



Maronite Servants of Christ the Light

New Life - a Light to our Maronite Church

A new life is born in our Maronite Catholic Church of the United States - the religious congregation of *Maronite Servants of Christ the Light* (MSCL).

Most Reverend Gregory J. Mansour, Bishop of the Eparchy of Saint Maron, in collaboration with Sister Marla Marie Lucas has initiated the foundation of this religious family.

As of June 1st, 2008, the *Maronite Servants of Christ the Light* became the first Maronite religious congregation of women to be founded in the United States. For many years, we have had our own priests, and now we will have our own sisters.

The *Maronite Servants* is a timely gift of the Holy Spirit to our Church. Young women now have an opportunity to live out and deepen their Eastern spiritual heritage in service to our Maronite Church. The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Light, is the congregation's inspiration. The sisters' lives model Mary's own pronouncement at the Annunciation, "I am the servant of the Lord."



MISSION - TO RADIATE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Charism

In imitation of Mary, our sisters radiate Christ the Light by offering the gift of their spiritual motherhood to nurture God's life in the hearts of children, families, and people of all ages through works of mercy in service to the Maronite Church in the United States.

Purpose & Mission

The primary purpose of the *Maronite Servants of Christ the Light* is to give God praise by striving for holiness as prescribed by the rule of the congregation.

Inspired and sustained by a vowed life in a community of prayer and joyful fraternity, the sisters are formed to live the Gospel in service to the pastoral needs of the Eparchy in the Church's mission of the New Evangelization.

They are called as servants of the Lord to radiate the light of His merciful love and hope through works of mercy.

Spirituality

The sisters live a contemplative prayer life centered on the Eucharist and devoted to Mary as their wholehearted response to God's merciful love, and as a vital means to nourish them for community life and apostolic service.

"These women will be doing the corporal and spiritual works of mercy and helping in the pastoral work of our communities. They can teach catechism, and help with youth, young adults, married couples, programs for children and families, visits to the sick and dying or those who are grieving. They'll work alongside the priest in a variety of different ministries."

Most Reverend
Gregory J. Mansour

SISTER MARLA MARIE LUCAS, MSCL



I recall vividly the moment I realized our Lord was calling me to be all for him. It was 1982, and I had just graduated college and was going full speed ahead in my career plans as a journalist in Washington, DC.

Then something, someone, changed everything. Jesus made it clear to me that my life was meant to be offered as a consecrated religious to serve his people. I was captivated by his love and drawn deeply to let go, leave all things and to follow him. The following year I entered the convent serving in the mission of evangelization and catechesis.

After all these years of joyfully serving our Lord as a Parish Visitor of Mary Immaculate, he again has knocked on the door of my heart, a call within a call. It is a great joy for me to return to my Maronite roots. I invite women to join me in serving our Church as spiritual mothers to God's people - *Maronite Servants of Christ the Light*.

CALLED TO BE A MARONITE SERVANT

We seek to live as a loving Christian community giving witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Our life in community is structured to form and sustain the whole person through a balanced rhythm of prayer, work, study, meals, fellowship and recreation, silence and solitude, exercise, leisure and rest.

Daily Prayer

- Prayer of the Faithful
(*Divine Office*)
- Divine Liturgy (*Mass*)
- Eucharistic Adoration
including the Rosary
- Meditation on Scripture
- Spiritual Reading



Qualities for a vocation to the *Maronite Servants*:

- Single, between the ages of 22 and 40 (exceptions considered)
- Desire and ability to live the Gospel in community, prayer and sacrifice at the pastoral service of the Maronite Church.
- A Catholic actively participating within a Catholic parish for at least four years. If not a Maronite, be willing to a transfer of Rite.
- Good physical and psychological health.
- Completed undergraduate studies with a BA, or BS degree (exceptions considered), and an aptitude for graduate studies.

PROMOTING VOCATIONS

Please help to foster and promote vocations:

Pray and sacrifice for vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

Spread the word about the *Maronite Servants of Christ the Light*. Print copies of this newsletter and share them with the single women in your parish, with families. Forward our web site link to your mailing list.

If you are a young adult woman, keep an open heart and mind to a vocation as a religious. God knows who he has chosen, and he will give them the grace to live the life. Ask him, "is it I Lord?"

Be open and generous to a vocation from your family. It is an honor and blessing to know that one of your sons or daughters has been chosen by God to serve his people.

Support the *Maronite Servants* with a financial contribution (tax deductible).

CONTACT US

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