

EPARCHY OF SAINT MARON OF BROOKLYN  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Inaugural Benefit Dinner  
for the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn a Terrific Success**

*Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan was main speaker  
at event hosted by Bishop Gregory John Mansour.*

**Manhattan, NY, November 15, 2010** – Over \$200,000 was raised for the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn at its Inaugural Benefit Dinner on November 10 hosted by Maronite Bishop Gregory John Mansour and featuring Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan of New York. Held at the Archdiocese of New York's Cathedral High School, over 175 people attended the dinner from as far away as Georgia, Virginia, Maine and Massachusetts, in addition to Manhattan and the greater New York area.

Attendees viewed a short film during dinner and listened to a moving talk by Archbishop Dolan. Edward M. Shiner, former Executive Director of the National Association of Maronites, was Master of Ceremonies. The opening prayer was given by Chorbishop Michael Thomas, Vicar General and Chancellor of the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn, and the closing prayer was offered by Very Reverend James Root, Rector of Our Lady of Lebanon Cathedral in Brooklyn.

Among the distinguished guests in attendance were Antoine Chedid, Ambassador of Lebanon to the United States; Antoine Azzam, Consul General of Lebanon in New York; Caroline Ziade, Deputy Permanent Representative in the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United States; Ibrahim Assaf, Counsellor in the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United States; and State Senator Marty Golden. Clergy in attendance included, in addition to those named above, Father Geoffrey Abdallah and Father Jean Younes of the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn, Sister Liliane Alam, FMM, and Brother James Simon, C.O..

John F. Kurey, Stewardship Director for the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn, said that the Eparchy is already looking forward to next year's Benefit Dinner, and that "This is the beginning of a great tradition for the Eparchy. So many people who came to the Benefit Dinner said they had a wonderful time."


Bishop Gregory expressed his gratitude to Archbishop Dolan and everyone who attended the dinner or made a contribution.

Proceeds from the Benefit Dinner will be applied to the needs of the Eparchy, including: support for seminarians; help for retired priests; assistance for Maronite missions; renovations to the Cathedral in Brooklyn; and creation of a Maronite Chapel at the National Shrine in Washington, DC.

Donations in connection with the Inaugural Benefit Dinner are being accepted until December 17. Checks may be made payable to “Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn” and sent to 109 Remsen Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201.

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The Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn consists of 40 parishes and missions located in 16 states along the East Coast, as well as a seminary in Washington, DC, a monastery for contemplative monks and a convent for religious sisters.



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[PHOTOS: 1. Bishop Gregory John Mansour addresses the audience at the Eparchy of Saint Maron’s Inaugural Benefit Dinner and Celebration on November 10. 2. Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan and Bishop Gregory John Mansour greet guests at the Eparchy of Saint Maron’s Inaugural Benefit Dinner and Celebration on November 10.]



Bishop Gregory John Mansour addresses the audience at the Eparchy of Saint Maron's Inaugural Benefit Dinner and Celebration on November 10.



Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan and Bishop Gregory John Mansour greet guests at the Eparchy of Saint Maron's Inaugural Benefit Dinner and Celebration on November 10