

March 22, 23, 2014  
Parable of the Prodigal Son  
The Feast of St. Rafka



# 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](http://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, March 22, 2014**

**5:00 pm**

Bedora Butrus; Helen and Tofe Bolus (anniv.) req. by the Family

### **Sunday, March 23, 2014**

**8:00 am**

Milton and Becky Domit (anniv.) req. by Hixie and Karen Stephens

**10:30am**

Marie and Amal Estephan req. by Khalil and Selma Ghossein

## Liturgy Schedule and Intentions

(Daily Liturgy –8:00 am)

Monday-Rev. David Buchanon req. by Fr. Richard

Tuesday- Bishop Raymond Boland req. by Fr. Richard

Wednesday- Norman Habshey req. by Hixie and Karen Stephens

Thursday- Jan Habshey Ellinor req. by Fr. Richard

Friday –Carlo Joseph req. by Sadie Joseph

### Saturday, March 29, 2014

5:00 pm

Deceased of Joseph and Saada Kassouf Family

### Sunday, March 30, 2014

8:00 am

Herbert S. Wehby (anniv.) req. by the Family

10:30 am

Marie Sharbel (40<sup>th</sup> day) req. by the Family

### Today at St. Elias

9:00 am MYO Breakfast; 9:15 am MCF Classes

10:10 am Rosary

### SICK CORNER

#### Please pray for our parish sick:

Madison Alford 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.

**New policy:** Names will remain on the list for 6 weeks.

Join the **Prayer Shawl Ministry** group for knitting, crocheting, and praying. Planned meetings are the 1<sup>st</sup> 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!**

The **bulletin and calendar** are back on the web in color! Go to [www.stelias.org](http://www.stelias.org) to see the new website.

**Members of the Order of St. Sharbel** are asked to be the honor guard for the bishop at both the 5:00 pm and 10:30 am Liturgies next weekend.

Monthly Bingo Luncheon at the Cedars-Phoenician Club Wed. March 26 11am to 2pm - \$10 a person.

## Updated progress on the Deacon Joe Stephens Memorial on the rectory side of the church.....

The cement foundation of the porch has been formed and the limestone steps will be placed on the rectory and the south church entrance. The copper roof is being placed.

The covered walkway from the Rectory is being filled in this week with the electricity and forms are being made for the new walkway. We do not have any details about the time of completion. I am sure the weather will be a factor. Thank you for your cooperation....sorry for any inconvenience.

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.

**Festival Dance Practice** Kindergarten-Saturdays 2:00pm; Grades 1-4 Sundays 10:30 am; Grades 5-8 Saturdays 2:00pm; High School Sundays 11:30am

**St. Elias 16th Annual Food and Cultural Festival** is set for **April 25-26, 2014**. Mark your calendar!

**NAM Scholarship applications** are now available online. The deadline is May 15, 2014.

**Cooking Session: Monday, March 24th** We will be making grape leaves and it will also be a working day for the **Junior MYO and the MYO**. We will start around 9 and will try to finish by 3. No experience needed. We will train you and there are plenty of chores to do including washing grape leaves, cutting stems, packaging grape leaves, etc. Be sure to bring your favorite pair of scissors to cut stems.

The MYO and Junior MYO will be helping with flyers, signs and clean up so be sure to come and bring your children to help out on a Spring Break church working day. Lunch will be provided for workers. Please come and help out if you can. Thanks much.

**We will take Saturday, March 28th off.** There will be no cooking day. Instead, please enjoy all of the events associated with the Bishop's visit to Birmingham.

**Gift certificates**, in \$20.00 denominations, are now available in the church office or at a cooking session. You can now sign up to work on the Friday and Saturday of the Festival. Please go to: [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0948ADAC29A31-saint3](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0948ADAC29A31-saint3) or email Paul Bolus at [pbolus@babco.com](mailto:pbolus@babco.com) or call Paul at 205 967 0776. Sign up sheets will also be available at the cooking sessions.

### This week at St. Elias:

Tues. March 25-:30pm Men's Softball Spain Park #3

Friday, March 21- Stations and Procession of Cross

## Announcements

**Catholic Information classes** will be held on Thursdays. Next class: March 27. Call the church office if you are interested 251-5057.

**YOUTH CORNER:** Check out our web site at [www.maroniteyouth.com](http://www.maroniteyouth.com)

Check out the Pope's website: [Pope2you.net](http://Pope2you.net).

**Jr. MYO:** 10am Monday- Festival Workday

**MYO:** Monday – Festival Workday

**MYA:** Tuesday, March 25 Feed the hungry with St. George 4:00 pm

## STEWARDSHIP

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

## CONTRIBUTIONS:

**March 16, 2014: \$6,223.50**

**Eparchial Appeal \$572.00**

**Caritas Lebanon \$621.00**

Capital Campaign update: Pledges: \$2,998,204;  
Received: \$2,645,054; Outstanding: \$353,150

**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 by 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 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue South that would benefit us in the future.

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

**The St. Elias Foundation** funds will ensure that money will be available in the future for major improvements or repairs to church property

**Altar flowers** may be donated by calling LaVonne Williamson. There will be no more flower donations until Holy Thursday and Easter.

**MYA** is requesting items for their **Silent Auction** during the Festival. Any item is welcome – should be in good condition. Deliver to the church hall marked for MYA Auction. Contact Anthony Bolus 901-4856.

## Altar Servers' Schedule

### Saturday, March 29, 2014

5:00 pm Daniel Bolus and Anthony Bostany

### Sunday, March 30, 2014

8:00 am Tommy Butrus and John Paul Butrus

10:30 am William Chamoun and Griffin Green

**Altar Servers' practice Saturday at 10:00 am for all who want to serve for the bishop.**

## Pope's Prayer Intention for March

**Respect for Women.** That all cultures may respect the rights and dignity of women.

**Vocations.** That many young people may accept the Lord's invitation to consecrate their lives to proclaiming the Gospel

**Library Exhibit....Lent and Blessed Mother Feast**

**Bishop Elias** will make his first visit to St. Elias on the weekend of March 28-30, 2014. **Tickets will be required for some events and will be on sale this weekend.** Tickets are \$50 for both Saturday night and Sunday lunch. Separate price is \$30 for each event. Let us have a great turnout!

**Help will be needed for hall setup at the following times:** Friday, March 28 at 9am; Saturday, March 29 at 8:30am; Sat. night after the banquet; Sun. March 30 at 8:00 am All help is welcome!

**Eternal rest grant unto them....**Parish sympathy is extended to the families of Jan Habshey Ellinor and Stephen Walker.....who died this past week **and let perpetual light shine upon their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed.**



## Pastor's Corner

This is the week when we prepare for Bishop Elias' first trip to Birmingham to visit our parish. I want to encourage everyone ahead of time to make a point to speak to our new bishop. There will be many opportunities with the two Divine Liturgies on Saturday and Sunday. Those who are going to the dinners will be able to speak to him there. Those not going to the dinners: on Saturday you may speak to him after the Divine Liturgy and on Sunday there will be more time to speak to him after the Lebanese meal.

Chorbishop Richard's Mottos for the Sundays of Great Lent....

1. "Do what he tells you"
2. "I do will it...be cured"
3. "Someone touched me...Daughter, your faith has made you well...go in peace."
4. "...he was lost and has been found."

# ***Congratulations to Mark Ferris and James Wehby who will be ordained as Subdeacons by Bishop A. Elias Zaidan on Saturday, March 29, 2014***

## **Pastoral Role of the Subdeacon**

The Subdeacon is called to be “like a blessed olive tree for the edification and upbuilding of the church”. It is the pastoral role of the subdeacon to

1. Prepare the church building and the people themselves for worship.
2. Prepare the gifts; to transfer the offerings to the altar; to read the seven canonical epistles of St. Paul and the Acts of the Apostles (when a deacon is not present, he may read from the other epistles attributed to St. Paul); may assume some of the deacon's liturgical functions when the deacon is absent with the exception of reading the Gospel.
3. Assist the priest and congregation during worship
4. In case of pastoral necessity, at the request of the pastor, the Eparchial Bishop may grant the Subdeacon permission to distribute the Eucharist in the Church and carry the Holy Mystery to the sick and homebound
5. Support and foster the many lay ministries in the parish
6. Assist the poor and needy within and outside of the parish
7. Assist the pastor in other ways that are mutually agreed upon such as: involvement with youth, catechism, adult education, sacramental preparation
8. Represent the pastor and parish in ecumenical or interfaith projects
9. Work with the National Apostolate of Maronites and other lay apostolates
10. Conduct para-liturgical services such as morning and evening prayers, novenas, devotions
11. Preside at Service of the Word in conjunction with a Communion service, if approved by the pastor, in nursing homes, prisons and other places.

## **Schedule for Bishop Elias Zaidan's visit to St. Elias Birmingham**

Friday, March 28, 2014

Welcome

6:00 pm Stations of the Cross; Procession and Blessing with the Cross

7:00 pm Dinner at The Club with Pastoral Council, Stewardship Committee, Parish Organization Presidents

Saturday, March 29, 2014

10:00 am Ordination Practice

11:00 am Visit to St. Paul's Cathedral and Bishop

12:00 pm Lenten Prayer at St. Elias

12:10 pm Lunch with Bishops and Diocesan Priests (eat, meet and greet)

4:00 pm Confessions

5:00 pm Liturgy and Ordination of Subdeacons Mark Ferris and Jimmy Wehby

7:30 pm Catered Banquet in church hall; Blessing of kitchen (ticket required)

Sunday, March 30, 2014

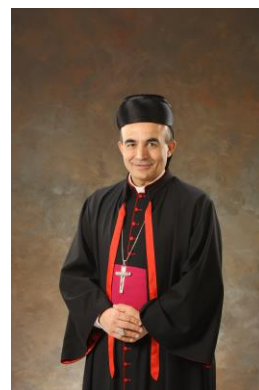
8:30 am Breakfast with MYO in the rectory

9:15 am Visit with MCF Classes

9:45 am MCF presentation of Life of St. Elias in new hall

10:30 am Pontifical Liturgy; Installation of 6 Order of St. Sharbel members

12:00 Noon Family Lebanese Luncheon in church hall (ticket required)



**Let us all take advantage of the many opportunities to meet Bishop Zaidan next weekend!**