

Our Lady of Victory Maronite Catholic Parish At Saint Pamphilus **February 26-27, 2022**

YOU ARE THE CHURCH AND THE CHURCH IS YOU

LET US PRAY FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH: COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION, AND MISSION

CANA SUNDAY AND THE ENTRANCE INTO GREAT LENT



O Lord, on this Sunday morning may we praise you with joyful hearts as we contemplate the wonderful sign which you performed at Cana. Help us to gather our thoughts that we may glorify you, far from the trouble of this world, and praise you, your Father and Holy Spirit, now and for ever, Amen.

Safro (Morning Prayer) from Cana Sunday and Entrance into Great Lent

Rev. Samir Chebli, Pastor | Chorbishop Michael Kail, Adviser | Bahige Alchoufete, Subdeacon

Anne Ayoub, Financial Administrator | Judi Perry, Secretary & Victory Hall Manager

Lori Evans, Religious Education Director | Naji Farah, Choir Director

Address: 1000 Tropical Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15216 | Office: 412-278-0841 For Emergencies: 914-309-6650

Website: www.olvpg.org | Office: office@olvpg.org | Facebook: www.facebook.com/olvpg

OFFICE HOURS: The Church office will be open Tuesday through Friday from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm.

Saint Maron Day Results Compared

Year	Income	Expenses	Net	Attendees
2019	\$15,490	4,025	11,465	189
2020	\$9,045	2,868	6,177	122
2022	\$14,868	4,268	10,600	172

Weekly Collections for February 19-20, 2022

Collection	\$1804.00
Mail Collection	\$320.00
Ash Monday	\$10.00
Donations from Individuals	\$102.05
Collection for Lebanon	\$40.00
Sanctuary Lamps	\$25.00
Candles	\$6.00
Church Fund	\$250.00
Total:	\$2557.05

Liturgy Intentions

Saturday	Feb 26	4:00 PM	Soul of Ed Smith	Marie Smith
Sunday	Feb 27	8:30 AM	Soul of Maria Salcido	Joe and Jocelyne Chahine
		11:00 AM	Marianna, Masoud, Tony, Flora & Marie Barack Anniversary Remembrance	Frances Barack & Family
Monday	Feb 28	6:00 PM	Living & Deceased Members of OLOV	Ash Monday
Tuesday	Mar 1	6:00 PM	Soul of David Moses	Marianne & Ken Kovach
Wednesday	Mar 2	6:00 PM	Living & Deceased Members of OLOV	"Remember me in Your Kingdom"
Thursday	Mar 3	6:00 PM	Living & Deceased Members of OLOV	"Remember me in Your Kingdom"
Friday	Mar 4	6:00 PM	Lenten Services Only—No Liturgy	
Saturday	Mar 5	4:00 PM	40-Day Liturgy for Alice Marratto	Marratto Family
			Soul of Tereze Sadaka	Kail Family
			Gene Thomas Birthday Remembrance	Sadie Thomas
Sunday	Mar 6	8:30 AM	Soul of Tereze Sadaka	Joe and Jocelyne Chahine
		11:00 AM	Soul of Tereze Sadaka	Theresa Basil
			Soul of Alice Marratto	Theresa Coury Niecgorski

In Our Prayers



Please keep in your prayers:

Maxine Schoen, Chuck Borik, Martha Kail, Peter DeSando, Angie Joseph, Michael Rattie, Alicia Hruby, Helen McGoun, Diana Kuzma, Elaine Moses, Dr. Adnan Abla, Ashley Ayoob, Frances Barack, David Ingrid Franklin, Donald Kovanis, Faten Fattat, Marylou Joseph, Sr. Mary Ann Karas, Franice Pattinato, Helen Mierski, Rebecca Rodgers, Rina Molinaro, Patty Doerzbacker, Anna Marie Mecca, Ken Kovach, Frank Joseph, Alex Joseph, Rosemary Thomas Hartman, Celeste Cancilla, and Stephanie Vail.

MYSTERY OF RECONCILIATION/CONFESSION

Confession is available before and after Liturgies on Saturday and Sunday, and by appointment during the week.

PRAYER BEFORE THE EUCHARIST



The church is open from Tuesday to Friday from 10 AM to 6 PM

for prayer and meditation

before the Eucharist in the Tabernacle.

Eucharistic Adoration every Thursday from 5:00 to 6:00 PM.

BISHOP'S ANNUAL LENTEN APPEAL

Bishop Gregory has sent a letter outlining this year's Lenten Appeal and what the proceeds can accomplish within the Eparchy and its many outreach programs. Each parish is given a goal and the amount of the goal is paid regardless of whether the local parish has reached its goal or not.

The goal for Our Lady of Victory is: \$4,000.00

It is interesting to note that we have not reached that goal in recent years. We hope to do so this year.

Contained in your Church Envelope Sets are three Special Collection Envelopes marked **Bishop's Charities Appeal**. They are trimmed with a bright blue border and marked for March 6th, March 20th and April 3rd. These are the envelopes which should be used for the Lenten Appeal.

We ask that each envelope holder contribute a **minimum** of \$15 per envelope or a total of \$45. If every envelope holder does this, we can meet our Appeal goal. If you are able to afford more, please be generous. As you can read for yourself, the bishop's letter enumerates exactly how your money will be used.



STEWARDSHIP



Giving is an act of the heart. You may give without loving, but you cannot love without giving.

Lenten Meals

Come join us!

OLOV begins its Lenten Meals on Friday, March 4th from 4:00 to 7:00 PM.

Plan on joining us for prayer and get a wonderful meal before or after services. Our Lenten Meal schedule is as follows:

Friday, March 4th	4:00—7:00 PM
Friday, March 11th	4:00—7:00 PM
Friday, March 18th	4:00—7:00 PM
Friday, March 25th	4:00—7:00 PM
Friday, April 1st	4:00—7:00 PM
Friday, April 8th	4:00—7:00 PM



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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

CASH BASH \$\$

SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 2022 AT 5PM

ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

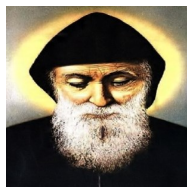
FRIDAY, JULY 15, 2022

RELAXATION OF COVID RESTRICTIONS: The Latin Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh has announced the relaxation of the various COVID Restrictions put into place at the height of the pandemic. We will also relax our restrictions and return to the normal *Greeting of Peace and Communion by Intinction on the tongue although the option to receive in the hand will continued to be offered for the time being*. Masks will not be **required** but if you feel more comfortable wearing a mask, please do so. *Holy Water* will also be put back into the fonts. We will keep hand sanitizer available and encourage parishioners and visitors to use it as you enter and leave the Church. Please exercise common sense and do your best to keep yourself and others safe.

PLEASE NOTE: We will return to our summer schedule for daily Liturgies beginning Monday, February 28th. Our daily Liturgies will be celebrated at **6:00 PM**.

This means our **Ash Monday Liturgy** and the blessing & distribution of ashes will also be celebrated at the new time of **6:00 PM**. Please let family and friends know of the return to 6:00 PM for daily Liturgies.

Saint Sharbel Liturgy



Every 22nd of the month we will celebrate the Liturgy of Saint Sharbel which will be offered for the intentions of our parishioners, relatives and friends who need our prayers.

Month of March

Altar Bread and Wine

In loving memory of Joseph, David, Helen & Philomena Kail

Requested by: Martha Kail & Family

Sanctuary Lamps

In loving memory of Anthony Perry

Requested by: Judi Perry

Altar Bread and Wine or Sanctuary Lamps can each be sponsored for a donation of \$25 per month, in loving

Scripture Readings

Cana Sunday and the Entrance into Lent

Rom 14: 14-23

Jn 2: 1-11

Sunday of the Healing of the Leper

Rom 6: 12-23

Mk 1: 35-45

All Scripture Readings are taken from the Revised Edition of the New American Bible

Maronite Christian Formation Program

For questions about MCF, contact Lori Evans at:

levans622@yahoo.com

Students should arrive for classes by 9:30AM. Classes will begin at 9:45AM. Classes are from 9:45AM to 10:45AM.

Arabic Classes are Sunday mornings from 10:20AM to 10:55AM in the MCF Area.

Do we have your email address?

If you are not receiving emails from OLOV, please send your email address to us at:

office@olovpittsburgh.org

2022 Church Envelopes

If you are among those who have not yet picked up their 2022 Church Envelopes, Please do so NOW. If you cannot come to the Church, we will mail them to you if you make that request. Please let us know. Thank you.

NEW FACEBOOK PAGE FOR VICTORY HALL:

<http://www.facebook.com/victoryhallolovgh>

Follow Our Lady of Victory Church on:

- ♦ Website: www.olovpgh.org
- ♦ Facebook: www.facebook.com/olovpgh

Download OLOV Mobile App
on your Smartphone
<http://onelink.to/jnm7du>

Victory Hall Rental

Our Victory Hall is the perfect location for your Personal and Business Events. Victory Hall has ample Free Parking; 350 Person Capacity. We allow the renter to bring their own food (Caterer).

Parishioners receive a special discount for their events. Please recommend Victory Hall to your friends and business associates.

To rent or for more information, please contact the Church office
412-278-0841





Our Lady of Victory Maronite Church

1000 Tropical Road

Pittsburgh, PA 15216

Dear Parishioners,

It is said that "*to sing is to doubly pray.*" Since I was a child, I have been touched by the beauty of Our Lady of Victory's Maronite hymns.

Our Lady of Victory believes that music not only helps us to worship more wholeheartedly together but also welcomes people into our church community. We are excited about the possibilities for our parish's future and the role that music will play.

The church's musical traditions deserve to remain alive, grow, and expand for generations to come. In this spirit, Our Lady of Victory is starting a children's choir with 30-minute weekly rehearsals beginning Sunday, March 6th after the 11:00 Liturgy.

All youth 18 and under are welcome and encouraged to participate.

Jihad Irani has graciously offered to assist and to share his expertise with Maronite musical traditions, and I bring my experience as a professional singer and longtime voice teacher.

Additional details can be found on the registration form. Please fill out one form per child at: <https://tinyurl.com/2p85zwxe>.

You are welcome to email me at gina@ginamorgano.com with any questions. I hope to see your child in choir!

Be well and sing on,
Gina

Gina Morgano
(412) 519-3374
gina@ginamorgano.com
www.GinaMorgano.com

Cana Sunday and the Entrance into Great Lent

Great Lent is a time for change, for transformation. The Maronite Church begins Great Lent with Cana Sunday, a commemoration of the transformation of water into wine at the wedding feast of Cana at Galilee. This change prepares us for the evening when we change wine into his blood and bread into his body.

Cana is situated 750 feet above sea level. It is known as Cana of Galilee in order to distinguish it from Cana in Coclo, Syria. Saint Jerome said that he was able to see Cana from Nazareth. Cana of Galilee was the town of Nathaniel and it is to this town that Jesus will return to heal the son of the royal official.

The actual circumstances of the wedding are unknown. Perhaps Nataniel had invited Jesus and his followers to the wedding feast in his village. Some say that the groom was related to Mary, the Mother of Jesus, or was one of the friends of Jesus. In the Middle Ages, legend held that it was the wedding feast of John the Beloved.

According to Jewish law, the wedding of a virgin was to take place on a Wednesday. The wedding was to be followed with eight days of celebration and an abundance of food and drink was essential. At this celebration the wedding wine began to diminish. Fortunately for the groom and his guests, Jesus and his Mother were there.

Mary had only to mention to Jesus that something was going wrong: "They have no wine." Jesus understood that his Mother was not simply making an observation, but was seeking his powerful intervention. On her part, Mary was confident that he would listen to her. She had given birth to him and had lived with him for thirty years, so she had faith in him. At first, Jesus responded with an apparent refusal, "Woman, (a term of respect which he would also use on the cross) how does this concern of yours involve me?" The reason for his response was that his hour had not yet come, namely the hour of his death and resurrection, after which he would answer all the prayers of his Mother.

Jesus came into the world for a definite purpose and task, as we all do. He did not see his life in terms of the immediate needs of any particular moment, but only in terms of his purpose and the eternal plan of the Father. All of his deeds had to correspond and lead to the ultimate fulfillment of his life.

Mary knew that her prayer would not be refused; she told them to do whatever he told them. Mary trusted in her Son and her request was fulfilled. She told the servants as she tells all of us: do whatever my Son tells you.

Jesus instructed the servants to fill the six waterpots. The number six might be significant because in the mentality of the time, six was an imperfect number. (Seven was considered perfection.) The six waterpots can represent the imperfection of the old law, which Jesus

is to fill with the wine of the Gospel and of his grace. The imperfection of law was transformed into the perfection of grace. These jars held 180 gallons of water, which was to be transformed into excellent wine. What was originally lacking is now to be found in superabundance.

Aside from the rich theological significance of the transformation of water into wine, let us reflect on the simplicity and “homeliness” of the act. Jesus knew that the lack of wine would be a source of embarrassment to the groom and a misfortune for the guests. He did not rejoice in the misfortune of others, but used his great power to save a simple man of Cana from humiliation. Let us imitate his example and be concerned with the simple needs of those around us and how we can fulfill them.

Why Ash Monday and how is Lent forty days in the Maronite Church?

As Maronites we celebrate Ash Monday. In the West, Ash Wednesday signals the beginning of the Lenten season.

The Maronite Lenten season begins with the “Entrance into Great Lent” on Cana Sunday. The fast starts on Monday because Maronites do not fast on the day of the Resurrection (Sunday).

In the West Syriac Tradition the Monday Lenten Liturgy was originally the “Monday of oil”.

Oil is used for purification and is referred to in many contexts. The Syriac writers consistently refer to it. *“Stained bodies are anointed with the sanctifying oil with a view to expiation. They are purified but not destroyed. They descend marked by sin and arise pure as a child”* (St Ephrem).

The Maronite Church, influenced by Ash Wednesday in the Latin Church, later adopted into the Monday liturgy the blessing and distribution of the Ashes.

Which brings us to another question.

Why is Great Lent for Maronites more than forty days?

The idea of forty days originates from Jesus’s forty days in the wilderness.

“Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry.” Luke 4:1-2

The Maronite Church commemorates the Temptation of Jesus in the wilderness on the fortieth day of Maronite Lent (it has its own special Liturgy). That falls on the Friday before Hosanna Sunday (Palm Sunday for Latin Catholics). From Cana Sunday to Temptation Friday in the week of Bartimaeus the Blind we get exactly 40 days. The next day we enter Passion Week with Lazarus Saturday, which is really its own Liturgical period and separate from the 40 days.

From Theresa Simon



CANA SUNDAY First Sunday of Great Lent

February 27, 2022

*Fasting opens the Gates of
Paradise and those who
fast enter to inherit the
Kingdom*



ASH MONDAY February 28, 2022

Day of
FAST & ABSTINENCE

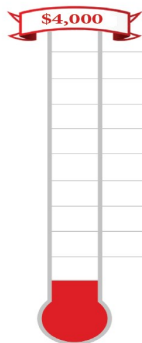
**Liturgy & Blessing of
Ashes at 6:00 PM**

ANNUAL BISHOP'S CHARITIES APPEAL

Three Special Collection Envelopes
marked for Bishop's Charities Appeal
dated: March 6th, March 20th &
April 3rd

Every envelope holder is asked for a
minimum of \$15
for each envelope (\$45 total)

Let's reach our goal this year!
Thanks for whatever you can do.



LENTEN MEALS

March 4th 4—7PM
March 11th 4—7PM
March 18th 4—7PM
March 25th 4—7PM
April 1st 4—7PM
April 8th 4—7PM



Stations of the Cross

March 4th 6PM
March 11th 6PM
March 18th 6PM
March 25th 6PM
April 1st 6PM
April 8th 6PM



OLOV Cash Bash

Saturday,
April 30, 2022

Details to follow

Mark your Calendar!

Plan on joining us...



OLOV Church Annual Golf Outing

Friday, July 15, 2022

Details to follow...

OLOV Church Presents its Annual

Pittsburgh Lebanese Festival

Month of September

Dates to be determined

Stay tuned for much more information...



the **CALL** | LIFE AS AN AMBASSADOR FOR CHRIST

MARONITE YOUTH ORGANIZATION

ONE DAY RETREAT

\$10.00 / PERSON

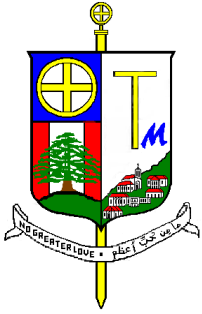


****BRING 1 CAN OF FOOD, 1 BAG OF
TOILETRIES, OR 1 BAG OF WARM CLOTHES****

**ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARD THE FIRST STEP
PROGRAM TO HELP PREGNANT WOMEN, AND
TO THE SECOND HARVEST FOOD PANTRY**

MARCH 5, 2022
9:00AM - 9:30PM

SAINT MARONS CHURCH, YOUNGSTOWN OHIO



EPARCHY OF SAINT MARON OF BROOKLYN

Office of the Bishop

109 Remsen Street

Brooklyn, New York 11201-4212

Tel: (718)-237-9913 Fax: (718)-243-0444

chancerystmaron@verizon.net www.stmaron.org

Lent 2022

Prot. No. 018 S / 22

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Each year during Lent, I ask you to consider giving a gift to support the Eparchy of Saint Maron's Annual Lenten Appeal. The past year was challenging with the pandemic and unprecedented troubles here and around the world (especially in Lebanon). And yet, God always watches over his children and our Eparchy. We rely upon your help to give us the resources to serve the faithful throughout the Eparchy.

Please consider making a sacrificial gift to this year's Annual Lenten Appeal. Your gift will support:

Seminarians: We currently have six men preparing for the priesthood. Our seminarians are our future priests, and we need to educate them well so that they can minister effectively to our faithful in the future. The costs of Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Seminary are about \$450,000 per year. **40% of your contribution to this year's Annual Appeal** will go for Seminarians.

Ministries: Our outreach to young people, the elderly, families, and in defense of life from conception to natural death, helps people at the most crucial times in their lives. You can help ensure that the Eparchy continues this important work. **20% of your contribution** will go to support Ministries.

Retired Priests: The Eparchy's 17 retired priests served the faithful with generosity. We help them with a modest pension that is helpful to them each month. **20% of your contribution** will support Retired Priests.

Help for Lebanon and the Middle East: The Eparchy has provided an unprecedented amount of support to help in Lebanon and the Middle East over the past few years. We can never forget the homeland of our Maronite Church. **10% of your contribution** will support Christians in Lebanon and the Middle East.

Endowment: The Eparchy's Endowment Fund supports today's needs and ensures the Eparchy will have resources in the future. **10% of your contribution** will be deposited into the Eparchy's Endowment.

Please open your heart once again and make a gift. Your participation in this Appeal impacts the lives of many people, both inside the Eparchy, and in the Middle East. Any gift will be appreciated.

Thank you, and may God bless you for your generosity! I wish you a blessed Lent and Easter.

Gratefully yours in Christ,

+ Gregory

+ Gregory J. Mansour

PS: Please also consider remembering the Eparchy and your parish in your estate plan, or as the beneficiary of an insurance policy, retirement plan or charitable gift annuity. Thank you.

Cana Sunday and the Entrance into Lent

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

Romans 14:14-23 Consideration for the Weak Conscience

Brothers and Sisters:

I know and am persuaded in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself; but it is unclean for anyone who thinks it unclean. If your brother or sister is being injured by what you eat, you are no longer walking in love. Do not let what you eat cause the ruin of one for whom Christ died. So do not let your good be spoken of as evil. For the kingdom of God is not food and drink but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. The one who thus serves Christ is acceptable to God and has human approval. Let us then pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding. Do not, for the sake of food, destroy the work of God. Everything is indeed clean, but it is wrong for you to make others fall by what you eat; it is good not to eat meat or drink wine or do anything that makes your brother or sister stumble. The faith that you have, have as your own conviction before God. Blessed are those who have no reason to condemn themselves because of what they approve. But those who have doubts are condemned if they eat, because they do not act from faith; for whatever does not proceed from faith is sin.

Praise be to God always

Cana Sunday and the Entrance into Lent

The Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the Apostle John.

John 2:1-11 The Wedding at Cana

The Apostle John writes:

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

This is the truth. Peace be with you.