

# Saint Maron Maronite Catholic Church

613 Main Street  
Torrington, CT 06790  
stmaronchurch@yahoo.com  
Office: (860)-489 9015

Direct line: 860-725 2924

www.saintmaronchurch.org

## *Liturgical Schedule*

Saturday 4:30pm  
Sunday 10:00AM

**Bingo Nights**  
Monday & Friday  
6:00PM

## Sacraments

**Baptism and Confirmation:**  
Please contact the priest  
ASAP after the birth of your  
child.

**Reconciliation:** Before or after  
Liturgy or by appointment.

**Marriage:** Couples must  
contact the Priest six months  
before the wedding.

## Meet your Pastoral team

**David  
Leard**  
Deacon

**Fr. Tony  
Saab**  
Pastor

**Paul  
Comeau**  
Subdeacon

**Steven  
Marcus**  
Deacon

**Melanie  
Libby**  
Organist  
Soloist

## OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday 10 am-1 pm  
Thursday 10 am-1 pm  
Friday 10 am-2 pm

## March 08, 2020 *The Prodigal Son*

*Pg.217*

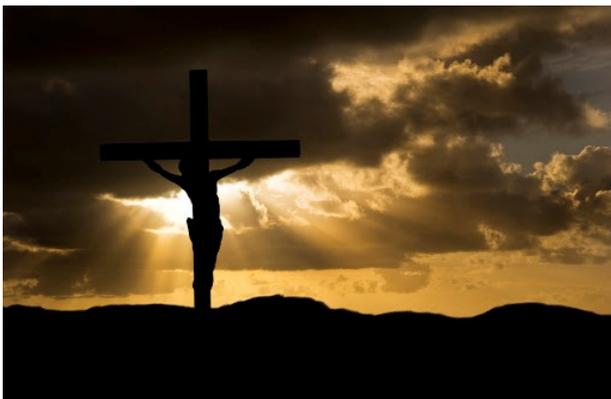
Luke 15:11-32

Then he said, "A man had two sons, and the younger son said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of your estate that should come to me.' So the father divided the property between them. After a few days, the younger son collected all his belongings and set off to a distant country where he squandered his inheritance on a life of dissipation. When he had freely spent everything, a severe famine struck that country, and he found himself in dire need. So he hired himself out to one of the local citizens who sent him to his farm to tend the swine. And he longed to eat his fill of the pods on which the swine fed, but nobody gave him any. Coming to his senses he thought, 'How many of my father's hired workers have more than enough food to eat, but here am I, dying from hunger. I shall get up and go to my father and I shall say to him, **"Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers."** So he got up and went back to his father. While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion. **He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him.** His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son.' But his father ordered his servants, 'Quickly bring the finest robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Take the fattened calf and slaughter it. Then **let us celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again;** he was lost, and has been found.' Then the celebration began. Now the older son had been out in the field and, on his way back, as he neared the house, he heard the sound of music and dancing. He called one of the servants and asked what this might mean. The servant said to him, 'Your brother has returned and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.' He became angry, and when he refused to enter the house, his father came out and pleaded with him. He said to his father in reply, 'Look, all these years I served you and not once did I disobey your orders; yet you never gave me even a young goat to feast on with my friends. But when your son returns who swallowed up your property with prostitutes, for him you slaughter the fattened calf.' He said to him, 'My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours. But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.'" This is the Truth. Peace be with you.

## Liturgical Intentions

3/14	<b>Birthday remembrance Bertha Gonzalez Nejaime,</b> by Gary and Janet Fleet
3/15	<b>John and Martha Ganem Wynn, and the deceased members of the Ganem family,</b> requested by Mary Barbara Talge
3/21	<b>Berte and Tofik Akel,</b> requested by Vivian Akel and her family <b>Richard Dean,</b> by Michael and Lisa Soliani
3/22	<b>G. Harley and Violet Curtis,</b> by Sam and Jane Slaiby
3/28	<b>Gen and Nick Zampaglione and the Malham and Zampaglione families,</b> By Linda and Sal Rinaldi
3/29	<b>Raymond Simpson,</b> by Sam and Jane Slaiby
4/4	Second Annual Memorial for <b>Marian Theeb,</b> by her family <b>Maria and Paolo D'Addona</b> by Linda and Sal Rinaldi
4/5	<b>Azar and Antoinette Noujaim,</b> requested by Nelly, Jaqueline, Ninette and Mireille.
4/8	<b>Rite of the Lamp and Holy Liturgy</b> Anointing with Oil 7:00 pm
4/9	<b>Thursday of the Mysteries (Holy Thursday)</b> 7:00 pm
4/10	<b>Signing of the Chalice</b> 10:00 am <b>Great Friday of the Crucifixion (Good Friday)</b> 7:00 pm
4/11	<b>Saturday of the Light</b> 4:30 pm
4/12	<b>Glorious Resurrection of the Lord (Easter Sunday)</b> 10:00 am <b>Derbert Gram</b> by Sam and Jane Slaiby
4/18	
4/19	<b>Mayer J. Slaiby,</b> requested by Sam and Jane Slaiby
4/25	
4/26	<b>1st Communion and Confirmation</b>
5/2	
5/3	<b>Andrew and Edna Rossi,</b> Sam and Jane Slaiby
5/9	
5/10	<b>Maron Jacob,</b> by Adla Keywan

### Arabic Corner



**Glory be to the Father:**  
 Al- Majdu Lil- Abb  
**And to the Son:** Wal Ibin  
**And to the Holy Spirit:**  
 Wal Rouh Al Koudos  
**One God:** Ilah Wa'hid  
**Amen:** Ameen

### Weekly Collection

Saturday  
**1st Collection** \$694.00  
 Sunday  
**1st Collection** \$489.00  
**Monthly offering:** \$844.00  
**Monday Bingo:** \$543..00  
**Sealed Tickets:** \$110.00  
**Friday Bingo:** \$1403.50  
**Sealed Tickets:** \$180.00

### Upcoming Second Special Collection

March 22  
**Our Shrine of our Lady**  
 April 05  
**Catholic Home Missions Appeal**

### *Non-Perishable food/Items Lenten Drive*

We will be collecting items for the homeless and the needy throughout this Holy season: Food, Socks, gloves, scarfs, soap, toothpaste, deodorant, toothbrushes, snacks, and any other Non Perishables. We thank you for your love and generosity in advance!!!  
 A Blessed Lent to everyone!!

### **Stations and Adoration of the Cross**



**Every Friday**  
**at 7:00 pm**

Henri Nouwen, was a Dutch Catholic priest. Henri struggled in his spiritual life and at one point he suffered a nervous breakdown. He had to go away for a time to find himself and recover from a very profound inner brokenness. He travelled to see Rembrandt's painting 'The Return of the Prodigal Son' and read the parable. He spent hours deepening and going into the meaning of the parable. Henri finally began to comprehend that he was the beloved son of God.

In the painting, the prodigal child is being welcomed by his father. To one side the elder brother who looks on and in the background are other unknown figures who, like us are observers of the scene.

Henri analyses each of these players in his meditations.

The father is a man in a great red cloak, tenderly touching the shoulders of his lost son kneeling before him. The old man's hands touch the boy's shoulders and reach a place where perhaps the son has never before been reached.

Who of us does not long for the tender embrace of the father? Who does not long for a home where we can feel safe, where we can rest and where we can enjoy a sense of belonging?

Like the young man we can move past being an observer and step into the place of the young man, kneel down in spirit, and let ourselves be held by our loving God. We too can seek forgiveness and healing. We can surrender ourselves to the Father.

The son rests against the father's breast. The son left home with pride and money, determined to live his own life far away from his father and his community. He returned with nothing. He has no red cloak like the elder son

to give him status and dignity. The soles of his feet tell the story of a long and humiliating journey. The only thing remaining is the sword on his right hip. The sword reminds us that the son in all his distance had not forgotten that he still was the son of his father. He came to himself and remembered that he is the son of his father.

The Father is infinite in his compassion, unconditional in his love and everlasting in his forgiveness. The Father wants his children to be free to choose his love. That freedom may include the possibility that his children leave home, go far away and lose everything. The father's heart knows all the pain that will come from that choice, but in his infinite love he allows his children that choice, no matter what pain it may cause.

The elder son stands in the background. He is bitter and angry and can't get over his own anger to allow his father's love to heal him as well. Pride holds him back. He desires his father's love, but his own emotions are stopping him from getting it. He finds it unacceptable that his father has received the younger brother back with such celebration. He has been loyal, hardworking and done everything his father asked. But his words give him away, he complains that he has been working like a 'slave' for his father. All these years, while he thought he was being obedient, he had been doing the work of his father in anger. He had not worked in the love of his father or in the spirit of love. He had worked in the spirit of resentment and anger. It is the older brother who needs healing now and to experience the true joy and love of his father. He has some way to go. Even though he has always been in his father's house, his inability to rejoice in the return of his brother demonstrates he is living in his father's house without letting his father's love touch him.

Henri Nouwen recounts in his book that one day he had a long discussion with one of his close friends and after talking with her about being the younger son or the older son, she said to him.

"Whether you are the younger son or the older son, you have to realize that you are called to become the father – look at the father in the painting and you will know who you are called to be."



# Bingo Night!

**Mondays & Fridays  
Starting @ 6PM**

**Food & Drinks • Free Coffee • Sealed Tickets**  
**Saint Maron Church**  
 613 Main Street • Torrington, CT

**2 Jack  
pots!**

 <p><b>Pascale Nejaime</b> REALTOR® Cell: 860.307.7436 Office: 860.674.0300 Fax: 860.676.1400  pascale.nejaime@cbmoves.com 290 West Main Street • Avon, CT www.ColdwellBankerHomes.com</p>	 <p><b>Keystone Place</b> <i>At Newbury Brook</i> A 55+ Active Adult Community</p> <p><b>ASSISTED LIVING INFORMATION SESSION &amp; OPEN HOUSE</b> 4<sup>TH</sup> THURS OF EACH MONTH 1:30PM - 3:00PM</p> <p>RSVP (860) 618-7370 KeystonePlaceAtNewburyBrook.com 1058 Litchfield St. • Torrington, CT</p> <p><b>INDEPENDENT LIVING ASSISTED LIVING • MEMORY CARE</b></p>	<p><b>HAMZY SCHOOL OF SELF DEFENSE</b> 206 South Main St. • Torrington, CT 860.309.0955 • hamzyskarate.org AKIDO • SAVATE • JU-JITSU PRIVATE &amp; SEMI PRIVATE CLASSES</p>	<p><i>Between the Lines</i> Calligraphy &amp; Art</p> <p><b>Jamie LeMieux</b> 860.309.0255 jamie9263@gmail.com</p>
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