



St. Michael the Archangel Maronite Catholic Church

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



Email: stmikemcc@embarqmail.com **website:** stmichaelsmaronite.net **December 4 - 5, 2021**

Birth of John the Baptist

Who is John the Baptist and why is his role so essential in this season?

John is referred to as the forerunner, a messenger of God and the last Prophet. All the previous prophets in some way revealed God's plan. John is the last prophet because he was the one that would finally reveal Jesus' true identity.

As we saw at the Visitation last week, he revealed Christ's identity while he was still in his mother's womb.

The birth of John the Baptist itself was prophesized. John's ministry fulfilled a prophecy of the Old Testament. In Isaiah 40 it was prophesized that someone would prepare the way for the Lord.

Our liturgy also highlights the role of John.

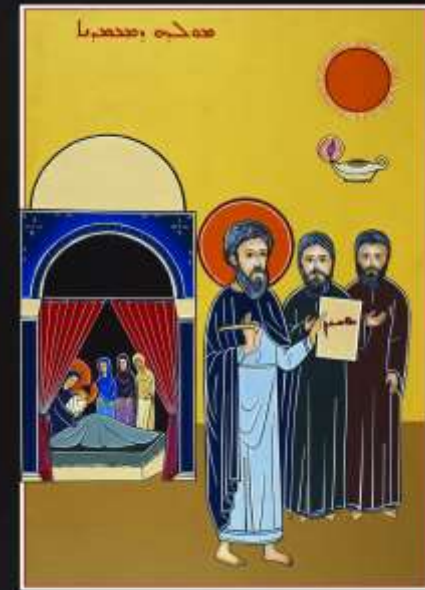
"You will go prepare the way before the Lord, who will come to save the world." Entrance Hymn

John is preparing the way for Jesus, he asks the people to repent their sins and baptizes them in the river Jordan.

In the Jewish wedding tradition, a friend or witness goes to 'prepare the way' for the groom and to announce his coming to the bridal household so they are on notice and can prepare themselves for the groom's coming.

Similarly, John was sent as friend and witness to arrange things before Jesus' arrival. The announcement is not for the groom's sake, rather it for the household's sake. The Forerunner was sent so that the community, the household of God, could prepare themselves for Christ's coming. In the same way, John is calling us, the Church, to prepare ourselves for the coming of Christ the "beloved Son!" (Matthew 3:17).

So in the lead up to Christmas what are you doing to prepare yourself and your family for Christ's coming? Over the next few weeks you may consider fasting, focusing on your prayer life, forgiving people who have hurt you, seeking forgiveness from those you have hurt, going to Mass more regularly, praying the rosary as a family, giving to the poor and doing works of mercy



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

Office Email: (Marie)

stmikeoffice@gmail.com

Facebook:

Saint Michael the Archangel
Maronite Catholic Church

***"Blessed be the Lord, the God of
Israel; He has come to His
people and set them free."
~ Canticle of Zechariah***

INSIDE this ISSUE

Church Information	1
Mass / Liturgical	2
Parish Activities	3
Ads / Prayer for the Synod	4-6

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

Saturday, December 4 - 5:00 PM: Michael Andersen (Memorial) By Warren and MJ Hahn

Sunday, December 5 - 10: 30 AM: Elias Damien (1 Year Memorial) By Abouna Paul Damien

We Share Special: We-share will match all “New” \$50 reoccurring monthly donations on our site (up to a total of \$1000) St Michael’s on-line giving option at <https://stmichaelsmaronite.weshareonline.org>

Tuesday	Dec. 7	9:00 am	St. Ambrose Doctor of the Church	AVAILABLE
Tuesday Vigil Mass	Dec. 7	6:30 pm	The Immaculate Conception Vigil	For all the Expectant Mothers of our Parish
Wednesday Holy Day	DEC 8	9:00 am	The Immaculate Conception	Kim Nguyen (Intentions) By Thanh and Han Vo - Nguyen
Thursday	Dec 9	9:00 am	St. Francis of Paola	AVAILABLE
Friday	Dec 10	9:00 am	Pope St. Miltiades	Intentions of Lien Tran By Thanh and Han Vo - Nguyen

*****Revelation to Joseph*****

Saturday, December 11 - 5:00 PM: AVAILABLE

Sunday, December 12 - 10: 30 AM: Mary Louise Saieed (Memorial) By Joseph and Kathy Kannan and Mary Alice DeMoli

**When not listed Fr Jack will offer his Masses for William O’Neil Jr.
By request through the Catholic Extension Society**

MASS INTENTIONS / MASS CARDS

Call Parish Office to request Divine Liturgy (Mass) Intention.
Mass Cards are also available upon request.

READERS

12/4: Darlene Darling 12/5: Ed Baez
12/11: MJ Hahn 12/12: Betty Gurney
12/18: Nels Kinnerup 12/19: Josh Deason

**SCRIPTURE
READINGS**

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

Genealogy Sunday
Rom 1:1-12 / Mt 1:1-17



GIFTS OF THANKSGIVING

Make a donation to offer the Incense, Candles and Wine for one month in memory or to honor of someone.

**DECEMBER GIFT OF
THANKSGIVING**

**In Loving Remembrance of
Jim and Lucy Zahran
By Marie Reale –Catalana**

Tithes & Offerings	\$ 1889.00
Candles	\$ 14.00
Fuel	\$ 20.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 35.00

God Bless You for your support!

SUNDAY SOCIAL HOUR HOST SCHEDULE

December 5th	Kim Phelan, Betty Gurney & Ed Baez
December 12th	Gabby Parkhurst
December 19th	Lucy Zahran and Patty Reynolds
December 26th	Ray and JoAnn Miller



Dates open in the New Year

RELIGIOUS ED ADULT DISCUSSION

Religious Education & Adult Discussion Group
Every Wednesday Evening
beginning at 6:30PM
in the parish social hall.

*Adults will be discussing the Synodal Process.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL MINISTRIES

St. Michael's has been asked to contribute **jams/ jellies and peanut butter (ANY SIZE)**

Place donations in the basket of church



NOV. total was 47lbs.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Bill Hoadley, John Page, Josh Deason, Carissa Finney, Don Matheson, Tom Piner, Carson Duncan, Carol Kannan, Teresa Piner, Steve Berti, Travis Blalock, Ricky Butcher, Gunnar Nesbitt, Paddy Kenny, Clementine Stoeckley, Erica Talley, Ryan Palmer and Tresa VanHeusen



DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Ron and Wanda Foster (55 years) **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!**
Scott and Melissa Dinse
Thanh and Han Vo-Nguyen



ADORATION

Every Thursday
9:30am - 6:00pm
Rosary & Benediction begin at 6pm



Please sign up today, at the church entrance to spend an hour with our Lord!

To fall in love with God is the greatest romance; to seek him the greatest adventure; to find him, the greatest human achievement.
~ Saint Augustine

VOCATIONS CHALICE

12/4 Volunteer
12/5: Grantonic Family
12/11: Volunteer
12/12: Hahn Family



*The Church needs men & women eager to commit their lives to serving the Church through the priesthood & religious life.
Consider taking the Vocation Chalice into your home for a week.

PRAYER CHAIN

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



CHRISTMAS FOOD CARDS



The Knights of Columbus are collecting donations for Food Gift Cards.

The Knights purchase \$35.00 cards from Carlie C's IGA.

The cards are distributed among the needy in the Parish, to Catholic Charities, and to Urban Ministries. Contact Jon Deason (737-701-7547) or Chris Cooper (910-850-4841) to make a donation.

If you are writing a check make it payable to St Michael Church.

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, for a Family member or a friend.

St. Michael Maronite Church
Children's Christmas Pageant
Save the Date

Friday, December 17th
(following the Christmas Novena at 6:30 PM)



St. Michael Archangel Ladies Guild

Supporting our Parish Family with
Spiritual & Social Activities

Since 2013

Open to All Ladies 18yrs & older

Join Us 12:00 Noon on the
2nd Sunday of every month

“Come & See !”



“Hand Made Rosaries”

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Premade Rosaries, as well as a
complete list of all available
styles, are in the social hall by
the Ladies Guild gift counter!



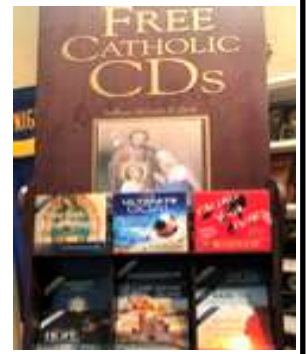
All proceeds go to the Parish!

Fellowship / Refreshments - Free Catholic CDs



Take a minute following our Sunday Divine
Liturgy to join us in the Social Hall
For some light refreshments, conversation
and to check out our Free CDs.

There's a slot on the rack for those
who want to donate to this ministry!



Monastic Creations Co.

Tresa Van Heusen

info@MonasticCreations.org
www.MonasticCreations.org



Prayer for the Synod: *Adsumus Sancte Spiritus*

As we embrace this Synodal Process, this prayer invites the Holy Spirit to be at work in us so that we may be a community and a people of grace. For the Synodal journey from 2021 to 2023.

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.

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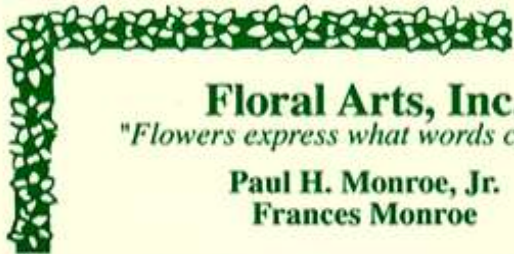
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