



January 10th, 2010

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 ; Web Site: www.sjmcc.org

Father Dominique Hanna, Administrator

First Sunday after Epiphany

Abouna Dominique's Corner:

On Epiphany

On January 6, we celebrated the feast of the Epiphany of our Lord Jesus Christ. In the Eastern Churches, this feast is known by two names: Epiphany and Theophany. The Greek word, "Epiphany" means a manifestation or an apparition and the word, "Theophany" means an appearance of God. On this day we celebrated the appearance or manifestation of Christ among us as God's son.

The feast of Epiphany was first celebrated in the East around the third century and eventually was adopted by the Western Church. In the Eastern Churches the celebration of the Epiphany originally centered on both the Birth of our Lord and his baptism. When later the Western feast of Christmas was introduced into the East, Christmas became the feast of the Birth of our Lord and the Epiphany that of his baptism.

The feast of the Epiphany is intimately connected with the mystery of our Lord's birth. The Child who was born for us and the Son who was given to us is manifested before us to be the Son of the Most High. Christ begins his public life with his baptism by John in the Jordan river. At his baptism Christ is seen as the

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DIVINE LITURGIES FOR

Requested by

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 2010

Readings: 2 Corinthians 10: 1-11 & John 1: 29-34

5:00 PM Special Intentions

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 2010

Readings: 2 Corinthians 10: 1-11 & John 1: 29-34

9:00 AM Takla Chebib

Mr. & Mrs. Louie Abdou

11:00 AM Special Intentions

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 2010

Readings: 2 Corinthians 4: 5-15 & John 1: 35-42

5:00 PM Evelyn & Joseph Askouti

the Family

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 2010

Readings: 2 Corinthians 4: 5-15 & John 1: 35-42

9:00 AM Takla Chebib

Mr. & Mrs. Kam Nassar

11:00 AM Special Intentions

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Abouna Dominique's Corner

fulfillment of John's preaching: he is the Messiah and the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. The Father and the Holy Spirit are witnesses to Christ for he is the beloved Son of the Father and upon him the Spirit rests. Thus at the baptism of the Lord we have not only an epiphany or manifestation of Christ as God's Son, but also a theophany or manifestation of the Holy Spirit—Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The feast of Epiphany reminds us not only of the baptism of Christ, but also of our own baptism. Saint Ephrem in his Hymn on Epiphany says: "Our blessed Lord came to be baptized with sinners and because of his glory the heavens were opened. The one who purifies all creatures, desiring to cleanse them, went into the waters and sanctified them for our baptism." It is for this reason that we bless water on this day. Originally, the mystery of baptism was celebrated on this feast and the waters blessed were those of baptism.

Today, we celebrate the manifestation or epiphany of the Trinity at the baptism of Christ as well as the manifestation of the glory of God in the person of the Lord come into the world, that is to say, the manifestation of Christ, the Word of God, among us. Let us then call to mind the grace of God who has appeared for the salvation of all, and thank him for the baptism through which we have been begotten in the Spirit and through which we have put on Christ and become children of the Father

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

Miscellaneous Events & Announcements

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.

The Ladies Altar and Rosary Society Meeting: The first ladies meeting for the year 2010 will be on Sunday January 10th after the 9 am liturgy. All ladies are encouraged to attend.

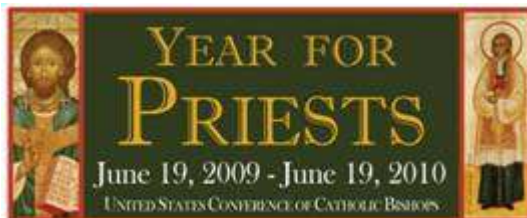
Councils Meetings: there will be no meetings for the different councils next week as it was scheduled. All meetings will be postponed to the week after next.

Priests' Retreat: Abouna Dominique will be out town from Monday, January 11 to Friday January 15. He will be participating in the annual priest retreat with all the priests of the Eparchy. For emergency please call Subdeacon Leo @ 678-697-6814 or 770-271-0587.

Farewell for Tresa Van Heusen: On January 24th, the MYA invites the parish community for a farewell lunch for Tresa Van Heusen who is entering religious life. On February. 2, Tresa will be joining the Maronite Servants of Christ the Light in Boston. Join us as we thank Tresa for her life dedication to the Maronite Church in general and to the Saint Joseph in particular.

Let us pray

Glory to you , Son
made us rejoice in
as man, you have filled us with admiration by your wonders, words and deeds.
Through you incarnation, you have elevated our nature, and sanctified it by you
baptism. You received the witness of Father: "This is my beloved Son in whom I
am well pleased." You did not look down on the testimony of John your Fore-
runner: "Here is
who carries the
it is you whom
owed by the pas-
blood was sprin-
posts. To you be



of God you have
your manifestation
the lamb of God
sins of the world."
Moses foreshad-
cal lamb, whose
kled on the door-
glory forever and



Ahlan Wa Sahalan Y'All
www.naminbham.com

47th Annual Maronite Convention

Sponsored by:
The National Apostolate of Maronites
Hosted by:
St. Elias Maronite Church
Birmingham, Alabama

Dear Members and Friends:

St. Elias Maronite Catholic Church is excited to be hosting the National Apostolate of Maronites (NAM) 47th Annual Convention, July 7-11, 2010 in Birmingham, Alabama at the Sheraton Birmingham Hotel. St. Elias is also celebrating 100 years of existence and we are excited that you can help us celebrate.

During the convention on Friday night, July 9th, our Silent and Live Auction will serve as the main fund-raiser for NAM. We need your help to make this Silent and Live Auction very special and profitable.

Your donation of a tax-deductible item such as a vacation stay at a Vacation Home or Time Share to be featured in our Destination Section, art object, religious item, jewelry, sports item or memorabilia, handmade items such as quilt or afghan, giftware, Health Spa, Airline Tickets or miles, children's items, vintage wines, gift certificates, home or garden items, or any item of interest will help us achieve our goal.

You may go online and donate an item through our gift registry at www.bedbathandbeyond.com (click on "Bridal and Gift Registry"; click on "Give a Great Gift"; first name: Theresa; last name: Bolus) or www.williamssonoma.com (click on "Registry"; click on "Find a Registry"; first name: Theresa; last name: Bolus) or go to www.potterybarn.com (click on "Registry", then click on "Find a Registry" and enter first name: LaVonne; last name: Williamson). You may also donate a monetary gift which will be used by some of our talented shoppers to obtain unique items for the Silent Auctions.

Your donation will be acknowledged during the NAM Convention, in a special Silent and Live Auction brochure. The top items donated will be featured in a Live Auction during dinner on Friday night, July 9, 2010 at the NAM Convention and will receive special recognition.



PRAYERS PLEASE

- 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.