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|  | <b>502 Seminole Avenue, NE, Atlanta, GA 30307-1418</b><br>Rectory: (404)525-2504; Fax : (404) 524-8572<br><b>Parish Emergency:</b><br><b>Phone: (202) 829-4779</b><br>E-Mail : <a href="mailto:sjmcc@sjmcc.org">sjmcc@sjmcc.org</a> ; Web Site: <a href="http://www.sjmcc.org">www.sjmcc.org</a><br><i>Father Dominique Hanna, Administrator</i> |
|   | <b>September 12th, 2010</b> <b>Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross</b>   |

**Abouna Dominique's Corner: Marriage (A Received Truth)**

The unique nature of marriage as the union of one man and one woman is a received truth. It is not arbitrary or made up. Neither is it old-fashioned, out of touch, or extrinsic to our identity and deepest concerns. Marriage is prepolitical and even prereligious, received from the very hand of our Creator. As we know, truth is meant to be discovered and respected; only when this is the case are we truly free. Pope Benedict XVI wrote, "Truth, and the love which it reveals, cannot be produced: they can only be received as a gift." Let us ponder some of the essential and unchangeable truths of marriage that should inform our catechesis today. *God is the author of marriage.* The Second Vatican Council wrote, "The intimate partnership of life and love which constitutes the married state has been established by the creator and endowed by him with its own proper laws. . . . God himself is the author of marriage." Marriage is created at the same moment, and in the very same breath, as the creation of man and woman (see Mt 19:4-6; Gn 2:23-24). Marriage and human life go together. Marriage is a truth foundational to the very meaning of human life and is meant to be held sacred. It is a truth grounded in nature—not "nature" in the simple terms of trees and butterflies, but the nature of the human person, the nature of man and woman, which encompasses the whole person, body and soul. *Marriage is a two-in-one-flesh communion of persons. Sexual difference and the complementarity between man and woman are intrinsic to marriage.*

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| <i><b>DIVINE LITURGIES</b></i>  | <i><b>REQUESTED BY</b></i>  |
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| <u>Saturday, September 11, 2010</u><br><b>5:00 PM</b> <b>Special Intentions</b>   | <b>Readings: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 &amp; John 12 : 20-32</b>  |
| <u>Sunday, September 12, 2010</u><br><b>9:00 AM</b> <b>Special Intentions</b><br><b>11:00 AM</b> <b>Jacques Abou Jaoude</b> | <b>Readings: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 &amp; John 12 : 20-32</b><br><br><b>The Abou Jaoude Family</b>         |
| <u>Saturday, September 18, 2010</u><br><b>5:00 PM</b> <b>Special Intentions</b>   | <b>Readings: 2 Timothy 2: 1-10 &amp; Mark 10: 35-45</b>   |
| <u>Sunday, September 19, 2010</u><br><b>9:00 AM</b> <b>John Haddad</b><br><b>11:00 AM</b> <b>Special Intentions</b>         | <b>Readings: 2 Timothy 2: 1-10 &amp; Mark 10: 35-45</b><br><br><b>Louie &amp; Robin Isaf &amp; family</b> |
| <b><u>THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION IS OFFERED BEFORE EACH LITURGY</u></b>  |   |

## **Abouna Dominique's Corner: Marriage (A Received Truth)**

(continues from page 1)

“What is unique about marriage is that it is truly founded on the bodily union made uniquely possible by the sexual complementarity of man and woman—a complementarity that makes it possible for two human beings to become . . . one flesh.” Marriage, by its very nature, is the permanent and exclusive union of one man and one woman. Unlike any other relationship, the relationship between man and woman in marriage is ordered to the unique and intrinsic good of the two-in-one-flesh communion of persons, the grounding point of conjugal love. No other relationship is structured around, or can ever achieve, this good of the two-in-one-flesh communion of persons between man and woman. Catechesis can help hand on this great truth! Heterosexual difference and the beautiful and irreducible complementarity between man and woman are essential ingredients for conjugal love, which also of course calls for faithfulness, indissolubility, and openness to life (i.e., fecundity, which is part and parcel of conjugal love even for infertile or unintentionally sterile couples). Without a man and a woman, we cannot even begin to speak of marriage. *Marriage is open to the child. The true nature of marriage protects the intrinsic good of children and the unique importance of mothers and fathers.* The conjugal love between husband and wife is always meant to be fruitful. Even when the gift of a child does not come about, the paths of fruitfulness and spiritual fecundity are manifold and may be realized through adoption or foster care, as well as special service to families, the Church, and the community, including demonstrations of solidarity with the poor, needy, weak, and forgotten. This is a truth often misunderstood today—hence the need for catechesis. We need to rediscover the great gift of marriage’s openness to the child and all that such openness embraces.

### **RELIGIOUS CLASSES**

**On Sunday @ 9:50 am starting August 29th, 2010.**

### **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 Catholic Formation Registration:** The MCF classes begins Sunday, September 12th. Parents, students and teachers will meet in the Church @ 9:50 am for a short talk given by Abouna Dominique.

**Second Collection:** There will be a second collection this Sunday for the Catholic University of America. This collection helps our Maronite seminarians to get 50% discount in tuition

**Talent Show Organized by the MYA:** After the casting calls, contestants are getting ready and the Maronite Young Adults are working hard to put together a talent show that will keep you at the edge of your seat! Don't miss Maronites Got Talent on Saturday, September 25, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Joseph's Hall followed immediately by a music and dance hafli. Tickets are available for only \$5 per person. Families with more than 5 individuals for \$25. Available to order Pizza, popcorn, drinks.

**Lectors & Readers Meeting:** Lectors, readers and all parishioners who would like to serve at the Divine Liturgy through the ministry of reading will meet on Sunday, September 19th @ 10:15 in the Church.

**MYO Meeting:** The MYO will have their first meeting of the year on Sunday, September 12th after the 11 O'clock Liturgy.

**Councils Election:** On Sunday, October 3rd, parishioners will have the opportunity to elect members of the pastoral and stewardship committees. Louis Ragy and Al Suman were appointed as election committee to facilitate this process. Please anyone who is interested to serve the Church on one of these councils see Abouna or the election committee.

### Centennial Celebration Planning

The year 2011 is a blessed and significant year for our Church. In 1911, our parish was established having Saint Joseph as its patron. A Saint who guarded the Virgin and our Lord and never stopped protecting them from dangers. One hundred years are now behind us; we look at them with a sense of gratitude and satisfaction renewing our covenant with the Lord and his Church. We are celebrating all who founded our parish. Those whose sacrifices made our place of worship a reality. We pray during this coming year that our celebrations be worthy of the grandeur of this historical milestone.

### *An Open Invitation*

**To: The All Women of Saint Joseph's Maronite Church**

**From: The Ladies Altar and Rosary Society**

We cordially invite every adult woman of the parish to become a member of the St. Joseph's Altar and Rosary Society. We meet monthly to engage in fundraising and social events for the parish and to care for the altar throughout the liturgical year.

The Ladies Altar and Rosary Society is the perfect way to work and socialize with old friends and to make new ones while giving valuable service to the life of our parish.

Remember that 2011 is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our parish. Several special events are planned to commemorate this date and our society will be taking an active part in them.

Our next meeting will be held on September 26 at 10:00 AM in the parish hall. All the ladies of the parish are welcome to join us. For any questions or additional information please contact Victoria Chihane at 404-272-7046. We hope to see many more of you.

Join us for the 36th Annual  
**Mid-East Festival**

at  
**St. Elias  
Antiochian Orthodox  
Church**



*Free Admission*

Friday September 17th through Sunday September 19th

Friday 9/17 5-9pm

Saturday 9/18 11am-9pm

Sunday 9/19 12pm-6pm

Come enjoy Mid-Eastern  
Food Delicacies & Desserts. Events to include  
Church Tours, Dancing and many other cultural events

St Elias Church is located at  
2045 Ponce De Leon Avenue, Atlanta GA 30307  
[www.steliasofatlanta.org](http://www.steliasofatlanta.org)

404-378-8191



- 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 **Almas & Joseph Tanory, Francois Khalil, Tony Rouhanan, Jeff Faded, Josphine Dahdah, Eva Green** We pray to the Lord.