



# Saints Peter & Paul Maronite Catholic Church

**November 2024**

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**6201 Sheldon rd, Tampa, Fl, 33615**

**Weekend Mass Saturday Vigil 6:00 pm - Sunday 11:30 am**

## Prayer of the month :

Lord, have mercy on us.  
Christ, have mercy on us.  
Lord, have mercy on us.

Holy Mary, pray for us.  
All holy angels, pray for us.  
All holy patriarchs and prophets, pray  
for us.  
All holy apostles, pray for us.  
All holy martyrs, pray for us.  
All holy bishops and confessors, pray  
for us.  
All holy doctors, pray for us.  
All holy virgins, pray for us.

All saints of God, pray for us.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Baptism:** By appointment, one parent and one sponsor must be practicing Catholics

**-Confession:** One hour before the Divine Liturgy. At other times by appointment.

**-First Holy Communion :** Celebrated publicly once a year . Please contact Father Fadi to sign up for classes.

### - Communion of the Sick:

Please let us know when a loved one is sick, hospitalized, or homebound.

**- Last rites:** Please let us know immediately when a loved one is gravely ill and in danger of death. Be sure to provide for the spiritual needs of your loved ones.

**- Mass intentions:** If you would like to have a Mass offered for your intentions or the intentions of a loved one, living or deceased, please contact the Pastor before two weeks at least .

## The annunciation to the Virgin Mary,

On November 24, we celebrate as Maronite Church, the annunciation to the Virgin Mary, when the archangel Gabriel appeared to Mary and announced to her that she will be the mother of Emmanuel:

. Mary was willing to do the will of GOD. She did not always know what that fully meant. A young maiden is approached by a messenger (angel) of GOD. That would be startling in and of itself. Gabriel declares Mary's graced position in the eyes of GOD. The angel announces GOD's plan to have the Messiah, the Christ, the Chosen One of GOD, be born of Mary. Mary wonders how this could be possible. She is a virgin. Gabriel says it will be by the overshadowing of the Ruah YHWH, the Spirit of GOD, that the Son of GOD will take flesh in her womb. She only needs to accept the gift and say "Yes" to GOD's plan – GOD's will. Not knowing all the implications of what this means and how GOD will work it out, and also realizing that there will be a lot of further unknowns in the days and weeks and years ahead, Mary obediently says her fiat – "Let it be done to me according to GOD's will" or simply, "Your will be done."

Obedience to GOD is not always tied into full understanding of what lies ahead. It is trusting that GOD will provide the strength-fortitude and knowledge and wisdom on an "as needed" basis, as the plan unfolds. Obedience is hearing what GOD says and being willing to trust that GOD will see us through it all (providence). Obedience is part of the response of a disciple – a disciplined learner of the Master-Teacher.

Today we are invited to hear GOD's announcement (annunciation) to us. We are asked to accept what GOD has planned for us. We may not know fully where it leads and what lies ahead. The message is being given, we can respond by saying "fiat" – "Let it be" or we can refuse the invitation. The choice is ours.

## Announcements

November 24: the Divine Liturgy will be offered for the departed souls of Atallah family.

November 30 : the mass will be offered for the departed soul of George Harb .

May their souls rest in peace.

"Blessed is the crisis that made you grow, the fall that made you look to heaven and the problem that made you look for God."

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### MCF

The Children's Religious Education class gathered on October 26 for their first meeting of the 2024-2025 year. The older children explored the topic of Saints and the importance of our conscience, while the younger children learned about Jesus Christ and the significance of the cross.

Together, they enjoyed the story of St. Therese of the Child Jesus, participated in lesson discussions, engaged in crafts and games, and savored delicious food prepared by the parents.

Their next meeting will be on November 23, and we warmly invite all children aged 5-12 to join us! We look forward to seeing you!



**- November 3: Mr. Badwi & Mrs. Diana Khoury. - November 17: Mr. Fadi & Mrs. Mona Tarabey. - November 24: Mr. Rabih & Mrs. Pascal Bouserhal.**

**If you are interested to offer the coffee hour please contact Mrs. Dolly Saker: 8139922377**

### Maronite Sisters in Christ Sodality Gathering

On October 23, at 7 PM, the Sisters in Christ gathered at the church for a spirit-filled evening.

#### Prayer and Intercession

The sisters prayed the Divine Mercy Chaplet, lifting up:

- Those suffering in wars worldwide
- Parish families
- Personal intentions

#### Festival Preparations

They discussed and planned:

- Food preparation
- Pastry donations
- Set annual membership fee: \$25 per person

#### Fellowship and Community

The evening concluded with:

- A delicious shared meal
- A visit to Father Fadi's new home

#### You're Invited!

All ladies are encouraged to join the Maronite Sisters in Christ Sodality.

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." - Mother Teresa



## MYA

The MYA members convened on October 19 at 6 PM, commencing with an introduction by President Christina. She expressed gratitude to the outgoing MYA board for their two years of dedicated service and encouraged members to prepare for the upcoming election of the new board in November.

### **Spiritual Reflection**

Father Fadi then delivered an inspiring talk on the significance of the Blessed Sacrament, emphasizing its role as the heart of the Church. The members participated in a heartfelt worship session, honoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

### **Small Group Discussions:**

The gathering continued with members dividing into three groups to engage in meaningful discussions on spiritual questions, fostering deeper faith and connection.

### **Fellowship and Celebration**

The evening concluded with a shared meal of pizza and a joyful birthday celebration, honoring members born between June and September.

"As we gather around the Blessed Sacrament, may our hearts be filled with love, our souls nourished with grace, and our faith strengthened in community."

"Wherever the Eucharist is, there is the Church." - St. Ignatius of Antioch



## *FEAST Days*

Friday 1: Feast of All Saints Day Saturday 2:

Feast of All Souls

Sunday 10: Saint Leo the Great Thursday 21:

Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Thursday 30: Saint Andrew the Apostle

## MYO

The MYO (Maronite Youth Organization) group gathered at St. Charbel House on October 5th for a meaningful evening of transition, fellowship, and spiritual growth.

### **Leadership Transition**

Joey Chouwayfeti, outgoing president, warmly introduced:

- Maryangel as new President
- Nicole as Vice President

Joey expressed gratitude for the past two years and confidently passed the torch to the new leaders.

### **Prayer and Reflection**

Father Fadi led the group in prayer, followed by a thought-provoking reflection on trusting God's plan.

### **Game and Bonding**

Nicole facilitated a fun game, fostering deeper connections among members.

### **Inspiration**

Maryangel shared the inspiring story of St. Dominic Savio, MYO Tampa's patron saint.

### **Fellowship**

The evening concluded with a shared meal of pizza, symbolizing unity as brothers and sisters in Christ.

### **Call to Service**

Members were encouraged to volunteer at the upcoming November festival.

The MYO group looks forward to a bright future under Maryangel's and Nicole's leadership.



## What Most People Don't Know About The Lebanese Hospitality?

Lebanese hospitality is legendary, rooted in centuries of tradition and deep cultural values. In Lebanon, welcoming a guest is not just a formality; it's a heartfelt gesture. Whether in a bustling city like Beirut or a quaint mountain village, one phrase you'll often hear is "Tfadal"—an invitation that translates to "please come in." It's more than words; it reflects the warmth and generosity ingrained in Lebanese culture.

Lebanese people take pride in treating visitors like family. From offering a cup of coffee to preparing a feast, hosts go above and beyond to ensure their guests feel at home. This spirit of hospitality is intertwined with the country's history of openness and resilience, traits that have shaped the Lebanese community through years of both joy and hardship.

Hospitality in Lebanon extends beyond homes. Walk down a street, and you'll often be greeted with friendly smiles, lively conversation, and an eagerness to share stories. The Lebanese people are known for their vibrant personalities, embracing life's challenges with optimism, humor, and kindness. Despite the difficulties Lebanon has faced, the spirit of its people remains unbroken, shining through their warmth and hospitality.

In Lebanon, to be a guest is to be cherished, and to experience Lebanese hospitality is to witness the country's heart and soul.

Join us our Lebanese Food festival of Tampa Bay November 8th, 9th, 10th, at Saints Peter and Paul Maronite Catholic Church.



## Picture of the month !



**Wishing our parish a very happy and blessed Thanksgiving! May you always have the gift of faith and the blessing of hope this Thanksgiving Day!**

## Can't attend but want to support your church?

Our Lebanese Food Festival is just around the corner! Join us for a flavorful celebration of faith, community, and culture. Send your financial contribution via Zelle to: [Peterpaultampa@gmail.com](mailto:Peterpaultampa@gmail.com)

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## September 2024 Financial Standing

### \*Ordinary Income:

-Collections on Weekends, ACH, Church's Stipends from Marriages, Funerals and Baptisms, In Lieu of Flowers, Candles, Coffee Hour, Dues, Checks

Total: \$15,545.45

### \*Extraordinary Income:

- Donation to Church; Donations for the Festival & Prepaid Tickets

Total: \$9,080.00

**TOTAL REVENUE: \$24,625.45**

### \*Ordinary Expenses:

- Priest Salary, Clergy Help, Retirement, Health Insurance, Eparchy Appeals, Assessments, Bookkeeping

- Mortgages; Utilities: Electricity, Water, Phone, Internet, Waste Management

- Cleaning, Maintenance (Pest Control, AC, Landscaping)

- Church & Rectory Supplies, Household, Charity, Mercy Meals etc..

Total: \$19,761.00

### \*Extraordinary Expenses :

- Tent Rental & Food Expense for Meet & Greet Event; Food & Supplies for Upcoming Festival, New Shawarma Grill for Festival; Parking Lot Repair & Asphalt Sealing

Total: \$9,266.02

**TOTAL EXPENSES: \$29,027.02**

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Total Income Vs. Expenses:-\$4,401.57

As of 9/30/2024

Total Amount in Checking: \$40,538.46

Total Amount in Savings: \$66,502.84

Money Market: \$ 11,314.78

Thank you for your Contribution to help maintain our church.

God Bless you and your families

Father Fadi Rouhana

