



Saints Peter & Paul

Maronite Catholic Church

April 2026

WWW.PETERPAULTAMPA.COM

6201 Sheldon Rd. Tampa, Fl, 33615

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

Opening Prayer

Risen Lord Jesus,

You have conquered death and filled the empty tomb
with the light of hope.

Fill our hearts with the joy of Your Resurrection,
renew our faith when we grow weak,
strengthen our love for one another,
and lead our parish family to walk always in the new life
You give.

May Your victory over death bring peace to our homes,
healing to the suffering,
and hope to all who seek You.

Christ is risen! Truly He is risen!

Alleluia!





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Sacramental & Pastoral Services

We are here to assist you and your loved ones in every season of life.



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

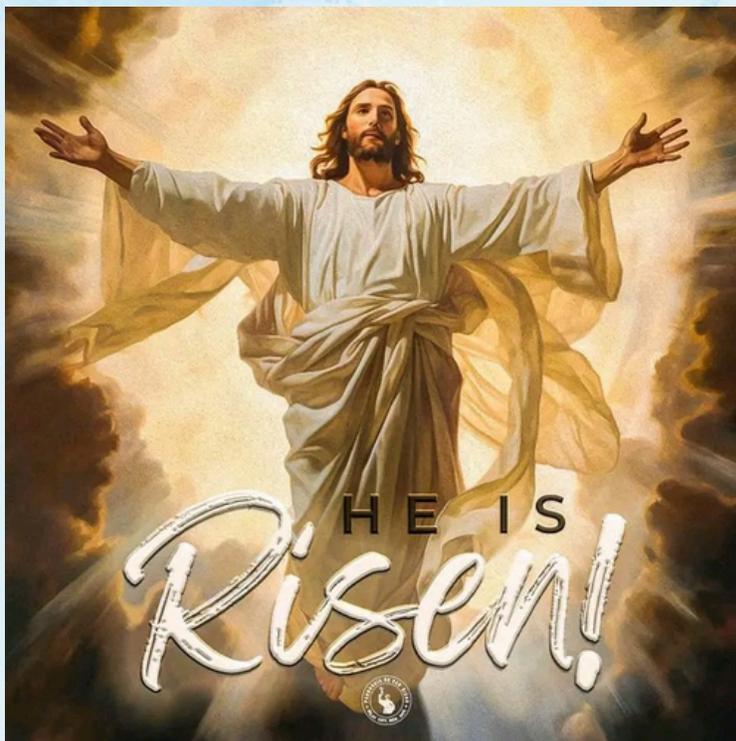
If you would like to have a Mass
offered for your intentions or the
intentions of a loved one, living or
deceased, please contact the Pastor
before *two weeks at least*.

Reflection on the Resurrection of Jesus Christ

The Resurrection of Jesus is not only an event we celebrate once a year, it is the heart of our faith and the source of our hope every day. When the stone was rolled away from the tomb, fear was replaced with courage, sorrow with joy, and darkness with light. Christ's victory over death reminds us that no sin is stronger than His mercy and no suffering is greater than His love.

The Risen Lord walks with us in our struggles, renews our hearts when we feel weak, and calls us to live as witnesses of His light in our families and our parish community.

May the joy of the Resurrection fill our hearts and remind us always: with Christ, every ending becomes a new beginning.
Alleluia!



Announcement

A 40-day Memorial Mass will be held for the departed soul of Souad Diab on April 26, followed by a mercy meal. Family and friends are kindly invited to attend and join in prayer for the repose of her soul.





Holy Week Schedule 2026
Saints Peter and Paul
Maronite Catholic Church

Palm Sunday – March 29, 2026

- 9:00 AM – Divine Liturgy
- 11:30 AM – Divine Liturgy

Wednesday of the Rite of the Lamp – April 1, 2026

- 7:30 PM – The Rite of the Lamp (Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick)

Holy Thursday – April 2, 2026

- 7:30 PM – Divine Liturgy of the Lord's Supper & Washing of the Feet

Great Friday of the Crucifixion – April 3, 2026

- 10:00 AM – The Signing of the Chalice
- 6:45 PM – Divine Mercy Chaplet
- 7:00 PM – Stations of the Cross
- 7:30 PM – Adoration of the Cross

Saturday of the Light – April 4, 2026

- 12:00 PM – Prayer of Forgiveness (Hoosoyo)
- 11:30 PM – Easter Vigil Mass (Midnight Liturgy)

Sunday of the Glorious Resurrection – April 5, 2026

- 11:30 AM – Resurrection Divine Liturgy
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Egg Cracking Tradition

As every year, Mrs. Lina Freifer will lovingly prepare beautifully decorated Easter eggs for our cherished egg-cracking tradition. Following the Easter Mass on Saturday at 11:30 PM, parishioners are warmly invited to gather in front of the church to take part in this joyful and spirited custom. Families, friends, and children alike will share in the excitement as they gently tap their eggs against one another, celebrating not only friendly competition but also the joy and renewal of the Resurrection. This special moment brings our community together in laughter, fellowship, and tradition, making it a highlight of our Easter celebration.



Saints Peter and Paul Maronite Catholic Church

Mother's Day "Mamma Mia!"

Ladies Luncheon

Acropolis Tarpon Springs

Take a trip to the Greek isles...
without leaving Tarpon Springs!

Join us for a fun-filled Mother's Day celebration
as we honor the wonderful mothers in our community
with a lively *Mamma Mia*-inspired luncheon at
Acropolis Tarpon Springs.

Sunday, May 3rd at 2pm

Tickets: \$75 each

RSVP by April 25

Channel your **white and blue** Greek island style
and enjoy a fabulous luncheon with fun games and activities

*Here we go again... celebrating the
amazing women who mean so much to us!*

Save the date for our "Mamma Mia Mother's Day Luncheon" on May 3rd at 2:00 PM at Acropolis in Tarpon Springs.

Come dressed in white and blue and join us for a fun and relaxing afternoon. Bring your moms, daughters, best friends, and even your "fur moms" as we gather for a joyful time of fellowship and lunch.

We look forward to celebrating with you!

Hall Project Update

During his recent visit, His Excellency Gregory Mansour carefully listened to all parishioners' opinions—both those supporting the hall project and those who shared concerns. After thoughtful discussion and prayerful consideration, and especially following the generous pledge of \$100,000 per year for 10 years from the Anthony R. Abraham Foundation, Sayedna and Father Fadi have decided to move forward with the construction of the parish hall.

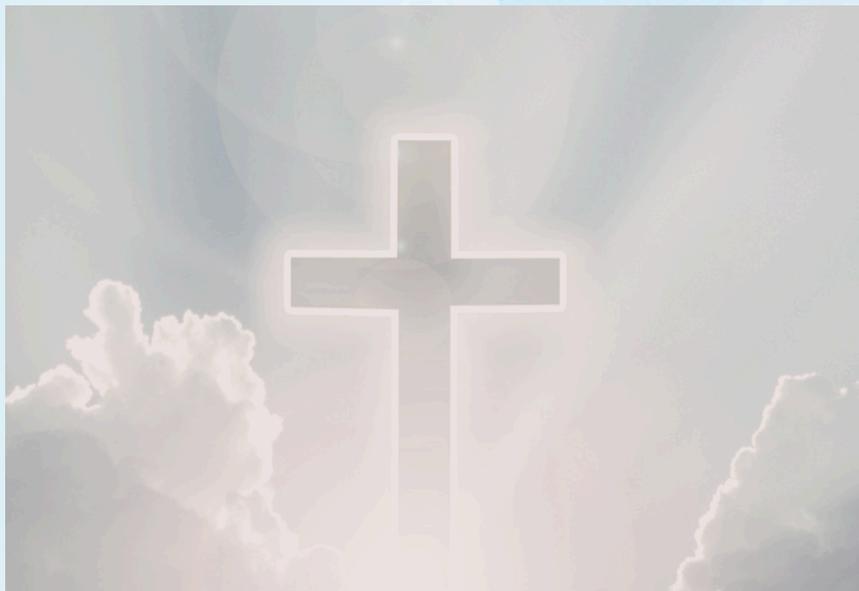
The project will include:

- A hall accommodating more than 190 seated guests
- Two classrooms for catechism and youth formation
 - A large kitchen
- Bathrooms for men and women

Once the hall is completed, the current St. Charbel House area will be removed and replaced with improved parking for the parish.

At the same time, Sayedna remains open to other future opportunities if additional major donors come forward—such as expanding the project further or even considering the purchase of a nearby church property, should the financial capacity allow. For now, it is important that we provide a decent pastoral facility and continue growing step by step for the good of our parish family.

We conclude by expressing our heartfelt gratitude to the Anthony R. Abraham Foundation for their remarkable generosity and support of our parish mission.



Maronite Sisters in Christ

The Maronite Sisters in Christ met on March 18 at 6:30 PM, where they discussed supporting the Santa Maria Mission by collecting non-perishable food items for those in need. Their spirit of service continues to reflect the love and generosity of our parish family.

The Sodality also participated in the Divine Liturgy and lovingly prepared delicious pastries in honor of those who carry the name Saint Joseph (Naim). The evening concluded with a joyful time of fellowship as they cut the cake together at St. Charbel House.

Upcoming meetings are scheduled for:

- April 7, 2026
- May 5, 2026

They will also participate in the Divine Liturgy on May 23, 2026, at St. Rita Church in Dade City.

We thank the Maronite Sisters in Christ for their prayerful presence, dedication, and service to the parish.



MYO

In March, the MYO group met on Saturday at 4:00 PM in the presence of His Excellency Gregory Mansour. After the opening prayer, Sayedna offered a beautiful spiritual reflection on the Parable of the Prodigal Son, inviting the youth to rediscover God's mercy, the joy of returning to the Father, and the importance of living with renewed faith and hope.

Following the reflection, the group enjoyed a fun and engaging activity organized by Maryangel and Nicole, and they also took time to evaluate their recent retreat in Orlando, where everyone strengthened their faith and deepened friendships with one another.

The youth are now preparing a candy sale fundraiser for Palm Sunday Masses, and the gathering concluded with a delicious meal lovingly prepared by their mothers. We thank them for their dedication and support of our youth



MYA

During Spring Break, the MYA group traveled to Washington, D.C. with great enthusiasm. More than 30 young adults gathered for a beautiful time of prayer, reflection, and fellowship. Their retreat included Bible study, Eucharistic Adoration, the Rosary, and praying the Stations of the Cross at the Maronite Catholic Church of Our Lady of Lebanon.

Alongside these spiritual moments, they also visited the U.S. Capitol and several museums, discovering the city while growing together as brothers and sisters in Christ.



This retreat was a meaningful opportunity to deepen their faith during the holy season of Lent, reminding us that:

Lent is a journey back to the heart of God, where sacrifice becomes grace and prayer becomes new life.

It was also a beautiful witness to Christian friendship:

True friendship in Christ brings hearts together not only in joy, but also on the path that leads us closer to the Lord.



Coffee Hour:



April 5 : EASTER

April 12 : Mr. Rabih and Mrs. Amira Imad

**April 19 : Mr. Roy and Mrs. Carol
Mondalek**

April 26: Mr. Habib and Mrs. Suzanne Korm

**Thank you to all families and
parishioners who generously share
their time, food, and love in
service to our community each
Sunday!**