



St. Michael the Archangel

Maronite Catholic Church

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Fayetteville, NC 28305

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Nov 28 - Dec. 4, 2020

Visitation to Elizabeth



The season of the Glorious Birth of our Lord (which means in Syriac “happy announcements”), consists of two parts. It begins with six Sundays in which the liturgies repeat the theme that the Lord is coming in joy to reconcile humankind. They are:

- 1- Announcement to Zachariah
- 2- Announcement to Mary
- 3- Mary Visits Elizabeth
- 4- Birth of John the Baptizer
- 5- Revelation to Joseph
- 6- Genealogy Sunday

Each of these Sundays consecutively announces and prepares for the Birth of Jesus, the Savior. From the Announcement of Zachariah to Genealogy Sunday news of the Lord’s incarnation is given to various individuals who had been awaiting the Messiah’s coming. The final announcement is made by the “Watchers in Glory” to all of creation of the Feast of the birth of our Lord: “Glory to God on high and peace and good hope to all people. Today the Church rejoices as she hears the announcement of the birth of the Anointed One. Today the creator returns to make the land a palace and of the seas a Kingdom. Flow happy is this day forever.”

CLERGY

Fr. Paul Damien, Pastor
Deacon Chuck VanHeusen
Subdeacon Ronald Foster

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday through Friday

10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

LITURGY:

Saturday: 5:00 PM

Sunday: 10:30 AM

Sunday: 12:30 PM (w/mask)

Office Email: (Mary)

stmikeoffice@gmail.com

Facebook: Saint Michael
the Archangel Maronite
Catholic Church

This Christmas season, give a gift that will last, a gift that will endure long after you are gone. "Practice random kindness and senseless acts of beauty." Go ahead, try it! It will shock you only a bit. I'm sure it will astound others, too, and I am certain it will startle the world around you. Go ahead, practice kindness anyway. The world could use a jolt such as this.

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******Sunday of the Visitation to Elizabeth****

Saturday, Nov 28 - 5:00 PM : AVAILABLE

Sunday, Nov 29 - 10: 30 AM (40 day mass) Jonathan Gabriel Levine

by Dan, Emily, Charlotte, Nicole & Samuel Levine

Sunday, Nov 29 - 12: 30 AM : AVAILABLE

2nd Collection - Catholic University of America - Sunday, Nov 29th

Tuesday	Dec . 1	9:00 am	Fr. Paul	Lien Sherman (birthday) by Than & Han VO
			Fr. Jack	Donors & Intentions of the Catholic Extension Society
Wednesday	Dec . 2	9:00 am	Fr. Paul	All Souls in Purgatory by Than & Han Vo
			Fr. Jack	Donors & Intentions of the Catholic Extension Society
Thursday	Dec. 3	9:00 am	Fr. Paul	AVAILABLE
			Fr. Jack	Donors & Intentions of the Catholic Extension Society
Friday	Dec. 4	9:00 am	Fr. Paul	AVAILABLE
			Fr. Jack	Donors & Intentions of the Catholic Extension Society

******Sunday of the Birth of John the Baptist ****

Saturday, Dec. 5 - 5:00 PM : AVAILABLE

Sunday, Dec. 6 - 10: 30 AM Billie Joe Southern (1 year anniversary) by Jesse & Maria Southern

Sunday, Dec. 6 - 12: 30 AM : AVAILABLE

**SCRIPTURE
READINGS**

**Sunday of the Visitation to
Elizabeth**

Eph 1:1-14 / Lk 1:39-45

Birth of John the Baptist

Gal 4:21 - 5:1 / LK 1:57-66

Revelation to Joseph

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



READERS

11/28: Darlene Darling **11/29:** Ray Miller

12/6: Rick Criste **12/7:** Chris Cooper

*Please contact Subdeacon Ron Foster 818-8682 with preferred dates to read during the month of December especially for the

Congratulations!

We welcome into our Catholic faith CODY WATLINGTON who received the mysteries of Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion last Saturday.

May God bless you abundantly

Yard Sale income to date:	\$ 1615.00
Tithes & Offerings	\$ 2366.00
Fuel Fund	\$ 85.00
Candles	\$ 33.00

GIFTS OF THANKSGIVING

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

DECEMBER GIFT OF THANKSGIVING

For the souls of James Reale & Lucy Zahran By Marie Reale

LIVE STREAM ON FACEBOOK / HALL

Every Sunday Divine Liturgy is being live-streamed on Facebook and in the Social Hall to help families who may need to take their little ones out of the Church for a time and for social distancing.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Mark your calendars for **Friday December 18th**. We welcome help from parishioners with preparation of props, costumes and music. Call Marie VanHeusen 988-3499

ADORATION

Spend some time with our Lord in **Eucharistic Adoration every Thursday from 9:30am till 6:00pm (recitation of the Rosary and Benediction begins at 6:00 PM)**.

IMPORTANT ALERT

Several St Michael's parishioners have received text messages that say they are from Fr. Paul asking for help. **These are scam messages!** Do not respond and report them to your phone carrier and the authorities!

VOCATION CHALICE

11/28: Volunteer
11/29: Connie Reidlinger
12/5: Volunteer
12/6: Ace & Patty Acevedo

*Now, more than ever, the Church is in need of young men and women eager to commit their lives to serving the Church through the priesthood and religious life. Please consider taking the Vocation Chalice into your home.

Christmas Poinsettias

Every Christmas our church looks beautiful when decorated with poinsettias. You can make your donation in memory of a loved one, for a special intention and for a family member or a friend. Thank You.

ANGEL TREE

Every Christmas St Michael's Parish sponsors an Angel Tree: gift giving to children in the Fayetteville Area who are in need of loving attention. This year we are working with the Cumberland County Social Services to provide for 60 children in the Foster Care Program. Please consider taking an angel! **All gifts should be returned NLT weekend of 5 - 6 December please!**

BREAKFAST PROGRAM

We support **Operation InAsMuch** helping to serve breakfast to the homeless. Call Ray Miller 580-0396 if interested in serving on Tuesday, December 1st or in the future.

PRAYER CHAIN: Please contact Lucy Zahran thru the church office with all prayer requests.

CVH

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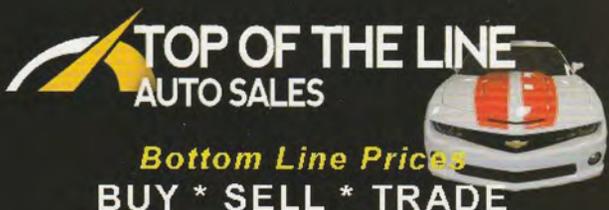
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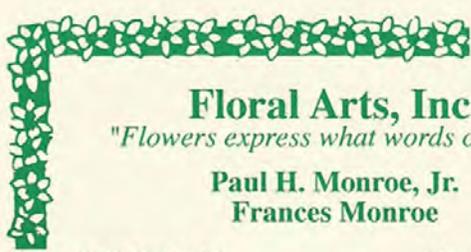


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Kenneth P. Berti
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Steve & Rose Berti

Adult Stem Cells Provide the Answer

Stem cell research represents one of the most exciting and promising frontiers for treating people with a myriad of diseases and conditions. Indeed, stem cell research and treatments represent perhaps mankind's greatest opportunity to fulfill that ancient call to "heal the sick," relieve suffering and improve the quality of life for untold millions of people.

However, a vitally important distinction must be made between adult stem cells and embryonic stem cells.

Adult stem cells are a "natural" and ethical solution (and are encouraged by the Church). They naturally exist in our bodies, and they provide a natural repair mechanism for many tissues of our bodies. For example, adult stem cells can be harvested from bone marrow, cord blood, and other tissues. Most importantly, adult stem cells have already been successfully used in human therapies for many years and continuous and rapid advances are being made to treat an increasing number of illnesses.

In stark contrast, embryonic stem cells are unethical and despite enormous investment over many years, they have been unsuccessful as they tend to cause tumors and immune system reactions. As of this moment, no therapies in humans have ever been successfully carried out using embryonic stem cells.

Kansas is becoming a leader in the development of adult stem cells area, creating a comprehensive adult stem cell therapy center. Started in July 2013, the Midwest Stem Cell Therapy Center at the University of Kansas Medical Center has already set up its lab and treated its first patients. The latest? "Stressing" normal adult cells to transform them into embryonic-like stem cells (similar to induced stem cells that won the Nobel Prize in 2012). This avoids the unethical problems of using embryonic stem cells and promises to solve the adverse reactions associated with embryonic stem cells. An acid bath or stretching quickly makes stem cells -- ethically -- and without creating or destroying embryos.

Pro-Life Articles

Spiritual Thoughts :

The lingering question, as we honor the Lord on his birthday, is why was he accepted by so few? Was he so strange that they could not recognize him? Was he so different that he was beyond their expectations? No. The problem was that he was too much like them. So many had already decided how God should act, how He should come among them. They had forgotten that the Lord had spoken through Isaiah: ***"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways."*** (Isaiah 55:8)Nazareth, The Annunciation, The Incarnation, they are our warnings to keep ourselves open to the Lord, wherever and however He may manifest Himself. He is the God of surprises who comes in amazing ways. The apostle Nathaniel wondered, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" He was told, "Come and see." Be surprised, be amazed, and be open. He is Emmanuel – God with us. But in ways we did not expect. (Fr. B.C)



The St Michael's Youth have been busy serving others this fall. In October they gathered to cook 27 spaghetti dinners that were boxed and taken along with 30 snack bags to the homeless of Fayetteville.

This week the MYO gathered again to fill thirty seven Thanksgiving Blessing Bags for the residents in the Fayetteville Veteran's Home as well as preparing "Pilgrim Hat" Potted Plants for six of our homebound parishioners. Thank you to our St Michael's Youth for their caring hearts!

Teens and some adults carved four pumpkins at our Annual Parish Pumpkin Carving Party that were delivered in time for Halloween to St Michael's Parishioners who are homebound during this difficult times.