

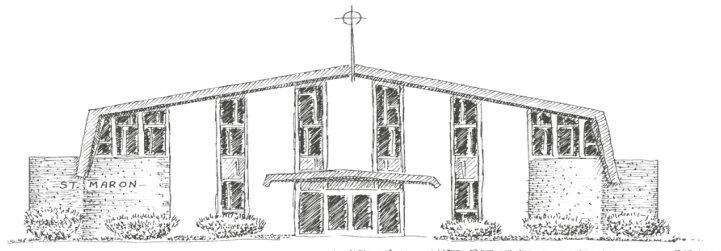
# Saint Maron Catholic Church

## Fourth Sunday After the Holy Cross

### October 6, 2024

The Parable of the faithful servant serves as a poignant reminder of the responsibilities believers hold in the kingdom of God. In fact, Jesus emphasizes the importance of vigilance and stewardship during His absence, urging His disciples to reflect on their roles as servants in God's household.

The narrative begins with a rhetorical question: "Who then is the faithful and wise servant?" (Matthew 24:45). Here, the master represents God, while the servants symbolize believers entrusted with His creation and kingdom. The master's expectation is clear: he seeks a servant who will manage his household and provide for others during his absence. This responsibility echoes back to the stewardship given in Eden (Genesis 2:15), illustrating that the call to manage God's resources remains central.



What responsibilities does the master mean by putting the faithful and wise servant in charge of all his possessions? (v 47). Everything belongs to God. He is the owner of all things: "What do you have that you did not receive?" (1 Corinthians 4:7), which includes all material goods as well as our roles and relationships. This encompasses caring for children and fulfilling duties as an employee or employer. It is to those who are faithful in small matters that God intends to reward with greater stewardship: "He who is faithful in a very little thing is faithful also in much; and he who is unrighteous in a very little thing is unrighteous also in much" (Luke 16:10). That's why we cannot wash our hands of our responsibilities or remain indifferent to the needs and sufferings of others, for as Saint John Paul II reminds us: "We are all really responsible for all."

In contrast, the unfaithful servant disregards his master's authority, thinking, "My master is not coming for a long time" (Matthew 24:48). This complacency leads to exploitation and selfish indulgence, highlighting a critical spiritual truth: neglecting our duties and exploiting others will have dire consequences. Isn't this what we witness today in wars, where countless innocents are killed due to the abuse of power and the inflated egos of some leaders who should be servants of life and makers of peace?

Today's parable invites us to examine our own lives. Are we faithfully stewarding the gifts and responsibilities God has entrusted to us? Are we serving others in love and anticipation of Christ's return? In doing so, we align ourselves with the heart of the Master, positioning ourselves to reign with Him in His eternal kingdom.



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## LITURGY INTENTIONS

### Sun Oct 6: 4th Sunday After the Holy Cross

(Gen 41:38-44; 1 Thes 5:1-11; Mt 24:45-51 Lit p 570)

- 9:30 am

**Liturgy for Boulos & Margaret Helou, by Cesar & Diane Helou**

**Liturgy for Charbel, Victoria and Katrine Fares, by Cesar & Diane Helou**

**Liturgy for all children who have died from abortion**

**Liturgy for stability and peace in Lebanon and the entire Middle East**

- 11:30 am

**Liturgy for all children who have died from abortion**

**Liturgy for stability and peace in Lebanon and the entire Middle East**

## NEXT WEEK

### Sun Oct 13: 5th Sunday After the Holy Cross

(Song of Sg 5:2-8; Phil 2:12-18; Mt 25:1-13 Lit p 495)

- 9:30

**Liturgy for Marilyn Peters 10 Year Remembrance, by Marie Michaels and family**

**Liturgy for all the living and deceased members of the Order of Saint Sharbel**

**Liturgy for stability and peace in Lebanon and the entire Middle East**

- 11:30 am

**Liturgy for Marie Jabbour 40 Day Mass, by family**

**Liturgy for Samira Howard, Birthday Remembrance, by Carol Monsour**

**Liturgy for Tamam Tedesco 40 Day Mass**

**Liturgy for all the living and deceased members of the Order of Saint Sharbel**

## CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

### THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY ORDERS

This presence of Christ in the minister is not to be understood as if the latter were preserved from all human weaknesses, the spirit of domination, error, even sin. the power of the Holy Spirit does not guarantee all acts of ministers in the same way. While this guarantee extends to the sacraments, so that even the minister's sin cannot impede the fruit of grace, in many other acts the minister leaves human traces that are not always signs of fidelity to the Gospel and consequently can harm the apostolic fruitfulness of the Church.

This priesthood is ministerial. "That office . . . which the Lord committed to the pastors of his people, is in the strict sense of the term a service." It is entirely related to Christ and to men. It depends entirely on Christ and on his unique priesthood; it has been instituted for the good of men and the communion of the Church. the sacrament of Holy Orders communicates a "sacred power" which is none other than that of Christ. the exercise of this authority must therefore be measured against the model of Christ, who by love made himself the least and the servant of all. "The Lord said clearly that concern for his flock was proof of love for him." . . . "in the name of the whole Church"

The ministerial priesthood has the task not only of representing Christ - Head of the Church - before the assembly of the faithful, but also of acting in the name of the whole Church when presenting to God the prayer of the Church, and above all when offering the Eucharistic sacrifice.

"In the name of the whole Church" does not mean that priests are the delegates of the community. the prayer and offering of the Church are inseparable from the prayer and offering of Christ, her head; it is always the case that Christ worships in and through his Church. the whole Church, the Body of Christ, prays and offers herself "through him, with him, in him," in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to God the Father. the whole Body, caput et membra, prays and offers itself, and therefore those who in the Body are especially his ministers are called ministers not only of Christ, but also of the Church. It is because the ministerial priesthood represents Christ that it can represent the Church.



**Collection September 29, 2024**

<b>Sunday Collection</b>	\$ 1,659.66
<b>Online Donations</b>	\$ 420
<b>Donation by mail</b>	\$ 10
<b>Coffee &amp; Donuts</b>	\$ 48

**You can support the Church by mail or through our website donating online**

**[www.saintmarondetroit.org/donate-online](http://www.saintmarondetroit.org/donate-online)**

**BREAD AND WINE**

**Please contact the Rectory to donate the Host and Wine for \$50.00/month, we will be accepting donations from three different families each month.**

- Bread and Wine for the month of October 2024, in loving memory of **Samira Howard**, by Carol Monsour.
- Bread and Wine for the month of October 2024, in loving memory of **Raymond Daher**, by Dr. Eddy Daher.
- Bread and Wine for the month of October 2024, in loving memory of **Dr. Daher Rahi**, by Christi Rahi Kassab and Family.

**ORDER OF SAINT SHARBEL**

Join us to support  
The Education of Maronite Seminarians  
and help build the Future of the Maronite Church



**ENROLL NOW ONLINE AT**  
**[www.orderstsharbel.org](http://www.orderstsharbel.org)**  
**OR IN YOUR PARISH**



For more information about the Order, please contact your Parish Priest or the Order of Saint Sharbel Office at [info@orderstsharbel.org](mailto:info@orderstsharbel.org) or call the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles at (818) 626 9193.

If you are interested in becoming a Priest or Religious Sister, contact Vocations Director, Chorbishop Donald J. Sawyer, D. Min, at (512) 458 3693 or

**VENERATION OF THE RELIC OF THE TRUE CROSS OF CHRIST**

*Friday, Oct. 11th - Sunday, Oct. 13th*

**WEEKEND SCHEDULE**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11TH**

6:00 PM: WELCOMING PROCESSION & VENERATION OF THE RELIC OF THE CROSS.  
7:00 PM - 10:00 PM: DEVOTIONAL PRAYER  
7:30 PM - 8:30 PM: CONFESSIONS  
8:30PM: ROSARY

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12TH**

1:00 - 5:00 PM: DEVOTIONAL PRAYER & VENERATION OF THE RELIC OF THE CROSS  
3:00 PM: ROSARY  
5:00 PM: DIVINE LITURGY  
6:00 - 10:00 PM: DEVOTIONAL PRAYER & VENERATION OF THE RELIC OF THE CROSS  
6:00 - 7:00 PM: CONFESSIONS  
8:00 PM: EVENING PRAYER

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13TH**

11:30 AM: DIVINE LITURGY  
1:00 PM: FINAL BENEDICTION BY THE RELIC OF THE CROSS



**St. Rafka Church**  
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**Livonia, MI 48154**  
**(734) 525-2828**  
**[saintrafkamichigan.com](http://saintrafkamichigan.com)**

*Don't miss this rare and extraordinary opportunity to witness & venerate the Relic of the True Cross of Christ - a powerful symbol of our faith!*



# St Maron Church

## LADIES NIGHT



Friday, October 25th

7 PM Rosary - 7:30 PM Dinner



The Maronite Seminary presents

A WEEKEND OF

## Discernment

Wondering if the Lord is calling you to the  
priesthood in the Maronite Church?  
Men aged 18-40 are invited for a weekend  
of fellowship, prayer, discussion and  
discernment.

Come and See on

**NOVEMBER 1-3, 2024**

at Our Lady of Lebanon  
Maronite Seminary  
7164 Alaska Avenue, NW,  
Washington, DC 20012

Overnight accommodations provided.

Please RSVP (202) 723-8831 or  
[maroniteseminary@comcast.net](mailto:maroniteseminary@comcast.net)

