

Saint Maron Chapel/Mailing

Address

7800 Brookside Road
Independence, Ohio 44131

Saint Maron Church

1245 Carnegie Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44115

Merry Christmas

December 1, 2017

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

CHRISTMAS LITURGIES

- **Vigil of Christmas Liturgy**
Sunday Dec. 24th
5:00 PM
Saint Maron CHAPEL
7800 Brookside Road, Independence
- **Midnight Christmas Liturgy**
Monday Dec. 25th
12:00 AM
Saint Maron Church
1245 Carnegie Avenue, Cleveland
- **Christmas Day Liturgies**
Monday Dec. 25th
9:30 AM & 11:00 AM
Saint Maron Church
1245 Carnegie Avenue, Cleveland

NEW YEAR & EPIPHANY LITURGY

- **New Year's Eve Liturgy**
Sunday Dec. 31st
5:00 PM **Saint Maron CHAPEL**
7800 Brookside Road, Independence
- **New Year's Day Liturgy**
Monday January 1st 11:00 am
Saint Maron CHAPEL
7800 Brookside Road, Independence
- **Epiphany**
Saturday January 6th
5:00 PM **Saint Maron CHAPEL**
7800 Brookside Road, Independence
- **Epiphany**
Sunday January 7th
9:30 AM & 11:00 AM
Saint Maron Church
1245 Carnegie Avenue, Cleveland

We wait in darkness, fearing that the light will never come.
We wait in silence, fearing that there will be no good news. We
wait alone, fearing the isolation and separation that darkness brings.
We attempt to illumine our own path, but find neither the way nor
the truth.

Scripture brings words of promise to us:

*The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not
overcome it.*

*We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from
the Father.*

*To us a child is born, to us a Son is given.
In him is life, and the life was the light of all people.*

The song of the angels and the glory of the heavens pierce
our darkness and fill our silence. Joy overcomes our terror and we
believe the wondrous good news that Jesus, Savior and Messiah,
has been born. We rejoice, carrying the light of Christ as we tell the
Good News to everyone.

This Christmas season, may you be filled with the wonder of
Mary, the clarity of the angels, the joy of the shepherds, the
determination of the magi, and the light and peace of the
Christ child.

On behalf of Father Roby Zibara, Deacon George Khoury,
our Subdeacons and co-workers in Christ Jesus, I wish you God's
abundant blessings during this Christmas,
the Season of hope, peace, and joy.

With you, I am living in God's
amazing grace.

The Reverend Monsignor Peter Karam
Pastor of Saint Maron Church



A Letter from the President of the Saint Maron Parish Pastoral Council

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

It is with great appreciation for all you do that I write this brief article with a few of the many activities and accomplishments achieved at Saint Maron Church.

We have continued to sustain both our downtown location as well as our Independence location. One of the many areas we have been working on is building both our parish membership as well as reaching out to our parishioners to become more involved in one of the many parish organizations. I pray more will come forward to answer our "call". We have many clubs and organizations so I am confident there is one for you.

Our parish festival was a huge success with much gratitude and appreciation given to the festival committee led by John Farah. The weather was outstanding, the food was delicious (thank you to all who cooked both before and during the festival) and the community both far and wide who joined us for a wonderful two days.

Mark your calendars for two upcoming celebration events; Our Family Christmas Luncheon on Sunday December 17th at the Holiday Inn South in Independence and on Saturday February 10, 2018, His Excellency Bishop Elias Zaidan will join us as we celebrate the Feast of Saint Maron with a banquet followed by Liturgy the following day.

Our parish picnic proved to be another success as parishioners came together for good food and fellowship. We continue to celebrate St. Charbel the 22nd of every month with a Liturgy at the Chapel. Beginning with the Rosary and ending with a beautiful procession we come together to pray and celebrate one of our Maronite saints.

To always know the events at St. Maron Church, you may visit our website at www.saintmaron-clev.org or our only official Saint Maron Church approved Facebook page at SaintMaronMaroniteCatholicChurch.

The Parish Council is Your Council, so please feel free to email me any of your concerns. I want to hear what is on your mind and how we can better serve the parishioners of Saint Maron Church. nanorached@yahoo.com

May God bless each and every one of you during this Christmas Season.

Najib (Nano) Rached
President of Council

End of the Year Financial Summary:

Saint Maron's financial position continues to be strong through October 31, 2017. Compared to December 31, 2016, our cash in the bank has increased by \$94,000 to \$481,000. The majority of this increase is due to the success of the parish Festival held in August.

Overall income is up 22% from 2016 due mainly to the following: In 2016, the average Sunday and Holy Day collections was \$20,100 per month compared to \$20,800 per month in 2017. The parking lot income on a monthly basis has increased from \$9,900 per month in 2016 to \$10,800 per month and the Festival income increased nearly 30% from 2016.

Operating expenses (i.e. Diocesan assessments, insurance, repairs and maintenance, utilities and Festival expenses) averaged about \$54,000 per month in 2017 which was slightly more than 2016. In 2017, the parking lot, lights and landscaping in Independence was completed and paid from donations from you, our parishioners. Thank you so much for your continued generosity.

Merry Christmas!

Saint Maron Finance Council



In early September we welcomed Fr. Roby Zibara to Saint Maron Church. Fr. Roby was born and raised in Lebanon, having joined the seminary at a young age. Prior to coming to St. Maron Church he earned his PhD. in theology in Rome. This is not his first time in the United States, as he served three summers at St. Sharbel Church in Detroit, Michigan. Fr. Roby will join the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles for a period of five years. He is a priest of the Patriarchal Eparchy of Diman. We join all of you in welcoming Fr. Roby to our parish.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Christmas Novena

Dec. 11-15 7:00 PM Chapel
7800 Brookside Road, IND.
Dec. 18-21, 7:00 PM Chapel
7800 Brookside Road, Independence

MYC Christmas Party

Saturday Dec. 16th
12:00 PM Downtown

MYA Christmas Party

Saturday Dec. 16th
6:00 PM Independence

Family Christmas Luncheon

Sunday Dec. 17
2:00 PM Holiday Inn, Independence

MYO Christmas Party

Friday, Dec. 22th
7:00 PM Downtown

Vigil of Christmas Liturgy

Sunday Dec. 24th
5:00 PM CHAPEL
7800 Brookside Road, Independence

Midnight Christmas Liturgy

Monday Dec. 25th
12:00 AM
St. Maron Church
1245 Carnegie Ave. Cleveland

Christmas Day Liturgies

Monday Dec. 25th
9:30 AM and 11:00 AM
Saint Maron Church
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9:30 AM and 11:00 am
Saint Maron Church
1245 Carnegie Ave. Cleveland



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Dec. 9: Immaculate Conception Retreat 2-5pm Parish Center

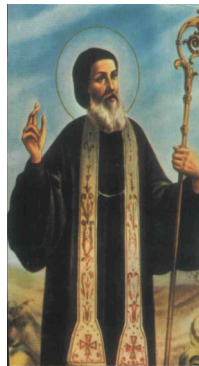
Dec. 9: Sons of Mary Christmas Party: 6pm Parish Center

December 16: MYC Christmas Party 12-2pm Downtown

December 16: MYA Christmas Party 7:00 pm Independence

December 17: Parish Family Christmas Party 2pm Holiday Inn, IND.

December 22: MYO Christmas Party 7-9:30 pm Downtown



The Feast of Saint Maron Banquet will be Saturday February 10, 2018

His Excellency Bishop A. Elias Zaidan will be in attendance.

The Saint Maron Feast Day Liturgy will be Sunday February 11, 2018 at 11:00 am Saint Maron Church.

Our Annual Summer Festival

August 17, 18 & 19, 2018

Parish Center Independence.

Mark your calendars now!!!!



50+ Social Club

The first Friday of every month begins with 10:00 Liturgy at the Chapel.

We then continue to the Pastoral Center where we have coffee and assign cars and passengers for our outings.

We then embark for a restaurant near the monthly destination to share a meal together. In 2017 we have dined at a number of really wonderful places and have never been dissatisfied. They include: Sorrento's, Hartville Kitchen, Chud's Grille, Gervasi's Crush House, Cheddar's Scratch Kitchen, Tavern Six, Simon's and TJ's on the Avenue.

In 2017 we have been to a number of interesting places: Paper Moon Winery, Brummer's Chocolates, Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center, Hartville Marketplace, Velvet Ice Cream (founded and still operated by Lebanese family), Ohio State Reformatory (site of movie), Patterson Farms & Orchards, Kirtland's Nativity Displays.

So, **mark** your calendars for the **first Friday every month in 2018** to join in the fellowship. Bring your friends and neighbors too! **Ahala Sahala!!!** Watch the weekly bulletin for the month's activity and RSVP date. *Mary Ann Watson*

Maronite Mothers Club (MMC)

The newly founded Maronite Mothers Club (MMC) was established for Maronite parents in our community with children ages 4 months to 4 years. The MMC had its first gathering in September at the Parish Center, where the parents and their children participated in an alphabet scavenger hunt, independent playtime, and introductions. In October the children had a great time at the Fall Festival and Patterson Fruit Farm. The potluck in November was enjoyable for moms, dads and children. There are over 30 families in the Maronite Mothers Club and we welcome new members! Contact me at tinaschamoun@gmail.com
Tina Chamoun



MYC Christmas Party

Saturday, December 16th

12 noon—2:00 pm

Saint Maron Church
1245 Carnegie Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44115

All children welcome

Special Guest: SANTA

Christmas Poinsettias 2017

Circle One: \$25 each

In Memory of: OR In Thanksgiving: Circle One PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

For: _____

Donated By: _____

Return with payment to the office OR put in collection basket by December 18, 2016

CHRISTMAS NOVENA

CHAPEL

7800 BROOKSIDE RD. INDEPENDENCE

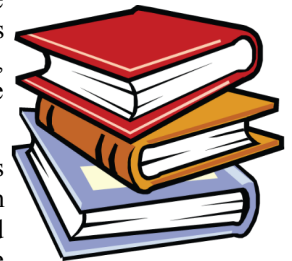
DEC. 11-15: 7:00 pm

DEC. 18-21: 7:00 pm



On August 4-5 Saint Maron Church again participated with a booth at Independence Home Days. Our booth was open from 6PM-11PM on Friday and Noon - 11PM on Saturday. We sold homemade baklava made by Lisa Farah for \$1 a piece. Over the course of Friday and Saturday we had over 100 people stop by the booth and buy some baklava. Many people stopped by just to chat and ask if we were going to have our annual festival this year. Gladly we told them that yes, we were having our festival and handed them a small flyer with the dates and a list of food and activities. A few weeks later we were thrilled to see many of our neighbors enjoying delicious food at our festival. We had a great time at the booth and met a lot of people around the neighborhood of our parish.

It is with great pleasure I write to you announcing the start of the seventh season of the **Book & Cinema Club**. We are a small organization in the church whose sole purpose is attaining fun while learning from and discussing a book, movie, documentary, article or famous scholar's ideas (ideology). We meet once a month in the Parish Center in Independence.



This season promises to be full of fun and surprises. Our first meeting of 2018 is **Wednesday, January 10th at 7:00 pm**. There are no dues or registration required, just bring a side dish to share and your views to discuss in a laid back, relaxed atmosphere. Once a year we have a wine tasting event led by a wine expert. We encourage everyone to be a part of this fun club. ; let's kick off the new year *My very best, Katia Abboud*

GIFTS OF THE ALTAR FOR THE YEAR 2018

The gifts of the Altar could be made in **HONOR** or in **MEMORY** of a loved one or in **THANKSGIVING** and may be for more than one person

ALTAR BREAD (\$45.00) JAN-FEB-MARCH-APRIL-MAY-JUNE-JULY-**Please Circle**
AUGUST-SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER-NOVEMBER-DECEMBER

ALTAR WINE (\$25.00) JAN-FEB-MARCH-APRIL-MAY-JUNE-JULY-**Please Circle**
AUGUST-SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER-NOVEMBER-DECEMBER

SANCTUARY CANDLES (\$20.00) JAN-FEB-MARCH-APRIL-MAY-JUNE-JULY-**Please Circle**
AUGUST-SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER-NOVEMBER-DECEMBER

Please circle	ALTAR BREAD/ IN THANKSGIVING/	ALTAR WINE/ IN MEMORY OF/	SANCTUARY CANDLES IN HONOR OF
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Print Name: -----

Offered by -----

Month of ----- **Enclosed \$**-----

MYO

The Maronite Youth Organization (MYO) is a national organization consisting of Maronite Catholic Youth ranging from ages 12 to 18. This organization consists of Maronite Catholic parishes throughout the country that come together to form a national group.

The various volunteer work the MYO participates in is Christmas Caroling at Regina Nursing Home, visit those who are less fortunate than us at City Mission, write letters to soldiers or to anyone in need, as well as participating in food drives and other service projects throughout the year. At

Thanksgiving we enjoy a meal in our annual Friendsgiving with the MYA,. We enjoy spiritual talks, and many other activities. Being a member of MYO brings one closer to God . MYO is a place for everyone to learn about God, help others, and make friends that will last you a lifetime.

**COME JOIN US for our Christmas Party on
Friday December 22nd from 7-9:30 pm
DOWNTOWN.**

Maronite Young Adults

The Maronite Young Adults (MYA) is meant for young adults ages 18-35. Throughout the year we have many fun and spiritual activities such as Theology on Tap, Barbeques, Karaoke, and Friendsgiving. We also help our local community with service projects such as making tie-blankets & sandwiches for the needy. This fall we attended the MYA National Retreat in Chicago, Illinois where over 160 young adults from across the United States joined together for a weekend full of tourism, spiritual, social, and service activities which highlighted the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. We are proud to say that Saint Maron Church had the highest number of young adults in attendance. If you are interested in joining, contact Sami Shaia at sshaia13@gmail.com

END OF YEAR TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS

Saint Maron Church needs you! Contributions given to the church, are considered tax deductible. We know that most of you always look for opportunities to exercise the gift of Christian love by taking care of the needy and poor. Please consider adding Saint Maron Church to your list of organizations .

St. Maron's Maronite Christian Formation Program

We offer two times and days to choose from for our children's religious classes.

Thursday Evenings 7:00-8:00 pm (Parish Center in Independence) OR Sunday's 12:00-1:00 pm



Downtown.

Call the office to enroll: 216-520-5081

First Communion will be celebrated on

Saturday, May 5th @ 5:00 pm. Liturgy

Chapel or Sunday, May 6th @ at 11:00

am.

Liturgy Downtown.

Contact Maroun Kattar if your child will be participating.

marounkattar@yahoo.com or 440-884-2845





Sons of Mary Christmas Party

Saturday, December 9th

6-10pm

Parish Center, Independence



*ICS & Sons of Mary Spiritual Retreat
Saturday December 9th—2-5PM
Chapel in Independence*

Guest speaker: Sr. Anita Maroun

All Parishioners are encouraged to attend.

RETREAT

Memorial Liturgies for 2018

We are scheduling 2018 Memorial Liturgies for your loved ones.
Please remember that a 40 day liturgy will always take precedence.

We DO NOT schedule liturgies on the following dates:

St. Maron Feast Day, Palm Sunday, Easter, First Communion, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Christmas, Festival Weekend.

Please email requests to : saintmaroncleveland@gmail.com or drop in collection basket.

Mem. Lit for _____

Given by: _____

Phone: _____ Date: _____



Saint Maron Church
**Christmas
Gathering
Luncheon**

DECEMBER 17 at 1 pm

Tony Eid and Band
Visit with Santa

Holiday Inn South

6001 Rockside Road, Independence, Ohio

Adult: \$35

Children (under 10): \$15

Cash Bar

Reservations:

Claire Naroum at 216-337-2851

Rita Lattouf at 216-470-7512

PosterMyWall.com Seating is on a first come basis Deadline to purchase: Dec. 10, 2017

The ICS, Sons of Mary, and
MYO present:

The Giving Tree

**Any
donation(s)
are
greatly
appreciated!**

**Donation
Tags Are On
The Trees!
Please Take
One!**

**All proceeds
benefit
Providence
House**

Gift Cards

Event Passes

Paper Towels

Baby Formula

Clothing

Sippy Cups

Canned Fruits

Crackers

Dish Sponges

Granola Bars

God Bless You!

Please remove a tag from the tree and return the gift **unwrapped** for a child living at **Providence House**.

Providence House offers emergency shelter and care to at-risk children and mothers of abuse in the Cleveland area. The need for gift cards, event passes, paper towels, baby formula, clothing (new), canned fruit, granola bars and a whole lot more, does not go away after Christmas. Deadline to return items is December 17th.