7:2, 30-37  
Mt 2:19-23

**Thursday, 12/31**
Col 1:9b-20  
Jn 1:1-18

**Friday, 1/1**
Eph 2:11-22  
Lk 2:21

**Saturday, 1/2**
Heb 7:1-10  
Lk 2:22-24

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**Mass Intentions**

**Thursday, December 24**
5:00 PM  
For the Benefactors of St. Joseph Church

**Friday, December 25**
12:00 AM  
(Midnight Mass)  
For the Benefactors of St. Joseph Church

**Saturday, December 26**
5:00 PM  
For Evelyn and Raymond Stevens  
Requested by the Shamatta Family

**Sunday, December 27**
11:00 AM for  
Helene Chihane Requested by Chehade Chihane and Family.

**Tuesday, December 29**
10:00 AM  
For Mona Rached  
Requested by Diane and Mitchell Domit

**Wednesday, December 30**
10:00 AM  
For Mona Rached  
Requested by Fred and June Isaf

**Thursday, December 31**
10:00 AM  
For John Faas  
Requested by Fred and June Isaf

**Saturday, January 2**
5:00 PM  
For Nora Ferris  
Requested by David and Lisa Nasser

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**PRAYER REQUESTS**

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

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**Friday, January 1st, Feast of the Circumcision of Jesus, is a Holy Day of Obligation.**

The Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at 11:00 AM for the Benefactors of St. Joseph’s Church.
Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church
Pope Francis Proclaims
“Year of St Joseph”

"With a Father's Heart"

From DEC -08- 2020

To Dec- 08-2021

"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
Plenary Indulgence in the Year of St. Joseph

Conditions for the plenary indulgence: The plenary indulgence is granted to the faithful under the usual conditions (sacramental confession, Eucharistic Communion, and prayer for the Pope’s intentions) to Christians who, with a spirit detached from any sin, participate in the Year of St. Joseph on these occasions and manners indicated by the Apostolic Penitentiary:

The plenary indulgence is granted to those who will meditate for at least 30 minutes on the Lord’s Prayer, or take part in a Spiritual Retreat of at least one day that includes a meditation on St. Joseph. “St. Joseph, an authentic man of faith, invites us”, the decree reads, “to rediscover our filial relationship with the Father, to renew fidelity to prayer, to listen and correspond with profound discernment to God’s will.”

The indulgence can also be obtained by those who, following St. Joseph’s example, will perform a spiritual or corporal work of mercy. St. Joseph “encourages us to rediscover the value of silence, prudence and loyalty in carrying out our duties,” the decree notes.

The recitation of the Holy Rosary in families and among engaged couples is another way of obtaining indulgences, in order that “all Christian families may be stimulated to recreate the same atmosphere of intimate communion, love and prayer that was in the Holy Family.” Everyone who entrusts their daily activity to the protection of St. Joseph, and every faithful who invokes the intercession of St. Joseph so that those seeking work can find dignifying work can also obtain the plenary indulgence.

The plenary indulgence is also granted to the faithful who will recite the Litany to St. Joseph (for the Latin tradition), or the Akathistos to St. Joseph (for the Byzantine tradition), or any other prayer to St. Joseph proper to the other liturgical traditions, for the persecuted Church ad intra and ad extra, and for the relief of all Christians suffering all forms of persecution. Because, the decree notes, “the flight of the Holy Family to Egypt shows us that God is there where man is in danger, where man suffers, where he runs away, where he experiences rejection and abandonment.”

A universal saint In addition to these, the Apostolic Penitentiary grants a plenary indulgence to the faithful who will recite any legitimately approved prayer or act of piety in honor of St. Joseph, for example, “To you, O blessed Joseph” especially on “19 March, on 1 May, the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, on St. Joseph’s Sunday (according to the Byzantine tradition) on the 19th of each month and every Wednesday, a day dedicated to the memory of the saint according to the Latin tradition.” The decree recalls the universality of St. Joseph’s patronage of the Church, noting that St. Teresa of Ávila recognized him as “a protector for all the circumstances of life”. Pope St. John Paul II also said that St. Joseph has “a renewed relevance for the Church of our time, in relation to the new Christian millennium.”

For the sick Amid the ongoing Covid-19 health crisis, the gift of the plenary indulgence is also extended to the sick, the elderly, the dying and all those who for legitimate reasons are unable to leave their homes. They too can obtain the plenary indulgences if they are detached from any sin and have the intention of fulfilling, as soon as possible, the three usual conditions and recite an act of piety in honor of St. Joseph, offering to God the pains and hardships of their lives.
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, Albert and Diane Ashkouti
in memory of Joseph and Evelyn Ashkouti

Nassif and Elizabeth Mahfoud, in memory of Jamil and Hind Mahfoud,
Francis and Theresa Shiner

Louie and Mary Anne Shamatta in memory of the Shamatta and Stevens Families

Michael and Charlene Hiffa in memory of Anthony and Emily Hiffa,
Kalil and Henaine Moses.
Congratulations to our First Communicants
Philippe Maakaroun
William Maakaroun
Mia Sfeir
Sylvie Sfeir.

Thanks to their parents and teachers who prepared them for this holy day!
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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Caregiver – Nanny – Companion

Leyla Asfour
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Excellent References

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