



MARCH FOR LIFE 2025
Life: WHY WE MARCH

JANUARY 23-26, 2025
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Join us for the National March for Life! Together, we stand for the unborn.

Questions? Contact mya.eparchystmaron@gmail.com or the Eparchy Family and Sanctity of Life Office (540)520-1679
Hotel block information can be found at myaeparchystmaron.org/events

COMMUNION HOST & WINE
The Communion Host and Wine offering for January is donated in loving memory of **Joseph Assise Jr.** by the Family.

SANCTUARY CANDLE
The Sanctuary candle for January is donated in loving memory of **Dimitra Giacomopoulos Achi** by Mr. & Mrs. Nick Giacomopoulos

PASTOR CONTACT
In case of any needed pastoral assistance, we ask that only the family contact Fr. Kamil on his cell phone at **610-739-8586.**

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Christmas (3 Masses)	\$2,303.00
Saturday, 12-28 -	\$320.00
Sunday, 12-29 -	\$1,336.00
Yearly Dues -	\$800.00
Yearly Dues -	\$1,200.00
Yearly Dues -	\$2,500.00
<u>Dec Online -</u>	<u>\$1,144.00</u>
Total -	\$9,603.00



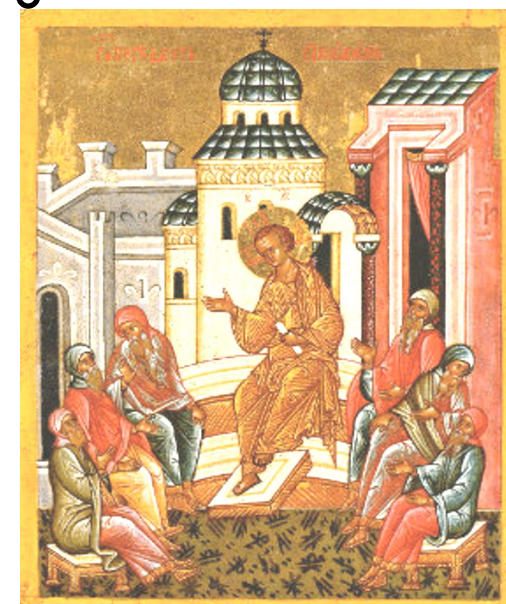
OUR LADY OF LEBANON
MARONITE CATHOLIC
CHURCH

55 South 4th Street
Easton, PA 18042
610-252-5275



Week 2 - Week 3 Email: ololchurch@yahoo.com Website: ololeaston.org Jan 4 - Jan 19, 2025

The Finding of Our Lord in the Temple



The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke 2:41-52

Every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival.

When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends.

When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.

When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.' He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' But they did not understand what he said to them.

Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

CLERGY:
Fr. Kamil Al-Chouefati, Pastor

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:
Monday through Thursday 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM Closed on Fridays

RECTORY & MAILING ADDRESS:
54 South 4th Street
Easton, PA 18042
Phone: 610-252-5275
Email: ololchurch@yahoo.com
Website: ololeaston.org

LITURGIES:
Saturday: 5:00 PM
Sunday: 10:00 AM
Weekdays: 9:00 AM Tuesday - Friday
Weekday Holy Days of Obligation: 7:00 PM
Confession will be available 30 minutes before each Mass or by appointment.



Beginning in January we will thankfully take donations for the Communion Hosts and wine to honor a loved one.

The donation will be for an entire month.

Contact the rectory office at 610-252-5275 to schedule your month.

11-12 JANUARY
1013 ELLSWORTH ST. PHILA, PA 19145




MYO GET TOGETHER
\$20 Fee



ACTIVITIES
ICE SKATING, LITURGIES, DABKE, AND MUCH MORE!
ARRIVALS BETWEEN 10A-NOON
REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

Click [HERE](#) to Register

EPIPHANY HOUSE BLESSING



Fr. Kamil extends an invitation to any family who would like their house blessed during this Epiphany season.

Contact him at 610-739-8586 to schedule a visit. Bottles of Holy Water will be available after the Epiphany Masses.

*****The Finding of Our Lord in the Temple*****

Saturday, Jan 4 - 5:00 PM - EMIL AND DOROTHY MAWAD by Rebecca Stocker & Family

Sunday, Jan 5 - 10:00 AM - JOSEPH MELHEM by Joumana Melhem & Children

Sunday, Jan 5 - 7:00 PM - FEAST OF THE GLORIOUS EPIPHANY - VIGIL MASS - BLESSING OF WATER

Monday	Jan 6	7:00 PM	FEAST OF THE GLORIOUS EPIPHANY (HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION) BLESSING OF WATER
Tuesday	Jan 7	9:00 AM	LAUREN SESTITO BY MR. & MRS. EDWAR ELIAS
Wednesday	Jan 8	9:00 AM	RIMAH MELHEM by Tony Sortino
Thursday	Jan 9	9:00 AM	MARION ESTEPHAN by Keene Jabbour & Son
Friday	Jan 10	9:00 AM	QUEENIE JABBOUR by Mr. & Mrs. Pete Shaheen

*****1st Sunday after Epiphany*****

Saturday, Jan 11- 5:00 PM - YOUSSEF TANNAS MOUSSA JABBOUR AND HIS SON HANNA AND HIS PARENTS, SALEMA & TANNAS JABBOUR by Tony and Houda Jabbour

Sunday, Jan 12 - 10:00 AM - ELIAS MOVAIT by Mr. & Mrs. Saadeh Boulos & Family

Tuesday	Jan 14	9:00 AM	PETER KASSIS (Birthday Remembrance) by the Family
Wednesday	Jan 15	9:00 AM	GEORGE M. JABBOUR by Shelley & Rich Russack
Thursday	Jan 16	9:00 AM	GEORGE BAURKOT by Joe & Marge Joseph & Family
Friday	Jan 17	9:00 AM	JOYCE BOULOS by Sharon John

*****2nd Sunday after Epiphany*****

Saturday, Jan 18 - 5:00 PM - Available

Sunday, Jan 19 - 10:00 AM - Available

What is Epiphany?

While the hustle and bustle of Christmas ends for many people on Dec. 26, throughout Christian history Christmas lasts for much longer. The feast marking the end of Christmas is called "Epiphany." In the Latin rite of the Catholic Church, Epiphany celebrates the revelation that Jesus was the Son of God. It focuses primarily on this revelation to the Three Wise Men, but it also focuses on his baptism in the Jordan and at the wedding at Cana.

In the Eastern rites of the Catholic Church, Theophany — as Epiphany is known in the East — commemorates the manifestation of Jesus' divinity at his baptism in the River Jordan. While the traditional date for the feast is January 6, in the United States the celebration of Epiphany is moved to the Sunday between January 2 and January 8. In 2025, it is celebrated on January 5.

However, the meaning of the feast goes deeper than just the bringing of presents or the end of Christmas, says Father Hezekias Carnazzo, a Melkite Catholic priest and founding executive director of the Virginia-based Institute of Catholic Culture.

"You can't understand the Nativity without Theophany; or you can't understand Nativity without Epiphany." The revelation of Christ as the Son of God — both as an infant and at his baptism — illuminate the mysteries of the Christmas season, he said. "Our human nature is blinded because of sin, and we're unable to see as God sees," "God reveals to us the revelation of what's going on."

Origins of Epiphany

While the Western celebration of Epiphany (which comes from Greek, meaning "revelation from above") and the Eastern celebration of Theophany (meaning "revelation of God") have developed their own traditions and liturgical significances, these feasts share more than the same day.

"The feast of Epiphany, or the feast of Theophany, is a very, very early feast," Carnazzo said. "It predates the celebration of Christmas on the 25th." In the early Church, Christians, particularly those in the East, celebrated the advent of Christ on Jan. 6 by commemorating Nativity, Visitation of the Magi, Baptism of Christ, and the Wedding of Cana all in one feast of the Epiphany. By the fourth century, both Christmas and Epiphany had been set as separate feasts in some dioceses.

At the Council of Tours in 567, the Church set both Christmas Day and Epiphany as feast days on Dec. 25 and Jan. 6, respectively, and named the 12 days between the feasts as the Christmas season. Over time, the Western Church separated the remaining feasts into their own celebrations, leaving the celebration of the Epiphany to commemorate primarily the visitation of the Magi to see the newborn Christ on Jan. 6.

Meanwhile, the Eastern Churches' celebration of Theophany celebrates Christ's baptism and is one of the holiest feast days of the liturgical calendar. Carnazzo the significance of the feast of the Theophany — and of Christ's baptism more broadly — within the Eastern Catholic Churches.

"In our Christian understanding in the East, we are looking at creation through the eyes of God, not so much through the eyes of man," Carnazzo said. In the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, he continued, there is special divine significance. With this feast day, the pastor explained, "God has come to reclaim us for himself." Because of original sin, he continued, humanity has inherited "a human nature, which has been dislocated from its source of life."

Sin also affected parts of creation, which has also been separated from its purpose and connection to God's plan for life, Carrazzo said, because its original purpose is not just to sustain our bodies but our souls as well. "With the fall, however, it has been dislocated from its source of life, it is under the dominion of death; it doesn't have eternal life anymore. So God comes to take it to himself."

"What Jesus did was to take our human nature and do with it what we could not do — which is, to walk it out of death, and that's exactly what he did with his baptism." As it is so linked to the destruction of death and reclaiming of life, the feast of Theophany is also very closely linked to the Crucifixion — an attribute that is reflected in Eastern iconography of both events as well.

The feast of the Theophany celebrates not only Christ's conquering of sin through baptism but also God's revelation of Christ as his Son and the beginning of Christ's ministry. "The baptism of the Lord, just like the Nativity, is not just a historical event: It's a revelation," Carrazzo said.

To mark the day, Eastern Catholics begin celebrations with Divine Liturgy at the church, which includes a blessing of the waters in the baptistry. After the water is blessed, the faithful drink the water and bring bottles of water back to their homes for use as not only physical but also spiritual healing, he explained. Many parishes hold feasts after the liturgy is over. In many Middle Eastern cultures, people also fry and eat Awamat — dough that is fried until it floats and then is covered in honey.

During the Theophany season, priests try to visit each home in the parish to bless the house with the holy water that was blessed at Theophany. Carrazzo encouraged all Roman Catholics to become familiar with — "to be part of a family" — and join in celebrating Eastern Catholic traditions.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

The Finding of Our Lord in the Temple

1 Kings 3:5-7,9-12,14 / Heb 7:11-19 / Lk 2:41-52

1st Sunday after Epiphany

Is 40:6-11 / 2 Cor 10:1-11 / Jn 1:29-34

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Jer 1:4-10 / 2 Cor 4:5-15 / Jn 1:35-42



**COMING IN THE NEW YEAR!
MARONITE FORMATION CLASSES**

Open to all grades from pre-school to 6th grade.

Parents are encouraged to sign-up their children.

Click [here](#) for the Registration Form or forms may be found at both entrances to the church.

Starting date to be announced.