

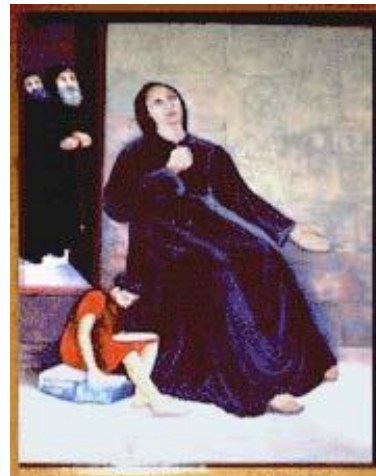
**St. Marina, the Monk of Qannoubine- Feast Day- July 17**

According the current Maronite Synaxarium, "Marina was born in Qlamoun North Lebanon. Her father was a pious man. Her mother died while Marina was very young. This has made her father renounce the world and leave for the Monastery of Qannoubine in the Holy Valley; accompanying him was his daughter, whom he dressed like a man. Both father and daughter entered into monkshood without revealing the identity of the daughter to the monks. As a monk she was known by the name Marinos.

Although young, Marinos occupied himself with the practice of monastic virtues with utmost spirit and minuteness. He was silent and reticent with bowed head and eyes, making of his cowl a veil concealing the features of his face and eyes.

One day he was sent to a neighboring town on a mission for the Monastery. He was obliged to spend the night at the house of a friend of the monks named Paphnotius.

Paphnotius had a young girl who had fallen into adultery and was found pregnant. Upon finding out, her father was enraged and demanded the name of the perpetrator. His daughter told him that Marinos the Monk had raped her the night he spent in their house. Her father went straight to the Monastery and told the Superior, who was surprised for he knew that Marinos is a pious and pure man.



The Repainted Picture of Saint Marina in the Church of Our Lady Diman, Lebanon  
Photo by MARI (Lebanon, 1999)

The Superior called Marinos and scolded him, but Marinos said nothing to defend himself. Consequently, the Superior was very perplexed and considered Marinos' silence to be an admission of guilt. He then sentenced Marinos to dismissal and to be thrown outside the Monastery. Marinos resigned himself to the will of God and stayed at the door of the Monastery praying and crying, living off the leftovers of the monks' food. His father had long since died. When the daughter delivered, the grandfather brought the child, a boy, to the Monastery and threw him to Marinos saying: take and raise your son.

Marinos took the boy and began raising him with what the monks used to bring to him of goat milk and of leftovers from their table. This situation lasted four years. Marinos carried the shame of this hideous accusation without any complaints. However, the Superior had compassion for him and let him enter the Monastery under very strict conditions. Marinos accepted while shedding the tears of repentance.

Marinos persevered in his ascetic work until the hour of his death when the features of his face glowed with a heavenly light. He asked forgiveness from all and he forgave all those who sinned against him. He then gave up his spirit. The Superior then ordered that his body be prepared for burial outside the Monastery.

It was a great moment of astonishment when the monks found that Marinos was a woman and not a man. The Superior and the monks fell on their knees before the pure cadaver, asking God and the soul of the holy saint forgiveness. As for the father of the sinful daughter, he was ashamed and came to make his statement before everyone. As for the daughter, she spent her life crying and repenting at the tomb of the saint.

The sanctity of Marina spread all over Lebanon, people from all its regions came to the Monastery of Qannoubine to be blessed by her body. Her tomb became a source of cures and graces." (Daher 1996: 189-190)

This account on the life, legend, and relics of Saint Marina the Monk tells us but little about her passion, suffering, and humiliation. The Maronites remain to this day fascinated by this Saint. Among them, there is almost a righteous anger against the injustice that was done to her. To this day, her name is intertwined with that of the Monastery of Qannoubine and her nearby grotto is a reminder of her chastity, obedience, asceticism, humility, forgiveness, and sainthood.

*O Mount Lebanon, your glory has been exalted; O Monastery of Qannoubine, your joy has increased  
Because Marina, the pride of your monks. In this monastery has increased your fame.*

**FEAST DAYS ON THE MARONITE CALENDAR WHICH WE CELEBRATE THIS WEEK:**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 20TH- ST. ELIAS THE PROPHET  
SATURDAY, JULY 23RD- ST. SHARBEL**

**MAY ALL THE ANGELS AND SAINTS S IN HEAVEN PRAY FOR US.**



COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS!  
Basket Collection from July 10, 2016  
\$1.147.00

**Summer Schedule:**

**+Starting Saturday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> we will not have Saturday 5:30 PM Vigil Liturgies**

**+We will resume the normal liturgical schedule starting on September 4th**

**+First Friday Adoration and Benediction will resume on Friday, September 2nd**

**THURSDAYS MARONITE YOUNG ADULTS PRAYER MEETING**

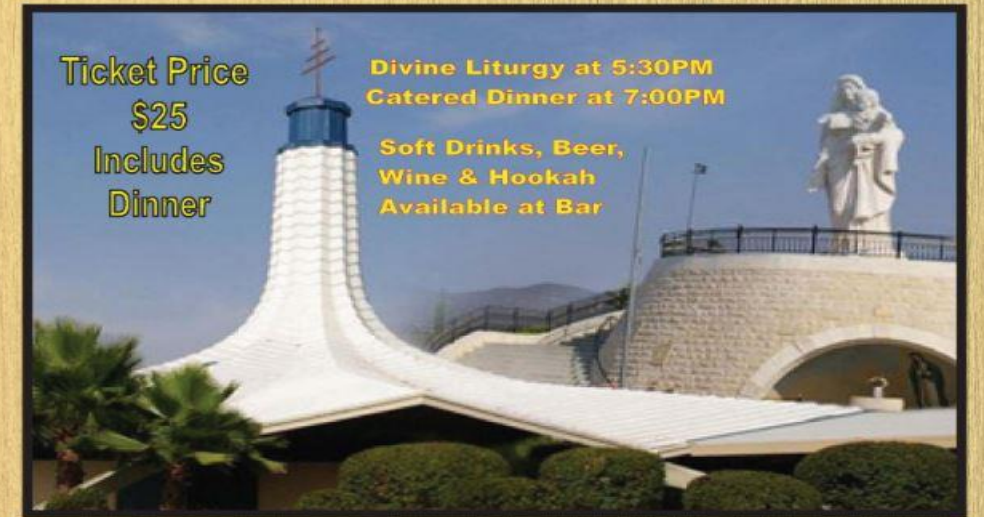
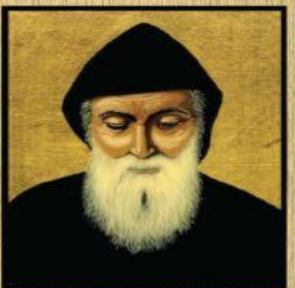
**Our young adults are invited to join the weekly prayers and social hour at the church 7:30PM**

Join Us !!!

**Celebrate the Feast of St. Charbel**

**SATURDAY JULY 23, 2016**

St. Ephrem Maronite Church  
750 Medford Street El Cajon CA 92020



**Ticket Price \$25 Includes Dinner**

**Divine Liturgy at 5:30PM  
Catered Dinner at 7:00PM**

**Soft Drinks, Beer,  
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Available at Bar**

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Mariam Mouawad  
&  
DJ Matthew**



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(Purchase Tickets in Advance-Seating is Limited)

**FEAST OF SAINT ELIAS  
WEDNESDAY  
JULY 20**

**Hymn of Praise: Saint Elias the Prophet**

O fiery man, Prophet Elias,  
You shone on earth with heavenly radiance  
And pleased the Lord by your prayers:  
You closed the heavens, and from Heaven, brought down fire -



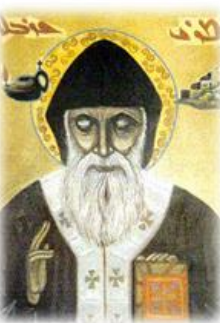
All with the help of God's mighty right hand. You rebuked men for their lack of faith;

And were greatly zealous for the Living God,  
And the Church celebrates you as its prophet.  
Your mighty works amazed the entire world:  
All your prophecies were fulfilled.  
You were alive and whole in body and soul,  
Wherefore death had no part in you.  
O prophet of God in both soul and body:  
Glory! We exclaim to you with joyful souls

**FEAST OF  
SAINT SHARBEL**

**SATURDAY  
JULY 23**

**Oh, Saint Charbel  
pray for me**



Oh Lord, who was bestowed on Saint Charbel the grace of faith, I plead to you to grant me through his intercession that divine grace to live according to your commandments and Bible.

Oh, Saint Charbel pray for me.  
Oh Lord, who was bestowed on Saint Charbel the grace of faith, I plead to you to grant me through his intercession that divine grace to live according to your commandments and Bible.

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Beit Maroun  House of Maron

Volume 18-Issue 29 July 17, 2016

Pastor: Reverend Toufic Nasr  
Deacon Georges Ghosn  
Deacon George Geagea

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Liturgies:**  
Saturday..... 5:30PM  
(Except July & August)  
Sunday  
.....9:30AM  
.....11:00AM  
.....12:30 PM  
Confessions  
by Appointment

**TENTH WEEK OF PENTECOST**

**READINGS:**

1COR 12:1-11 Mt 12:22-32

**Divine Liturgy Intentions:**

Day:	Date:	Time:	Offered For/By:
Saturday	7/16	5:30PM	NO LITURGY
Sunday-	7/17	9:30AM	
		11:00AM	(M) Khalid Putros, Antwan Putros, JoJo Tweiny and Andre Askar offered by the Family
		12:30PM	(M) John Bashouri and Jan and Janette Toma offered by Hikmet and Zinia Bashouri
		<b>Saturday, July 23-Feast of St. Sharbel</b>	
	7/23	5:30PM	Liturgy for Feast of St. Sharbel
	7/24	9:30AM	
		11:00AM	
		12:30PM	
		<b>Sunday, July 31- Feast of the 350 Martyrs, Disciples of St. Maron</b>	
Saturday	7/30	5:30PM	NO LITURGY
Sunday	7/31	9:30AM	
		11:00AM	
		12:30PM	

**First Friday Adoration** Noon until Benediction at 6:00PM

**Baptism:** Contact the office to schedule

**Religious Education:** Saturdays from 11am-12pm

**First Communion Class:** Sunday from 1030AM to 12:30AM- To register, please contact the parish office.

**Matrimony:** Please contact the parish office at least eight months prior to the desired date

**Parish Office Hours:** Monday through Friday 8:00AM to 4:00PM



**Pope Francis' General Prayer Intentions for July 2016:**

Let us Pray-That indigenous peoples, whose identity and very existence are threatened, will be shown due respect.  
Amen

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