

First Sunday of the Epiphany

MASSES & CELEBRATIONS

Sundays – 11:30 a.m.

Daily Mass (Monday, Wednesday and Friday) at
6:30 p.m.

Blessed Sacrament Adoration

First Thursday of each month 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

CONFESSIONS

30 minutes before each mass

In case of emergency, contact the priest.

VISITING THE SICK

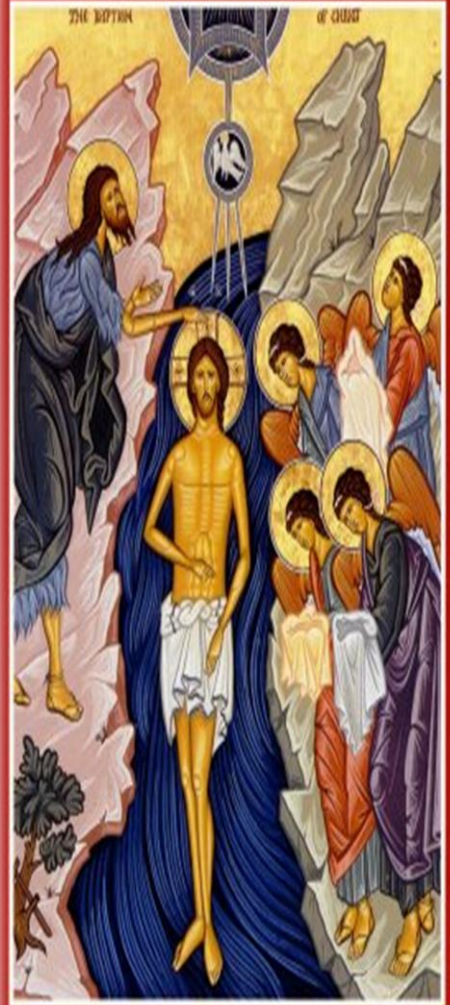
If you, or someone you know is ill, please contact
Fr. Michel and he will arrange to visit the sick.

BAPTISMS

Please contact Fr. Michel at least *two weeks*
prior to the baptism date.

MARRIAGES

Please contact Fr. Michel a *minimum of four*
months in advance of the desired date of
marriage.



Our Lady of Peace Parish

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OUR LADY OF PEACE
MARONITE CATHOLIC PARISH OF CALGARY

SUNDAY MASS READING

A Reading from the second letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (2 Corinthians 10: 1 – 11)

I myself, Paul, appeal to you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ, I who am humble when face to face with you, but bold toward you when I am away! I ask that when I am present I need not show boldness by daring to oppose those who think we are acting according to human standards. Indeed, we live as human beings, but we do not wage war according to human standards; for the weapons of our warfare are not merely human, but they have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every proud obstacle raised up against the knowledge of God, and we take every thought captive to obey Christ. We are ready to punish every disobedience when your obedience is complete. Look at what is before your eyes. If you are confident that you belong to Christ, remind yourself of this, that just as you belong to Christ, so also do we. Now, even if I boast a little too much of our authority, which the Lord gave for building you up and not for tearing you down, I will not be ashamed of it. I do not want to seem as though I am trying to frighten you with my letters. For they say, "His letters are weighty and strong, but his bodily presence is weak, and his speech contemptible." Let such people understand that what we say by letter when absent, we will also do when present.



SUNDAY GOSPEL



A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John (John 1: 29 – 34)

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him, I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

Saint Anthony the Great Feast

will be celebrated on

Sunday, January 18th, 2015.

The actual feast day is on January 17th, 2015. (In the Maronite church is called father of the Monks) Halawa will be provided after the Holy Mass



Our Lady of the Seeds

The Church celebrates the memorial of our *Virgin Mother* under the title of "*Our Lady of the Seeds*". In origin this is an agricultural feast which arose from the needs of the farmers to seek God's help for a fruitful harvest. The farmers were at the mercy of the elements and depended upon sufficient rain and good weather. As a result they sought God's assistance and begged the intercession of Mary for their crops. In the ancient texts of the divine office we find reference to *the agrarian feast of the Virgin*. The dew spread all over the region where John wrote the Book of the Virgin, in which is found: "Let the memory of the blessed One be celebrated three times a year: in January, for the seeds; in May, for the ears of wheat; in August, for the grapes which symbolizes the sacrament of life: *Bless them!*" The ancient texts speak of Mary's protection not only in material terms of the crops of the field, but also of her role in the *incarnation* as the *Mother of the Source of Life, Jesus Christ*. Saint Ephrem speaks of Mary in this regard when he says that Mary became the field who received the grain of wheat in her womb and this grain of wheat, Jesus Christ our Lord, gives life to the world. Through the harvest we receive the gifts of bread and wine which become for us the body and blood of Christ in the Eucharist. Hence we pray during the transfer of the offerings: **I am the Bread of Life, said our Lord. From on high, I came to earth, so men might live in me. Pure Word without flesh, I was sent from the Father. Mary's womb received me like good earth a grain of wheat. Behold! The priest bears me aloft to the altar. Alleluia! Accept our offering.** *Let us put all our lives and the crops of the fields under the protection of Our Lady of the Seeds. May she assist us with her prayers. Amen.*

Children's Choir

If you would like to join the Children's Choir, please print your name and phone number on the "sign up" sheet at the back of the church. The choir practices every Sunday after the Holy Mass. Parents – please encourage your children to join together in song to praise the Lord.

The practice is in Arabic and English at the same time.

BISHOP PASTORAL VISIT

His Excellency Bishop Paul Marwan Tabet will be visiting our parish from
Friday January 30th
till Sunday, February 1st, 2015

Meetings with the Parish Council, Ladies of Sodality, Knights of Columbus, Youth and Choir on

Friday, January 30th, 2015 at 8:00 pm

Celebratory Mass Sunday, February 1st, 2015 followed by Potluck banquet at the Church hall



MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

A reminder to all parishioners! Please complete and return the questionnaire form before the end of 2014 so we can update the Parish's directory.
Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

OUR LADY OF PEACE

MARONITE CATHOLIC PARISH OF CALGARY

DONATIONS SUMMARY

JANUARY 4th, 2015

TOTAL COLLECTION: \$ 588.70



OUR LADY OF PEACE
MARONITE CATHOLIC PARISH OF CALGARY

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

If your child will be receiving their First Holy Communion this year, please add your name, your child's name, and your phone number to the "sign up" sheet at the back of the church.

**PLEASE REMEMBER OUR LADY OF PEACE
MARONITE CATHOLIC PARISH OF CALGARY IN
YOUR WILL.**