



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 30, 2018



3rd Sunday of Holy Cross

We have heard many times the prediction of the end of the world – sometimes as a joke, like when someone says it sarcastically, or certain people claim to be Christ and “reveal” the date of the day of the apocalypse. Even the word “apocalypse” has come to carry a frightening that also peaks our interest. Today’s Gospel also evokes the image of the apocalypse, but our image of the apocalypse is very different from that of Hollywood or a sensational false prophet. We look forward to the apocalypse because we “will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory” (Matt. 24:30). If we love Jesus, we will not fear His return, but like a far away relative or beloved friend, wait excitedly to see His save and run out to meet Him.

The Gospel warns against those who claim to know that Jesus has already arrived again – those who claim to know the infinite mind of God.

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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Our Lord has already told us in His Gospel that no one, not even the angels in heaven, know when He will come again (Matt. 24:36) so anyone who claims to know is not only mistaken but they contradict the Lord. Then how will we know when He truly comes? “Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man” (Matt. 24:30). What is this sign of the Son? The cross, the great sign that Jesus has left each of us with, the season we celebrate. The sign by which He saved us will be the way we shall know our Lord.

But talk of the apocalypse sounds all very abstract, especially if we have no way of knowing when it shall be. But precisely because we know not the hour – whether it is in a week or a thousand years – we should be ready at all times. We should not prepare in a frantic way – one of the most commonly repeated phrases of Scripture is God’s consolation to His faithful, “Do not be afraid.” But we should prepare ourselves in the same way we would when we know our beloved family member or friend is going to come to us. We await the great sign of His salvation, which we already know. Just as one dresses up for a special occasion, let us be always dressed in a robe of excellence – not one made of cloth, but of every virtuous action we do. When Christ comes, all things hidden will be made as plain as day, and so our actions will be worn on our sleeves. With every opportunity to do good let us be exceedingly generous to one another that our deeds done for love of God will be abundant. Let us pray fervently, both asking for the forgiveness of any offenses we have committed, as well as growing in love of God each day of our life. Let us be completely reconciled to God and neighbor without any ill-will because the next moment might be the last.

We prepare in such a way, once again, not from fear but from love to see Christ for Whom we do all things. And each time we draw the sign of the cross upon ourselves should be a reminder of that inevitable Last Day, but also a mini-apocalypse in itself. For Christ has made Himself present to us in the simplest of things, even in the imitation of the sign of his cross. The Good Thief at the crucifixion had a great consolation in seeing the cross of Christ, not because it was a sign of death, but a promise of deliverance though things seemed bleak because the Thief understood he had almighty God as his advocate in his faith. Though the world tells us the Last Day is a dreadful thing, let us with joy and eagerness:

We bow to the cross
through which our souls have salvation
and we say with the Thief,
“O Christ, remember us when You come!”
(Trans. from Syriac hymn)

Subdeacon Michael Shami

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Abouna's Corner



Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Greetings in the Lord in the Season of Holy Cross!

I arrived back in the United States on Monday after a great vacation, but brought back a head cold. The second to last stop of the cruise in northern Quebec was cold, wet, icy and very windy. I did not bring a hat or a scarf and I ventured off the ship to visit the local churches. I saw one and decided it was time to go back, but it was too late. I was cold and wet and the next morning, woke up with a sore throat that only got worse with time. By Thursday, at the time of writing this letter I am feeling a lot better. It was great to get home! You were prayed for in every church I entered and in every Mass I celebrated on my trip.

Now, we are off and running. On Thursday, we have our First Thursday Pasta Supper. On Saturday, after a lot of work by many people, we will host our first Middle Eastern Food Festival. Come out and support the community and if you can, help out. It should be a great deal of fun and great food for all!

We welcome back **Joseph Chebeir** from his trip to Lebanon. He had a great visit with his mother and family and had a great and well needed rest. I am glad to have him and back in the office.

Just before I left, we welcomed back into our parish fold **Elie Alam**. Elie's job took him to Atlanta several years ago and now has returned him to us. What a treat to have him back!

Thank you for your gracious kindness to **Msgr. Leigh Lehockey** while I was gone. I am so grateful that he can cover the few weekends I can get away. I also thank you for your great kindness and generosity to the **Eid** family at the time of their sudden loss. You make me proud to be the shepherd of this flock!

Enjoy your weekend and see you in Church!

Salaam!

Ab. Bart

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!**

A Note of Thanks!

Dear Father Bart and the Church Family...

With sincere gratitude, there are not enough words to fully express our heartfelt thanks for the sympathy, love, and support you've extended to our family during this time of loss...

We love you always!

The Eid Family



Engaged Encounter

The final weekend of 2018 will be November 17-18 at St. Mary Magdalene in Simpsonville, The cost is \$160.00. Please register on our website: cee-sc.org.

FESTA della Notte

(Feast of the Night)

Saturday, 20 October 2018

Galileo Hall, Campus 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 nights free, donating afterward)

Dancing to the tunes of Father Pat and Co.

Dress: Business Casual

\$50 per person

Proceeds to be donated to various charities

Contact: Ella Caryfield 864.325.0587 or ellacaryfield@att.net

DEADLINE TO RESERVE SEAT: 10 October 2018

(No seats will be sold at the door.)



Get here and pay 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 07w 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

29, 4 PM, Vigil Liturgy, **3rd Holy Cross**

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

4, 5:30 PM, First Thursday Pasta Supper

6, 11 AM, Middle Eastern Food Festival

4 PM, Vigil Liturgy, **4th Holy Cross**

7, 11 AM, Divine Liturgy

3 PM, Holy Hour

7 PM, Last Chance Divine Liturgy

8, 6 PM, Prayers and Squares

7 PM, Knights of Columbus Meeting

9, 7 PM, *Ramsho* of the Maronite Saints

10, 7 PM, Divine Liturgy, Anointing of the Sick

13, 4 PM, Vigil Liturgy, **5th Holy Cross**

14, 11 AM, Divine Liturgy

3 PM, Korean Liturgy

7 PM, Last Chance Divine Liturgy

15, 6 PM, Prayers and Squares

16, PM, *Ramsho* of the Maronite Saints

17, 7 PM, Divine Liturgy, Anointing of the Sick

20, 4 PM, Vigil Liturgy, **6th Holy Cross**

21, 11 AM, Divine Liturgy

3 PM, Korean 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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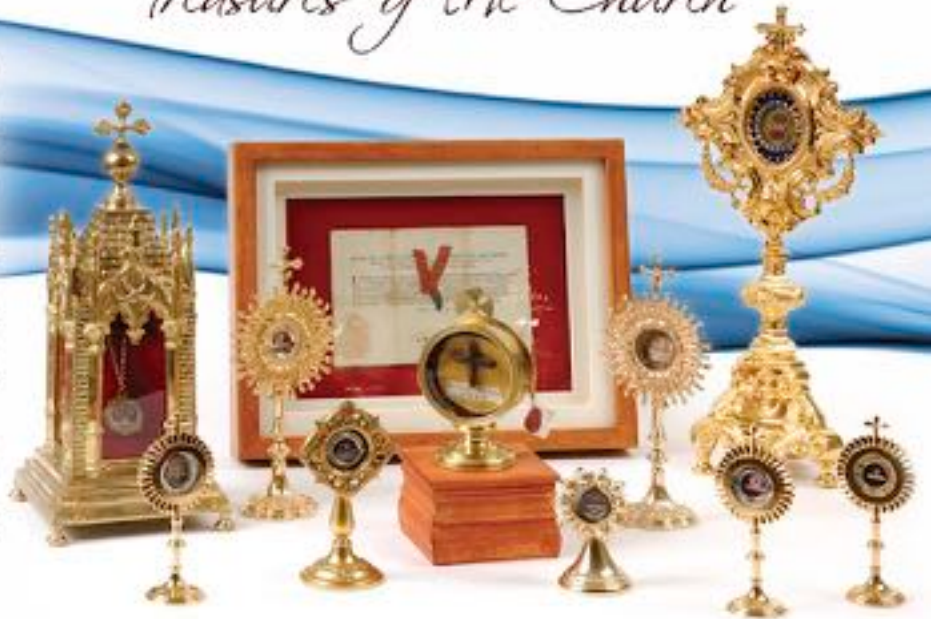
EXPOSITION OF SACRED RELICS

Treasures of the Church

Our Lady of the Rosary Parish welcomes you to a teaching and exposition of Sacred Relics. Over 150 relics will be shown, some believed to be as old as 2000 years.

Among the treasures will be relics of St. Peter, St. Teresa of Avila, St. Maria Goretti, St. Thérèse of Lisieux (the "Little Flower"), St. Francis of Assisi, St. Anthony of Padua, St. Thomas Aquinas, and St. Faustina Kowalska.

In addition, there will also present a piece of a veil which is believed to have belonged to Our Lady and one of the largest remaining pieces of the True Cross in the world.



presented by Father Carlos Martins of the Companions of the Cross

Our Lady of the Rosary Church
3710 Augusta Road
Greenville, South Carolina
(864) 422-1648

HELD IN THE CHURCH ON

MONDAY OCTOBER 1 AT 7:00 PM

See www.treasuresofthechurch.com for more information



OCTOBER PASTA SUPPER

Baked ziti, meat balls, tossed salad, and dessert. Yum, Yum!!!!

FIRST THURSDAY

09/04/18

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

Prince of Peace Catholic Church & School

presents

POPP toberfest

Join us for our back-to-school event!

Saturday, October 6

6-9:30 pm

Admission includes:

- Three inflatables, including one for smaller kids
- Carnival-style games and prizes
- Toddler Pumpkin Patch
- Cotton candy, popcorn, sno-cones, funnel cakes
- Cornhole tournament
- Face painting and wacky hair salon
- Balloon animals
- Haunted hallway, suitable for ALL ages this year!

Extras:

- Food trucks
 - Cash only, please
- Beer garden
 - \$10 for a beer bracelet
 - ID required
- Cake walk
 - \$5 buy-in

Return this portion to the school office with a check made out to **POP PTO**.

You will pick up your tickets at the WILL CALL Station at the event.

- Entry fee: \$5 per person (\$20 max per family)
- Children 2 and under: FREE
- Beer bracelet: \$10 (must be purchased at the event; valid ID required)
- **NOTE: This year, food will be available for purchase at two food trucks on site.**

Family Name: _____

Number of Tickets: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____



PRINCE of PEACE
Catholic Church & School
1301 Ruddy Creek Road • Eugene, OR 97407
www.princeofpeaceparish.org.net

6th Marian Eucharistic Conference

November 10 - 11, 2018

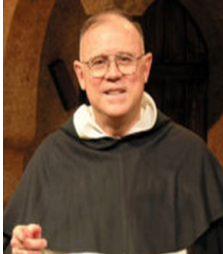
Mary, Mother of the Eucharist



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

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.

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

== *Saint Rafka* ==

• Food Fest •

Middle Eastern Delights!

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

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!



JOIN THE ORDER OF SAINT SHARBEL TODAY

Enroll online at www.orderstsharbel.org or in your Parish.

For more information about the Order, contact Order of Saint Sharbel President Bernadette Shalhoub at bbshalhoub@aol.com or ask your Parish Priest.

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

Raymond Trinidad, 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, 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 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

October 6, Saint Thomas, Apostle

October 7, Saints Bacchus and Sarkis (Sergius), Martyrs

October 8, Saint Pelagia (Margaret) Confessor

October 9, Saint James, Apostle, Brother of the Lord

October 15, Saint Theresa of Avila, Confessor

The Holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council



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Liturgical Items

Liturgical Readings

Feast	New Testament	Gospel
3rd Holy Cross	Phil. 3:17-4:1	Matt 24:23-31
English	Maan Kerzzo	
Arabic	Nazar Yacu	New! To review the readings online, go here .

Mass Intentions

September 29 & 30	Intention	Donor
Saturday, 4 PM	Open	
Sunday, 11 AM	+Samir Kerzzo	Maan and Jennifer Kerzzo
Sunday, 7 PM	Open	
Wednesday, 7 PM	Open	
October 6 & 7		
Saturday, 4 PM	Open	
Sunday, 11 AM	+Florence Peek, Grandmother	B J Dursse
Sunday, 7 PM	Open	
Wednesday, 7 PM	Open	

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 23	Saturday 4 PM	Sunday 11 AM	Sunday 7 PM	Total	Budget per week	+/-	Wed. 7 PM
People	68	71	47	186	170	16	16
Collection	\$852.00	\$2437.00	\$375.00	\$3664.00	\$2,800.00	\$864.00	0
Average per person	\$12.53	\$34.32	\$7.98	\$19.70		Holy Hour	0
Building Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			Ramsho	4
Average	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			YTD	\$110104.00
Average Attendance	75	83	39	Average 197			
Budget YTD	\$108388.00	YTD	\$110104.00	Budget +/-	\$1716.00		

Offerings



Attendance Year to Date	
4:00 PM	2489
11:00 AM	2739
7:00 PM	1275
Wednesday 7 PM	523
First Sunday	171
Ramsho	46
Holy Day	129
Special Liturgy	459
Funerals	160
Weddings	70

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 23	511	181	91
September 16	514	194	74
Difference	4	13	17

Scripture Readings for Sunday

Philippians 3:17 – 4:1

Join with others in being imitators of me—brothers, and observe those who thus conduct themselves according to the model you have in us. For many, as I have often told you and now tell you even in tears, conduct themselves as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction. Their God is their stomach; their glory is in their “shame.” Their minds are occupied with earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will change our lowly body to conform with his glorified body by the power that enables him also to bring all things into subjection to himself. Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, in this way stand firm in the Lord, beloved.

Matt 24:23-31

If anyone says to you then, ‘Look, here is the Messiah!’ or, ‘There he is!’ do not believe it. False messiahs and false prophets will arise, and they will perform signs and wonders so great as to deceive, if that were possible, even the elect. Behold, I have told it to you beforehand. So if they say to you, ‘He is in the desert,’ do not go out there; if they say, ‘He is in the inner rooms,’ do not believe it. For just as lightning comes from the east and is seen as far as the west, so will the coming of the Son of Man be. Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather. “Immediately after the tribulation of those days, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming upon the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And he will send out his angels with a trumpet blast, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.”

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 **THIS** 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

October

- 1, Wayne Reece
- 1, Nedhal Hermiz
- 2, Isabelle Chebeir
- 8, Rachel Monseur Howard
- 8, Elyse Fisher Howard
- 8, Joseph Hanna
- 8, Ignatius Lakadosch
- 8, Crysden Trent
- 9, Margaret Chalmers
- 15, Wesam Hana
- 20, Lauralee Saad



Anniversaries

October

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



Necrology

October

- +Samuel Howard, Sr., October 2, 2014
- +Geneieve Murtaugh, October 11, 2014
- +Abouna James Paissi Ross, October 20, 2013



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!

MassTimes.org
[The Catholic Directory](#)
[Parishes Online](#)

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