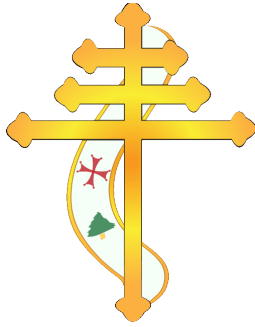


St. Anthony Maronite Catholic Church



Rev. Bassam M. Saade, D.Min, Pastor
Deacon Dr. Enzo V. Di Giacomo
Deacon Norman Hannoush

Parish Council: Monte Albdaiwi, Russ Ellis, Fred Frangie (President),
Gene Karam, Abdullah Rehayem, Anna Maria Ghossein,
Donna Shibley (Secretary), Ray Stevens (Vice President)

Trustees: Fred Frangie, Ray Stevens

Parish Finance Committee: Kevin Carneiro, Peter Hannoush, Paul Phaneuf

LITURGIES

Saturday Vigil - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday - 12 noon. St. Anthony's Mass

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

12 noon & 6 p.m.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every Tuesday 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
and Saturday from 3:00 - 3:50 p.m.

VENERATION OF ST. CHARBEL'S RELIC

Every 3rd Sunday of the month
from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

BAPTISM

Call the Parish Office for information

MATRIMONY

Arrangements with the Pastor must be
made at least six months in advance

MARONITE CHRISTIAN FORMATION

(Religious Education)
Begins in September

RECONCILIATION

Saturdays from 3:00-3:45 p.m. or
call to schedule a confession.

COMMUNION FOR THE SICK

Please call the Parish Office at
413-732-0589.



AUGUST 2025

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

"As a faith community we preserve the rich spiritual heritage of the Maronite Church, its liturgy, spirituality, Culture and Aramaic "Syriac" language of Christ. We share this mission of the Universal Catholic Church by being a caring and welcoming family, inviting all who are seeking closeness with God to share this rich heritage and traditions with us. All are welcome".

375 Island Pond Road • Springfield, MA 01118
413-732-0589 • stanthony419@comcast.net



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

My Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Celebrated every year on August 15, the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary commemorates the death of Mary and her bodily assumption into Heaven, before her body could begin to decay—a foretaste of our own bodily resurrection at the end of time. Because it signifies the Blessed Virgin's passing into eternal life, it is the most important of all Marian feasts and a Holy Day of Obligation. Other names for this feast day are: The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary; The Assumption of Mary Into Heaven; The Dormition of the Theotokos; The Falling

Asleep of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The Feast of the Assumption is a very old feast of the Church, celebrated universally by the sixth century. The feast was originally celebrated in the East, where it is known as the Feast of the Dormition, a word which means "the falling asleep." The earliest printed reference to the belief that Mary's body was assumed into Heaven dates from the fourth century, in a document entitled "The Falling Asleep of the Holy Mother of God." The document is written in the voice of the Apostle John, to whom Christ on the Cross had entrusted the care of His mother, and recounts the death, laying in the tomb, and assumption of the Blessed Virgin. Tradition variously places Mary's death at Jerusalem or at Ephesus, where John was living.

Eastern Christians, both Catholic and Orthodox, continue to refer to the Feast of the Assumption as the Dormition of the Theotokos today.

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven at the end of her earthly life is a defined dogma of the Catholic Church. On November 1, 1950, Pope Pius XII, exercising papal infallibility, declared in *Munificentissimus Deus* that it is a dogma of the Church "that the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory." As a dogma, the Assumption is a required belief of all Catholics; anyone who publicly dissents from the dogma, Pope Pius declared, "has fallen away completely from the divine and Catholic Faith."

While Eastern Christians have kept these early tradition surrounding the Assumption alive, Western Christians have largely lost touch with them. Some, hearing the Assumption described by the Eastern term dormition, incorrectly assume that the "falling asleep" means that Mary was assumed into Heaven before she could die. But Pope Pius XII, cites ancient liturgical texts from both East and West, as well as the writings of the Church Fathers, all indicating that the Blessed Virgin had died before her body was assumed into Heaven.

"This feast shows, not only that the dead body of the Blessed Virgin Mary remained incorrupt, but that she gained a triumph out of death, her heavenly glorification after the example of her only begotten Son, Jesus Christ . . ."

God Bless You, Fr. Bassam

Your Donations and Financial Support are greatly appreciated and needed. Please continue to send in your weekly offerings to the parish office as we count on you to meet our monthly bills. Meanwhile, thank you to all those who have continued to support our parish with their weekly envelopes and donations. God Bless You Fr. Bassam



SECOND COLLECTIONS FOR AUGUST 2025

Parish Maintenance – August 3

Assumption – August 15 • Fuel and Energy – August 17

Thank you for your generosity and support.

† Your Prayers are needed. We pray for God's blessings and the healing and well-being of the sick and the shut-ins of our parish. Remember them in your prayers. If you know of anyone who is homebound and would like a pastoral visit and communion, please contact the rectory or Father Bassam personally.



The Christian Stewardship concept is that we all have gifts from GOD mainly
TIME, TALENT, TREASURE

Give and it shall be given to you Luke 6:38

May Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, reward you for your help and support to our Parish.

LITURGY INTENTIONS FOR AUGUST 2025

Saturday, August 2 4:00 p.m.	+ Living and deceased family of David Abbass by David Abbass
Sunday, August 3 8:30 a.m.	9th Sunday of Pentecost + Elias Kalill & Children Farris, Paul, Julia & Marion RIP by the Stevens family
10:30 a.m.	+ Wadad Sayegh RIP by Raymond and Zahia Abdallah
Tuesday, August 5 12:00 p.m.	+ Billy Hooben SI Good Health by Mom Gertrude Hooben
Wednesday, August 6 6 p.m.	Transfiguration of Our Lord + For all Families by Father Bassam
Saturday, August 9 4:00 p.m.	+ Living and deceased family of David Abbass by David Abbass
Sunday, August 10 8:30 a.m.	10th Sunday of Pentecost + Ray Evelyn Mark, Mike & Louis RIP by the Stevens family
10:30 a.m.	+ Wadad Sayegh RIP by Joseph & Sultani Hannoush
Tuesday, August 12 12:00 p.m.	+ Harry Hooben SI Good Health by Grandma Gertrude Hooben
Friday, August 15 6 p.m.	The Assumption of the Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation) + For All Parishioners, Family and Friends by Father Bassam
Saturday, August 16 4:00 p.m.	+ Living and deceased family of David Abbass by David Abbass
Sunday, August 17 8:30 a.m.	11th Sunday of Pentecost • Assumption of Our Lady + Ruth Klinakis RIP by the Stevens family
10:30 a.m.	+ For all Parishioners and Families by Fr. Bassam
Tuesday, August 19 12:00 p.m.	+ Helen Hooben SI Good Health by Sister Gertrude Hooben
Saturday, August 23 4:00 p.m.	+ Living and deceased family of David Abbass by David Abbass
Sunday, August 24 8:30 a.m.	12th Sunday of Pentecost + Ray Evelyn Mark, Mike & Louis RIP by the Stevens family
10:30 a.m.	+ Elias Hannoush RIP (40-Day Mass) by the Family
Tuesday, August 26 12:00 p.m.	+ Laurence Abboud RIP by Fr. Bassam
Saturday, August 30 4:00 p.m.	+ Living and deceased family of David Abbass by David Abbass
Sunday, August 31 8:30 a.m.	13th Sunday of Pentecost + Christine, Sharon & Joey Stevens RIP by the Stevens family
10:30 a.m.	+ Michel & Hilda Saade, and Living & Deceased member of the family by Fr. Bassam



MEMORIALS - AUGUST 2025

- ✠ **Altar Bread and Wine** in Loving Memory of Paul F. and Claire Mooradd From Their Family - **August 2025**
- ✠ **Sanctuary Lamp** in Memory of Michel and Hilda Saade & Saade Family RIP By The Family - **August 2025**
- ✠ **St. Anthony's Candles** - Available for **August and the rest of the year**

Altar Candles, Sanctuary Lamp, Shrine of St. Anthony Candles, Charcoal & Incense are available.

To sponsor a **religious gift in memory/honor of your loved one** or for a special intention Memorials & Special Intentions (\$50 each/month) Monthly memorial intentions for living and deceased members of your family and friends can be requested. Please see Abouna Bassam or call the office 413-732-0589 or his cell 407-276-1136 with your request.



ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED MOTHER

Assumption Day commemorates the belief that when Mary, the mother of Jesus Christ, died, her body was "assumed" into heaven to be reunited with her soul, instead of going through the natural process of physical decay upon death. It's not explicitly stated in the Bible but is considered a doctrine, or dogma, by the Catholic Church. The feast day commemorating this event is celebrated on August 15th.



CONFESSIONS will be heard every Saturday from 3:00 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. as well as upon request.
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every Saturday from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Mass and Novena of St. Anthony - every Tuesday at noon.

If you are interested in becoming a Parish Council member, please see Fr. Bassam.
Applicants must be a member of the parish in good standing and attend mass on a regular basis.

- ✠ **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** – Monday, August 4th at 6:00 p.m. in the Church Hall
- ✠ **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** - Serving Dinner in the Church Hall on Wednesday September 3rd, from 5-6:30 p.m. The cost is \$12 and comes with all the extras (dine-in or take-out) All are welcome.
- ✠ **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** will be hosting our Social Meeting on Tuesday September 16th at 6 p.m. All are invited Knight's member or not. We will have coffee and a lite snack (No charge). We socialize and play Pich (cards).
- ✠ **COFFEE HOUR** – After mass everyone is welcome (We need volunteers and families to help or sponsor each Sunday coffee hour) June God Bless you and reward you for all your time, support and generosity.
- ✠ **50/50 RAFFLES** will be starting again. Our Monthly Raffles to Benefit our Church Maintenance. 100 tickets will be sold for \$10 each, \$500 will be awarded to the winner & the profit will benefit our Parish toward our Maintenance & upkeep of our Church Property. Please support our raffle and Thank you for your generosity.
- ✠ **REGISTER NOW - CLASSES FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION** will begin at the end of September 2025. The Sacrament registration forms are available in the church lobby and at the parish office. You must be a member of the Parish to register.
- ✠ **DON'T TAKE A VACATION FROM CHURCH** There are Catholic Churches all over the World. You make be taking a vacation, but our expenses don't take a vacation. Our Parish Budget is based on a 12-month calendar for both income and expenses & the bills still need to be paid. If you will be away, please send donations through the mail or turn them in before you leave. God Bless You Fr. Bassam
- ✠ **JUBILEE 2025 PILGRIMAGE OF HOPE** started December 24, 2024 ending January 6, 2026. Pope Francis has officially dedicated the year 2025 to be a Jubilee Year. The theme is Pilgrims of Hope. Pope Francis hopes Catholics will travel in 2025 to experience the Holy Year in Rome. For those unable, he hopes they celebrate the message of Hope in their local churches. Hope is the central message of Jubilee Year 2025. Pope Francis prayed "July the Jubilee year be an opportunity to be renewed in Hope. In the heart of each person Hope dwells in the desire and expectation of good things to come"



PRAYER FOR LEBANON

God of refuge, hear our prayer as we hold the people of Lebanon in our hearts and implore Your protection and peace. In Your mercy, bring comfort to those who mourn, healing to those who are injured, shelter to those who are homeless sustenance to those who hunger. Give strength to those who are working to rebuild shattered lives, and protect those who have fled homes to find safety. Lead us in Your ways so that together we may bring the light of new hope wherever there is destruction and despair. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



PARISH FINANCES - JUNE

	Parish	Cedars
Income	14,861.00	23,866.25
Expenses	-38,130.49	-9,265.97
Profit/Loss	(23,269.49)	14,600.28

Please we need your help and Financial Support to keep our Parish stable. Thank you for your Generosity.



BECOME A NAM MEMBER

NAM Registration – please consider becoming a NAM (National Apostolate of Maronite). It is very important for our Parish to support our National Laity Organization, who gives scholarships to our children and the Massabki Annual Award for an exceptional parishioner or couples who work for the Church.
More info: <https://www.namnews.org>

Follow us on social media

✠ <https://www.facebook.com/groups/269624729721819> ✠ <https://www.facebook.com/StAnthonysMaroniteChurch>