

SAINT THERESE CATHOLIC CHURCH  
Maronite Rite



# Tulsa Maronite News

Volume 17, Issue 4

APRIL 2013

## ***Our Mission Statement***

*To establish a permanent  
Eastern Catholic presence  
for Northeast Oklahoma by  
sharing the Mysteries of  
Jesus Christ as expressed  
through the richness of the  
Maronite tradition*

### ***Divine Liturgy:***

8:30 am & 10:30am Sunday  
5:30 pm Monday through Friday  
7:00 pm Holydays

### ***Sacrament of Reconciliation***

One half hour before Mass on  
Sunday

***Baptism:*** Contact the priest as soon  
as the baby is born

***Marriage:*** Contact the priest at  
least six months prior to the  
wedding

***Sickness:*** Contact the priest if  
someone is sick at home or in the  
hospital or in a nursing home.

### ***Pastor:***

Fr. Elias Abi Sarkis  
padre@saintherese.org

The ***Tulsa Maronite News***,  
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In 1940 a group of archeologist working in Upper Egypt made a spectacular discovery. Tucked away in a monastery they found the text of a document which scholars knew existed, but felt was forever lost. It was an early Easter homily referred to by many Church Fathers. In fact, outside of the New Testament, it is the oldest Easter homily we possess. When scholars deciphered the text, it turned out to be not just the oldest, but one of the most beautifully written and theologically profound works of early Christianity. One of my theology professors used to say that this homily contains "every essential Christian doctrine." It was written by a man named Melito (meh-LEE-toe). He was bishop of Sardis - one of the seven cities which John refers to in the Book of Revelation. Melito pictured Jesus rising from the tomb and, in a loud voice, issuing this challenge:

"Who will contend against me? Let him stand before me."

Melito's vision of the Risen Lord helps correct a modern misconception about the Resurrection. We sometimes think of Easter as the final chapter of Jesus career, like a man receiving a gold watch upon retirement. Nothing could be further from the truth. The resurrection is not so much the last word as the opening line of a whole new story.

In his movie *The Passion of the Christ* Mel Gibson had a brief, but powerful depiction of the resurrection. Gibson has an understanding very similar to that of Melito - the Risen Jesus is ready for combat. As he opens his eyes, he clearly possesses his full humanity. On his right hand we see the nail wound. With a determined look, Jesus stands and takes a firm step.

Our Easter Sunday Psalm says, "The right hand of the LORD has struck with power." Melito tells us that by his death and resurrection, Jesus has:

- triumphed over the enemy
- trod down Hades,
- bound the Strong Man,
- snatched mankind up to the heights of heaven.

Have a Blessed Easter!

### **Dates to Remember**

**March 27 Rite of the Lamp and Divine Liturgy 7 P.M.**

**March 28** Thursday of the Mysteries-- Divine Liturgy & Washing of the Feet at 7 P.M. followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 10 P.M.

**March 29** Great Friday of the Crucifixion-- Communion with Prayer Service at 10 A.M.,

Burial of Our Lord at 7 P.M. **Bring cut flowers.**

**March 30** Great Saturday of the Light— Forgiveness Service at 10 A.M.

**March 31** The Glorious Resurrection Mass at 8:30 and 10:30 A.M.

### **Mass Intentions for April 2013**



The National Apostolate of Maronites is having the 21<sup>st</sup> **Annual Spring Raffle** - 2013. This year's drawing will be held at the conclusion of the Spring Board meeting on April 21, 2013 at St. Therese Church, Tulsa Oklahoma.

Only 400 tickets are printed. Donation: \$100 per ticket (more than one person can share a ticket if they wish to)

**5 Cash Prizes:** 1<sup>st</sup> \$10,000 / 2<sup>nd</sup> \$3,000 / 3<sup>rd</sup> \$2,000 / 4<sup>th</sup> \$1,500 / 5<sup>th</sup> \$1,000

Tickets are available with Charlotte Neller and Josette Kamel. Please contact them as soon as possible to purchase your tickets.

[cneller@cox.net](mailto:cneller@cox.net) / [Josette\\_k@hotmail.com](mailto:Josette_k@hotmail.com)

CHURCH CLEANING April 6 at 1 P.M.

WOMEN'S CLUB April 7 Rosary at 10 A.M. Meeting after 10:30 A.M. Mass. Election of officers will be held.

MEN'S CLUB Date to be announced later. Election of officers in May.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES April 9 at 7 P.M.

CATECHISM CLASSES after 10:30 A.M. Mass.

**Sunday Contributions for March**  
**\$12298.00**

*Thank you for your generous act towards  
your Church.*

- 1 For Habib & Victoria Abi-Sarkis
- 2 For the Souls in Purgatory
- 3 Justice in the World
- 4-6 NO MASS
- 7 Second Sunday of the Resurrection  
8:30 For Joseph Abi-Sarkis  
10:30 For Jacob & Juanita Jorishie
- 8 For Father Elias Khoueiri
- 9 For the Sick and the Dying
- 10 For Toufic Abi-Sarkis
- 11-13 NO MASS
- 14 Third Sunday of the Resurrection (Father Hamill)  
8:30 For Osama Jabbour  
10:30 For John Volz
- 15-18 NO MASS
- 19 For The Maronite Dioceses in the USA
- 20 NO MASS
- 21 Fourth Sunday of the Resurrection  
8:30 For Marie Abi-Sarkis  
10:30 the President and the Board of NAM
- 22 For Father Philip Abdelmassih
- 23 For Carl Malino
- 24 For Milad Antonios
- 25 For the Unborn Babies
- 26 For a Special Intention
- 27 NO MASS
- 28 Fifth Sunday of the Resurrection  
8:30 For Assaad and Asma Akl  
10:30 For Vocations
- 29 For Naim Farah
- 30 For Archbishop Francis Zayek

(Continued from **EASTERN CATHOLICS IN THE LAND OF THEIR ORIGINS AND OF MIGRATION**)

## **Antioch**

### 1. West Syrian

- Syrian Church, Jacobite (Jack Baradai)  
Monophysite, after Chalcedon 451 (Eutyches)  
300,000 in the world, half in Middle East
- Catholic:  
100,000—150,000: in the Middle East  
Established in 1662 (Patriarch Andre Akijian)  
Title: “Patriarch of Antioch,” Beirut
- Maronite: never separated from Rome
- Malankarese: “Thomas Christian”  
Catholic 270,000 India (South). Monophysite  
Reunited with Rome 1930

### 2. East Syrian

- Chaldean Church Nestorian, after Ephesus 431  
Since 1964, two branches  
200,000 especially emigrants, in U.S.A.
- Catholic: 500,000 mainly in Iraq (Iran, Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, Turkey) and U.S.A. Established in 1552 (permanent in 1830)  
Patriarch of Babylon (Patriarch Emmanuel Karim, Residence Baghdad)
- Syro Malabarese
- Catholic: 2,700,000 India, Keral  
Reunited with Rome 1599, at Synod of Diamper (under Latin jurisdiction until 1896, under own hierarchy in 1923, Portuguese influence)

## **Alexandria**

1. Coptic Church, monophysite after Calcedon 451  
6,000,000 mostly in Egypt, patriarch of Alexandria, Cairo, Patriarch Shenouda III
  - Catholic: Catholic Coptic Church founded in 1895 by initiative of Pope  
150,000 mostly in Egypt, Patriarchate of Alexandria for the Copts, Patriarch Stephanos II Ghattas
2. Ethiopian Church  
Monophysite, within the jurisdiction of Alexandria (evangelization by Coptic Church)  
  
Autonomous  
14,000,000 faithful in Ethiopia, Patriarchate of Addis Ababa
  - Catholic: Ethiopian Catholic Church  
100,000 in Ethiopia during Italian occupation  
Metropolitan See in 1961

## **Constantinople (Byzantine Church)**

- Melkite Greek Catholic:  
800,000 half in Near East (Syria/Lebanon)  
Constituted in 1724  
Patriarchate of Antioch and all East, of Alexandria and Jerusalem  
Patriarch Laham
- Greek Orthodox  
900,000 Syria, Lebanon, diaspora  
Patriarchate of Antioch and all East  
Patriarch Ignatius IV Hazim Damascus

Saturday, May 4, 2013

4:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Saint Therese Church  
Jorishie Hall  
8315 S. 107 E. Ave., Tulsa



# LEBANON FEST

During the Entire Event Enjoy:

*Safari Joe's* with his wild animals

Jupiter Jump for Kids, **Cesar's Latin Band**,  
Volleyball, Hookahs, and Bake Sale

*Grilled Chicken, Kafta, Hummus, Hashwa (rice, ground beef, almonds), Fattoush (salad), Dessert, & Beverage*

Food will be served from 4:00 to 7:00 pm

Adults: \$15      Children under 10: \$10

## Bake Sale

Baklawas	\$18.00 (a dozen)
Anis Cookies	\$12.00 (a dozen)
Zaatar Pies	\$18.00 (a dozen)
Spinach Pies	\$20.00 (a dozen)
Meat Pies	\$20.00 (a dozen)
Kebbe Ball	\$2.50 each

To buy tickets or  
order from the bake sale,  
please call

Jackie @ 918 627 0271

or

Church @ 918 872-7400