

SAINT THERESE CATHOLIC CHURCH
Maronite Rite



Tulsa Maronite News

Volume 17, Issue 3

March 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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Dear Parishioners and Friends:

We entered the season of the blessed Lent. It is the most cherished forty days of the year. Let us meditate on the life and suffering of our Lord day by day.

From Ash Monday until Good Friday our readings are based on faith: Man with leprosy, Hemorrhaging woman, Man who was paralyzed...

During Lent try to think about your life and ask the lord to give you a special grace to humiliate yourself and ask for forgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Forgiveness of sins has been recognized and treasured in the Church since apostolic times.

In the early centuries, confession was public and communal. In the early Middle Ages, wandering Irish monks were the first to introduce the practice of private and frequent confession. By 1215 church law required that any Catholic who had deliberately committed a mortal sin must go to confession privately to a priest at least once during Easter time. Now the Easter duty is to receive Communion and go to confession during Easter time, which is from Ash Monday to Pentecost.

Jesus is always waiting for us. His arms are always open to welcome us. Don't be strangers to Him. Make peace with Him. The call comes from a loving God whose mercy is constant, whose forgiveness is readily available. If we turn to Him, His love and forgiveness for us are without end.

Father Elias

Dates to Remember

FRIDAYS in Lent

Divine Liturgy 5:30 P.M.

Soup and bread after Divine Liturgy

Stations and Benediction of the Cross 7 P.M.



CHURCH CLEANING March 2 at 1 P.M.

WOMEN'S CLUB No meeting. The women's retreat will be held **March 9** from 9 to 3. Mass will be at 9 A.M. at St. Therese followed by the retreat at St. Francis South. All women are invited to attend.

MEN'S CLUB The men's retreat will be held **March 16** at St. Therese Church from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. Father Casey will be the speaker. The meeting will be held at the retreat.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES March 12 at 7 P.M.

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



Volunteers for Soup and Bread on Fridays in Lent

March 1 Najat Abdo

March 8 Ronald Fogley

March 15 Rima Awad

March 22 Amal Dagher

March 25 Josette Kamel & Charlotte Jabbour

March 26 Thomas & Shirley Mefford

March 27 Anne Smith & Aida Hatter

Mass Intentions for March 2013



- 1 For Habib and Victoria Abi-Sarkis
- 2 NO MASS
- 3 **Parable of the Prodigal Son**
8:30 For George and Sophia
10:30 For Father Elias Khoueiri
- 4 For Nora Minden
- 5 For Bernard Ebeshi Onyi
- 6 For Mariam Aladem
- 7 For the Sick and the Dying
- 8 For Joseph Abi-Sarkis
- 9 **Feast of the Forty Martyrs**
9 A.M. For a successful retreat
- 10 **Healing of the Paralytic**
8:30 For Toufic Abi-Sarkis
10:30 For Jacob and Juanita Jorishie
- 11 For Dikran Bozian
- 12 For the People Who Are Lonely
- 13 For Farid and Samir Soddik
- 14 For Peace in the World
- 15 For my Grandparents
- 16 NO MASS
- 17 **Healing of the Blind Man**
8:30 For Eugene DeGree
10:30 For M/M Mike Paradise
- 18 For Marie Abi-Sarkis
- 19 For Joseph Wakim
- 20 For Father Faris Kleem
- 21 For Khalil and Lorice Antonius
- 22 For Moses Ogbudu Ebahe
- 23 **10 A.M. For the Faithful Departed**
- 24 **Hosanna Sunday**
8:30 For Milad Antonios
10:30 For All the Children of the Church
- 25 For the People Who Are Suffering
- 26 For All Sinners to Repent
- 27 For the Sick and the Dying
- 28 **Thursday of the Mysteries 7 P.M.**
Washing of the Feet and Adoration
- 29 **Great Friday: Crucifixion of Our Lord**
Prayer Service and Communion 10 A.M.
Burial of Our Lord 7 P.M.
- 30 **Great Saturday of the Light**
Forgiveness Service 10 A.M.
- 31 **The Glorious Resurrection**
8:30 For Peace in the World
10:30 For All Parishioners and Friends

The Valentine Ball

Income \$10,433.00

Expenses \$6,419.00

Net income \$4,014.00

Sunday Contributions for February \$9542.00

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

HOLY WEEK LITURGY SCHEDULE

March 25, 26, 27—Mass at 5:30 followed by soup and bread. Stations and Benediction of the Cross at 7P.M.

March 28 Thursday of the Mysteries-- Mass at 7 P.M. Adoration after Mass 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.

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.

APRIL 19, 2013 NAM DELEGATE DINNER

The National Board of NAM will meet at St. Therese Maronite Church April 19-21. On Friday April 19 at 7 P.M., St. Therese Parish will host a dinner for the board members. You are invited to attend. If you wish to attend, please RSVP by March 24 to Father Elias at 918-872-7400 or Charlotte Neller or Josette Kamel. **No reservations will be accepted after March 24, 2013.**

The National Apostolate of Maronites is having the 21st **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: 1st \$10,000 / 2nd \$3,000 / 3rd \$2,000 / 4th \$1,500 / 5th \$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 / Josette_k@hotmail.com

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

2.) Early Church Organization

- a. From Jerusalem, the Twelve Apostles went into the different parts of the known world and initiated the different traditions or rites, in the cities and places they preached. “ By the middle of the Vth century, in spite of turmoils, caused sometimes by the disputes regarding the laying down of the doctrine of faith on the Trinity (Nicea 325, Constantinople 381) and on Christology (Ephesus 431, Chalcedon 451), the Church seemed to be, solidly organized.

Within the boundaries of the Roman Empire:

The Church counts five patriarchates, of which four were Apostolic, that is: Rome, Alexandria, Antioch and Jerusalem. It has also the See of Constantinople (claiming its apostolic mission from St. Andrew), which took advantage of its political importance in order to cut itself a seat of choice in the ecclesiastical organization. In fact, Constantinople was considered as Second Rome, as Capital City of the Empire.

Outside the Roman Boundaries:

In Mesopotamia (Persia) and Armenia, we find autonomous Churches, still within the Church's communion.

- b. The Church seemed to enjoy a certain harmony, but not for a long time. In fact, it will be soon undermined by various factors, such as:

- Divergences caused by different mentalities and cultures, which kept alive under the Greco Latin veneer of culture.
- Rivalry of persons and influences, among the titular's of the great Sees.
- Defectuous (mediocre) imperial administration
- Renewal of nationalism

Soon the theological disputes (from Ephesus 431, and Chalcedon 451) started to rock the Sees and big administrative centers for the Roman Empire (Antioch, Alexandria, Constantinople and Rome) to become schisms and heresies.

As for Jerusalem, the Holy City, it was spared such conflicts. “The See of Jerusalem, which took the rank of patriarchate (in Chalcedon 451) will never have, as such, an ecclesiastical importance.

On the other hand, the spiritual influence of the Holy City, big center of pilgrimage and of monastic life, will extend very far its liturgical impact.” (Dalmais, pp11-12)

It is proper to consider, into one global look, all these precedent elements, in order to be able to appraise fittingly the painful period that extends from one of the most explosive Ecumenical Councils (Chalcedon 451) until the expansion of Islam (633) which, indirectly and unconsciously, it prepares.

And then, the factor “Islam” will be forever an integral part of the history and life of the Christians of Orient.

3) Genealogy of Eastern Catholic Churches

Rome

Antioch	West Syrian:	Syrian Catholic Church, Maronite Church Malankarese Church
	East Syrian:	Chaldean Catholic Church Syro Malabarese Church

Alexandria	Coptic Church Ethiopian church
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Constantinople	The Byzantine Churches (13) The Melkite Greek Church
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Armenia	The Armenian Church
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