



**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 31, 2023

## THE FINDING OF OUR LORD IN THE TEMPLE



### In HIS Father's House Lk 2:41-52)

A part of us might wonder why Mary and Joseph didn't understand what Jesus was up to; after all for the past twelve years they were with each other every day. They both were familiar with the supernatural, they had spiritual dreams, heard the voice of God, angels, and the Holy Spirit guiding them and giving them direction. Even still they didn't understand everything. We do not have the mind of God, we have His image, but we are not infinite in our knowledge and understanding.

There is no need for us to be filled with anxiety and shame in our searching and seeking understanding. As is sometimes said, there is no stupid question; stupidity comes in when we ignore the answer. Jesus does have the answer, not, always as one-line verse answer either. Sometimes the answers He gives takes three days of searching and looking, praying and petitioning. Sometimes it takes a whole lifetime for some questions to be answered.

We think we just figured out a few things and out of the blue something concerning our faith and God overwhelms us and leaves us feeling lost and wondering what is going on in the mind of God. Like Mary and Joseph, we might not notice that we are no longer traveling with Jesus, until we feel something missing in our lives.

Like them we need to retrace our steps and discover where He is, what He is doing. There are those who cannot find Jesus because they refuse to enter the places where He teaches and explains. Jesus is in His Father's House, His words are read and a reflection is heard day after day. God is everywhere, and what we see and experience daily is a gift from Him through His creation. As wonderful as this is, Mary and Joseph did not look to creation for a substitute for the presence of their son, but looked until they found Him and pondered the purpose of His Incarnation. Found in His Father's house, teaching the word. Anxiety became heartfelt pondering of the mystery of salvation.

God never requests something from us that doesn't have a powerful reason and blessing attached to it. We might not see or feel it right away, but the day will come when all that is good becomes fulfilled, and what is evil is destroyed. We walk by a loving faith that changes our self and all those around us

#### 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

**“THE FINDING OF OUR LORD IN THE TEMPLE”**

**Saturday Dec. 30- 5:00 PM:** for Thanh & Han Nguyen Anniversary & All Souls in Purgatory  
by Thanh & Han

**Sunday Dec 31- 10:30 AM:** (RIP– 7 days) Julia Damien by Desiree Damien & Rosemary Canone

Monday	Jan 1	<u>10:30 am</u>	<b>The Circumcision of Jesus– New Year</b>	
Tuesday	Jan 2	9:00 am	Pope St Silvester I	<b>(RIP) Tony Bou-Eid (Tampa)</b> by Fr. Paul Damien
Wednesday	Jan 3	9:00 am	Malachi the Prophet, C	<b>Kim Ngan Nguyen intentions</b> by Thanh & Han Vo
Thursday	Jan 4	9:00 am	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (USA), C	
Friday	Jan 5	9:00 Am	St. John Neumann, (USA), C	<b>For Thanh &amp; Han Nguyen Vo family</b> By Than & Han VO
Friday	Jan 5	<u>5:00 pm</u>	Vigil Mass Epiphany / Baptism	

**“Feast of the EPIPHANY - BAPTISM OF THE LORD ” - 1st Sunday**

**Saturday Jan 6- 5:00 PM:** **(Holy Day of Obligation)** .....

**Sunday Jan 7- 10:30 AM:** for a special intention by the Sherman’s

**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 : 103 lbs**

**READERS**

12/30	Lynn Vaughan	12/31	Ed Baez
1/6	Kathy Criminger	1/7	Marie Catalana
1/13	Volunteer	1/14	Annika Nesbitt
1//20	Rick Criste	1/21	Wayne Nesbitt

**SCRIPTURE**

**The Finding of Our Lord in the Temple**

**Heb 7: 11-19/ Lk 2:41-52**

**1st Sunday after Epiphany**

**2 Cor 10: 1-11/ Jn 1: 29-34**

**2nd Sunday after Epiphany**

**2 Cor 4: 5-15/ Jn 1: 35-42**



To be listed as Reader, please text **Kim Phelan @ 352-317-8529** or email **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.

**JANUARY 2024**

**PHILIP & EMMA MONTALDO**

Thank You



Collection : 3Collections	\$ 2541.00
Candles (3 weeks)	\$ 200.00
Christmas Poinsettias	\$ 120.00
Donation to MYO	\$ 100.00
Christmas Cookie Trays	\$ 1326.00

**2nd Collection– January 28**  
**United States Catholic Bishops’ Worldwide Charities**  
 (This collection combines the four USCCB collections: Central and Eastern Europe, the Church in Latin America, the Church in Africa, and Catholic Relief Services. The total is divided accordingly.)

**VOCATION CHALICE**

12/30: Volunteer  
 12/31: Bert Andres  
 1/6: Volunteer  
 1/7: Warren Hahn



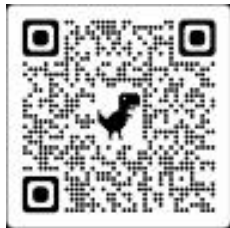
If your family would like to volunteer to pray for Vocations to Religious Life, please text or email Kimberly P. @ (352) 317-8529 or [consecrated2021@gmail.com](mailto:consecrated2021@gmail.com)

**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!**

**ONLINE GIVING**



**PRAYER CHAIN**

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

**RELIGIOUS ED**

**RCIA - ADULT DISCUSSION**

- \* CCD Classes will resume at 6:30pm on Wednesday January 3rd, 2024
- \* RCIA will resume on January 10th at 5:30 pm

**KNIGHTS CORNER**

Merry Christmas to all our parishioners and their families. The Knights have just completed our “Coats for Kids” Christmas project. We gave 38 coats to needy children at the Boys & Girls Club after school program, and 10 coats were donated to Fayetteville Urban Ministry to distribute to the needy children of Fayetteville. May God continue to Bless our efforts.

**FROM THE LADIES GUILD**



- Our next meeting is 14 January at Noon. Ladies Guild Annual dues will be collected and elections of officers will take place if we have a quorum.
- A big thank you to all that were able to assist with our Cookie Tray fundraiser. Details of the final numbers will be at our January meeting.
- We raised \$ 1326.00 for the church.



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



- 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.*



**SEVEN SISTERS**

The Apostolate is calling for four more women who would be willing to pray 1 hour, 1 day a week for our Bishop.

Contact [sferry84@verizon.net](mailto:sferry84@verizon.net) for details.



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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

## Warren Hahn Cape Fear Soap Box Derby



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**Steve & Rose Berti**

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# SUPERIOR BAKERY

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Nick J. Poulos - Owner



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