



## *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

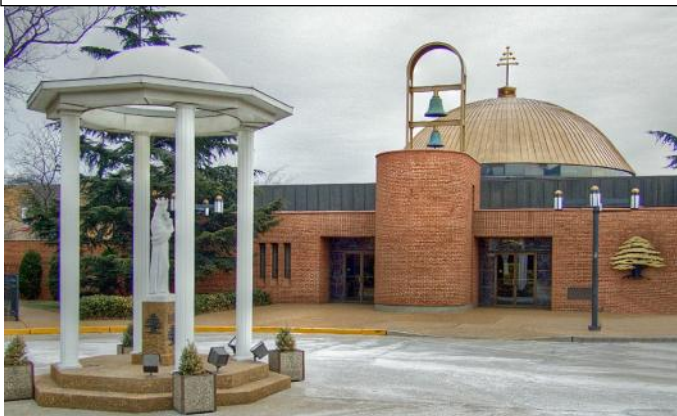
### MINISTERING THE SACRAMENTS/MYSTERIES

**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



**SUNDAY AFTER THE GLORIOUS BIRTH OF OUR  
LORD— The Adoration of the Magi**

Liturgy p. 76

Jeremiah 23:5-8

Rev 21:9-10, 21-27

Mt 2:1-12



**FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND  
JOSEPH**

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

Psalms 128

Colossians 3:12-21

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

*Sunday, December 28th, 2025*

## DIVINE LITURGY & MASS INTENTIONS DOWNTOWN:

Sat. Dec. 27	<i>St. Stephen, the first martyr</i>
Sun. Dec. 28 10:15 am	<b>SUNDAY AFTER THE GLORIOUS BIRTH OF OUR LORD- The Adoration of the Magi</b> +Subdeacon George & Marilue Simon By David & Kathy Mueckl +For the Kutis Family
12 pm noon	No Divine Liturgy
Mon. Dec. 29 12:00 pm	<i>The babies of Bethlehem, martyrs</i> Jihad Ghossain
Tue. Dec. 30	<i>Anisia, martyr &amp; St. Theodora</i>
Wed. Dec. 31 12:00 pm	<i>St. Zotikos</i> Poor Souls in Purgatory
Thurs. Jan. 1 10:15 am	<i>The Circumcision of Our Lord Jesus Christ</i> For Peace in our Hearts and in the World
Fri. Jan 2 12:00 pm	St. Silvestrus the first, Pope of Rome Poor Souls in Purgatory
Sat. Jan 3	<i>The Prophet Mika/Malachi &amp; St. Regory the martyr</i>
Sun. Jan 4 10:15 am	<b>THE FINDING OF OUR LORD IN THE TEMPLE</b> +Bob and Ginny Mahfood By the Fanetti / Schmidt Family +Sandy Wahby By David & Kathy Mueckl +Mike & Anne Brotherton By Linda Hill +Jihad Ghossain

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

Sat. Dec. 27 4:00 pm RC 5:15 pm MC	<i>Sunday Vigil, St. John</i> Patricia Augustyniak Douglas & Juanita Gibbs
Sun. Dec. 28 8:00 am RC 10:30 am RC	<b>THE HOLY FAMILY</b> Aaron Alster Mildred Colbert By Linda Hill
Mon. Dec. 29 8:00 am RC	<i>St. Thomas Becket</i> Geri Wolf
Tue. Dec. 30 8:00 am RC 6:00 pm MC	<i>St. Sabinus</i> Neal Alster for Healing Lucas Allen
Wed. Dec. 31 8:00am RC	<i>St. Sylvester I</i> Valentino Robles
Thurs. Jan. 1 10:30 am RC	<i>Mary, Mother of God– Holy Day of Obligation</i> For Peace in our Hearts and in the World Elias Hitti By Nazha Hitti and Family
Fri. Jan. 2 8:00am RC	<i>St. Gregory Nazianzen</i> Barbara Bufka by Janet Svejkosky
Sat. Jan. 3 4:00 pm RC 5:15 pm MC	<i>Sunday Vigil, St. Genevieve</i> Patricia Augustyniak Jack & Mary Pudlowski By Linda Hill
Sun. Jan. 4 8:00 am MC 10:30 am RC	<b>EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD</b> +Richard Kerkhoff +Ruth and Jack Carnie By Linda Hill Marilyn Meister

## WEEKLY FINANCES 12/21/2025 ST. RAYMOND-ST.ELIZABETH:

<b>4:00pm Saturday</b>	
Loose cash	741
Checks/Envelopes	635
<b>7:00pm Saturday</b>	
Loose cash	31
Checks/Envelopes	100
<b>8:00am Sunday</b>	
Loose cash	85
Checks/Envelopes	105
<b>10:30am Sunday</b>	
Loose cash	88
Checks/Envelopes	913
Candles	88
Pickleball	348
Revenue during the week	1,340.17
Christmas Flowers	75
Online Giving <a href="https://osvhub.com/stelizabethhungary/funds">https://osvhub.com/stelizabethhungary/funds</a>	1,170
Expenses (remodeling rectory)	\$12,811.07

## ST. RAYMOND:

<b>5:15pm Saturday</b>	
Loose cash	25
Checks/Envelopes	40
<b>10:15am Sunday</b>	
Loose cash	201
Checks/Envelopes	1,400
Revenue during the week	1,810
Candles	322
Coffee hour	401
2nd Collection	1,460
Online Giving <a href="https://osvhub.com/straymond-mc/giving/funds">https://osvhub.com/straymond-mc/giving/funds</a>	\$1,743
Expenses	\$16,404.17





# A note from the pastor

## Five Lessons of the Magi

By Bishop Robert Barron



The unforgettable story of the journey of the Magi, as recounted in the Gospel of Matthew, is an artful summary of the principal dynamics of the spiritual life. Watching the night sky with scrupulous attention for signs of God's purpose, the Magi evoke the importance of alertness in the spiritual order. We must keep our eyes open to see what God is up to. For far too many people, the spiritual life never gets underway, precisely because they don't pay attention.

Once they saw the star, they moved, despite the length of the journey and the dangers of the road. Sometimes people know what God wants them to do, but they don't act, either out of fear or laziness or the influence of bad habits. In their confident journeying forth, the Magi teach us not to miss the propitious moment. They teach us to move.

When they entered into Herod's territory, the Magi caught the attention of the king. And when they spoke to him of the birth of a new King of the Jews, Herod became frantic and tried to use them in order to destroy the baby. A third lesson: when you walk the path that God has laid out for you, expect opposition. We live in a sinful, fallen world, and there will always be forces at cross purposes to God.

Refusing to cooperate with Herod's game, the wise men came to Bethlehem, found the child, and gave him their precious gifts. When you come to Christ, don't give him your second best; break open the very best of yourself and make it a gift for him. Finally, they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod and so "they returned to their home country by another route."

As Fulton Sheen commented so magnificently: of course they did; for no one comes to Christ and goes back the same way he came!

The journey of these wise men is a metaphor for the spiritual journeys that all of us must make. Like the magi, we must be attentive; we must be willing to act; we must expect opposition; we must give our best to Christ, and finally, we must be willing to change, "to go back by a different route."

### CONTACT US:

#### RECTOR

Rev. John Nahal  
rector@straymond-mc.org

#### ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Rev. Anthony Simon  
asimon@simonlawpc.com

#### ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Rev. Jad Chlouk  
jad.chlouk@gmail.com

#### DEACONS

Dcn. Bill Meister  
williammeister@archstl.org  
Subdeacon David Wahby  
wahby@sbcglobal.net

#### PARISH SECRETARY

Crestwood: Felicity McCann  
steeliz@straymond-mc.org  
Downtown: Mary Cohen-Ehlen  
secretary@straymond-mc.org

#### PRO-LIFE COORDINATOR

Jean Flanagan  
1greatflan@gmail.com

#### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FORMATION DIRECTOR

Pam Olimpio  
pcatherine@att.net

#### MUSIC DIRECTOR

Crestwood:  
Elisabeth Kenney  
elisabethrkenney@gmail.com  
Downtown:  
Dennis Keller, Jr.  
d.kellerjr@gmail.com

#### BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Deadline: 8am Tuesdays  
To submit: Email Felicity  
steeliz@straymond-mc.org

#### ONLINE GIVING

Crestwood:  
osvhub.com/stelizabethhungary/funds  
Downtown:  
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

#### EVENT PLANNER- THE CEDARS

Nancy Stevens 314 239 0648

#### FACILITY MANAGER- ST RAYMOND

Cedarshall@straymond-mc.org

#### YOUTH MINISTER

Jacquelyn Olimpio  
jacqolimpio@att.net





## LECTORS: CRESTWOOD

<b>Sat, Dec. 27</b> 4:00 pm	Sr. Rosalie
<b>Sun, Dec. 28</b> 8:00 am 10:30 am	Dan & Kathleen Austin Krueger
<b>Sat, Jan. 3</b> 4:00 pm	Janet Finke
<b>Sun, Jan. 4</b> 8:00 am 10:30 am	Glen Brookman Jean Minton

## UP COMING EVENTS

- \*Wed Dec 31: New Year's Eve Celebration
- \*Sun Feb. 1: St. Maron's Feast Day
- \*Sun March 8: Purse Bingo
- \*Youth National Retreat: Dayton Univ, 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
- \*Sun Dec. 6, 2026: Breakfast with Santa

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

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

## COFFEE HOUR

We welcome all our parishioners and friend visitors to socialize and for coffee hour after 10:15am Divine Liturgy at St. Raymond Cathedral. We thank the Ladies' Sodality our church for serving the Coffee hour. Please, let us enjoy each other, and celebrate the Day of Lord!

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

No Eucharistic Adoration this coming Mon. Dec. 29, at St. Raymond – St. Elizabeth Church, from 8:30am till 5pm.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

No Rel Ed classes Mon. Dec. 29. Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year!

## KITCHEN SCOOP

The Kitchen is closed for the rest of the year, we will resume our luncheons, God willing, on Wed. Jan. 7, 2026. For more information, log on to Square <http://st-raymond-cathedral.square.site/> Thanks! Denise and Gina

## THURSDAY CHRISTIAN DOCUMENTARY FILMS

We will resume the movies on Jan 8th. God willing.

## OCIA CLASS

Classes will resume Thurs. Jan. 8, 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.g@gmail.com>

## MEN'S SODALITY MEETING

The men's society meeting will be on Thurs. Jan. 8

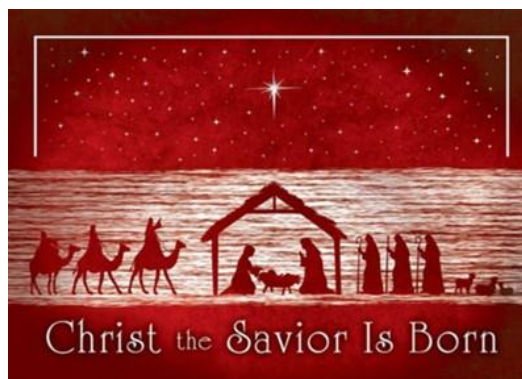
## ST. MARON'S FEAST DAY

We will celebrate with bishop Zaidan the feast of our patron saint Maron on Sunday, February 1st, at St. Raymond Cathedral.

## 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.





## 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

† 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 Friehs	5-20-2025
† Elaine Snyder	3-30-2025
† John Michaels	3-29-2025
† Agnes Guhman	3-25-2025
† Marilue Simon	3-24-2025
† Thomas Bremehr	3-16-2025

## GLORIOUS EPIPHANY-6:00 PM DIVINE LITURGY

We will celebrate the Glorious Epiphany Divine Liturgy on Tuesday, Jan. 6, at 6:00pm, at St. Raymond– St. Elizabeth Church, with the Rite of Blessing of Water.

## CLERGY RETREAT

Fr. Tony, Fr. Jad, Fr. Ron, Fr. John will be participating at the annual priest retreat in Scottsdale, AZ on Jan. 12– 16, please keep our bishop and all our priests in your prayers.

## LADIES' SODALITY MEETING- SUN. JAN. 18

Congratulations to new officers, Linda Hill, president; Renee Meier, vice president; Mary Ann Mueller, secretary; Reema Rahaman, treasurer. The Ladies' Sodality will meet on Sun. Jan. 18, at St. Raymond Cathedral, beginning will 10:15am Divine Liturgy (3rd Sunday of the month).

## DESIGNER PURSE BINGO

Save the date! Sunday March 8th, 2026  
The Cedars Hall, St. Raymond Cathedral - Downtown.

## ADORERS NEEDED FOR MONDAY ADORATION

We have adoration Mondays 8:30-5pm and are in need of a second adorer especially for the 9:30-10:30am. The other hours in need of an adorer are 11:30-12:30pm....3:30-4:30pm, 4-5pm. If you are able to commit to one of the hours, please call the office at 314.968.0760 or email at steeliz@straymond-mc.org.

## LEGACY SUNDAY

~~We thank our parish ambassadors Rob & Teddy Garagiola who presented and explained about Legacy Sunday, Nov. 1-2, at St. Raymond – St. Elizabeth church after Masses. For more information log on to website <https://rcf-legacy-sunday.squarespace.com/home>~~

## 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

## CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT FOR 2025

All registered families at our church, at both locations, will receive a contribution statement before the end of January for the year 2025. Thanks for your love and support to our church.

## BLESSED BAPTISM

Blessed Baptism to our parishioner family Dylan, Samantha and Aurora Brewer at St. Raymond Maronite Cathedral.

Ephesians 4:4-6

"There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all, who is above all and through all and in all."



# New Year's Celebration

PLEASE JOIN US!

Middle Eastern Buffet w/Complementary Champagne

Entertainment

Said Abi Akl & Band

American Band & Music

Adults - \$100

Children - \$50 (Ages 10-16) Children - Free (9 and Under)

Babysitting Available

Credit Card or Online Payments

[osvhub.com/straymond-mc/giving/funds/new-year-s-eve-party](http://osvhub.com/straymond-mc/giving/funds/new-year-s-eve-party)

December 31, 2025

Doors Open @7:30pm w/Dinner @8:00pm

St. Raymond - St. Elizabeth

1420 South Sappington Rd.

St. Louis, MO 63126

Reservations:

Nick Chahood (314)749-9697

Nancy Stevens (314)239-0648

Proceeds to benefit different Church Ministries

## Donor/ Memorial Wall at St. Raymond– St. Elizabeth Church

Suggested Donation toward the In Honor / in Memory plaques



For a standard two liner with "In Memory of Mr — & Mrs ——" or "In Honor of Mr — & Mrs ——"

of for each size plaque :

the \$1,000 has 33pt font size

the \$500 has 31pt font size

the \$100 has 24pt font size

with Arial Bold as the font.

(forms are in the foyer of St. Raymond– St. Elizabeth church)



Let Jesus Feed Your Marriage in 2026!

Renew your Sacrament, deepen your communication, strengthen your relationship, and rekindle your romance by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience! The following upcoming weekend experiences are available. Sign-up now as space is limited! For more information or to apply, go to [wwme.org](http://wwme.org), or call Terry & Eric Engholm at 314-649-7317.

2/6/2026 - 2/8/2026, St. Peters, MO

4/17/2026 - 4/19/2026, St. Peters, MO

6/12/2026 - 6/14/2026, St. Peters, MO

