

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church
7142 Alaska Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20012
Phone (202) 291- 5153
Msgr. George M. Sebaali, Pastor
Pastor's Email: Gmsebaali@aol.com
Pastor's cell number: (804) 240-9820

Announcement to Zachariah Sunday, November 17, 2019

Sunday, November 17, 2019 at 11:00 o'clock

Dr. Robert Nabil Franjie

Tuesday, November 19, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, November 24, 2019 at 11:00 o'clock

Younes Halim Younes (40 day anniversary)

Tuesday, November 26, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 1, 2019 at 11:00 o'clock

Anwar Nassar and Joseph Hareb

Tuesday, December 3, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 8, 2019 at 11:00 o'clock

Tuesday, December 10, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 15, 2019 at 11:00 o'clock

Wadih Massoud Maalouf (6th anniversary) and Shafik Maalouf (19th anniversary)

Scripture Readings

Sunday November 24, 2019 (Announcement to Mary)

Gal 3: 15-22; Luke 1:26 -38

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, November 24, 2019

Halim Younes, Mark Malkoun, Billy Haddad and Joseph Nasr

Thank you For Your Generosity

Summary of the Collection for **November 10, 2019**

Collection: \$ 1546

Donation by mail: \$ 515

Tuesday Event: \$ 115

Patriarchal Charities: \$ 561

Parish Meeting

On Sunday, November 24, 2019, following the Divine Liturgy, Msgr. George M Sebaali, Pastor, would like to invite you to a general parish meeting. The meeting will explore the spiritual life of the parish, religious education, outreach, etc. Mr. Tom Karam will also give a presentation about the parish's financial position and financial needs and vision of the parish. Please make every effort to attend. I hope to see you then.

FYI

Sunday School

Due to Thanksgiving holiday there will be no **Sunday School on Sunday, December 1, 2019**. Sunday School will resume again on Sunday, December 8, 2019.

Attention First Communion Parents

On Saturday, December 7, 2019 at 10:00 a.m., the First Communion children will celebrate their First Confession. First Confession is required before a child can have his or her First Communion in May.

Please Join US

On Sunday, December 15, 2019 at 12:30 p.m., Chorbishop Seely Beggiani will present a lecture on **Syriac Spirituality (Part 3)** 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.

Save the Date

2020 New Year's Eve Celebration, Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church invites you to celebrate New Year's Eve on Tuesday, December 31, 2019 at Sheraton Tysons Hotel, 8661 Leesburg Pike, Tysons, VA. For more information, please contact Gebran Fattouch at (443) 600-8494.



**ORDER
YOUR
POINSETTIAS**

Christmas Poinsettias

If you would like to contribute toward flowers for the Church at Christmas, please let me know on or before **December 15, 2019**. To avoid any confusion please **give your check and order form directly to the Pastor (Please do not bring or have poinsettias delivered)**. The check should be made payable to Our Lady of Lebanon and should be marked "**Christmas Flowers.**" Cost: **Poinsettias \$20 each**. All flower contributions will be acknowledged in the Christmas Bulletin. Flowers could be in memory of deceased loved ones, or in honor of a loved one, or even in thanksgiving for special graces. Monetary contribution is also appreciated and acknowledged.

Poinsettias Order Form:

Donor's name and last name:

Number of Poinsettias:

In memory of:

In Honor of:

In Thanksgiving:

Announcement to Zachariah

The Season of Announcements is a commemoration of those events surrounding and culminating with the incarnation of Jesus. It opens with the Announcement to Zachariah that John, the Forerunner of Jesus, was to be born.

Mention of the Archangel Gabriel, whose name means "God is strong," is found in the Old Testament. The archangel appeared to the prophet Daniel and spoke of the end of time when God will come to judge his people (Daniel 8:16-26; 8:21-27). In the New Testament, the appearance of Gabriel to Zachariah is an indication that Gabriel is completing his mission and that the final days have begun. Although more than two millenia have intervened since the birth of John the Forerunner, it must always be recalled that we are living in the "end times" - the fulfillment of all that has been promised.

Gabriel appeared to Zachariah, a descendant of Aaron, a member of the priestly caste. This appearance took place while Zachariah was fulfilling one of the priestly functions, the offering of incense at the Temple altar.

The prophecy of a birth of a son was not only good news for Israel, but also good news for the aged Zachariah and Elizabeth. For years they had been living under the curse of having no children. Gabriel now told them that Elizabeth, in her old age, was to give birth to a son. The news given to Zachariah and Elizabeth recalls the promise given to Abraham and Sarah: they too were childless, but were promised descendants.

Although he knew that nothing is impossible for God, Zachariah doubted the Message. In order to bring him to belief, Gabriel gave him a sign: Zachariah was to be mute until the birth of his son. This sign given to Zachariah is intended for all of us. John the Forerunner is the link between the Old and New Covenants. With the coming of the Savior, the Old will be silenced and the New Covenant proclaimed. Filled with the spirit, we cry out with Zachariah, "Blessed are You, O God!"

The early Fathers provide us with an interesting epilogue to this account. They taught that Zachariah was martyred because he refused to disclose John's hiding place to Herod's soldiers (Matt 23:35).

(Prayer of the Faithful, Volume 1)

