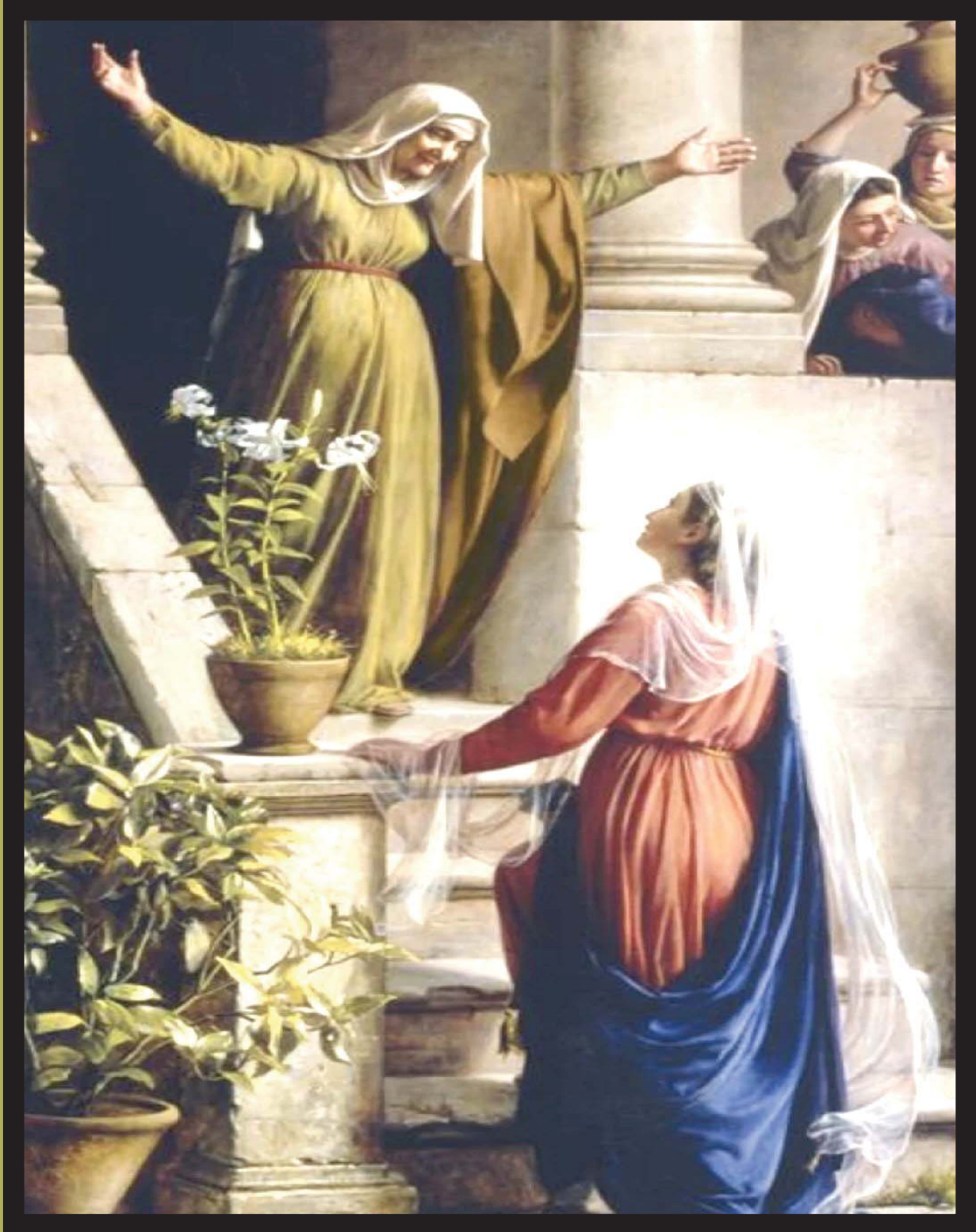


SEASON OF THE GLORIOUS BIRTH OF OUR LORD

Visitation of the Virgin to Elizabeth

أحد زيارة العذراء لإليصابات



LITURGIES INTENTIONS

SEASON OF THE GLORIOUS BIRTH OF OUR LORD

Visitation of the Virgin to Elizabeth

Saturday, November 29

St. Saturninus and Sisinius

4:00 pm +Evon Danus, *By the Rembis Family*

For the good health & well-being of all
the Mahrajan Sponsors & their
Families

Sunday, November 30

St. Andrew

8:00 am +Rony Hajj, Zouha & Pierre Jbeily &
Elias Ghosyn

9:30 am In Honor of Elie Daou, *By his parents,
Deacon & Mrs. Nadim Daou*

11:00 am +Ibrahim, Saide & Dalal Kassas &
Deceased Family Members, *By Mr. &
Mrs. George Kassas & Family*

Birth of John the Baptist

Saturday, December 6

St. Nicholas (Zakhia)

4:00 pm +Cecelia Hatem, *By Linda Prenaveau*
+Therese Bou Mitri, *By her children &
their families*

Sunday, December 7

St. Ambrose, Doctor of the Church

8:00 am For the Souls in Purgatory & the
Forgotten Souls, *By Mouna & Kamil
Hbaiter*

9:30 am 40 Day Anniversary +Rose El-Hachem,
By her children & their families

11:00 am 40 Day Anniversary +Jean-Paul Daou,
By the Family

5:00 pm IMMACULATE CONCEPTION VIGIL

Daily Liturgies

Monday, December 1

*Nahum the Prophet
Saint Charles de Foucauld
Eph 1:15-23/Lk 1:46-56*

9:00 am +Elias Youssef Aoun, *By Nada Asmar*

Tuesday, December 2

*Habakkuk the Prophet
Eph 2:1-10/Lk 10:38-42*

9:00 am +Larry & Dora M. Pereira, *By Dora
Pereira*

Wednesday, December 3

*St. Francis Xavier
Eph 2:11-16/Lk 19:1-10*

9:00 am +Elias Youssef Aoun, *By Nada Asmar*

9:00 am +Wadiha & Barbara Bou Khalil &
Deceased Family Members, *By Lola
Abou Khalil*

Thursday, December 4

*St. Barbara
Saint John of Damascus, Doctor of the Church
Eph 2:17-22/Jn 4:39-42*

9:00 am +For the souls in Purgatory, *By Dora
Pereira*
+Jean-Paul Daou, *By Dr. & Mrs. George
Abou-Ezzi*

Friday, December 5 - OFFICE CLOSED

*St. Saba the Hermit
Eph 3:14-21/Mk 7:24-30*

7:00 pm First Friday Liturgy



SANCTUARY LAMPS

**In Memory of Evon Danus,
By the Rembis Family**

Book your Sanctuary lamp Online:
www.stanthonylawrence.org/sanctuary-lamp/



"Blessed by Your Service, Enriched by Your Love"

Dear Parishioners,

As we gather this week to celebrate Thanksgiving, my heart is filled with deep gratitude for each one of you. This season invites us to pause, reflect, and recognize the countless ways God's grace has been made visible in our parish family—especially through the dedication, generosity, and quiet sacrifices of so many who serve.

To all our Mahrajan volunteers, whose joyful labor made our festival an unforgettable celebration of faith, culture, and community... thank you. Your unity, relentless work, and spirit of service transformed three days into a living testimony of what it means to be *One Family, One Faith, One Mission*.

To those who are now working tirelessly to prepare for the Meelad Christmas Festival, offering your evenings, your skills, and your creativity—may the Lord who sees in secret reward you abundantly. Your efforts are shaping a beautiful gift for our parish and for our community.

To all who serve throughout the entire year in silence, without recognition or applause... please know that *God sees you*. Every moment you dedicate to His Church becomes a treasure in heaven. Your unseen sacrifices build the visible life of this parish.

My heartfelt gratitude extends to:

Our Deacons, Subdeacons, and Altar Boys. Parish Council, Financial Committee & Cemetery Committee. Our ministries, the hands and feet of our parish mission:

Daughters of Saint Anthony, Our Lady of Lebanon Sodality, M-Wine Ladies, Knights of Mary, Maronite Youth Organization (MYO), Maronite Youth Adults (MYA), Choirs and musicians, Religious Education teachers and catechists, Arabic School teachers, Sunshine Committee, Bereavement Committee, Lectors and ushers, Saint Charbel Family, Knights of Columbus, Men of Saint Joseph, Sacristy Team and the Collection Committee. Executive Assistant Mimi Azzi and Administrative Assistant Christine Ryan. Our sponsors, whose generosity sustains our initiatives and every person who cleans, decorates, repairs, organizes, cooks, sets up, or quietly helps whenever help is needed.

Your presence is a blessing. Your service is a prayer. Your generosity is a witness to the Gospel. As Saint Paul reminds us, "*I give thanks to my God always for you*" (1 Corinthians 1:4). This Thanksgiving, I offer my gratitude to God for giving me the privilege of walking this journey with you. May the Lord bless your families, your homes, and your work. May He reward you in ways only His divine heart can.

Happy Thanksgiving,

In Christ's love,

Fr. Neemtallah (Edgard) Oneissy

OFFICE HOURS:

M-TH 10:00 am-3:00 pm

FRI OFFICE CLOSED

SAT By Appointment

DAILY LITURGIES @ 9 am

MON & WED (Ar)

TUE & THU (Eng)

WEEKEND LITURGIES

SAT 4 pm (Eng)

SUN 8am(Ar) 9:30 am (Eng)

11 am (Eng.& Ar)

Holy days of obligation:

Vigil Liturgy @ 7:00 pm

MEET OUR PRIEST:

Fr. Edgard -Neemtallah- Oneissy
pastor@stanthonylawrence.org

MEET OUR DEACONS:

Nadim Daou, James T. Demers
& David Leard

Sub-Deacons: Antoine Nammour
& George Merheb

CLERGY DAY OFF

Fr. Neemtallah: Fridays

SACRAMENTS

Baptism & Confirmation:

1 month in advance with the Pastor,

Donations: Church: \$200

Priest: Free Will

Matrimony: Arrangements should be made by couples six months prior to the wedding date

Donations: Church \$500

Priest: Free Will

Reconciliation: One hour Before Thursday & Saturday Liturgies, or by appointment

Anointing of the Sick: Please notify the Rectory if a member of your family is ill, hospitalized, or unable to come to Church and would like to receive communion at home.

Please refer to our website for more Sacrament Celebrations Guidelines.

DAUGHTERS OF SAINT ANTHONY

"The Oldest Organization of St. Anthony's Church"

MEETING & CHRISTMAS PARTY LUNCHEON

Thursday, December 4th @ 12pm

Join us for our annual Christmas celebration!

\$5 Scratch Ticket Swap

Karaoke & Christmas Carols

Please remember to bring your gift for our adopted family.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Baptized & Confirmed

Casey Bee Veilleux
daughter of
David & Stephanie Veilleux

Penelope Pelletier
Daughter of
Joshua & Alaina Pelletier

Camille Kinney
Daughter of
Daniel & Cassandra (Maroun) Kinney

"Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned."

BIRTHDAY WISHES

November 29: James Abdallah, Matthew George, Isabella Maroun, Alexander Mouawad, Jaden Nader, Gaby Ramey, Corey Shepherd

November 30: Clayton Daher, Elie Daou, Yorgo El Hachem, Christopher Rizkallah

December 1: Julian Bouchrouche, Najib Bourouphael, Michael Mouawad, Thomas Sader, Antonia Santos

December 2: Rami Kattar, Raymond Maroun, Joyce Maroun, Georjina Maroun, Roger Matar, Giovanni Nassar, Kristin M. Tarabay

December 3: Noah Jefferson, Renee Murphy, Sara-Maria Saab, Alex Shepherd

December 4: Isabel Ata, Bobbie Corey, Stephen Deschene, Meaghan Twing

December 5: Paolo Abou-Ezzi, Fadi El Zaklit, Rimonda Hanna, Remonda Maroun, William Shea, Nancy Shepherd

ANNIVERSARY WISHES

November 29: Jack & Badia Abboud

December 1: Ronald & Cynthia Abraham

December 5: Jad & Karyn Ramey

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS

11/23/2025

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday and the bulletin printing deadline, the collection report for the week of November 24 will be published in next week's bulletin.

Thank you for your understanding!



UPCOMING SESSIONS

For those who signed up for Friday classes:

Friday, December 5 @ 6:30pm-8pm

For those who signed up for Saturday classes:

Saturday, December 6 @ 11:30am - 1pm

KNIGHTS OF THE ALTAR

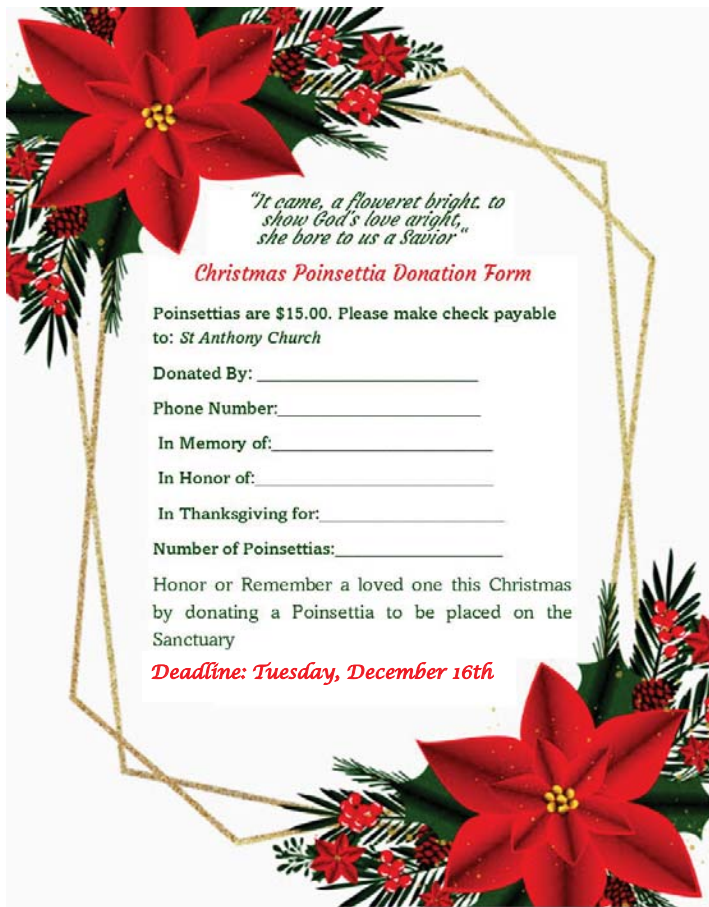
UPCOMING SESSION

Saturday, December 6 @ 11am

OBSERVANCES

Monday, December 9, 2024 - Feast of The Immaculate Conception - *Holy Day of Obligation*

OFFICE CLOSED



"It came, a floweret bright, to show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior"

Christmas Poinsettia Donation Form

Poinsettias are \$15.00. Please make check payable to: *St Anthony Church*

Donated By: _____

Phone Number: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Thanksgiving for: _____

Number of Poinsettias: _____

Honor or Remember a loved one this Christmas by donating a Poinsettia to be placed on the Sanctuary

Deadline: Tuesday, December 16th



SAINT ANTHONY MARONITE CHURCH

70+

Seniors Christmas
JUBILEE

SATURDAY 20 DECEMBER

11:00 AM LITURGY

12:00 - 2:00 PM LUNCH

ENTERTAINMENT, DANCE AND SPECIAL VISIT FROM SANTA

PLEASE RSVP BY MONDAY, DECEMBER 15

RECTORY: 978-685-7233, MIRNA ABOU-EZZI: 978-807-5308

145 Amesbury St, Lawrence, MA, 01841



SAINT ANTHONY MARONITE CHURCH LAWRENCE PRESENTS

MENS CHRISTMAS PARTY

MUSIC - GAMES - FUN - CASH BAR

\$60

NO TICKETS AT DOOR

9TH DEC

PHOENICIAN RESTAURANT
MICHAEL'S FUNCTION HALL
12 ALPHA STREET
HAVERHILL, MA

DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 PM
DINNER SERVED AT 7:45PM

MENU INCLUDES:
APPS: HUMMUS, TABOULI, BABA, RAW KIBBEE, VEGETABLE PLATTER, FRIES
MAIN: CHICKEN KABOB OVER RICE PILAF, TENDERLOIN WITH PEPPERS & ONIONS

FOR INFO OR TICKETS CONTACT:
FRED COREY | ROD PICA | WISSAM MERHEB | ELIAS AZZI | DANNY AZZI



YOU ARE INVITED TO

Christmas Ladies Party

DINNER. ORNAMENTS EXCHANGE. RAFFLES PRIZES.
GAMES. DJ. LIVE MUSIC & MORE!!!

SATURDAY AT 07:00 PM | **6** | DECEMBER
TICKET \$100

MICHAEL'S FUNCTION HALL
12 Alpha Sreet, Haverhil, MA 01832

RSVP TO
MARY FRANCIS 978-960-7479
MOUNIRA DAHER 603-235-0801

Saint Anthony Maronite Church - Lawrence

Meelad Christmas Recital-2025

Friday Dec 12, 7PM



SAINT ANTHONY MARONITE CHURCH - LAWRENCE
PRESENTS

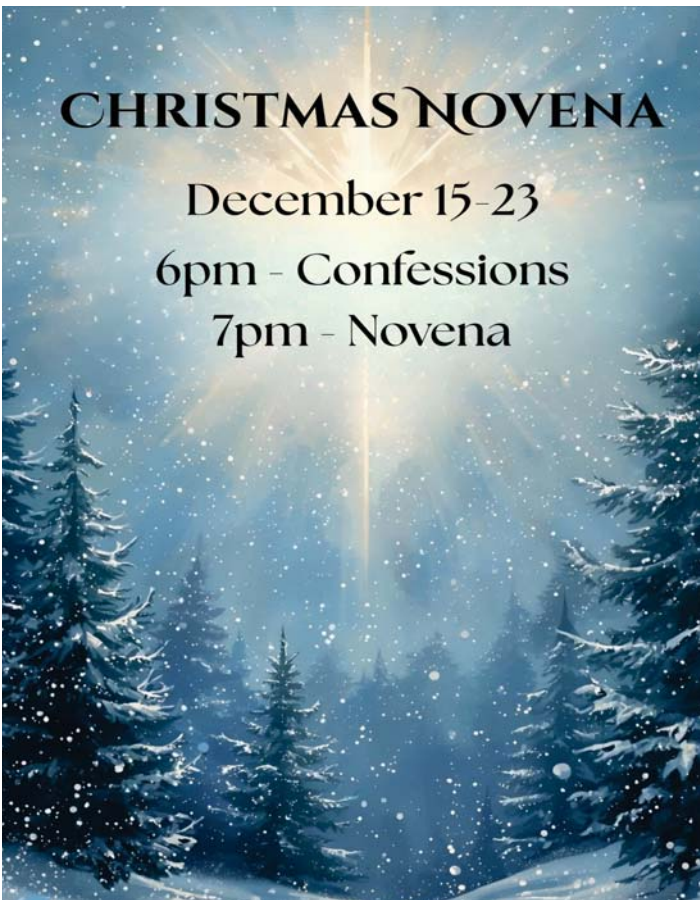


Christmas
Recital & Pageant
KIDS CHOIR
SATURDAY
DECEMBER 13
5:30 PM



CHRISTMAS NOVENA

December 15-23
6pm - Confessions
7pm - Novena



ANGEL TREE Coming Soon

Christmas, New Year & Epiphany Liturgy Schedule

CHRISTMAS EVE - WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

4PM - CHRISTMAS VIGIL LITURGY (ENG)

MIDNIGHT - CHRISTMAS LITURGY (AR/ENG)

CHRISTMAS DAY - THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25

9:30AM - CHRISTMAS LITURGY (AR)

11AM - CHRISTMAS LITURGY (AR/ENG)

FELICITATION OF THE VIRGIN MARY

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26

6PM - LITURGY (AR/ENG)

NEW YEAR'S DAY - THURSDAY, JANUARY 1

6PM - LITURGY (AR/ENG)

MONDAY, JANUARY 5

6PM - EPIPHANY VIGIL LITURGY (AR/ENG)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6

6PM - EPIPHANY LITURGY



Saint Anthony Maronite Church - Lawrence

MEELAD CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

SCHEDULE

Friday, December 12 (4:00 pm – 9:00 pm)

- 4:00 pm: Sook Vendors Open
- 7:00 pm: Meelad Christmas Recital
- 8:00 pm: Pictures with Santa
- 9:00 pm: Sook Closing

Saturday, December 13 (3:00 pm– 9:00 pm)

- 3:00 pm: Sook Vendors Open
- 4:00 pm: Liturgy
- 5:30 pm: Kids Choir Recital & Christmas Pageant
- 6:30 pm: Pictures with Santa
- 7:00 pm: Karaoke & Dance
- 9:00 pm: Sook Closing

Sunday, December 14 (9:00 am – 6:00 pm)

- 9:00 am: Sook Vendors Open
- 9:30 - 12 pm: Liturgies
- 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm: Kids Christmas Party, Magic Show & Special Visit From Santa
- 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm: Live Performance by Maddi Ryan
- 4:30 pm: Marching Band Show
- 5:00 pm: Tree Lighting Ceremony
- 6:00 pm: Festival Closing



Festival Food: Saj, finger Foods, Popcorn, Hot dogs, Chestnuts, Corn on the cob, Sweets, and hot beverages.

Outdoor Heaters & Heated Tent Available • Handicap Parking



Saint Anthony Maronite Church

Celebrating the birth of Jesus
through faith, color, and creativity!

CHRISTMAS DRAWING COMPETITION 2025

You are invited to express
the joy of Christ's birth through art.
you must reflect
the spiritual meaning of Christmas –
the Nativity, the Holy Family, or any symbol
of Christ's light and peace and you should inspire
faith, joy, and hope, in harmony with the Advent and
Christmas season.

Size: 8.5 x 11 inches (standard paper) or 11 x 14 inches maximum.

Cash Prize:
\$200



**art works
presented
will be displayed
during the
Meelad Christmas
Festival**



**and
many
more
surprises**

Submission Deadline: Thursday, December 11, 2025

Final Decision & Announcement of Winners:

Sunday, December 14, 2025,

during the Tree lighting

Submit your artwork by December 11, 2025,
to be delivered to the Parish Office (in person).

Include your full name, age, phone number,
on the back of the artwork.

For more information, please contact:

rectory@stanthonylawrence.org (978) 685-7233

Let your creativity reflect
the true meaning of Christmas love, hope, and light!



Mahrajan 2025 Financial Summary Statement

For the sake of transparency and good stewardship, we are pleased to share a brief overview of this year's Mahrajan financial outcome. Our festival performed very well, with a total net income of \$241,850.55, marking a net increase of \$20,299.26 over last year. Through careful planning and responsible management, we successfully reduced overall expenses by \$31,906.81, which represents a 20.4% decrease from last year's costs.

While our sponsorship total was lower by \$21,750, and raffle income also decreased, parish engagement remained strong. Most notably, general sales increased by \$22,398.89, reflecting the enthusiastic participation of our community and guests.

This summary is intended to help you read and understand the full financial report more easily. We remain committed to transparency, accountability, and faithful stewardship of the resources entrusted to us.

Mahrajan Financial Committee**Ordinary Income/Expense****Income****Ordinary Income****Fund Raising****Special Events Mahrajan****Mahrajan Deposits**

Mahrajan Bar	38,537.00
Mahrajan Food	42,667.00
Mahrajan Sandwiches	57,953.00
Mahrajan Saj	10,728.00
Mahrajan Pastry	32,734.00
Mahrajan Coffee	2,473.00
Mahrajan Hookah	14,048.10
Mahrajan Auctions	3,975.00
Mahrajan Baskets	8,083.00
Mahrajan Raffle	4,555.00
Mahrajan Souvenirs	8,642.09
Mahrajan Henna	839.00
Mahrajan Balloons	879.00
Mahrajan Kids	3,465.00
Mahrajan Photo	43.00
Mahrajan Donation	4,856.83

Total Mahrajan Deposits 234,478.02

Mahrajan Sponsorship 120,400.00
Raffle-Presale 10,990.00

Mahrajan Post Sale

Mahrajan Pastry Post Sale 140.00
Mahrajan Post Sale - Other 90.00

Total Mahrajan Post Sale 230.00

Total Special Events Mahrajan 366,098.02

Total Fund Raising 366,098.02

Total Ordinary Income 366,098.02

Total Income 366,098.02

Gross Profit 366,098.02

Expense**Fund Raising Events****Mahrajan****Advertising, Public Relations**

Banners	700.00
Signs	200.00
Advertising, Public Relations - Other	3,772.23

Total Advertising, Public Relations 4,672.23

Bar Expense

Bar Supplies	1,278.01
Bar Liquor	4,128.42

Total Bar Expense 5,406.43

Cost of Food

Saj	405.45
Arabic/American Cuisine	6,002.15
Ethnic Cuisine	6,382.13
Bakery	11,877.35
Cost of Food - Other	118.01

Total Cost of Food 24,785.09

Cost of Refreshments

Cleaning 3,493.50
Entertainment (Singer and Band) 13,159.64

Hookah Supplies 99.92

Kids Games 696.75

Permits 150.00

Paper Products 2,931.52

Printing & Stationary 140.48

Baskets 62.99

Souvenirs 3,983.94

Raffles 1,671.15

Rentals

Tents 23,346.00

Sound & Lighting 4,500.00

Dumpster Rental & Removal 2,245.84

Water Closets (WCs) 6,435.00

Refrigeration and Freezers 1,700.00

Generator 2,500.18

Transportation 3,260.25

Propane Tanks 784.00

Total Rentals 44,771.27

Mahrajan Detail

Police Dept 5,808.00

Fire Dept 3,564.00

Total Mahrajan Detail 9,372.00

Sundry Expenses 3,803.38

Equipment 2,586.74

Mahrajan - Other 0.00

Total Mahrajan 124,247.47

Total Fund Raising Events 124,247.47

Total Expense 124,247.47

Net Ordinary Income 241,850.55

Net Income 241,850.55

Mahrajan 2025 – A Celebration of Faith, Heritage, and Hope

The Annual Lebanese Mahrajan of Saint Anthony Maronite Church, held from August 29 to 31, 2025, was a beautiful celebration of faith, family, and tradition—a living testimony to our parish motto: “One Family, One Faith, One Mission.” What began in 1971 as a small parish gathering has become one of the most cherished cultural and spiritual events in the Merrimack Valley, uniting generations of parishioners, friends, and visitors in the joy of Lebanese hospitality and Christian fellowship.

This year’s Mahrajan began with a deeply moving ceremony on Friday evening, marking the dedication of the new parish bell, installed in honor of all the volunteers who have served the Mahrajan since its founding. Four of the original 1971 founders—Kenny Gabriel, Eddy Zraket, Eddy Hatem, and Bob Dewan—had the honor of ringing the bell for the first time. Their gesture symbolized more than five decades of commitment, service, and unity. The ceremony also included the release of white balloons in remembrance of all the deceased founders and volunteers who helped build this enduring tradition, and the passing of a lighted lantern to one of our parish children—an inspiring moment that represented the transmission of faith, culture, and dedication to the new generation.

Over the three days, the parish grounds were filled with joy, laughter, music, and prayer. More than 120 volunteers worked tirelessly—months in advance and throughout the festival—to ensure that every detail reflected the spirit of Saint Anthony’s community. The teamwork and dedication of our Mahrajan Committee and volunteers were truly inspiring, a sign of what it means to serve with faith and love.

The entertainment program was rich and diverse, featuring six different performers and groups throughout the weekend. The Dabke troupes, with more than 80 children and youth, performed four vibrant shows that filled the stage with energy and pride. DJ Roy, Wissam Ibrahim, George Deeb, George Kooz, Antonio and the Band and ABRAXAS Santana tribute Band brought both Arabic and American melodies to life, offering joyful moments for all ages.

The food booths, prepared with love and precision, showcased the finest Lebanese cuisine—each plate a reflection of our people’s generosity and culinary artistry. The souvenirs and crafts from Lebanon, the kids’ games tent, and the newly added children’s play area and face-painting station made this year’s Mahrajan especially welcoming for families.

From the opening prayer to the final raffle drawing, the 2025 Mahrajan was a resounding success, not only in attendance but in spirit. It reminded us that our parish is not just a place—it is a living family of faith, sustained by prayer, service, and love. As we look ahead to the future, we carry the same mission that inspired our founders more than fifty years ago: to celebrate our faith, preserve our heritage, and hand on the light of hope to those who will follow.

Fr. Neemtallah Edgard Oneissy
Administrator
Saint Anthony Maronite Church, Lawrence, MA

Visitation of the Virgin to Elizabeth

2nd book of Samuel 6:9-15, 17, 18b

David was afraid of the LORD that day; he said, 'How can the ark of the LORD come into my care?' So David was unwilling to take the ark of the LORD into his care in the city of David; instead David took it to the house of Obed-edom the Gittite. The ark of the LORD remained in the house of Obed-edom the Gittite for three months; and the LORD blessed Obed-edom and all his household. It was told King David, 'The LORD has blessed the household of Obed-edom and all that belongs to him, because of the ark of God.' So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-edom to the city of David with rejoicing; and when those who bore the ark of the LORD had gone six paces, he sacrificed an ox and a fatling. David danced before the LORD with all his might; David was girded with a linen ephod. So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet. They brought in the ark of the LORD, and set it in its place, inside the tent that David had pitched for it; and David offered burnt-offerings and offerings of well-being before the LORD. When David had finished offering the burnt-offerings and the offerings of well-being, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD of hosts.

Letter to the Ephesians 1: 1-14

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are in Ephesus and are faithful in Christ Jesus: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke 1:39-45

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

LECTORS SCHEDULE

Saturday, November 29

4:00 pm - Anthony Ata

Sunday, November 30

8:00 am - Mouna Hbaiter

9:30 am - August Sfeir

11:00 am - (Eng) Anthony Kassas

(Ar) George Kassas

LECTORS SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 6

4:00 pm - Lisa Abdallah

Sunday, December 7

8:00 am - Huguette Sfeir

9:30 am - Meaghan Twing

11:00 am - (Eng) Elie Daou

(Ar) Samir Daou

أحد زيارة العذراء لإليصابات

سفر صموئيل الثاني 6: 9-15. 17. 18b

خَافَ دَاوُدُ مِنَ الرَّبِّ فِي ذَلِكَ الْيَوْمِ وَقَالَ: «كَيْفَ يَنْزِلُ تَأْبُوثُ الرَّبِّ عِنْدِي؟» وَلَمْ يَشَأْ دَاوُدُ أَنْ يُمَالَ إِلَيْهِ بِتَأْبُوتِ الرَّبِّ إِلَى مَدِينَةِ دَاوُدَ، فَأَخَذَهُ دَاوُدُ إِلَى بَيْتِ عُوبِيدَ أَدُومَ الْحِثِّيِّ. فَبَقِيَ تَأْبُوثُ الرَّبِّ فِي بَيْتِ عُوبِيدَ أَدُومَ الْحِثِّيِّ ثَلَاثَةَ أَشْهُرٍ، فَبَارَكَ الرَّبُّ عُوبِيدَ أَدُومَ وَكُلَّ بَيْتِهِ. فَأُخْبِرَ الْمَلِكُ دَاوُدُ وَقِيلَ لَهُ أَنَّ الرَّبَّ قَدْ بَارَكَ عُوبِيدَ أَدُومَ وَكُلَّ مَا لَهُ بِسَبَبِ تَأْبُوتِ اللَّهِ. فَمَضَى دَاوُدُ وَأَصْعَدَ تَأْبُوتَ اللَّهِ بِفَرَحٍ مِنْ بَيْتِ عُوبِيدَ أَدُومَ إِلَى مَدِينَةِ دَاوُدَ. وَلَمَّا خَطَا حَامِلُو تَأْبُوتِ الرَّبِّ سِتَّ خَطَوَاتٍ، ذَبَحَ ثَوْرًا وَعِجْلًا مُسَمَّنًا. وَكَانَ دَاوُدُ يَرْقُصُ وَيُدُورُ عَلَى نَفْسِهِ بِكُلِّ قُوَّتِهِ أَمَامَ الرَّبِّ، وَكَانَ دَاوُدُ مُتَمَنِّطًا بِأَفُودٍ مِنْ كَتَّانٍ. وَأَصْعَدَ دَاوُدُ وَكُلَّ بَيْتِ إِسْرَائِيلَ تَأْبُوتَ الرَّبِّ بِالْهَتَافِ وَصَوْتِ الْبُوقِ. وَأَدْخَلُوا تَأْبُوتَ الرَّبِّ وَأَقَامُوهُ فِي مَكَانِهِ، فِي وَسْطِ الْخِيْمَةِ الَّتِي نَصَبَهَا لَهُ دَاوُدُ، وَأَصْعَدَ دَاوُدُ مُحْرَقَاتٍ أَمَامَ الرَّبِّ وَذَبَائِحَ سَلَامِيَّةٍ، وَبَارَكَ الشَّعْبَ بِأَسْمِ رَبِّ الْقَوَاتِ.

رسالة القديس بولس إلى أهل أفسس 1: 1-14

يَا إِخْوَتِي، مِنْ بُولُسَ، رَسُولِ الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ بِمَشِيئَةِ اللَّهِ، إِلَى الْقَدِيسِينَ الَّذِينَ هُمْ فِي أَفَسُسَ وَالْأَمْنَاءِ فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ: الْنِعْمَةُ لَكُمْ وَالسَّلَامُ مِنَ اللَّهِ أَبِيْنَا وَالرَّبِّ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ! تَبَارَكَ اللَّهُ أَبُو رَبِّنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ، الَّذِي بَارَكَنَا بِكُلِّ بَرَكَاتٍ رُوحِيَّةٍ فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ فِي الْمَسِيحِ؛ فَإِنَّهُ اخْتَارَنَا فِيهِ قَبْلَ انْشَاءِ الْعَالَمِ، لِنَكُونَ فِي حَضْرَتِهِ قَدِيسِينَ، لَا عَيْبَ فِيْنَا؛ وَقَدْ سَبَقَ بِمَحَبَّتِهِ فَحَدَدْنَا أَنْ نَكُونَ لَهُ أَبْنَاءَ بِالتَّبَنِّي بِيَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ، بِحَسَبِ رِضَى مَشِيئَتِهِ، لِمَدْحِ مَجْدِ نِعْمَتِهِ الَّتِي أَنْعَمَ بِهَا عَلَيْنَا فِي الْحَبِيبِ؛ وَفِيهِ لَنَا الْفِدَاءُ بِدَمِهِ، أَيْ مَغْفِرَةُ الزَّلَّاتِ، بِحَسَبِ غِنَى نِعْمَتِهِ، الَّتِي أَفَاضَهَا عَلَيْنَا فِي كُلِّ حِكْمَةٍ وَفَهْمٍ؛ وَقَدْ عَرَفْنَا سِرَّ مَشِيئَتِهِ، بِحَسَبِ رِضَا الَّذِي سَبَقَ فَجَعَلَهُ فِي الْمَسِيحِ، لِيُحَقِّقَ تَذْيِيرَ مَلَأَ الْأَرْمَنَةَ فِي الْمَسِيحِ تَحْتَ رَأْسٍ وَاحِدٍ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ، مَا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَمَا عَلَى الْأَرْضِ؛ وَفِيهِ أَيْضًا اخْتَارَنَا مِيرَاثًا لَهُ، وَقَدْ سَبَقَ فَحَدَدْنَا بِحَسَبِ قَصْدِهِ، هُوَ الَّذِي يَعْمَلُ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ بِقَضَاءِ مَشِيئَتِهِ، لِنَكُونَ مَدْحًا لِمَجْدِهِ، نَحْنُ الَّذِينَ سَبَقْنَا فَجَعَلَنَا فِي الْمَسِيحِ رَجَاءً؛ وَفِيهِ أَنْتُمْ أَيْضًا، بَعْدَ أَنْ سَمِعْتُمْ كَلِمَةَ الْحَقِّ، أَيْ إِنْجِيلَ خَلَاصِكُمْ، وَأَمَنْتُمْ، خُتِمْتُمْ بِالرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ الْمَوْعُودِ بِهِ، وَهُوَ غُرْبُونُ مِيرَاثِنَا، لِفِدَاءِ شَعْبِهِ الَّذِي أَقْتَنَاهُ، وَلِمَدْحِ مَجْدِهِ.

إنجيل القديس لوقا 1: 39-45

فِي تِلْكَ الْأَيَّامِ (بعد البشارة بيسوع)، قَامَتِ مَرْيَمُ وَذَهَبَتْ مُسْرِعَةً إِلَى الْجَبَلِ، إِلَى مَدِينَةٍ فِي يَهُودَا. وَدَخَلَتْ بَيْتَ زَكَرِيَّا، وَسَلَّمَتْ عَلَى إِلِيصَابَاتٍ. وَلَمَّا سَمِعَتْ إِلِيصَابَاتُ سَلَامَ مَرْيَمَ، أَرْتَكُضَ الْجَنِينُ فِي بَطْنِهَا، وَامْتَلَأَتْ مِنَ الرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ. فَهَتَفَتْ بِأَعْلَى صَوْتِهَا وَقَالَتْ: «مُبَارَكَةٌ أَنْتِ فِي النِّسَاءِ، وَمُبَارَكَةٌ ثَمَرَةُ بَطْنِكَ! وَمِنْ أَيْنَ لِي هَذَا، أَنْ تَأْتِيَ إِلَيَّ أُمُّ رَبِّي؟ فَهَا مُنْذُ وَقَعَ صَوْتُ سَلَامِكَ فِي أُذُنِي، أَرْتَكُضَ الْجَنِينُ أَبْتِهَاجًا فِي بَطْنِي! فَطُوبَى لِلَّتِي آمَنْتَ أَنَّهُ سَيَتِمُّ مَا قِيلَ لَهَا مِنْ قِبَلِ الرَّبِّ!». »

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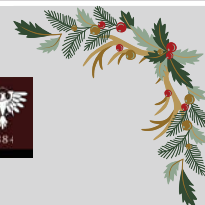
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