



## Saint Maron Maronite Catholic Church

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Jacksonville, FL 32216  
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Pastor: Father Elie Abi Chedid  
Deacon: Elias Shami

Mass Schedule: Sundays: 11:15 AM

**November 2017**

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Beloved parishioners:

The Maronite Church opens the new Liturgical year on the first Sunday of November; it is called “**Sunday of the Renewal and Consecration of the Church**”.

The Liturgical calendar helps us live the events of our salvation in the bosom of our Mother Church who gave birth to us. Our great love for Our Lord is explicitly expressed through our great love for His Church. St Cyprian of Carthage, a Father of the Church, says: “**He who does not have the Church as his Mother does not have God as his Father**”!

The first holy season in the Liturgical cycle is the Season of **the Glorious Birth of the Lord** (also known as the Season of **Announcement** or of **Advent**); it calls to mind and ponders the various Gospel announcements heralding the Birth of Christ: The announcements to Zechariah in the temple, to Mary, to Elizabeth at the Visitation, to Judea at the Nativity of John the Baptist, to Joseph in a dream, to the shepherds, to the Magi, and to the whole world, as been announced by the Angels at the nativity of Our Savior: “**Glory to God in the highest and peace on earth and good will to all!**”!

The other Liturgical seasons are by order:

-The Season of **Epiphany** reflects on Jesus’ baptism in the Jordan River, the initiation of his public ministry, and on the proclamation of the Kingdom of God and the remission of sins.

-The Season of **the Great Lent** is a strong and special time of prayer, fasting, almsgiving, and of repentance and conversion.

-The Season of **the Holy Week** reflects on the Passion of Our Lord; it begins with the Saturday of Lazarus and Hosanna Sunday and concludes at noon on Saturday of Holy Week – the Saturday of the Awaited Light.

-The Season of **the Resurrection** follows for the next six weeks. It reflects upon a few of the many appearances of the Risen Christ to his disciples during the 40 days between his Resurrection and Ascension.

- The Season of **Pentecost** focuses on the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit.

-The Season of **the Exaltation of the Holy Cross** reflects on the end-times and on the awaiting of the Lord’s return in glory.

With the inauguration of a new Liturgical year we are offered an opportunity for a refreshed new spiritual beginning.

May we resolve to follow Christ more intimately. May he increase our faith and help us grow in his love. Amen

Fr. Elie



## Church’s News & Events

### All Saints/All Souls’ celebration

In commemoration of All Saints and All Souls’, a solemn Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday November 1<sup>st</sup>, at 7:00 PM.

May the prayers of all the saints be with us.

May Almighty God give eternal rest to all the faithful departed.

## Black-Tie Gala

On the occasion of the third Anniversary of the solemn Dedication of our new church, the Parish Council is organizing a fund-raising Gala party. This event will take place on Saturday November 18, 2017 at St Charbel's hall.



You are cordially invited to a  
**BLACK TIE GALA**  
celebrating St. Maron Church's

*3rd  
Anniversary  
Dedication*

**November 18, 2017 at 7pm**

### Entertainment

*Singer Doris Farhat*

*Violinist Lorna Greenwood*

### TICKETS

\$150 Each

\$100 if paid before Nov. 12

### Sponsorship Levels

Platinum \$5,000

Gold \$3,000

## **Parish Council meeting**

A meeting for the parish council is scheduled for Tuesday November 7, 2017 at 6:00 PM at the church.

## **Youth Group meeting**

A meeting for all the youth of our parish (age 13 and up) is scheduled for Sunday November 5, 2017 after Mass in the hall.

All youth are encouraged to attend. Parents are also welcome to join the meeting.

## **Religious Education**

Families who would like to enroll their kids in religious education program at Saint Maron church may contact Dr. Gaby Bahri, religious education coordinator (C: (904) 465-4216 / E-mail: [Gaby@BahriDental.com](mailto:Gaby@BahriDental.com)), and provide their kids name, age and grade.

Volunteering teachers are also needed.

## **NAM Awareness Sunday**

Our Eparchy asked all parishes to designate a “NAM (National Apostolate of Maronites) Awareness Day” in order to present the Apostolate’s activities and to promote new memberships.

On Sunday November 5, Mrs. Carol Tegho, our parish’s NAM delegate will address the congregation at the end of the Mass with a brief presentation on this matter.

National Apostolate of Maronites (NAM) assists its bishops, serves as a link in unifying Maronite laity in the U.S., strengthens the bond between clergy and laity.

NAM helps preserve Syriac-Maronite traditions by making people aware of the rich Maronite heritage and by fostering pride in the Maronite Church.

### **Projects/Programs sponsored by NAM**

- Ø National Annual Maronite Convention
  - Ø Regional Conventions
  - Ø Spiritual Retreats
  - Ø Heritage Programs
  - Ø Vocation Awareness
- Ø Scholarships for High School graduates
  - Ø Scholarship for College Students
- Ø Scholarships for a semester in Lebanon
  - Ø Supporting Missions in the US
- Ø Youth and Young Adults programs
  - Ø Gold Massabki awards
  - Ø Silver Massabki awards
  - Ø Faith of the Mountain awards

BECOME A MEMBER TODAY/ KEEP THE FLAME BURNING /MAKE A DIFFERENCE

[www.namnews.org](http://www.namnews.org) / [nam@namnews.org](mailto:nam@namnews.org)  
[914-964-3070](tel:914-964-3070) / [914-964-3071](tel:914-964-3071) (fax)

## **Second collection**

A second collection will be taken on Sunday November 12, 2017 for “Maronite Patriarchal Charities”. All the proceeds from this collection are sent directly to our Patriarch for his charitable work.

## **Mass on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month**

A Divine Liturgy will be celebrated on Tuesday November 21, at 7:15 PM.  
The Mass is organized by Saint Charbel prayer group.

## **Fifty/Fifty Draw**

A monthly fifty/fifty raffle to benefit the church is conducted on the last Sunday of the month.  
Tickets (at \$10) are sold every Sunday after Mass.

## **Church Website**

You may find more materials and forms on our church’s website. Log on [www.stmaronjax.com](http://www.stmaronjax.com) and click on Events/Announcements.

## **Birth Congratulations**

Our congratulations go to Chadi and Rana Boutros for the birth of their first –born daughter **Marelle**.  
May God bless her and the entire family.

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## **Maintaining God’s House**

We thank all families and individuals who tithe regularly and generously to the church. Please note that the annual registration dues (**\$250**) are meant to be just a part of tithing’s fulfillment. Suggested tithe is **3%** of one’s income and means.  
All families/Individuals are urged to make this contribution unless they are financially unable.

You can always mail your tithing and Sunday’s offering to the church even though you may not be attending.

According to God’s and Church’s commandments, every salaried individual is required to tithe to the church on a personal level as an essential part of true devotion.

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## Reflection of the month:

*“Prayer is the best armor we have; it is the key which opens the heart of God”*

*Padre Pio*



## Church Website/Donate on line

Our church introduced a “Donate on line” program using credit cards. The program is available through the church’s website: [www.stmaronjax.com](http://www.stmaronjax.com) .

Your benefits from this program are: 1-You earn points on your credit card; 2-You keep accurate records of your donation; 3- You save time and stamps on writing and mailing checks; 4-Your donation is tax deductible.



For more information you may contact Mrs. Sana’ Saliba at (904) 514-4114.

If you would like to place an Ad on the website please contact Mr. Elias Trad at (561) 809-8668.

## Cars Parked at the church

Please notify the priest anytime you need to leave your car parked in the church’s parking after functions; you may call (904) 448-0203 and leave a message and indicate what time you are picking your car.

In case of a need to pull the rope at the parking entrance please make sure to pull it to the other end and not drive over it.

