



# St. Michael the Archangel Maronite Catholic Church

806 Arsenal Avenue  
Fayetteville, NC 28305  
Office: 910 - 484 - 1531



**Email:** [stmikeoffice@gmail.com](mailto:stmikeoffice@gmail.com) **website:** [stmichaelsmaronite.net](http://stmichaelsmaronite.net) December 3, 2023

## VISITATION OF THE VIRGIN MARY TO ELIZABETH



### Visitation to Elizabeth

The third Sunday of the Season of the Announcement commemorates another important event in the unfolding of the Promise of God: Mary went to visit her cousin Elizabeth.

After receiving such a tremendous good news, Mary could have secluded herself in a life of prayer and contemplation. However, after the angel of the Lord communicated the news of Elizabeth's conception to her, Mary perceived it as the Lord's will that she goes to be with Elizabeth, and thus chose to share the divine life within her with another. Mary shared Jesus with others even before His birth. The fundamental task of an apostle is to share Jesus with others, and so, Mary is called the Queen of the Apostles.

Impelled by the Spirit of God, Mary left on a journey that required four days of difficult travel, especially for a poor girl such as herself. Yet, as the Mother of God and our Mother, she was already concerned for the welfare of others.

When Mary encountered Elizabeth, the unborn infant in her womb leapt for joy, and Elizabeth herself was filled with the Spirit and sang of the blessedness of Mary.

Mary is blessed, not simply because she was to be the Mother of God, but also because of her own personal faith. She heard the words of the angel and accepted everything that was to happen with humility. For this reason, she is blessed throughout the ages.

The hymn of Mary differs from that of Zachariah. Zachariah's hymn is communal: He is proclaiming gratitude to God on behalf of all the people of Israel. On the other hand, Mary's hymn is personal, "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord. . . ." She is humbly proclaiming the great things that God has done for her. In humility, the Virgin of Nazareth proclaims how great the Lord has made her by choosing her to be the Mother of His Son. The hymn of Mary announces a three fold revolution which God will bring about through His Son: It is moral "He has confused the proud."; social "He has deposed the mighty from their thrones.... "; and economic ". . . The hungry He has given every good thing. . .".

To be called by God for any task, brings with it a crown of sorrow and a crown of joy. God chooses us not for our own glorification, but in order to use us to bring about His Kingdom. Like Mary, Let us respond with humility and be grateful to God for choosing us as His instruments.

(Maronite Prayer of the Faithful, Volume 1)

#### CLERGY

Fr. Paul Damien, Pastor

Fr. Jack Morrison  
(retired)

#### PARISH OFFICE

#### HOURS:

Tuesday, Thursday,  
Friday

10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

#### LITURGY / MASS :

Tues - Fri: 9:00 am

Saturday: 5:00 PM

Sunday: 10:30 AM

#### Office Email:

[stmikeoffice@gmail.com](mailto:stmikeoffice@gmail.com)

#### Facebook:

Saint Michael the  
Archangel Maronite  
Catholic Church



## PRAYER CHAIN

Please contact Lucy Zahran or call church office to **join the prayer chain** or with **prayer requests**

### “VISITATION OF THE VIRGIN TO ELIZABETH ”

**Saturday Dec. 2- 5:00 PM:** for Rocco Lupo (5) by Christian & Kelly Lupo

**Sunday Dec 3- 10:30 AM:** for Lu Mullin intentions ( church organist) by Fr. Paul Damien

Tuesday	Dec 5	9:00 am	St. Saba the Hermit (C)	For DON TRUONG by Dieu LY
Wednesday	Dec 6	9:00 am	St. Nicholas (Zakhia) (C)	(RIP) Elias Damien by Desiree & Fr. Paul Damien
Thursday	Dec 7	9:00 am	St. Ambrose, Doctor of the Church (C)	For DON TRUONG by Dieu LY
Thursday	Dec 7	6:30 Pm	<b>The Immaculate Conception Vigil</b>	For the Winfield family intentions
Friday	Dec 8	9:00 am	<b>The Immaculate Conception</b>	For Kim Ngan Nguyen intentions by Thanh & Han Vo

### “BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST”

**Saturday Dec 9- 5:00 PM:** for Thanh & Han Vo intentions

**Sunday Dec 10 - 10:30 AM:** (RIP) Mikey Hicks by Margaret Grantonic & family

#### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Sign up today, at the church entrance for a Holy Hour!



Every Thursday  
9:30 am - 2:00pm  
Rosary for Peace @ 9:30 am

#### CATHOLIC SOCIAL MINISTRIES

Place your donation of Peanut butter & jelly in the basket next to the Confessional.

Oct. Donations :  
197 lbs.

## READERS

12/2	Lynn Vaughan	12/3	Marie Catalana
12/9	Kathy Criminger	12/10	Stacie Ferry
12/16	Christian Lupo	12/17	Jason Byrne
12/23	Kimberly Phelan	12/24	Betty Gurney

#### SCRIPTURE

Visitation of the Virgin to Elizabeth  
Eph 1: 1-14/ Lk 1: 39-45

The Birth of John The Baptist

Gal 4: 21-5: 1/ Lk 10: 57-66

Revelation to Joseph

Eph 3: 1-13/ Mt 1: 18-25



To be listed as Reader, please text **Kim Phelan @ 352-317-8529** or email [consecrated2021@gmail.com](mailto:consecrated2021@gmail.com) or the church office

#### GIFTS OF THANKSGIVING

Offer the Incense, Candles and Wine for one month in memory/honor of someone for a \$25 donation.

**December**

**In Loving Remembrance  
of Mrs. Lucy Zahran & Mr. James Reale  
by Marie Catalana**

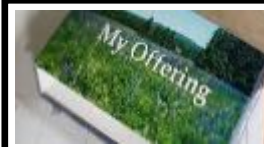
Thank You



Collections	TBD
Christmas Poinsettias	TBD
Donations to MYO retreat	TBD
Ladies Guild	TBD

## 2nd Collection Reminder

December 25, 2023 (Christmas)- Pastor's Collection  
(This 2nd collection is a Christmas gift for the Pastor's personal use. ( this year it will go to help needy people)



**\*\*2024 weekly envelopes box set are ready for pickup.\*\* In case you do not have a box let us know please. (we have extras)**

### Custom Handmade Rosaries



Handcrafted to order by **Ace Acevedo**  
Premade Rosaries, as well as a complete list of all available styles, are in the social hall by the Ladies Guild gift counter!  
**All proceeds benefit the Parish!**



**We need volunteers to clean the church on a weekly basis.**



### CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS

The Christmas Flower Donation envelopes are now available. Flowers could be in memory of deceased loved ones, or in honor of a loved one, or even in thanksgiving for special graces.

### ONLINE GIVING



### VOCATION CHALICE

12/2  
12/3  
12/9:  
12/10:

**Volunteer**  
**Ray Miller**  
**Volunteer**  
**Connie Reidlinger**



**If your family would like to volunteer to pray for Vocations to Religious Life , please text or email Kimberly P. @ (352)317-8529 or [consecrated2021@gmail.com](mailto:consecrated2021@gmail.com)**



**DEC 13:** join us for hot chocolate and cookies from 5:30 to 7:00 pm as the children decorate the Christmas tree in the social hall. ( classes to follow the event)

**DEC 23:** Christmas pageant REHEARSAL

**DEC 24:** Christmas Pageant play after Sunday Morning mass @ 10:30 am

**ANGEL TREE GIFTS:** please bring gifts for any age and drop them in the social hall before Dec. 13th if possible. We will make sure to deliver the gifts to the children that are in need for something special on Christmas.



### FROM THE LADIES GUILD

- If you would like to **PURCHASE** trays of cookies, use this link to **PRE-ORDER**. All sales are pre-order. They are excellent gifts and **\$15** which is due at pick-up. Use this link: <https://signup.com/go/TxQdQGz>
- **Hostess for our traveling Blessed Mother Rosary for December is Ann Williams on the 7th.**
- **Seven Sisters: Same as last week**



- Please do not read the bulletin in the church.

-No walking back and forth during Scripture & Gospel Readings, during the Consecration & Invocation of the Holy Spirit. Wait at the entrance until done then go back to your seat.

- **crossing of legs** is not allowed . This is not a prayerful position. Seated, standing and kneeling are the prayer positions.

- **the Sign of Peace** is not a kiss on the mouth . It comes from the Altar and is shared by **closed hands** among people. The kiss of Peace given on the cheeks is not recommended in our tradition.

*We need to set a good example for our children and our guests. Thank You.*



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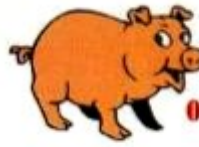
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*Congratulations to St. Michael Archangel  
Ladies Guild, established in 2013,  
celebrating 11 years of service. Committed  
to "promoting the work of the Church &  
building a spiritual community of faith  
within the Parish."* AD BY: **MJ**

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Nick J. Poulos - Owner



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