

Saints Peter & Paul Maronite Catholic Church

August - September 2026

WWW.PETERPAULTAMPA.COM
6201 Sheldon Rd. Tampa, Fl, 33615
Weekend Mass: Saturday Vigil 6:00pm / Sunday11 :30 am

Opening Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ, our King and Savior, as we enter into the peaceful days of October and journey within the weeks following the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, we lift our hearts to you. You stretched out your arms on the wood of the cross to redeem the world and draw all people to yourself.Look with favor upon our community gathered here today. Through the powerful intercession of your Holy Mother, the Blessed Virgin Mary—whom we honor this month—enfold us in your pure light and protect us from all evil. Guide our steps, quiet our minds, and fill our spirits with your divine grace so that our work, our families, and our lives may become a true hymn of praise to your name.To you be glory and thanksgiving, and to your almighty Father, and to your Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.





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

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*.

Bulletin Committee: Father Fadi Rouhana, Mr. Elie Rouhana, Miss. Christina Kerbaj (Editing)

Saint Francis of Assisi – October 4

On October 4, the Church celebrates the feast of Saint Francis of Assisi, one of the most beloved saints in Christian history. Saint Francis left behind wealth and comfort to follow Christ with a heart of simplicity, humility, poverty, and joy. His spirituality was deeply centered on Jesus—especially Christ poor, humble, and crucified. He saw God's goodness in every person, particularly the poor and forgotten, and recognized all creation as a beautiful reflection of its Creator. Saint Francis reminds us that true richness is not found in what we possess, but in how deeply we love God, serve others, forgive, and become instruments of His peace. May his intercession help us live the Gospel not only with our words, but through our daily lives.



Saint John Paul II – “Do Not Be Afraid!”

On October 22, we joyfully celebrate the feast of Saint John Paul II, a beloved shepherd who touched the hearts of millions with his warmth, courage, and deep love for Jesus Christ. His spirituality was rooted in prayer, devotion to the Blessed Mother, love for the Eucharist, and complete trust in God. His motto, Totus Tuus —“Totally Yours”—expressed his desire to give his whole life to Christ through Mary.

Throughout his life, Saint John Paul II tirelessly defended the dignity of every human person, strengthened families, reached out to people of different cultures and faiths, and carried a message of peace and hope throughout the world. He had a special love for young people and established World Youth Day, encouraging new generations to discover the joy of following Christ. Even during illness and suffering, he remained faithful to his mission and showed us how to carry the Cross with dignity and hope.

His words still speak to each of us today: “Do not be afraid. Open wide the doors to Christ!” As a parish family, may we take these words to heart. May Saint John Paul II help us open our homes, our families, and our hearts more fully to Jesus and inspire us to live our Catholic faith with joy, courage, and love.

A Historic Papal Visit to France

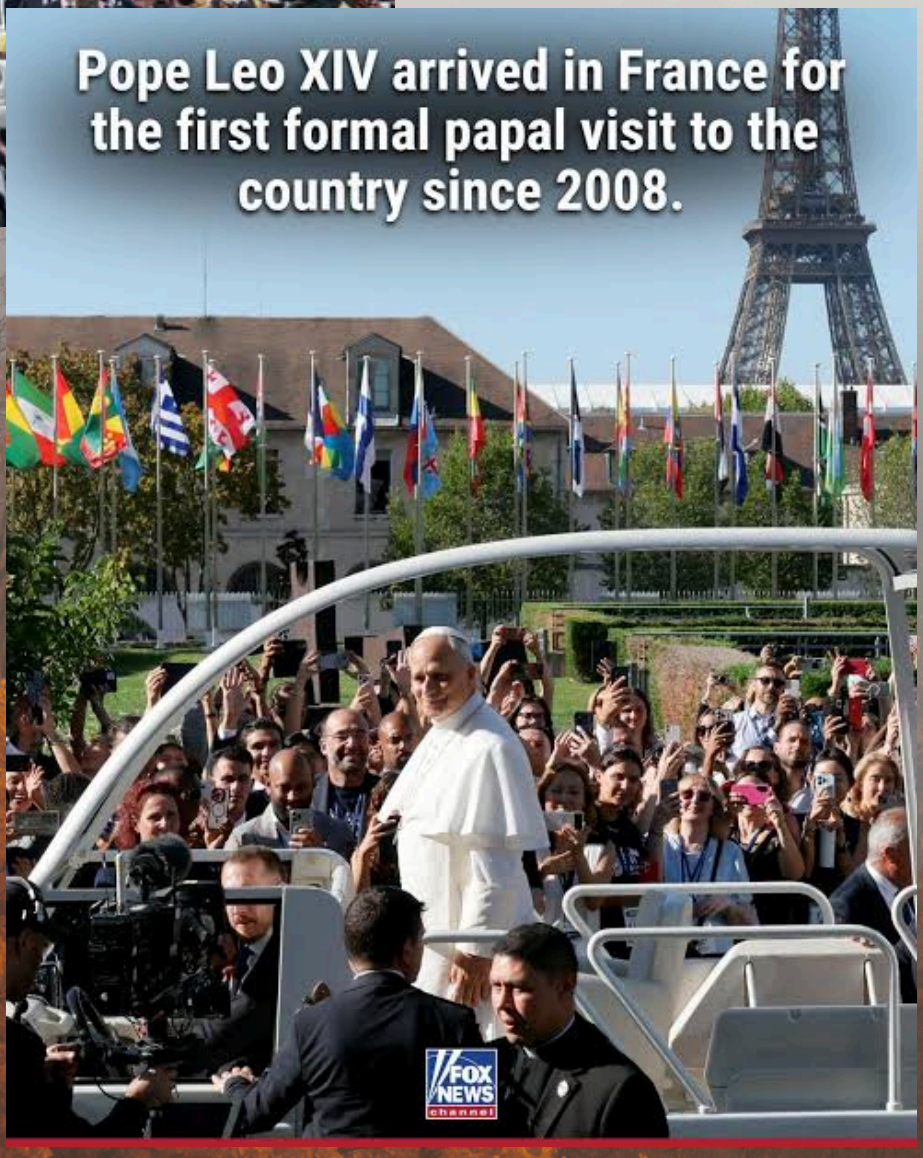
The recent visit of Pope Leo XIV to France was more than a papal journey—it was a beautiful and historic moment of faith for the Church and for Europe. During his visit, the Holy Father entered the restored Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris, becoming the first pope to visit this beloved cathedral since its reopening after the devastating 2019 fire. He was welcomed by enormous crowds, a powerful reminder that even in an increasingly secular society, the desire for faith, hope, and God remains alive in many hearts.

The Holy Father also traveled to Lourdes, where he prayed at the Grotto of Massabielle and entrusted the Church, the sick, families, and those who suffer to the maternal care of the Blessed Virgin Mary. His journey also carried a message beyond France: he spoke about peace, human dignity, unity, and Europe's Christian heritage, inviting people not to forget the spiritual roots that have shaped their history.

Perhaps the most beautiful image of this historic visit was seeing hundreds of thousands of people gathering around the Pope in prayer and faith. His presence reminded us that the Church is still alive, still walking with her people, and still called to bring Christ into the heart of our world. May this visit renew in all of us a simple conviction: our world still needs Christ, and each of us is called to carry His hope wherever we go.

A Historic Papal Visit to France





Memorial Mass



Memorial Mass for Dory Kamil Chamoun

The Lebanese Children Foundation will offer the Divine Liturgy for the repose of the soul of the late Dory Chamoun, President of Lebanon's National Liberal Party (Al-Ahrar), on Sunday, October 11, at 11:30 AM.

We invite our parishioners and friends to join us in prayer, asking the Lord to grant him eternal rest and to bring consolation and peace to his family and loved ones.

"Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him."

Memorial Mass

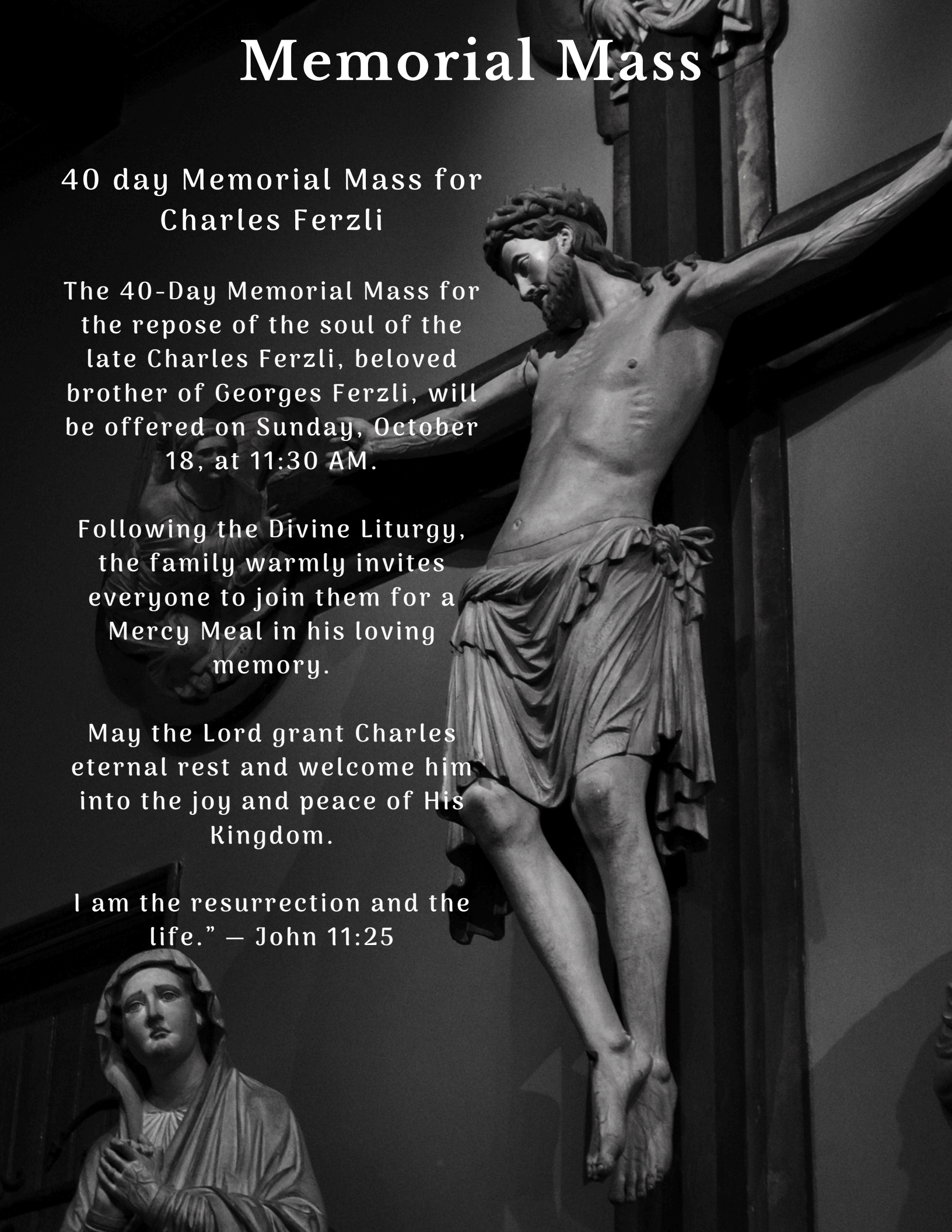
40 day Memorial Mass for Charles Ferzli

The 40-Day Memorial Mass for the repose of the soul of the late Charles Ferzli, beloved brother of Georges Ferzli, will be offered on Sunday, October 18, at 11:30 AM.

Following the Divine Liturgy, the family warmly invites everyone to join them for a Mercy Meal in his loving memory.

May the Lord grant Charles eternal rest and welcome him into the joy and peace of His Kingdom.

I am the resurrection and the life." — John 11:25



MYA

MARONITE YOUNG ADULTS



New Season MYA Meeting

SUNDAY
OCTOBER 18

6:00 PM

MYO

Growing in Faith and Service

On Saturday, September 26, our MYO gathered with their leaders, Maryangel and Nicole, for a beautiful time of faith, fellowship, and planning. As we prepare for our upcoming Lebanese Food Festival, our youth shared creative ideas about how to encourage others to participate, volunteer, and support the festival through small fundraising initiatives. Most importantly, during this season of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, they gathered in prayer before the Cross, remembering that everything we do begins and ends with Christ. Their meeting was a wonderful reminder that our young people are not only the future of our Church—they are an important part of its life and mission today. “Whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God.” (1 Corinthians 10:31) May the Cross of Christ always be their strength, and may their enthusiasm inspire others to serve with the same joy and love.

MYO





Maronite Sisters in Christ (MSIC)

Join us for the first MSIC meeting of the new season on Tuesday, October 6 at 7:00 PM.

The Maronite Sisters in Christ Sodality gathers once a month as sisters in faith to pray together, meditate on the Word of God, grow spiritually, and serve our church through its ministries and activities.

Come share an evening of faith, prayer, friendship, and service. All women are warmly welcome!

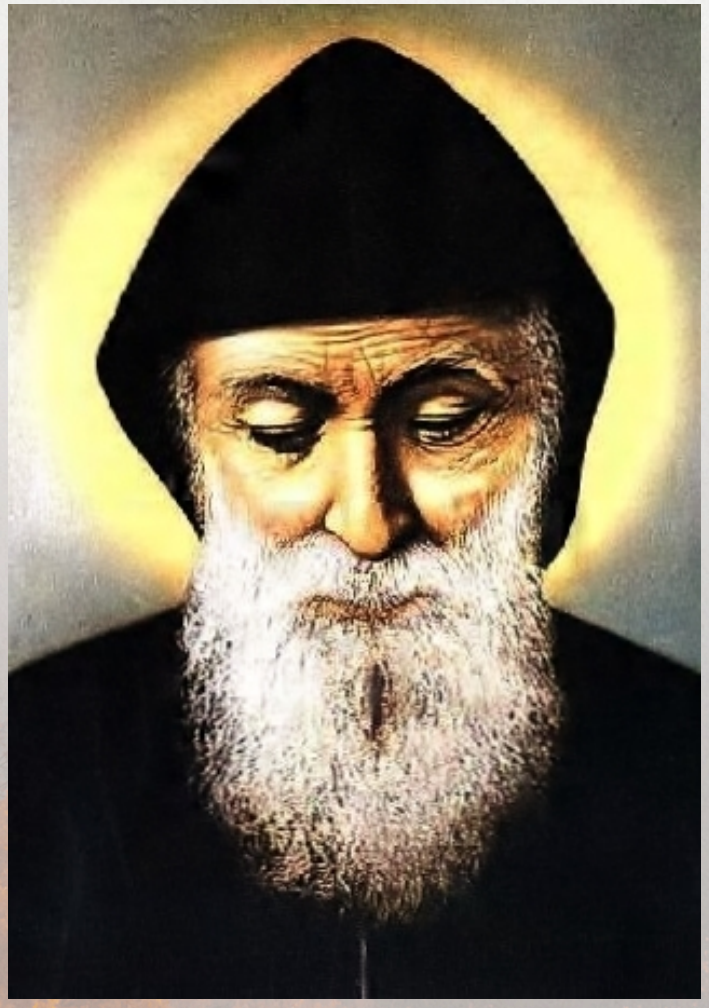
“For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.” — Matthew 18:20



Saint Charbel Family

Prayer, Faith & Healing

On September 22, our Saint Charbel Family gathered in prayer with Father Kamal, while Father Fady was away in Lebanon. Together, they offered a special devotion to Saint Charbel, followed by a beautiful procession, entrusting to his intercession all those who are sick and suffering in our parish community. It was a blessed evening of faith, hope, and prayer, reminding us that no one carries the burden of illness alone—we carry one another in prayer before the Lord.



Everyone is warmly invited to join the Saint Charbel Family on the 22nd of every month as we gather to pray, grow in faith, and seek the intercession of this beloved saint. Saint Charbel, pray for our families, our sick, and our parish!

A New Season for Our Children!

We are excited to begin a new season of faith, friendship, and joy for our children! Our first MCF gathering will be on Saturday, October 17 at 4:00 PM at the church.

Parents, bring your children and give them the opportunity to grow closer to Jesus, strengthen their Catholic faith, learn about our beautiful Maronite tradition, and build lasting friendships with other children in our parish family.

Bring your kids, bring their smiles, and let us grow together in faith!
“Let the children come to me.” — Matthew 19:14

Maronite Catholic Formation

MCF • GROWING IN FAITH • TOGETHER

"Let the children come to me."
Matthew 19:14



REGISTER NOW!

For a year of faith, friends and fun!

Maronite Catholic Formation (MCF) provides our children with the opportunity to learn, grow and deepen their faith while building lasting friendships and a strong sense of community.

Faith builds strong hearts!

MCF ANGELS
Ages 2–4

Parent presence and supervision mandatory.

MCF KNIGHTS
2nd – 3rd Grade

Ages 5–9

and/or First Communion graduation.

FIRST COMMUNION
Starting 2nd Grade
and/or ages 8–9

MYO JUNIORS
5th – 8th Grade

Ages 9–12

and/or First Communion graduation.

- Learn about Jesus and our faith
- Make new friends
- Participate in fun activities
- Build character and kindness
- Be part of our Maronite Catholic community

Our Meetings

- **Once a month**
  (see calendar for dates)
- **4:00 PM**
- **Sts. Peter & Paul Church**
  (Except for the last meeting, location will be determined closer to the date.)

Your support makes a difference!

Encourage your children to attend, register, and be part of this beautiful journey of faith.

Together
WE CAN MAKE A STRONGER MCF!



Faith † Family † Community

First Communion Parents & Children Meeting

All First Communion parents and children are invited to our first orientation meeting on Sunday, October 11 at 10:00 AM at the church.

This meeting will be an important opportunity to begin our journey together, review the First Communion program, and help our children prepare spiritually for this beautiful sacrament.

We look forward to seeing all our families!




INRI

6 WAYS TO HEAL YOUR ANXIETY

BRING YOUR WORRIES TO GOD

1.



SPEND TIME WITH JESUS

2.



PRAY THE ROSARY

3.



GO TO CONFESSION

4.



RECEIVE THE EUCHARIST

5.



READ GOD'S WORD

6.



SURROUND YOURSELF WITH A FAITH-FILLED COMMUNITY

PRAY • TRUST • HEAL

Saint Peter & Paul
Maronite Catholic Church

Lebanese Food Festival

Of Tampa Bay



November 13, 2026
5 PM - 11 PM

November 14, 2026
12 PM -11 PM

6201 Sheldon Road
Tampa FL. 33615



Coffee Hour

October 5 - Matt & Lisa Gurnik

October 11 - Lebanese Children Foundation

October 18 - Ferzeli Family - Mercy Meal

October 25 - Adib & Lina Sfeir

Thank you so much to everyone who participated in and helped make the coffee hour such a wonderful gathering! May God Bless you all!

