



250 YEARS!!! **INDEPENDENCE DAY**

Independence Day in the U.S. is an annual holiday commemorating the formal adoption by the Continental Congress of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, in Philadelphia. Although the signing of the Declaration was not completed until August, the Fourth of July holiday has been accepted as the official anniversary of the U.S. independence and is celebrated in all states and territories of the U.S.

The holiday was first observed in Philadelphia on July 8, 1776, at which time the Declaration of Independence was read aloud, city bells rang, and bands played. It was not declared a legal holiday, however, until 1941. The Fourth is traditionally celebrated publicly with parades and pageants, patriotic speeches, and organized firing of guns and cannons and displays of fireworks; early in the 20th century public concern for a “safe and sane” holiday resulted in restrictions on general use of fireworks. Family picnics and outings are a feature of private Fourth of July celebrations.

Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom, must, like men, undergo the fatigue of supporting it. ~Thomas Paine

*In the truest sense, freedom cannot be bestowed; it must be achieved.
~Franklin D. Roosevelt*

*For what avail the plough or sail, or land or life, if freedom fail?
~Ralph Waldo Emerson*

Those who won our independence believed liberty to be the secret of happiness and courage to be the secret of liberty. ~ Louis D. Brandeis

*It is easy to take liberty for granted, when you have never had it taken from you.
~Dick Cheney*

Liberty is the breath of life to nations. ~George Bernard Shaw

*Freedom has its life in the hearts, the actions, the spirit of men and so it must be daily earned and refreshed — else like a flower cut from its life-giving roots, it will wither and die.
~Dwight D. Eisenhower*

**ST. ELIAS MARONITE
CATHOLIC CHURCH
4730 COVE ROAD, NW, ROANOKE, VA 24017**

June 28, 2026



Saints Peter & Paul

Pastor: Fr. George Zina

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Office: 540-562-0012

Web Site: www.steliashurch.org

Liturgy Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 10:30 am

Weekdays: 9:00 am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:
Every Friday following the 9:00 am
Liturgy until 5:00 pm

Mystery of Reconciliation: Saturdays from 4:00 PM to
4:40 PM and Sundays from 9:45 AM to 10:15 AM
or by appointment

LITURGY INTENTIONS

WEEKEND OF JUNE 27 & 28, 2026

Saturday: 5:00 PM: Joseph Lucchini, healing (Dominic & Bea Lucchini)

Sunday: 10:30 AM:

Monday, June 29: 9 AM- Fr. Marlon Mendieta, health & blessings

Tuesday, June 30: 9 AM- Msgr. John Wall, health & blessings

Wednesday, July 1: 9 AM- Salim Zina, RIP

Thursday, July 2: 9 AM- Carole Schwartz, RIP (The Fortney Family)

Friday, July 3: 9 AM- Richard King, RIP

WEEKEND OF JULY 4 & 5, 2026

Saturday: 5:00 PM:

Sunday: 10:30 AM:

Offertory— June 21- \$2,231.00

Second Collection— this weekend, 6/27 & 6/28 for Peter's Pence



ALTAR EUCHARIST CELEBRATION JUNE

The wine, bread & candles are being offered in honor of Madonna House Apostolate, prayers of gratitude for 47 years in the Roanoke Valley, humbly bearing witness to the merciful love of God revealed in Christ, Jesus by Lourice L. Thomas, II.



Daily Scripture Readings

Week of June 28, 2026

Monday: 2 Cor 11:21-30 : Mt 16:13-20

Tuesday: Acts 12:12-24 : Mt 15:10-20

Wednesday: Acts 12:25 -13:12 : Mt 15:21-28

Thursday: Acts 13:13-25 : Matthew 16:1-4

Friday: Acts 13: 26– 39 : Mt 16:5-12

Saturday: Acts 13:44-52 : John 3:31-36

Sunday: 2 Cor 3:1-6 : Lk 10:1-7



ADORATION

Please note... There will be **NO** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Friday, **July 3** due to the holiday. Adoration will resume on Friday, **July 10th**.

ALTAR EUCHARIST CELEBRATION

Wine: \$45.00

Bread: \$40.00

Candles: \$40.00

The month of July is available

Women of Grace Retreat

This retreat is in Malvern, PA Friday July 24 through Sunday July 26, 2026.

The presenters will be Johnnette Williams, Fr. Hans Chamorro, Dr. Robert Enright, Vivian Akel, LCSW and Gary Zimak.

The title: “Emotional Balance in an Upside Down World”

Please see the flyer on the church bulletin board with additional information

SAVE THE DATE...

Please join **Bishop Gregory Mansour** at the Eparchy of Saint Maron's 17th Annual Benefit Dinner.

Thursday, October 15, 2026, at The Metropolitan Club.

More details to follow