

Saint Rafka

Catholics of the East in the Upstate!



Shaneenee (Palm) Sunday Holy Week

Saint Rafka Maronite Catholic Church is a Parish of the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn. The Antiochene Syriac Maronite Church is one of over twenty Eastern and Oriental Catholic Churches in communion with the Bishop of Rome. Led by His Beatitude, **Bechara Boutros Rai**, Patriarch of Antioch and all the East in Berke, Lebanon, the Syro-Maronite Church has parishes and missions on six continents. Saint Rafka Parish was established as a mission in 2002. The community grew and flourished and was raised to the rank of parish in 2021.

**Most Rev. Gregory
John Mansour**

Bishop

109 Remsen Street,
Brooklyn, NY, 11201
718.237.9913

chancery@stmaron.org

**Father Bartholomew
Leon**

Pastor

1215 S. Highway 14
Greer, SC 29650
864.469.9119

bartleon@gmail.com

Father Assistant

Parochial Vicar

1215 S. Highway 14
Greer, SC 29650
864.469.9119
XXX

OFFICE HOURS

10:00 AM - 4:30 PM
Monday - Friday

DIVINE LITURGIES

The Divine Liturgy is
celebrated on

Saturday,

4 PM Vigil

Sunday, 8:30 AM

11:00 AM

Tuesday, 10:00 AM

Wednesday, 7:00 PM

Thursday 10:00 AM

Friday, 10:00 AM

Holy Days

As Announced

CONFESSIONS

Saturday, 3:15 PM

Sunday 10:15 AM

Wednesday 6:30 PM

Weekdays before
liturgy as requested

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Joseph Chebeir
Paula Howard-Casby
Tom Judge
[Dee Kalata](#)
[Ron Rossi, Sr.](#)
Marlene Saad
Richard Sleiman

Joseph Chebeir
Financial Administrator
864.469.9119
[Joe Chebeir](#)



Bill Leon
Secretary
864.469.9119
[Bill Leon](#)

Sam Jordan Alamat
Organist
[Sam Alamat](#)

Nadia Najm
Choir Director
Scott Herr
Assistant Director
[Nadia Najm](#)
[Scott Herr](#)

Jessica Dagher Allen
First Holy Communion
[Jessica Allen](#)
Lisa Advent
MRE Students
[Lisa Advent](#)

Lisa Advent
MYO/MYA Leader
[Lisa Advent](#)

Knights of Columbus
Jim Dyer
Grand Knight
[Jim Dyer](#)

Marlene Saad
Scripture Sharing
[Marlene Saad](#)
If Interested, Call
864.580.1054

Marie Kidd
Food Pantry
[Marie Kidd](#)

Hospitality Committee
[Marie Kidd](#)
[Hannan Saade](#)
[Mark Duffy](#)

Bridget Nevin
Garden Club
[Bridget Nevin](#)

Candice King-Palgut
Prayers and Squares
[Candice King-Palgut](#)
Type to enter text

Building Committee
Phase 1
Richard Sleiman
Thomas Judge
Ron Rossi, Sr.

Anthony Sloan
Men's Bible Study
Monthly Meeting
Email for details
[Anthony Sloan](#)



Trust In Us

*Our security business is based in Greenville, SC.
We provide the best security systems for home and business.
Ensuring your Family and Assets are protected.*

864.288.1400

priority1security.com

MASS INTENTIONS

Mass intentions are a good way to remember and pray for your loved ones, alive or deceased.

If you would like to request an intention please remember to submit your intentions for Liturgy ASAP by calling the parish office at 864.469.9119 or by email at bill@saintrafka.org. Please remember that it is rare to be able to have your intention the following Sunday! **Masses are now generally booked up about three months in advance.**

BAPTISM & CHRISMATION

Baptism in the Maronite Rite is always accompanied by *Chrismation* (Confirmation). Both Sacraments are given by a priest, and always in the same ceremony. Preparation to receive the Sacraments of Baptism and Chrismation is required. We encourage this to happen before the birth of your child. Please contact the [Church Office](#) for more details.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

The Anointing of the Sick is routinely offered during the Divine Liturgy on Wednesday evening and during pastoral visits by the priest to homebound and ill parishioners. Let me know if you will be in the hospital or have other special needs. Contact the [Church Office](#).

THE MYSTERY OF CROWNING (MARRIAGE)

Couples must contact the pastor **at least** six months prior to the desired date of the wedding. To initiate the marriage preparation process or if you have questions for weddings taking place at Saint Rafka. Contact the [Church Office](#).

PARISH REGISTRATION

Registration forms and welcome packets are available in the church office and the vestibule. Membership is a condition for the reception of the sacraments of baptism/confirmation, first reconciliation, first Eucharist, and Crowning (marriage). Registration is also required before the parish can issue a sponsorship certificate for those asked to be sacramental sponsors. You must be a registered, contributing member for at least three months before a certificate is provided.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Teenagers are invited to join our Maronite Youth Organization, aka MYO. Contact **Lisa Advent** lisaadventphotography@gmail.com for more information.

Ramsho (Evening Prayer)

Join us on Tuesday at 5:45 PM for evening prayer and prayers of intercession to Saint Sharbel.

WICKETT HALL AND ASHY PAVILION

Wickett Hall and Ashy Pavilion can be used by our registered and supporting parishioners for family events, reunions, etc. Others may request permission to rent the Hall or Pavilion. Please contact the [Church Office](#).

MARONITE RESOURCES

Daily [readings](#) for the Divine Liturgy.

Daily morning prayer and evening prayer of the Divine Office [here](#).

TRAVELING AND NEED TO GO TO MASS?

Where to go to Mass when traveling? Look here!

MassTimes.org

[The Catholic Directory](#)

[Parishes Online](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA

Please follow us at @saintrafkagreenville on **Instagram** and/or **St. Rafka Maronite Church** on **Facebook**. <http://www.facebook.com/strafka>
Also [YouTube](#)!

SAINT RAFKA FOOD PANTRY

Established in 2019, the Saint Rafka Food Pantry is for those who need immediate food assistance. Need food? Call the church office or come by, 10 AM - 2 PM. You can also email **Marie Kidd** who is coordinating this project. All gifts of food are anonymous. Donations of food are accepted either at the Church Office or the back of the church.

SCRIPTURE SHARING

Scripture haring discussion following the Carmelite Way with Saint Therese of the Little Flower and Saint John of the Cross

IN DEFENSE OF CHRISTIANS [IDE](#) Individuals banning together help and make know the plight of the Christians in the Middle East and their suffering.

SHRINE OF THE PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS in the United States. [Video here](#).

Scripture Readings

Zechariah 9:9-12; 14-15a; 16-17

Exult greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout for joy, O Daughter Jerusalem! Behold: your king is coming to you, a just savior is he, humble, and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He shall banish the chariot from Ephraim, and the horse from Jerusalem; The warrior's bow will be banished, and he will proclaim peace to the nations. His dominion will be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. As for you, by the blood of your covenant, I have freed your prisoners from a waterless pit. Return to a fortress, O prisoners of hope; This very day, I announce I am restoring double to you.

The LORD will appear over them, God's arrow will shoot forth as lightning; The Lord GOD will sound the ram's horn, and come in a storm from the south. The LORD of hosts will protect them; they will devour and conquer with sling stones, they will drink and become heated as with wine.

And the LORD their God will save them: the people, like a flock on that day; For like gemstones of a crown they will shine on the land. Then how good and how lovely! Grain will make the young men flourish, and new wine the young women.

Philippians 1:1-13

Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and deacons: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is

my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that on the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God. I want you to know, beloved, that what has happened to me has actually helped to spread the gospel, so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to everyone else that my imprisonment is for Christ.

John 12:12-22

The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, 'Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord the King of Israel!' Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: "Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him. So the crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to testify. It was also because they heard that he had performed this sign that the crowd went to meet him. The Pharisees then said to one another, 'You see, you can do nothing. Look, the world has gone after him!' Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus.



Reflection

The Church, today, celebrates Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem as a memorial-mystery of his triumphant entrance into the Kingdom – where he has invited us to follow him. It is with this Christian optimism and joy that we enter into the passion week of the suffering and death of Christ Jesus; for we know that he has risen and has opened for us the gates of his Kingdom– the heavenly Jerusalem.

Saint Paul speaks of “the day of Christ” as his second coming when the Gospel will be fulfilled in those who have followed Christ Jesus to the end. The Church ask in our prayers today:

.. make us worthy to go forth
and meet you at your second coming,
just as the people of Jerusalem
went forth to meet you.

With the Apostles and the followers of Jesus, the Church, invites her children to join and proclaim:

“Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord!”
“Hosanna to the Redeemer Lord!”
(The Hebrew word *Hosanna* means:
God saves us.)

We are reminded by the Church that *Joy* is the main theme of these two Sundays – as it is the theme for Christian living as well. Suffering is

passing away; but *Joy* is eternal. We need to know ourselves as those *happy ones* – with whom God, in his love, has shared the very *life* of his beloved Son – so that we may live by it, and find eternal happiness.

This proclamation of Joy is echoed by the Church in the *Hymn of Light* of Saint Ephrem at the dawn of every day, reminding us of the victory the beloved Christ has achieved for us

Let us glorify the majesty of the Son
and give thanks to the almighty Father,
who in an outpouring of love,
sent him to us to fill us

with hope and salvation.

.. Stand up then and be ready!

Give thanks to our King and Savior,
who *will come* in great glory
to *gladden* us with his marvelous *light*
in his kingdom.

Let us put-on from within the garment of
Christian Joy that was handed
to us at our baptism.

Let us remember that all our troubles and tribulations are passing away, as Christ transforms them by the love of his divinity, into the eternal joys of his Father's Kingdom.

Let us rejoice and celebrate, as we await his new coming with joy, and say to him: Hosanna! Come in Peace! *To Bashlom!*

Steven Bonian, S.J.



Abouna's Corner

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Ready or not, Holy Week is upon us! As Lent begins, we have a tendency to think it will never end. It seems tedious!!! Now, here it is time to end Lent and enter into the joy of the Lord's Resurrection. This year we also celebrate Easter at the same time as our Orthodox brothers and sisters. May His Holy Resurrection help heal the divisions of the past and bring us together into One Church, One Body!

The Pot Luck Luncheon will be held after the 11 AM Divine Liturgy. Our traditional Mediterranean Chicken will be provided by the Church. Details on what to bring are further back in the bulletin. We will also have a kid's station with kid friendly food out of the normal line so they can eat quickly and not have to wait in line like the adults.

For our high holy days, we will have lots of guests. Please be kind and patient! Also be observant of proper parking on our property and not on the neighbor's lawn. Also, no double parking! Thanks!

Plan to join us for as many of the Holy Week services as you can. These are some of the most beautiful liturgies of the year that remind us of Our Lord's saving acts of love for us.

Day of Confessions - April 16, 9:00 AM - 6:30 PM. Come and be healed of the illness of sin!

If you would like to have Memorials listed in our **Easter Flower** list, please pick up an envelope at the door of the Church. These envelopes can be given to the ushers or dropped in the collection basket. Final dates to receive these Memorials for publication at Easter will be April 13, Palm Sunday. Many thanks for your generosity in providing the flowers for Easter!

Vacation Bible School is coming soon in July. A flyer is posted further back in the bulletin and our website has an online application form to fill in which goes directly to **Lisa Advent**. Sign up early! For more details, go [here](#).

Please remember to pray for all who are sick and shut in, unable to be with us in person. Pray for those family members who are their care takers. They need rest and refreshment to continue their ministry of love and care. Saint Rafka, pray for us!

We have a parishioner who lives in the Five Forks area who needs a ride to Church at this time. This parishioner likes to attend the 11 AM Mass. Live close by? Like to help? Contact [Abouna](#) for more details.

In advance, my deepest thanks to all who help prepare, celebrate and clean up after all the Holy Week/ Easter events! There are many unsung heroes who do things behind the scenes and want to remain anonymous. You know who you are. I know who you are! Most importantly. God knows! He will bless each and every one of you! Many thanks!

Have a holy and prayerful Holy Week! See you in Church!

Ab. Bart

The Servants of Mary and Joseph Lay Carmelite Community

The Lay Carmelite is called to the Family of Carmel to be deeply involved in the mission of the Church and to contribute to the sanctification of the secular world through our charisms of prayer, community and service.

The Community meets on the First Saturday of every month from 9:00 AM - 1:30 PM at Saint Joseph Catholic Church, 1200 Cornelia Rd, Anderson, SC for the Liturgy of the Hours, Mass and meeting.

Catholic men or women interested in learning more may contact Jon at joanelizabethrn@gmail.com



GRIEF MINISTRY WORKSHOP

Deacon Henry DeMena

Bereavement Counselor

WHAT IS GRIEF MINISTRY?

WHAT CAN WE SAY OR DO TO
HELP SOMEONE EXPERIENCING
GRIEF?

Learn Practical Steps For
Accompanying Those Who Grieve

Friday, April 11, 2025

8:00 am - 4:30 pm

St. Rafka's Church
1215 SC-14, Greer, SC 29650

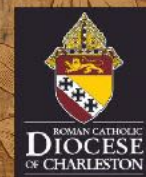
To Register:

<https://charlestandiocese.flocknote.com/signup/204344>

\$10 Registration Includes Lunch

Office of Family Life

cbrown@charlestandiocese.org



Church Offerings and Attendance

March 23, 2025		
4 PM	73	\$2906.00
8:30 AM	38	\$748.00
11 AM	135	\$1791.00
Mail		\$1,430.00
PayPal/Electronic		\$1020.00
Total	246	\$7,895.00
Budget 2025	230	\$4,350.00
+/-	16	\$3,545.00
Year to Date		\$62,355.00
Budget for year +/-		\$1,455.00
Building Fund		
Mail In	0	\$911.00
12:00 AM	0	\$192.00
11:00 AM	0	\$613.00
Total	0	\$1,716.00
Holy Hour		18
Funeral		0
2025 Totals		
4:00 PM		1201
8:30 AM		434
11 AM		1686
Weekday Masses		925
Holy Hour		76
Holy Day		221
Special Liturgy		57
Funerals		150
Weddings		60

Average Attendance

4 PM	8:30 AM	11:00 AM
86	31	120

Facts regarding our bulletin!

Bulletins emailed last weekend: 420 +

Percentage opened 66% +

Opened emails: 277 + Unopened emails: 143 -

Masses, Sanctuary Lamp & Flowers

To have the Sanctuary Light for your relatives or intentions, please use the envelope provided at the entrance. Donation is \$5.00. [The Sanctuary Candle and the Flowers this weekend are in Memory of Gerry Ozzimo By Lenore Ozzimo.](#)

To have flowers for a memorial of a loved one, please use the envelope provided at the entrance. Donation is \$50.00 per Sunday.

If you would like a **Mass** offered for your loved ones, please call the church office at 864.469.9119 or secretary@saintrafka.org. Envelopes for Masses also available at the door of the church.



CATHOLIC
INFORMATION CENTER

<https://catholic.center/>



Liturgical Readings

Old Testament (English) Zechariah 9:9-12; 14-15a; 16-17	Michael Sandifer
New Testament (Arabic) Philippians 1:1-13	Mouna Ayoub Ashi



Mass Intentions

April 12 - 13	Palm Sunday	
Saturday, 4 PM	+Joseph Frisari	Larry & Elaine
Sunday, 8:30 AM	+Freddie Farge, Anniversary of Death	Marcel Farge
Sunday 11:00 AM	In Honor of Matt's Holy Guardian Angel Sami, Samia, Martin Skaria	Barb Mytych Moreen Yacu
Tuesday, 10:00 AM	+Alan & Michele (L) Brower Family	Tom & Phyllis Judge
Wednesday, 7:00 PM	+Joseph Frisari	Marie & Steve
Thursday 7:00 PM	+Tola Dinko	Amos Hykes
Good Friday, 10:00 AM	No Mass	
April 19 - 20	Glorious Resurrection	
Saturday 4 PM	+Christie Foertsch Clark	Don & Lyn Foertsch
Sunday, 8:30 AM	Andy Frisari, Happy Birthday	Ceil Hermes
Sunday 11:00 AM	+Frances Hykes	Amos Hykes
Tuesday, 10:00 AM	In Honor of Gregory's Holy Guardian Angel	Barb Mytych
Wednesday, 7:00 PM	+Joseph Frisari	John & Sharon
Thursday 10:00 AM	In Honor of Lee's Holy Guardian Angel	Barb Mytych
Friday, 10:00 AM	+Leonard	Ceil & Andy

All men of the parish are invited to join men from Prince of Peace Parish for breakfast and fellowship. The Catholic Men's Breakfast meets on the first Thursday of each month at 8:00 AM at the Eggs Up Restaurant, 3935 Pelham Road, Greenville. Please join us and feel free to bring a friend! Any questions call Jack Stewart, 864 787-7592.

Video on the Sainted Massabki brothers on Facebook. <https://www.facebook.com/NoursatEnglish/videos/1008068293229859>

Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
13 Shaneenee (Palm) 8:30 AM, Divine Liturgy 10:30 AM, Holy Rosary 11:00 AM, Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM, Syro-Malabar Liturgy	14 7:00 PM, Coming to the Harbor Liturgy	15 10 AM Divine Liturgy Arabic Devotions to follow 7:00 PM, Coming to the Harbor Liturgy	16 9:00 AM - 6:30 PM, Day of Confessions 7:00 PM, Rite of the Lamp	17 7:00 PM, Mass of the Lord's Supper	18 9:00 AM, Signing of the Chalice 3 PM, Stations of the Cross in Arabic الثالثة مساءً ، محطات الصليب باللغة العربية 7:00 PM, Burial of Christ	19 11:00 AM, Rite of Forgiveness 4:00 PM, Easter Vigil Liturgy
Holy Week - Sacred <i>Triduum</i> - See Holy Week Schedule						
20 Glorious Easter 8:30 AM, Divine Liturgy 10:30 AM, Holy Rosary 11:00 AM, Divine Liturgy	21	22 10 AM Divine Liturgy Arabic Devotions to follow	23 6:00 PM, Marian Catechists 6:30 PM, Holy Rosary 7:00 PM, Divine Liturgy	24 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy	25 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy	26 3:15 Confessions 4:00 PM, Vigil Liturgy
27 New Sunday 8:30 AM, Divine Liturgy 10:30 AM, Holy Rosary 11:00 AM, Divine Liturgy 3:00 PM, Divine Mercy Celebration	28	29 10 AM Divine Liturgy Arabic Devotions to follow	30 6:00 PM, Marian Catechists 6:30 PM, Holy Rosary 7:00 PM, Divine Liturgy	May 1 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy	2 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy First Friday Devotions	3 3:15 Confessions 4:00 PM, Vigil Liturgy
4 3rd Easter 8:30 AM, Divine Liturgy 10:30 AM, Holy Rosary 11:00 AM, Divine Liturgy 3:00 PM, Holy Hour 5:00 PM, Korean Mass	5	6 10 AM Divine Liturgy Arabic Devotions to follow	7 6:00 PM, Marian Catechists 6:30 PM, Holy Rosary 7:00 PM, Divine Liturgy	8 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy	9 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy	10 3:15 Confessions 4:00 PM, Vigil Liturgy



Catholics serving Catholics

www.thomasmcafee.com

Downtown Chapel
 639 North Main Street
 Greenville, SC 29601
 (864) 232-6733

Northwest Chapel
 6710 White Horse Road
 Greenville, SC 29611
 (864) 294-6415

Southeast Chapel
 1604 NE Main Street
 Simpsonville, SC 29681
 (864) 688-1600

Saints of the Day

March

April 23, Saint George the Martyr
April 25, Saint Mark the Evangelist
April 27, Saint Simon the Apostle
April 29, Saint Catherine of Sienna
April 30, Saint James, Son of Zebedee
May 1, Saint Jeremiah the Prophet
May 4, Saint Monica
May 8, Saint John the Evangelist
May 9, Saint Isaiah the Prophet
May 10, Saint Simon the Zealot, Apostle
(Confederate Veterans Day)
Day of Coptic-Catholic Friendship
May 12, Saint Epiphanius, Bishop of Cyprus

Prayer List

Anthony Gwynn, Karen Krings, John Davis, Pat Moore, Deacon Bob Smith, Anna Maria Portilla, Sandra Reece, Charles Howard, Marcia Palmer, Mary Howard, Lisa Moman, Leslie Ziminsky, Dan Beckman, Lisa Bolt, Crysten Yammine, L. Mary Killough, Thomas Sloan, Ciera D, Philomena Reed, Rick Argon, Sister Mary Emmanuel, OSC, Hewitt Dickerson, Brielle Sheriff, Carol, Gina, Jeni Yacu, Rodena and Bruce Thompson, Andrea Emilia Bernabey, Nadim Chebeir, Mike, Leo, B J Dursse, Deacon Dick Murtaugh, Vicki Gosnell, Sam Clutter, Michael Tierney, Paul Shimow, Betty Mileski, Doug Logan, Rita Charbonete, Frances Danton, Diane Hickey, Alan Frechette, Jacob and Jaxson Rivera, Andrea Wise, Patrizia, Susan Clarke, Andy Frisari, Beth, Mary Dowden, Karen Rodgers, Nancy Georgion, Rosemary & Jim King, Mark Knight, Stephen Wedgeworth, MR, Hilda Hix, Catherine Caul, Albert Martin, Nanine D'Aquin, Elizabeth Fallet, Anthony Kozakiewicz, Bill Riley, KG, Linda Crosby, Jenny Gould, Maurice Mercier, Breese, Jennifer Payne, Matt Smith, Tammy Lopez, Anthony Fagliarone, Fernando, Carolyn Groner, Tim Eaton, Kelly Mullens, Carol Craven, Mel Casby, Vincent Howard, K.F., Eileen Howard, Jack Campbell, Hilda Hix, Sue Bauer, Chrisoula, Theresa Woodson, Noah Scott Kestler, Art and Judy Pape, Suhail Yousiff, Tom Craven, Jr., Michael Rau, Chris Davis, Pixie Geren, Mike Dyer, Christian Pereira, Art Newton, Recovery of RS, Claire Barnett, Ethel Brassel, Katrina Shunk, George Vargo, Irma Galvan, Mary Cleary, Joe Lemire, Virginia LaFave, Nabeel Howard, Paul Cote

Birthdays

April

13, Jocelyne Marzouka
14, Bassam Nmair
15, Widad Hayek
17, Deacon Joe Sanfilippo
17, Sister Emmanuel Shaw
18, Nabil Chackal
19, Suhair Nmair
19, Nemr Farhat
19, Caedmon Sandifer
21, Deacon Dick Murtaugh
21, Francois Sleiman
24, Diana Cox
25, Mark Kalata
25, Rony Aazan
26, Peter Bouharoun
26, Michelle Sleiman

Anniversaries

April

13, John and Yvonne Maroun
21, Nabil and Soraya Chackal
24, Lorraine and Maurice Mercier
25, Richard and Afaf Sleiman
25, Sam and Sherri Sandbothe
26, Khader & Nehad Jadallah

Necrology

+Oscar Charles Saad, April 11, 2009
+Tina Cheshire, April 14, 2015
+Chafih Georgen Chalouhi, April 14, 2021
+George Joseph Michael, April 14, 2022
+Doris Howayeck Howard, April 20, 2018
+Hind Khawaja Michael, April 22, 2008
+Ruby Dumit, April 25, 2012
+Amjed Yacu, May 1, 2015
+Greg Howard, May 6, 2017

Important Dates to Remember

Shaneene (Palm) Sunday, April 13

Holy Week

Easter, April 20

Ordination of Abouna Joseph, May 17

First Holy Communion, May 18

Pentecost, June 8

Holy Week Schedule 2025

Shaneenee (Hosanna/Palm Sunday)

4 PM Vigil Liturgy
8:30 AM, Quiet Liturgy
11 AM, Solemn Liturgy with Procession
Luncheon to follow

Holy Monday

7 PM, Coming to the Harbor Liturgy

Holy Tuesday

10:00 AM, Divine Liturgy
7 PM, Coming to the Harbor Liturgy

Holy Wednesday

9 AM – 6:30 PM, Day of Confessions
7 PM, Rite of the Lamp

**CONFESSIONS ARE NOT HEARD AFTER
THIS TIME UNTIL AFTER EASTER**

Holy Thursday of the Mysteries

7 PM, Divine Liturgy, Washing of the Feet
Eucharistic Procession and Adoration

Good Friday of the Crucifixion

9 AM, Signing of the Chalice
3 PM, Stations of the Cross in Arabic
الثالثة مساءً ، محطات الصليب باللغة العربية
7 PM, Burial of Christ

Holy Saturday of the Awaited Light

11 AM, Service of Forgiveness
(Blessing of Easter Foods, etc. to follow)
4 PM, Solemn Vigil Liturgy

Easter Sunday

8:30 AM, Quiet Liturgy
11 AM, Solemn Liturgy of the Day
Coffee Social to follow.



**JOIN US FOR A HOLY NIGHT FULL
OF HYMNS AND HOLY CHANTS
PRESENTED BY**

Chantal Dagher

accompanied by prayers with
Afaf Sleiman

12 April 2025 - 6 pm
St. Rafka Maronite Catholic Church
1215 SC-14, Greer, SC 29650

free admission
donations accepted for the church
special thanks for
**Father
Bartholomew Robert Leon.**



St. Rafka's Garden Club



**Spring is in
the air!**

Adopt-A-Pot Event

نادي حديقة القديسة رفقة
أقبلنا على الربيع
وحان موعد فترة تبني أصيص

نتأمل ان تساعدونا في تجميل كنيسة القديسة رفقة من خلال تبني أصيص!

نريد ملء الأواني بالزهور ونحتاج إلى مساعدتكم.

التبرع المطلوب هو 35 دولاراً.

ستحتوي الأواني على علامات بدءاً من يوم السبت 5 أبريل.

سيتم إضافة أصيصين جديدين إلى قاعة ويكيت.

سنوفر مظاري في الجزء الخلفي من الكنيسة لتضعوا العلامات فيها، وتطبعوا اسمكم وتبرعكم في المطروف.

25 أبريل هو الموعد النهائي لتقديم طلبات تبني أصيص.

سيتم غرس الأواني في 5 مايو!

شكراً لدعمكم!

Adopt-A-Pot Event

Help us beautify St. Rafkas by adopting a pot!

We want to fill the pots with flowers and we need your help.

The donation requested is \$35.

Pots will have markers in them starting Saturday APRIL 5th.

2 new pots to be added to Wickett Hall.

We will provide envelopes at the back of the church for you to place

the markers in, print your name and donation in the envelope.

APRIL 25 is deadline for Adopt a Pot submissions.

Planting the pots will take place May 5th!

Thank you for your support!

Contact or text Bridget anytime at 864-775-8709 with any questions.

Palm Sunday Luncheon

Main - Meat and Non Meat

Salads and/or Desserts

N - Z

A - M



STELLA MARIS WEALTH

"Wisdom, guidance, and peace for you & your financial future"

Services:

Financial planning

Portfolio Management

Estate Considerations

Retirement Income Strategies

Risk Management

Katrina D. Whitlinger, CHFC®, CEPA®, AAMS™

Founder | Investment Advisor

T: 864-807-6333

128 Millport Circle, Suite 200 | Greenville, SC 29607

katrina@stellamariswealth.com

www.stellamariswealth.com

Connect with me on LinkedIn or Facebook

Easter Flower Memorials

In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Cornelius Clenan
In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Lang
In Memory of Catherine Bannister
In Memory of Stink Fisk
In Memory of Hy Hordwitch
In Memory of Patrick Bannister
In Memory of David Osborne
In Memory of John Bannister
In Memory of Living and Deceased Family Members
In Memory of Paul Bussemey
In Memory of the Dagher Family
In Memory of Bill & Frances Rogers
In Memory of Jules & Ann Dursse
In Memory of Freddie and Martina Farge
In Memory of Richard A. Wickett
In Memory of Richard Anthony Kalata
In Memory of Anthony Joseph Kalata, Jr.
In Memory of Dolores, George & George II, Harvey
In Memory of Helen, Alfred & Henry Wickett
In Memory of Catherine & Anthony Kalata, Sr.
In Memory of Hartsel & Betty Wilson
In Memory of Captian Joseph & Margaret W. Leon
In Memory of Families of Ken & Annie Migut
In Memory of Lillian & Anthony DeLuca
In Memory of Barbara Sanfilippo
In Memory of John & Geraldine Wheaton
In Memory of Mary C. Sanfilippo
In Memory of George & Norma Sijon

Gail M. Bannister
Gail M. Bannister
Gail M. Bannister
Gail M. Bannister
Gail M. Bannister
Gail M. Bannister
Gail M. Bannister
Gail M. Bannister
Marie Bentz
Joan Bussemey
Luke Dagher
Michael & BJ Dursse
Michael &. BJ Dursse
Marcel Farge
Kalata, Wickett & Wilson Families
Kalata, Wickett & Wilson Families
Kalata, Wickett & Wilson Families
Kalata, Wickett & Wilson Families
Kalata, Wickett & Wilson Families
Kalata, Wickett & Wilson Families
Kalata, Wickett & Wilson Families
Abouna Bart
Ken & Anne Migut
Helen & Billy Rouch
Deacon Joe Sanfilippo
Deacon Joe Sanfilippo
Deacon Joe Sanfilippo
David & Heather Sijon

Easter Flower Memorials

Help us purchase the flowers for Easter and member your loved ones on our Memorial List. Envelopes are in the back of the Church! Memorials can be accepted for Easter publication until Palm Sunday, April 13, 2025. Thank you for your kindness and generosity!



Mary's Mantle Daily Rosary Group

Daily Rosary group that meets by Zoom. Call opens at 8:30pm each day. Info at rosary400@gmail.com.

The session consists of:

Call for Intentions

Prayers

- Unity Prayer
- Rosary
- Hail Holy Queen or Salve Regina
- Spiritual Communion
- Seasonal Novena or Selected Prayer
- (Currently we are praying the "Let Love Litany")
- (Optional) practice of Silence and contemplative prayer (On Mondays, right after the Rosary)
- (Optional) Brief discussion of spiritual book or scripture - (Tuesday - Sunday)

Zoom call closes between 9:30 and 9:45



Participants may attend for the Rosary & prayers only, or join for the entire call.

Kid's Quilts

This year, Blessed Trinity Catholic Church, 901 River Road, Greer, SC, will be sewing the precut kits of "Kids Quilts" again in the church commons. We are inviting all ladies and your sewing friends who have a sewing machine to come and sew on Saturday, April 26th and on May 3rd from 9 am to 1 pm, at the Commons of Blessed Trinity Catholic Church. The completed quilts will go to Birth Right, Ronald McDonald House and/or Shriners Children's House. This is a worthwhile Charity Event.

Please bring your sewing machine, all necessary accessories in order to sew, and the electric cord for your machine with you. If you are able to help please RSVP or if you have any questions, please call Emily Boisvert at 864-468-5274. We need your help. THANK YOU.

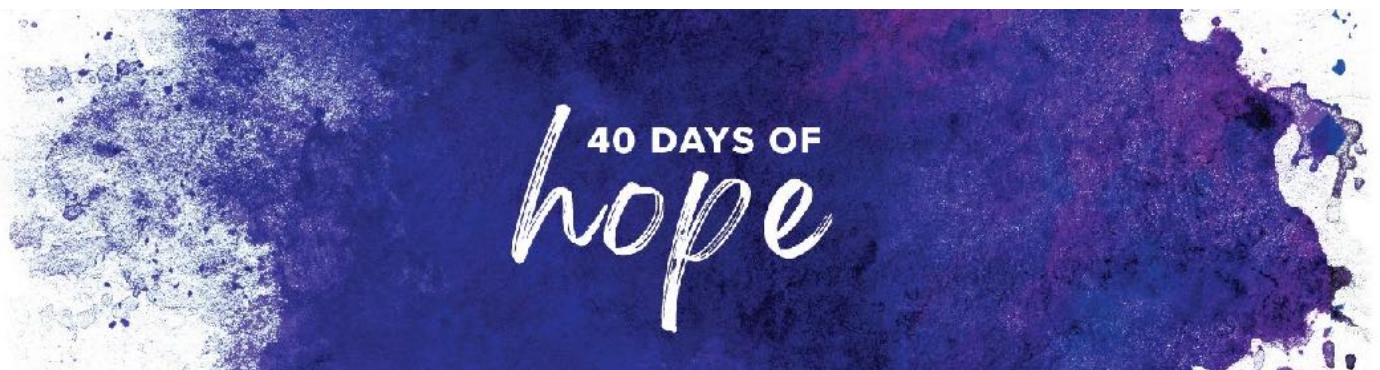
Saint Rafka Food Pantry

In May of 2020 our parish established a food pantry. There are so many hungry people around us, including parishioners and friends of the parish. We have established an area in Wickett Hall for a storage area and a section of the freezer for this purpose. Want to bring food? Bring it during office hours (10 AM - 2 PM) or drop it in the foyer of the church. Need food? Contact **Marie Kidd** (864)202.0317. Marie will handle the details, assisted by **Mark Duffy** and **Bill Leon** at the the church office. Thank you for sharing of your abundance with those less fortunate during this difficult period.

Food Pantry Needed Food Items

FOOD GIFTS CARDS or MONEY DONATIONS

Macaroni & Cheese in the boxes
Velveeta Macaroni & Cheese
Hamburger Helpers
Cold Macaroni Pasta in the boxes
Spaghetti noodles (only) No rotini or egg noodles needed at this time!
Spaghetti sauces in jars or in the cans
Dinty Moore Beef Stew in the cans
Tuna in the cans
Spam
Chili Bean in the cans
Salmon in the cans
Campbell Soups (Any kind)
Peanut Butter (Creamy Style) in jars
Any jellies (Strawberry, Peach, Raspberry, etc)
Jello Puddings or Jello in the boxes
Saltine Crackers, Vanilla Wafers, Oreo Cookies Graham Crackers, etc
Cereals in the boxes for Adults and Children
Oatmeal packages in the boxes
Canned peas, carrots, green beans, etc
Canned pears, peaches, applesauce, pineapple or in small plastic containers



Support Those Who Support Us!

Personal Care Assistant

Joan Songer, Personal Care Assistant with 20 years experience ministering to people in their homes. CNA nursing training at Greenville Technical College.

Cell: (864)434-2445
References available.
Parishioner recommended!

Mark Advent, Owner

Advent Home Services

Plumbing~Electric~Repair~Install

- Quality Workmanship
- Excellent Troubleshooting Skills
- Reasonable Pricing
- Respectful Attitude

Small Jobs Welcome!!!

864.414.6957 864.420.5041



Palmetto Home Improvement Handyman

Simon Elias
864-340-5101
Free Estimate

 se_improvements




Joseph Chebeir, MBA, EA
Tax Professional, Financial Advisor

3620 Pelham Rd. # 108
Greenville, SC 29615
864.909.4466
joe@carolinaadvisers.com



 **ENROLLED AGENT**
Securities offered thro
Advisory service



GREENVILLE SPINE INSTITUTE
EXPERT CHIROPRACTIC CARE



Julie Hryniewicz, MSW, LISW-CP
Therapist

📞 864-252-9069
📍 879 NE Main St. Suite B
Simpsonville, SC 29681
✉ julie@paxtherapysolutions.com

Market
Momentum
moving business forward




DIGITAL CLOUDWARE
Custom Software, Website Design, SEO & SMM

Randy Jones
Owner

Mobile: 864-304-5076
Email: randy@muttsbbqgreer.com

Dine-In • Carry-Out • Catering

101 West Road
Greer, SC 29650
Phone: 864-848-3999
Fax: 864-848-7715

1020 Powdersville Road
Easley, SC 29640
Phone: 864-442-1400
Fax: 864-442-1403





Catholic Radio in South Carolina

WCKI 1300 AM

www.catholicradioinsc.com

Get the App!

MediaTriX



RICK'S CATERING

**Rick
Vicaro**

(864) 704-4229
rickvicaro@gmail.com



**Goodwill Industries
of Upstate/Midlands
South Carolina**

Employment Specialist

864.412.7646

864.312.6301 Ext (2)

www.goodwillsc.org

Ferial Saade

Community and Workforce
Development

fsaade@goodwillsc.org



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Saint Rafka Council #15519

2nd Monday of the Month, 7 PM, Wickett Hall



Peter S. Bouharoun

301 Falls Street
Greenville, SC 29601
www.bouharouns.com

Tel: 864.233.2733
Cell: 864.325.7036
peter@bouharouns.com

Queen Bee Laser Designs

Custom laser cutting and
engraving for all of your needs!

Wood, acrylic, metal, plastic, glass, stone,
leather, fabric and food products

Leslie@QueenBeeLaserDesigns.com
QueenBeeLaserDesigns.com
(864) 616-6792

Saad
and
Manios, LLC

Providing Business Solutions
Bookkeeping
Payroll Services
Tax Return Preparation
Other Business Services

Saad Manios and Associates, LLC
CPA
Providing Compilation and Review Services

1249 S Pleasantburg Drive
Greenville, SC 29605
Phone: 864 277-9600 • Fax: 864-422-9665

PITA HOUSE
Middle Eastern Food & Grocery
تشكيله من المأكولات والحلويات الشرقية
495 South Pleasantburg Drive
Greenville, SC 29607

Ziad Namouz
znamouz@yahoo.com

Tel: 864-271-9895
Fax: 864-235-8851

Helena Arida

Life Coach
Coaching is offered in three languages:
English French Arabic

aridahelena@gmail.com 484-767-5906
Instagram: coach.helena1

The Communication & Empowerment Coach



FELIPE A. FRANCISCO
864-715-4496

Landscaping
Maintenance Pressure Wash
Tree Work Leaf Blowing
Mulching Pine Straw
Mowing Edging
Trimming Bushes

PHILIP
LANDSCAPING

WeCare 
FAMILY HEALTH & URGENT CARE

BASSAM HADDAD, MD
VINIKA PATEL, DNP
BHADRIK PATEL, MSPA



COLUMBIA
1120 A-B Sparkleberry Lane Ext
Columbia, SC 29223
(803) 851 - 0605

GREENVILLE
2076 Woodruff Rd
Greenville, SC 29607
(864) 373 - 7246

FAX : (866) 291-3617

www.WeCareFamilyHealth.com
Connect@WeCareFamilyHealth.com

RENEE L. TEDRICK
Attorney at Law
WILLS, TRUSTS
& PROBATE LAW
Providing best quality services.
448-200-8510
Call or text us for your free quote.
17A Caledon Court
Greenville, SC 29615
864-370-2277
renee@sctrustlaw.com

Shamrock Painting



864-325-1333



EJ Flowers
Let's make your Event,
Party and Wedding special
(216) 288 4630
EJMyFlowers@yahoo.com
Follow me on FB and Insta
@EJMyFlowers

Serving the Upstate for Over a Decade
Greer, Taylors, Duncan, Lyman, Greenville