

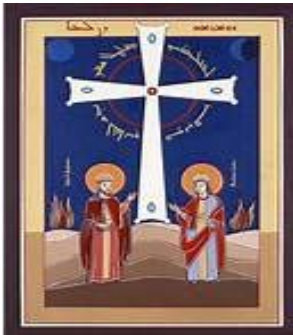


**St. Michael the Archangel
Maronite Catholic Church**
806 Arsenal Avenue
Fayetteville, NC 28305
Office: 910 - 484 - 1531



Email: stmikeoffice@gmail.com **website:** stmichaelsmaronite.net **October 22, 2023**

6TH SUNDAY AFTER HOLY CROSS



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

Facebook:

**Saint Michael the
Archangel Maronite
Catholic Church**

The Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30)

This parable is about saints in circulation. Jesus is addressing his followers. In Matthew's Gospel there are five major discourses attributed to Jesus, this parable is part of the last teaching block that begins in 24:1. Jesus and his disciples had just come out of the temple. His disciples were admiring the beautiful buildings when Jesus warned of the temple's coming destruction. Then they walked over to the Mount of Olives and Matthew says that the disciples came to him privately with their questions about the destruction of the temple and end of the age. That is the setting for these parables. This is private instruction to insiders. The judgment parables of Matthew 25 are not directed to the crowds, but to his disciples.

There are some troublesome elements to this parable that do not quite square with Jesus' earlier teachings in this Gospel and the ways in which he spoke of God. One difficult part is verse 30 where at the end of the parable the unfaithful servant who failed to use his master's money wisely is cast into "outer darkness" where there is "weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Another troublesome aspect of the parable is the way the unfaithful servant is described. He is called "wicked," "lazy," and "worthless" – descriptions that are totally uncharacteristic of the Jesus Matthew has described for us in his Gospel.

In the parable a master passes out money to his servants – actually a considerable amount of money – and puts them in charge of investing it while he is away. To one he give five talents, another two talents, and still to another one talent. A "talent" is a lot of money. One talent was equal to 30,000 denarii and a denarius was equal to a day's wage for a common worker. So the servant who was given one "talent" was given more money than a common worker could have earned in a lifetime.

We are also told that to each one of the servants the money was given according to his ability. The ability belonged to the servants; but the money belonged to the master. This is the master's money.

The parable prompts me to ask myself where I fit in the story? If I am honest I have to admit that I am not completely like the two servants who doubled the master's money, nor am I completely like the servant who did nothing with it. I am somewhere in between. Sometimes I am like the two faithful servants, and sometimes I am like the faithless one who did nothing with the master's money.

So when I stand before God to give an account – and I thoroughly expect to do so (I agree with Paul who told the Corinthian Christians that we must all stand before the judgment seat of Christ) – I fully expect to be evaluated, to be assessed, and I expect to be both commended and judged. I suspect I will be commended for some things and judged for some things and found wanting.



PRAYER CHAIN

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

“6TH SUNDAY AFTER HOLY CROSS” (2nd Collection: World Missions)

Saturday Oct 21- 5:00 PM: Marshall Howie by MJ & Warren Hahn & Patti Reynolds & family

Sunday Oct. 22- 10:30 AM: (RIP) Anna Hay Pham & Roco An Pham by Mrs. Sherman

Tuesday	Oct 24	9:00 am	St. Arethas (Hares) and His Companions, M	Special Intention by MJ Fredette Hahn
Wednesday	Oct 25	9:00 am	St. Chrysanthus and His Wife Daria, M	For Kim Ngan Nguyen intentions by Thanh & Han Vo
Thursday	Oct 26	9:00 am	St. Demetrius, M	For the intentions of David Poindexter By Mr. & Mrs. Sherman
Friday	Oct 27	9:00 am	Sts. Capitolina and Eroteis of Cappadocia, M	For the intentions of Thanh & Han Vo by Thanh & Han Vo

“SUNDAY OF CHRIST THE KING”

Saturday Oct. 28- 5:00 PM: All Souls in Purgatory by Thanh & Han Vo

Sunday Oct. 29- 10:30 AM: Michael Jabbour (memorial) by Dee Ellwood & 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.

Sept. Donations :
191 lbs.

READERS

10/21	Lynn Vaughan	10/22	Marie Catalana
10/28	Christian Lupo	10/29	Ray Miller
11/4	Kathy Criminger	11/5	Chris Cooper
11/11	Anne Williams	11/12	Ace Acevedo

SCRIPTURE

6th Sunday after Holy Cross
Gal 6: 1-11/ Mt 25: 14-30

Sunday of Christ the King
Rom 12: 9-21/ Mt 25: 31-46

Consecration of the Church
Heb 9: 1-12/ Mt 16: 13-20



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.

October

In Thanksgiving

By Jason & Linda Christopher



Collections (2 weeks)	\$ 2751.00
Bulletin Ad	\$ 200.00
Contribution - restricted	\$ 2000.00
Building Fund	\$ 500.00
September (DEFICIT)	\$ - 1365.00

(page 1 - continue) Should we worry or be anxious? No because God is always looking out for our good even in judgment. God’s judgment is not like so much human judgment that is punitive and retributive. God really does seek our good. So whatever “outer darkness” I must walk through it will function to open my life to the light of God’s love and grace and enable that light to shine through me more visibly. Whatever “weeping and gnashing of teeth” I experience, whatever suffering I undergo it will only serve to move me along the path to greater spiritual maturity, integrity, and depth of character.

Custom Handmade Rosaries

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by the Ladies Guild gift counter!

All proceeds benefit the



2nd Collection - REMINDER:

October 22 - World Mission Sunday (91% goes to Society for the Propagation of the Faith and 9% to the Catholic Near East Welfare Association - CNEWA : Help for the Christians in the Middle East)

ONLINE GIVING



VOCATION CHALICE

10/21: Volunteer
 10/22: Marie Catalana
 10/28: Volunteer
 10/29: Ray Miller



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

SEVEN SISTERS

We are asking 5 more women to prayerfully consider offering to take one hour a week to cover our bishop in prayer. Please contact sferry84@verizon.net for more detail.



We need your help cleaning the church on a weekly basis or every other week. Mr. Ray Miller who did volunteer for almost 20 years to do the job is retiring and we need new volunteers to take over. Please let “Abouna” know if you can help.

FROM THE LADIES GUILD



- Traveling Rosary is this Tuesday 24 Oct after Liturgy in the Social Hall hosted by Melissa and MJ.
- Prayers books are at the rear of the Church. Please take one set per member.



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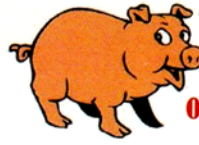
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*Congratulations to St. Michael Archangel
Ladies Guild, established in 2013,
celebrating 11years of service. Committed
to "promoting the work of the Church &
building a spiritual community of faith
within the Parish."* AD BY: **MJ**

Warren Hahn

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