

Saint Rafka

Catholics of the East in the Upstate!



Season of Glorious Easter

4th Sunday of Easter

Saint Rafka Maronite Catholic Church is a Parish of the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn. The Antiochene Syriac Maronite Church is one of over twenty Eastern and Oriental Catholic Churches in communion with the Bishop of Rome. Led by His Beatitude, **Bechara Boutros Rai**, Patriarch of Antioch and all the East in Berke, Lebanon, the Syro-Maronite Church has parishes and missions on six continents. Saint Rafka Parish was established as a mission in 2002. The community grew and flourished and was raised to the rank of parish in 2021.

**Most Rev. Gregory
John Mansour**

Bishop

109 Remsen Street,
Brooklyn, NY, 11201
718.237.9913

**Father Bartholomew
Leon**

Pastor

1215 S. Highway 14
Greer, SC 29650
864.469.9119

**Father Toni Jabbour,
OMM**

Parochial Vicar

1215 S. Highway 14
Greer, SC 29650
864.469.9119

OFFICE HOURS

10:00 AM - 4:30 PM,
Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday
10:00 AM - 2:30 PM,
Thursday and Friday

DIVINE LITURGIES

The Divine Liturgy is
celebrated on

Saturday,
12 PM, Arabic
4 PM Vigil
Sunday, 11 AM
7 PM

Tuesday, 10:00 AM
Wednesday, 7:00 PM
Thursday 10:00 AM
Friday, 10:00 AM

CONFESSIONS

Saturday, 3:15 PM
Sunday 10:15 AM
6:30 PM
Weekdays before
liturgy as requested

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Joseph Chebeir
Paula Howard-Casby
Tom Judge
Dee Kalata
Ron Rossi, Sr.
Marlene Saad
Richard Sleiman

Joseph Chebeir
Financial Administrator
864.469.9119
[Joe Chebeir](#)



Bill Leon
Secretary
864.469.9119
[Bill Leon](#)

Sam Jordan Alamat
Organist
[Sam Alamat](#)

Nadia Najm
Choir Director
Scott Herr
Assistant Director
[Nadia Najm](#)
[Scott Herr](#)

Jessica Dagher Allen
MRE Director
[Jessica Allen](#)

Lisa Advent
MYO/MYA Leader
[Lisa Advent](#)

Knights of Columbus
Jim Dyer
Grand Knight
[Jim Dyer](#)

Marlene Saad
Scripture Sharing
Women's Guild
[Marlene Saad](#)
If Interested, Call
864.580.1054

Marie Kidd
Food Pantry
[Marie Kidd](#)

Hospitality Committee
[Marie Kidd](#)
[Hannan Saade](#)
[Mark Duffy](#)

Bridget Nevin
Garden Club
[Bridget Nevin](#)

Mary Anne Vicaro
Pasta Supper
[Mary Anne Vicaro](#)

Candice King-Palgut
Prayers and Squares
[Candice King-Palgut](#)

Greg Lepak
Scripture Study
[Greg Lepak](#)



Trust In Us

*Our security business is based in Greenville, SC.
We provide the best security systems for home and business.
Ensuring your Family and Assets are protected.*

864.288.1400

priority1security.com

MASS INTENTIONS

Mass intentions are a good way to remember and pray for your loved ones, alive or deceased.

If you would like to request an intention please remember to submit your intentions for Liturgy ASAP by calling the parish office at 864.469.9119 or by email at secretary@saintrafka.org. Please remember that it is rare to be able to have your intention the following Sunday! **Masses are now generally booked up about three months in advance.**

BAPTISM & CHRISMATION

Baptism in the Maronite Rite is always accompanied by Chrismation (Confirmation). Both Sacraments are given by a priest, and always in the same ceremony. Preparation to receive the Sacraments of Baptism and Chrismation is required. We encourage this to happen before the birth of your child. Please contact the [Church Office](#) for more details.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

The Anointing of the Sick is routinely offered during the Divine Liturgy on Wednesday evening and during pastoral visits by the priest to homebound and ill parishioners. Let me know if you will be in the hospital or have other special needs. Contact the [Church Office](#).

THE MYSTERY OF CROWNING (MARRIAGE)

Couples must contact the pastor **at least** six months prior to the desired date of the wedding. To initiate the marriage preparation process or if you have questions for weddings taking place at Saint Rafka. Contact the [Church Office](#).

PARISH REGISTRATION

Registration forms and welcome packets are available in the church office and the vestibule. Membership is a condition for the reception of the sacraments of baptism/confirmation, first reconciliation, first Eucharist, and Crowning (marriage). Registration is also required before the parish can issue a sponsorship certificate for those asked to be sacramental sponsors. You must be a registered, contributing member for at least three months before a certificate is provided.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Teenagers are invited to join our Maronite Youth Organization, aka MYO. Contact **Lisa Advent** lisaadventphotography@gmail.com for more information.

Ramsho (Evening Prayer)

Join us on Tuesday at 5:45 PM for evening prayer and blessing with the relic of Saint Sharbel.

WICKETT HALL AND ASHY PAVILION

Wickett Hall and Ashy Pavilion can be used by our registered and supporting parishioners for family events, reunions, etc. Others may request permission to rent the Hall or Pavilion. Please contact the [Church Office](#).

MARONITE RESOURCES

Daily [readings](#) for the Divine Liturgy.

Daily morning prayer and evening prayer of the Divine Office [here](#).

TRAVELING AND NEED TO GO TO MASS?

Where to go to Mass when traveling? Look here!

MassTimes.org

[The Catholic Directory](#)

[Parishes Online](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA

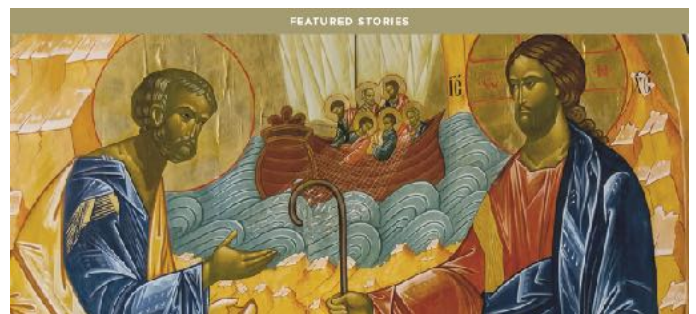
Please follow us at @saintrafkagreenville on **Instagram** and/or **St. Rafka Maronite Church** on **Facebook**. <http://www.facebook.com/strafka>
Also [YouTube](#)!

SAINT RAFKA FOOD PANTRY

Established in 2019, the Saint Rafka Food Pantry is for those who need immediate food assistance. Need food? Call the church office or come by, 10 AM - 2 PM. You can also email **Marie Kidd** who is coordinating this project. All gifts of food are anonymous. Donations of food are accepted either at the Church Office or the back of the church.

IN DEFENSE OF CHRISTIANS [IDE](#) Individuals banning together help and make know the plight of the Christians in the Middle East and their suffering.

Shrine of the Persecuted Christians in the United States. [Video here](#).



Scripture Readings

Genesis 1:20-23

Then God said: Let the water teem with an abundance of living creatures, and on the earth let birds fly beneath the dome of the sky. God created the great sea monsters and all kinds of crawling living creatures with which the water teems, and all kinds of winged birds. God saw that it was good, and God blessed them, saying: Be fertile, multiply, and fill the water of the seas; and let the birds multiply on the earth. Evening came, and morning followed—the fifth day.

Hebrews 13:18-25

Pray for us; we are sure that we have a clear conscience, desiring to act honorably in all things. I urge you all the more to do this, so that I may be restored to you very soon. Now may the God of peace, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do his will, working among us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever and ever. Amen. I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, bear with my word of exhortation, for I have written to you briefly. I want you to know that our brother Timothy has been set free; and if he comes in time, he will be with me when I see you. Greet all your leaders and all the saints. Those from Italy send you greetings. Grace be with all of you.

John 21:1-14

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, 'I am going fishing.' They said to him, 'We will go with you.' They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, 'Children, you have no fish, have

you?' They answered him, 'No.' He said to them, 'Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.' So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish.

That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord!' When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the lake.

But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, 'Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.' So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, 'Who are you?' because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

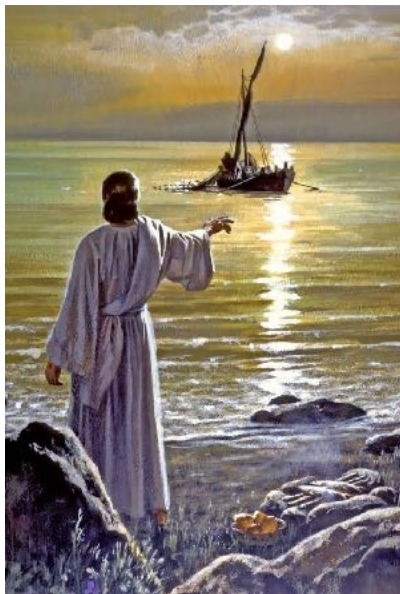


Reflection

“Friends, haven’t you any fish?” said Christ to His disciples, appearing to them for the third time after His Resurrection. When they answered ‘no’ Christ instructed them, like when He first met them (Matt. 4), to cast their nets again. To their amazement the disciples pulled in a catch full to the seams of the net –153 fish to be exact. If that seems like an oddly specific number, it is meant to be. In the ancient world it was believed that there were exactly 153 species of fish, so by Christ’s command Peter caught every fish in the sea. When Christ first called Peter He said, “I shall make you fishers of men” (Matt. 4:19) and many believed salvation was limited to the People of Israel. But here Christ emphasizes, in His mercy, the Apostles are to “go and make disciples of all nations” (Matt. 28:19).

One of the common themes of the writing of the Syriac Father Aphrahat, who was possibly previously a Jew himself, is the idea of the peoples becoming the People. To Israel God promised “I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God” (Ex. 6:7) and established with them through Moses His covenant for their protection and deliverance. He established the Law to teach the People obedience and proper worship. But God loves all mankind as His creation made in His image, and so the People were established as

an example and foreshadowing of the peoples who would later be called when He would come Himself. Previously, it was by the human womb that one became part of the saved People – being born of a Jewish woman made one part of Israel. But Christ came to grant salvation to all



those who seek Him, and so He commanded the Apostles to make disciples of all nations by “baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (Matt. 28:19). One is born into the true Israel by the womb of baptism, which is what Christ means when He tells Nicodemus he must be born again by Spirit and water (John 3). In the waters of baptism one buries their old self – sin is put to death – and what rises out of the tomb of the womb of waters with the resurrected Christ is a new man, the Christian. Christ first established Israel as an example for following His commands, but sent His Apostles out to make all peoples His People and ensure that in love and worship of Him they come to eternal life and forgiveness of sins.

So great is the love of our God that although we have sinned He calls us all to Himself, not simply to serve but to rejoice with Him. But one people is not sufficient, nor one hundred, but He desires that every people on earth should share in His eternal life and holiness. He has called us, His disciples, to participate in His mercy by going out into the world and bringing people to the womb of new life, baptism, that they may participate in His Resurrection. His Resurrection has delivered us from the sting of death and sin, freeing us, though we have sinned. With great joy, let us go out and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ, bringing others to the true faith. The Lord has given us the command to cast our nets – to courageously invite a friend or coworker to church on Sunday or knock on our neighbor’s door and visit with them. If we have gratitude and joy for the gift we have unworthily received let us freely share it with others as Christ has freely given it to us. Let us eagerly spread the Gospel of the Resurrection for love of Christ and fellow man so that on the last day when we stand before the throne of God with all our deeds before us and we are asked, “Friends, haven’t you any fish?” we may respond, “Yes, all 153!”

Father Michael Shami
Series I, © 2018
Saint Rafka Maronite
Catholic Church
All rights reserved.

Abouna's Corner

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Happy and Holy Easter Season to All! The Lord is truly Risen! Indeed, He is Risen! Alleluia!!

Another busy week at Saint Rafka! There are people who believe that after Masses on Sunday, the church is locked and everyone returns next Sunday to do it all over again. Nothing happens during the week. WRONG! There are daily Masses and devotions. The church office is open each weekday. Mail, phone calls and emails are received and answered. Bills are paid, buildings are cleaned and general maintenance is performed. The church complex is basically four acres of church, hall, pavilion, office building and residence. It all has to be maintained and ready for use. Special events in Wickett Hall also pop up and we have to work with the individuals and groups hosting events. I am grateful to **Joe Chebeir** and **Bill Leon** who oversee the complex and to the various volunteers who help with all the work that needs to be done. There is a lot that goes on behind the scenes. For all that you do, I am grateful. Keep up the good work!

Bishop Gregory Mansour recently dedicated the new **Saint Sharbel Spiritual Life Center** in Pittsburgh, PA. A video including highlights of the dedication ceremony can be found [here](#). Photos of the event are [here](#). In the words of Bishop Gregory: "I want to thank each of you who have contributed and/or supported this effort. God has blessed us with this Center. I hope and pray that we can realize all that this Center can be for the Eparchy and for the entire Church." +Gregory. Visit the center [here](#).

The March-April 2024 issue of *The Maronite Voice* is now available online [here](#). Our own **Father Aaron Sandbothe** is the assistant editor.

The **First Thursday Pasta Supper** is quickly approaching and **Mary Ann Vicaro** informed me that the menu for May is roasted chicken & shell pasta in a 4 cheese sauce, Italian salad & white chocolate & *crossiant* bread pudding. Sounds wonderful! Join us on Thursday May 2 at 5:30 PM.

The **Garden Club Soup Soup Sale** has been rescheduled May 18 - 19. There were several reasons the group has to postpone the sale for this weekend. Make sure to support this noble cause on Pentecost weekend.

A **Men's Breakfast** for all men of the parish and their friends are invited to join for breakfast and fellowship on Thursday, May 2. Men gather at Egg's up Grill, 2935 Pelham Rd. For more information, call **Jack Stewart** at 864.787.7592.

Salaam!

Ab. Bart

Church Offerings and Attendance

April 14, 2023		
12:00 Noon Saturday		\$65.00
4 PM	82	\$1,130.00
11 AM	133	\$1,329.00
7:00 PM	50	\$555.00
Mail		\$770.00
PayPal/Electronic		\$70.00
Total	265	\$3,854.00
Budget	225	\$4,100.00
+/-	40	-\$246.00
Year to Date		\$63,356.00
Budget for year +/-		\$1,856.00
Building Fund		
4 PM		\$0.00
11 AM		\$0.00
7 PM		\$0.00
Total		\$0.00
Holy Hour		0
Holy Day		0
Funeral		0
2024 Totals		
4 PM		1430
11 AM		1873
7 PM		571
Weekday Masses		1414
Holy Hour		110
Holy Day		146
Special Liturgy		117
Funerals		182
Weddings		60
Pasta Supper		173

Average Attendance

4 PM	11 AM	7 PM	Per Liturgy Average
95	125	38	87

Facts regarding our bulletin!

Bulletins emailed last weekend: 375 +
Percentage opened 61% -

Opened emails: 227 Unopened emails: 145

Masses, Sanctuary Lamp & Flowers

To have the Sanctuary Light for your relatives or intentions, please use the envelope provided at the entrance. Donation is \$5.00.

To have **flowers** for a memorial of a loved one, please use the envelope provided at the entrance. Donation is \$50.00 per Sunday.

If you would like a **Mass** offered for your loved ones, please call the church office at 864.469.9119 or secretary@saintrafka.org. Envelopes for Masses also available at the door of the church.



Business Owners: Sign Up!

Catholic Business Listings is an online listing of fellow parishioners who are also business owners, craftsmen, and farmers offering products and services for sale. Catholic Business Listings is FREE to use, and businesses only pay a small annual fee of \$120 to list their business.

Please consider subscribing and supporting your fellow Catholics. Thank you!



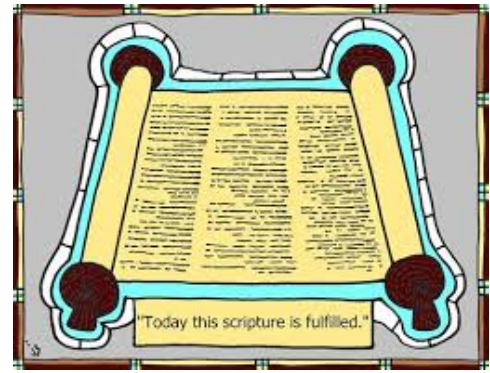
CATHOLIC

INFORMATION CENTER



Liturgical Readings

Old Testament (Arabic) Genesis 1:20-23	Layla Kasir
New Testament (English) Hebrews 13:18-25	Johanna Seppala



Mass Intentions

April 20 - 21	4th Easter	
Saturday, 4 PM	+ Uncle Jimmy, 40 day memorial	Kathy Wilson
Sunday 11 AM	The Mytych Family	Barb Mytych
Sunday, 11 AM (II)	Open	
Sunday, 7:00 PM	+Martine Farge	Lucretia and Bob Albright
Tuesday, 10:00 AM	+Anthony Baldauf	Sandra & Stephen Cush
Wednesday, 10:00 AM	Matt Mytych	Barb Mytych
Thursday, 7:00 PM	+Anthony Baldauf	Ceil & Andy
Friday, 10:00 AM	Greg Mytych	Barb Mytych
Saturday, 12:00 Noon	Holy Souls in Purgatory	Barb Mytych
April 27 - 28	5th Easter	
Saturday, 4 PM	+Bob Kelly	Dorothy McDonald
Sunday 11 AM	Lee Mytych	Barb Mytych
Sunday, 11 AM (II)	+Amal Nassif, 40 day memorial	Hady and Nissrine Nassif
Sunday, 7:00 PM	Tyesha Turner	Ella Canfield
Tuesday, 10:00 AM	+Gerald (Jerry) Ozzimo, 84th Birthday	Lenore Ozzimo
Wednesday, 7:00 PM	Clemson University, students, staff and alumni	Barb Mytych
Thursday, 10:00 AM	Bernadette and Connor Synnett	Mershon Family
Friday, 10:00 AM	Open	
Saturday, 12:00 Noon	Open	

A **Men's Breakfast** for all men of the parish, meeting with men from Prince of Peace Parish, and their friends are invited to join for breakfast and fellowship on the first Thursday of the month. The men gather at Egg's up Grill, 2935 Pelham Rd. For more information, call **Jack Stewart** at 864.787.7592.

Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
21 4th Sunday Easter 10:30 AM, Holy Rosary 11:00 AM, Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM Korean Mass 7 PM, Last Chance Mass	22	23 10 AM Divine Liturgy Arabic Devotions to follow 5:45 <i>Ramsho</i>	24 6:30 PM, Holy Rosary 7:00 PM, Divine Liturgy	25 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy	26 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy	27 12:00 PM, Arabic Mass 3:15 Confessions 4:00 PM, Vigil Liturgy
28 5th Sunday Easter 10:30 AM, Holy Rosary 11:00 AM, Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM Syro-Malabar Mass 7 PM, Last Chance Mass	29	30 10 AM Divine Liturgy Arabic Devotions to follow 5:45 <i>Ramsho</i>	May 1 6:30 PM, Holy Rosary 7:00 PM, Divine Liturgy	2 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy	3 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy Holy Hour 5:30 PM, Pasta Supper	4 12:00 PM, Arabic Mass 3:15 Confessions 4:00 PM, Vigil Liturgy
5 6th Sunday Easter 10:30 AM, Holy Rosary 11:00 AM, Divine Liturgy Potluck Luncheon 3:00 PM, Holy Hour 5:00 PM Korean Mass 7 PM, Last Chance Mass	6	7 10 AM Divine Liturgy Arabic Devotions to follow 5:45 <i>Ramsho</i>	8 6:30 PM, Holy Rosary 7:00 PM, Divine Liturgy	9 Ascension 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM Divine Liturgy	10 Ascension 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy	11 12:00 PM, Arabic Mass 3:15 Confessions 4:00 PM, Vigil Liturgy
12 7th Sunday Easter 10:30 AM, Holy Rosary 11:00 AM, Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM Syro-Malabar Mass 7 PM, Last Chance Mass	13	14 10 AM Divine Liturgy Arabic Devotions to follow 5:45 <i>Ramsho</i> 7:00 PM, KC Meeting	15 6:30 PM, Holy Rosary 7:00 PM, Divine Liturgy	16 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy	17 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy	18 Pentecost Vigil 12:00 PM, Arabic Mass 3:15 Confessions 4:00 PM, Vigil Liturgy



Catholics serving Catholics

www.thomasmcafee.com

Downtown Chapel
 639 North Main Street
 Greenville, SC 29601
 (864) 232-6733

Northwest Chapel
 6710 White Horse Road
 Greenville, SC 29611
 (864) 294-6415

Southeast Chapel
 1604 NE Main Street
 Simpsonville, SC 29681
 (864) 688-1600



Adopt-A-Pot Event May 5th

FLOWERS ARE COMING SOON!

There are 2 areas around the church:
Wickett Hall & Francis House

You may have noticed the Pots all have # and Size on markers.
Markers let us know pot location. There are 22 in total. First come, first serve.

We are asking for a donation of \$30.

New markers we purchased in an effort they won't fly out of the pots.
Marker SAMPLES are in the white pots in front of Wickett Hall.
The face is small so it will limit what can be entered.

Only Annuals are put in pots and refreshed every year.

Can't wait to start planting and thank you in advance for your support.



St. Rafka's Garden Club

Lots Going on
Here's the latest!

Hello Everyone,

Everyone is excited with the warm weather and so are we. We have lots of news.

Garden Club Members:

Allyson Shumate, BJ Drusse, Joan Craven, Maryanne Giacometti, Paula Howard-Casby, Terry Goodman, along with Joe Giacometti, Mark Duffy.
We also want to welcome **Youmi Efurud** our newest member!

All are welcome to join the club! No matter if is to meet regularly or to do project work when life permits. We are on Whats's under SR Garden Club, see Bridget to be added.

Mark has been extremely supportive helping with the gardens, heavy lifting and positive energy. Great job and enjoy your summer trip! We will miss you.

Also, thanks to Judy Mathis and Bill Leon for their support and watering the grounds.

Contact or text Bridget anytime at 864-775-8709 with any questions.

St. Rafka's Garden Club

Annual Fundraiser

APRIL 20 & 21

LET'S GET
cooking!

RESCHEDULED FOR MAY 18 - 19

S
o
u
p

S
a
l
e



CHILI
(meat)

Soup: Sizes
Chili 1 Pint \$8
1 Quart \$15

Chicken 1 Pint \$7
1 Quart \$12

Chicken

Lentil
1 Pint \$6
1 Quart \$11

Lentil
(vegetarian)

All soups have low salt.

Advance orders must be placed **by April 15th:**

- ✓ To Advance order:
Call or text Club Members with your order
- ✓ Come to Wickett Hall after liturgies with Garden Club Ladies
- ✓ Tear off slips at back of church and drop off before you leave.

There will be soups available day of but once they are gone, they are gone.

Soup Sale Funds go towards weed control, bug spray, dirt, mulch and general maintenance of the flower beds. Everything has gone up and we appreciate your support!

2C (pint)
4C (quart)

Pot selection to **STARTS April 14th ENDS April 29th**

HOW DOES IT WORK?

1. Select your pot
2. Pull the Marker out.
3. Take a white envelope at the back of the church
4. White Envelopes marked **ADOPT A POT**
Print NAME – Phone# - Marker# and the name you want on the pot along with donation.
The markers are small and space is limited
5. Flower Club Members will call to confirm the name on the pot so please print clearly.
6. PUT IN THE BRIGHT PINK ENVELOPE in the back of the church.
7. Garden Club people will also be available after the masses if you want us to help you fill out the forms.
Flowers will be in pots May 5th weather permitting.



Spring is on it way!

We have the following events taking place:
Annual Fund Raising Event
Soup Sale April 20 & 21st

Adopt-A-Pot May 5th

Project: Wrought Iron for St. Rafka – TBD

The Wrought Iron in back of Charbel was made into a custom piece. We are having difficulty obtaining more material so if people have any suggestions, please contact Bridget.

Just a gentle reminder, BEFORE you add or want to purchase things for the gardens, please call Bridget because we have plans in place and we want to integrate your efforts and work together.

Thank you!

أتى فصل الربيع ونريد حديقة القديسة رفقا ان تكون جميلة وذلك بمساعدة نادي الحديقة بالأشياء التالية
الاول

بيع ثلاثة أنواع من الشوربات

Chilie with meat - Chicken soup - Lentil soup

وذلك بتاريخ ٢٠ و ٢١ من نيسان

بامكانكم ان تطلبوا الشوربة التي تريدون قبل

Bridget phone number (864)775 8709 وذلك بالاتصال ب

الثاني

وتذكروا اسم احد من موتاكم

وذلك بتاريخ (٥) أيار

شكرا لتعاونكم

Saints of the Day

April

April 27, Saint Simon the Apostle

April 29, Saint Catherine of Sienna

April 30, Saint James, Son of Zebedee

May

May 1, Saint Jeremiah the Prophet

May 4, Saint Monica

May 8, Saint John the Evangelist

May 9, Saint Isaiah the Prophet

May 10, Saint Simon the Zealot, Apostle
(Confederate Veterans Day)

Day of Coptic-Catholic Friendship

May 12, Saint Epiphanius, Bishop of Cyrus

May 15, Our Lady of the Harvest

Prayer List

Irene Ponce, Philomena Reed, Rick Argon, Sister Mary Emmanuel, OSC, Hewitt Dickerson, Brielle Sheriff, Carol, Gina, Jeni Yacu, Rodena and Bruce Thompson, Andrea Emilia Bernabey, Nadim Chebeir, Mike, Leo, B J Dursse, Deacon Dick Murtaugh, Vicki Gosnell, Sam Clutter, Michael Tierney, Paul Shimow, Betty Mileski, Doug Logan, Rita Charbonete, Frances Danton, Diane Hickey, Alan Frechette, Jacob and Jaxson Rivera, Andrea Wise, Patrizia, Susan Clarke, Andy Frisari, Beth, Mary Dowden, Karen Rodgers, Nancy Georgion, Rosemary & Jim King, Mark Knight, Stephen Wedgeworth, MR, Hilda Hix, Catherine Caul, Albert Martin, Nanine D'Aquin, Elizabeth Fallet, Anthony Kozakiewicz, Bill Riley, KG, Linda Crosby, Jenny Gould, Maurice Mercier, Breese, Jennifer Payne, Matt Smith, Leila Chebeir, Tammy Lopez, Anthony Fagliarone, Fernando, Carolyn Groner, Tim Eaton, Kelly Mullens, Carol Craven, Mel Casby, Vincent Howard, K.F., Eileen Howard, Jack Campbell, Hilda Hix, Sue Bauer, Chrisoula, Theresa Woodson, Noah Scott Kestler, Art and Judy Pape, Suhail Yousiff, Tom Craven, Jr., Michael Rau, Chris Davis, Pixie Geren, Mike Dyer, Christian Pereira, Art Newton, Nancy Georgion, Recovery of RS, Claire Barnett, Ethel Brassel, Katrina Shunk, George Vargo, Irma Galvan, Mary Cleary, Joe Lemire, Virginia LaFave, Nabeel Howard, Paul Cote and Family, Joan Bussemey, Joe Durham, Michael Bays, Patrick Lavelle, Tara Galvin, Susan Connor, Bill Hines, Beth Banks, Shawn Sexton, James and Kaleigh, Antonella, Stephanie, Derek Gerard Solomon, JoAnn Salloum, Susie, Jim

Birthdays

April

21, Deacon Dick Murtaugh

21, Francois Sleiman

24, Diana Cox

25, Mark Kalata

25, Rony Aazan

26, Peter Bouharoun

26, Michelle Sleiman

27, Marie Howard

27, Deanna Paris

27, Dr. Fahd Zarrouf

28, Farid Hayek

30, Catherine Vaughan

30, J. Michael Sandifer

Anniversaries

April

21, Nabil and Soraya Chackal

24, Lorraine and Maurice Mercier

25, Richard and Afaf Sleiman

25, Sam and Sherri Sandbothe

May

2, Reiss and Allyson Shumate

8, Paul and Mary Leonardi

8, Mike and Barbara Fontayne

Necrology

April

+Doris Howayeck Howard, April 20, 2018

+Hind Khawaja Michael, April 22, 2008

+Ruby Dumit, April 25, 2012

May

+Amjed Yacu, May 1, 2015

+Greg Howard, May 6, 2017

+Anwar Yacu, May 8, 2003

+Paul Gallagher, May 11, 2014

+Montaha Achi, May 12, 2023

+Stephen John Howard, May 25, 2009

+Phillip Kelly (P.K.) Howard, May 27, 2013

+Nazih Namouz, May 31, 2021

Important Dates to Remember

Ascension Thursday, May 9

Pentecost/First Holy Communion, May 19

Vacation Bible School, July 22 - 26

Mary Dowden suffered a debilitating stroke on November 5, 2021 and she and husband Greg are in great need of having to add ramps, bars, etc. to their home as well as facing great medical bills. **Greg Dowden** has set up a [GoFund.Me page](#) for anyone who would wish to help with the great expenses involved.



You can also write a check to Saint Rafka for Mary Dowden. Thanks to all who have reached out. May God continue to heal Mary and bless each one who helps this loving family in their time of need.

St. Clare's Home

St. Clare's Home is an upstate maternity home for expectant mothers who choose life and are in need of shelter, safety, and security. We are in need of more volunteers who support our mission!

Please contact our Volunteer Coordinator at stclaresvolunteer@charlestondiocese.org for the many ways you can get involved.

Please donate to support our mission for St. Clare's Home at: <https://www.stclareshomesc.org/donate> or visit our wish list and Amazon wish list at <https://www.stclareshomesc.org/wish-list>

Thank you!



Maron's Vine

is a new initiative by the National Apostolates of Maronites (NAM) to connect members of the Maronite community with businesses, services, and products at the local and national level- building upon our age old tradition of uniting our friends and family with members of our community to meet their needs. It is our vision that through a NAM membership all will have access to Maron's Vine registry, while anyone who wishes to become a part of our registry can do so without limitation.

By filling out the following inquiry, you will help us better understand our community's interest in the Maron's Vine project. We appreciate your participation in connecting our greater community together.



Inquiry

Palmetto Home Improvement Handyman

Simon Elias
864-340-5101
Free Estimate

se_improvements

PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE FRED J. ADAMS FOUNDATION

Comedy Benefit



7 PM
\$20



HOSTED BY
CARRIE ADAMS-YOUNG

**FRI MAY 3
HYATT PLACE
DOWNTOWN GREENVILLE**

WITH THANKS TO
JAS Epiphany Pools

TRIANGLE LEBANESE- AMERICAN CENTER
PRESENTS

24TH ANNUAL LEBANESE FESTIVAL

FREE ENTRY

FOOD - MUSIC- DANCE - BEER - WINE
KIDS ACTIVITIES- FORTUNE TELLER - RAFFLES -DESSERT

APRIL 20-21
SATURDAY 11AM - 7PM
SUNDAY 12PM - 6PM

241 HORIZON DRIVE, RALEIGH NC 27615

Our Lady of Guadalupe Pilgrimage



LED BY
FATHER TONI JABBOUR

OCTOBER
18 - 24

2024

FROM Charlotte, NC TO MEXICO

OTHER CITIES IN THE US ALSO AVAILBLE, PLEASE CALL FOR PRICING

COST PER PERSON
\$2890

Sign up and deposit are required by May 15. Call now to reserve your place!

INCLUDES

- * Round trip airline * 4-star hotels * Breakfast and dinner *
- * Pilgrimage activities and entrance fees * Mass daily * Private transportation per itinerary

EXCLUDES

- * Gratuities * Travel Insurance * Lunch * Personal expense

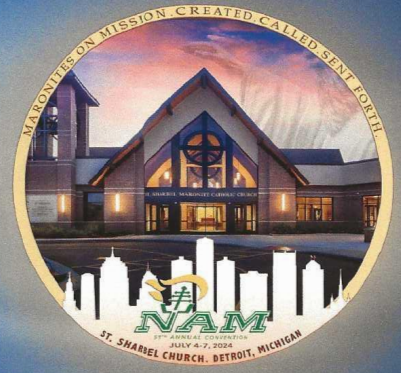
Good Shepherd Travel

www.goodshepherdtravel.com

Toll Free: 1-844-659-5263

59th Annual NAM Convention

JULY 4-7, 2024 | ST. SHARBEL CHURCH
DETROIT MARRIOTT RENAISSANCE CENTER



DETROIT, MICHIGAN

MARONITES ON MISSION: CREATED. CALLED. SENT FORTH.



CONVENTION REGISTRATION Deadline: June 1st
www.namnews.org | (914) 964-3070 | info@namnews.org

  @NationalApostolateofMaronites - NAM

HOTEL BOOKINGS (\$189+/Night, Single/Double)
<https://book.passkey.com/e/50700969> | (313) 568-8000



Canada is across the river! Bring your passports!

UNEXPECTED PREGNANCY?

FIND HELP
HERE:



Arabic Classes with **Mouna Ashi** are starting up again on Thursdays at 5:30 PM in Francis House. Mouna has many years of teaching experience and we are delighted that she will teach this class of conversational Arabic.



Vacation Bible School 2024

St. Rafka Maronite Church
1215 SC-14, Greer, SC 29650
saintrafkagreenville@gmail.com

Exploring the Middle East with our Maronite Saints

When: July 22nd - 25th, 2024 (Monday through Thursday)

Ages: 3-12 years old

Time: 9:00 am - 1:30 pm (Lunch & snacks provided)

Each day begins with Daily Divine Liturgy (Mass) in the Church at 9:00 am

Children are welcome to join us each day as we learn about our Maronite saints and how to imitate them in a life of virtue with prayer, music, crafts, games, and more!

For more information, please contact:

Lisa at (864) 414-6957 or the **Church Office** at (864) 469-9119

Registration Deadline: No Later than July 7, 2024





القديسة رفقا
Saint Rafqa

Support Those Who Support Us!



MacBook, iPhone, iPad repairs performed by Apple certified technicians. iRevive strives to repair, not replace your device.

589 Haywood Rd
Greenville, South Carolina
864.552.1285. www.iRevive.com support@irevive.com
Call us anytime!

Mark Advent, Owner

Advent Home Services

Plumbing~Electric~Repair~Install

- Quality Workmanship
- Excellent Troubleshooting Skills
- Reasonable Pricing
- Respectful Attitude

Small Jobs Welcome!!!

864.414.6957 864.420.5041



**GREENVILLE
SPINE INSTITUTE**
EXPERT CHIROPRACTIC CARE

**BERKSHIRE
HATHAWAY**
HomeServices

Marge Noak
REALTOR®



C. Dan Joyner, REALTORS
745 N. Pleasantburg Drive
Greenville, SC 29607
864-320-7819 cell
864-678-8241 office
mnoak@cdanjoyner.com
www.GreenvilleBoomersRealEstate.com



Member of the franchise system of BHI Affiliates, LLC



Joseph Chebeir, MBA, EA
Tax Professional, Financial Advisor

3620 Pelham Rd. # 108
Greenville, SC 29615
864.909.4466
joe@carolinaadvisers.com



Securities offered through Dempsey Lord Smith, LLC Member FINRA/SIPC.
Advisory services offered through Dempsey Lord Smith, LLC

Edward Jones™

Retirement happens whether you're ready or not. Ready is better.



Katrina D Whitlinger, ChFC®, AAMS™
Financial Advisor

2438 Hudson Rd
Greer, SC 29650

864-268-3106
edwardjones.com/katrina-whitlinger

Member of SIPC



Julie Hryniewicz, MSW, LISW-CP
Therapist

- ☎ 864-252-9069
- 📍 879 NE Main St. Suite B
Simpsonville, SC 29681
- ✉ julie@paxtherapysolutions.com

Randy Jones

Owner

Mobile: 864-304-5076
Email: randy@muttsbbqgreer.com

Dine-In • Carry-Out • Catering

101 West Road
Greer, SC 29650
Phone: 864-848-3999
Fax: 864-848-7715

1020 Powdersville Road
Easley, SC 29640
Phone: 864-442-1400
Fax: 864-442-1403





Catholic Radio in South Carolina

WCKI 1300 AM

www.catholicradioinsc.com

Get the App!

MediaTriX

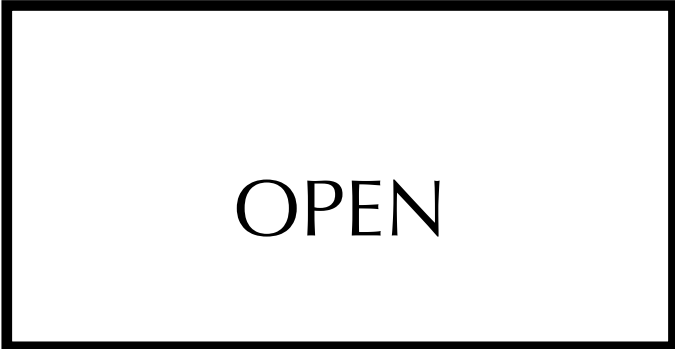


RICK'S CATERING

**Rick
Vicaro**

(864) 704-4229

rickvicaro@gmail.com



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Saint Rafka Council #15519

2nd Monday of the Month, 7 PM, Wickett Hall



Peter S. Bouharoun

301 Falls Street
Greenville, SC 29601
www.bouharouns.com

Tel: 864.233.2733
Cell: 864.325.7036
peter@bouharouns.com

**Want this Space??
Contact Abouna at**

saintrafkagreenville@g

Saad
and
Manios, LLC

Providing Business Solutions
Bookkeeping
Payroll Services
Tax Return Preparation
Other Business Services

Saad Manios and Associates, LLC
CPA
Providing Compilation and Review Services

1249 S Pleasantburg Drive
Greenville, SC 29605
Phone: 864 277-9600 • Fax: 864-422-9665

PITA HOUSE
Middle Eastern Food & Grocery
تشكيله من المأكولات والحلويات الشرقية
495 South Pleasantburg Drive
Greenville, SC 29607

Ziad Namouz
znameouz@yahoo.com

Tel: 864-271-9895
Fax: 864-235-8851



FELIPE A. FRANCISCO
864-715-4496

Hardscaping
Maintenance Pressure Wash
Tree Work Leaf Blowing
Mulching Pine Straw
Mowing Edging
Trimming Bushes

PHILIP
LANDSCAPING

Helena Arida

Life Coach
Coaching is offered in three languages:
English French Arabic

aridahelena@gmail.com 484-767-5906
Instagram: coach.helenai

The Communication & Empowerment Coach

Golden Years MOVING
Helping Seniors with Change and Transition

Donna Van Norden Alison Longenecker
864-704-3581 864-901-3870

WEBSITE: www.GoldenYearsMoving.com
EMAIL: info@GoldenYearsMoving.com

RENEE L. TEDRICK
Attorney at Law
**WILLS, TRUSTS
& PROBATE LAW**

17A Caledon Court 864-370-2277
Greenville, SC 29615 renee@sctrustlaw.com



Kenia Brockman
ESL Program Manager

225 S. Pleasantburg Drive
Suite C-10
Greenville, SC 29607

Office (864) 467-3459
Google (864) 660-9199
brockman@greenvilleliteracy.org
www.greenvilleliteracy.org

WE CARE 
FAMILY HEALTH & URGENT CARE

BASSAM HADDAD, MD
VINIKA PATEL, DNP
BHADRIK PATEL, MSPA



COLUMBIA
1120 A-B Sparkleberry Lane Ext
Columbia, SC 29223
(803) 851-0605

GREENVILLE
2076 Woodruff Rd
Greenville, SC 29607
(864) 373-7246

FAX: (866) 291-3617

www.WeCareFamilyHealth.com
Connect@WeCareFamilyHealth.com