

December 7, 8, 2013
Birth of John the Baptist
The Immaculate Conception –(Celebrated on Monday)



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, December 7, 2013

5:00 pm

Y. Howie, Jr. req. by the Family

Sunday, December 8, 2013

8:00 am

For All Parishioners

10:30am

Darine Dagher (anniv.) req. by the Garnem Family

Liturgy Schedule and Intentions

(Daily Liturgy – 8:00 am)

Monday- For All Parishioners – National Feast of the Immaculate Conception (not obligatory this year.)

Tuesday- Mary Frances Graffeo req. by Loraine Boackle and LaVonne Williamson

Wednesday-William Schultz req. by Fr. Richard and Family

Thursday- Peggy Antoun req. by Nasri Akl Family

Friday – Fr. Jim Naughton req. by Fr. Richard and Parishioners

Saturday, December 14, 2013

5:00 pm

Mike Kassouf (anniv.) req. by the Family

Sunday, December 15, 2013

8:00 am

Elizabeth and Maroun Boohaker req. by Sidney Stephen

10:30 am

Abe Shamy (anniv.) req. by Norma Shamy and Family

Today at St. Elias

9:00 MYO Breakfast; 9:15 MCF Classes

10:10am Rosary

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 28-30, 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.

It's time for the Angel Tree!

You still have the opportunity to provide Christmas for someone who is very deserving. It's simple- take an Angel and follow the directions bringing your gift or donation **NO LATER THAN 10:30 Liturgy on Sunday, Dec. 15.** Here's who you can help:

- Orphans in Lebanon with a donation
- At-Risk children here in town
- Mary's House – Catholic Worker House of Hospitality in Ensley
- Catholic Center of Concern

There will be 100 Angels on the tree. The St. Elias family has always given graciously. Thanks in advance for your kind support. The Jr. MYO

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

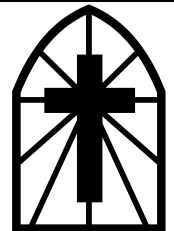
1. All of our new and old kitchen equipment has been placed by Bresco, Stephens' Plumbing and Canterbury Electric. All of the new equipment is electric.
2. The final step to use the new kitchen will be a punch list that the contractor and architect (Joe Aboujouade) will review.
3. It will take some time to learn how to use the new equipment and treat the new floor.
4. Much of the old equipment is still there, but in a different place
5. The dedication of the new kitchen will follow when Bishop Elias comes in March.

The only (and last) loan that St. Elias ever had was for the beginning of the capital campaign constructions. We have the good news that, with the generosity of the parish and advice of the Stewardship Committee, the entire loan has been paid. Look for a future way to celebrate the "burning of the mortgage".

Eternal rest grant unto him...

parish sympathy is extended to Wanda Elkourie on the death of her brother, Mack Skinner, who died recently....**and let perpetual light shine upon him and all the souls of the faithful departed**

Recital of Christmas Carols for the Harp will be presented by Rev. Thomas Kelly, pastor of St. Peter's, on Friday, December 20, 2013 at 10:15 am at St. Peter's Catholic Church.



Announcements

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

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

Jr. MYO: Giving Tree is now up!! Delivery of gifts on Dec. 15 after Christmas program and lunch.

MYO: Breakfast & Last Class; Thanks for serving the Altar Society Meal. Sign up for Winter Retreat now.

MYA: Sign up for Winter Retreat now

STEWARDSHIP

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

CONTRIBUTIONS:

November 24, 2013: \$5,207.55

December 1, 2013: \$4,086.45

Philippines' Collection: \$790.00

Eparchial Christmas Appeal: \$262.00

Capital Campaign update: Pledges: \$2,972,387;

Received: \$2,612,284; Outstanding: \$360,103

School Subsidy Reminder to parents of children who are subsidized to pay at least ½ of subsidy for your children before December. **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 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!

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.

Altar Servers' Schedule

Saturday, December 14, 2013

5:00 pm Jack Dahle and Anthony Bostany

Sunday, December 15, 2013

8:00 am Justin Rice and Tommy Butrus

10:30 am William Chbeir and Griffin Green

Altar Servers' practice Saturday at 10:00 am

Pope's Prayer Intention for December:

Prepare the Savior's Coming. That Christians, enlightened by the Word Incarnate, may prepare humanity for the Savior's coming.

Library Exhibit....Christmas books to be read in the library: Bishop Elias ordination & installation.

This week at St. Elias:

Tuesday, 5:30 pm – Stewardship Committee

Wednesday, 5:30 pm – Pastoral Council

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.

Pastor's Corner

I hope you had a great Thanksgiving. When I was home for Thanksgiving in Michigan I went to 3 different churches for morning liturgy. Two of the churches were in one of my brothers' neighborhoods. On my last full day I celebrated a family liturgy for the sick and suffering of my family at the Maronite Church of St. Sharbel in Warren.

The morning liturgies were on cold, snowy mornings with many people attending –some in the area- all came out in the snow to attend a regular morning liturgy. The liturgy I went to on Thanksgiving morning was in the side chapel of a big church in Michigan. Over 80 people attended that early liturgy for Thanksgiving. Five ushers helped people in – young and old.

What a blessing it is to attend morning liturgy!! Plan to attend liturgy at St. Elias every day before Christmas, Monday- Friday at 8:00 am. When was the last time you came to morning liturgy? Don't you think it is about time? What is your excuse?

**“I AM THE
IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION”**



ST. ELIAS CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2013

12:00 NOON PROGRAM

12:30 MEAL \$8.00

KIBBEE

BEANS

RICE

SALAD

BREAD

TEA

CHRISTMAS DESSERT

"AND THE LITTLE CHILDREN WILL LEAD US....."