



St. Raymond– St. Elizabeth Maronite Catholic Church

Most Rev. A. Elias Zaidan, Bishop of The Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon

Most Rev. Mitchell Rozanski, Archbishop of St. Louis

Rev. John Nahal, Rector

Downtown

931 Lebanon Drive
St. Louis, MO 63104

Tel: (314) 621-0056

Website: straymond-mc.org

Facebook: St. Raymond's
Maronite Cathedral group

Crestwood

1420 S. Sappington Road
Crestwood, MO 63126

Tel: (314) 968-0760

Fax: (314) 968-8023

Website: stelizabethhungary.org

Facebook: St. Elizabeth of Hungary
Catholic Church @sehcrestwood

DIVINE LITURGY

Sunday: 10:15am
Mon, Wed, Fri: 12 noon

RECONCILIATION:
Sunday: 9:15am
or by appointment

DIVINE LITURGY/HOLY MASS:

Saturday: 4:00pm- Roman
5:15pm— Maronite
Sunday: 8am and 10:30am—Roman
Monday-Friday: 8am
Tuesday & Thursday: 6pm

RECONCILIATION:
Saturday: 3:00pm; Sunday: 9:45am

MINISTERING THE SACRAMENTS/MYSTERIES

Sacrament of Baptism: call the rectory 1 month in advance to schedule an appointment and date with Fr. John

Sacrament of Matrimony: call the rectory 6 months in advance (1 year in advance if there are canonical issues)

Visitation and Anointing of the Sick: call the rectory; Fr John's emergency contact is on the answering machine

Intentions for Divine Liturgy: call the rectory, mail, or email your intentions



BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

Liturgy p. 48
1 Sam 1:9-11, 19b-23
Gal 4:21-5:1
Lk 1:57-66



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Bar 5:1-9
Psalm 126
Phil 1:4-6, 8-11
Lk 3:1-6

Sunday, December 8th, 2024

**DIVINE LITURGY & MASS INTENTIONS
DOWNTOWN:**

Sun, Dec. 8 10:15 am	BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST +Anna A Elking By Dennis & Roxanne Elking +Carey Goldsmith By David & Kathi Wahby and Family +Dennis Slay (Anniv.) By Nancy Slay and Family +Eusebio Barragan By Mary Denny and Family
Mon, Dec. 9 12:00 pm	<i>St. Francis Paula</i> Poor Souls in Purgatory
Tues, Dec. 10	<i>Sts Mina, Hermojanos, Ogranos & Pope Melkida</i>
Wed, Dec. 11 12:00 pm	<i>St. Daniel the Stalagmite (of the column)</i> James Dayle (for healing) By James Gera
Thurs, Dec. 12	<i>St. Ispiridon the miraculous</i>
Fri, Dec. 13 11:00 am	<i>St. Lucia, a Virgin</i> Mass for retired sisters at Mason Pointe
Sat, Dec. 14	<i>St. Nimatullah Kassab Al-Hardini, a Lebanese Monk</i>
Sun, Dec. 15 10:15 am	REVELATION TO JOSEPH +John & Mary Azar By Ramona Milford +Edward J. Elking Sr. By Dennis & Roxanne Elking

CRESTWOOD: (RC Roman Catholic, M Maronite)

Sat, Dec. 7 4:00 pm RC 5:15 pm M	<i>Sunday Vigil; St. Ambrose</i> Sam Vitale Mary Ann Schmidt By LaDonna Rask
Sun, Dec. 8 8:00 am RC 10:30 am RC	2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT Mary Jane Simon by Jim Simon Janina & Boleslaw Zmuda
Mon, Dec. 9 8:00 am RC 6:30pm RC	<i>Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary</i> Fr. Dominic Mark Holtz, O.P. Husnie & Thunsa Simon By Linda Hill
Tue, Dec. 10 8:00 am RC 6:00 pm M	<i>Our Lady of Loreto; St. Eulalia</i> Fr. Dominic Mark Holtz, O.P. Anna A Elking By Joe Elking Sr. and Family
Wed, Dec. 11 8:00 am RC	<i>St. Maria Maravillas de Jesus; St. Damasus I, Pope</i> Antonio Dobbins
Thurs, Dec. 12 8:00 am RC 6:00 pm M	<i>Our Lady of Guadalupe; St. Valery</i> Nancy Faller Elias Hitti By Nazha Hitti and Family
Fri, Dec. 13 8:00 am RC	<i>St. Lucy</i> Bert Marchi by Lenore Miles
Sat, Dec. 14 4:00 pm RC 5:15 pm M	<i>Sunday Vigil; St. John of the Cross</i> Sr Angela Senyszyn by Sr Rosalie Judge Paul J. Simon by Jim Simon
Sun, Dec. 15 8:00 am RC 10:30 am RC	3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT Subdeacon George Simon Sr. By Patricia Carnie Ula Zamarlo

**WEEKLY FINANCES 12/01/2024
ST. RAYMOND-ST.ELIZABETH:**

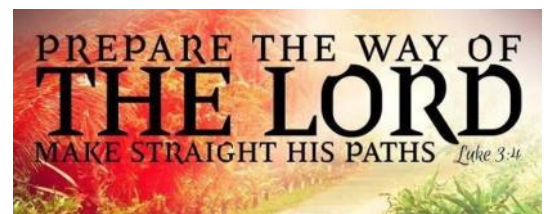
4:00pm Saturday	
Loose cash	298
Checks/Envelopes	4120
7:00pm Saturday	
Loose cash	-
Checks/Envelopes	-
8:00am Sunday	
Loose cash	-
Checks/Envelopes	45
10:30am Sunday	
Loose cash	204
Checks/Envelopes	335
Candles	125
Pickleball	275
Revenue during the week	30,885
Second Collection	
Online Giving https://osvhub.com/stelizabethhungary/funds	1,003
Expenses	\$4,249.54

ST. RAYMOND:

5:15pm Saturday	
Loose cash	
Checks/Envelopes	65
10:15am Sunday	
Loose cash	101
Checks/Envelopes	712
Food Pantry	100
Second collection	135
Revenue during the week	495
Candles	52
Coffee hour	96
8am Sunday	165
Online Giving https://osvhub.com/straymond-mc/giving/funds	1,589
Expenses	\$8,418.36

WED. LUNCH 11/27/24

Total Revenue Lunch	4,535.75
Expenses	\$1,066.34





A note from the pastor

Our Lady of Harissa– Lebanon



The Maronite people in Lebanon have always had a great love and devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. In the year 1904, the Venerable Patriarch Elias Howayek wanted to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the dogma of Mary's Immaculate Conception in a big way! Patriarch Howayek announced the construction of a shrine for the Blessed Mother to be built high upon the mountain and large enough to be seen from afar.

In October 1904, the laying of the foundation stone of the Shrine took place in the village of Harissa. The village of Harissa is located about 17 miles north of Beirut and overlooks the bay of Jounieh. The statue of the Blessed Mother was created in 1907. It is made of bronze and painted white. The statue weighs 15 tons, which is over 33,000 lbs, and is almost 28 feet tall (about the height of a 2-story building).

In 1908, the engineers finished preparing the land and creating the statue's pedestal. Once the statue was in place, the Shrine was ready for the big day to celebrate Our Lady of Lebanon.

On May 3, 1908, the people gathered in Harissa for the inaugural celebration with prayers and the blessing of the statue. Patriarch Howayek celebrated the Divine Liturgy and in his homily he highlighted the Lebanese people's love and devotion to Mary, and asked for her protection and intercession. Patriarch Howayek also named the Blessed Mother as the "Queen of Lebanon".

CONTACT US:

RECTOR

Rev. John Nahal
rector@straymond-mc.org

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Rev. Anthony Simon
asimon@simonlawpc.com

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Rev. Jad Chlouk
jad.chlouk@gmail.com

DEACONS

Dcn. Bill Meister
williammeister@archstl.org
Suddeacon David Wahby
wahby@sbcglobal.net

PARISH SECRETARY

Crestwood: Felicity McCann
steeliz@straymond-mc.org
Downtown: Mary Cohen-Ehlen
secretary@straymond-mc.org

PRO-LIFE COORDINATOR

Jean Flanagan
jflan4life@yahoo.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FORMATION DIRECTOR

Pam Olimpio
pcatherine@att.net

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Crestwood:
Elisabeth Kenney
elisabethrkenney@gmail.com
Downtown:
Dennis Keller, Jr.
d.kellerjr@gmail.com

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Deadline: 8am Tuesdays
To submit: Email Felicity
steeliz@straymond-mc.org

ONLINE GIVING

Crestwood:
osvhub.com/stelizabethhungary/funds
Downtown:
straymond-mc.org/online-giving

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT- CRESTWOOD

Mondays 8:30am-5:00pm

MERCY MEAL

Kathleen Wahby 314 276 3062

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

Donate or Borrow piece of medical equipment, please call
Patty Renschen 314 517 7044

PICKLEBALL

David Miller
davidcmiller60@gmail.com



LECTORS: CRESTWOOD

Sat, Dec. 7 4:00 pm	Sr Rosalie
Sun, Dec. 8 8:00 am 10:30 am	Julie Hoijarvi Austin Krueger
Sat, Dec. 14 4:00 pm	Janet Finke
Sun, Dec. 15 8:00 am 10:30 am	Glenn Brookman Jean Minton

UP COMING EVENTS

- *Sun Dec. 8: Breakfast with Santa
- *Thurs Dec 12: Ladies' Sodality Christmas P.
- *Tue Dec 31: New Year's Eve Celebration
- *Sun. Feb. 2 : St. Maron's Feast Day
- *Sun. March 9 : Ladies' Sodality Purse Bingo
- *Sun. April 13: Palm Sun. Lunch.
- *Sat. April 19: Easter Egg Hunt
- *Sun. May 11 : Mother's Day Brunch
- *Thurs. May 29: Confirmation at St. R- St. E
- *Sat. June 7: Men's Society Golf Tournament
- *June 23-26: Vacation Bible School
- *June 23-28: MYO Youth National Conf.
- *Sep. 19-21: St. Louis Lebanese Festival

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK & HOMEBOUND OF OUR PARISH

Mark Beck	Jim Hoffman
Tom Hearst	Gary Bieller
Victor Sciarrino	Richard Baker Sr
Rosalie Hubert	Patrick Carr
Mike McSorley Sr.	Steve Baker
James Brumfield	Jana Smith
Christopher & Cathy Seemayer	Janet Zhakaria
Mary Lou Works	John Cleary
Chris Nelms	Tom Morrow
Ted Arunski	Marie Kallial
Dave Holdinghausen	Mary L Simon
Mary Ann Reiter	Jim Benoist
Michelle Bausworth	Eddie Bremehr
Tom Saucier	Judy Roderick
Rhoda Simpher	Rob Turner
Patricia Beck	Dr. John Bouhasin
Terry Leong	Emil Salman
Mary Ojile	Jennifer Van Luven
Gloria (Skip) Leisure	David Taylor
Don Ganim	Milad Abounader
John Anton	

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA, SUN DEC 8

On Sun. Dec. 8, we will celebrate Mission Sunday, at 10:15am Divine Liturgy, with all our children that they bring gifts with them to the less fortunate children in our beloved city, St. Louis. Afterward we will have Breakfast with Santa at the Cedars hall. For more details, see flyer, last page of bulletin.

NIGHT OF PRAYER FOR LIFE, SUN DEC 8

The National Night of Prayer for Life, from 9 pm till 10 pm, at St. Raymond- St. Elizabeth Church, Crestwood. We pray to Our Blessed Mother to protect family and Life.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION, MON DEC 9

Eucharistic Adoration this Mon. Dec. 9, from 8:30am till 5:00pm.

REL. ED. CLASSES & REGISTRATION, MON DEC 9

Rel Ed Classes this coming Monday, Dec. 9 at 5:45pm, at St. Raymond- St. Elizabeth church in Crestwood, and 6:30pm Mass Religious Education Calendar:
Monday, Dec. 9, Class First Confession and All School Confessions
Monday, Dec. 16, 2024 Class Advent Family Charity Night
Monday, Dec. 23 & 30, 2024 No class Merry Christmas!

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY MEETING, TUE DEC 10

We are planning for a New Year's Eve party at St. Raymond- St. Elizabeth church, Crestwood, on Tuesday, December 31, at 7:30pm. We will have a live music band, and a DJ for American songs. Some of the proceeds will benefits St. Raymond's scholarship fund, and Caritas Lebanon USA, see flyer for more information. Meeting for committee in charge is on Tue. Dec. 10, at St. Raymond- St. Elizabeth church at 6:30 pm.

KITCHEN SCOOP

The Kitchen will be closed Wed. Dec. 11, 18, 25, and Jan 1, 2025. Our Kitchen Volunteers Christmas gathering will be on Wed. Dec. 18, at 11:30am. Thank You and Merry Christmas! Denise and Gina

LADIES' CHRISTMAS PARTY WED. DEC. 12

Our 2024 Christmas dinner is Thursday December 12th at 6:30 pm. We would love to have you as our guest. We will be having dinner at Pietro's, 3801 Watson Rd. You will have a choice of a Beef or Chicken dinner, email Linda Hill <lindahillcpa@gmail.com>

THURSDAY VIDEO SERIES, THURS DEC 12

We will have a Christian documentary film on Thursday, Dec 12, at Fr. Edwards Hall. Blessed Thanksgiving!

WELCOME SEMINARIAN DANNY TABET

We welcome Maronite seminarian Danny Tabet for the season of the Birth of Our Lord at our church.

SINIOR ADULT FELLOWSHIP, FRI DEC 13

We announce the start of St. Louis senior community group. Our first meeting, will be Friday December 13 2024, at 12pm, RSVP: Saad Alkaade: 3146815837, saad.k@sbcglobal.net, see flyer in the back.



ST. RAYMOND FOOD PANTRY:

Please help us restock St. Raymond’s Food Pantry. Current needs: canned or packaged meat/fish, soups/stews, peanut butter, rice/pasta, pasta sauce, and cereal. No glass jars please! Thanks for helping those in need!

GIVING TREES

In the season of Thanksgiving, we have Giving Trees at our church in both locations.

St. Raymond’s Giving Tree, the gifts will be donated to St. Peter Claver Church, North St. Louis (Thanks to our Youth)
 St. Raymond– St. Elizabeth’s Giving Tree will be donated to Our Lady’s Inn (Thanks ProLife Committee)

CARITAS LEBANON USA

Lebanon and the Lebanese families are going through difficult time. We are praying for peace in Lebanon and the world.



Caritas Lebanon always is helping the families in need with food, medicine, and shelter. You may donate to help the families affected by the war in southern Lebanon.

- 1/ You can go to www.CaritasLebanon.org and donate, (there is a Donate button on the right).
- 2/ or make a check to the order of Caritas Lebanon and mail to: St Raymond Cathedral, 931 Lebanon Dr, St Louis, MO 63104
- 3/ or you can wire transfer to Bank of America (call 3146210056)

COMMUNION CALLS & HOME VISITS

If you are sick or homebound and would like a Communion minister to come to your home, please let us know! Contact the office to get in touch: (314) 968-0760 or email deacon Bill WilliamMeister@archstl.org

LECTORS NEEDED

We are in need of a lector for the 8am Sunday Masses at St. Raymond—St. Elizabeth parish. To volunteer please email the office at steeliz@straymond-mc.org or call 314-968-0760.

ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM, O LORD

✠ Mary Ann Reiter	11-14-2024
✠ Patricia Cooseman	11-4-2024
✠ Carol Alkobri	9-30-2024
✠ Gary Wayne Bieller	9-9-2024
✠ Amal Kweiter	8-8-2024
✠ Larry Tuberty	7-23-2024
✠ Robert Deutschmann	7-18-2024
✠ Robert Reask	7-10-2024
✠ Albertha Marchi	6-27-2024
✠ Robert Kelly	6-23-2024
✠ Roberto Mendoza	6-3-2024
✠ James Hamm	4-27-2024
✠ Gerald Peters	4-25-2024
✠ Teresa Syron	4-20-2024
✠ Sandra Wahby	4-16-2024
✠ William Appelbaum	4-3-2024
✠ Charles Nesser	3-23-2024
✠ Hisham Altwal	3-18-2024
✠ Phyllis Sullivan	2-23-2024
✠ Robert Schwarz	2-16-2024
✠ Marilyn Flores	2-14-2024
✠ Virginia Morrow	2-10-2024
✠ Charles LaMartina	1-26-2024
✠ Arline Deutschmann	1-21-2024
✠ Adel Altwal	1-11-2024
✠ Catherine Leisure	12-29-2023
✠ Raymond Gazall	12-9-2023
✠ Ruth Werkmeister	10-25-2023
✠ John Steuber	10-18-2023
✠ John Putzel	10-4-2023
✠ William Busekrus	9-12-2023
✠ Michel Maghamez	8-14-2023
✠ Kathleen Ann Bruce	8-11-2023
✠ Patricia Elking	8-6-2023

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER GROUP

Join us as we explore and discuss the contemplative tradition of the Church. We will share and support each other’s successes and struggles to grow in a life of prayer. Mondays at 12:30pm in Fr. Edward’s hall. Contact Jacob with any questions: Jacob.hart.g@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2024

Mission Sunday & Breakfast with Santa:

Sun. Dec 8th at 10:15am Divine Liturgy and Reception (Downtown)

Christmas Novena:

Dec 15th till Dec 23rd at 6:30pm at St. Raymond-St. Elizabeth Church (Crestwood)
 (Saturdays and Sundays, Novena are prayed during the Divine Liturgy)

Christmas Masses/ Divine Liturgies:

Tue. Dec. 24:
 4:00pm Roman (Crestwood) - Christmas Vigil
 5:15pm Maronite (Downtown) - Nativity
 10:00pm “Midnight” Mass Roman (Crestwood)
 10:00pm “Midnight” Maronite (Downtown)
 Wed. Dec. 25: 10:15am Maronite (Downtown) & 10:30am Roman (Crestwood)

Solemnity of Mary (Roman)/Circumcision (Maronite)

Wed. Jan. 1: 10:15am Maronite (Downtown) & 10:30am Roman (Crestwood)

*Confession/Reconciliation before Mass/Divine Liturgy & at Christmas Novena



**Light Weigh Catholic
Weight-loss**



**Light Weigh Catholic
Weight-loss Group**

starting at St. Raymond-
St. Elizabeth Catholic Parish, 1420 S. Sappington Rd. Crestwood,
MO in January. Please come to an informational meeting on De-
cember 11 at 4pm in Hospitality room #2.

*Weight-loss, Saints, Bible Study, Friendship, Spiritual Healing &
Prayers! Transformations happen. Connect to the power of God
and the group today. Go to www.lightweigh.com*

For more information about the program we will be using, join
us on December 11th for an introductory video and Q and A
session.

For more information contact group leader Kathy Harkins,
kathyharkins@charter.net or
Pam Olimpio pcatherine@att.net, Director of Formation.

We announce the start of St.
Louis senior community
group, a group that supports
and encourages seniors to
participate in multiple activi-
ties to promote healthier and
more interactive life to our
beloved seniors.



Location: at St. Raymond– St. Elizabeth Church (1420 S Sappington
Rd, Crestwood, MO 63126), and we will be out for many social and
community serving projects

We hope to encourage our seniors to participate in activities like:

- 1- social events
- 2- serving community projects
- 3- volunteer opportunities
- 4- productive projects
- 5- entertainment activities

We will provide transportation for seniors

Our first meeting, will be Friday December 13 2024, at 12pm, RSVP:
Saad Alkaade: 3146815837, saad.k@sbcglobal.net

Cost including transportation, lunch, and entertainment: 50\$, join-
ing without transportation: 25\$

**St. Raymond– St. Elizabeth
Breakfast with Santa**

**Sunday, December 8, 2024
Starting 10:15am with Mass
(and Gift Donation to the less fortunate children)
11:30am Breakfast at The Cedars of St. Raymond
Cathedral, 939 Lebanon Dr, St. Louis, MO 63104**

- ✦ Photo with Santa
Gifts and Treats
(Our Youth MYO, Santa's
helpers)
- ✦ Cookie Decorating
Arts & Crafts
- ✦ Carols, and Singing
with our Children
- ✦ Competitive Games

Brunch 11:30am—12:15pm
**Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Potatoes,
Biscuits, Orange Juice, Milk, ...
(prepared and served by the Men's Society)**

\$20 per adult
(17 years and younger are free)
(reservation and payment by Sun. Dec. 1st)

For tickets and reservation please contact
The church offices at:
314 621 0056 Downtown, 314 968 0760 Crestwood
email: secretary@straymond-mc.org, or steeliz@straymond-mc.org
or Chairperson Barbara Skitt 314 223 5923

We accept Visa, Master Card, American Express, Checks, and Cash Payments
Online payment at www.straymond-mc.org

Merry Christmas

St. Raymond– St. Elizabeth Church

**New Year's Eve
Celebration**

كلمة وانتم خير

**HAPPY
2025
NEW
YEAR**

**Tuesday, December 31, 2024
Starting 7:30pm- Dinner from 8 PM -9 PM
at St. Raymond– St. Elizabeth Gymnasium
1420 S. Sappington Rd. St. Louis, MO 63126**

- ✦ DJ for American Music and Songs
- ✦ Champagne Bottle for each table
- ✦ Middle Eastern Food Buffet
- ✦ Baby Sitting
- ✦ B.Y.O.B.

**Singer Saad Abi Akl
and Band**

\$100 per adult
\$50 (12 -17 years old)
Free for children (11 years old and under)
(deadline for sale of tickets/tables is December 26)

For tickets, please contact (no tickets to be sold at door):
Nick Chahood 314 749 9697 Claudine Adem 314 497 5524
or Church Offices 314 621 0056 Downtown, 314 968 0760 Crestwood
email: secretary@straymond-mc.org, or steeliz@straymond-mc.org
We accept Visa, Master Card, American Express, Checks, and Cash Payments
Online payment at www.straymond-mc.org
(50% of the proceeds will benefit St. Raymond's Scholarship Fund)