

St. Anthony Maronite Church

Pastor: Father Jean Younes

Sub-Deacon in training: Georges Jabbour

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**March
2011**



Masses

Tues- Fri: 8:30am

Sat: 5:00pm

**Sunday: 8:00am
& 10:00am**

Feast day: March 19, 2011 **Patron of the Universal Church**



Everything we know about the husband of Mary and the foster father of Jesus comes from Scripture and that has seemed too little for those who made up legends about him. We know he was a carpenter, a working man, for the skeptical Nazarenes ask about Jesus, "Is this not the carpenter's son?" (Matthew 13:55). He wasn't rich for when he took Jesus to the Temple to be circumcised and Mary to be purified he offered the sacrifice of two turtledoves or a pair of pigeons, allowed only for those who could not afford a lamb (Luke 2:24). Despite his humble work and means, Joseph came from a royal lineage. Luke and Matthew disagree some about the details of Joseph's genealogy but they both mark his descent from David, the greatest king of Israel (Matthew 1:1-16 and Luke 3:23-38). Indeed the angel who first tells Joseph about Jesus greets him as "son of David," a royal title used also for Jesus. We know Joseph was a compassionate, caring man. When he discovered Mary was pregnant after they had been betrothed, he knew the child was not his but was as yet unaware that she was carrying the Son of God. He planned to divorce Mary according to the law but he was concerned for her suffering and safety. He knew that women accused to adultery could be stoned to death, so he decided to divorce her quietly and not expose her to shame or cruelty (Matthew 1:19-25).

We know Joseph was man of faith, obedient to whatever God asked of him without knowing the outcome. When the angel came to Joseph in a dream and told him the truth about the child Mary was carrying, Joseph immediately and without question or concern for gossip, took Mary as his wife. When the angel came again to tell him that his family was in danger, he immediately left everything he owned, all his family and friends, and fled to a strange country with his young wife and the baby. He waited in Egypt without question until the angel told him it was safe to go back (Matthew 2:13-23). We know Joseph loved Jesus. His one concern was for the safety of this child entrusted to him. Not only did he leave his home to protect Jesus, but upon his return settled in the obscure town of Nazareth out of fear for his life. When Jesus stayed in the Temple we are told Joseph (along with Mary) searched with great anxiety for three days for him (Luke 2:48). We also know that Joseph treated Jesus as his own son for over and over the people of Nazareth say of Jesus, "Is this not the son of Joseph?" (Luke 4:22) We know Joseph respected God. He followed God's commands in handling the situation with Mary and going to Jerusalem to have Jesus circumcised and Mary purified after Jesus' birth. We are told that he took his family to Jerusalem every year for Passover, something that could not have been easy for a working man. Since Joseph does not appear in Jesus' public life, at his death, or resurrection, many historians believe Joseph probably had died before Jesus entered public ministry. Joseph is the patron of the dying because, assuming he died before Jesus' public life, he died with Jesus and Mary close to him, the way we all would like to leave this earth.

Joseph is also patron of the universal Church, fathers, carpenters, and social justice.

Readers

Mar. 5 – Phyllis Moses
Mar. 12 – Shay Miller
Mar. 19 – Louis Najamy
Mar. 26 – Ken Ackell

Mar. 6 – Nada Zarrini
Mar. 13 – Gessika Alhayek
Mar. 20 – George Jabbour
Mar. 27 – Randy Michael

First Reading

Rom 14:14-23
Rom 6:12-23
2Cor 7:4-11
2Cor 13:5-13

Gospel

Jn 2:1-11
Mk 1:35-45
Lk 8:40-56
Lk 15:11-32



Ash Monday Begins Lent on March 7, 2011

On Monday March 7, 2011 we will have Mass & the Blessing of Ashes at 8:30am and 7pm with the distribution of ashes at the end of liturgy. Everyone please remember to fast on Ash Monday.



Maronite Fasting

Means having nothing to eat from midnight till noon on Ash Monday and Good Friday, and no meat (beef or poultry) on these days, as well as, every Friday during Lent. Anyone in good health between the ages of 14 and 60 should observe these fast days.

Holy Land Second Collection Good Friday April 22, 2011

Part of this collection is sent through the USCCB to the Holy land and another part is sent directly to the Maronite Eparchy of Haifa.

Lentil Meal Every Friday Of Lent season sponsored by our MYA

Each Friday during Lent, the Church will have a Stations of the Cross Service. In order to attract a wider audience during these services, Fr. Jean has asked the MYA to help provide food for those attending.

We will use the profits from these Friday meals to begin funding to send 2 MYA members to Lebanon each summer to teach English at an orphanage. We need volunteers to fill 6 Fridays during Lent and help prepare and serve the meal to our parishioners. If you and your friends can help one Friday please contact coordinator, Gessika Al Hayek: gessika2007@hotmail.com

Thank you in advance for volunteering your time.

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday starting on **March 11, 18, 25 and on April 1, 8, 15** during the Season of Lent we will walk in prayer with Christ tracing the steps leading up to His Passion and death on the Cross. We invite all of you to come to the Stations of the Cross at 7:00 pm following by Lenten dinner at 7:40 pm sponsored by our Maronite Young Adults -MYA group and at 8:20 we will have 30 minutes Bible Study with Fr Jean Younes.



Passion play Rehearsals

Rehearsals for the **Passion Play** will begin on Sunday Feb 20 at 6pm in the church. Chip Jowdy will call everyone with the details, or if you would like you can reach him at his phone (203-948-3307) or his e-mail Chip.Jowdy@macerich.com

Here is the schedule for the Passion Play Rehearsals and shows:

1	Sunday	February 20 th	6pm- 9pm
2	Sunday	February 27 th	6pm- 9pm
3	Sunday	March 6 th	6pm- 9pm
4	Sunday	March 13 th	6pm- 9pm
5	Sunday	March 20 th	6pm- 9pm
6	Tuesday	March 22 nd	6pm- 9pm
7	Sunday	March 27 th	6pm- 9pm
8	Tuesday	March 29 th	6pm- 9pm
9	Sunday	April 3 rd	6pm- 9pm
10	Tuesday	April 5 th	6pm- 9pm
11	Sunday	April 10 th	6pm- 9pm
12	Tuesday	April 12 th	6pm- 9pm
13	Sunday	April 17 th Palm Sunday Rehearsal 12 Noon – 8pm	Performance at 8pm - Open to Public
14	Monday	April 18 th	6pm- 9pm
15	Tuesday	April 19 th	6pm- 9pm
16	Friday	April 22 nd Good Friday Rehearsal 12 Noon – 6pm	Performance at 8pm – St. Anthony Parishioners

The knights of Columbus

We, the Knights of Columbus invite all men in our church to join the Fraternity. Any male 18 years or older is a candidate for our religious Fraternity. We are committed to serve the Church in many different ways like scholarships, fundraising assistance to parishes, various relief assistance work, and Church volunteerism of different types. Any man, wishing to learn more can contact John Gogliettino at 203-792-3629 or e-mail: jcgogliettino@aol.com. The Fraternity meets at the church hall of St Anthony Church in Danbury.

Change of time: Daylight Saving Time ends On March 13, 2011

Please, note that the time will change on Sunday March 13th 2011 at 12 a.m. You need to move your clocks one hour ahead.



Banns of Marriage

The **First Banns** of Marriage is announced for **Jack Madkour and Amanda Novella**. Anyone who knows of any impediment to this marriage has a moral obligation to make it known to the pastor. Please keep this couple in your prayers as they prepare themselves for this great Mystery.

MYO Scholarship Dinner Saturday March 26, 2011

In celebration of our St. Joseph we will hold a scholarship Dinner here at St. Anthony's Church Hall on Saturday, March 26, 2011 following the 5pm Mass from 6pm to Midnight. Snow date: Sunday March 27 at 12 pm after 10 am mass. Tickets will be \$20 per person and all the proceeds will be used for our Scholarship Fund to benefit St. Anthony's graduating MYO seniors who will be going on to college. The MYA members will get a special discount .For more information contact Ferris Nasser 203-300-1288.

Eparchial Charities Appeal 2011

To support the ministries and charities of our diocese like the religious education program, the seminary or support for Lebanon, our Beloved Bishop Mansour has asked us to raise \$ 6,000. To meet this goal each family in our parish is asked to contribute \$35 to this appeal. You can help by placing your check made out to St Anthony's Church and marked "Bishop Appeal" in your regular Sunday envelop during lent. (Divided as follows: 30% priests Retirement fund, 25% Seminary, 15% Endowment fund, 15 % Patriarchal liturgical commission & text, 15% Lebanon)

March Upcoming Parish Events

1. **MYO** meeting every Tuesday at 7:00 pm in the Rectory Basement
2. **AARP** meeting on Thursday March 17 at 12pm
3. **Knights of Columbus** meeting on Tuesday March 8 & 22 at 7:30 pm in the Church Hall
4. **Girls Scouts** meeting on Wednesday March 9 & 23 at 6 pm
5. **Sunday School** March 6,13,20,27 at 9 am in the Church Hall



Pasta Dinner

Come to our next Pasta Dinner on Saturday, March 12 and every second Saturday of the month from 6-8pm. We will serve a plate of unlimited pasta, two meatballs, salad, dinner rolls, butter, coffee and dessert for just \$7... It's a great deal for the whole family!



Ladies Guild Meeting

The next Ladies Guild Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 1, 2011 at 7pm in our Hall.



Parish Council Meeting

The Council will meet on Thursday, March 3 at 7pm in the hall.

Maronite Young Adults (MYA age 18 to 35) Meeting March 6th at 8 pm

Beginning on Sunday, March 6th we will be holding MYA meetings on the first Sunday of every month. We hope that many of you will make it to our meetings where we will discuss future events and philanthropic events for our community, our Church and Lebanon.

At this first meeting, we will nominate and elect a new leadership board for the MYA. If you are interested in taking leadership role in the MYA, we urge you to attend the meeting. Past members of the leadership board may be nominated as well. I hope to see many of you there.

Please see information and agenda below:

Sunday, March, 6, 2011

8:00pm-9:00pm

St. Anthony's Rectory

Food and Beverages Provided

Agenda:

1. Opening Prayer
2. Elections/Nominations for New MYA Board
3. Discussion of Lenten Meal Schedule
4. New Business
5. Closing
6. Closing Prayer.



First Penance & Holy Communion

This year we are blessed to have 4 children making their First Holy Communion. They are Gabriella Lagueur, Matthew Langdon, Luke Rioux, Blake Taylor We will all celebrate this most intimate Sacrament with them on **Sunday, May 1st, 2011, at the 10am Mass.** On the day before (**Saturday, April 30**) at 10am will we hold one final practice during which each child will celebrate their First Confession in preparation for their First Holy Communion the next day. The girls will wear a white Communion dress with veil, and the boys will wear dark blue or black suit, with a white shirt and white tie.

Is St. Anthony's in Your Will?

Please, treat your spiritual home of Saint Anthony as one of your children. This will help the legacy to continue on to future generations. The official legal bequest language for St. Anthony is: "I [your name], of [city, state, and zip], give, devise and bequeath to St. Anthony Maronite Catholic Church, 17 Granville Ave Danbury, CT 06810, [written amount or percentage of the estate or description of property for its unrestricted use and purpose]. A legacy gift is the ultimate expression of support for St. Anthony. Through your planned estate gift, you can touch the lives of others and enhance the community's ability to continue to serve.

St. Anthony's has teamed up with Viridian, a Connecticut Electrical Supplier

Dear Parishoners:

Last year in April, St Anthony's selected Viridian Energy as their electrical supplier to help lower the electricity bills. St. Anthony also joined the Viridian Fundraising Program to offer the same electricity savings to parishioners as well to family and friends. This letter is written to give you an update on the success of Viridian Energy. If you joined as a customer last year, the average savings compared to the utility was over 10%. St Anthony's has to date 69 customers enrolled. Viridian has paid St. Anthony's a total of \$1715.56. St. Anthony's has the opportunity of receiving another \$250 for enrolling another 6 customers. The rate for all new enrolling customers for the month of February is .0899 per KWH. It is FREE to switch. There are NO contracts, NO fees, or NO cancellation fees. I encourage you to switch for FREE, support St. Anthony's Church and save money on your electric bill. You may sign up on the church website from the following states CT, NJ, PA, MD, www.viridian.com/stanthony click on become a customer , select Rate: Everyday Green. It will take 1 to 2 billing cycles to switch over. For questions call Independent Associate Mary Shakro at (203) 792- 4077.

Also visit the church website: www.stanthonydanbury.com click on Viridian video.

A New Viridian market will open in New York February 14 in the ConEd utility area of NY only. Thank you for your support and may God Bless You.



Please Consider Contributions to St. Anthony Scholarship Fund

Please consider honoring the memory of the death of a loved one by requesting that contributions be made in their name to St. Anthony Scholarship Fund. The generosity of your family and friends will be acknowledged at our annual award breakfast in June. Donations made to this worthy cause help our parish to continue to support and encourage our graduating seniors in their future endeavors. This is a wonderful way to honor your loved ones and help our youth.

A Heartfelt Thank You

A heartfelt and most sincere "Thank You" to everyone involved in arranging, organizing, and attending our St. Maron Jubilee Weekend events. We are so very fortunate to have been able to celebrate and commemorate together the life and work of this wonderful saint who founded our Maronite Rite. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

Your loving pastor,

Pray For Our Sick

Please remember in your prayers all the sick and homebound of our parish family



Deepest Sympathy

Our condolences go to Dick Jowdy and family on the loss of his beloved Wife Arlene M. Jowdy (71), and to Betty Najm for the loss of her Father Filippo Bordonaro (80) and to Namen Nassif and Margaret Tavella and family on the loss of their Sister Lorice T. Nassif (87), and to Fred and Deborah on the loss of their Father Charles J. Simon (92). We pray that the Lord who has called his servants Arlene, Filippo, Lorice, Charles and may welcome them into his kingdom and grant them peace and rest among the saints.

Lebanese language Class

Want to learn how to speak Lebanese with Fr Jean Younes? Come join us on Thursday March 10 and Thursday March 24 at 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm in the Church Hall. If you are interested please contact Lauren Kilcourse to get more information at (203-241-0448) or laurenkilcourse@sbcglobal.net

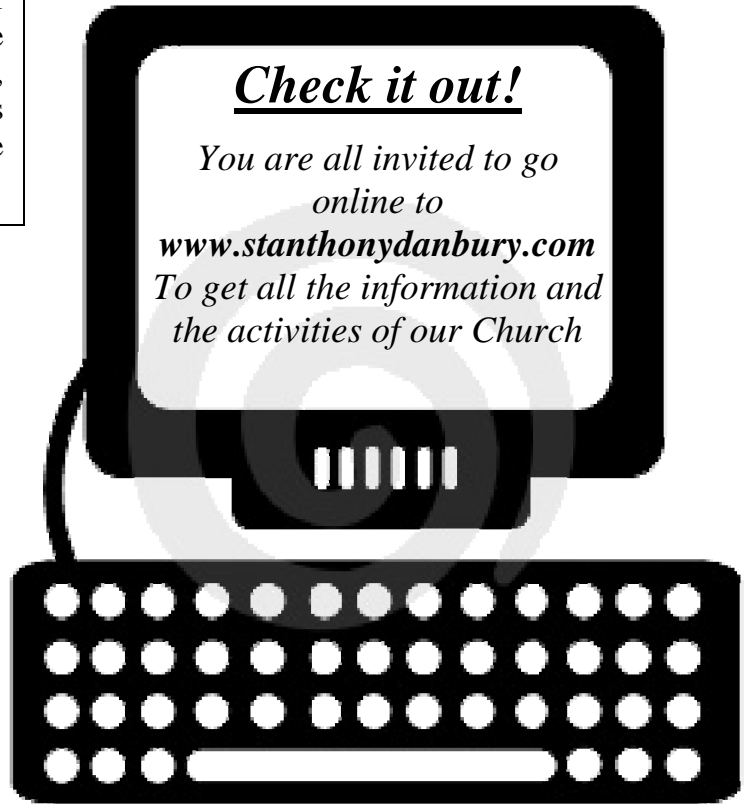
Your Offerings to your Parish:



January 9 , 2011 : \$ 4,859.00
January 16, 2011 : \$ 2,246.00
January 23, 2011 : \$ 2,935.00
January 30, 2011 : \$ 2,532.00
February 6, 2011 : \$ 3,265.00

Check it out!

*You are all invited to go
online to
www.stanthonydanbury.com
To get all the information and
the activities of our Church*





Mass Intentions

TIME		BY WHOM
Mar. 5 - (5 pm)	✦ Mass Available at this Time	→
Mar. 6 - (8am)	✦ Elias Aghnatiou	→ by M/M Roland Issa
Mar. 6 - (10am)	✦ Saleem & Mary Kater ✦ Josephine Jowdy ✦ Matthew Molinaro ✦ The Slaiby Family ✦ John Dekker ✦ About, Mary & Josephine Jowdy	→ by their Family → by Mamie Jowdy → by his Family → by M/M Ferris Nasser → by Cypher family & children → by the Family
Mar. 12 (5pm)	✦ Helen Delury ✦ David & Mae Jowdy ✦ Joseph & Leya Simon & Fred, Samuel & Edward ✦ Teresa Najam	→ by Daniel Jowdy → by their Family → by the Family → by her Family
Mar13 - (8am)	✦ Mary & Joseph Murad	→ by their Family
Mar13 - (10am)	✦ John & Rose Cartiglia & Robert ✦ Phoebe Lubus & Arthur & Lillian Haddad ✦ Filippo Bordonaro (40 days)	→ by their Family → by the Family → by M/M Ghassan Najm
Mar 19 (5pm)	✦ Dawn Marie Assad ✦ Robert Lubus Sr. ✦ Catherine and Joseph Rice	→ by M/M George Assad & Family → by Viola Dorr & Lubus Family → by Edward & Mary Ann Kuczko
Mar. 20- (8am)	✦ Justin Simmons	→ by his Family
Mar. 20- (10am)	✦ Antoine & Claire Issa ✦ Youssef Haidar, Najam Richa, Wadih, Anthony & Edmond Haddad	→ by their Children → by the Family
Mar. 26 - (5 pm)	✦ George & Evelyn Solomon & Ablin Abeyou	→ by the Family
Mar. 27 - (8am)	✦ Louis & Yolanda Balboni ✦ Louis Owen	→ by their Family → by his Wife, Evelyn
Mar. 27 - (10am)	✦ John & Josephine Asmar ✦ Louis & Alice Bingel & Patricia Faulkner ✦ Peter & Mary Cerrone ✦ Kurt Gunther III ✦ Michael Mancuso ✦ Peter O'Brien ✦ Kamil Saffi, Victoria, Kameal, Paul, Lillian Evelyn Habib ✦ William, Hanna & Norman Asmar + Nassib, Estelle & Gloria Jowdy ✦ Kevin Kenny	→ by the Asmar Family → by Edie Warren → by their Children → by his Family → by his Mother, Rita → by his Family → by the Family → by M/M Ray Asmar → by his Wife & Daughter