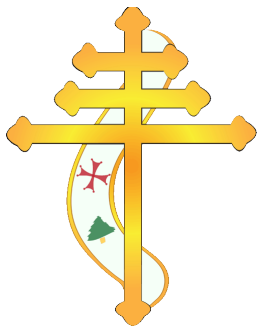


St. Anthony Maronite Catholic Church



Rev. Bassam M. Saade, D.Min, PASTOR

Deacon Dr. Enzo V. Di Giacomo
Deacon Norman Hannoush

LITURGIES

Saturday Vigil - 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday - 12 noon. St. Anthony's Mass

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

12 noon

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every Tuesday 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
and Saturday from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

VENERATION OF ST. CHARBEL'S RELIC

Every 3rd Sunday of the month
from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

BAPTISM

Call the Parish Office for information

MATRIMONY

Arrangements with the Pastor must be
made at least six months in advance

MARONITE CHRISTIAN FORMATION

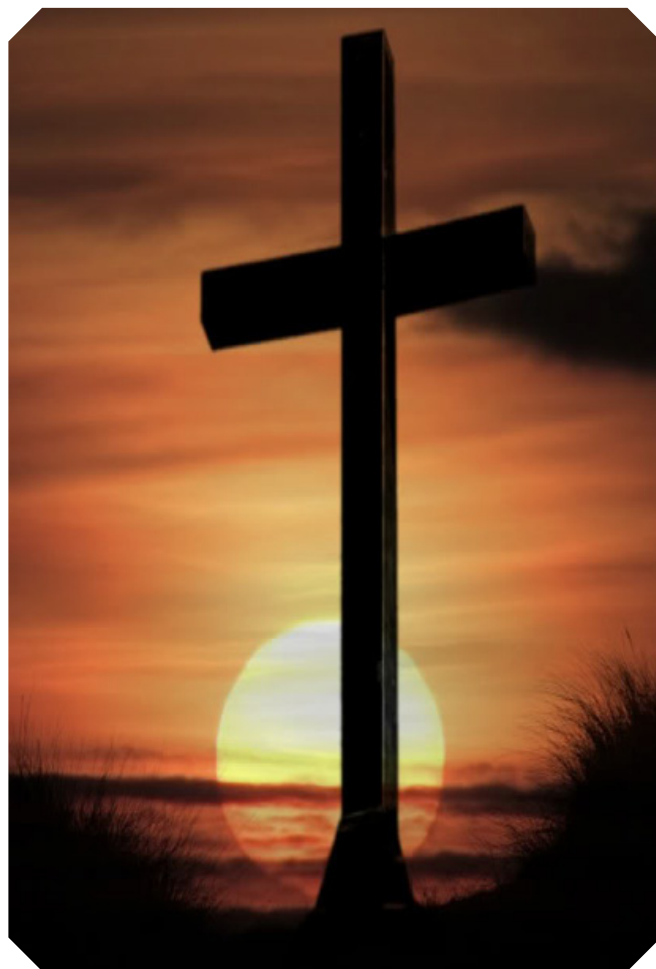
(Religious Education)
Begins in September

RECONCILIATION

Saturdays from 3:30 - 4:15 p.m. or call
to schedule a confession.

COMMUNION FOR THE SICK

Please call the Parish Office at
413-732-0589.



OCTOBER 2022

375 Island Pond Road • Springfield, MA 01118
413-732-0589



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

My Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

In God's plan for salvation there are two main events – the two comings of the Son, Jesus Christ. Just as Jesus departed physically, visibly and personally from the earth in His ascension, so He will return. Yet the second coming will be much different than was the first coming. In His first time on earth, Christ came as a Lamb to offer Himself as a sin offering for sinful men. When Christ comes the second time, He will come as a lion to judge those who failed to avail themselves of the gift of salvation found in Jesus Christ. This second coming is often referred to as the Parousia that means coming and a remaining presence. The second coming will be the most dramatic event in all history - the visible appearing of Christ in His return to judge man and to establish His kingdom over this earth.

The very first Christians thought that the second coming would occur in their life time. St. Paul's earliest writings talks about not spending a lot of energy in the secular world, for Christ would be returning immediately. By the time John writes his Gospel, one or more generations from Christ's Resurrection had passed away. John talks about the second coming as occurring now, in our own lives through the Holy Spirit. We do not have to wait for the Parousia to occur to experience the kingdom of God but the fullness of the kingdom will be achieved at Christ's second coming.

When the second coming occurs and in what form we do not know. But whenever it occurs, there will be a judgment. We often talk about God being all merciful and forgiving. He is that. He demonstrated this by giving His Church the sacrament of Reconciliation. But God is also all just. There will be a time when we will have to account for what we have done and failed to do.

The danger is that in today's society, we are afraid to say something is a sin. We may offend someone. Even if we do not want to call something a sin, it still is. Sin offends God. We sometimes are more concerned about offending someone else then we are concerned with offending God. There is a phenomenon that we see occurring in the Church today. The lines for Communion are increasing (a good thing) but the lines for reconciliation are decreasing (a bad thing). We have a loving Father but do not think that we do not have to try to follow His laws and can commit any sin because we will be forgiven. It does not work that way.

During the season of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross remember this: because of the cross no matter what you vision as the second coming of Christ, one fact remains true – all of time is moving toward one divine far off event to which all of creation is moving toward – the eternal rule and glory of the kingdom with Christ (who died on the cross) as it victorious head.

God Bless You, Fr. Bassam

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

“As a faith community we preserve the rich spiritual heritage of the Maronite Church, its liturgy, spirituality, Culture and Aramaic “Syriac” language of Christ. We share this mission of the Universal Catholic Church by being a caring and welcoming family, inviting all who are seeking closeness with God to share this rich heritage and traditions with us. All are welcome”.

We pray for God's blessings for the healing of the sick and shut-ins of our parish. If you know of anyone who is homebound and would like a pastoral visit or communion, please contact the rectory.

To sponsor a **religious gift in memory/honor of your loved one** or for a special intention, please call the parish office.

Memorials & Special Intentions - (\$50 each/month)

Altar Candles

Sanctuary Lamp

Altar Bread & Wine

Charcoal & Incense

Special Intentions

Shrine of St. Anthony's Candles

WEEKLY OFFERING ENVELOPES

Please continue to send in your weekly offerings to the parish office as we count on you to meet our monthly bills. Meanwhile, thank you to all those who have continued to support our parish with their envelopes and donations.

GUILD NEWS

The **NEXT GUILD MEETING** will be Sunday, October 16 at 9:15 a.m.. Please attend and support the Guild activities.

COFFEE HOUR – after mass everyone is welcome (Asking for volunteers and families to sponsor each Sunday coffee hour) May God Bless you and reward you for all the good you do.

OUR WOMEN'S GUILD OFFICERS – Suzie Hannoush as President, Rouba Sayegh as Vice President, Christelle Abboud as Secretary and Donna Shibley as Treasurer

LITURGY INTENTIONS - OCTOBER 2022

Saturday, October 1 4:30 p.m.	+ Living and deceased Members of Saade Family by Fr. Bassam Feast of St. Therese of the child Jesus
Sunday, October 2 8:30 a.m.	+ Ray, Evelyn, Mark and Michael Stevens, by Stevens Brothers
10:30 a.m.	+ Michel Saade RIP Anniversary by Fr. Bassam & Saade Family
Tuesday, October 4 12:00 p.m.	+ Our parishioner Special Intention Feast of St Francis of Assisi
Saturday, October 8 4:30 p.m.	+ Living and deceased Members of Saade Family by Fr. Bassam
Sunday, October 9 8:30 a.m.	+ Ray, Evelyn, Mark, and Michael Stevens RIP by Stevens Brothers
10:30 a.m.	+ Marie Sarkis RIP by Joseph Kasis
Tuesday, October 11 12:00 p.m.	+ Our parishioners' Special Intentions
Saturday, October 15 4:30 p.m.	+ Our parishioners' Special Intentions Feast of St. Teresa of Avila
Sunday, October 16 8:30 a.m.	+ Ray , Evelyn , Mark , and Michael Stevens RIP by Stevens Brothers
10:30 a.m.	+ Fr. Bassam 30th Anniversary to the Priesthood by family and parishioners
Tuesday, October 18 12:00 p.m.	+ Happy 30th Anniversary Fr. Bassam by Saade Family
Saturday, October 22 4:30 p.m.	+ Living and deceased Members of Saade Family by Fr. Bassam
Sunday, October 23 8:30 a.m.	+ Ray, Evelyn, Mark and Michael Stevens, by Stevens Brothers
10:30 a.m.	+ George, Youssef & Andre Lahoud by Subdeacon Joseph & Jeanne D'Arc Lahoud
Tuesday, October 25 12 p.m.	+ Special Intentions by Fr. Bassam
Saturday, October 29 4:30 p.m.	+ Living and deceased Members of Saade Family by Fr. Bassam
	Liturgical Celebration with Most Rev. Bishop Byrne Diocese of Springfield
Sunday, October 30 8:30 a.m.	+ Sr. Dorothy Conners & Fr. Joseph Peacock by Stevens Brothers
10:30 a.m.	+ Bishop William D. Byrne Special Intention

CONFESSIONS will be heard every Saturday from 3:45 – 4:15 or call to schedule a confession.

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MASS AND NOVENA OF ST. ANTHONY - EVERY TUESDAY AT NOON.

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ALTAR EUCHARIST CELEBRATION OCTOBER

The Altar Eucharist Celebration is being offered in October,

In Loving Memory of Michel and Hilda Saade and deceased members of the Saade Family.



HOLY ROSARY SUNDAY
The Blessed Mother is giving the rosary to
St. Dominic and St. Catherine.



**“Say the Rosary every day...
 Pray, pray a lot and offer sacrifices for sinners...
 I’m Our Lady of the Rosary.
 Only I will be able to help you.
 ...In the end My Immaculate Heart will triumph.”**
Our Lady at Fatima

St. Francis of Assisi was born in 1182, one of seven children. After a pilgrimage to Rome, he had a mystical vision of Jesus Christ just outside of Assisi, in which the Icon of Christ Crucified came alive and said to him three times, “Francis, Francis, go and repair My house which, as you can see, is falling into ruins”. For the next couple of months he lived as a beggar in the region of Assisi and restored several ruined churches.

In 1209, Francis heard a sermon that changed his life - Matthew 10:9, in which Christ tells his followers that they should go forth and proclaim that the Kingdom of Heaven was upon them, take no money with them, nor even a walking stick or shoes for the road. Francis was inspired to devote himself to a life of poverty.

Clad in a rough garment, barefoot, and, after the Evangelical precept, without staff, he began to preach repentance. Within a year Francis had eleven followers. Francis chose never to be ordained a priest and the community lived as “lesser brothers”. Francis led his first eleven followers to Rome to seek permission from Pope Innocent III to found a new religious order. After several days, the pope agreed to admit the group informally, adding that when God increased the group in grace and number, they could return for an official admittance. Francis was ordained as a deacon, allowing him to read Gospels in the church.

From then on, his new order grew quickly with new vocations.

He died on the evening of October 3, 1226 singing Psalm 141.

St. Francis’ feast day is observed on October 3.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Save the Date: SAWG Annual Harvest Bazaar will be on Saturday November 19th in the Cedars Hall– Volunteers needed for baking and prepping please be involved in support of your church family. Poster sign up will be at the entrance of the church for all our volunteers. WE need all the help and support of everyone to make it another successful event. God bless you and reward you for your help and support.

PARISH COUNCIL & FINANCE COMMITTEE ELECTION

We love to have you join our Parish Council. To be eligible you will have to be a registered/active member of our parish attending church on regular basis. We look forward to your attendance.

Council meets monthly to discuss the needs of the parish and advise the Pastor on important decisions.

If you are interested in joining the Parish Council, please contact Fr. Bassam.