

Calendar of Saints—Synaxarion

March 2: Saint John Maron

March 3: Saint Thomas Aquinas

March 15: Saint Benedict

March 18: Saint Cyril, Bishop of Jerusalem

March 19: Saint Joseph

March 23: Saint Rafka

Our Lady of Lebanon
Catholic Church

shall receive the
Relics of Saint Sharbel

On April 11 - 12, 2016
To help in planning and prepar-
ing for this once in a lifetime
event, contact Subdeacon Camille
Atallah to serve on the committee.



Saint John Maron—First Maronite Patriarch of Antioch

John Maron (born in 628 in Sirmaniyah – died in 707 in Kfarhay, Lebanon), was a Syriac monk, and the first Maronite Patriarch. He is revered as a saint commemorated on March 2nd. He died and was buried in Kfarhay near Batroun, in Lebanon, where a shrine dedicated to him.

He was the son of Agathon and Anohamia. He was called John the Sarumite since his father was governor of Sarum. His paternal grandfather, Prince Alidipas, was the nephew of Carloman, a Frankish Prince, and governed Antioch. John was educated in Antioch and the Monastery of Saint Maron, studying mathematics, sciences, philosophy, theology, philology and scripture. He became a monk at the monastery, adding the name Maron to his own.

He was consecrated bishop in 676, and assigned to Mount Lebanon with a mission to oppose heresies, keep the Maronites united with the Church, and support the faithful in an area being invaded. He travelled extensively in the areas involved in combat, preaching, conducting liturgy, tending to the sick, and sheltering the homeless. During this period that he was given the gift of healing, curing many praying over them. The Patriarch of Antioch, Anastasius II died in 609. With the ongoing unrest in the area, Constantinople began to appoint a series of titular patriarchs. The Maronites made up the bulk of the Mardaites army, which shielded Constantinople and the Byzantine Empire from Arab expansion. They used their power and importance to have John Maron, one of their own, chosen as Patriarch of Antioch

and all the East. Maronite sources give the date of his election as 685. John received the approval of Pope Sergius I, and became the first Maronite Patriarch of the oldest see in Christianity. John Maron died circa 707.

Consider placing a
memorial message here.

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monthly!**

Season of Lent

Our Lady of Lebanon

Jubilee Year of Mercy



Waterbury, Connecticut

March 2016

Clergy/Parish Staff

- ⊕ **Pastor**
Rev. Joseph I. Khoueir
- ⊕ **Subdeacons**
Camille Atallah
Dean Tarsi
- **Church Secretary:**
Deanna Testa
- **Cedars Hall:**
Vola Balikian
Marie Noujaim
- **Religious Education
Coordinator:**
Marisa Shaker

Life Messages for Lent 2016

We need to live lives of repentance, because...

we never know when we will meet a tragedy of our own. Let us repent while we have the chance. Let us turn to Christ, acknowledge our faults and failings and receive from him mercy, forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.

There is no better way to take these words of Jesus to heart than to go to sacramental confession, and there is no better time to go to confession than during Lent.

We are unable to predict when a tragic accident may happen to us.

Our end may come swiftly – without warning and without giving us an opportunity to repent. Repentance helps us in life and in death. It helps us to live as forgiven people, and helps us to face death without fear. When we repent, we are saying: "I've been going in the wrong direction – I must turn my life around."

Repentance begins with an admission of our sin and inadequacy.

We cannot see Jesus in all his fullness unless we look at Him through the lens of repentance. Scripture says repentance results in forgiveness, renewal, and redirection.

Repentance is a statement of regret for the inner condition of our souls, with a determination to have that condition changed.

⊕ **Note** ⊕

Our Maronite Catholic tradition encourages the offering of liturgy for all our faithful departed. Please schedule or confirm your liturgy intentions for the upcoming year.

When offering liturgy at Our Lady of Lebanon, remember to include a stipend to the celebrant of the liturgy for the departed.

We need to be fruitful trees in God's orchard.

Lent is an ideal time "to dig around and manure" the tree of our life so that it may bring forth fruits.

The fruits God expects from us during Lent are repentance, renewal of life and the resulting virtues of love, compassion, mercy, forgiveness, selflessness and humble service.

Let us start producing fruits in the family by becoming more sensitive to the feelings of others and by accepting each member of the family with love and respect.

The Christian fruit of reconciliation will grow in the family when each member shows good will by forgiving others and by asking their forgiveness.

We become fruit-bearing in the community by caring for the poor, the sick, the little ones, the old, and the lonely.

We need to make the best use of the "second chance" God gives us.

Our merciful Father always gives us a second chance. The prodigal son, returning to the father, was welcomed as a son, not treated as a slave.

The repentant Peter was made the head of the Church.

The persecutor Paul was made the apostle to the Gentiles.

During Lent, we, too, are given another chance to repent and return to our Heavenly Father's love.

We are also expected to give others a second chance when they ask our forgiveness.

God would like to use each one of us as the "gardener" in the parable to help Him cultivate our families and communities and enrich them with grace.

Contact Information:

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"The Catholic Church, East and West, breathes as two lungs in the same body."

⊕ **Meetings**

Thursday March 3—Knights of Columbus Meeting
 Monday March 7 at 7pm Parish Advisory Council
 Monday March 14 at 7pm Stewardship Advisory Council

• **Activities**

Friday March 4—Lenten Supper sponsored by Holy Name Society
 Friday March 11—Lenten Supper
 Friday March 18—Lenten Supper

• **Reminders**

- The first Thursday of each month, parishioners gather to make sandwiches to feed those hungry and less fortunate through Interfaith Ministries. If you cannot give of your time for this work of mercy, please consider donating peanut butter and/or jam for those who can give of their time.
- **Contact Subdeacon Camille Atallah who is coordinating the preparations to host the relics of Saint Sharbel on April 11 and 12, 2016**

Sunday	Epistle Readers	Intercessions
March 6	Lucas Balikian (English) Subdeacon Camille Atallah (Arabic)	
March 13	Ivanna Jarjura (English) Alisson Abourjeili (Arabic)	Christina Hajj, Alisson Abourjeili Joseph Zarif, Johnny Khazzaka
March 20	Michael Frank (English) Johnny Khazzaka (Arabic)	Muriel Daccache, Anthony Daccache, Joe Daccache, Tiana Hayek, Reem Saade, George Saade, Ivana Jarjura
March 27	Lauren Frank (English) Anthony Daccache (Arabic)	Chloe Balikian, Ivanna Jarjura, Christina Hajj, Alisson Abourjeili Joey Zarif, Johnny Khazzaka

Collections

	Sat.	Sun.	Sat/Sun Appeal	Total
February 6 & 7	557	1289		\$1777
February 9				\$138
February 13 & 14	521	657	\$375	\$1178
February 20 & 21	301	938	\$1077	\$1239

Thank you for your continued generosity

All throughout Lent, we will be collecting for the Annual Bishop's Charities Lenten Appeal

Pray for the sick of our community

Heal your servants, who are sick, O Lord and send them your help and comfort them from Your holy place.
 Sadie Carrah, Joseph & Joan Carrah, Anthony Ciarlo, Sr., Joseph & Delores Gustin, Fred Haddad, Fred Jarjura, Shirley Macary, Jackie Mowad, Tamara Zappone.



March

Church Week	Liturgy Date	Intentions
Feast of Saint John Maron	Wednesday March 2	Liturgy 7pm
Healing of the Paralytic	Saturday March 5	In Memory of Mary White requested by Joseph & Meaghan Macary
	Sunday March 6	One year Memorial for Rose Shaker requested by the family
Healing of the Blind Man	Saturday March 12	In Memory of Kenneth C. Olson requested by Joseph & Meaghan Macary
	Sunday March 13	In Memory of Pierre Ayoub requested by the family
Feast of Saint Joseph	Saturday March 19	5:00pm Liturgy
Hosanna (Palm) Sunday	Sunday March 20	10:00am Liturgy—Procession
Monday-Coming to the Harbor	Monday March 21	6:30pm Ramsho Prayer Service followed by Liturgy
Tuesday-Coming to the Harbor	Tuesday March 22	6:30pm Ramsho Prayer Service followed by Liturgy
Wednesday-Rite of the Lamp	Wednesday March 23	6:30pm Ramsho Prayer Service followed by Liturgy
Thursday of the Mysteries	Thursday March 24	7:00pm Liturgy—Washing of the feet 9:00pm Exposition of Blessed Sacrament
Great Friday of the Crucifixion	Friday March 25	7:00 am Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts 7:00 pm Adoration of the Cross
Saturday of the Light	Saturday March 26	9:00 am Confessions 11:30 am The Prayer of Forgiveness 5:00 pm Liturgy—Vigil
Resurrection Sunday (Easter)	Sunday March 27	10:00am Liturgy—Happy Easter
New Sunday	Saturday April 2	⊕ Tafic , Bahaya and Raymond Carrah Requested by Evelyn Carrah
	Sunday April 3	⊕ Peter & Salwa Shaker Requested by their family

- Groups of parishioners are offering to defray any expense with donations for after liturgy coffee hour.
- Please consider donating the gifts of liturgy (wine, bread, or candles) to help defray church expenses. Your generosity helps in many ways.