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	September 26th, 2010 Second Sunday After Holy Cross

Abouna Dominique's Corner: The Holy Family and Our Families

A number of years ago, I was reading a book on the medieval monastery in France. In one of the monastery, there is a large statue carved from an ancient tree trunk. The statue depicts Joseph sitting, and on his lap is the young boy Jesus, who is about eight years old. With his muscular arms outstretched around Jesus, Joseph is holding an unfolded scroll in front of them. Together, with mouths very wide open, they are singing the psalms. It is a very moving portrayal of Jesus and the paternal care and love of his foster father, Joseph. What struck me was that this depiction illustrates one of the ways that the young boy Jesus came to know that he was truly God's Son. By singing the psalms with his earthly father, Jesus came to know the love of his heavenly Father and thus came to realize, in a human manner, that he was the eternal Son of the Father. It was in the home of Mary and Joseph that Jesus learned to read the Sacred Scriptures and to ponder with them their deepest meaning—the meaning that he himself would ultimately fulfill. Together with them, he would gather to celebrate the weekly Sabbath with their kinfolk and neighbors and make the yearly joyful pilgrimage to Jerusalem for the Passover. In such settings, familial and communal, Mary and Joseph fostered, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the devout life of Jesus as a Jewish man.

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<i>DIVINE LITURGIES</i>	<i>REQUESTED BY</i>
<u>Saturday, September 25, 2010</u>	Readings: 1 Corinthians 15:19-34 & Matthew 24 : 1-14
5:00 PM Special Intentions	
<u>Sunday, September 26, 2010</u>	Readings: 1 Corinthians 15:19-34 & Matthew 24 : 1-14
9:00 AM Joseph & Jeannie Shamatta	The Shamatta Family
11:00 AM Forty Day Liturgy for Sadika Debes	Yolla Lutrell
<u>Saturday, September 18, 2010</u>	Readings: Philippians 3: 17-4: 1 & Matthew 24:23-31
5:00 PM Special Intentions	
<u>Sunday, September 19, 2010</u>	Readings: Philippians 3: 17-4: 1 & Matthew 24:23-31
9:00 AM Special Intentions	
11:00 AM Laure Hermes	The Ragy Family
<u>THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION IS OFFERED BEFORE EACH LITURGY</u>	

Abouna Dominique's Corner: The Holy Family and Our Families

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Through his obedience to Joseph and Mary, "Jesus advanced [in] wisdom and age and favor before God and man" (Lk 2:52). The same dynamic that existed within the Holy Family is intended to exist within our own families even now. Fathers and mothers are to teach their children to live after the manner of the Gospel and so come to know the salvation of Jesus, the love of the Father, and the new life in the Holy Spirit. How are Christian parents to do this? They are to follow the example of Joseph and Mary.

The Holy Family foreshadowed and anticipated what the Second Vatican Council calls "the domestic church." Each Christian family, exemplified in the Holy Family, is to be a microcosm of the larger Church. As the larger Church is a communion of persons, so the family is a small communion of persons. The family receives its life from the larger Body of Christ, the Church, and so comes to mirror the life of this larger Church. Pope John Paul II stated in his apostolic exhortation *On the Family* (*Familiaris Consortio*), "The Christian family constitutes a specific revelation and realization of ecclesial communion, and for this reason . . . it can and should be called 'the domestic Church.'" The Church is a communion of faith, hope, and love. The Christian family, as the domestic Church, is equally to be a communion of faith, hope, and love. Through faith, hope, and love, Jesus abides within the family, and through the Holy Spirit he pours out the love of the Father within the family. It is within this context of the family as the domestic Church that fathers and mothers, after the manner of Joseph and Mary, have a particular obligation to nurture the Christian life within their own families.

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

Talent Show Organized by the MYA: 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 hafla. Tickets are available for only \$5 per person. Families with more than 5 individuals for \$25. Available to order Pizza, popcorn, drinks.

Open House: Open House for parents of MCF students is next Sunday, September 26. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to meet with your child's teacher who will give you an overview of his or her program for the school year. You will also be able to ask any questions you may have. Please be sure to consult the Open House Schedule given to all MCF students today by their teacher.

Ladies Altar and Rosary Society: A meeting for the Ladies Altar and Rosary Society will be held this Sunday after the 9:00 o'clock liturgy.

Holy Hour: Every First Friday of the month at 7:30 in the evening, there will be an hour of Adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Mark your calendar for October 1st @ 7:30 pm to spend an hour with the Lord.

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.

Family portraits for the Ad Book: In November Mark Najjar at Atlanta Studios will be taking family portraits for the Ad Book of our Centennial. The photos will be shot at different locations around the church, both inside & outside. More information about the dates and sign-up sheet are to come

Candidates for Pastoral and Stewardship Councils

For Pastoral Council:

Nadim Teeny
Habib Osta
Corinne Moussa
Louis Ragy
Habib Abi Sarkis
Sleiman Endraos

For the Stewardship Council:

Albert Ashkouti
Louis Isaf
Simon Dagher
Michael Hiffa

Parishioners who are still interested in being members on either council through election please submit your names to Abouna Dominique Hanna, Al Suman or Louis Ragy before Wednesday, September 29th.

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.

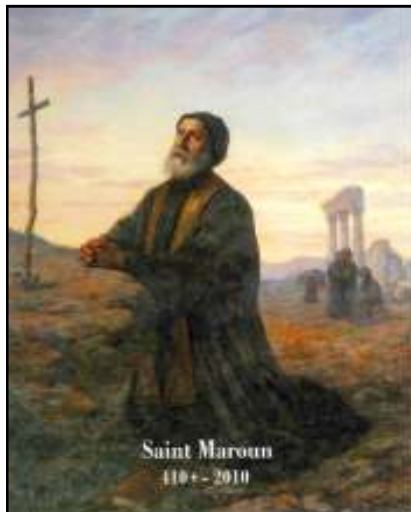
Remember that 2011 is the 100th anniversary of our parish. Several special events are planned to commemorate this date and our society will be taking an active part in them.

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.



Could you believe that Habitat for Humanity has an office in Lebanon? Two months ago, I was surprised when Nathan Kongthum, the Global Engagement Officer of Habitat for Humanity International called me to let me know that Dani Tayar, the National Director Habitat for Humanity Lebanon will be visiting Atlanta. Nathan and Dani expressed the desire to come to Church to meet with the parishioners. On Sunday October 10th Dani Tayar, the National Director of Habitat for Humanity will be visiting our Church to speak for 2-3 minutes about the mission and the work that Habitat for Humanity does in Lebanon. We welcome Dani and his group.



Lord God,

you called your chosen one, Saint Maroun,
to the monastic life,
perfected him in divine virtues,
and guided him along the difficult road
to the heavenly kingdom.

During this jubilee year, commemorating 1600 years
since the death of your chosen one, Saint Maroun,
when he was called

to the house of your heavenly Father;
We ask you, through his intercession,
to immerse us in your love that we may
walk in your path,
heed your commandments,
and follow in his footsteps.

May his holy example resonate throughout our lives.

With your love, may we achieve that final destination
reached by our father, Saint Maroun,
and carry your Gospel throughout the world.

Through his intercession, may we attain
the glory of the resurrection and everlasting life in you.
Glory and thanks are due to you, to your blessed Father,
and to your living Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.