

January 4, 5, 2014
The Finding of Our Lord in the Temple



ST. ELIAS MARONITE CHURCH

Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles

836 8th Street South Birmingham, AL 35205-4567
Rectory/Office 205 251-5057 Church Hall 252-3867 Fax 251-5028

www.stelias.org

Chorbishop Richard D. Saad, Pastor
Rev. Mr. Samuel J. Wehby, Deacon

Liturgy Schedule

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 8:00 am and 10:30 am

Daily 8:00 am Holy Days 7:00 pm (eve) and 8:00 am

Confessions: Saturday 4:00 pm or anytime upon request.

Saturday, January 4, 2014

5:00 pm

Saloie Wehby req. by George and Ann Stephen

Sunday, January 5, 2014

8:00 am

Michael Childress (anniv.) req. by the Family

10:30am

Saidie B. Egeland (1st anniv .) req. by the Family

Liturgy Schedule and Intentions

(Daily Liturgy – 8:00 am)

Monday- **Epiphany – Holyday** -bring water jar
8 am Nasri and Jackie Akl req. by Joey and Mirna Chbeir (zlaybee feast to follow)
5 pm Ross Gagliano (anniv.) req. by the Family (no zlaybee)
Tuesday- Saloie Wehby req. by Nevrik Bahakel
Wednesday- **10 am Ladies Altar Society**
Thursday- Marguerite Panopoulos req. by Jean Ann Hancock and Juanita
Friday – Mary Y. Saad (anniv.)req. by the Saad Family

Saturday, January 11, 2014

5:00 pm

Jean Wehby (anniv.) req. by the Family

Sunday, January 12, 2014

8:00 am

Norman J. Azar req. by Norman and Lisa Bolus

10:30 am

Saide Akl (anniv.) req. by the Family

Today at St. Elias

10:10am Rosary

**2nd Collection for Catholic Communications
SICK CORNER**

Please pray for our parish sick: Carol & Cyril Bergeron, Stephen Dabney, George & June Gray, Eddie & Joyce Mizerany, Sierre Zaidan, Georgia Shalhoop, George& Ann Stephen, Hixie Stephens, Sheila Wadsworth, Ron Matthews, Leslie Smith, Zyne Family. St. Elias will NOT list the name of our parish sick unless it is specifically requested to be on the Sick List. Call 251-5057 to be on our list.

Join the **Prayer Shawl Ministry** group for knitting, crocheting, and praying. Planned meetings are the 1st Wednesday of the month after the Altar Society luncheon. Call Pat Numnum (408-7411) or Renee Ritchey (942-2202) for more info.

The Saint Elias Columbarium: The Niches in the Columbarium are for sale. If interested, please come to the Church Office or contact Louis Josof or Mary Milton. Trappist Monks urns are now for sale here.

The St. Elias Centennial Brick Walkway extends from the Northside parking lot to the Grotto. Purchase your brick today to be a lasting part of your Church. You can pick up your form in the church office. **See new Bricks that have been installed!**

Bishop Elias to visit us! Bishop Elias will make his first visit to St. Elias on the weekend of March 29-30, 2014. Details of the weekend will be announced later.

The **bulletin and calendar** are back on the web in color! Go to www.stelias.org to see the new website. It is still a work in progress, but we think you will be pleased to see our new webpage.

Kitchen Renovation Update: The Church Kitchen is almost finished!!

1. The new kitchen is finished in its construction phase. Some tables will be replaced with smaller ones to give us more room on the main floor.
2. The kitchen has undergone the fire and city inspections.
3. A special church committee will overlook the placement of items in the lower kitchen.

Endowment Fund The only loan the church has ever had (for the capital campaign construction projects) has been paid off. Fulfillment of your pledge commitments and future contributions made, including memorials, will now go toward funding the endowment. The Endowment Fund will ensure that money will be available in the future for major improvements or repairs to the church property. Thank you for your generosity and we will look forward to the “burning of the mortgage!”

Parish contribution envelopes are available in the back of the church. If you were missed, there are more available in the church office. Maronite calendars are also available – please, one per family. **Attention: All young adults** who are working and on your own – we would love for you to get your own parish contribution envelopes from the church office and start contributing to your parish.

This week at St. Elias:

Wednesday: 10 am Ladies Altar Society Liturgy followed by Installation of Officers and Lunch at the Southside Pita Stop.

Wednesday: 5:30 pm Pastoral Council

Second Banns of Marriage are announced for John Gerard Joseph, Jr. of St. Elias and Marie Victoria George of St. Bede's in Montgomery.

We are looking for more people to help with **Project Roots**. People wanting to work can call Michel Wehby or Chorbishop Richard. Workers will be paid by the Project Roots program for each family.

NAM Breakfast January 19 at 9:00 am....more details in next week's bulletin!

“And He said to them ‘Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?’ But they did not understand what He said to them. He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and His mother kept all these things in her heart.” Luke 2:49-51

Announcements

YOUTH CORNER: Check out our web site at www.maroniteyouth.com

Check out the Pope's website: Pope2you.net.

Jr. MYO: Thanks to the Henleys for the after-Christmas party; 3-5 pm today

MYO: Thanks for coming to the retreat. Progressive dinner January 19.

MYA: Thanks for coming to the retreat. Next meeting January 14 at 7:00 pm.

STEWARDSHIP

*"For where your treasure is,
there also will your heart be."* Luke 12:34

CONTRIBUTIONS:

December 29, 2013: \$25,524.60

Christmas \$3,029.00

Capital Campaign update: Pledges: \$2,981,954;

Received: \$2,623,266; Outstanding: \$358,688

School Subsidy Reminder to parents of children who are subsidized to pay subsidy for your children as soon as possible. **Don't forget!** Your church, St. Elias, is paying for your child every month. All subsidies must be in my April, 2014.

Remember your Church in your gift giving.

St. Elias already has an account set up to receive stock donations at Wells Fargo. Gifts of other appreciated assets such as land, antiques, and homes can be utilized as potential gifts with tax benefits. Consult your accountant to pursue these options.

St. Elias is still looking to obtain any property on 9th Avenue South that would benefit us in the future.

Bishop Shaheen created the **Legacy Society** to recognize individuals who name the Eparchy or a parish with Eparchy as a beneficiary in a will or estate plan. Please remember your Eparchy and parish.

Altar flowers may be donated by calling LaVonne Williamson.

The new St. Elias parish directories are available in the church office! Inserts only are \$5. A new binder with an insert is \$10. Please call Mary Milton at 823-2022 for any changes or corrections in your information.

St. Elias 16th Annual Food and Cultural Festival is set for April 25-26, 2014. Mark your calendars now. Cooking dates will be announced soon.

MYO Breakfasts and Maronite Christian Formation Classes will resume on **January 12, 2014**. It is especially important for **all 2nd graders** to be attending to prepare for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion.

Altar Servers' Schedule

Saturday, January 11, 2014

5:00 pm Anthony Wehby and Joe Wehby

Sunday, January 12, 2014

8:00 am Daniel Boackle and Justin Rice

10:30 am Ben Farris and Andrew Spray

Altar Servers' practice Saturday at 10:00 am

Pope's Prayer Intention for January:

For Evangelization: Christian Unity That Christians of diverse denominations may walk toward unity desired by Christ

Library Exhibit....The Epiphany (January 6) and St. Ephrem (Feast Day January 28, 2014)

Received the Mystery of Crowning at St.

Elias...Christopher Costa Sarris of St. Elias and Chelsea Breana Johnson of Christ United

Methodist of Mobile....best wishes

and prayers for a long and blessed marriage....

Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Sarris.



Baptized and Chrismated at St.

Elias: Brody Kyle Ishee, son of Kyle and Monica (Barroody) Ishee; Maria Joy Chbeir, daughter of Joey and Mirna Chbeir. Congratulations and Best Wishes for a long and happy life in the Lord.



Pastor's Corner

Poor January 1 when very few people make it to church! Poor Feast of the Circumcision of Our Lord when He was officially named Jesus. January 1 is the octave of His birth – 8 days after Christmas.

Maybe next year more people will realize what an important feast it is. January 1 is also the feast of 2 great saints, St. Basil the Great and St. Gregory the Nazorean of the 4th century.

January 1 is also the day that leads us to pray for peace throughout our crazy lives, our mixed-up country, and our world with battles and wars all over.

Take a moment this week to remember to pray for our beginning of 2014 with Christ's example in every part of our lives.

Mark January 18, 2014 on your calendar for the public March for Life in Birmingham that inspires us to save lives and pray for an end to abortions.

Weekday intentions for the Divine Liturgies are available.

Come to morning Divine Liturgy at St. Elias at 8:00 am.

**OFFICIAL CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM BISHOP A. ELIAS ZAIDAN
EPARCHY OF OUR LADY OF LEBANON**

Christ is born! Alleluia!

I would like to wish every one of you and your loved ones a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Blessed New Year. May the commemoration of the glorious birth of Christ fill your hearts with joy and peace.

Please be assured of my prayers for you daily, not just during this Christmas Season, but year round. I am grateful for your kindness and your collaboration. I appreciate your unselfish dedication and on-going commitment to ministering to God's people.

With my prayerful and best wishes along with those of Sayedna Robert Shaheen, I remain,

Yours in Christ,

+A. Elias Zaidan
Bishop of the Eparchy

The Feast of the Glorious Epiphany: A Holyday of Obligation

Epiphany at a Glance: Divine Liturgy Monday January 6, 2014 at 8:00 am followed by a zlaybee feast with coffee in the church hall. Second liturgy 5:00 pm (the time of this liturgy was changed due to the National BCS Game.) There will be no zlaybee feast after this liturgy unless we have volunteers.

Upcoming Events

Annual Parish Meeting: 3:00 pm Sunday, January 19, 2014

The Feast of St. Maron Banquet will be celebrated on the actual feastday this year, Sunday, February 9, 2014, following the 10:30 am Liturgy. A special luncheon will be served in the church hall.

More details to follow in the coming weeks for these events.