

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church
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Msgr. George M. Sebaali, Pastor
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January 12, 2020, First Sunday of Epiphany

Sunday, January 12, 2020 at 11:00 o'clock
Toufic and Zahida Fahed

Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 19, 2020 at 11:00 o'clock
Joseph Abi-Fadel (one year anniversary)

Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 26, 2020 at 11:00 o'clock

Tuesday, January 28, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, February 2, 2020 at 11:00 o'clock

Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

Scripture Readings

Sunday January 19, 2020, Second Sunday of Epiphany
2 Corinthians 4:5-15; John 1:35-42

Let us Pray the Rosary

Please join fellow parishioners as we pray the Holy Rosary every **Sunday at 10:15 a.m.** in preparation for the Divine Liturgy and in honor of our Blessed Mother, Mary.

Ushers

Sunday, January 19, 2020
Gebran Fattouch, Elie Malkoun, Rafah Elias and Halim Younes

Meeting

Saturday, January 18, 2020, the Pastoral Council and the Finance Committee will have their monthly meeting at 10 o'clock in the office. We will be preparing liturgical, financial and social activities for the upcoming year. The meeting was scheduled for Saturday, January 11, 2020, however, I had to leave town to do a funeral.

Pastoral Visit

On Sunday, January 26, 2020, His Excellency Bishop Gregory Mansour will make a pastoral visit to our parish. He will celebrate the Divine Liturgy and a gathering with the MYA and MYO at the Seminary Library.

Second Collection

On Sunday, January 26, 2020, a second collection will be taken for the Catholic Bishops' Worldwide Charities (this collection combines the four USCCB collections: Central & Eastern Europe, the Church in Latin America, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and Operation Rice Bowl which is a part of CRS). The total is divided evenly. All funds collected will be forwarded to the Chancery for transfer to the USCCB.

Please Join US

On Sunday, January 19, 2020 at 12:30 p.m., Chorbishop Seely Beggiani will present a lecture on Syriac Spirituality (Part 4) at the Seminary's Library. This is meant as a faith formation for young people and adults. All are welcome and are urged to attend.

Thank you for your generosity

Summary of the Collection for **Sunday, January 5, 2020**
Regular Sunday Collection \$918

Pledges \$ 900
Donations by mail: \$ 125
Maintenance collection: \$ 185

FYI

Why do we hand on the faith?

We hand on the faith because Jesus commands us: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations" (Mt 28:19).

No genuine Christian leaves the transmission of the faith exclusively to specialists (teachers, pastors, missionaries). We are Christ for others. This means that every genuine Christian would like God to come to other people, too. He says to himself, "The Lord needs me! I have been baptized and confirmed and am responsible for helping the people around me to learn about God and to come to the knowledge of the truth" (1 Tim 2:4b)." Mother Teresa used a good comparison: "Often you can see power lines running alongside the street. Unless current is flowing through them, there is no light. The power line is you and I! The current is God! We have the power to allow the current to flow through us and thus to generate the light of the world: JESUS - or to refuse to be used and, thus, allow the darkness to spread" (YOUCAT question 11).

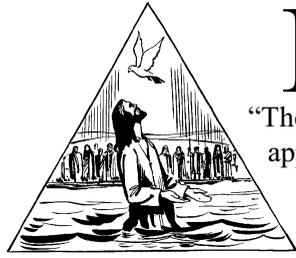
What does "Lead us not into temptation" mean?

We ask God our Father not to leave us alone and in the power of temptation. We ask the Holy Spirit to help us know how to discern, on the one hand, between a trial that makes us grow in goodness and a temptation that leads to sin and death and, on the other hand, between being tempted and consenting to temptation. This petition unites us to Jesus who overcame temptation by his prayer. It requests the grace of vigilance and of final perseverance. (Further reading: Catechism of the Catholic Church 2846-2849, 2863).

Why do we conclude by asking "But deliver us from evil"?

"Evil" indicates the person of Satan who opposed God and is "the deceiver of the whole world" (Revelation 12:9). Victory over the devil has already been won by Christ. We pray, however, that the human family be freed from Satan and his works. We also ask for the precious gift of peace and the grace of perseverance as we wait for the coming of Christ who will free us definitively from the Evil One. (For further reading: CCC 2850-2854, 2864).

Epiphany of the Lord



In the Eastern Church the feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ is known by two names : Epiphany and Theophany. The Greek word, “Epiphany” means “ a manifestation” or “ an apparition” and the word, “Theophany”, means “ an appearance of God.” On this day we celebrate the appearance or manifestation of Christ among us as God’s Son.

The feast of Epiphany was first celebrated in the East around the third century and eventually was adopted by the Western Church. In the Eastern Churches the celebration of the Epiphany originally centered on both the Birth of our Lord and his Baptism. When the later Western feast of Christmas was introduced into the East, Christmas became the feast of the Birth of our Lord and the Epiphany, that of his Baptism.

The feast of Epiphany is intimately connected with the mystery of our Lord’s birth. The Child who was born for us and the Son who was given to us is manifested before us to be the Son of the Most High. Christ begins his public life with his baptism by John in the Jordan river. At his Baptism Christ is seen as the fulfillment of John’s preaching: He is the Messiah and the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, The Father and the Holy Spirit are witnesses to Christ for he is the beloved Son of the Father and upon him the Spirit rest. Thus at the baptism of the Lord we have not only an epiphany or manifestation of Christ as God’s Son, but also a Theophany or manifestation of the Holy Trinity -Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The feast of the Epiphany reminds us not only of the baptism of Christ, but also of our own baptism. St. Ephrem in his hymn on Epiphany says :” ... *our blessed Lord came to be baptized with sinners and because of his glory the heavens were opened. The One who purifies all creatures, desiring to cleanse them, went into the waters and sanctified them for our baptism.*” It is for this reason that we bless water on the day. Originally, the mystery of Baptism was celebrated on this feast and the waters blessed were those of baptism.

Today, we celebrate the manifestation or epiphany of the Trinity at the baptism of Christ as well as the manifestation of the glory of God in the person of the Lord come into the world, that is to say, the manifestation of Christ, the Word of God, among us. Let us then call to mind the grace of God who has appeared for the salvation of all, and thank him for the baptism through which we have been begotten in the Spirit and through which we have put on Christ and become children of the Father.

March for Life 2020

on Friday January 24th



Schedule:

Thursday, January 23

5:30 - 7:30 PM - Pro-Life Vigil Liturgy at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, 400 Michigan Ave NE, Washington, DC
8:00 PM - Meet after the Liturgy with Bishop Gregory Mansour in the Maronite Chapel down stairs in the Crypt of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

Friday, January 24

11:00 AM - We will meet at the Starbucks on the corner of Indiana Avenue and Seventh Street to join for the March for life.
5:00 PM - Pro Life Gathering and Dinner with Bishop Gregory at the Maronite Seminary Library, 7164 Alaska Ave NW Washington DC.

Saturday, January 25

Open day to tour the Monuments or great museums such as the Bible, Holocaust, Native American, Art etc.

Sunday January 26

11:00 AM - Maronite Liturgy at Our Lady of Lebanon Church, Washington DC
Following the Liturgy there will be MYO/MYA Pro-life gathering with Bishop Gregory at the Maronite Seminary Library.

For more information or to access a copy of the flyer visit:

maroniteyoungadults.org

familyandsanctityoflife.org/events

Sponsored by: National Maronite Young Adults as well as the Family and Sanctity of Life Office