



## *St. Raymond– St. Elizabeth Maronite Catholic Church*

**Most Rev. A. Elias Zaidan, Bishop of The Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon**

**Most Rev. Mitchell Rozanski, Archbishop of St. Louis**

**Rev. John Nahal, Rector**

### Downtown

931 Lebanon Drive  
St. Louis, MO 63104

Tel: (314) 621-0056

Website: [straymond-mc.org](http://straymond-mc.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/  
groups/saintraymonds](https://www.facebook.com/groups/saintraymonds)

### Crestwood

1420 S. Sappington Road  
Crestwood, MO 63126

Tel: (314) 968-0760

Website: [stelizabethhungary.org](http://stelizabethhungary.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/  
sehcrestwood/](https://www.facebook.com/sehcrestwood/)

### DIVINE LITURGY

Sunday: 10:15am  
Mon, Wed, Fri: 12 noon

### RECONCILIATION:

Sunday: 9:15am  
or by appointment

### DIVINE LITURGY/HOLY MASS:

Saturday: 4:00pm- Roman  
5:15pm— Maronite  
Sunday: 8am and 10:30am—Roman  
Monday-Friday: 8am  
Tuesday & Thursday: 6pm

### RECONCILIATION:

Saturday: 3:00pm; Sunday: 9:45am

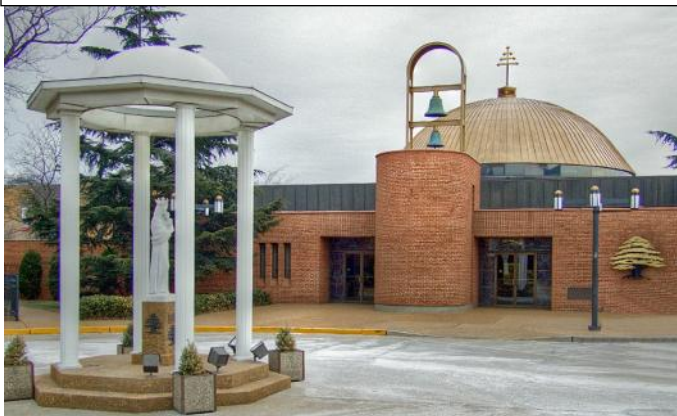
### MINISTERING THE SACRAMENTS/MYSTERIES

**Sacrament of Baptism:** call the rectory 1 month in advance to schedule an appointment and date with Msgr. John

**Sacrament of Matrimony:** call the rectory 6 months in advance (1 year in advance if there are canonical issues)

**Visitation and Anointing of the Sick:** call the rectory; Msgr. John's emergency contact is on the answering machine

**Intentions for Divine Liturgy:** call the rectory, mail, or email your intentions



### HEALING OF THE LEPER

Liturgy p. 196  
2 Kings 5:1-3, 9-14  
Rom 6:12-23  
Mk 1:35-45



### 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7  
Psalm 51  
Romans 5:12-19  
Matthew 4:1-11

*Sunday, February 22nd, 2026*

## DIVINE LITURGY & MASS INTENTIONS DOWNTOWN:

Sat. Feb 21	<i>St. Ostadios, patriarch of Antioch</i>
Sun. Feb 22 10:15 am	<b>HEALING OF THE LEPER</b> +Nadim Khoury- 40 Day Liturgy, By the Bouhasin and Adem Families +Gloria 'Skip' Leisure By Theresa & Charlie Miller +Mary Ojile By David & Effie Westphal +Mary Erika Franz Kaiser 12:15 pm Tannous Diab By Bassel Diab
Mon. Feb 23 12:00 pm	<i>St. Policarp, bishop of Smyrna</i> Poor Souls in Purgatory
Tue. Feb 24	<i>St. Margarita the penitent</i>
Wed. Feb 25 12:00 pm	<i>St. Felix the 2nd</i> John Elking By Dennis & Roxanne Elking
Thurs. Feb 26	<i>St. Proforios bishop of Gaza</i>
Fri. Feb 27 12:00 pm	<i>St. Talalaos</i> No Divine Liturgy
Sat. Feb 28 4:00 pm	<i>Sts. Cyra &amp; Marana virgins, disciples of St. Maron</i> Divine Liturgy at St. Raymond Cathedral (GSM)
Sun. Mar. 1 10:15 am	<b>HEALING OF THE HEMORRHAGING WOMAN</b> +Nafea Hindi, Monera Naom, Waleed Hindi, Najat Sulaiman By Riyadh and Luma Hindi +Bobbe Martini By Effie & David Westphal +Mary Ojile By Monica Garozzo

## CRESTWOOD: (RC Roman Catholic, MC Maronite)

Sat. Feb 21 4:00 pm RC 5:15 pm MC	<i>Sunday Vigil, St. Peter Damian</i> Vittorio Moran +Joseph & Mary Lee Mueckl By David & Kathy Mueckl +Butch Chambers
Sun. Feb 22 8:00 am RC 10:30 am RC	<b>1ST SUNDAY OF LENT</b> Subdeacon George & Marilue Simon by Patti Carnie Mary Ojile
Mon. Feb 23 8:00 am RC	<i>St. Polycarp</i> Grace Minton
Tue. Feb 24 8:00 am RC 6:00 pm MC	<i>St. Ethelbert</i> Helen Murphy by Pat & Aaron Alster For the healing of Stephanie Lewis by Jim & Mary Ulett
Wed. Feb 25 8:00 am RC	<i>St. Tarasius</i> Jason Schulz for healing
Thurs. Feb 26 8:00 am RC 6:00 pm MC	<i>St. Porphyry</i> Jordan Lauber by Wyatt Lauber +Elias Hitti By Nazha Hitti and Family +Aaron & Neal Alster by Pat Alster
Fri. Feb 27 8:00am RC 6:00 pm	<i>St. Leander</i> Neal Alster by Pat Alster Stations of the Cross and Maronite Prayers
Sat. Feb 28 4:00 pm RC 5:15 pm MC	<i>Sunday Vigil, Sts. Romanus &amp; Lupicinus</i> Raffaello Moran Charles and Katherine Dunivin By David & Kathy Mueckl
Sun. Mar 1 8:00 am MC 10:30 am RC	<b>2ND SUNDAY OF LENT</b> Mary Ojile By Kate Rivera Alster Family Pro Populo

## WEEKLY FINANCES 2/15/2026 ST. RAYMOND-ST.ELIZABETH:

<b>4:00pm Saturday</b>	
Loose cash	509
Checks/Envelopes	530
<b>7:00pm Saturday</b>	
Loose cash	1
Checks/Envelopes	150
<b>8:00am Sunday</b>	
Loose cash	80
Checks/Envelopes	240
<b>10:30am Sunday</b>	
Loose cash	192
Checks/Envelopes	295
Candles	106
Pickleball	318
Revenue during the week	5,549
Second Collection	
Online Giving <a href="https://osvhub.com/stelizabethhungary/funds">https://osvhub.com/stelizabethhungary/funds</a>	1,248
Expenses	\$11,629.84

## ST. RAYMOND:

<b>5:15pm Saturday</b>	
Loose cash	35
Checks/Envelopes	80
<b>10:15am Sunday</b>	
Loose cash	109
Checks/Envelopes	985
Revenue during the week	1,600
Candles	95
Coffee hour	171
Hall rental	12,000
2nd Collection	570
Online Giving <a href="https://osvhub.com/straymond-mc/giving/funds">https://osvhub.com/straymond-mc/giving/funds</a>	2,467
Expenses	\$10,278.94





# A note from the pastor

## An Invitation to Ecological Conversion for U.S. Catholics

*By Most Reverend Shelton J. Fabre*

*Archbishop of Louisville*

*Chairman, Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development*

*Most Reverend A. Elias Zaidan*

*Bishop of Maronite Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon*

*Chairman, Committee on International Justice and Peace*

"For from the greatness and the beauty of created things their original author, by analogy, is seen." - Wisdom 13:5

### A Call to Conversion

We enter this season of Lent recognizing the yearnings of our hearts which can be fulfilled only in Christ. The Desert Fathers and Mothers understood that in order to hear Christ's voice, we must enter into the solitude of the desert. For the one who listens, the desert is not a barren place that is dead and desolate. Rather, it is a place that teems with life, and whose pregnant solitude reveals the Lord, present to us in all of creation.



This time of Lent reminds us that we are in need of conversion—for as Pope Francis wrote in *Laudato si'*:

“‘The external deserts in the world are growing, because the internal deserts have become so vast.’ For this reason, the ecological crisis is also a summons to profound interior conversion” (no. 217).

Indifference and distance from one another have led to devastating consequences for God's creation, including the poor. The conversion that we need is both metaphorical and physical.

### The Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor

As it is, we rarely pause to listen to “the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor,” nor do we regularly reflect on how our choices impact our brothers and sisters around the world. Our world is hurtling toward unsustainable climate conditions that will affect the flourishing of people all over the planet. This unsustainable situation is, in part, caused by ever-increasing consumption enabled by the ability to accumulate with a simple click of the button, and incessant marketing to convince us that we all need more.

(continue reading at [An Invitation to Ecological Conversion for U.S. Catholics | USCCB](#) )

#### CONTACT US:

##### RECTOR

Msgr. John Nahal  
[rector@straymond-mc.org](mailto:rector@straymond-mc.org)

##### ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Fr. Anthony Simon  
[asimon@simonlawpc.com](mailto:asimon@simonlawpc.com)

##### DEACONS

Deacon Bill Meister  
[williammeister@archstl.org](mailto:williammeister@archstl.org)  
Subdeacon David Wahby  
[wahby@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wahby@sbcglobal.net)  
Subdeacon Elie Kassab  
Elie Kassab  
<[kassab\\_elie@hotmail.com](mailto:kassab_elie@hotmail.com)>

##### PARISH SECRETARY

Crestwood: Felicity McCann  
[steeliz@straymond-mc.org](mailto:steeliz@straymond-mc.org)  
Downtown: Mary Cohen-Ehlen  
[secretary@straymond-mc.org](mailto:secretary@straymond-mc.org)

##### PRO-LIFE COORDINATOR

Jean Flanagan  
[1greatflan@gmail.com](mailto:1greatflan@gmail.com)

##### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FORMATION DIRECTOR

Pam Olimpio  
[pcatherine@att.net](mailto:pcatherine@att.net)

##### MUSIC DIRECTOR

Crestwood:  
Elisabeth Kenney  
[elisabethrkenney@gmail.com](mailto:elisabethrkenney@gmail.com)  
Downtown:  
Penny Arslanian  
[penny.arslanian@gmail.com](mailto:penny.arslanian@gmail.com)  
Dennis Keller, Jr.  
[d.kellerjr@gmail.com](mailto:d.kellerjr@gmail.com)

##### BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Deadline: 8am Tuesdays  
submit to: Felicity  
[steeliz@straymond-mc.org](mailto:steeliz@straymond-mc.org)

##### ONLINE GIVING

Crestwood:  
[osvhub.com/stelizabethhungary/funds](http://osvhub.com/stelizabethhungary/funds)  
Downtown:  
[straymond-mc.org/online-giving](http://straymond-mc.org/online-giving)

##### MERCY MEAL

Kathleen Wahby 314 276 3062

##### MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

Donate or Borrow piece of medical equipment, please call  
Patty Renschen 314 517 7044

##### PICKLEBALL

David Miller  
[davidcmiller60@gmail.com](mailto:davidcmiller60@gmail.com)

##### ST RAYMOND'S BANQUET HALL

[Cedarshall@straymond-mc.org](mailto:Cedarshall@straymond-mc.org)

##### YOUTH MINISTER

Alex Khater

##### CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Carla Aouad  
Margo Kassab

##### YOUNG ADULTS

Joseph Nesser





## LECTORS: CRESTWOOD

<b>Sat, Feb. 21</b> 4:00 pm	Ralph & Margie
<b>Sun, Feb. 22</b> 8:00 am 10:30 am	Nancy Wall Fabi Pineda
<b>Sat, Feb. 28</b> 4:00 pm	Sr. Rosalie
<b>Sun, Mar. 1</b> 8:00 am 10:30 am	Dan & Kathleen Austin Krueger

## UP COMING EVENTS

- \*Sun March 8: Purse Bingo
- \*Fish Fry: Feb 20,27, March 6,13,20,27, April 3 (Good Fri at St Raymond's)
- \*May 3: First Communion
- \*May 5-13: Our Lady of Fatima Novena
- \*May 10: Mother's Day
- \*June 6: Golf Tournament
- \*June 9-10: Synodality Conf. at the Cedars
- \*June 23-28: Youth National Conference Univ. of Dayton OH
- \*June 29-July 5: NAM Conv., San Diego, CA
- \*Sep. 18,19,20: Lebanese Festival
- \*Sep. 28- Oct. 9: Trip to Lebanon
- \*Oct. 17: Autumn Harvest Festival
- \*Nov. 14: Vendor Fair
- \*Dec. 3: Men's Christmas Dinner
- \*Sun Dec. 6: Breakfast with Santa

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK & HOMEBOUND OF OUR PARISH

Tom Hearst	Tom Morrow
Victor Sciarrino	Marie Kallial
Rosalie Hubert	Rob Turner
Mike McSorley Sr.	Emil Salman
James Brumfield	Jennifer Van Luven
Cathy Seemayer	Janet Emerson
Mary Lou Works	Burton Droste
Chris Nelms	Dot Smith
Ted Arunski	Gabe Vollet
Dave Holdinghausen	Barb Rohr
Michelle Bausworth	Ameal Nassif
Tom Saucier	Gerry Nassif
Rhoda Simpher	Tim Gamma
Patricia Beck	Munir Matar
Don Ganim	Susan Dugan
John Anton	Rima Cabbabe
Jim Hoffman	Ralph Wahby
Richard Baker Sr	Lynn Kersting
Patrick Carr	
Steve Baker	
Janet Zhakaria	
John Cleary	

## COFFEE HOUR

All our parishioners and visitor friends are welcome to socialize at the Cedars hall after 10:15am Divine Liturgy. We thank the Ladies' Sodality for serving the coffee hour.

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Eucharistic Adoration this coming Mon. Feb. 23 , 8:30am—5:00pm, at St. Raymond– St. Elizabeth Church.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Rel Ed classes Mon. Feb. 23, at 5:45pm, at St. Raymond– St. Elizabeth church. Right after Rel Ed teachers meeting.

## BIBLE STUDY DURING LENT

Msgr. John will have a Bible Study during Lent, "Praying and Fasting with Jesus", at 6pm, at St. Raymond– St. Elizabeth church, on Mondays with the Rel. Ed. program, Feb. 23, March 2, 9, 16, 23. Blessed Lent!

## KITCHEN SCOOP

The Kitchen is open on Wed. Feb. 25, 2026. On Tue., Feb. 24, at 8:30am we will be preparing kibbe aras, and rolling grape/cabbage leaves. We encourage you to place your orders, Monday and Tuesday before the Wed. luncheon, through Square <http://st-raymond-cathedral.square.site/>

Thanks!

Denise and Gina

## THURSDAY CHRISTIAN DOCUMENTARY FILMS

Christian documentary movie on Thurs. Feb. 26, after 8am Mass.

## OCIA CLASS

Class on Thurs. Feb. 26, at 6pm. If you like to know more about the Catholic/Maronite Faith, please join the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults OCIA. For more info Jacob Garanzini <jacob.hart@gmail.com>

## FISH FRY EVERY FRIDAY OF LENT 2026

St. Raymond– St. Elizabeth church cafeteria will have a Fish Fry, Fri. Feb. 27, 4pm– 7pm. At 6:00pm we will have at the church, the Stations of the Cross and Maronite Adoration of the Cross Prayers. The different church organizations and committees will help in the Fish Fry. Pre-orders, Menu, Carry-out, Dine-in will be posted on our church Square page

<http://st-raymond-cathedral.square.site/>

Fish Fry Dinner help turn will be as follow: Feb. 27, Men's Society; March 6, Ladies' Sodality; March 13, Pickleball; March 20, Pro Life, Rel Ed; March 27, Parish, Finance Council, Choir; April 3, (Good Fri at St Raymond's) MYO and MYA

Organizations are to bring dessert on that the assigned Friday and help serving.

FISH FRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. All activities take place at Crestwood campus. Sign-up sheets are in the vestibules and by clicking here. Food Line Prep— starting at 12 noon. Dessert Prep and Service 3:00 - 8 p.m. Food service 3:00 - 8:pm. Clean up 8-9 p.m.



### ST. RAYMOND FOOD PANTRY & ASSISTANCE FUND:

Please consider making a monetary donation to the St. Raymond Food Pantry Assistance Fund to help with rent, utilities, and medical expenses for those in our parish who are in need. You may contribute through on-line giving or by personal check payable to St. Raymond Maronite Cathedral. If paying by personal check, please write "Food Pantry Assistance Fund" in the note section of your donation in the weekly collection or mail it to St. Raymond Maronite Cathedral, 931 Lebanon Drive, St. Louis, MO 63104. Thank you for your generosity.

### COMMUNION CALLS & HOME VISITS

If you are sick or homebound and would like a Communion minister to come to your home, please let us know! Contact the office to get in touch: (314) 968-0760 or email deacon Bill WilliamMeister@archstl.org

### PARISH DEVOTIONS

#### Monday

Adoration 8:30-5pm

#### Tuesday

Our Lady of Perpetual Help after 8am Mass  
Patriotic Rosary at 5:15pm

#### 1st Friday

Sacred Heart Litany

#### 4th Saturday of the Month

Rosary at noon for Intentions at Fatima.

### ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM, O LORD

† Steven Vidra	2-2-2026
† Mary Ojile	1-30-2026
† Gloria 'Skip' Leisure	1-13-2026
† Christine Van Doren	11-30-2025
† Janet Wright	11-14-2025
† Gus Millati	11-13-2025
† Patricia Augustyniak	11-1-2025
† Terry Leong	10-31-2025
† Jad Michel Gennaoui	10-17-2025
† Milad Abounader	10-6-2025
† Carol Bilger	9-25-2025
† Christopher Seemayer	9-5-2025
† Mary Susan Bickel	8-24-2025
† Barbara Marchetto	7-18-2025
† John D. Bouhasin	7-9-2025
† Eileen Bayer	6-18-2025
† Mary Ann Frieis	5-20-2025
† Elaine Snyder	3-30-2025

### MEN OF ST JOSEPH: FAITHFUL, NOT PERFECT

All men are invited: young and old, single, married, divorced, widowed, practicing or returning-to join Men of St. Joseph: Faithful, Not Perfect. Guided by Saint Joseph, rooted in prayer and trust in God's mercy, we gather as imperfect men striving to live faithfully, encouraging one another walk in God's will and begin again when we fall. Meeting at St. Raymond-St. Elizabeth on the first Saturday each month for prayer and fellowship in a welcoming, judgment-free setting. No commitment or experience is required—just a desire to grow closer to God alongside other men on the same journey.

Next Meeting, Sat. March 7, 7:30am– 8:30am

All men are welcome. Come as you are.

### FOOD DRIVE

Sincere thanks to those who have generously donated food to St. Raymond's Food Pantry. If you or someone you know is in need of food assistance, please help yourself to the food in the Food Pantry bins in the back of church before or after Mass, or contact the church offices at (314) 621-0056 to schedule a time to pick up food.

**MO RIGHT TO LIFE**—"Keep Missouri Pro-Life" Action Day Wednesday, March 11th, 2026, Missouri State Capitol, Bus Transportation is available from several sites in the St. Louis metro and surrounding areas. Sign up online at [www.easternregionmrl.org/actionday](http://www.easternregionmrl.org/actionday). Or contact MO Right to Life-Eastern Region at 314.434.4900 by March 6.

### MEN'S AND LADIES' SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

Membership form was mailed to the men and women of our parish. Please, consider joining those two organizations.

### CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT FOR 2025

All registered families at our church, at both locations, should receive by now a contribution statement for the year 2025. The P&L 2025 reports for both our churches is posted on the website of both our churches respectively. Thanks for your love and support to our church.

### PURSE BINGO Sun. March 8

Purse Bingo is sold out! Thanks to all that purchased tickets. It will be a fun filled afternoon @ The Cedars! Mary Denny

### YOUTH NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Registration started Feb. 1st. All our youth are invited to participate in the meetings/events/activities of the church, to benefit first our church, have community service hours, and participate in the national youth conference. Our youth this school year raised \$6.5K, and they need another \$4K to cover the fees of their events. Thanks for supporting our Youth!

### PROTECTION OF GOD'S CHILDREN

Please, all volunteers and employees, including for Lebanese and Autumn Festivals of St. Raymond Cathedral and St. Raymond– St. Elizabeth Church have to do online training for the Protection of God's Children and Safe Environment, at

<https://eparchyofourladyoflebanon.cmgconnect.org/>

For any questions, please contact Msgr. John





## LAND TRIP TO FRANCE

Join Bishop A. Elias Zaidan to Lourdes and other important sites in France, including Paris, Lisieux, St. Michel, Normandie, and Bordeaux.

May 19-28, 2026

\*Flights to/from the United States to France need to be booked separately.

10 Days  
9 Nights

Double Occupancy  
**\$4,000**  
/per person

Single Occupancy  
Additional Supplement  
**\$1,000**

### Price Includes:

- ✓ 4 Star Hotels Accommodations
- ✓ Entrance Fees to Various Sites
- ✓ English Speaking Guide
- ✓ Transportation between locations
- ✓ All Meals and Tips Included

### To Reserve

Ivette Jackson: 323-336-3168  
Jamileh Koury: 818-294-2901  
Email: info@eparchy.org

### Requirements

Reservation requires a deposit of \$2,000 per person.  
Full amount due on March 31, 2026.

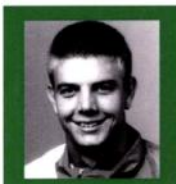


### COST:

**\$200 PER TABLE OF 8 (INCLUDES BEER AND SODA)**

**\$320 FOR VIP TABLES (INCLUDES SNACKS, 3 BOTTLES OF WINE, & TABLE SERVICE)**

## CASEY'S KICKERS TRIVIA NIGHT 2026



**SATURDAY FEB. 21ST 7PM**

**DOORS OPEN AT 6PM**



## Parenting the Media: Raising Disciples in a Digital World

Sr Nancy Usselman, fsp

**February 28th**  
9:30am-11:30am

Pauline Books & Media  
9804 Watson Rd  
St. Louis, MO  
(314) 965-3512



# FISH Fry

**KID'S MEALS AVAILABLE**

Baked Cod & Shrimp Also Available

## ST. RAYMOND - ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH

Every Friday AT 4 PM - 7 PM  
February 20<sup>th</sup> thru March 27<sup>th</sup>  
1420 S. Sappington Road - Crestwood

314-968-0760    stelizabethhungary.org

## St. Raymond Cathedral Youth MYO FAMILY NIGHT

**MAY 02, 2026 · 5 TO 10 PM**

**ADULTS \$60    12&UNDER \$20**

THE CEDARS BANQUET HALL  
939 Lebanon Dr., St. Louis, MO 63104

It's a seated dinner so please be prompt.  
Doors open at 5:00 pm with appetizers and salads.  
Dinner will be served at 6:00 pm.  
Security and police will be present for the entire time.

For tickets and seat reservation contact  
Carla 314-660-9031, Elssy 636-219-2125  
All reservations are due by March, 31st.  
**NO TICKETS AT THE DOOR!**

All proceeds will benefit St. Raymond youth activities.