

THE SUNDAY BEFORE THE FEAST OF THE GLORIOUS BIRTH OF OUR LORD



From the Desk of the Pastor

During the dark of night, as the Church prays in her Office of Vigils – lilyo – she concludes this lengthy series of prayers and hymns with a set of psalms known as the *teshbohtol* in Syriac or the *sajdi* in Arabic – literally, the “praises.” This set of psalms (148-150) is a common part of Eastern Christian prayer. This set of psalms has at its core a central theme – the praise of God by all the things He has created: the sun, moon, stars, waters, earth, fire, hail rain, dew, mist, winds, mountains, hills, trees, beasts, tame animals, angels, saints, kings, rulers, old and young.



For centuries in parishes of the Maronite Church that might not have the ability to pray the lengthy midnight office before the Christmas liturgy, they preserved the practice of praying together these psalms before the liturgy. Like most Syriac hymnody, each verse is alternated between two groups. While one group is chanting a passage of the psalms, the other group is performing prostrations. This is a beautiful expression of Christian prayer – we simultaneously prostrate ourselves before God in our weakness, our sinfulness, and our humility and we stand boldly and with confidence before God to offer the praise and glory that is due to Him!

These beautiful psalms exemplify a Christian understanding of the Incarnation and Christmas: because our God out of love for His creation chose of His own will to become man, He has reconciled Himself to all that He has made. As a result of this salvation and outpouring of humility and love on the part of our Creator, we, His creation, cry out with praise and glory – along with all of creation. We, along with the heavens and earth, skies and seas, fruits and trees, animals and beasts, angels, and saints, wonder at the Child of Wonder Who has come to visit His creation!

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!



A Catholic Parish of the Antiochene Syriac Maronite Church

St. George Church is committed to sharing the fullness of the Gospel and living the richness of the Syriac Maronite Tradition through worship, charity, and striving for personal and communal holiness.

Most Reverend Gregory John Mansour
Eparchy of St. Maron of Brooklyn

Parish Clergy

Rev. Father Aaron J. Sandbothe
Pastor
ajsandbothe@gmail.com | 315.790.0059

Rev. Subdeacon Dr. Mallard T. George
Rev. Subdeacon Dr. Charles D. Machesky
Rev. Subdeacon Charles J.R. Michael

New to St. George?

Welcome! We are happy to have you worshipping with us! We hope that you will soon call our parish your spiritual home! Please contact the parish office for more information.

HE LAID LIKE A BABY, AND IN HIM WAS HIDDEN THE WEALTH OF WISDOM WHICH KNOWS ALL.

Parish Information

Parish Office

6 Lebanon Terrace | Uniontown, PA 15401

Phone | 724.437.5589

Fax | 724.437.3819

Email | info@stgeorgeuniontown.org

Mrs. Paula Toth

Administrative Assistant

Office Hours | Tue-Fri 12 pm - 4 pm

Mr. Damien Zsiros

Organist

dzsiros@atlanticbb.net

Stay Connected

Website | www.stgeorgeuniontown.org

Facebook | [@stgeorgeuniontown](https://www.facebook.com/stgeorgeuniontown)

Instagram | [@stgeorgeuniontown](https://www.instagram.com/stgeorgeuniontown)

Remind | <http://rmd.me/b?rid=58399870>

MYO Remind | myo202 to 81010

Flocknote | stgeorgeuniontown.flocknote.com

Parish Stewardship

Week of 17 December 2023

1st Collection	\$1,734.00
Electronic Giving	\$181.00
Candles	\$80.00
Feasts	\$25.00
Christmas Flowers	\$865.00
Received	\$2,885.00
Budget	\$3,500.00
Difference	-\$615.00

Stewardship | 2023 YTD

Received	\$184,520.00
Budget	\$168,000.00
Difference	\$16,520.00

Online stewardship is the easiest and most secure way of contributing to the financial stability and health of our parish. Please consider making your weekly or monthly contributions online. Instructions can be found on the parish website. Thank you for your continued generous support for St. George Church.

Liturgical Schedule

Sat | 4:00 pm

Sun | 8:30 am & 10:30 am

Tue | Vespers | 6:00 pm (var)

Tu - Fri | 8:30 am

Feasts | 7:00 pm

This Week @ St. George

Sat | 23 Dec | 4:00pm

+ Helen Unice Durka

by Kathy Unice

Sun | 24 Dec | 8:30am

+ Subdeacon Thomas "Duke"

& Amy George

by daughter Kathy

Sun | 24 Dec | 10:30am

+ Freda Kelly

by Woody & Family

Sun | 24 Dec | 7:00pm

David Pierce & Abigail Johnson

by Patricia Johnson

Mon | 25 Dec | 10:30am

Intentions of Parishioners

Tue | 26 Dec | 8:30am

Intention Available

Wed | 27 Dec | 8:30am

+ Helen Unice Durka

by Dr. Mike & Paula George

Thu | 28 Dec | 8:30am

Intention Available

Fri | 29 Dec | 8:30am

+ Jerome S. Toth, Sr

by Family

PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>24 Genealogy Sunday Liturgy 8:30am + Subdeacon Thomas "Duke" & Amy George Liturgy 10:30am + Freda Kelly Night Prayer 6:30pm Liturgy 7:00pm David Pierce & Abigail Johnson</p> <hr/> <p>Fast Is 11:1-9 Rom 1:1-12 Matt 1:1-17</p>	<p>25 The Glorious Birth of Our Lord Liturgy of Christmas Day 10:30am Intentions of Parishioners</p> <hr/> <p>Holy Day of Obligation Is 8:23, 9:1-6 Heb 1:1-12 Luke 2:1-20</p>	<p>26 Felicitations to the Mother of God Liturgy 8:30am Intention Available</p> <hr/> <p>Eph 1:3-14 Luke 1:46-55</p>	<p>27 St. Stephen, the First Martyr and First Deacon, M Liturgy 8:30am +Helen Unice Durka</p> <p>Funeral 11:00am + Richard E. George Sr.</p> <hr/> <p>2 Cir 11:1-9 Matt 23:29-24:2</p>	<p>28 The Adoration of the Magi St. Marina of Pisidia, M Liturgy 8:30am Intention Available</p> <hr/> <p>Rev 21:9-27 Matt 2:1-12</p>	<p>29 The Flight into Egypt The Massacre of the Holy Innocents of Bethlehem Liturgy 8:30am + Jerome S. Toth, Sr</p> <hr/> <p>Heb 11:23-31 Matt 2:13-18</p>	<p>30 The Return from Egypt to Nazareth St. Anysia, M Liturgy 4:00pm + Loretta M. Joseph</p> <hr/> <p>Acts 7:2, 30-34 Matt 2:19-21</p>
<p>31 Finding of Our Lord in the Temple St. Zoticus, M Liturgy 8:30am + Pope Benedict XVI One Year Memorial</p> <p>Liturgy 10:30am + Deceased Children of St. George</p> <hr/> <p>1 Kings 3:5-14 Heb 7:11-19 Luke 2:41-52</p>	<p>01 Jan 2024 The Circumcision of Our Lord Sts. Basil & Gregory, C Liturgy 7:00pm + Elizabeth "Libby" John</p> <hr/> <p>Holy Day of Obligation Gen 21:1-5 Eph 2:11-22 Luke 2:21</p>	<p>02 Pope St. Silvester I, C Liturgy 8:30am Intention Available</p> <hr/> <p>Heb 7:1-10 Luke 2:22-24</p>	<p>03 Malachi the Prophet Liturgy 8:30am Intention Available</p> <hr/> <p>Heb 7:20-28 Luke 2:25-35</p>	<p>04 Pope St. Caius, M Liturgy 8:30am Intention Available</p> <hr/> <p>Heb 6:9-12 Luke 2:36-40</p>	<p>05 Vigil of the Glorious Epiphany St. Paul, the First Hermit, C Liturgy & Blessing of Epiphany Water 7:00pm + Jayne Sandbothe</p> <hr/> <p>Holy Day of Obligation Rom 5:1-11 Luke 3:1-14</p>	<p>06 Feast of the Glorious Epiphany Liturgy 4:00pm + Loretta M. Joseph & Family</p> <hr/> <p>Ezek 36:22-28 Tit 2:11-3:7 Luke 3:15-22</p>
<p>07 1st Sunday after Epiphany Praises of St. John the Baptist, M Liturgy 8:30am + Helen Unice Durka MCF 9:20am Liturgy 10:30am + James & Betty Mitchell</p> <hr/> <p>Is 40:6-11 2 Cor 10:1-11 John 1:29-34</p>	<p>08 St. Carterius the Priest, M No Liturgy</p> <hr/> <p>Col 2:1-7 Matt 3:13-17</p>	<p>09 St. Eustratius, C Liturgy 8:30am Intention Available</p> <p>Compline 6:00pm Bible Study 6:30pm</p> <hr/> <p>Gal 5:2-15 John 5:31-38</p>	<p>10 St. Gregory of Nyssa, C Liturgy 8:30am Intention Available</p> <hr/> <p>Gal 4:15-26 John 5:39-47</p>	<p>11 St. Theodosius of Antioch, C Liturgy 8:30am Intention Available</p> <hr/> <p>Gal 6:1-10 Matt 3:7-12</p>	<p>12 St. Tatiana, M Liturgy 8:30am Intention Available</p> <hr/> <p>Gal 6:11-18 Matt 11:11-15</p>	<p>13 St. Jacob of Nisibis, C Liturgy 4:00pm + Ann Gabriel</p> <hr/> <p>2 Cor 12:11-16 John 10:40-42</p>
<p>14 2nd Sunday after Epiphany St. Hilary, C Liturgy 8:30am + Roger Jeffries</p> <p>MCF 9:20am Rosary 10:00am</p> <p>Liturgy 10:30am + Adam Morris & Kay Burkholder</p> <hr/> <p>Jer 1:4-10 2 Cor 4:5-15 John 1:35-42</p>	<p>15 Our Lady of the Sowing St. John Calybites, C No Liturgy</p> <hr/> <p>Col 1:9-17 Luke 11:27-32</p>	<p>16 Memorial of the Chains of St. Peter, Ap Liturgy 8:30am Intention Available</p> <p>Compline 6:00pm Bible Study 6:30pm</p> <hr/> <p>2 Cor 1:3-7 Matt 16:24-28</p>	<p>17 St. Anthony the Great, C Liturgy 8:30am Intention Available</p> <hr/> <p>Eph 6:10-18 Mark 10:28-31</p>	<p>18 Establishment of the Chair of St. Peter in Rome St. Athanasius of Alexandria, C No Liturgy</p> <hr/> <p>2 Cor 2:12-17 Matt 9:9-13</p>	<p>19 St. Macarius of Egypt, C No Liturgy</p> <hr/> <p>2 Cor 12:17-13:4 Matt 9:35-38</p>	<p>20 St. Euthymius the Great, C Liturgy 4:00pm + Loretta M. Joseph & Family</p> <hr/> <p>2 Cor 13:5-13 Matt 10:1-6</p>

PARISH EVENTS, HAPPENINGS, & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome!

We wish a **warm welcome** to all our visitors and to those who already call St. George home. We are happy to have you worshipping with us. Please feel free to introduce yourself to the parish clergy. We hope you will soon make St. George your spiritual home!

Merry Christmas!

Merry Christmas! On behalf of Subdeacons Mallard, Chuck, Chuck, and myself I would like to wish your families a holy and blessed Christmas! May the Birth of Our Lord bring peace and grace upon your homes!

Christmas Schedule

Please note the Christmas Liturgical Schedule

24 Dec Christmas Eve

Night Prayer | 6:30pm

Candlelight Liturgy | 7:00pm

25 Dec Christmas Day

Liturgy | 10:30am

Please note for the obligation:

The Liturgies of Sunday Morning **do not** count for your **Christmas Obligation**. You must attend **two distinct liturgies** on 23-24 Dec for the **Sunday Obligation** and 24-25 for the **Christmas Obligation**. There is **no** "twofer" for this year, sorry!

Second Collection

The second collection on the feast of **Christmas** is traditionally taken for the **Pastor**. Thank you for your generosity and love shown to me over the past year! It is a true joy to be your pastor!

Red Cross Blood Drive

St. George will host an American Red Cross Blood Drive on Friday, **12 January** from 11:30am-5:00pm in the Parish Hall.

Collection Counters & Lectors

We are in need of volunteers for collection counters and Old Testament Lectors beginning in the New Year. Willing and interested parties are asked to contact the Parish Office.

Liturgy Intentions

Liturgy Intention scheduling for the new liturgical year can now be done by contacting the Parish Office or in the binder in the narthex. If you would like to schedule a liturgy for a loved one or any other intention, please contact the parish office, send a note via mail or collection basket, or email. If you have already scheduled a specific or recurring monthly or yearly liturgy, please remember to send in your stipend before the liturgy is celebrated.

Bible Study

Our Bible Study Program meets twice monthly for Vespers at 6:00pm followed by Bible Study at 6:30pm. The current study covers the Book of Psalms.

Faith Formation

All school age children are expected to be enrolled and regularly attending Faith Formation, participating in the MYO, serving the Liturgy (for boys), or in other roles during and outside the liturgy (for girls).

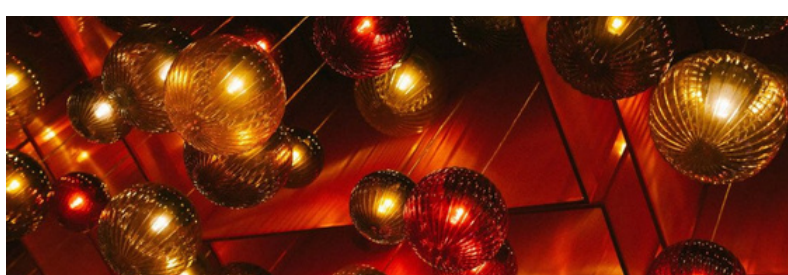
Maronite Youth Organization

All youth in **Grades 6-12** are encouraged to sign up for MYO. Please call or text Subdeacon Chuck Michael at 724.323.4653. Also, please sign up on Remind to keep up to date with any MYO events and announcements by texting @myo202 to 81010. To be eligible for any Parish Scholarships, or to be recommended for any NAM or Eparchial awards, a child must be a regular communicant at Sunday and Festal liturgies and an active participant in the MYO/Faith Formation program.



PRAYER LIST

Michelle Sante | Lynda Handlin | Teresa Rogers |
Aliya Davis | Kimberly Steinmiller | Patty Benson |
Leonard W. Neill II | Davey Rusko | Jim Delgreco |
Joan Mickey | Josette Shady Abi-Nader |
Brooklynn Dennis | Gina Michael | Cookie Shady
Benson | Tammy McKenzie | Kamberly George |
Lorraine Guynn | Marion Bryson | Eileen
Crutchman | Barb Howard Misiak | Helen Adams
| Tanya Loring Kizner | John Mansberry | Melissa
Chomiak | Donald George | Larry Hicks |
Subdeacon Mallard George



Feast of the Circumcision

We will celebrate the **Feast of the Circumcision** on Monday, **1 January** at 7:00pm. **This is a Holy Day of Obligation.**

Feast of the Glorious Epiphany

We will celebrate the **Feast of the Epiphany** on Friday, **5 January** at 7:00pm. During the Liturgy we will bless Epiphany Water. Please bring your empty bottles with you so you can take the blessed water home with you. **This is a Holy Day of Obligation.**

MEMORIALS

Sanctuary Light

James & Ann Mullen
by Family

Altar Candles

Jerome S. Toth, Sr.
by Family

Altar Bread & Wine

Ellwood, Freda, & Michael Kelly
by Sherry, Ellwood, Mary, & Families

Epiphany Home Blessings

If you would like a Home Blessing during the Epiphany Season, please let me know and I would be happy to bless your homes and businesses!
Epiphany Blessings will be available 6-15 January.

SACRAMENTAL & PASTORAL CARE

Mysteries of Baptism and Chrismation

Sacramental Preparation is required before a baptism can be scheduled.
We encourage this to happen before the birth of a child.

Mystery of Crowning

Arrangements must be made at least six months in advance.
Marriage Preparation is required as part of the process.

Pastoral Care for the Sick

If a loved one is hospitalized, ill, or homebound, please call or email the Parish Office.
For emergencies, please call Father Aaron directly at 315.790.0059.

Religious Education

Faith Formation for both Children and Adults will be available during the academic year.

Confessions

Confessions are held on Saturday from 3:30-3:55pm or by appointment.

AREA EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Concert

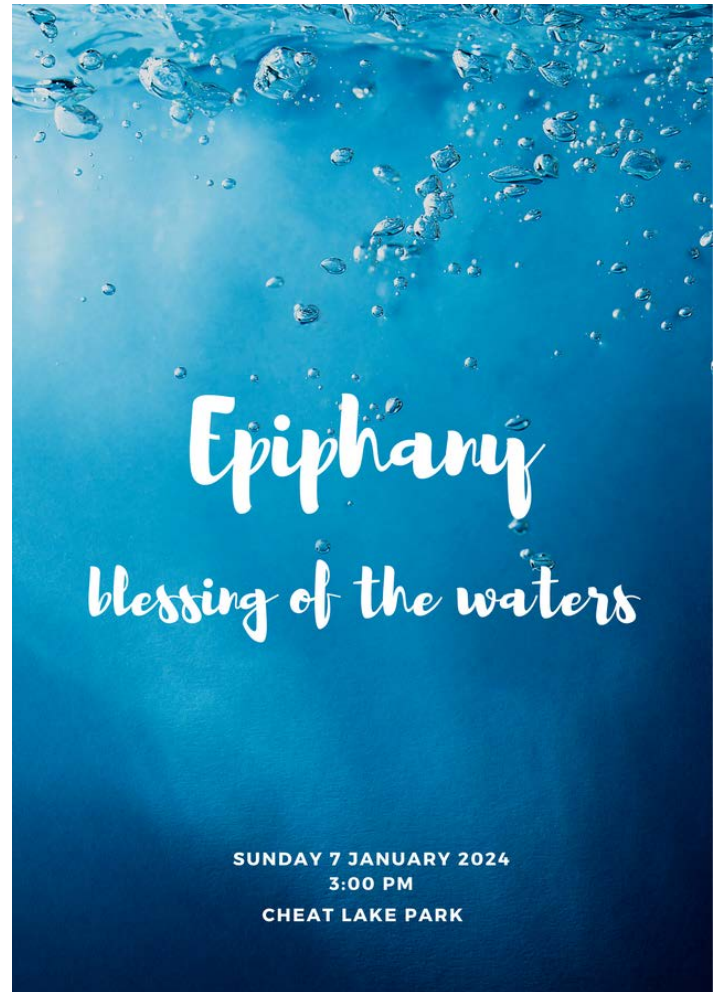
The Greater Uniontown Chorale will perform City of Hope - A Cantata for Christmas by Tom Fettke and Jay Rouse, and Christmas At The Movies - a choral medley arranged by Mark Brymer, on **Thursday, December 28th** at 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary Nativity R.C. Church.

Overnight Silent Retreat for Women

February 23-24, 2024: beginning at 7:00 p.m. on Friday the 23rd until after lunch on Saturday the 24th at the Mount Saint Macrina House of Prayer with Sister Carol, OSBM. Offering \$40. Registration due February 19th. Call (724)438- 7149 or email: hpmsm@verizon.net.

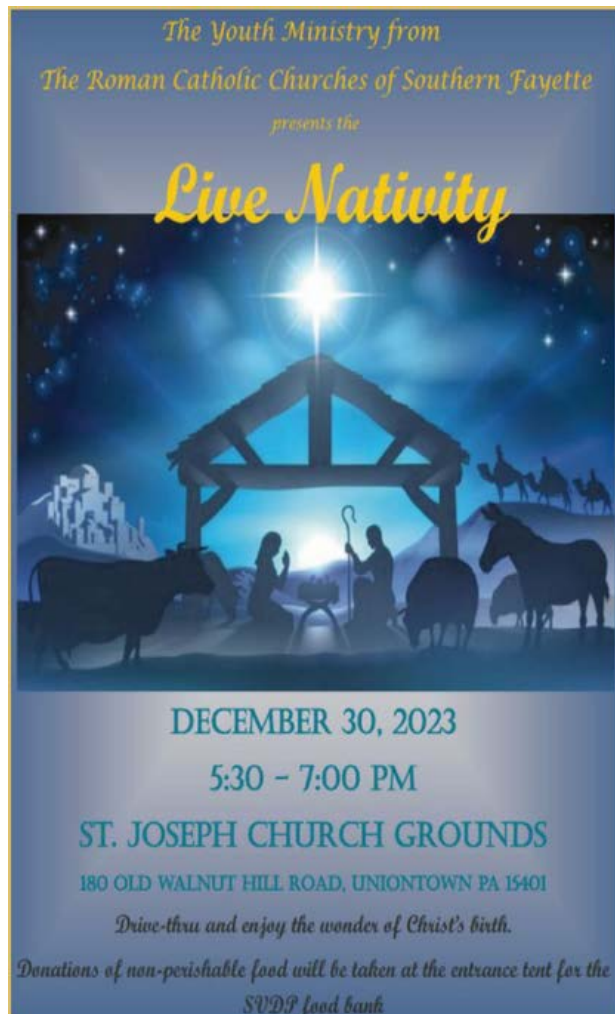
Men's Evening of Recollection

Thursday, February 29th from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Mount Saint Macrina House of Prayer. Presenter TBA. Offering \$35. Registration due February 26th. Call (724)438-7149 or email: hpmsm@verizon.net.



Epiphany
blessing of the waters

SUNDAY 7 JANUARY 2024
3:00 PM
CHEAT LAKE PARK



The Youth Ministry from
The Roman Catholic Churches of Southern Fayette
presents the
Live Nativity

DECEMBER 30, 2023
5:30 - 7:00 PM
ST. JOSEPH CHURCH GROUNDS
180 OLD WALNUT HILL ROAD, UNIONTOWN PA 15401

Drive-thru and enjoy the wonder of Christ's birth.
Donations of non-perishable food will be taken at the entrance tent for the
SVDP food bank



Be a part of the
lifesaving cause.



Blood Drive Uniontown Community

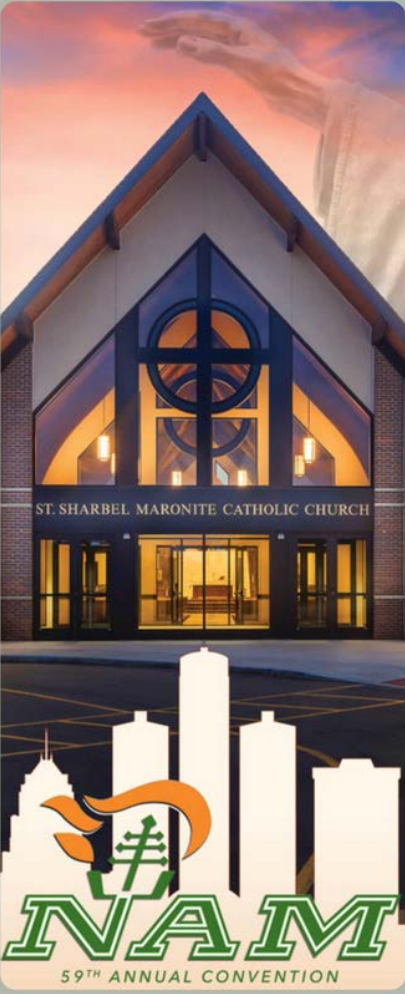
Parish Hall
6 Lebanon Terrace
Uniontown

Friday, January 12
11:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Maximize your blood donation. Help more patients.
If you are an eligible type O, B - or A - donor, consider making a Power Red donation.
Red blood cells are the most commonly transfused blood component.
Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter:
STGEORGE to schedule an appointment.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting
RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history
questions on the day of your appointment.

MARONITE HAPPENINGS AROUND THE STATES



Save The Date!
**July 4-7,
2024**



MARCH FOR LIFE 2024

JAN 18-21 WASHINGTON D.C.

Thursday January 18

5:00 PM Evening vigil at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C.

Friday January 19

11:00 AM Meet at Starbucks for the March
6:00 PM Dinner at the Seminary Library
Talk/Q&A with Father Rudolph
TBD Social Outing

Saturday January 20

10:30 AM Mass in the Byzantine Chapel at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C.
TBD Social Outing

Sunday January 21

11:00 AM Liturgy at Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Church and Seminary
Reception to follow in church hall

*Schedule is subject to change

Questions? Contact mya.eparchystmaron@gmail.com
Hotel block info can be found at myaeparchystmaron.org/events



www.maronitevoice.org



*"Wise men came from the East."
(MATTHEW 2:1)*

Bulletin Ads



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"May the souls of the faithful departed rest in the peace of The Lord."

In memory of the deceased members of the Lebanese Club.



By Mr. Arthur Gabriel
 من السيد أسعد زغيب



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pray for peace
 IN LEBANON



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Stephanie Haky Georgiana, FD, Licensed Supervisor
 William A. Bautz, Licensed Funeral Director

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