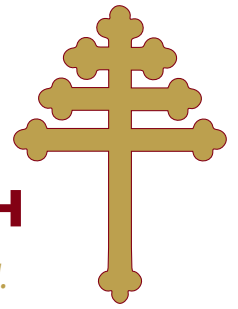




Welcome to
**SAINT MARON
 MARONITE CATHOLIC CHURCH**



A prayer to begin every day: *Good morning my good and my beloved Lord.*

ABOUT ST. MARON PARISH

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PARISH EMAIL
 office@saintmaronchurch.org

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 860-489-9015

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SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION

Please contact our priest ASAP after the birth of your child.

RECONCILIATION

Before or after Liturgy or by appointment

MARRIAGE

Couples must contact our priest six months before the wedding.

Find us on  <https://www.facebook.com/SaintMaronTorrington>

Be sure to visit from time to time for National Maronite News, pictures of parish events and other announcements!

**THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
 SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON**

[PAGE 217 IN THE BOOK OF OFFERING]

SATURDAY, MARCH 22
 Adoration 4:00 p.m.; Liturgy at 4:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 23
 Rosary at 9:30 a.m.; Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.

GOSPEL

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



THE RETURN OF THE PRODIGAL SON
The Maronite Icons: Modern Sacred Art.
 Dar Sader Publishers: Beirut 1999.
 Via Maronite Heritage.com/icons

continued on page 2

A theme found in this week's Gospel is the sacrament of reconciliation is an act of honesty, peace, trust, and courage. We are invited to come to the feast of forgiveness.

Father will pray the
ANAPHORA OF SAINT JAMES
 beginning on page 794

MASS INTENTIONS

- **Saturday, March 22 at 4:30 p.m.**
Available
- **Sunday, March 23 at 10:00 a.m.**
In Memory of James and Tiffany Crowell
Requested by Mother, Theresa Crowell
- **Friday, March 28 at 6:00 p.m.**
Stations of the Cross
- **Saturday, March 29 at 4:30 p.m.**
For the repose of the souls of
Doctors Juan and Felina Tocaronte
Requested by the family
- **Sunday, March 30 at 10:00 a.m.**
Available
- **Friday, April 4 at 6:00 p.m.**
Stations of the Cross
- **Saturday, April 5 at 4:30 p.m.**
Available
- **Sunday, 16 at 10:00 a.m.**
Available
- **Friday, April 11 at 6:00 p.m.**
Stations of the Cross
- **Saturday, April 12 at 4:30 p.m.**
For the repose of the soul of Joseph Nadar
Requested by his mother, Dulce
- **Sunday, April 13 at 10:00 a.m.**
Available

Here is the spiritual heart of the matter: whatever anyone owes you (in strict justice) is infinitely less than what God has graciously given to you; the divine forgiveness you have received is infinitely greater than any forgiveness you might be called upon to offer.
-- Bishop Robert Barron

CHURCH SUPPORT

- **Weekend of March 15/16**
- Saturday Offering:
1st Collection **\$1,116**
- Sunday Offering:
1st Collection **\$264**
- Mail In: **\$100**
- Bingo: **\$919.50**

Thank You!

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

All second collections during
Great Lent (March 3 - April 18)
are for the Eparchial Charities Appeal.



EASTER FLOWERS

As a reminder for those who want to make a donation for the Easter flowers that will adorn our church, the last day we will be able to accept donations and have your intentions printed in the Easter handout, will be **April 6**.



**PLEASE JOIN US IN THE CHURCH AT
6 P.M. EACH FRIDAY DURING LENT
AS WE PRAY
THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

GOSPEL

continued from page 1

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.'"

EPISTLE

2 CORINTHIANS 13:5-13

Examine yourselves to see whether you are living in faith. Test yourselves. Do you not realize that Jesus Christ is in you?--unless, of course, you fail the test. I hope you will discover that we have not failed. But we pray to God that you may not do evil, not that we may appear to have passed the test but that you may do what is right, even though we may seem to have failed. For we cannot do anything against the truth, but only for the truth. For we rejoice when we are weak but you are strong. What we pray for is your improvement. I am writing this while I am away, so that when I come I may not have to be severe in virtue of the authority that the Lord has given me to build up and not to tear down. Finally, brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the holy ones greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the holy Spirit be with all of you. Praise be to God always.



Last Sunday it was a treat to see and pray with Judy Theeb and Ann Arnold at the Maronite Church in Naples, Florida. God bless all of the great people in Torrington. If your travels bring you to south west Florida, please come pray with us at the Maronite Naples Mission. Happy holy season of Great Lent to all. Deacon Steve

THOUGHTS FROM THE SAINTS

*I need nothing in this world in order to be happy.
I only need to see Jesus in Heaven, whom I now see
and adore on the Alter with the eyes of faith.*

-- Saint Dominic Savior



The Pastor's Corner

SHORT ARTICLES AND NOTES

My Dear Friends:

Bishop Gregory has informed us that Chorbishop Michael G. Thomas, JCD has been given permission to retire. He will, however, continue as a judge of the Eparchial Tribunal.

I know you will join the Bishop and me as we thank Chorbishop with deep gratitude for his many years of faithful service to the Eparchy of St. Maron of Brooklyn.

And now, I will continue the series of thoughts and teachings on our Divine Liturgy that I have been writing:

The Divine liturgy is a mystery through which the Spirit of Christ reveals, unveils and unfolds things for us. If we allow Him, He will take our humanity and divinize it, because the source of this mystery is the Holy Trinity that the Holy Spirit tries to reveal to us. This Trinity is reflected throughout the prayers of the Liturgy.

It is in the Divine Liturgy that our whole self, our humanity is being offered to become one with His divinity: *You have united...* It is the Loving Father and the total gift of the Son that the Holy Spirit is trying to unfold for us.

I pray that this Great Lent continues to be spiritually fruitful for you all and that you have a blessed week ahead.

Fr. Fadi

Pastor's Corner is sponsored by Torrington Savings Bank



PRAYER FOR OUR CHILDREN

My Beloved and Good Lord, we pray that you will remind our children and our grandchildren daily that your love for them is everlasting, as Psalm 103:17 reminds us: *But the Lord's kindness is forever, toward the faithful from age to age. He favors the children's children. Amen*

PROVERBS CHAPTER 10 : 9-14

- 9 Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but whoever follows perverse ways will be found out.
- 10 Whoever winks the eye causes trouble, but the one who rebukes boldly makes peace.
- 11 The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life, but the mouth of the wicked conceals violence.
- 12 Hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all offenses.
- 13 On the lips of one who has understanding wisdom is found, but a rod is for the back of one who lacks sense.
- 14 The wise lay up knowledge, but the babbling of a fool brings ruin near.

Texts are taken from the New Revised Standard Bible.



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