

***Silver Jubilee Anniversary  
Honoring  
Reverend Edward T. Nedder  
St. George Maronite Catholic Church  
Lincoln, RI***

*by Joseph P. Checrallah, Jr.*

On Sunday June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012, his Excellency Bishop Gregory J. Mansour, joined with over 500 friends, family, and parishioners of St. George's Maronite Catholic Church of Lincoln, RI, and celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving, commemorating the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the ordination, and the Gift of his Priesthood of Reverend Edward T. Nedder, Pastor of St. George.

Joining His Excellency Bishop Gregory at Mass was Chorbishop Joseph Lahoud, Fr. Edward Pieroni, Fr. Paul Mouawad, and Deacons Enzo DiGiacomo and Norman Hannoush.

The Mass was followed by a celebration at the Venus DeMilo in Swansea, MA, officiated by The Honorable Anthony J. Solomon, Master of Ceremonies. The Invocation was given by Chorbishop Joseph K. Kaddo. The American National Anthem was sung by Georgeann Thomas, and the Lebanese National Anthem was sung by Giselle Zaarour. Remarks were made by His Excellency Bishop Gregory, Fr. Edward Pieroni, Pastor of St. Raymond's Church in Providence, RI, and Fr. Ed's nephew George Nedder, who told many wonderful stories of his beloved uncle, and how much of an incredible influence he has always been throughout his life.



*(L to R) Dcn. Enzo DiGiacomo, Rev. Edward Pieroni, Rev. Edward T. Nedder, Bishop Gregory J. Mansour, Chorbishop Joseph Lahoud, Rev. Paul F. Mouawad, Dcn Norman Hannoush*



*Rev. Edward T. Nedder*

Fr. Ed's journey to the Priesthood began in 1963 when he attended Queen of Apostles Seminary in Dedham, MA. He graduated from Catholic University with a Bachelor's Degree in 1967, and a Master's Degree in 1968. He had attained 15 credits toward a Doctorate when he chose to take a leave of absence to care for his ailing father. While caring for his father, Fr. Ed taught at Matignon High School in Cambridge, MA, and became Chairman of the Latin Department, while holding a second job at Sears & Roebuck for 14 years. He was recently honored with the Cardinal Cushing Medal for his service and dedication to Matignon. He also served as an Auxiliary Police Officer in Dedham, MA for three years.

Fr. Ed was ordained a Deacon on May 14, 1983 and served at St. Anne Church in Readville, MA and Our Lady of Cedars of Lebanon Church, Jamaica Plain, MA. In 1986, Fr. Ed returned to Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Seminary, and was ordained to the Priesthood by the late Archbishop Francis M. Zayek at Our Lady of the Cedars of Lebanon Church on June 20<sup>th</sup>, 1987. He celebrated his first liturgy on Father's Day, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 1987 which he dedicated to the memory of his father.

Fr. Ed was honored in 1989 as a Fourth Degree Knight, and granted the title Knight of the Holy Sepulcher in 1998, and has served on the Presbyteral Council of Priests for five years, a group chosen by the Bishop to assist in the governance of the Diocese.

From 1987 to 1992, Fr. Ed was given his first assignment as Pastor of Our Lady of Purgatory Church in New Bedford, MA, and then as Pastor of St. Anthony Church, Springfield, MA from 1992 to 2006, where he oversaw a major renovation, and coordinated their 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. In July of 2006, Bishop Gregory assigned Fr. Ed as Pastor of St. George Maronite Catholic Church in Lincoln, RI, where he oversaw its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, and has been

assigned the formidable task of establishing a new permanent home for the parishioners.

As a token of appreciation, Fred Simon presented to Fr. Ed, a beautiful ivory hand woven, gold inlaid vestment from Lebanon. The event concluded with a benediction given by Reverend Paul F. Mouawad, past Pastor of St. George. The evening was a memorable event, a fine tribute honoring a much-admired, beloved and respected individual, truly a selfless Man of God, who continues to share the Gift of his Priesthood with his beloved family of parishioners at St. George.