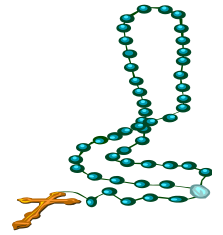


October 5, 6, 2013  
Respect Life Sunday  
Month of the Holy Rosary



# 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, October 5, 2013**

**5:00 pm**

Recent Deceased of St. Elias

### **Sunday, October 6, 2013**

**8:00 am**

Respect Life Liturgy

**10:30am**

For All Parishioners

### **Liturgy Schedule & Intentions**

(Daily Liturgy at 8:00 am except Monday)

Monday-No morning Liturgy at St. Elias

Tuesday- Norman Habshey req. by Norman and Lisa Bolus

Wednesday- Respect Life Liturgy

In thanksgiving for Rozela Joseph

Thursday- Carlo Joseph (anniv.) req. by the Family

Friday- Fr. Andy Sullivan req. by Fr. Richard and Parish

**Saturday, October 12, 2013**

**5:00 pm**

Paul Kassouf req. by the Family

**Sunday, October 13, 2013**

**8:00 am**

Alice Boackle (anniv.) req. by the Family

**10:30 am**

Peggy Z. Antoun (40<sup>th</sup> day) req. by the Family

### **Today at St. Elias**

**10:10am Special Rosary for Respect Life Jr. MYO.**

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

### **SICK CORNER**

**Please pray for our parish sick:** Carol & Cyril Bergeron, Stephen Dabney, George & June Gray, Eddie & Joyce Mizerany, Joe Mizerany, 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 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!**

### **This week at St. Elias:**

Tuesday, 10:00 am – SERP to Oak Mountain (weather permitting)

Tuesday, 5:30 pm- Stewardship Committee

Wednesday, 5:30 pm- Pastoral Council

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. It is still a work in progress, but we think you will be pleased to see our new webpage.

### ***Upcoming Eparchial Events***

*The Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon requests the honor of your presence at the*

*Mass of Installation of*

***His Excellency A. Elias Zaidan***

*as its third bishop on*

*Wednesday, October 23, 2013*

*at 3:00 pm at*

*St. Raymond's Cathedral*

*931 Lebanon Drive*

*St. Louis, MO 63104*

*Reception immediately following at the Cedars Banquet Hall*

*The Consultors and the Protopresbyters of the Diocese of Our Lady of Lebanon invite you to a celebration of the Priesthood of Our Lord Jesus Christ on the occasion of the*

***Retirement of Bishop Robert J. Shaheen***

*St. Raymond's Complex, St. Louis, MO Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013*

*Mass at 6:00 pm; Cocktails 7:15 pm; Dinner 8:00pm*

*Let us join in prayer and thank God for Bishop Shaheen's years of faithful service.*

### **Kitchen Renovation Update**

You have already seen much progress in our kitchen project of renewal and extension. The excitement of the new extensions on either side of the main kitchen means more work room and space for storage of kitchen items. With so much "buzz" this week-end when people peeked through, we are reminding everyone that this new space will change some of our old habits in cooking. With our new space workers will be able to make this a preparation room for certain foods for all of our functions including weekly breakfasts as well as larger functions. The upper kitchen will be the area where final meals will be put together and served.

The doors of the new entrance to the kitchen will resemble the inside aluminum and glass doors highlighted by sconces on each side of the doors. The limestone framing of our 2 service windows outside are in place.

The first bill of \$88,000 will be paid next week. We are very grateful to the many new responders to achieve our final monetary goal for this project without a loan.

## Announcements

Next class Thursday, Oct.10. at 6:00pm for those who are interested in the Catholic faith. Call the Church 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:** 10:10am Rosary on Sunday

**MYO:** Breakfast & class

**MYA:** meeting at 7pm Tuesday October;  
October 27, special breakfast

## STEWARDSHIP

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

### CONTRIBUTIONS:

**September 30: \$1,178.75**

Capital Campaign update: Pledges: \$2,955,960;

Received: \$2,574,001; Outstanding: \$381,959

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection next week for World Missions**

**School Subsidy** Parents are reminded to finish their commitment for every child whose tuition has been subsidized by St. Elias for 2012-2013 school year.

**You are now overdue because we are now paying for 2013-2014 year.**

### 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 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 here!** You may purchase them from the church office. Inserts only are \$5. A new binder with an insert is \$10. Please be sure to check all of your information to see if it is correct. Please call Mary Milton at 823-2022 for any changes or corrections. A big thanks to Mary for coordinating this project!

## Altar Servers' Schedule

### Saturday, October 12, 2013

5:00 pm Anthony Bostany and Jack Dahle

### Sunday, October 13, 2013

8:00 am John Resha and Justin Rice

10:30 am Griffin Green and William Chbeir

**Altar Servers' practice Saturday at 10:00 am.**

## Pope Francis' October Prayer Intentions

**People in Despair.** That those feeling so crushed by life that they wish to end it may sense the nearness of God's love.

**World Mission Day.** That the celebration of World Mission Day may help all Christians realize that we are not only receivers but proclaimers of God's word.  
**Check out our library:** October: Respect Life Month

## Pastor's Corner

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of September, our new bishop, Most Reverend Elias Abdallah Zaidan, was ordained as Bishop of our Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon. I was privileged to be in Lebanon and on the altar for the ordination and the next day for his first liturgy in his home parish in Ste-be. I will never forget the ride up the road of Bishop Elias' home in a beautiful part of Lebanon that I had never seen before.

The day after the first liturgy of Bishop Zaidan all of the priests from America were invited to a luncheon at Bkerke by Patriarch Beshara Peter Rai. The retired Patriarch Nesrallah was also present as well as Archbishop Harb who visited us in 1994 when we announced that I became a Chorbishop. I was also privileged during that week to visit St. Sharbel Church and Hermitage. I was also privileged to concelebrate the liturgy with Fr. sharbel Maroon at the church in honor of Beautified Aboona Yauoub.

Finally, it was great to have Father John Paul Kimes who came from Rome to Lebanon for the weekend for all of the services. One special visit for Fr. John Paul and I was to visit the mother and family of Fr. sharbel Maron.

With great thanksgiving for our retiring bishop of 12 years, Most Reverend Robert J. Shaheen, we must pray for our new bishop, for his health and wisdom in his care for our priests, religious, and the faithful.

## 2013 RESPECT LIFE SUNDAY STATEMENT

Cardinal Seán O'Malley  
Chairman  
USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities  
OCTOBER 6, 2013

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UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF  
CATHOLIC BISHOPS

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

As adopted daughters and sons of God, each October we begin the activities of Respect Life Month with the observance of Respect Life Sunday, celebrated on October 6th this year. At Masses that day, thousands of parishes across the country begin a year-long educational and prayer campaign in support of life. As chair of the bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, it is my pleasure to introduce this year's theme, which echoes Pope Francis' call for all people to "Open your hearts to life!"

We live in a society of unbelief, where the unborn, the sick, and the elderly are often unwanted and endangered by acts of violence or neglect. Earlier this year, we marked the 40th anniversary of the tragic U.S. Supreme Court rulings *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton*. Without grounding in the Constitution, natural law, or our nation's human rights traditions, these decisions made it legal to end the life of an unborn child in the United States for any reason and at almost any stage of development. Since then, over fifty-five million unborn children's lives have been taken, leaving many millions of mothers, fathers, and family members wounded and grieving their loss. Physician-assisted suicide is now legal in three states, allowing doctors to help end patients' lives rather than provide much-needed comfort in times of pain and distress. These laws pave the way for euthanasia by undermining true respect and care for people with serious illness.

Despite these challenges, Pope Francis reminds us that we always have hope in Christ. The Holy Father speaks not only of physical life, but spiritual life as well -- our life in Christ that has the power to transform us. By opening our hearts to his love and mercy, we let Christ dwell in us and we see more deeply the intricate and unique beauty of each person.

What does it mean to open our hearts to life? It means to search our souls and acknowledge our deepest longing for Christ's love. Though we are capable of sins against human life such as abortion, assisted suicide and euthanasia, we are not beyond Christ's mercy. It is important for us to know and share with others that Christ's forgiveness is offered even to those who have taken another person's life, if they are truly repentant of that act.

We must respond to Pope Francis' call with great urgency. Opening our hearts to life in Christ empowers us for loving, merciful action toward others. We must give witness to the Gospel of Life and evangelize through our lives. We must personally engage others and share the truth about human life. We must continue to show love and mercy, especially with those who have been involved in abortion. All members of the Church can bring healing to the world by upholding the beauty of human life and God's unfailing mercy.

Only a tender, compassionate love that seeks to serve those most in need, whatever the personal cost, is strong enough to overcome a culture of death and to build a civilization of love. Let us open our hearts and reflect on how God might be calling each of us to witness the sacredness of human life and assist in pro-life efforts. We may be called to help parents welcome their unborn child as a miracle of God's creation, to visit the elderly or aid those who are sick and suffering, to pray and fast for life, to advocate to our elected officials, or to assist educational efforts in our parishes.

We entrust all these efforts to the intercession of Mary, the Mother of God, and her husband St. Joseph. They are models of virtue and holiness who gave everything to welcome Jesus into their lives despite the hardships. With their assistance, may each of us have the courage to open our hearts to life.

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