



502 Seminole Avenue, NE, Atlanta, GA 30307-1418

Rectory: (404)525-2504; Fax : (404) 524-8572

**Parish Emergency:**

**Phone: (202) 829-4779**

E-Mail : [sjmcc@sjmcc.org](mailto:sjmcc@sjmcc.org) ; Web Site: [www.sjmcc.org](http://www.sjmcc.org)

*Father Dominique Hanna, Administrator*

February 7th, 2010

## Sunday of the Faithful Departed

### Abouna Dominique's Corner:

#### On the Feast of the Presentation in the Temple on February 2nd

The Jewish law of purification declared that every woman who conceived and bore a male child was to be considered unclean for seven days. After the circumcision of the child, the mother was to remain in her house for thirty three days. She was not to touch any holy thing and was not to enter the sanctuary. After the days of her purification had been fulfilled, she was to present to the priest at the entrance of the Tabernacle a yearling lamb as a burnt offering and young pigeon or turtledove as a sacrifice for sin. If she was too poor to procure a lamb, she was to offer two turtledoves or two young pigeons. The priest was to make expiation for her and she was then considered clean (Leviticus 12: 2-8).

The immaculate Virgin, who had conceived of the Holy Spirit and become a mother while keeping her virginity, did not come under the Law that touched the other daughters of Israel. If she submitted to it, it was only to imitate her Son who was to be baptized by John and to avoid scandal for her acquaintances who knew nothing of her virginal motherhood.

A first-born male child belonged to the Lord by the double title of first-fruit and

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#### *DIVINE LITURGIES FOR*

#### *Requested by*

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2010**

Readings: 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11 & Luke 16: 19-31

**5:00 PM** Special Intention

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2010**

Readings: 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11 & Luke 16: 19-31

**9:00 AM** Marilyn Gensheimer

Mitch & Diane Domit

**11:00 AM** Toufica Eid

The Family

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2010**

Readings: Romans. 14: 14-23 & John 2: 1-11

**5:00 PM** Special Intention

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2010**

Readings: Romans. 14: 14-23 & John 2: 1-11

**9:00 AM**

**NO LITURGY AT SAINT JOSEPH**

**11:00 AM** Anis Ibrahim

Mr. & Mrs. Kamal & Rima Najem

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### **Abouna Dominique's Corner**

head of the family. In patriarchal societies heads of families exercise a sort of priesthood. Theirs is the right of offering sacrifice and on them falls the duty of caring for divine worship.

In Israel the priestly tribe of Levi had been given the office, but first-born sons continued nonetheless to be consecrated to God and had to be brought back at a set price (Numbers 3: 12-13). The payment of this ransom was due the thirtieth day after the birth and was to be made by the child's father. The place of payment was not prescribed, nor confined to the Temple. Nor was the mother obliged to go to Jerusalem for the ceremony of purification; she was allowed to offer her sacrifice by proxy. Pious Jews who did not live too far from the Holy City made it a point to appear personally in the Lord's presence; and that is what the Evangelist supposes in Mary's case: "When the time of their purification had been completed according to the Law of Moses, they carried the child to Jerusalem to present him to God, as it is written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male shall be consecrated to the Lord" (Luke 2: 23).

Whole the Holy Family was carrying out these legal prescriptions, a resident of Jerusalem unexpectedly came up to them. He was Simeon, just man who feared God and firmly hoped the Consoler of Israel was soon to come. The Holy Spirit had assured him that he would not die before seeing the Anointed of the Lord.

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#### **RELIGIOUS CLASSES**

**On Sunday @ 9:50 am**

#### **COMMUNION CALLS**

For Hospitalized, shut-in or suffering from a long illness. Call the Priest.

#### **ANOINTING**

Contact the Priest for the Sacrament of the Sick.

#### **BAPTISM**

Baptism & Confirmation arrangements must be made six weeks in advance.

#### **CROWNING**

Marriage arrangements must be made at least six months in advance. Bride or groom must be a registered member of the parish. Call the Priest.

#### **HOLY ORDERS**

If you would like to serve God by preaching the Word of God, by celebrating the Sacraments and by serving those in need, you may have a vocation to the priesthood. Why not speak to a priest today or contact the Vocations Office @ 404-525-2504

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## Miscellaneous Events & Announcements

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**Maronite Calendar:** The Maronite Calendar can be acquired from Abouna's office. This calendar is special because it features the Maronite liturgical year with the holy day of obligations and the Maronite Saints. Donation is \$ 5.00

**Offering Envelopes:** The offering envelopes for the weekly donations are available at the Church. Please try to obtain your envelopes as soon as you can since the year has already started. Parishioners whose envelopes and names cannot be found please see Abouna.

**Saint Maron's Day Celebration:** Everyone is invited to attend the St. Maron's Day Celebration on Sunday, Feb. 7th at 10:00 AM in the Social Hall. We will present a play honoring St. Maron and our other Maronite Saints. Light refreshments will also be served. You won't want to miss this special occasion.

**Saint Maron's Feast Day:** Tuesday, February 9 is the Feast of Saint Maron, the Spiritual Father and the Protector of the Maronites. The Liturgy will be celebrated @ 7:00 PM. In our Church, this Feast is a Holy Day of Obligation.

**No 9:00 o'clock Liturgy Next Week Sunday:** There will be no 9:00 o'clock Liturgy next week Sunday 14th. Fr. Dominique will be concelebrating the Liturgy with Chorbishop Michael Thomas at the Southern Federation Convention.

**Cedar Club Valentine's Day Hafli:** The Cedar Club of Atlanta extends the invitation to all the parishioners of Saint Joseph to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Club in a Romantic Evening on Valentine's Day. Join the Cedar Club at the Westin Buckhead for the Centennial Grand Banquet and Hafli on Saturday, February 13th. Dance to the reknowned music of Amin Sultan Band from New York. Tickets are \$75 for Banquet (reservations required) and Hafli. Hafli-Only tickets are \$50. Ticket information can be found in the registration material. Please contact David Nasser (404-875-2740) or Charlene Hiffa (770-418-1675) for further information or to order tickets.

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### Abouna Dominique's Corner

Why he was there we do not know, for he was not a priest and was not called there for some sacred duties to perform. In any event, the stranger took the divine Child in his arms and gave expression to his joy in his canticle of thanksgiving: "Now, Master, you can dismiss your servant in peace; you have fulfilled your word. For my eyes have witnessed your saving deed displayed for all peoples to see: a revealing light to the Gentiles, the glory of your people Israel" (Luke 2: 29-32)

## **Financial Standing**

INCOME	JANUARY	2010
<b>COLLECTIONS:</b>		
January 1& 3	\$ 2,180.00	
January 6 & 10	\$ 1,649.00	
January 17	\$ 2,078.00	
January 24	\$ 1,947.00	
January 31	\$ 1,747.00	
<b>OTHER INCOME:</b>		
Rent (Hall & Parking)	\$ 450.00	
Candles	\$ 137.00	
Calendars	\$ 308.00	
<b>OPERATING INCOME:</b>	<b>\$ 10,496.00</b>	
 <b>EXPENSES: Utilities, Salary, Xerox Machine &amp; Printing, Janitorial Maintenance, Building Insurance, Priest's Insurance, Church, Office &amp; Hall Supplies, Security System, Retreat, Miscellaneous</b>		
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$ 12,519.93</b>	
<b>NET OPERATING RESULTS:</b>	<b>(\$2,023.93)</b>	
<b>EXTRAORDINARY INCOME:</b>		
New Year's Party:	\$ 10,123.00	
<b>EXTRAORDINARY EXPENSE:</b>		
New Year's Party:	\$ 2,500.00	
<b>NET EXTRAORDINARY RESULTS:</b>	<b>\$ 7,623.00</b>	

Fr. Dominique would like to thank you for your generosity and continuous dedication to Saint Joseph



- For our military; that the Lord may give them strength and courage. May the Lord help them protect and defend the rights of the innocent. Watch over their loved ones while they are far from home. When they are in harm's way, protect them from injury; We pray to the Lord.
- That we might put our faith in the Lord when we ourselves or family members are confronted with an unexpected pregnancy; We pray to the Lord.
- That this church community may not judge women who have had abortions but rather encourage to seek forgiveness and healing ; We pray to the Lord.
- That we may live out our vocation to be ambassadors for Christ by spreading the message that each human life is sacred; We pray to the Lord.
- For the sick, the suffering and the elderly of our community, especially **Eva Solomon, Almas Tanory, Francois Khalil, Tony Rouhanan, Jeff Faded, Josphine Dahdah**, We pray to the Lord.