St. Anthony Maronite Catholic Church

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

Parish Council: Russ Ellis, Fred Frangie (President), Paul Malkoon, Ellen Gianinni, Laurie Schcrella Gurau, Donna Shibley (Secretary), Ray Stevens (Vice President)
Trustees: Fred Frangie and Ray Stevens
Finance Committee: Fred Frangie, Ray Stevens, and Paul Malkoon

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.



DECEMBER 2026

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

https://www.facebook.com/groups/269624729721819
https://www.facebook.com/StAnthonysMaroniteChurch



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

My Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Once again in this Christmas season we reflect on the story of the Glorious Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. As we kneel before the crib we are reminded that God so loved the world that he sent his Son into the world "that the world might be saved through him.

Each Christmas Almighty God offers us a special gift ….. His Son, our Savior. This gift can really change our lives providing we welcome him into our hearts and show our gratitude by loving God and our neighbor. The presence of Christ in our lives will truly bring us joy and happiness. As we reflect on Christ's coming we think about receiving him in Holy Communion. We consider receiving the sacrament of Reconciliation to prepare ourselves in the best possible way to receive him so that we may be transformed by him. This will bring peace into our lives and give to this great feast its true meaning.

Let us make our real celebration of Christmas and the New Year a spiritual one. It is all too easy to get caught up in the material preparations for the season. Let us take time to prepare spiritually in the remaining days of the Season of Announcement so that we may have prepared a way for the Lord and be ready to celebrate the Glorious Birth with hearts full of joy and hope.

Let us also give thanks for the many blessings God has showered upon us in 2026. I would like to thank everyone for their loyal support during the year and especially those who have helped in so many different ways in the activities of the parish events. Your generosity in sharing your time, talents and treasure is a wonderful witness to your faith.

May the Peace of the Christ Child dwell in your hearts now and always.

God Bless You, Fr. Bassam



SECOND COLLECTIONS FOR DECEMBER 2026

Christmas Flowers – December 6
Immaculate Conception – December 8
Fuel and Energy – December 20
Christmas Offering – December 25
Priest Christmas Gift – December 25
Circumcision World Day of Peace – January 1, 2027
Thank you for your Generosity& Support

A Message from Msgr. David George

Dear Fr. Bassam, Parishioners and Friends,
I give thanks to God for you, for your kindness and generosity in celebration of my 50th Jubilee. It has truly been a blest time, and my heart is filled with warmth and gratitude. The participation of so many, the warm faces, gracious wishes, generous gifts, and thoughtful message are so special to me and will rest in my Heart always. May the Lord of Love, Peace, Forgiveness and Joy bless all your days. Please note that I carry your presence and your Special Intentions to the Altar as I Celebrate the Divine Liturgy.

Abouna David

CHRISTMAS PARTY



SUNDAY DECEMBER 13TH AFTER 10:30 MASS
ST. ANTHONY'S CHURCH
Adults $45 • Kids 6-12 $20
Kids 5 & under - free
RSVP to Georgette 413-575-5169 by 12/1

LITURGY INTENTIONS - DECEMBER 2026

Tuesday, 12/1 - 12:00 p.m.	+ Michael Semaan Happy Birthday by Family
Saturday, 12/5 **4:00 p.m.**	+ Ana-Nunie Malkoon RIP (1st Anniversary) by Joe & Joan Malkoon and family + Living and deceased family of David Abbass by David Abbass
Sunday, 12/6 **8:30 a.m.**	**BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST** + Souls in Purgatory by The Stevens Family
10:30 a.m.	+ Ziter S. Saloomey Jr. RIP by Barbara Thomas
Tuesday, 12/8 **12:00 p.m.**	**THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (Holy Day of Obligation)** + All our Parishioners by Fr. Bassam + Helen Special Intentions by her sister Gertrude Hooben
Saturday, 12/12 **4:00 p.m.**	**FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE** + Catherine Saadeh Happy Birthday by Family + Living and deceased family of David Abbass by David Abbass
Sunday, 12/13 **8:30 a.m.**	**REVELATION TO JOSEPH** + Mark Stevens on the occasion of his Birthday RIP by the Stevens Family
10:30 a.m.	+ Saade family living & Deceased and All Parishioners Special Intentions by Fr. Bassam
Tuesday, 12/15 - 12:00 p.m.	+ Special Intentions by Gertrude Hooben
6:00 p.m.	**1st Novena** + Sick, needy, elderly & unborn by Fr. Bassam
Wednesday, 12/16 - 6:00 p.m.	**2nd Novena** + Michel & Hilda Saade RIP & Deceased family members by Fr. Bassam
Thursday, 12/17 - 6:00 p.m.	**3rd Novena**+ Brothers, Sisters Families and Friends Special Intentions by Fr. Bassam
Friday, 12/18 - 6:00 p.m.	**4th Novena**+ Poor Souls in Purgatory by Fr. Bassam
Saturday, 12/19 - 4:00 p.m. **5:00 p.m.**	+ Living and deceased family of David Abbass by David Abbass **5th Novena** - All Parishioners Special Intentions by Fr. Bassam
Sunday, 12/20 **8:30 a.m.**	**GENEALOGY SUNDAY** + Evelyn Stevens on the occasion of her Birthday RIP by the Stevens Family **6th Novena**
10:30 a.m.	+ Parishioners, Families & Friends Special Intentions by Fr. Bassam + Peace in the World
Monday, 12/21 - 12:00 p.m.	**7th Novena** + Peace, Healing and Reconciliation by Fr. Bassam
Tuesday, 12/22 - 12:00 p.m.	+ Angelina Saadeh Happy Birthday by Family
6:00 p.m.	**8th Novena** + Helen Special Intentions by her sister Gertrude Hooben
Wednesday, 12/23 - 6:00 p.m.	**9th Novena** + Parishioners, Families and Friends Special Intentions by Fr. Bassam
Thursday, 12/ 24 **4:00 p.m.**	**VIGIL OF THE GLORIOUS BIRTH/ CHRISTMAS EVE** + Joseph and Ana-Nunie Malkoon RIP by Joe & Joan Malkoon & family + Merry Christmas to all our Children & Families by Fr. Bassam
Friday, 12/25 **8:30 a.m.** **10:30 a.m.**	**CHRISTMAS DAY** + Merry Christmas to All our families & friends by Fr. Bassam
Saturday, 12/26 **4:00 p.m.**	**ST. STEPHEN THE FIRST MARTYR** + Living and deceased family of David Abbass by David Abbass
Sunday, 12/27 **8:30 a.m**	**SOLEMITY OF MARY - SUNDAY AFTER THE GLORIOUS BIRTH OF OUR LORD** + Evelyn Stevens 13th Anniversary RIP by the Stevens Family
10:30 a.m.	+ Michel & Hilda Saade RIP by Fr. Bassam + Living & Deceased members of the Saade & Matta families by Fr. Bassam
Tuesday, 12/29 **12:00 p.m.**	+ Helen Special Intentions by her sister, Gertrude Hooben
Thursday, 12/31 **4 p.m.**	**NEW YEAR'S EVE** + Peace in the World and in Our Hearts by Fr. Bassam
Friday, 1/1 **10:30 p.m.**	**SOLEMNITY OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD & CIRCUMCISION OF THE LORD (Holy Day of Obligation)** + For all our Parishioners for a Blessed New Year & in Memory of all our deceased Rest in Peace by Fr. Bassam

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.

- **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** – Our next meeting will be held on **Monday, December 7th at 6 p.m.** in the church hall.
- **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** - Dinner in the Church Hall on **Wednesday, December 2nd, from 5-6:30 p.m.** The cost is $12 and comes with all the extras (dine-in or take-out) All are welcome.
- **COFFEE HOUR** – After mass everyone is welcome. We need volunteers and families to help or sponsor each Sunday coffee hour. May God Bless you and reward you for all your time, support and generosity.
- **SUNDAY HOSPITALITY** - Volunteers are needed to keep our Sunday Hospitality going, after both Masses. Your support and generosity are greatly appreciated.

Please continue to send in your weekly offerings to the parish office as we count on you to meet our monthly bills. Thank you to all those who have continued to support our parish with their weekly envelopes and donations.

ONLINE GIVING – If you choose, you can now set up the parish as a regular payee with your bank or credit union! Just input the information : St. Anthony Maronite Church, 375 Island Pond Road, Springfield, MA 01118 • (413) 732-0589

- **Christmas Nine Days Novenas** Dec 15th-23rd weekdays at 6:00 p.m. Weekend between Masses Come and Join us to prepare spiritually for this Blessed Christmas Season to Birth of Our Lord and Savior
- **St. Anthony's Annual Christmas Luncheon** - Save the Date. Join us on Sunday, December 13th. after the 10:30 a.m. Mass Adults $45 • Kids 6-12 $20 • Kids 5 & under - free. RSVP to Georgette 413-575-5169 by December 1.
- **Christmas Pageant Rehearsal** - Christmas Eve 5 p.m. Mass - All Children in the parish are welcome to participate. Costume fitting and rehearsals will begin shortly. Thanks to all parents for bringing your children and making them part of the Christmas Pageant.
- **Christmas Flowers** - You can offer a Christmas Poinsettia to The Altar of the Lord in honor/rembrance of your loved ones, living or deceased. Suggested donation per plant, per name $10. Thank you and God Bless You. Fr. Bassam
- **Christmas Masses** - If you would like your loved ones names placed on the altar for the Christmas Masses, please put their names in an envelope (indicate if they are living or deceased), and place the envelope with your donation in the collection basket or give it Fr. Bassam.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

A beautiful diamond pendant valued at $1500 donated by George Hannoush & Sons.
Thank you for support of our parish.



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.

MEMORIALS - DECEMBER 2026

Altar Bread and Wine in Loving Memory of Paul F. and Claire Mooradd From Their Family - ***December 2026 through July 2027***
Sanctuary Lamp for Knights of Columbus by The Knights of Columbus - **December 2026**
St. Anthony Candles in memory of my parents Michel and Hilda Saadé by Father Bassam and Family *December* 2026

PARISH FINANCES - OCTOBER 2026

	PARISH	CEDARS
Income	$14,658.00	$6,577.00
Expenses	-20,834.33	-7,072.15
Profit/Loss	-$6,176.33	-$495.15

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

MEMORIALS & SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Memorials & Special Intentions – **$50 for each per month**
To sponsor **ALL** (Altar Candles, Sanctuary Lamp, Altar Bread & Wine, Shrine of St. Anthony Candles, Charcoal & Incense, Special I ntention) **$300.00 for all per month**. To sponsor a religious gift in memory/honor of your loved one or for a special intention, please call the parish office. (413) 732-0589 to schedule your request or see Abouna Bassam.