St. Elias Maronite Church

Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles

836 8th Street South, Birmingham, Alabama 35205

(205) 251-5057 www.stelias.org

Follow us on Social Media:

Reverend Elias Yazbeck, Pastor,
pastor@stelias.org
Reverend Paul Bolus, Associate Pastor,
fatherpaul@stelias.org
Frederick J. Pollman, Office Manager,
info@stelias.org

Confessions: 4-5 PM Saturday or by appointment

OCTOBER 18, 2026 | 5th SUNDAY OF THE HOLY CROSS

"At midnight, there was a cry, 'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!'" Matthew 25:6

وعند نصف الليل، علا الصياح: ((هوذا العريس! فاخرجن للقائه!)) مت ٢٥/٦

ܘܒܦܠܓ ܠܝܠܝܐ ܗܘܬ ܩܠܐ ܐܡܪ ܗܐ ܚܬܢܐ ܐܬܐ ܦܘܩܘ ܠܡܩܒܠܗ ܡ/ܥ

Date	Divine Liturgy Intention	Saint of the Day
Sat. 10/17 5:00 PM	For the intentions of all St. Elias Parishioners	Sts. Cosmas and Damian
Sun 10/18 8:00 AM	For the repose of the Louis Joseph Family requested by Anthony Joseph & Family	5th Sunday of the Holy Cross & St. Luke, the Evangelist
Sun 10/18 10:30 AM	For the repose of Salma Ghossein on the anniversary of her death requested by Maggie Boohaker & Family	
Mon 10/19 10:00 AM	For the health of Cathey David Abi Khaled requested by Mary David	St. Aaron of Antioch
Tues 10/20 10:00 AM	For the safe delivery of Mikayla Kimes and her child requested by Gerry & Beverly Kimes	St. Shallita
Wed 10/21 10:00 AM	For the health of Cathey David Abi Khaled requested by Mary David	St. Hilarion of Tabatha
Thurs 10/22 10:00 AM	For the intentions of all St. Elias Parishioners **St. Sharbel Liturgy**	Pope St. John Paul II
Fri 10/23 9:30 AM	School Liturgy at St. Rose Academy No Divine Liturgy at St. Elias	St. Ignatius, Patriarch of Constantinople
Sat. 10/24 5:00 PM	For the repose of Bob Wyrick requested by Joe & Lil Harrison	St. Arethas & His Companions
Sun 10/25 8:00 AM	For the intentions of all St. Elias Parishioners	6th Sunday of the Holy Cross & St. Chrysanthus & His Wife Daria
Sun 10/25 10:30 AM	For the repose of Madalyn Bahakel Ward requested by Jacqueline Dicie & Sandra Melof	

Deacon Mark Ferris & Deacon James Wehby
Subdeacon Danny Bostany
Chorbishop Richard D. Saad, Pastor Emeritus

SUNDAY READINGS

Song 5: 2-8 Phil 2: 12-18 Mt 25: 1-13

Liturgy	Lectors	Altar Servers
5:00 PM	Valerie Wepfer	Mary Jospeh Maddie Joseph
8:00 AM	John Henley	Addison Whitt Emma Whitt Kaleigh Whitt
10:30 AM	Christian Wehby	Alex & Anna Marie Al Bachawati Elias Bou Akar

ST. ELIAS ORGANIZATIONS

MCF

- **Classes** – Sunday, Oct. 18th
- **Child Safety Training** – Sunday, Oct. 18th

Jr. MYO

- **Bowling** – Sunday, Oct. 18th – 12:30 PM

MYO

- **Breakfast** – Sunday, Oct. 18th
- **Friendsgiving** – Sunday, Nov. 8th

SEMA

- **Halloween Party** – Sunday, Oct. 18th

LAS

- **Monthly Meeting** – Wednesday, Nov. 4th

SAVE THE DATES

Parish Thanksgiving Luncheon: Nov. 15th
Christmas Concert: Dec. 13th
St. Maron Hafli & Grand Banquet: Feb. 6th
Ash Monday 2027: Feb. 8th
29th Annual Food Festival: Apr. 16th-17th
2027 NAM Convention: Jul. 15th-18th

CONTRIBUTIONS – Week Ending October 11, 2026
General Fund: $ 6,110
To set up your Online Giving, CLICK HERE.
A link is also available at the Saint Elias website: www.stelias.org.
You can schedule it once, and you are done.

Prayer Requests

Cathey David Abi Khaled, Nevrik Bahakel, Jeff Bishop, Agnes Boackle Carneal, Joe Ferris Deep, Sherry McFarland, Mary Milton, Leo Shaia, Hafil Showoul, Zachary Stewart, Donald Taccone, David Tanory, Elette Tanory, Sydney Warsaw, Adam Wehby, & Chorbishop Richard Saad
Call the church office or email info@stelias.org to be added to our list.

Second Collection:
World Missions

This collection directly benefits the missionary efforts of the Church throughout the world. 91% of this collection goes to the Society of the Propagation of the Faith, and 9% goes to CNEWA. You can also make a donation online through our regular giving portal.

Online Giving Link

Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

No Divine Liturgy at St. Elias

Due to a school mass on Friday this week, there will not be a Divine Liturgy at St. Elias on October 23rd.

Remain Vigilant Against Scammers

Parishioners, please beware of scammers. They are relentless in attempting to take advantage of good people's intentions. They often impersonate clergy, so know that Abouna Elias will never solicit money or gift cards from anyone via text message or email.

Be especially aware of the address or phone number being used. Abouna will only use his official email address: pastor@stelias.org. Not any other.

Who Should I Contact?

2026 PARISH COUNCIL

CLERGY

Father Elias Yazbeck
Pastor | Parish Administrator
E pastor@stelias.org

Father Paul Bolus
Associate Pastor
Contact for: MCF Classes | Altar Servers
E fatherpaul@stelias.org

PASTORAL COUNCIL OFFICERS

Andrea Boohaker Dean
President
Contact for: Campus Security
Liaison: St. Elias Maronite Adults (SEMA)
St. Elias Young Families
E boo2412@gmail.com

Gina Henley
Vice President
Contact for: Parish Events
Project Lead: Church Pictorial Directory
E ghenley@uabmc.edu

Mary Beth Lively
Secretary
Contact for: Charity Committee
E marybethlively@gmail.com

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Daniel Bassil
Contact for: Ushers | Lectors
Liaison: Maronite Men of St. Elias (MMSE)
E bassildaniel@yahoo.com

Greg Butrus
Contact for: Ushers | Lectors
Project Lead: Exterior Sound
E gbutrus@balch.com

Nick Marinelli
Contact for: Campus Maintenance & Repairs
E nicholasmarinelli@gmail.com

Samia Michael
Contact for: Parish Events
Liason: Ladies Altar Society
E samiamichael@me.com

Kimberly E. Stephens
Contact for: Repairs & Maintenance | Marketing & Comms
Project Lead: Master Parish Calendar
Liaison: Finance Committee
E kimberlye.stephens@gmail.com

Christian Wehby
Contact for: Jr. MYO | MYO | MYA | Lectors
Liaison: Festival
E jcwehby@gmail.com

Questions or ideas? Contact the Pastoral Council President or Church Office.
info@stelias.org | www.stelias.org

Click on Calendar to Enlarge

OCTOBER 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 St. Theresa of the Child Jesus	2 Sts. Cyprian & Justina	3 St. Dionysius, the Areopagite St. Mother Théodore Guérin
MCF Classes - 9:20 AM St. Theresa Novena 11:30 AM SEMA - Good People Brewery - 5 PM	6 PM Divine Liturgy St. Theresa Novena following Liturgy	6 PM Divine Liturgy St. Theresa Novena following Liturgy	6 PM Divine Liturgy St. Theresa Novena following Liturgy	Annual Diaconate Retreat 6 PM Divine Liturgy St. Theresa Novena following Liturgy	10 AM Divine Liturgy First Friday Adoration 10 AM-4 PM	
4 St. Francis of Assisi Annual Diaconate Retreat	5 St. Paul, the Simple Bl. Francis Xavier Seelos 10 AM Divine Liturgy	6 St. Thomas, the Apostle 10 AM Divine Liturgy	7 Sts. Sarkis & Bacchus 10 AM Divine Liturgy Ladies Altar Society Monthly Meeting following the 10 AM Liturgy	8 St. Pelagia of Antioch 10 AM Divine Liturgy	9 St. James, Brother of the Lord Our Lady of Lebanon - MYA National Conference 10 AM Divine Liturgy Community Food Bank Volunteering 1-3 PM	10 St. Eulampius, St. Eulampia, and Their Companions
11 St. Philip, the Deacon Pope St. John XXIII Order of St. Sharbel Sunday MYA National Conference MCF Classes - 9:20 AM	12 St. Edno 10 AM Divine Liturgy	13 Sts. Carpus & Papylus, and Their Companions 10 AM Divine Liturgy	14 St. Isaiah, the Monk Liturgy at Prince of Peace 8:30 AM No 10:00 AM Liturgy at St. Elias	15 St. Teresa of Avila Liturgy at Our Lady of Sorrows - 8:30 AM No 10:00 AM Liturgy at St. Elias	16 St. Longinus, the Centurion 10 AM Divine Liturgy	17 Sts. Cosmas & Damian 2nd Collection World Mission Sunday
18 St. Luke, the Evangelist 2nd Collection World Mission Sunday MCF Classes - 9:20 AM Child Protection Class LAS - Alzheimer's Walk at Sloss Jr. MYO - Bowling - 12:30 PM SEMA - Halloween Party 6 PM	19 St. Aaron of Antioch and Sts. John de Brébeuf & Isaac 10 AM Divine Liturgy	20 St. Shallita 10 AM Divine Liturgy	21 St. Helarion of Tabatha 10 AM Divine Liturgy	22 Pope St. John Paul II 10 AM Divine Liturgy	23 St. Ignatius, Patriarch of Constantinople Liturgy at St. Rose Academy 9:30 AM No 10:00 AM Liturgy at St. Elias	24 St. Arethas & His Companions
25 St. Chrysanthus and His Wife, MCF Classes - 9:20 AM MYO - Child Protection Class	26 St. Demetrius 10 AM Divine Liturgy	27 Sts. Capitolina & Eroteis of Cappadocia 10 AM Divine Liturgy	28 St. Terence and His Companions 10 AM Divine Liturgy	29 St. Anastasia of Rome 10 AM Divine Liturgy	30 St. Macarius, Bishop of Jerusalem 10 AM Divine Liturgy	31 St. Epimachus MYA Trunk or Treat 2:00-4:00 PM

Mass Schedule
Saturday Vigil - 5:00 PM
Sunday - 8:00 AM
Sunday - 10:30 AM
Monday through Friday - 10:00 AM

READINGS	OLD TESTAMENT	NEW TESTAMENT	GOSPEL
4-Oct	Dan 7: 9-14	Phil 3:17 - 4:1	Mt 24: 23-31
11-Oct	Gen 41: 38-44	1 Thes 5: 1-11	Mt 24: 45-51
18-Oct	Song 5: 2-8	Phil 2: 12-18	Mt 25: 1-13
25-Oct	Job 29: 1-3, 12-16	Rom 12: 9-21	Mt 25: 31-46

Charity Committee

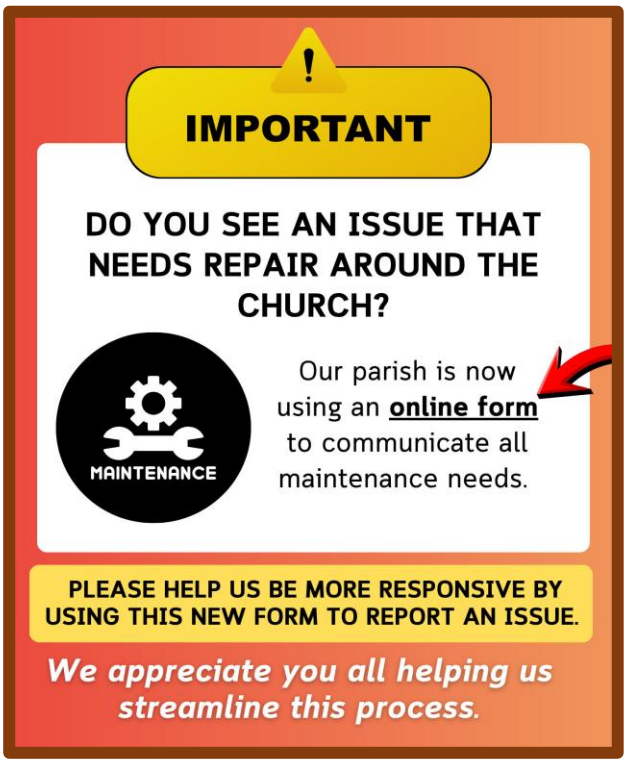
Volunteer with the charity committee at the Community Food Bank of Central Alabama every 2nd Friday of the month, now at their new location:

4336 Turin Drive
Bessemer, AL

Please use the link below to sign up for their next volunteer session.

- **Sign-Up Link**
- The next date will be November 13th, 2026
- Contact Diane Wehby if you wish to participate:
  - **Phone:** (205)-216-2234
  - **E-mail:** diane.wehby@gmail.com

The day begins with the Divine Liturgy at 10:00 AM, followed by a group lunch. Then they volunteer from 1:00-3:00 PM.



Important Notice to Parents About Safe Environment Training

On Sunday, October 18th, all children in our MCF classes will participate in the Safe Environment Program during their regular class time; the topic this year is Internet Safety. High School grades will participate on Sunday, October 25th. This is annually required by the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon for our children; parents are welcome to join the classes. If you would like your child(ren) to opt out of the program, there is a form from the Eparchy to fill out. If you need additional information, or would like to preview the materials we will use, or to have your child(ren) opt out, please contact Father Paul by email:

fatherpaul@stelias.org

WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

2026 Walk Team

St. Elias Ladies' Altar Society

Sunday, Oct. 18 @ Sloss Furnaces

1 PM: Doors Open
3 PM: Walk Ceremony
3:15 PM: Walk begins

**The Walk is open to all ages; registration is free and required*

CLICK HERE!

We walk in memory of the parishioners we have lost, in honor of their families and caregivers, and in support of all those living with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia.

Together, as a parish family, we remember, pray, support, and bring hope to all those touched by Alzheimer's and dementia.

Please contact Team Captain, Beverly Kimes, to contribute by check or have questions

IF YOU NEED HELP OR SUPPORT, PLEASE VISIT THE ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION'S WEBSITE, WWW.ALZ.ORG, OR USE THEIR FREE 24/7 HELPLINE AT (800) 272-3900.

SEMA

Saint Elias Maronite Adults

October Gathering

Sunday, October 18th
at 6:00 PM

BYOB & a dish to share
Halloween costumes are optional

Church Hall

RSVP Link

Altar Flowers

This week's altar flowers were purchased in honor of Sophia Saab & Marcus Woodard on the occasion of their Nuptial Crowning on Saturday, Oct. 17th, 2026.

Saint Spotlight:

St. Luke, the Evangelist

Not an Apostle, but instead one who worked closely with them, St. Luke is well known as the author of the Gospel that bears his name but is less known as the author of the Acts of the Apostles. Unlike the other two synoptic Gospel writers, St. Luke sought out first-hand testimony from the witnesses of Jesus' ministry, most notably the Virgin Mary. The most detailed account of the birth of Christ is found in his Gospel, including the singular accounts of the Annunciation, the Visitation, and the Finding in the Temple. It is in his Gospel alone that we find all three Gospel canticles. His feast day is Oct. 18th. St. Luke, pray for us.

THE SAINT ELIAS LADIES' ALTAR SOCIETY

presents

Thank You

Annual BINGO LUNCHEON

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE ORPHANAGES IN LEBANON

Dear Parishioners,

Here are the results from our recent Bingo Luncheon:

- **Total Income: $22,455**
- **Total Expenses: ($5,395)**
- **Net Income: $17,060**

As always, 100% of the proceeds from this annual fundraiser support orphanages in Lebanon. The Ladies will be sending $10,000 to the Franciscan Sisters of the Holy Cross and the Child Nursery Association in Zahle, Lebanon.

Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to prepare and run this special event for a cause so dear to our parish. The children are deeply grateful for your support.

Sincerely,
Sonia Garnem, President

2026 BINGO LUNCHEON

LUNCHES: *(630 PLATES)*	$12,600
SWEET BOOTH:	$1,987.61
RAFFLES	
• TEACUP:	$1,916
• LEBANESE MEAL: *(BY SAMIA)*	$2,250
• MONEY TREE:	$1,075
EXTRA Bingo Cards:	$277
PUNCH OUTS:	$238
DONATIONS:	$1,972
TOTAL INCOME:	$22,316.61
TOTAL EXPENSES:	($5,318.61)
TOTAL NET INCOME:	**$16,996.95**

ST. ELIAS MARONITE CHURCH

TAILGATE EVENT

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH
AFTER 10:30 AM MASS

ST. ELIAS
BACK CHURCH PARKING LOT

— HOSTED BY —
THE MEN'S GROUP

THE MEN'S GROUP WILL PROVIDE BURGERS & HOTDOGS

BYOT
BRING YOUR OWN TENT
The Men's Group will set up your tent with a table and chairs.

BYOB
BRING YOUR OWN BEVERAGE

PLEASE BRING A SIDE DISH OR DESSERT TO SHARE

RSVP & SIGN UP
FOR A SIDE DISH OR DESSERT TO SHARE

Click here to access the RSVP form

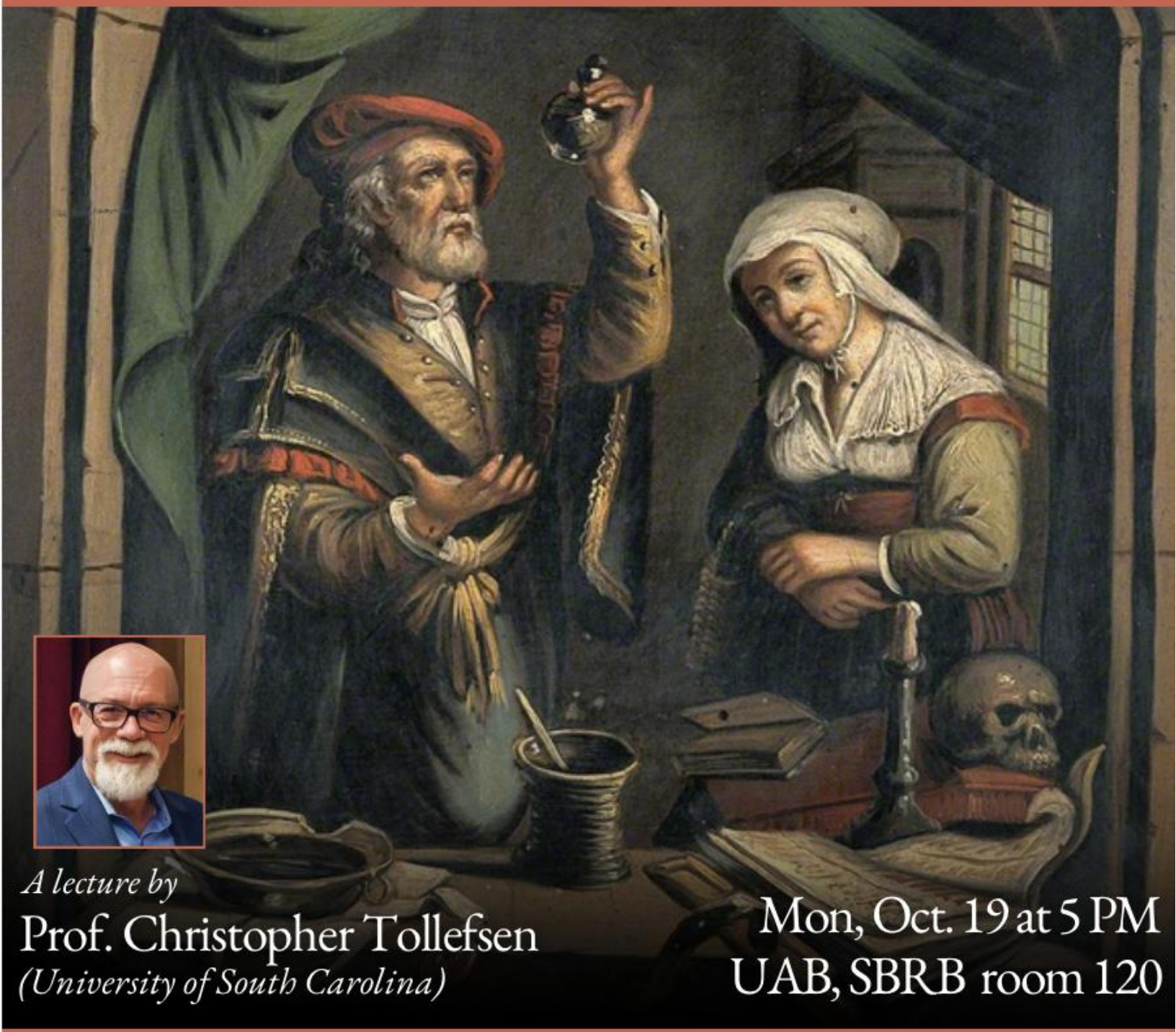
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdIER_O4eYYIsUptrGHAGC5rx/0SVvm_Xvr8eM_13elgjuX1Vw/viewform?usp=publish-editor

Good Food • Fellowship • Faith

The Thomistic Institute at the University of Alabama at Birmingham Presents:

What is Medicine For?

A Framework for Medical Ethics



A lecture by

Prof. Christopher Tollefsen

(University of South Carolina)

Mon, Oct. 19 at 5 PM

UAB, SBRB room 120

THOMISTIC INSTITUTE

This lecture is free and open to the public. Scan the QR code to get reminders from the Thomistic Institute for lectures at UAB, plus the latest TI news!

EPARCHY OF OUR LADY OF
LEBANON OF LOS ANGELES

Order of ST. SHARBEL

Join us to help build the future of the Maronite Church by supporting the education of our seminarians and showing our appreciation by providing proper care for our retired priests.

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www.orderstsharbel.org

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For more information about the Order, please contact your Parish Priest or the Order of Saint Sharbel Office at info@orderstsharbel.org or call the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles at **(314) 436-9200.**

If you are interested in becoming a Priest or Religious Sister, contact Vocations Director, Fr Christopher Nahra at **586-630-0002 (Ext. 102)** or Email: **vocations@eparchy.org.**

EPARCHY OF ST. MARON OF BROOKLYN

Come *and see!*

If you are interested and called to become a priest **join us at the MARONITE SEMINARY**

NOVEMBER 6, 7 & 8, 2026

CONTACT:

maroniteseminary@comcast.net

7164 Alaska Ave. NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20012

REGISTER HERE

Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles

Pilgrimage to Lebanon at the Occasion of the Ordination of Archbishop-Elect sharbel Maroun with Bishop A. Elias Zaidan

8 Days - 7 Nights

January 2 to 10, 2027

Package includes:

- Stay at 4 Star Hotels
- All Meals and Tips
- Visits to important sites
- English Speaking Guide
- Ordination Attendance
- All transportation (to/from from airport, hotel, & sites)
- Entrance Fees

$1,500

FOR DOUBLE OCCUPANCY PER PERSON

$1,900

FOR SINGLE OCCUPANCY PER PERSON

Flights to/from the United States to Lebanon Round Trip need to be booked separately.

REQUIREMENTS

- $1,000 Deposit Required Per Person or registration/space cannot be guaranteed
- Departure from the U.S. on January 2, 2027 to arrive in Lebanon by January 3, 2027
- **Full Pilgrimage amount due by November 30, 2026**

TO RESERVE

Call: Ivette Jackson: 323-336-3168
Jamileh Koury: 818-294-2901
Email: info@eparchy.org

PAID ADVERTISEMENTS

Interested in having your ad in the bulletin?

Contact Frederick Pollman For more information

info@stelias.org

SEMA
St. Elias Maronite Adults

A social and spiritual group for adults 35 and older who are seeking to build lifelong friendships founded in faith, service, and family.

Sign-Up Link

For questions contact:
Jackie Semaan
(205) 369-3448

To donate flowers for the altar, contact LaVonne Williamson 205-936-9569

MMSE

(Maronite Men of St. Elias)
Men of Prayer and Action For St. Elias and the Community

Contact: Harrison Adams
harrison.adamsiii@gmail.com

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Birmingham, AL 35222
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Central Air Solutions LLC
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Parishioner Adam Crumpton
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St. Elias Choir

Bringing the prayer of our sacred liturgy to birth in song

For more information contact:

Michael Harrison

Father Paul Bolus

CHIRO WELLNESS CENTER
205-358-3622

Dr. Kennedy & Cecilia Bostany

- $85 Consult
- Check Spine Alignment
- Body Balance Function
- Nutritional Evaluation
- Healthy Longevity