



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

After consulting with the Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH), we are pleased to announce that the St. Elias Lebanese Food and Cultural Festival will move forward this year as a **DRIVE THROUGH/TAKEOUT ONLY*** festival with COVID-19 safety measures in place. We want to thank the Birmingham community for your patience and support during this stressful time and look forward to hosting you soon. Please see below for the details:

NEW FESTIVAL HOURS: 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM, Friday and Saturday, August 7 – 8, 2020.

LOCATION: St. Elias Maronite Catholic Church, which is located in Birmingham, Alabama (35205) at 836 8th Street, South, between University Blvd. and 10th Avenue South.

NEW DRIVE THROUGH OPTION: There will be a drive through option in the main church parking lot for those wishing to place and pick up orders without leaving their car. You will see signs directing traffic.

TAKEOUT: There will be an option available for walk up/ takeout orders located on the south side of the church where it has been in previous festivals. COVID-19 safety measures will be enforced for the safety of all. There will be one way in and one way out with signs and safety tape as a guide.

FOOD/MERCHANDISE MENU: We will offer a limited menu that will include three plate options consisting of kibbee, spinach pies, meat pies, beans, rice, and pita bread. A dessert sampler will also be offered with an assortment of sweets available for purchase.

- #1 – Deluxe plate (3 pieces of kibbee, spinach pie, beans, rice, bread) - \$16
- #2 – Meat Pie plate (2 meat pies, beans, rice, bread) - \$14
- #3 – Vegetarian plate (2 spinach pies, beans, rice, bread) - \$12
- Dessert Sampler - \$25
- Souvenir cup (empty) - \$2
- Shirts - \$10
- Hats - \$10
- Cookbook - \$25

Payment:

ONLY CREDIT/DEBIT CARDS will be accepted for payment.

ONLINE SILENT AUCTION: Our silent auction this year will be offered online and will feature a variety of interesting items. The Silent Auction will close online Saturday, August 8th at 7PM. Please go to www.stelias.org for more information.

VIRTUAL EVENTS: There will be a multitude of other virtual events for you and the family to enjoy during the two days of the festival, from virtual tours of the Church to other fun activities. Be sure to follow us on Facebook or Instagram using @steliasfestival to join in the celebrations!

*These are the best practices that we have developed based on the current guidance of the CDC and our local health department and will be updated if any changes are made leading up to the festival dates of August 7-8th, 2020.

This year's festival is in celebration of Father Richard Saads' 48 years of priestly ministry to St. Elias Church.

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