



Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Bishop Robert J. Shaheen died in St. Louis, MO on August 9. He was 80 years old. Robert Joseph Shaheen (born June 3, 1937) is an American clergyman of the Maronite Catholic Church. He was the second Bishop of the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles and former pastor of St. Raymond Maronite Church in St. Louis, MO.

Visitation for Bishop Shaheen will be at St. Raymond Maronite Cathedral, 931 Lebanon Dr., St. Louis, MO 63104, on Wednesday, August 16 from 12 noon until the celebration of the Divine Liturgy at 7:00 p.m.

Bishop Shaheen will be buried from St. Anthony Maronite Church in Danbury, Connecticut (17 Granville Avenue, Danbury, CT 06810) on Monday, August 21 at 10:00 a.m. Visitation will be at the St. Anthony Church from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 20.

Bishop Shaheen who recently celebrated his 80th birthday, was a native of Danbury, CT. He was the first Maronite priest to be ordained in the United States in 1964 and was assigned as pastor of St. Raymond's in 1967. On December 5, 2000 Pope Saint John Paul II named Bishop Shaheen the second Bishop of the Eparchy. He retired in 2013.

Largely credited with leading the renewal of the LaSalle Park neighborhood south of downtown St. Louis, Bishop Shaheen led the parish through a large capital program including the construction of a new church, rectory, hall and Eparchial center over the years of his pastoral ministry.

“We pray for the repose of his soul, and give thanks to God for all of the lives that Bishop Shaheen has touched in his extraordinary life” said Bishop A. Elias Zaidan, current bishop and successor to Bishop Shaheen.

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