OUR LADY OF VICTORY

MARONITE CATHOLIC CHURCH · PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2026

Renewal of the Church

BEGINNING OF THE MARONITE LITURGICAL YEAR



"My sheep hear my voice;
I know them, and they follow me."

JOHN 10:27 · GOSPEL: JOHN 10:22–42

A Renewal That Begins in Our Hearts

The beauty of the Church is not only in its walls, but in the faith and love of its people. As we begin a new Maronite liturgical year, let us listen to Jesus, open our hearts to His grace, and renew our parish through prayer, forgiveness, and service to one another.

Lord Jesus, renew Your Church. Begin with me. Amen.

125 YEARS OF FAITH & TRADITION · 1902–2027

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Parish Finance Council Members
Richard Kail
Nicholas Romah
Joseph Habib
Adam Kassab
Anne Ayoob
Dima Ayoob
Samir Boulos
Joe Joseph

OUR CHURCH'S FINANCIAL HEALTH

Liturgy Times & Intentions:
November 7-15, 2026

Renewal of the Church

Sat	Nov 7 4:00PM	Hieron	Soul of Janet Anthony	Family
			Good Health for Jack	The Pastor
			For All Veterans	The Pastor
Sun	Nov 8 8:30AM	Michael	Soul of Evelyn Shock	Caroline & Dan Reilly
	11:00AM		Soul of Diana Kuzma	Family
Mon	Nov 9		No Liturgy	
Tues	Nov 10 5:00PM		Rosary	
	5:30PM	Maura	Good Health for Sadie Thomas	Mecca Family
Weds	Nov 11 5:00PM		Rosary	
	5:30PM	Martin	Soul of Carl Hess	Barbara Hess

St. Sharbel Mass of Prayer & Healing at the Saint Sharbel Spiritual Life Center

Thurs	Nov 12 5:00PM		Eucharistic Adoration, Confession Available	
	6:00PM		Rosary	
	6:30PM		Divine Liturgy, Blessing with Holy Oil and Veneration of the Relic of St. Sharbel	
Fri	Nov 13 5:00PM		Rosary	
	5:30PM	Frances	Deceased Members of the Amado & Ashear Families	Caroline & Dan Reilly
			Sarkis & Thomas Families	Sadie Thomas

Announcement to Zechariah

Sat	Nov 14 4:00PM	Philip	Soul of Peter Anthony	Family
			Souls of Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Mucek	Family
			Soul of Mario Merkle	Family
Sun	Nov 15 8:30AM	Habib	Soul of Henry Berrick	Judi Perry
	11:00AM		Souls of Tony Barack & Elidio Monoriti	Family
			Soul of Joseph Betters	Family

If you would like to schedule a liturgy intention, please call the office (412-278-0841).

Our collections are as follows:
October 31 & November 1, 2026
November 7 & 8, 2026
Weekly Offering
& Helping the Needy
November 14 & 15, 2026
Weekly Offering
& Christmas Flower Offering



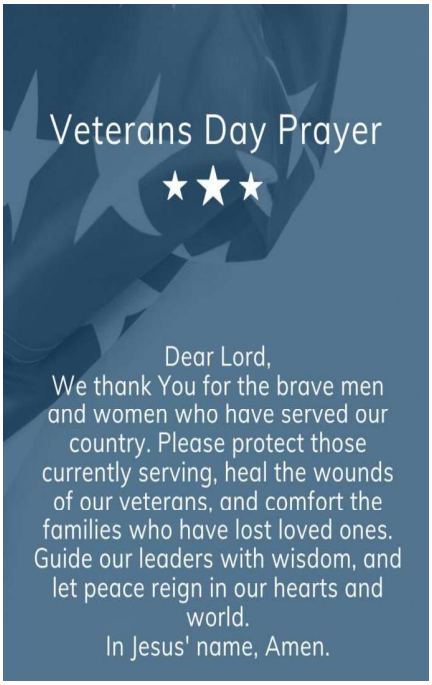
November 2026	1-Nov	Total
Collection	$2,453	$2,453
Mail Collection	$1,145	$1,145
Online Giving	$175	$175
Candles	$42	$42
Patriarchal Charities	$325	$325
Help for the Needy	$50	$50
Christmas Flowers	$0	$0
Church Fund	$165	$165
Total	$4,355	$4,355
Expenses	-$3,934	-$3,934
Balance	$421	$421

Saint Joseph House
OLOV Winter Coat Drive

Saint Joseph House of Hospitality provides safe housing and supportive serivces for men over the age of 50. They are in desperate need of men's winter coats. There's a bin in the church vestibule.

Thank you for your kindness!





Mystery of Reconciliation/Confession: Confession is available before and after Liturgies on Saturday and Sunday, and by appointment during the week.

Baptism & Chrismation: Arrangements for these Mysteries may be preceded by instructional classes for Parents & Sponsors. The Parents themselves should contact the office. Both sponsors must be Catholic and must be 18 years of age or older. Sponsorship Forms are required for sponsors.

Marriages: The couple should contact the Parish Office at least six months in advance and before any other arrangements or commitments are made. No weddings outside of the parish.

Funerals: Please contact the Pastor or Parish Office before making any arrangements. The Pastor must be consulted to set times for Prayer Services and Funeral Liturgies. We will celebrate ALL Funeral Liturgies here at the Church.

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Please keep in your prayers: Chuck Borik, Michael Rattie, Alicia Hruby, Helen McGoun, Dr. Adnan Abla, Ashley Ayoob, David Ingrid Franklin, Faten Fatfat, Franice Pattinato, Helen Mierski, Rebecca Rodgers, Patty Doerzbacker, Anna Marie Mecca, Ken Kovach, Frank Joseph, Alex Joseph, Rosemary Thomas Hartman, Celeste Cancilla, Stephanie Vail, James Brocato, Dalal Romah, Isaac Simon, Sue Cravens, Kim B., Chrissy Coury, Logan Gump, Darius Xavier Collins, Melissa Rodriguez, Amanda Marie, Matthew James Rendell, Jadon Michael, Jean Westerman, Attila Shumaker, Timmy Droege, Denise Mytiva Mastro, Kate Jacobs, Vincent Scully, Valerie Bonner, John Kavulic, Jaime Perrucci, Kattie Fitzpatrick, Lyuva Lazovski, Barbara Routh Cappy, Josephine, Veronica Moore, Fadaa Sadaka, Grace Kaduck, Traci Orr, Hampartsoum Nazarian, Mary Elizabeth Leonard, John Bauer, James Routh Cappy, and all who are in need of our prayers.

Scripture Readings

Renewal of the Church
(November 7 & 8, 2026)
2 Mac 10:1-6a, 7b-8
Heb 9:11-15 Jn 10:22-42

Annunciation to Zechariah
(November 14 & 15, 2026)
Gen 17:15-22
Rom 4:13-25 Lk 1:1-25

All Readings are taken from the NRSVCE. All Gospel Readings are take from the Revised Edition of the New American Bible

Month of November 2026

Altar Bread & Wine
In loving memory of Josephine and Carl Hess
requested by Family.

Sanctuary Lamps
In loving memory of John A.Kail
requested by Bob & Cathy Hoag.



Altar Bread & Wine or Sanctuary Lamps can be sponsored for a donation of $25.

Scholarships for Our Youth!

We are pleased to announce that we will again award scholarships at our Christmas Party on Sunday, December 20, 2026. The recipients will receive the actual scholarship Saturday, February 13, 2027 following our St. Maron liturgy. All students are encouraged to participate and will need to complete an application (available in the vestibule and will also be sent via email). The deadline to submit an application is Sunday, January 17, 2027.



HELP FOR THE NEEDY

We will be making lunches on
Saturday, November 28, 2026.
The lunches are delivered to
Second Avenue Commons.
We are collecting new gloves, socks and hats.
There's a basket in the church
vestibule for you to place your donations. Thank you!



PARISH REGISTRATION

New parishioners are asked to register as are newlyweds and single young adults, even if registered previously with their families. Please call the office for a registration form. Forms are also available in the church vestibule and can be completed and placed in the collection basket.



DONATE ONLINE

Consider using our online giving tool. Go to our website OLOVPGH.ORG and set up recurrent payments or make a one-time gift.

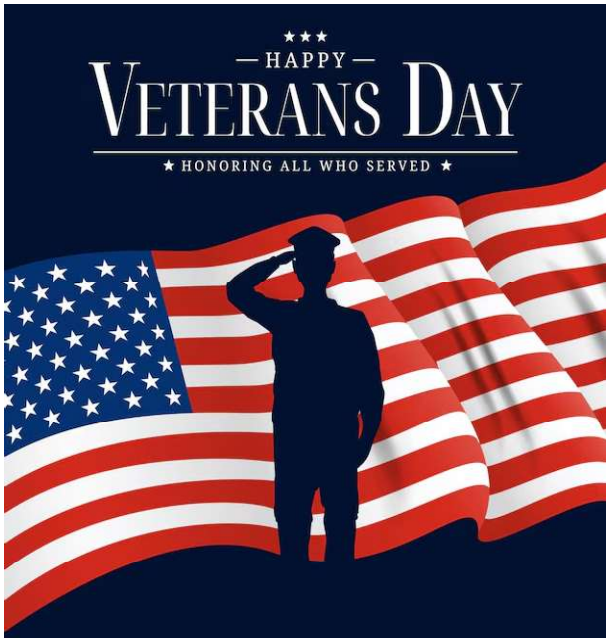


OLOV Christmas Party
Sunday, December 20, 2026

11AM Liturgy
Children's Play
Christmas Party

Mark Your Calendars, please.





There's No Place Quite Like It––Church

Since we are celebrating the Consecration & Renewal of the Church Sundays and the start of a new Liturgical Year in our Maronite Church, we thought it especially appropriate to think about the nature of Church and our own demeanor within the House of God. We can all use a reminder from time to time of how sacred a place is the House of God and how blessed we are to be within its gates.

Whether Catholic or Lutheran, Baptist or Pentecostal, Jewish or Moslem, there is one thing all people of faith agree upon––the House of God is a place like no other place. It is the meeting place between God and man. In the Catholic Church there are before us images of the Church Triumphant, who are invisibly present with us; at their head is the Queen of heaven and earth, the Most Holy Mother of God. And in the form of His Body and Blood, seated upon His Holy Throne within the tabernacle is the head of the entire Church, our Shepherd, the Lord Jesus Christ.

With what kind of awe and piety should we stand before such an exalted gathering? The Church––the Temple of God––is GOD'S House, and in it an especially prayerful attitude should prevail. The responsibility for this is borne not only by the clergy, but by every individual who comes to pray. Loud conversations severely interfere with those who are attempting to immerse themselves in the words of the Service of the Holy Mysteries, and to those who are earnestly striving at that time to commune with our God.

Loud conversations are not the only affront to the peace and quiet of the Lord's House. One is often struck by the use of cell phones during the sacred service; some people (especially the young), stand in church with their hands in their pockets, or wander from one side of the church to the other, even during the most sacred moments of our service. Others allow their children to move in and out of the church as though its builders had installed revolving doors; some children are permitted to wander the corridors for play, mischief and amusement. These and many other distractions contribute to a disrespect for the House of God that is both growing and entirely unacceptable.

Many clergy find it uncomfortable when they have to remind people that the House of God is a special place, unlike any other place. But the behavior of many has degraded the sanctity of the Church to such a degree that it is no longer possible to ignore bad behavior and bad manners in Church. We get many church publications and bulletins from priest friends around the country. The number of those publications that speak directly to the problem of disrespectful dress and behavior in Church has markedly increased over the years. This indicates that the problem is growing and becoming more intolerable.

A few years ago, the Vatican began to enforce strict dress codes for all visitors to St. Peter's Basilica. Inappropriate dress will keep visitors to St. Peter's on the outside looking in. Their visit is limited to a Swiss Guardsman who informs them that their manner of dress is simply inappropriate for such a holy place. Most shrines have begun to post dress codes and codes of behavior. Visitors are informed that cell phones are to be turned off before entering the shrine church; silence is to be observed in the sanctuary area. All this is being done to preserve the dignity of our holy places and to allow people to pray in an environment free from unwanted, rude or disruptive behavior.

Part of the problem is that many people simply do not know how to behave appropriately while in Church. Either they were not taught properly at home to begin with or have simply veered from the proper behavior they were taught when younger.

When coming to God's House, people should dress appropriately. In our society, we still consider coat and tie for men and dresses or suits for women appropriate attire for weddings, for special parties and certainly for meeting dignitaries, like the pope or our governor. We should then dress in like manner to meet our Lord, present in the Holy Eucharist. Granted, perhaps in the summer we could be a little more casual, but we still need to be neat, clean and properly clothed. Frankly, shorts should be worn only by very young children; T-shirts should be kept for picnics; spandex pants and tights should be reserved for exercise; and halter tops/midriff blouses should be burned. In deciding what to wear, we should be thinking, "I am dressing to meet my Lord and to participate in the mystery of my salvation."

Before leaving home, parents should make sure the children go to the bathroom. People going in and out of the pews during Liturgy for the bathroom is distracting. Granted there are legitimate reasons for having to use the bathroom during Liturgy. However, some children have simply gotten into the routine of constantly getting up and

down. There should be no movement whatsoever during the Anaphora. When I was growing up, unless we were having a near death experience, the only time my father allowed any of us children to leave the pew was to receive Communion.

Leave home with enough time to arrive at Church before the Liturgy begins, preferably about five to ten minutes. Doing so allows everyone to have a few moments for prayer and to be ready to participate in the Liturgy. Granted, some of us will be late from time to time; none of us need be late all of the time. Liturgy times and the location of the Church are well known. There is no excuse for being constantly late.

When arriving at Church, discard any gum in a proper container. There must be a special place in purgatory for those who stick gum underneath the pews. (*Actually, no one should be chewing gum just before Liturgy in observance of the law of fasting which says we must fast for one hour before receiving Communion*.)

When entering the Church, be sure to make the sign of the cross with the holy water; this gesture reminds us of our baptism and our unique relationship with our God. Before entering and when leaving the pew, make a profound bow to the altar and tabernacle in reverence for God's presence. Please turn off cell phones and beepers; everyone not only can give some UNDIVIDED attention to God, but also spare everyone else the distraction of a ringing phone or beeping pager during this special time of prayer and worship. Physicians on call are a different matter, but we ask that their cell phone or pager at least be placed in a vibrate or silent mode.

We come to church for WORSHIP. Participate in the songs and prayers, follow the Reading and listen well to the Gospel. Some of you are like pillars of salt who never open your mouths to sing or pray; others are like pew potatoes who merely read the bulletin during Liturgy and never utter an "*Amen*" in response to any prayer. Parents should help their children follow the Liturgy (some of you do just that) and pray with the adults. In short, everyone should joyfully and reverently participate in the worship of our God.

After receiving Communion, remain in church and give thanks to God for his great gift. To give the Lord one hour––and usually less––for the Liturgy is really not much of a sacrifice. How would you feel if your guests got up from your table in the middle of the meal and left without even saying thank you. Remember: Judas was the first person to leave the Liturgy (the Last Supper) early.

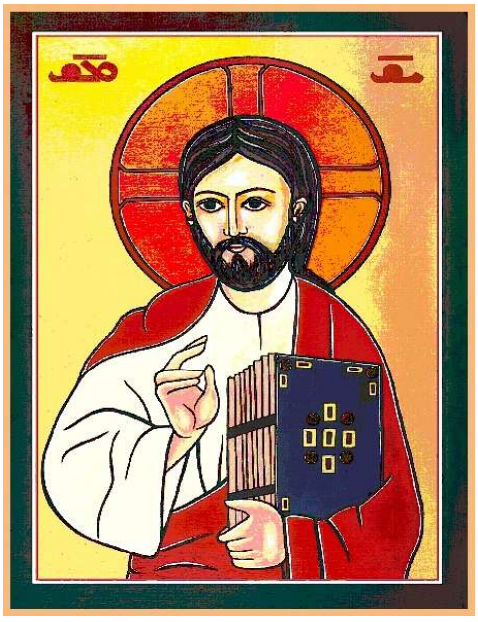
Finally, after the blessing, wait until the priest has proceeded down the aisle before leaving your pew. After the closing hymn has concluded, police your pew, put the books back into the holders and remove any objects your children may have left. When coffee and donuts follow the Liturgy, join us for a few minutes to say hello and visit with one another.

We live in a very casual world where many people have forgotten proper manners. But the church is unlike any other building on the face of the earth. It is the House of our God, the Tabernacle of the Lord, the meeting place between God and humankind. It deserves our best dress, our best behavior and the homage of our entire being.

During this week of the Renewal of the Church let us renew our love for God and his Holy House. And remember: God IS with us especially when we enter the House of God, the meeting place of God and humankind, it is like no other building or place.

God of mercy,
pour out your grace on all those who honor your Church
on the feast of its sanctification.
Enlighten them with your word,
guide them to knowledge of you
and obtain for them the true bread.
Pour out your mercy on them in this world
and grant them eternal life in the next,
so that they may praise you,
your Father and your Holy Spirit,
now and for ever. Amen.

First Prayer: Safro for the Feast of the Renewal of the Church



THE RENEWAL OF THE CHURCH

Jesus, Our Good Shepherd • John 10:22-42



1 Winter in Jerusalem: the Temple's special feast!



2 Jesus walked through Solomon's Portico.



3 The people wondered if Jesus was the Messiah.



4 Jesus pointed to the good works He did.



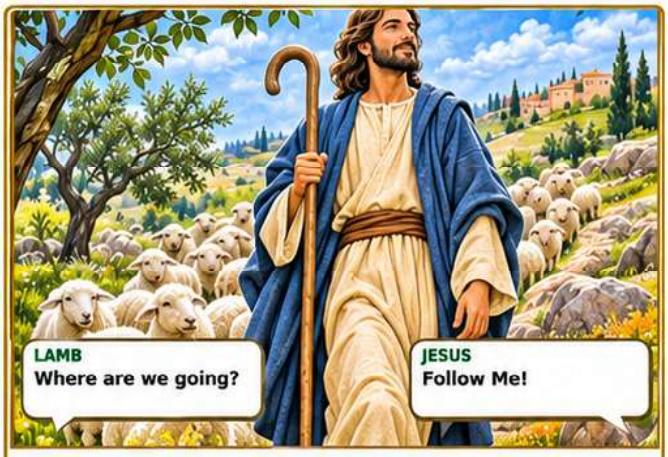
5 Some people still refused to believe.



6 Jesus is the Good Shepherd who calls us.

JESUS KNOWS HIS SHEEP

The Renewal of the Church • John 10:22–42



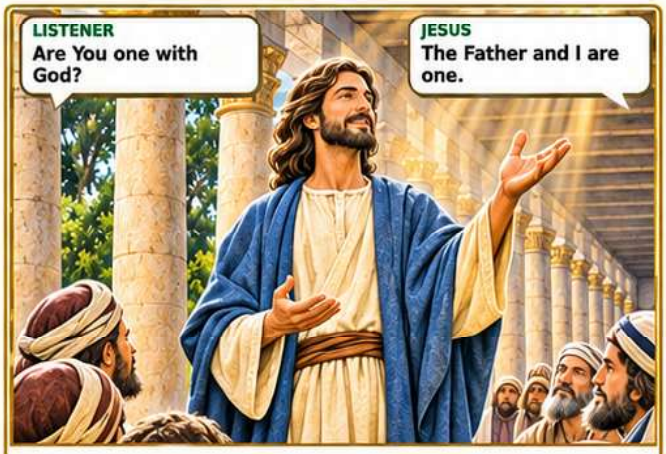
7 We follow Jesus as sheep follow their shepherd.



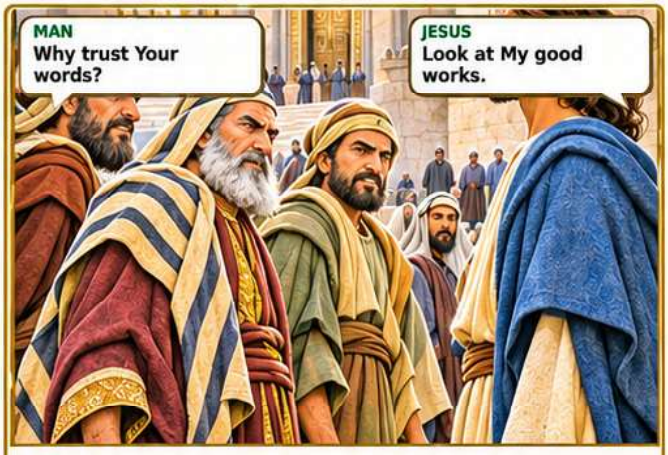
8 Jesus promises His followers life forever.



9 Jesus keeps His followers safe in His love.



10 Jesus is one with God the Father.



11 Jesus spoke the truth, even when others were angry.



12 Across the Jordan, many people believed in Jesus!

MY MISSION: Listen to Jesus. Pray. Forgive. Love others!

OUR LADY OF VICTORY MARONITE CATHOLIC CHURCH

1902 • 125th • 2027

JUBILEE YEAR 2026 – 2027

Honoring our Heritage
Embracing our Future

FAITH • FAMILY • COMMUNITY • ALWAYS

A SPECIAL INVITATION
TO ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Blessed Are You

MYO MID-ATLANTIC WEST
DAY RETREAT 2026

Saturday, December 5, 2026
10:00 AM – 7:00 PM

Our Lady of Victory Church • Pittsburgh, PA

Christmas-themed retreat honoring our Blessed Mother Mary

Faith • Friendship • Fun • Joy

FREE FOR OUR OLOV STUDENTS!
Our church covers the $30 retreat fee.

Grades 7–12

REGISTER BY NOVEMBER 28
Call 412-278-0841



You are loved. You belong here.
Bring a friend!

With love and prayers,
Fr. Samir Chebli