



# St. Anthony

Maronite Catholic Church  
كنيسة مار أنطونيوس المارونية



## OFFICE HOURS

M-TH: 9 AM - 4PM  
Friday: 9AM-2PM  
Saturdays: By Appointment

Phone: 978.685.7233

Fax: 978.688.4475

rectory@stanthonylawrence.org



## LITURGIES

### Daily Liturgies

Monday - Wednesday: 9 AM  
Tuesday - Thursday: 7 PM

### Weekend Liturgies

Saturday: Vigil Liturgy @ 4 PM  
Sunday Liturgies:  
8:15 AM - Arabic  
9:30 AM - English  
11:30 AM - English & Arabic

### Holy days of obligation

Vigil Liturgy @ 7 PM  
Feast Day @ 9 AM



## SACRAMENTS

### Baptism & Confirmation

1 month in advance with the Pastor

### Matrimony

Couples should make arrangements six months prior to the wedding date

### Reconciliation

One hour Before Thursday & Saturday Liturgies, or by appointment

### Anointing of the Sick

Please notify the Rectory ASAP.

Please refer to our website for more  
Sacrament Celebrations Guidelines

## Season of Holy Cross

## زمن الصليب المقدس

## Holy Rosary Sunday - أحد الوردية

"THE ROSARY IS A  
SCHOOL OF PRAYER,  
THE ROSARY IS A  
SCHOOL OF FAITH!"  
-POPE FRANCIS



Credit: Elisa Pires via JMJ Rio 2013/Flickr (CC BY-NC-SA 2.0)



Saint Anthony Maronite Church Lawrence, MA

## Meet Our Staff

**Pastor:** Fr. Elie Mikhael

☎ 305.807.9087

✉ pastor@stanthonylawrence.org

**Parochial Vicar:**

Fr. Jebrael Moussallem

☎ 412.616.4144

✉ pv@stanthonylawrence.org

**Sub-Deacon** James T. Demers

**Sub-Deacon** Nadim B. Daou

**Parish Secretary** Pat McKeever

### Parish Ministries

◆ Religious Education

✉ ccd@stanthonylawrence.org

◆ Publishing: Bulletin

✉ bulletin@stanthonylawrence.org

◆ Choirs (English, Arabic & Syriac)

◆ Kids Choir

◆ Knights of the Altar

◆ Knights of Mary

✉ kom@stanthonylawrence.org

◆ Maronite Youth : MYO

✉ myo@stanthonylawrence.org

◆ Maronite Young Adults

◆ Bereavement Ministry

◆ Cenacle of the Rosary

(Tuesdays @ 6PM before Liturgy)

◆ Cenacle of Divine Mercy

(Sundays Before the Liturgies)

◆ Sacristan (s)

## Divine Liturgies Intentions

### 4th Sunday of Holy Cross

الأحد الرابع من زمن الصليب

**Saturday, October 6 @ 4:00 PM:**

• For: + Abraham Sarkis By *His Wife Therese and Family*

**Sunday, October 7 @ 8:15 AM:**

• For: In Honor of Kristen & George Kassas (*Anniversary*)

**Sunday, October 7 @ 9:30 AM:**

• For: In Honor of Neal & Vartina Hassan (*Anniversary*)

• For: In honor of Lisa & Glenn Prezanno (*Anniversary*)

**Sunday, October 7 @ 11:30 AM:**

• For: Living and Deceased members of the Bou-Mitri Family,  
*By Mr. and Mrs. Mounir Bou-Mitri and family*

### 4th Week of Holy Cross

الأسبوع الرابع من زمن الصليب

**Monday, October 8 @ 9 AM -St Pelagia the penitent**

• For: In Honor of Barabara & Edward Zraket (*Anniversary*)

**Tuesday, October 9 @ 7 PM St James, brother of the Lord, Apostle**

• For: +Dora Maria Pereira, *By her loving family.*

**Wednesday, October 10 @ 9 AM Olampus and Olampia, m.**

• For: In Honor of Colette & Tony Mikhael (*Anniversary*)

**Thursday, October 11 @ 7 PM St Philip the Deacon.**

• In Honor of Ajia & George Bou Saada (*Anniversary*)

**Friday, October 12: No Liturgy**

### 5th Sunday of Holy Cross

الأحد الخامس من زمن الصليب

**Saturday, October 13 @ 4:00 PM:**

• Forty Day Anniversary For: +Elaine Kalil Ahearn,  
*By her husband, Frank, and siblings.*

**Sunday, October 14 @ 8:15 AM:**

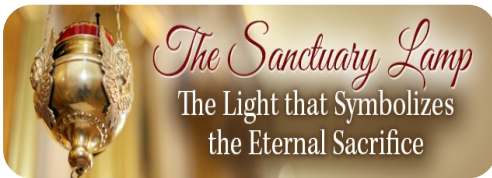
• For: In Honor of Darine & Joseph Maroun (*Anniversary*)

**Sunday, October 14 @ 9:30 AM:**

• Forty Day Anniversary For: +Maroun Saysouk,  
*By Raymond Saysouk.*

**Sunday, October 14 @ 11:30 AM:**

• For: +Hanane Merheb and Farha Daccache,  
*By Mr. and Mrs. Wissam Merheb and family.*



*The Sanctuary Lamp*

The Light that Symbolizes  
the Eternal Sacrifice

### Right Sanctuary Lamp

This week's Sanctuary Lamp will burn  
*For the living and deceased  
members of the Bou-Mitri Family.*

### Left Sanctuary Lamp

This week's Sanctuary Lamp will burn  
*For the living and deceased  
members of the Bou-Mitri Family.*

**Contribute to Our Parish Growth.**

**Donate Online:**

<http://stanthonylawrence.org/donate-now/>



Or scan this code with your mobile device to get started!



*Monthly Income –October 2017*

Donation to Church for Wedding	380.00
Candles / Other Devotional Item	539.00
Fuel	2,011.00
Miscellaneous (SPECIFY)	0.57
Sunday Coffee Hour	2.00
<b>Total Auxiliary Receipts</b>	<b>2,552.57</b>
Donations from Individuals	6,160.00
Donations In Memory of...	950.00
Donations to Church for Baptism	200.00
Funeral Donation to Church	600.00
Cemetery Plot Purchase	350.00
<b>Total Other Extraordinary (SPECIFY)</b>	<b>350.00</b>
<b>Total Extraordinary Income</b>	<b>8,260.00</b>
<b>Fund Raising</b>	<b>330</b>
Calendars	-350.00
Regular Collections	
2nd Collections to be forwarded	426.00
Sunday & Holy Day Collections	12,873.00
<b>Total Regular Collections</b>	<b>13,299.00</b>
<b>Programs</b>	
Knights of Mary	660.00
MYA Proceeds	25.00
MYO Proceeds	755.00
Religious Education Income	1,445.00
Women's Club Proceeds	100.00
Programs - Other	30.00
<b>Total Programs</b>	<b>3,015.00</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>27,836.57</b>

<b>TITHES &amp; OFFERINGS - September 30, 2018</b>	
<b>Sunday Collection (Online)</b>	<b>\$ 2,788.00</b>
<b>Candles &amp; Sanctuary Lamp</b>	<b>\$ 102.00</b>
<b>MYO &amp; Knights of Mary</b>	<b>\$ 1,140.00</b>
<b>Fuel</b>	<b>\$ 75.00</b>
<b>Donations for Masses, &amp; in Memory</b>	<b>\$ 625.00</b>
<b>2nd Collection– World Mission Sunday</b>	<b>\$ 40.00</b>
<b>Total Deposit</b>	<b>\$ 4,770.00</b>

*Monthly Expense—October 2017*

Security	52.99
Insurance : Medical & Disability & Pension	3,820.00
<b>Total Benefits</b>	<b>4,020.00</b>
Furniture & Equipment	5,174.00
Household Supplies	527.63
Spring Water	48.00
Table Expenses	88.43
<b>Total Household</b>	<b>664.06</b>
<b>Insurance on Personal Belonging</b>	<b>17.50</b>
Salaries	260.00
Housekeeping	400.00
Organist / Singers	500.00
Secretarial	2,200.00
<b>Total Salaries</b>	<b>3,360.00</b>
<b>Other Ordinary</b>	
Books, Periodicals & Subscript	-168.48
Conferences & Retreats (SPECIFY)	1,655.83
Eparchial Assessment	2,500.00
Janitorial Supplies & Cleaning	1,256.95
Software Maintenance	2.15
Waste Management	272.26
Maintenance & Repairs - Other	50.00
<b>Total Maintenance &amp; Repairs</b>	<b>1,324.41</b>
<b>Religious Supplies</b>	<b>-178.00</b>
Candles	84.91
Cellular Phone	347.01
Cable / Satellite TV	1,169.17
Electric	127.67
Fuel or Gas	1,728.76
<b>Total Utilities</b>	<b>7,119.47</b>
<b>Total Other Ordinary</b>	<b>217.02</b>
Advertising & Public Relations	316.56
Auto Expenses (Gas, Ins., etc.)	167.45
Copier (new lease)	63.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	472.27
Office Supplies	3.95
Postage	255.18
Printing	500.00
Professional Fees	600.00
Telephone & Internet Service	2,595.43
<b>Total Parish Office Administration</b>	<b>335.43</b>
MYO	337.98
Religious Education	62.31
Women's Club	735.72
<b>Total Parish Programs</b>	<b>168.30</b>
<b>Payroll Expenses</b>	<b>135.00</b>
Special Events - Pastoral Visit	135.00
<b>Total Special Events</b>	<b>135.00</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>24,042.47</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>3,794.10</b>

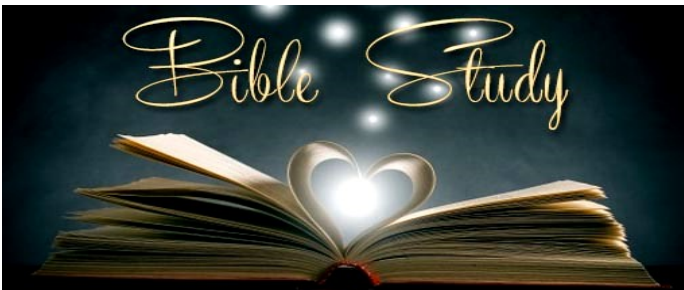
## PARISH MINISTRIES & NEWS

### Eucharistic Adoration

Thursday, October 11th



### Bible Study



Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday  
October 10 @ 10:30AM—English Session  
October @ 7:00PM Arabic Session  
**October 10th and 24th**

#### Why Study the Bible?

**Cultural Literacy:** Wealth of cultural literacy : art, music, philosophy, literature, law and more.

**Personal Edification:** learn from not only on an intellectual level, but on a personal and emotional level.

**To Help Others:** We gain centuries of wisdom and are thus able to help others by studying the Bible.

**Jesus:** understanding of Jesus and His mission.

**God's Word to Us:** Studying the Bible is a matter of course for those who love God and desire to follow Him.

**To Know God Better:** Understand His plan for each of us

**Avoiding Error:** Respond to error and to answer questions that skeptics and others may have about it.

### Knights of Columbus

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 9th @ 7 PM

## PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

### Daughters of Saint Anthony

First meeting after Summer break:  
**Monday, October 8th @ 12 NOON**

### Knights of Mary

Welcome Back Liturgy & activities: **October 13th**

### MYO

\* Faith Formation: **Friday October 12th**  
**\*\*Note Time changed to: 5-6:30 PM\*\***

### Religious Education- 2018-2019

Welcome to the team!

Religious Education would like to welcome Layla Merheb to the teaching staff. Layla will be teaching in grade 5. We are very happy to have her.

Students in grade 3 will be serving the 9:30 a.m. Liturgy on Sunday, October 21. Parents please make every effort to have your child join us on that day as they will be assigned responsibilities in the liturgy.

#### First Communion parents

For those children planning to make **First Communion on May 18, 2019 at 10:30 a.m.**, a set of guidelines for parents and children was sent home this week. We ask that you read these guidelines carefully, sign and return the letter that was sent along with them. If you have any questions or concerns about the guidelines, do not hesitate to contact me. Please make sure that we receive all the important documents your child will need, and that you are working with your child on prayers required for Reconciliation (**March 2, 2019**) and Communion (**May 18, 2019**). We will review them weekly in class, however, the reinforcement needs to be as a family.

Religious Education classes will resume on  
Sunday October 14.

*There is NO Religious Ed next Sunday, Oct. 7,  
for the long Columbus Day weekend.*

Susan Veilleux, [ccd@stanthonylawrence.org](mailto:ccd@stanthonylawrence.org).

## Congratulations on your New Baby

We join with the parish to congratulate:  
**Diane (Azzi) and Elie Mazraani,**  
**for the birth of their new baby girl,**  
**Chloé Rose**

Our warm wishes to their families and loved ones. May the Heavenly Father keep her in His loving care.

## Congratulations on your Baptism

We offer our sincere congratulations to the family of:  
**Vivian Gabriel Hunnefeld,** *Child of Stacy Gabriel and Jesse Hunnefeld*  
who received the Blessed Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation. May Christ continue to bless this child, whom we welcome into the flock.

Saturday October 13 at 7pm  
Our Lady of the Cedars Church Hall,  
61 Rockwood Street, Jamaica Plain, MA.

### Tenth Anniversary & Fundraiser Banquet for the Maronite Servants of Christ the Light



\$50 per person includes dinner and entertainment with the Lebanese Star: Al Fares Ziad Imaz

Visit our website for more information:  
[Maroniteservants.org](http://Maroniteservants.org)

**For Reservation: Please Contact:**  
Therese Abouzeid: 617.331.2747  
Nayla Raffol: 617.416.3444

## POPE PRAYER INTENTIONS - October 2018

**Evangelization - The Mission of Religious:** That consecrated religious men and women may bestir themselves, and be present among the poor, the marginalized, and those who have no voice.



*"Love one another as I have loved you" (John 15:12)*

**HIS EXCELLENCY GREGORY J. MANSOUR**  
**Bishop of the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn**

**Calls to the Order of Deacon**

*Nadim B. Daou*

**The imposition of hands will take place on**  
**Saturday, November 3, 2018**  
**11:00 A.M.**

**ST. ANTHONY MARONITE CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
145 AMESBURY ST, LAWRENCE, MA 01841

Following the Ceremony, You are cordially invited to a Reception in the Parish Hall

## JOIN THE ORDER OF SAINT SHARBEL

TO SUPPORT THE EDUCATION OF MARONITE SEMINARIANS  
AND HELP SECURE THE FUTURE OF THE MARONITE CHURCH  
IN THE UNITED STATES



## JOIN THE ORDER OF SAINT SHARBEL TODAY

Enroll online at [www.orderstsharbel.org](http://www.orderstsharbel.org) or in your Parish.

For more information about the Order, contact Order of Saint Sharbel President Bernadette Shalhoub at [bbshalhoub@aol.com](mailto:bbshalhoub@aol.com) or ask your Parish Priest.

If you are interested in becoming a Priest, Religious Sister, or Deacon contact Vocations Director Father Dominique Hanna at (718) 624-7228 & [cathrectory@verizon.net](mailto:cathrectory@verizon.net)

Fourth Sunday of the Holy Cross

الأحد الرابع من زمن ارتفاع الصليب

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, 'There is peace and security', then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Matthew 24:45-51

'Who then is the faithful and wise slave, whom his master has put in charge of his household, to give the other slaves their allowance of food at the proper time? Blessed is that slave whom his master will find at work when he arrives. Truly I tell you, he will put that one in charge of all his possessions. But if that wicked slave says to himself, "My master is delayed", and he begins to beat his fellow-slaves, and eats and drinks with drunkards, the master of that slave will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour that he does not know. He will cut him in pieces and put him with the hypocrites, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

1 تسالونيقي 5:1-11

أَمَّا الْأَزْمِنَةُ وَالْأَوْقَاتُ، أَيُّهَا الْإِخْوَةَ، فَلَا حَاجَةَ بِكُمْ أَنْ يُكْتَبَ إِلَيْكُمْ فِي شَأْنِهَا؛ لِأَنَّكُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ جَيِّدًا أَنَّ يَوْمَ الرَّبِّ يَأْتِي كَالسَّارِقِ لَيْلًا. فَحِينَ يَقُولُونَ: سَلَامٌ وَأَمْنٌ! حِينئذٍ يَدْهَمُهُمُ الْهَلَاكُ دَهْمَ الْمَخَاضِ لِلْحَبْلِ، وَلَا يُفْتَنُونَ. أَمَّا أَنْتُمْ، أَيُّهَا الْإِخْوَةَ، فَلَسْتُمْ فِي ظُلْمَةٍ لِيُفَاجِئَكُمْ ذَلِكَ الْيَوْمَ كَالسَّارِقِ. فَأَنْتُمْ كُلُّكُمْ أَبْنَاءُ النُّورِ، وَأَبْنَاءُ النَّهَارِ؛ وَلَسْنَا أَبْنَاءَ اللَّيْلِ وَلَا أَبْنَاءَ الظُّلْمَةِ. إِذَا فَلَا نَنَمُ كَسَائِرِ النَّاسِ، بَلْ لِنَسْهَرُ وَنَصْحُ؛ لِأَنَّ الَّذِينَ يَنَامُونَ فِي اللَّيْلِ يَنَامُونَ، وَالَّذِينَ يَسْكُرُونَ فِي اللَّيْلِ يَسْكُرُونَ. أَمَّا نَحْنُ أَبْنَاءُ النَّهَارِ، فَلْنَصْحُ لِابْسِينِ دِرْعِ الْإِيمَانِ وَالْمَحَبَّةِ، وَوَأَضْعِينِ خُوذةَ رَجَاءِ الْخَلَاصِ. فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ لَمْ يَجْعَلْنَا لِلْغَضَبِ، بَلْ لِإِحْرَازِ الْخَلَاصِ بِرَبِّنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ، الَّذِي مَاتَ مِنْ أَجْلِنَا، لِنَحْيَا مَعَهُ سَاهِرِينَ كَمَا نَائِمِينَ. فَالذَّكَ شَجِّعُوا بَعْضُكُمْ بَعْضًا، وَلْيَبْنِ الْوَّاحِدُ الْآخَرَ، كَمَا أَنْتُمْ فَاعِلُونَ.

متى 24:45-51

«مَنْ هُوَ الْعَبْدُ الْأَمِينُ الْحَكِيمُ الَّذِي أَقَامَهُ سَيِّدُهُ عَلَى أَهْلِ بَيْتِهِ، لِيُعْطِيَهُمُ الطَّعَامَ فِي حِينِهِ؟ طُوبَى لِدَٰلِكَ الْعَبْدِ الَّذِي يَجِيءُ سَيِّدُهُ فَيَجِدُهُ فَاعِلًا هَكَذَا! أَلْحَقَّ أَقُولُ لَكُمْ: إِنَّهُ يُقِيمُهُ عَلَى جَمِيعِ مُمْتَلَكَاتِهِ. وَلَكِنْ إِنْ قَالَ ذَلِكَ الْعَبْدُ الشَّرِيرُ فِي قَلْبِهِ: سَيَتَأَخَّرُ سَيِّدِي! وَبَدَأَ يَضْرِبُ رِفَاقَهُ، وَيَأْكُلُ وَيَشْرَبُ مَعَ السَّكَّارِينَ، يَجِيءُ سَيِّدُ ذَلِكَ الْعَبْدِ فِي يَوْمٍ لَا يَنْتَظِرُهُ، وَفِي سَاعَةٍ لَا يَعْرِفُهَا، فَيَفْصِلُهُ، وَيَجْعَلُ نَصِيبَهُ مَعَ الْمَرَائِينِ. هُنَاكَ يَكُونُ الْبُكَاءُ وَصَرِيفُ الْأَسْنَانِ.

**ALTAR SERVERS**

**Saturday, October 6 - 4:00 PM** Elias Saab  
Sharbel Saab

**Sunday, October 7 - 8:15 AM** Volunteers

**Sunday, October 7 - 9:30 AM** Caleb Hassan  
Noah Hassan

**Sunday, October 7 - 11:30 AM**  
Andrew Azzi                      Giorgio Abounasr  
Rudy Bouraphael                Ryan El Khoury

**Saturday, October 13 - 4:00 PM** Elias Saab  
Sharbel Saab

**Sunday, October 14 - 8:15 AM** Volunteers

**Sunday, October 14 - 9:30 AM** Anthony Hassan  
Max Sheehan

**Sunday, October 14 - 11:30 AM**  
Anthony Sadek                    Charbel Sadek  
Charbel Yammine                Chris Bou Saada

**LECTORS**

**Saturday, Oct. 6 @ 4:00 PM:** Christine Ryan

**Sunday, Oct. 7 - 8:15 AM** Zizi Francis

**9:30 AM** Maria Nammour

**11:30 AM English:** Christopher Merheb  
**Arabic:** Gretta Merheb

**Saturday, Oct. 13 @ 4:00 PM:** Joel Habib

**Sunday, Oct. 14 - 8:15 AM** Maroun Nassar

**9:30 AM** Michael Faris

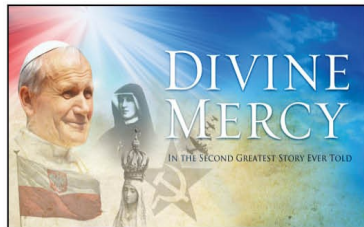
**11:30 AM English:** Raghida Ramey  
**Arabic:** Claudine Raad

**Begin Your Faith Journey Now!!!** [Stanthonychurch.formed.org](http://Stanthonychurch.formed.org)  
**Get Formed on the Go!!!** Saint Anthony Church Parish Code: N3CCNK

**Divine Mercy in the Second Greatest Story Ever Told**

**Experience God's Mercy**

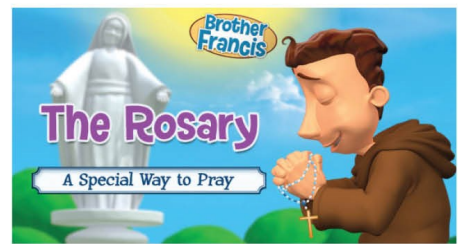
Join Fr. Michael Gaitley on a journey to uncover the reality of God's merciful love as he weaves together history, Sacred Scripture, the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima, and the witnesses of Saints Faustina, John Paul II, and Maximilian Kolbe.



*"This series will change your life! Fr. Gaitley has scored another home run with this series."*  
—Dan S, Milledgeville, GA

Watch on [formed.org](http://formed.org)

**FORMED KIDS' KORNER**



**The Rosary: A Special Way to Pray**

Through music and prayer in this entertaining and guidance-filled presentation, Br. Francis inspires children to deepen faith by praying the Rosary.

**More Kids' Content**

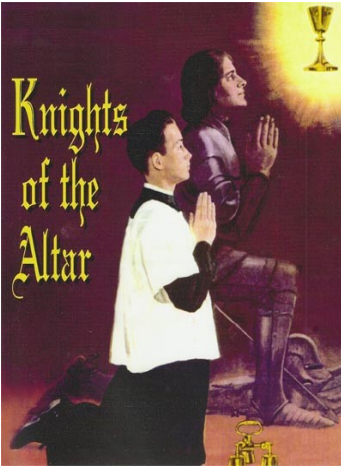


**MORE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- Listen: Brother Francis
- Watch: John XXIII
- Watch: True Reformers Ep. 5: Saint Teresa
- Watch: Lectio: Peter Ep. 9
- Watch: Symbolon Ep.9: Mary and the Saints



**Knights of the Altar**



**Application to begin service**

The primary purpose of the program is to address the obvious need for altar servers. However, a secondary and significant purpose of the program is to be a tool for our youth - to encourage personal growth in the areas of faith, service, devotion, social awareness, family relationships, prayer and knowledge of the Catholic faith. At each level a knight is challenged in some way to broaden and deepen his growth and to display an appropriate level of understanding of what he is being called to achieve in service to the priest and the Parish community. Guidance and adult staff and parents is always encouraged and provided to assist the knights in moving from one level to the next.

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grade** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parents Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mass Time Preference:** *(Please Circle Only One)*

**4:00PM**

**8:15AM**

**9:30AM**

**11:30AM**

**Any**

**Permission**

I am happy to assist my son in becoming a Knight of the Altar. I agree to encourage and motivate him through my own active stewardship and faith, especially in the areas of daily prayers, Sunday Mass, and living out my daily activities knowing they are being done in service to God. As a parent of a knight of the Altar, I will support my son in needed transportation and time commitment to ensure proper training and reverence in his service to God.

**Signature of Parent (s):** \_\_\_\_\_

*Training will be held in the church from 11:00am-12:30pm,  
on the first Saturday of the month unless otherwise noted.*



**Membership Registration** : [stanthonylawrence.org/member-information-form/](http://stanthonylawrence.org/member-information-form/)

**Online Donation** : [stanthonylawrence.org/donate-now/](http://stanthonylawrence.org/donate-now/)

**Upcoming Events** : [stanthonylawrence.org/upcoming-events/](http://stanthonylawrence.org/upcoming-events/)

**Monthly Calendar:** [stanthonylawrence.org/upcoming-events/calendar/](http://stanthonylawrence.org/upcoming-events/calendar/)



**Why is October referred to as the Month of the Rosary?**

The answer to your question is relatively simple but needs a historical context in order to be fully appreciated. The short answer is this: October is dedicated as the Month of the Rosary because we celebrate the memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary each year on October 7.

To understand this feast, we need to go back in time. In the 16th century, the Islamic Ottoman Empire presented a serious military threat to western Europe and sent a fleet of ships to attack Christian defenses in southern Europe. Pope Pius V recognized the grave danger and organized a fleet called the Holy League to confront the navy of the Ottoman Turks.

On October 7, 1571, the two navies engaged in a pivotal battle that would determine who controlled maritime traffic in the Mediterranean, Adriatic and Aegean seas. The fate of western Europe depended upon the success of Christians in this navy battle, which involved more than 400 warships (it was the largest naval battle in Western history for centuries).

Pius V knew he needed more than just military strength to defend Christian Europe, so he asked that all the faithful pray the rosary, requesting the intercession of the Blessed Mother. At the end of the Battle of Lepanto, the Holy League was victorious and the maritime expansion of the Ottoman Empire was permanently prevented.

The next year, Pius V established a feast on October 7 in honor of the Blessed Mother, originally called Our Lady of Victory. After a few centuries, the name was changed to Our Lady of the Rosary to more clearly recognize that prayer was the greatest power at work that day on the seas.

In 1571, the rosary was still a relatively new prayer form for the universal church. Pope Pius V had issued a decree formally establishing devotion to the rosary in the papal bull *Consueverunt Romani Pontifices* just two years before the Battle of Lepanto. The Holy Father's universal promulgation recognized the growing devotion to the Blessed Mother throughout Europe, as well as the increased prayer of the rosary in various locations. Devotion to the rosary was especially promoted in the 13th century by St. Dominic and in the 16th century by St. Peter Canisius (who, according to tradition, added the final verse to the Hail Mary, in which we pray, "Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death" — printed officially in the Catechism of the Council of Trent in 1566; the first two verses of the Hail Mary are adapted from Luke 1:28 and 1:42).

The origins of the rosary are complex. The use of knotted ropes to count prayers or scriptural verses (including the Lord's Prayer and the Jesus Prayer) is an ancient practice and is even found in non-Christian cultures. Most probably, the Christian recitation of 150 such prayers was intended to mirror the monastic prayer of the Liturgy of the Hours in which monks prayed all 150 psalms each day. The structure of the rosary as we know it today developed significantly from the 12th to the 14th centuries as the larger collection of 150 prayers

was further divided into groups of 50 and separated by biblical verses or themes (now referred to as mysteries). It is these mysteries, like a grouping of common roses in a garden, that gave the name *rosary* to this prayer form.

The rosary is a living prayer form and continues to develop even in recent times. An invocation known as the Fatima Prayer was commonly added in the early 20th century. In 2002 Pope John Paul II added a new set of five reflections called the Luminous Mysteries which encourage additional meditations on the life of Jesus.

The rosary is an invitation to experience the grace of Mary's spiritual motherhood as she leads us to her Son, Jesus. For this reason, it has been an invaluable source of countless spiritual graces for the saints. Remember, every time you pray the rosary you are given the privilege and honor of pronouncing the holy name of Jesus more than 50 times.

The wealth of spiritual graces offered through the rosary comes not from the multiplication of prayers (see Matthew 6:7) but from the imitation of Christ through obedience to the Father's will, according to the example of the Blessed Mother.

Maybe October would be a good month to turn off the radio or podcast as you commute to work or school and pray the rosary instead. See what graces the Lord wants to pour into your life from the rose garden of this daily meditation.

**Festivals Around Us!!!**

**St Anthony Church—Lebanese Festival**

Sunday, November 18th - 9AM-5 PM

**St Anthony Church—Fall Hafli**

Saturday, October 20, 2018 Doors open @ 7PM

RSVP to the rectory @ 508-672-7653

300 North Eastern Ave, Fall River, MA

**KINDLY READ CAREFULLY—  
ALL SACRAMENTAL GUIDELINES**

**Baptism & Confirmation:**

**Guidelines :** [stanthonylawrence.org/guidelines/](http://stanthonylawrence.org/guidelines/)  
**Registration :**  
[stanthonylawrence.org/online-registration-form/](http://stanthonylawrence.org/online-registration-form/)

**Sacrament of Marriage: Guidelines :**  
[stanthonylawrence.org/guidelines-2/](http://stanthonylawrence.org/guidelines-2/)

**FOCCUS:** [stanthonylawrence.org/foccus/](http://stanthonylawrence.org/foccus/)  
**Pre-Cana:** [stanthonylawrence.org/pre-cana/](http://stanthonylawrence.org/pre-cana/)

**Banquet Hall Guidelines:**

**Contract Form & Donations:**  
<http://stanthonylawrence.org/banquet-hall/>

**Burial Guidelines:**

**Burial Charges and Fees:**  
<http://stanthonylawrence.org/charges-and-fees/>

**Lot Sales:** <http://stanthonylawrence.org/lots-sales/>