

# **St. Rafka Maronite Catholic Church**

2301 Wadsworth Boulevard,  
Lakewood, CO 80214  
Website: [www.strafkadenver.org](http://www.strafkadenver.org)  
Email: [StRafkaLkwd@outlook.com](mailto:StRafkaLkwd@outlook.com)



## **February 25, 2024 Healing of the Hemorrhaging Woman**

### **Schedule of Masses & Services**

**Sunday Mass** 11:00 AM  
**Tuesday-Thursday Mass** 6:00 PM  
**Friday Mass during Lent** 5:50 PM followed by  
Stations of the Cross  
**Saturday Mass** 11:30 AM  
**Holy Days on Weekdays** 6:30 PM  
  
**Confession:** Tuesday-Thursday 5:00 – 5:45 PM

**Please call the office to alert us of any  
Pastoral Care needs**  
(Hospital, Homebound, Etc.)

### **Office Hours**

9:30 am-3:30 pm, Wednesday & Friday  
720-833-0354

[StRafkaLkwd@outlook.com](mailto:StRafkaLkwd@outlook.com)

*Rev. El-Badaoui Habib, Parochial Administrator*

*Linda Craven, Office & Business Manager*

*Philip Kyburz, Grand Knight,  
St. Rafka Council of the Knights of Columbus*

*Linda Craven, Religious Education*  
[lhalpincraven@gmail.com](mailto:lhalpincraven@gmail.com)

Contact the office to register in the Parish

## **Spiritual Message from Father El-Badaoui Habib**

### **The Third Sunday of Lent - The Sunday of the Hemorrhaging Woman**

This passage deals with two intertwined events with one message from Jesus - the importance of having faith.

Two people watched for his arrival. Both anxiously awaited Jesus' expected coming. How long? One a sense of urgency - his beloved 12-year-old seriously ill. The other had carefully planned to be as little noticed as possible. Their stories intertwine.

The Woman: She lost her health, her wealth, and had a chronic problem, embarrassing as well. Mark said she had used up her money with dishonest doctors. Luke, defending his medical profession, states she had an incurable affliction. Either way, she was ceremonially unclean under Leviticus law.

She talked to herself, planning this all out. If she could just touch the tassel of His garment, she could be healed. Now this seemed superstitious magic, she believed in His power, but avoided personal contact with Him. "Faith healers" - if I could just believe more, harder. So, she crept up and touched

## Today's Gospel

### DAILY READINGS

**Sunday, February 25**

***Sunday of the Healing of the Hemorrhaging Woman***

*Book of Offering Page 207*

Num 15:37-41

2 Cor 7:4-11

Lk 8:40-56

**Monday, February 26**

***St. Alexander, Patriarch of Alexandria***

*Book of Offering Page 186*

1 Tm 4:9-16

Jn 8:21-27

**Tuesday, February 27**

***St. Thalaleus, Disciple of St. Maron***

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2 Cor 8:1-9

Mt 23:1-12

**Wednesday, February 28**

***St. Koura & Marana, Disciples of St. Maron***

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Gal 2:1-7

Mt 17:10-13

**Thursday, February 29**

***Pope St. Leo the Great, Doctor of the Church***

*Book of Offering Page 186*

Gal 1:1-10

Lk 17:20-37

**Friday, March 1**

***St. Domnina, Disciple of St. Maron, St. Eudokia of Baalbek***

*Book of Offering Page 186*

Rom 3:1-7

Lk 12:16-21

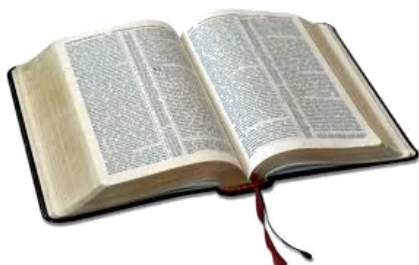
**Saturday, March 2**

***St. John Maron***

*Book of Offering Page 688*

Phil 1:21-30

Mt 5:13-17



### **A Girl Restored to Life and a Woman Healed (Lk 8:40-56)**

<sup>40</sup> Now when Jesus returned, the crowd welcomed him, for they were all waiting for him. <sup>41</sup> Just then there came a man named Jairus, a leader of the synagogue. He fell at Jesus' feet and begged him to come to his house, <sup>42</sup> for he had an only daughter, about twelve years old, who was dying.

As he went, the crowds pressed in on him. <sup>43</sup> Now there was a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years; and though she had spent all she had on physicians, no one could cure her. <sup>44</sup> She came up behind him and touched the fringe of his clothes, and immediately her hemorrhage stopped. <sup>45</sup> Then Jesus asked, "Who touched me?" When all denied it, Peter said, "Master, the crowds surround you and press in on you." <sup>46</sup> But Jesus said, "Someone touched me; for I noticed that power had gone out from me." <sup>47</sup> When the woman saw that she could not remain hidden, she came trembling; and falling down before him, she declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been immediately healed. <sup>48</sup> He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace."

<sup>49</sup> While he was still speaking, someone came from the leader's house to say, "Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the teacher any longer." <sup>50</sup> When Jesus heard this, he replied, "Do not fear. Only believe, and she will be saved." <sup>51</sup> When he came to the house, he did not allow anyone to enter with him, except Peter, John, and James, and the child's father and mother. <sup>52</sup> They were all weeping and wailing for her; but he said, "Do not weep; for she is not dead but sleeping." <sup>53</sup> And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. <sup>54</sup> But he took her by the hand and called out, "Child, get up!" <sup>55</sup> Her spirit returned, and she got up at once. Then he directed them to give her something to eat. <sup>56</sup> Her parents were astounded; but he ordered them to tell no one what had happened.

### **Spiritual Message (continued)**

Him without His notice while being jostled by the crowd in the narrow streets.

Jesus, who directs our faith towards His person, granted healing. But then came the test: He knew who touched Him. She knew she was healed. But He stopped and acted as though He didn't know. At first, she denied it. Disciples wondering questioned the delay. Jesus persisted, looking for a public confession. There was the woman, trembling with fear. His challenge to the crowd would only increase that fear.

Finally, she came forward in fear and trembling and found there was no need to fear: "Daughter" - a personal relationship "Your faith made you well." It was not her touch, but her faith - not the garment's intrinsic power, but the Lord! - His personal response to her personal faith - "Go in peace" healed her soul as well. ***Faith is entering into a relationship with the person of Jesus Christ.***

# NEWS & EVENTS

*This week at St. Rafka Church*

Sun 25	Mon 26	Tues 27	Wed 28	Thurs 29	Fri 1	Sat 2	Sun 3
<b>Healing of the Hemorrhaging Woman</b> <b>11:00am</b>  7-day Liturgy for Saada B. Habib & Mercy Meal  RE Classes 10—10:50	No Mass <i>St. Alexander, Patriarch of Alexandria</i>	Mass 6 pm <i>St. Thalaleus, Disciple of St. Maron</i>	Mass 6 pm <i>Sts. Koura &amp; Marana, Disciples of St. Maron</i>	Mass 6 pm <i>Pope St. Leo the Great, Doctor of the Church</i>	Mass 5:50 pm Stations of the Cross 6:30 pm  <i>St. Domnina, Disciple of St. Maron, St. Eudokia of Baalbek</i>	Mass 11:30 am <i>St. John Maron</i>	<b>Healing of the Paralytic</b>  <b>11:00am</b>  RE Classes 10—10:50  Mass in Co. Springs 5 pm
The deadline to receive events and articles for the bulletin is Wednesday at 12:00 PM Submit them to the Parish Office at <a href="mailto:StRafkaLkwd@outlook.com">StRafkaLkwd@outlook.com</a>							

**7-day Liturgy for Saada Boumelhem Habib, of blessed memory, mother of our beloved Abouna Elbadaoui Habib, with mercy meal to follow in the hall. Lunch will be provided by Shawarma Grill. Please bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share. Contact Gisele Cherabie at 303-960-8646 to let her know what you plan to bring.**

## Lenten Observances

### Abstinence

All Maronites who are physically capable are to **abstain** from meat on **Ash Monday** and all **Fridays of Lent**.

### Fasting

**Ash Monday** and **Great Friday of the Crucifixion** are also days of **fasting**. Fasting in the Maronite Church involves **eating and drinking nothing at all** (except water and medicine) from **midnight until noon**. The rest of the day normal meals can be taken, but without meat. All Maronites who are physically capable should fast on these two days.

### The Pillars of Lent



PRAYER



FASTING



ALMSGIVING

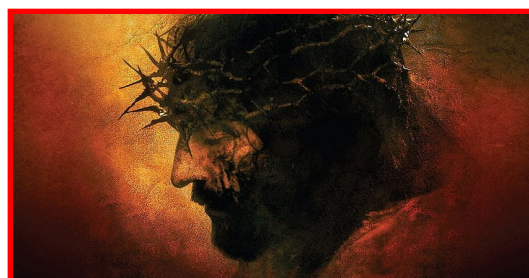
## Bishop Elias' Lenten Appeal

### The Goal for the 2024 Lenten

**Appeal is \$4,000.**

**If you want your Sunday donation to be specifically for the Appeal, please designate it as such on your check.**

**On Great Friday of the Crucifixion (March 29) we will have the annual collection for the Holy Land.**





## St. Rafka Parish Mission Statement

Faith, hope, and love, reinforcing our family values, promoted through heritage and prayer for the glory of God, the edification of the Holy Church and the salvation of the world.

### Spiritual Message (continued)

*Importance of profession and public thanksgiving: A full circle is required here- Psalm 50:15, "Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will glorify Me." cf. Romans 10:9*

A strong faith has confidence in Jesus' power to give new life. Jairus: was a ruler of the Synagogue in Capernaum and was waiting anxiously during the delay of Jesus caused by the woman. He had heard Jesus' teaching often, had witnessed miracles, yet he came to Jesus saying; "Please come." His beloved 12-year-old daughter was very ill.

Why did they hesitate to come directly, immediately to the savior? What barriers did they perceive held them back?

**The Woman:** Her faith was strong but misdirected.

- Avoided personal contact: anxiety over guilt or rejection.
- She had a low self-esteem or felt insignificant in God's eyes.
- Felt her needs were not worthy of His attention (physical, spiritual, or social)

Look how richly Jesus responded to her needs. He healed both her body and her soul. "Daughter, your faith has made you well." Not just her infirmity, but her heart was healed - full and rich redemption.

**Jairus:** His faith was hesitant, lacking in completeness.

- Underestimated the Lord and what he could do.
- Going through religious motions but had no faith in them.
- Felt uncomfortable burdening the Lord with his problems.

The child who was clearly dead was well and walking. Christ gives newness of life. Do we hesitate to think He cares and that He will help us? If He is eager to offer us salvation and eternal life, do we think He doesn't care about our needs and concerns?

What holds you back from the Savior? Do we sincerely trust the Lord - do we have faith? He can be trusted and is quite capable. Do we feel too small or insignificant? Jesus' love fully expressed on the cross says otherwise. No time for us? Our needs are too small for His attention? He ought always to be our first resort! Jesus' love will satisfy sincere faith, no matter how weak.

**Application:** *What steps of faith is Jesus calling us to make? How is He calling us to exercise our faith in His power? in His will? To trust and act upon the assurance of His love and forgiveness? Each time we become stronger; we are ready for even greater challenges. Faith can move mountains if it draws upon the love and power of the Savior. Amen*