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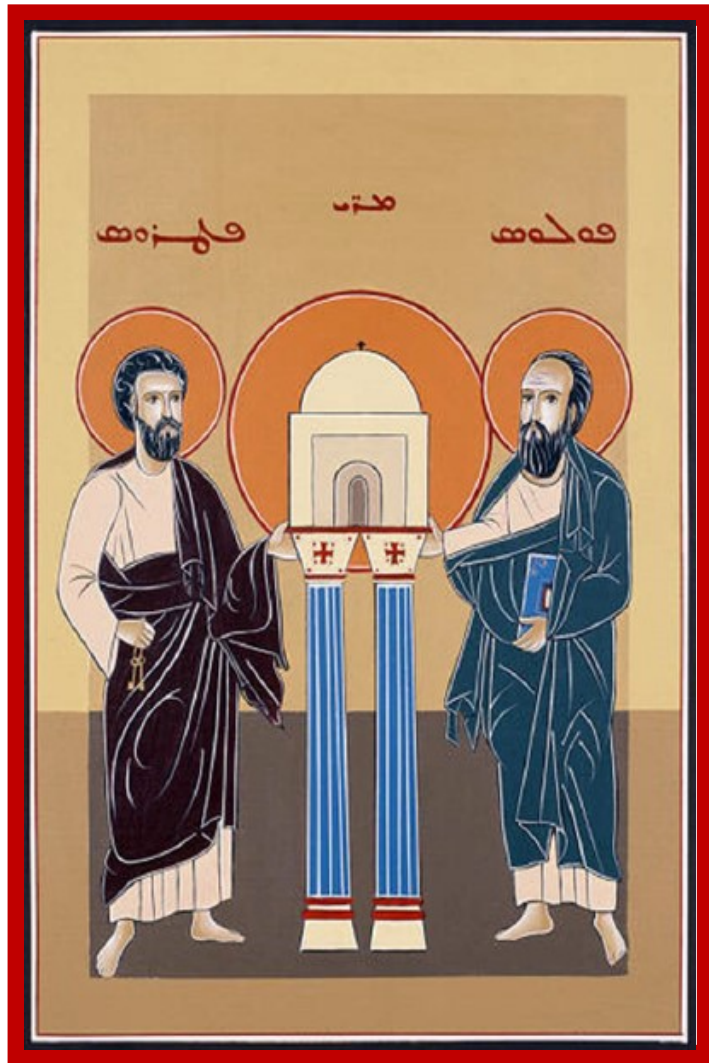
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The Most Reverend Gregory J. Mansour, Eparchial Bishop
The Very Reverend Dominique Hanna, Rector
Deacon Peter Frangie
Subdeacon Norbert Vogl
Subdeacon Adonis El-Asmar



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Saints Peter & Paul/ Fifth Sunday of Pentecost

June 28, 2020

Sun., June 28	Feast of Saints Peter & Paul 10 am Forty Day Memorial Divine Liturgy for Salwa Elachi Req. by the Elachi Family St. Irenaeus
Mon., June 29	NO LITURGY Saint Peter & Paul (Actual Feast)
Tues., June 30	10 am Divine Liturgy for Chaker Mahfouz Req. by Mr. & Mrs. Adib Howayek The Feast of the Twelve Apostles
Wed., July 1	10 am Divine Liturgy St. Junipero Serra
Thurs., July 2	10 am Divine Liturgy
Fri., July 3	10 am Divine Liturgy
Sat., July 4	10 am Divine Liturgy St. Andrew the Cantor, Bishop of Crete
Sun., June 5	6th Sunday of Pentecost 10 am Forty Day Memorial Divine Liturgy for Jeanette Hosri Req. by the Hosri Family

Financial Standing May 2020

Ordinary Income

Sundays & Holy Days Collections: **\$29,100.15**

Cathedral Stipends from Marriages & Funerals, Lower Hall Rent, Candles, Breakfast, Luncheon, Bake Sale, Dues, Religious Education, flowers, ...: **\$571.20**

Payroll Protection Program Grant: \$9,890.00

Total Ordinary Income: \$39,561.35

Ordinary Expense

Payroll, Gas, Electricity, Building Insurance and Medical Insurance, Leasing Equipment, TV, Phone, Internet, Church, Hall & Office Supplies, Postage, Regular Maintenance, Charity, Eparchial Appeal, Insurance,...

Total Ordinary Expense: \$12,803.50

Total Ordinary Income vs Expense: \$26,757.85

No income was brought in as extraordinary income.
The Library did not pay the May rent.

**Thank you for your contribution
in helping maintain the Church
and in planning different activities**

Our vocation to love!!

We can't live without love. Our lives are senseless and lonely if we don't experience love, if we don't participate intimately in it. Every human person has been given a vocation to love by God. We are all drawn to relationships where we can experience genuine love: friendships, romantic relationships, and ultimately marriage. We know this from our own hearts, which long for love.

Learn more about how you can grow in your relationship with others by checking SPICE [here](#).

For more information about our ministry Check [here and watch the](#)

Dear Beloved Parishioners:

It seems unfair that the Church celebrates the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul, two influential giants in Christendom, on the same day of June 29. In the Divine Liturgy of the Feast, our ancestors wrote: "Peter and Paul are two jewels adorning the crown of the holy Church, the bride of Christ. Peter and Paul are two strong pillars upon which the holy Church was built."

Were Peter and Paul always jewels beautifying the Church? Were they always great leaders upon whom the Church was built? The answer is no. They were not at all times what the Church today describes them to have been.

Two examples come to mind. Besides Peter's denial of Christ during the passion narrative that we are all familiar with, Matthew recorded a story of Jesus walking on the water and Peter asking the Lord to come to him. *When the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?"* (Matthew 14: 26-32). It is fascinating when Scriptures speak about the failures of our leaders.

Another instance recalls a fiery interaction between Peter and Paul in the Letter of Paul to the Galatians. Galatians 2: 11-14 reads, *"But when Cephas [Peter] came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood self-condemned; for until certain people came from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles. But after they came, he drew back and kept himself separate for fear of the circumcision faction. And the other Jews joined him in this hypocrisy, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy. But when I saw that they were not acting consistently with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas before them all, 'If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you compel the Gentiles to live like Jews?'"* It is ironic when Paul described Peter as a hypocrite. He who persecuted the followers of Christ before his conversion, who was present at the stoning of Saint Steven and who must have terrified Peter for some time is now criticizing Peter for having a double standard. It seems clear that the two were not at all times on the same page when it came to who was supposed to belong to the Church.

The Church's emphasis on unity above everything else was the reason behind it having the feast of these two saints on the same day. Peter and Paul are united in their weakness. In 1 Corinthians 12: 9-10, Paul reported that Christ told him, *My [Christ's] grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.* Paul added, *So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.*

Most times we zoom in on a few events in people's lives. We judge them accordingly, letting one or two instances govern our whole impression of them. It was not just the moment when Peter doubted Christ one night that would determine our sense of his life. In the same way, it was not Paul persecuting the Christians that would define who he was.

Aren't we all weak? And should we not all boast in our weaknesses so God's power may emerge in us?

Please let us never forget that every saint has a past and every sinner has a future.

Happy Feast of Saints Peter and Paul!

The 2020 Eparchial Charities Appeal

The Eparchial Charities Appeal will continue to be collected until August 15. We are asked to raise \$5,500 to participate in this awesome mission of the Eparchy. We have collected \$2,277 so far. You may donate [here](#). Thanks for your generosity.

Covid-19 SALAM Club Fundraising

The club decided to undertake a fundraising campaign in view of the Covid-19 pandemic. We wanted to recognize and support the healthcare workers and first responders on the front lines as well as seniors and others in need during these trying times. Any support will be highly appreciated and will be used to help our heroes and our community. You may make your donation [by clicking here](#). Thank you in advance for your contribution and together we can make a difference for our community.

Bulletin Advertisement

Business owners, you may advertise your businesses in the Church bulletin that reaches over 600 households via email. For more information [click here](#) or call the rectory at 718-624-7228.

Cathedral Cedar Remembrance Tree

Parishioners and friends can now remember their deceased and honor their living with their names on the commemorative tree located in our Cathedral Chapel vestibule. Please [click here](#) for more details.

Finance Council Recommendation

The Finance Council recommends that parishioners set their Church donation up as an automatic payment. This is the best way to keep supporting your spiritual home while on vacation or out of town. You may also make your contribution online [by clicking here](#).

Postponement of the Greece Pilgrimage

Due to the coronavirus, the planned Greece Pilgrimage in the Footsteps of St. Paul was postponed to October 11. It will be the same itinerary as before, but we will be joining another group and hopefully by then this situation will be under control.

Order of Saint Sharbel Matching Grant

Good news: Catholic Extension Society recently announced that it will make a \$25,000 grant to our Eparchy in 2020 for our Seminarian Endowments – if certain conditions are met!

Each Eparchy can earn the \$25,000 grant if they enroll at least 15 new Perpetual Members in the Order of Saint Sharbel by December 31. Membership dues and donations must be received by December 31, 2020 to qualify.

This is not the first time that the Eparchies have received matching grants from Catholic Extension. Similar grants were made in 2012, 2013, 2015 and 2016 after the Order of Saint Sharbel met similar challenges. The Eparchies were selected after a competitive application process each time.

Order of Saint Sharbel President Jim Abdo of Minneapolis immediately put out a call to Members of the Order to invite their friends, family members and fellow parishioners to join or to recruit new Members or to make a gift of Membership, saying, “We do not want to waste this great opportunity!”

Perpetual Membership in the Order requires a donation of \$5,000. The payment can be made in one lump sum, or in four quarterly installments over the course of a year. Information on enrolling in the Order can be found on the Order of St. Sharbel’s website, www.orderstsharbel.org, or obtained by contacting any of the following people:

- James Abdo, President of the Order (jabdo@abdobooks.com)
- Charlene Hiffa, Vice President, Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn (mchiffa@bellsouth.net)
- John Kurey, Stewardship Director, Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn and the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon (718-237-9913 / 314-231-1021; or saintmaron@yahoo.com / maroniteswest@yahoo.com).

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AND HELP BUILD THE FUTURE OF THE MARONITE CHURCH

Meet this year's Seminarians for the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn



Sunday Readings

قراءات الأحد

Feast of Saints Peter and Paul, The Apostles

Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians 11: 21-30

To my shame, I must say, we were too weak for that! But whatever anyone dares to boast of I am speaking as a fool I also dare to boast of that.

Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they descendants of Abraham? So am I. Are they ministers of Christ? I am talking like a madman I am a better one: with far greater labors, far more imprisonments, with countless floggings, and often near death. Five times I have received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one.

Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I received a stoning. Three times I was shipwrecked; for a night and a day I was adrift at sea; on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from bandits, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers and sisters; in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, hungry and thirsty, often without food, cold and naked. And, besides other things, I am under daily pressure because of my anxiety for all the churches. Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to stumble, and I am not indignant? If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness.

The Gospel of Saint Matthew 16: 13-20

Then Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.'

And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

عيد القديسين بطرس وبولس الرسولين

رسالة القديس بولس الثانية إلى 11: 21-30

بإخوتي، أقول وأخجل، كما لو كنا ضِعْفَاء! وأقول كجَاهِل: إِنَّ كُلَّ مَا يَجْرُؤُ عَلَيْهِ هَؤُلَاءِ، أَجْرُؤُ عَلَيْهِ أَنَا أَيْضًا: أَهْمَ عِبْرَانِيُونَ؟ أَنَا أَيْضًا عِبْرَانِي! أَهْمَ إِسْرَائِيلِيُّونَ؟ أَنَا أَيْضًا إِسْرَائِيلِي! أَهْمَ نَسْلُ إِبْرَاهِيمَ؟ أَنَا أَيْضًا نَسْلُ إِبْرَاهِيمَ! أَهْمَ خُدَّامٌ لِلْمَسِيحِ؟ أَقُولُ كَمَنْ فَقَدْ صَوَّابُهُ: أَنَا أَكْثَرُ! فِي الْأَتْعَابِ أَكْثَرُ! فِي السُّجُونِ أَكْثَرُ! فِي الضَّرَبَاتِ أَكْثَرُ جِدًّا! فِي أخطارِ الْمَوْتِ أَكْثَرُ بِمَرَّاتٍ كَثِيرَةٍ! تَلَقَّيْتُ الْجُلْدَ مِنْ الْيَهُودِ خَمْسَ مَرَّاتٍ، كُلَّ مَرَّةٍ أَرْبَعِينَ جُلْدَةً إِلَّا وَاحِدَةً!

ضُرِبْتُ بِالْعَصِيّ ثَلَاثَ مَرَّاتٍ! رُجِمْتُ مَرَّةً وَاحِدَةً! أَتَكَسَّرْتُ بِي السَّفِينَةُ ثَلَاثَ مَرَّاتٍ! قَضَيْتُ فِي غُرُضِ الْبَحْرِ لَيْلَةً وَنَهَارًا! قُمْتُ بِأَسْفَارٍ كَثِيرَةٍ، كُنْتُ فِي أخطارٍ مِنَ الْأَنْهَارِ، أخطارٍ مِنَ اللَّصُوصِ، أخطارٍ مِنْ أُمَّتِي، أخطارٍ مِنَ الْأُمَمِ، أخطارٍ فِي الْمَدِينَةِ، أخطارٍ فِي الصَّخَرَاءِ، أخطارٍ فِي الْبَحْرِ، أخطارٍ بَيْنَ الْإِخْوَةِ الْكَذِبَةِ! عَانَيْتُ النَّعَبَ، وَالْكَدَّ، وَالسَّهَرَ مَرَّاتٍ كَثِيرَةٍ، وَالْجُوعَ، وَالْعَطَشَ، وَالصَّوْمَ مَرَّاتٍ كَثِيرَةٍ، وَالْبَرْدَ، وَالْغُرْيَ! أَضِيفُ إِلَى ذَلِكَ، مَا عَلَيَّ مِنَ الْأَعْيَاءِ كُلِّ يَوْمٍ، وَالْأَهْتِمَامِ بِجَمِيعِ الْكَنَائِسِ! مَنْ يَضْعُفُ وَلَا أَضْعُفُ أَنَا؟ وَمَنْ يَقَعُ فِي الْخَطِيئَةِ وَلَا أَخْتَرِقُ أَنَا؟ وَإِنْ كَانَ لَا بُدَّ مِنَ الْإِفْتِخَارِ، فَأَنَا أَفْتَخِرُ بِأَوْهَانِي!

إنجيل القديس متى 16: 13-20

جَاءَ يَسُوعُ إِلَى نَوَاحِي قَيْصَرِيَّةِ فِينِيئُسَ فَسَأَلَ تَلَامِيذَهُ قَائِلًا: «مَنْ يَقُولُ النَّاسُ إِنِّي أَنَا ابْنُ الْإِنْسَانِ؟» فَقَالُوا: «بَعْضُهُمْ يَقُولُونَ: يُوحَنَّا الْمَعْمَدَانُ؛ وَآخَرُونَ: إِيلِيَّا؛ وَغَيْرُهُمْ: إِرْمِيَا أَوْ أَحَدُ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ.» قَالَ لَهُمْ: «وَأَنْتُمْ مَنْ تَقُولُونَ إِنِّي أَنَا؟» فَأَجَابَ سِمْعَانُ بَطْرُسُ وَقَالَ: أَنْتَ هُوَ الْمَسِيحُ ابْنُ اللَّهِ الْحَيِّ! «فَأَجَابَ يَسُوعُ وَقَالَ لَهُ: «طُوبَى لَكَ يَا سِمْعَانُ بَنَ يُونَا! لِأَنَّهُ لَا لَحْمَ وَلَا دَمَ أَظْهَرَ لَكَ ذَلِكَ، بَلْ أَبِي الَّذِي فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ. وَأَنَا أَيْضًا أَقُولُ لَكَ: أَنْتَ هُوَ بَطْرُسُ، أَيِ الصَّخْرَةِ، وَعَلَى هَذِهِ الصَّخْرَةِ سَأَبْنِي بَيْعَتِي، وَأَبْوَابُ الْجَحِيمِ لَنْ تَقْوِيَ عَلَيْهَا. سَأُعْطِيكَ مَفَاتِيحَ مَلَكُوتِ السَّمَاوَاتِ، فَكُلُّ مَا تَرْتِطُهُ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ يَكُونُ مَرْبُوطًا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ، وَمَا تَحُلُهُ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ يَكُونُ مَحْلُولًا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ.»

حِينَئِذٍ أَوْصَى تَلَامِيذَهُ أَلَّا يَقُولُوا لِأَحَدٍ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْمَسِيحُ.

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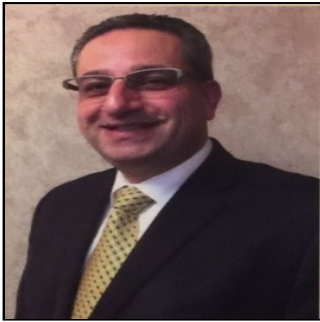
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