

MYA Eparchial Conference

Are you a young adult between the ages of 18 and 35 who has completed high school? Are you looking to grow deeper in your faith and connect with other like-minded young adults from your culture and faith? Join our MYA family October 16-18th 2026 at Our Lady of Lebanon Church in Miami, FL for an unforgettable experience. The theme will focus on a journey into being known and called by God. The Conference will include meals, breakouts, adoration, confession, fellowship and more.

To learn more or to register for the retreat and for the Hotel visit myaeparchystmaron.org. **Registration is now open!**

Maronite Faith Formation Series *The Season of the Glorious Cross*

Guest Speaker: Chorbishop Seely Beggiani (Hosted by the Maronite Servants of Christ the Light in conjunction with the St. Sharbel Spiritual Life Center.

September 17, 24—8 PM EST
Via Zoom

Two Presentations left:

1. Transformation in the Spirit
- 2.. Maturity in Christ

Please see the flyer on the church bulletin board to register.

WOMEN'S RETREAT sponsored by Women of Nazareth

October 17: 9 am to 3 pm WOMEN'S RETREAT sponsored by Women of Nazareth

“Her Sacred Way: The Art of Contemplation in a Busy World.” Explore how we can learn the ways Jesus and women before us learned the mystery of God speaking to them.

Our retreat leader will be Megan Cottam, Lay Ecclesial Minister in the Diocese of Richmond, currently serving Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Mechanicsville, VA. She is married with two children and her husband is a deacon.

Registration forms are available from your church secretary. The cost is \$12 for the boxed lunch. Give/mail your completed form with your lunch selection and a check or cash for \$12 to Rita Harris OLN office, 2505 Electric Road, Roanoke, VA 24018 . Please write “WON retreat” on the memo line of the check. **Registration deadline is October 5.** Seating is limited to 60.

Womenofnazareth@gmail.com for any questions.

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

September 13, 2026



Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Pastor: Fr. George Zina

Emails: Fr@steliashurch.org
secretary@steliashurch.org

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 SEPTEMBER 12 & 13, 2026

Saturday: 5:00 PM: Juliana Frick, healing (Charles & Lucy Ruhl)

Sunday: 10:30 AM: Gerald Brunning, RIP (Charles & Lucy Ruhl)

Monday, Sept 14: 9 AM- Sarah Dukes, healing (Charles & Lucy Ruhl)

Tuesday, Sept 15: 9 AM-

Wednesday, Sept 16: 9 AM-

Thursday, Sept 17: 9 AM-

Friday, Sept 18: 9 AM-

WEEKEND OF SEPTEMBER 19 & 20, 2026

Saturday: 5:00 PM: Barry Thomas, RIP (Mickey Thomas)

Sunday: 10:30 AM:

Offertory— September 6 - \$2,336.92

SECOND COLLECTION— this weekend, September 12 & 13 Maintenance

ALTAR EUCHARIST CELEBRATION September

Surrounding 9/11/01 in prayer:

The repose of souls lost; Gratitude for healing and safety; Hope and comfort to the living; Grace to embrace traumas with Your Will and Mercy.

By Lourice Thomas, II



Daily Scripture Readings

Week of September 13, 2026

Monday: 1 Cor 1:18-25 : Jn 12:20-32 (**Actual feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross**)

Tuesday: 2 Peter 1:1-11 : John 3:11-21

Wednesday: 2 Peter 1:12-21 : Jn 8:21-30

Thursday: 2 Peter 3:1-9 : John 12:31-36

Friday: 2 Peter 3:10-18 : Mark 8:31-38

Saturday: Jude 1-7 : John 8:33-38

Sunday: 2 Timothy 2:1-10 : Mark 10:35-45

REGISTRATION FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



There is a sign-up sheet available in the back of the church to register your children for Religious Education classes. Also a teacher sign-up sheet.

Please do so as soon as possible so we can plan accordingly



EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Today's feast is one of the greatest feasts of the Eastern Churches. It is frequently mentioned in ecclesiastical writings and has always has as its object the triumph of Christ, His resurrection, and the veneration of the holy cross, the sign of His victory over death. The feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross was first instituted in order to commemorate the dedication of the Church of the Resurrection on September 13, 335. The Emperor Constantine built this Church and the one in Bethlehem and they are both in existence today. The Church of the Resurrection had five naves and in the interior a circular structure covered by a dome which protected the sanctuary of the sepulcher or tomb of Christ. The date of September 13 was chosen in order to supplant the pagan feast of the Temple of Jupiter in Rome.

The second historical event which is the source of our present feast was the return of the holy cross to Jerusalem under Emperor Heraclius. The wood of the cross had been preserved in the Church of the Resurrection until May 4, 614 when the Persians captured Jerusalem, burned the Church of the Resurrection and carried off the cross. After the victory of Emperor Heraclius over the Persians, the cross was returned to Jerusalem on September 14, 628. It is said that the Emperor, dressed in his royal vestments, carried the cross through the streets of Jerusalem. He was stopped by the Patriarch, was demanded that he remove his splendid vestments in order to become more like the scorned Christ. The Emperor agreed and walked through the streets barefooted. A crowd of the faithful accompanied him and prostrated before the Holy Cross.

On this day, the Maronite Church celebrates the Rite of the Cross, which is a service of adoration of the cross, the sign of our salvation. The feast which came at the end of the annual liturgical cycle is also directed toward the second coming of Christ, who carries His cross of light and triumph. It is this theme which is the object of the readings and prayers of the seven weeks which follow and which close the liturgical year.

Adoration and honor to the cross of our Savior! Glory and praise to Christ our God, forever,
Amen.