



Saint Rafka Maronite

Catholics of the East in the Upstate!
1215 S. Highway 14, Greer, SC 29650 864.469.9119
saintrafka.org saintrafkagreenville@gmail.com

September 16, 2018



1st Sunday of Holy Cross

In the last reflection for the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross, it discussed the power of the cross as the sign of salvation. The cross for Syriacs does not only represent the death of our Lord Jesus Christ, but His entire plan of salvation in His mercy. For this reason, we celebrate an entire Season of the Holy Cross, to focus on the mighty tool Christ has armed us with: His cross, our source of strength and deliverance. We have been blessed to see what has been awaited throughout all of time since Adam. In this season, we reflect upon the tool that Christ used to undo the illness of sin, which Adam brought upon mankind in the Garden. Because Christ is the Eternal Hope, He revealed to His prophets from the beginning glimpses of the hope of His cross by which He destroyed death and armed us against Satan.

From the beginning of Scripture, God foreshadowed

Continued next page

Saint Rafka Maronite Church is a Catholic Parish of the Antiochene Syriac Maronite Church, Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn, NY,

Most Rev. Gregory John Mansour,
Bishop,

109 Remsen Street, Brooklyn, NY, 11201,
718.237.9913.

chancerystmaron@verizon.net

Rev. Bartholomew Leon,
Administrator,
bartleon@gmail.com

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to those who believe in Him that He would save them from all their distresses by His sacrificial love. St. Ephrem points out a vast number of these prefigurements. The one he uses mostly commonly is the story of Abraham being told to take his only son, Isaac, to be sacrificed atop a mountain (Gen. 22:1-18). But God reveals to Abraham on the mountain that He actually does not want the sacrifice of his son, but a lamb hanging in a tree. So too was Christ the Lamb hanged in the Tree of Life, the cross, atop the mountain of Golgotha that replaced the sacrifice of man by Himself. Just as Isaac was saved by the lamb, so mankind was saved by the sacrifice of Jesus. Isaac was untied from the altar, and mankind was untied from the altar of sin and death.

There are a great many other parts of the Old Testament that reveal various aspects of the cross. Just as the sacrifice of Isaac being replaced shows us Christ replacing the sentence against mankind, other stories show different aspects. Jacob's Dream (Gen. 28:10-15) is another great example. Jacob has a dream of a ladder leading to heaven from Earth. This ladder, then, is the cross, which has reconciled heaven and Earth. Not only that, but the cross is the way that brings us to heaven. To whatever degree sin has separated us from God and one another, the cross has reunited us.

The last example that will be noted here is a battle from the Exodus of the Hebrews from Egypt (Ex. 18:8-13). As they traveled to the Promise Land, led by Moses, an enemy king, Amalek, attacked them to kill them. But God told Moses to spread his arms and lift them up – so long as he held them up, the army of Amalek was losing and was eventually defeated, saving Israel. It is a confusing story in itself because it seems odd that God should give Moses the power to defeat the enemy army by spreading his arms – indeed, to the Hebrews it was never fully understood. But we understand the analogy – God told Moses to spread his arms to save Israel to reveal that He would spread His arms upon the cross and save His people. Christ has defeated the armies of evil by His arms spread wide upon the cross. No army can stand against those who stand beneath the arms of the cross.

What thousands of generations of prophets and faithful awaited without knowledge, we know and do daily when we make the sign of the cross. The cross that delivered mankind from sin and death, the cross that links heaven and Earth, and the cross upon which the Creator stretched out His arms to empower us is ours in every sign of the cross. Let us call this to mind as we pray:

Lord, may Your precious and life-giving cross be for us an armor of righteousness, a companion of assistances, and a fount of immortality, O Messiah our God. By it, may we fight against all the immaterial robbers of sin in the valley of Jericho, the land of curses. From there, may it be our guide to the gate of paradise and the heavenly Jerusalem. By it, may we enter the place of life and dwell in the abodes of rest. There, we shall ceaselessly offer glory and thanks to You, and to Your Father, and to Your living and Holy Spirit. (Trans. from Syriac Maronite Vespers for the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross)

Subdeacon Michael Shami

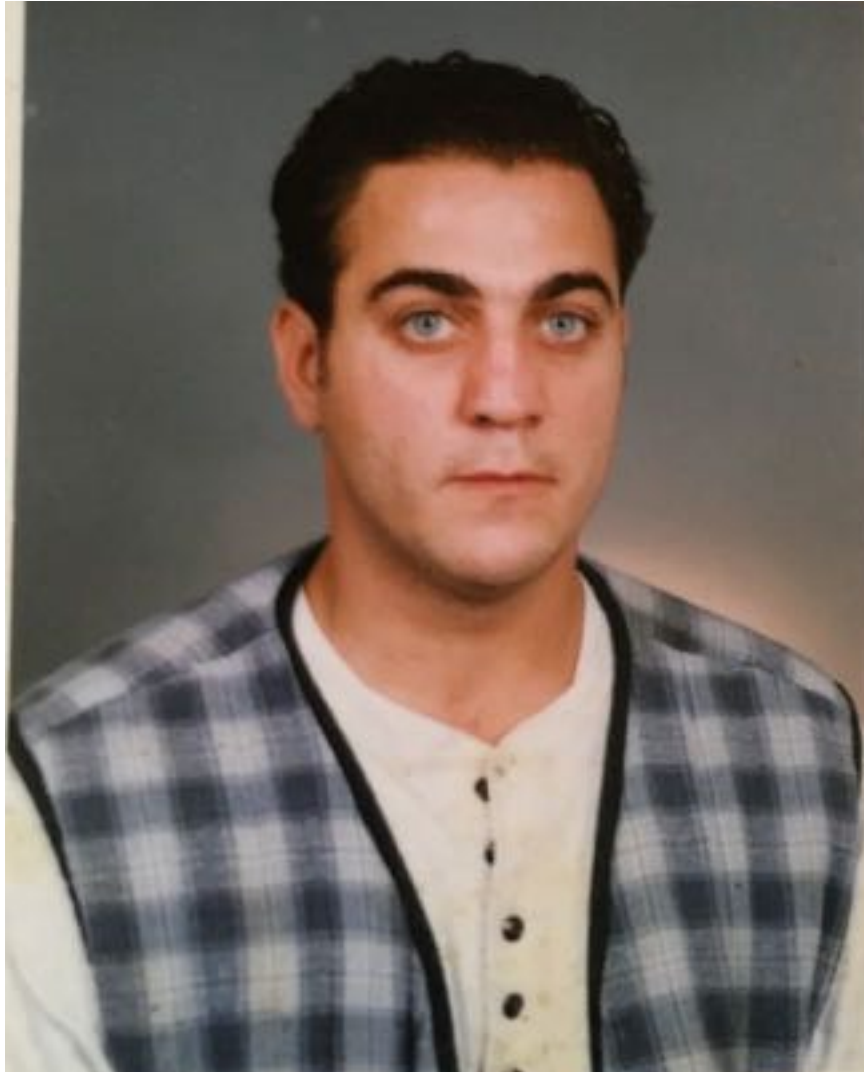
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Abouna's Corner



Due to my vacation, this feature will be absent for this weekend and next. Pray for me as I rest and relax. Also remember **+Gasshan Eid** who died this past Monday morning. May he rest in peace and may his memory be eternal.



Due to the untimely death and health issues of Ghassan, a memorial fund has been set up to help his wife Mimo (Marguerite) Eid defray funeral expenses. Please see either **Richard Sleiman** or **Richard Wickett** and make your donation check payable to Saint Rafka. Please note "Memorial Contribution" on the check. Many thanks to all who have offered to help at this time of crisis and need.

NEW!!! Saint Rafka Parish Directory Online

First time to the site? Register [here](#). Call Joe for help first. Already registered? Click [here](#).

Please follow us at @saintrafkagreenville on **Instagram** and/or St. Rafka Maronite Church on **FaceBook**.



SAINT STEPHEN MARONITE CATHOLIC CHURCH

A member of the Eparchy of St Maron of Brooklyn, NY

Visit the [homepage](#) of our neighbors to the north of us. Saint Stephen is under the leadership of **Father Elias Khalil** and is growing in Grace and numbers.

Religious Education - First Holy Communion Preparation

Is your child ready for the reception of First Penance and Holy Communion? Parishioner **Alex Roman-Menge**, a professional teacher, has volunteered to teach in our religious education program. Other children, post Holy Communion, are also welcome to these classes. Contact the Church Office to register or see Alex after the Liturgy.

Books for Prisoners

Catholic volunteers to the Greenville County Detention Center are in need of **paperback (only paperback)** books for the inmate library. We will set up a box in Wickett Hall to place your books into and these will be collected by **Sharon Bookbinder**, a volunteers from Prince of Peace Church. This is a great way to un-clutter and help those in prison by giving them reading materials. Thanks for your help and assistance! **Thanks for your help with this project and the books you have brought in - keep them coming!**

Lay Dominicans

Almost since its beginning, the laity has been in ministry and fully incorporated into the Dominican Order. They are lay man and women from every walk of life, living out their Baptismal promise through the ministry founded by St Dominic.

If you would like to learn more about the life and charism of Lay Dominicans and how they share in the apostolic mission of the Dominican Order through the Four Pillars: Prayer, Study, Community and Apostolic Preaching, join us on 23 Sunday, September at 3p, at St Mary's Church in Sacred Heart Hall (upstairs). For additional information, please contact **Linda Head, OP** at 864.268.0746.



Celebrate!

Vigil Feast of Saint Padre Pio of Pietrelcina

Saturday, September 22, 2018 at 2 pm

Presentation with First Class Relic of Saint Padre Pio

Andrew Frisari's Recollections & Impressions
from a family pilgrimage to
San Giovanni Rotondo in 1951

4 p m M a s s
for the Spiritual Children of St Pio with Blessings of the Relic

Saint Rafka Maronite Catholic Church
1215 S. Highway 14
Greer, SC 29651
Wickett Hall

*Refreshments will be served * Pray, hope and don't worry!*

FESTA della Notte
(Feast of the Night)

Saturday, 20 October 2018
Galileo Hall, Corpus of St. Mary's Church
6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Hors d'oeuvres
Elegant Italian Gourmet Dinner Buffet
Dessert Table
Wine and Beer (First two drinks free, donation afterward)
(Dancing to the tunes of Father Pat as DJ)
Dress: Business Casual

\$50 per person
Proceeds to be donated to various charities
Contact: Ella Casfield 864.325.0587 or ellacasfield@att.net

DEADLINE TO RESERVE SEAT: 10 October 2018
(No seats will be held at the door)

Get here and mail reservation form with check to: Sponsored by St. Mary's Council of Catholic Women
St. Mary's Council of Catholic Women
Festa della Notte Reservation Form

Name(s): 1. _____ 2. _____
3. _____ 4. _____
Table (10 seats) Name: _____
E-mail: _____
Telephone: _____

Number of seats: _____ at \$50 each = \$ _____ (or) One Table (10 seats) at \$500 _____

Make check payable to: SMCCW
Mail to: SMCCW Treasurer, P.O. Box 1505, Greenville, SC 29602

Calendar of Events

September

- 15, 4 PM, Vigil Liturgy, **2nd of Holy Cross**
16, 11 AM, Divine Liturgy
4:30 PM, Korean Mass
7:00 PM, Last Chance Divine Liturgy
17, 6 PM, Prayers and Squares
18, 7 PM, *Ramsho* of the Maronite Saints
19, **NO DIVINE LITURGY DUE TO VACATION**
22, 4 PM, Vigil Liturgy
23, 11 AM, Divine Liturgy
5 PM, Byzantine Liturgy
7 PM, Last Chance Divine Liturgy
24, 6 PM, Prayers and Squares
25, 6:30 PM, *Ramsho* and Veneration of Relics
26, 7 PM, Divine Liturgy
Anointing of the Sick
29, 4 PM, Vigil Liturgy
30, 11 AM, Divine Liturgy
7 PM, Last Chance Divine Liturgy

October

- 1, 6 PM, Prayers and Squares
2, 7 PM, *Ramsho* of the Maronite Saints
3, 7 PM, Divine Liturgy, Anointing of the Sick
6, 11 AM, Middle Eastern Food Festival
4 PM, Vigil Liturgy
7, 11 AM, Divine Liturgy
3 PM, Holy Hour
7 PM, Last Chance Divine Liturgy



Ramsho and Blessing with the relics of Saints Rafka, Sharbel Nimatullah, and the Massabki Brothers Tuesday evening, 7:00 PM, Saint Rafka Church. Come to offer the evening sacrifice and ask God's blessing, healing, mercy and compassion through these holy men and women. Bring a friend!



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5th Annual

Festival *Of* **Lebanon**



Saturday September 22, 2018

11 AM — 7 PM

**St. Matthew Catholic Church
8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy,
Charlotte NC 28277**

**Something for
everyone to enjoy!**

**Exquisite
Lebanese Food & Sweets**



Entertainment

Souvenir Shop

Raffle Drawing

&

Fun for the entire family

One Day Free Admission

\$2.00 Value

[Children under 13 Free!]

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www.ststephenmaronite.org



Bring your family and friends to join in the celebration.
Come taste food from a variety of countries that make up
the rich heritage of the people of St. Mary Magdalene.

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

FOOD
FOLKLORE DANCE
MUSIC



FLAG PROCESSION
GAMES
FACE PAINTING

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2018
3 P.M. - 10 P.M.

St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church
2252 Woodruff Road, Simpsonville, SC 29681 — 864-288-4884 — SMMCC.ORG

6th Marian Eucharistic Conference

November 10 - 11, 2018

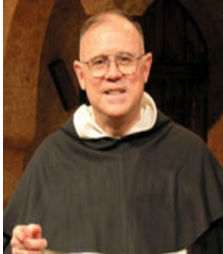
Mary, Mother of the Eucharist



Fr. Frank Pavone



Fr. Bill Casey



Fr. Brian Mullaly, OP



Doug Barry



Dr. John Bruchalski
Former Abortionist
Pro-life M.D., OB/GYN



Jeff Cavins



Our Lady of Guadalupe

Hilton Hotel

45 West Orchard Park Drive,
Greenville, SC 29615

General Admission: \$80
Youth: \$ 40

Saturday and Sunday buffet
lunches are included. All are
required to register by
October 27

The Most Reverent
Robert E. Guglielmo
Bishop of Charleston
Celebrant / Homilist



Saturday, Nov. 10

Doors open: 7:30 am

Mass: 8:30 am,

Talks,
Buffet Lunch,
Confessions



Sunday, Nov. 11

Doors open: 7:50 am

Mass: 8:30 am,

Talks,
Buffet Lunch,
Confessions

For more information, please call (864)354-7160
or go to www.meconferencesc.net

Registration after Oct. 27, \$ 90

Registered by October 27 by mail. Registration after Oct. 27: \$90

We offer gluten free meals.

The most up to date **Maronite Voice** is always available [here](#).



Prayers & Squares

NEW!!!

The Saint Rafka Prayers and Squares Quilt will meet on Monday evenings from 6-9pm in Wickett Hall. There are a couple of extra sewing machines for use in the hall, but if you have a portable machine please bring it with you, as well as an extra pair of small scissors if you have them. Even if you have never sewn before, it is very easy to learn, so don't be afraid to try. There are kits already made up for

prayer squares. If you are not interested in quilting but would like to support us in our efforts, there are a few things that we need. Steam Irons, 1-2 Ironing boards, sewing thread in shades of gray, white, cream and blue. But neutral shades of gray and white are the most used. Pins, needles, scissors, extra working sewing machines, card stock for making tags for the quilts would also be helpful. We have a lot of prayers, work, and friendship to offer. See you this week!

Prayers and Squares is a prayer ministry that involves making prayer quilts and prayer squares for those facing medical, spiritual, emotional difficulties, or anyone in the Parish that is active duty military. Don't know how to quilt? That's ok, we can teach you. Not interested in sewing? That's ok, we will need help with staying organized, record keeping and correspondence. What is needed are willing hearts and hands to do God's work and pray together for those in need, and each other too.

A prayer quilt or square, once requested, is made and tied with each knot representing a prayer for that individual and their specific needs. The recipient must be willing to receive the quilt and the prayers. The purpose of the group is not to give away quilts, but to offer a physical representation of God's love and the prayers of the community. A recipient is able to wrap themselves in prayer during a difficult time. The quilt itself has no power, but the prayers offered do.

Blessed be the tie that binds.



A Unique Parishioner Call for Help

Dear Friends,

Re: **End-Stage Kidney Disease**

Some of you may already know: I have end-stage kidney disease. My kidneys do not work well enough to keep me alive, and my treatment options are limited to dialysis or kidney transplant.

Regular hemodialysis treatments, three times per week for four hours at a time, help my kidneys do their job and keep me alive. But a transplant would offer me the ability to live a longer, healthier, more normal life and with more freedom.

Finding a kidney for a transplant is not easy. There are 100,000+ people, just like me, on the waiting list for a deceased donor kidney. Time is not on our side. Some die while waiting. I've been waiting nearly six years, about a year longer than the average wait time of five years.

There is another option: receiving a kidney from a living donor. Asking a family member or a friend to donate a kidney is very difficult for me, extremely personal, takes much thought and involves your family's consideration. Your decision will not affect our relationship, and I absolutely do not want a donor feeling pressured in any way.

You may not know a lot about living donation, which I did not until recently. Understandably, many people are fearful of surgery and what living with one kidney will mean for them. Here's some basic information about kidney donation:

- Most people are born with an extra kidney - only one is needed to live a long, healthy life.
- As a living donor, you will have a separate team of Healthcare professionals to evaluate you. Their job is to help YOU understand the risks and benefits, looking out for YOUR best interests.
- Cost of your evaluation and surgery will be covered by my insurance; the hospital can provide to you more information.
- Most donor surgery is done laparoscopically, meaning through tiny incisions.
- Recuperation is usually fairly quick, generally two weeks, for people with desk jobs, to six weeks, for jobs involving heavy lifting.

What is a paired kidney exchange? Roughly one-third of kidney failure patients with a willing living donor will be unable to receive the kidney because of incompatibility. In a paired kidney exchange, a donor may donate their kidney to another recipient in exchange for a compatible kidney for their loved one.

Before deciding, you can explore the living donation program by calling MUSC's Kelly Canavan, my Living Donor Coordinator, at [843-792-1594](tel:843-792-1594).

A living donation may not be right for you, but you can still help. Please help by sharing my story, spreading the word about kidney disease, raising awareness of living donation and helping me and the many others on the waiting list.

Thank you for reading and for your concern and for your help in spreading the word about kidney disease.

Appreciatively, Joe Baranski [864-201-2480](tel:864-201-2480) Greer, SC

November 25, 2017

The logo features a stylized blue figure with arms raised, resembling a person or a dove, positioned above the number '40'. The text '40 DAYS FOR LIFE' is written in a large, serif font, with a trademark symbol (TM) at the end.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE™

40 Days for Life You are invited to join other Christians throughout the Upstate to take part in our local 40 Days for Life effort from September 26 through November 4.

40 Days for Life, an ecumenical prayer campaign to end abortion, began in College Station, Texas. It has expanded not only nationally, but internationally since its inception in 2007. There are two campaigns a year, one beginning on Ash Wednesday for 40 days of Lent. The Fall campaign begins on the fourth Wednesday of September. These prayer campaigns are initiated and organized at the grassroots level in communities throughout the nation and abroad. Prayer, fasting and public vigil at the abortion facility are key components. The National Organization requires anyone participating in a campaign sign a promise to conduct themselves in a peaceful, respectful manner. Many believe the Holy Spirit is using this movement to end abortion and at the same time bring people of many faiths together.

To find out more and sign up to help please visit: www.40daysforlife.com/greenville and www.facebook.com/40daysgreenville or contact *Judy Masterson 1-864-506-0964* .

Help to spread the word to others about this important life-saving effort.

40 Days for Life Kickoff Rally Saturday, Sept 29th, 9:30 am – 10:30 am, Greenville Women's Clinic, 1142 Grove Rd. Guest speakers: Dr. Robert Jackson, Jr. MD, family medicine specialist and author of *The Family Doctor Speaks: The Truth About Life*; Carrie Gifford and Patty McGrath, Sidewalk Advocates for Life update. Music will be provided by the For Life Praise Band with Mark and Robin Wills. At the close of the event Rob Wess, Director of Construction for Piedmont Women's Center, will take those interested on a tour of the new facility. Parking is at Grove Road Baptist Church. Call Judy 1-864-506-0964

Life Chain - Sunday, Oct 7th, 2:30 – 3:30 pm, Woodruff Road, Greenville. Please join others across the country for this peaceful, prayerful, public witness for the sanctity of human life. Call Valerie for signs and to find out where your church is assigned on the route. 864-297- 8838.

Rosaries Coast to Coast – Sunday, Oct 7th, 4:00 – 5:00 pm at local Catholic Churches following the Life Chain. People are asked to participate in **Rosary Coast to Coast** as an Act of Reparation calling upon God through the powerful intercession of Our Lady of the Rosary to heal our country and return it to holiness.

Rosaries for Life - Pray 5 decades daily from Sept 26th – Nov 4th. Turn in your counts at your local parish or email your count each week to rosaries4life@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE

OCT
06

FALL MIDDLE-EASTERN FOOD FESTIVAL



SAINT RAFKA MARONITE CHURCH

11am - 6pm

Bring your healthy appetite to taste our delicious homemade Middle Eastern food and pastries at our Fall Food Festival. There will be Music, Face painting, and many other fun activities. Please join us. Stay tuned for additional details as the date approaches!!!!

Face



3Oud



Painting



Dabke



1215 S. Highway 14
Greer, SC 29650
864.469.9119

saintrafka.org
saintrafkagreenville@gmail.com

Middle Eastern Food Festival

<i>Kafta</i>	<i>Chicken or Beef</i>	<i>\$8.00</i>
<i>Falafel</i>	<i>Sandwich</i>	<i>\$6.00</i>
<i>Fatiah</i>	<i>Meat or Spinach</i>	<i>\$2.00 each or \$20.00 dozen</i>
<i>Kibbee</i>	<i>2 Pieces</i>	<i>\$5.00</i>
<i>Grapeleaves</i>	<i>2 Rolls</i>	<i>\$1.00</i>
<i>Yucni with Beans</i>	<i>Bowl</i>	<i>\$5.00</i>
<i>Hummis</i>	<i>With Bread</i>	<i>\$3.00</i>
<i>Fatouch</i>	<i>Salad</i>	<i>\$2.00</i>
<i>Baclava</i>	<i>Piece</i>	<i>\$2.00 or \$20.00 per dozen</i>
<i>Mamoul</i>	<i>Piece</i>	<i>\$2.00 or \$20.00 per dozen</i>
<i>Rybi</i>	<i>Piece</i>	<i>\$1.00 or \$10.00 dozen</i>
<i>Hot Dog</i>	<i>Chips and Drink</i>	<i>\$2.00</i>
<i>Lemonade, Ice Tea</i>	<i>Glass</i>	<i>\$1.00</i>
<i>Water, Coffee</i>	<i>Bottle/Cup</i>	<i>\$1.00</i>



Help!

Volunteers needed for:
 BBQ Chefs
 Set up
 Clean up
 Face painters
 Free event cooks

2018

Sponsors Needed
 Food
 Advertising and Signs
 Paper Goods

FESTIVAL NEEDS

Contact:
 Paula Howard-Casby:
 pjhoward74@hotmail.com
 Joan Craven:
 joanlcraven@yahoo.com

Saint Rafka

• Food Fest •

Middle Eastern Delights!

JOIN THE ORDER OF SAINT SHARBEL

TO SUPPORT THE EDUCATION OF MARONITE SEMINARIANS
AND HELP SECURE THE FUTURE OF THE MARONITE CHURCH
IN THE UNITED STATES



Please note that this picture was taken at Father Aaron's ordination two years ago!



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If you are interested in becoming a Priest, Religious Sister, or Deacon contact Vocations Director Father Dominique Hanna at (718) 624-7228 & cathrectory@verizon.net

Prayer List

Helen Francis, Beth Hopsecge, Donna Nedzwecki, Leo Miller, David Snell, Theresa Woodson, Noah Scott Kestler, Mary Philips, Art and Judy Pape, Suhail Yousiff, Tom Craven, Jr., David Gibbons, Michael Rau, Chris Davis, Raymond Trinidad, Theresa Woodson, Joe Treacy, Marguerite LaBella, Dakota Miller, David Olmsted, Okshana Stachiw, Pixie Geren, Mike Dyer, Christian Pereira, Houda Askar, Jack D'Aquin, Moe Mercier, Ed Rauch, Art Newton, Mike Georgion, Nancy Georgion Jack Yacu, Houda Askar, Montaha Achi, Jim Hopsecger, Recovery of RS, Ashley Mullinex, Bill McAfee, Bill Leon, Sr., Charley Dusthimer, Bernadette Smith, Claire Barnett, Hans Wascom, Ethel Brassel, Katrina Shunk, George Vargo, Dan Steinker, Irma Galvan, Mary Cleary, Joe Lemire, Mary Anne McAfee, Lois Taylor, Virginia LaFave, Nabeel Howard, Father M. T. Phillips, Paul Cote and Family, Paul Bussemey, Ramza Sleiman, Joan Bussemey, Special Intention by Abouna, Bob Brown, Joe Durham, Michael Bays, Patrick Lavelle, Tara Galvin, Susan Connor, Bill Hines, Beth Banks, Andrea Fiorni-Frazier, Shawn Sexton, James and Kaleigh, Mark Pelletier, Antonella, Stephanie, Derek Gerard Solomon, JoAn Salloum, Susie, Jim Hopka, Family of Colbert Arthur, Berma Darlene Bell, Terry Vadnais, Elaine Gillen, Amy Hunter, Shawn Sexton, Adrian Kassentar, Beth Hopsecger, Mark Barnard, Janice Radich, Paula Lemire, Becky Jarvis, Lillian Moon, Vito Fortuna, Sam Howard, Jr., Betty Braun, Deanne Valencia, Katie Frank, Beverley Davis, John Fender,



Saints We Celebrate

September 15, Saints Sassine and Shaina, Confessors

September 16, **Saint Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, Martyr**

September 17, Saint Sophia and Her Daughters

September 22, Saint Phocas, Disciple of John, Martyr

September 24, Saint Thecla, First Woman Martyr

September 29, Saint Rouhanna the Cantor, Confessor and Saint Cyricus the Wanderer

September 30, Saint Gregory, Bishop of Armenia & His Companions, Confessors

October

October 1, Saint Theresa of the Little Flower and Saint Ananias The Apostle

October 2, Saints Cyprian and Justina, Martyrs

October 4, Saint Francis of Assisi, Confessor



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Liturgical Items

Liturgical Readings

Feast	New Testament	Gospel
1st Holy Cross	2 Tim. 2:1-10	Mark 10:35-45
English	Marlene Saad	
Arabic	Ramez Askar	New! To review the readings online, go here .

Mass Intentions

September 15 & 16	Intention	Donor
Saturday, 4 PM	Open	
Sunday, 11 AM	+Marium Elias Saad & +Charles Sarkis Saad	Marlene Saad
Sunday, 7 PM	Open	
Wednesday, 7 PM	NO DIVINE LITURGY	
September 22 & 23		
Saturday, 4 PM	Spiritual Children of Padre Pio	Andy and Ceil Frisari
Sunday, 11 AM	+Bill Rogers, 2nd Anniversary (9/25)	BJ Dursse
Sunday, 7 PM	Open	
Wednesday, 7 PM	+Brother David Cobos, OSB	Abouna

Sanctuary Lamp and Flowers

To have the Sanctuary Light for your relatives or intentions, please use the envelope provided at the entrance. Donation is \$5.00. **The Sanctuary Candle burns for these Intentions from Sunday thru Saturday.** If you would like a Mass offered for your loved ones, please call the church office at 864.469.9119 or secretary@saintrafka.org.



Church Offerings and Attendance

September 9	Saturday 4 PM	Sunday 11 AM	Sunday 7 PM	Total	Budget per week	+/-	Wed. 7 PM
People	98	78	45	221	170	51	
Collection	\$1012.00	\$881.00	\$432.00	\$2325.00	\$2,800.00	-\$475.00	0
Average per person	\$10.33	\$11.29	\$9.60	\$10.52		Holy Hour	30
Building Fund						Ramsho	8
Average	0	0	\$0.00			YTD	\$104,552
Average Attendance				Average XXX			
Budget YTD	102,788	YTD	\$104,552	Budget +/-	1,764		

Offerings



Attendance Year to Date	
4:00 PM	2249
11:00 AM	2558
7:00 PM	1158
Wednesday 7 PM	496
First Sunday	171
Ramsho	46
Holy Day	129
Special Liturgy	459
Funerals	160
Weddings	70
Pasta Supper	514

How are these totals calculated?

One total graphed **to the left** is through **donations** each week, compared to the previous year.

The totals to the **to the right** are counted by the ushers during the Divine Liturgy and tabulated.

Date	Emails Sent	# Opened	# Clicked
September 9	514	173	91
September 2	513	174	75
Difference	1	1	16

Scripture Readings for Sunday

II Timothy 2:1-10

So you, my child, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And what you heard from me through many witnesses entrust to faithful people who will have the ability to teach others as well. Bear your share of hardship along with me like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. To satisfy the one who recruited him, a soldier does not become entangled in the business affairs of life. Similarly, an athlete cannot receive the winner's crown except by competing according to the rules. The hardworking farmer ought to have the first share of the crop. Reflect on what I am saying, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David: such is my gospel, for which I am suffering, even to the point of chains, like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. Therefore, I bear with everything for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, together with eternal glory.

Mark 10:35-45

Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." He replied, "What do you wish [me] to do for you?" They answered him, "Grant that in your glory we may sit one at your right and the other at your left." Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Can you drink the cup that I drink or be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" They said to him, "We can." Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink, you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right or at my left is not mine to give but is for those for whom it has been prepared. When the ten heard this, they became indignant at James and John. Jesus summoned them and said to them, "You know that those who are recognized as rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones make their authority over them felt. But it shall not be so among you. Rather, whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all. For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many."



GREENVILLE DEANERY COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

The next General Membership Meeting of the Greenville Deanery of the South Carolina Council of Catholic Women is Sunday, 16 September 2018. We will meet on the campus of the St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, 204 Douthit Street, Greenville, in the cafeteria. The meeting will begin at 2:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided by the members of the St. Anthony of Padua Women's Counsel. All Upstate women are invited to join us as we make plans to serve the church and communities for the 2018-2019 year of Deanery Council. Share your talents! Contact President, Jessie Bowens at 864-420-1985 or jbowens@charter.net for questions.

Saint Joseph's Indian School

Many friends ask how they can help Native American children in need in ways other than monetary donations. The following is a list of items always put to good use in caring for our Lakota (Sioux) boys and girls. The most important needs at this time are: Clean and Clear Advantage 3-1 exfoliating cleanser with 5% benzoyl peroxide acne medication, Athlete foot powder, Clotrimazole cream, Hydrocortisone Cream, Body Wash* (Both men's and woman's), Hair Conditioner, Athletes foot spray, Band aids, Bath puffs, Unscented Body Lotion (boys or girls can use), Girls dress shoes and sandals (sizes 1-7), Boys and girls athletic pants (sizes 6-20), Boy's underwear (briefs and boxers), Cerave Cream, Children's 8 hr Robitussin cough and cold, alcohol free, WITHOUT PHENYLEPHRINE, Aveeno Body Wash, Aveeno lotion, Pillows, Cotton balls, Facial tissues, Tennis Shoes (Sizes 1-7), Long athletic shorts (all sizes), All types of children clothing (8-20) Puritans Pride Chewable Vitamins, Cetaphil facial cleanser, Acne facial wipes, Viniferamine Silicone 4 ounce cream, Ibuprofen, Tylenol 325 mg and 500 mg tablets, Tylenol or Ibuprofen Children's dose liquid or chewable, Head and Shoulders Shampoo.

Simply bring your items to Wickett Hall and there is a box to receive these articles! Thanks!

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Catholic Radio in S.C. 2018 Radiothon

The 2018 Radiothon will be Thursday & Friday September 27th & 28th. Radiothon always has a theme and every year we ask for God's guidance when choosing. Last year was the 100th Anniversary of the Fatima Apparitions, so the choice was obvious. While continuity with last year is important, each Radiothon also needs something a little different. So, let me share a story about a young woman of Faith with you.

Adele Brise was born in Belgium in 1831. She came with her parents as they immigrated to Wisconsin in 1855. In early October 1859, Adele saw a woman clothed in white standing between two trees: one a maple, the other hemlock. She was frightened by the vision and prayed until it disappeared.

On October 9, 1859, she saw the apparition a second time while walking to Mass in the community of Bay Settlement. She asked her parish priest for advice, and he told her that if she saw the apparition again, she should ask it, "In the Name of God, who are you and what do you wish of me?"

That same day, she saw the apparition a third time, and when she asked the question, "What more can I do, dear Lady?" the Lady's direction was simple: "Gather the children in this wild country and teach them what they should know for salvation."

"But how shall I teach them who knows so little myself?" Adele asked.

The Lady replied, "Teach them their catechism, how to sign themselves with the sign of the Cross, and how to approach the sacraments; that is what I wish you to do. Go and fear nothing. I will help you." Adele devoted the rest of her life to the task.

Such a fervent yet humble person is an inspiration for all of us. That's why the theme for the 2018 Radiothon will be "Our Lady of Good Help." We hope to bring attention to the Shrine in Champion, Wisconsin dedicated to these apparitions, the only apparitions in the United States which are approved by the Catholic Church.

Please consider supporting us in this endeavor by visiting the website: ShrineofOurLadyofGoodHelp.com and by praying about how you might help Catholic Radio in South Carolina. Please share this information with your friends and family and encourage them to use our Radiothon pledge line: 864-877-8458. Or, the 24/7 website is www.CatholicRadioInSC.com. Thank you, in advance, for your consideration and your prayers. May God bless you for all you do in accordance with His Will.

Michael Brennan

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Birthdays

September

16, Harry Lakadosch
16, William (Bill) Francis, Sr.
17, Thomas Howard
20, Amy Saad
21, Alan Howard
21, Lily Zarrouf
22, Layla Kasir
24, Sharbel Feghali
25, Natallia Hermiz



October

1, Wayne Reece

Anniversaries

October

1, Francois and Michelle Sleiman
20, Paul and Joan Bussemey
22, Patrick and Tamara Yono



Necrology

September

+Catherine (Kitty) Francis Norman,
September 15, 2015
+Most Reverend Francis M. Zayek,
September 17, 2010



Video on the life of Saint Sharbel

English subtitles. [Click here.](#)

Prayers to Saint Sharbel and Saint Rafka

You can always have your intentions prayed for at the monastery where Saint Sharbel is buried. [Click here.](#)

Prayers to Saint Rafka

Click [here.](#)

Ashy Pavilion

Please remember that registered and supporting parishioners are free to use the Ashy Pavilion for family events, reunions, parties, etc. Others are welcome to rent the facilities. More information? Contact Richard Wickett here.

Coffee Socials

If you would like to sponsor a Coffee Social *In Memory Of* or *In Honor Of* someone, please call or email the office to let us know.

Wickett Hall

Newly refurbished Wickett Hall can be used by our registered and supporting parishioners for family events, reunions, etc. Others may request permission to rent the Hall. Contact Richard Wickett.

Masses Online

Where to go to Mass when traveling? Look here!

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