

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church
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Phone (202) 291- 5153
Msgr. George M. Sebaali, Pastor
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Seventh Sunday of the Holy Cross, October 27, 2019

Sunday, October 27, 2019 at 11:00 o'clock
Elene and Saad El-Haddad

Tuesday, October 29, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, November 3, 2019 at 11:00 o'clock
George and Theresia Abou Chabki and Moussa ELJor

Tuesday, November 5, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, November 10, 2019 at 11:00 o'clock
Fahd and Jamileh Nasr

Tuesday, November 12, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

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

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

Scripture Readings

Sunday, November 3, 2019
Heb 9:1-12; Mt 16:13-20

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 3, 2019

Fawzi Abou Chabki, Victor Beasley, Kevin Pitzer & Tony EL-Khoury

Meeting

Sunday, October 27, 2019, there will be a meeting for the Finance Committee at 12:30 p.m. in the office

Second Collection

On Sunday, November 10, 2019, a second collection will be taken for Maronite Patriarchal Charities. This collection, taken at the request of Bishop Gregory Mansour, allows us, as an Eparchy, to strengthen our Patriarch's charitable giving. It is like the "Peter's Pence" collection for our Patriarch.

Attention All Ladies of the Parish

On Saturday, November 9, 2019 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Chorbishop Seely Beggiani will conduct a mini retreat for all adult female parishioners. The theme is "Understanding Martha and Mary, and how to balance our roles in life!"

Retreat Schedule

10:00 - 10:30 a.m.	Retreat begins with a prayer in the main church.
10:45 - 11:15 a.m.	First Discussion, led by Chorbishop Beggiani
11:15 - 11:30 a.m.	Silent Meditation
11:30 - noon	2 nd Discussion, led by Chorbishop Beggiani
12:00 - 12:30 p.m.	Question and answer session

Thank you For Your Generosity

Summary of the Collection for **October 20, 2019**

Collection:	\$ 1179
Donation by mail:	\$ 315
Tuesday Event	\$ 49
Bishops' Charities	\$ 270

Are You Interested?

TeleLumiere/Noursat USA invites you to its fundraising event "Family Fun Day" on **Sunday, November 10, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.** at DAVE & BUSTERS, 9811 Washingtonian Boulevard. Suite H1 Gaithersburg, MD 20878. Lunch buffet will be served between 3 and 6 p.m. Cost is \$39 for adults; \$29 for children 6 to 12 years old; and children 5 years old and under go free. Additional donations and sponsors are welcomed. For more information or to make a reservation, please contact at 240-232-7826.

Message from Bishop Mansour

Dear Brother Priests, Deacon/Subdeacons, Consecrated Men and Women, Lay Faithful:

During this most sensitive time in Lebanon let us redouble our efforts to pray for the people of this beautiful country and to support the church's charitable work there. Copy and paste the link below in your browser to see the video message.

<https://www.facebook.com/eparchyofstmaron/videos/382982955942920>

+ Gregory

FYI

How can a Catholic best safeguard his faith? A Catholic can best safeguard his faith by making frequent acts of faith, by praying for a strong faith, by studying his religion very earnestly, by living a good life, by good reading, by refusing to associate with the enemies of the Church, and by not reading books and papers opposed to the Church and her teaching. *(I know that after my departure fierce wolves will get in among you, and will not spare the flock. And from among your own selves men will rise speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them)* (Acts 20:29-30).

What are the sins against hope? The sins against hope are presumption and despair.

When does a person sin by presumption? A person sins by presumption when he trusts that he can be saved by his own efforts without God's help, or by God's help without his own efforts. *(Nay I do not even judge my own self. For I have nothing on my conscience, yet I am not thereby justified)* (I Corinthians 4:4)

Sacramentals by Brother John M. Samaha, S.M.

Tucked in our pockets, hanging around our necks, on our walls and rearview mirrors, standing on a shelf or mantle, sacramentals remind us, inspire us, and assist us as we live our lives in the footsteps of Christ.

Sacramentals include more than rosaries, medals, statues, pictures, and crucifixes. Sacramentals are all those sacred signs, actions, articles and items that remind us of our baptismal consecration and bring us closer to the sacraments. They remind us of the action and love of God in our lives. They are conduits of God's grace.

Sacramentals are blessed items packed with meaning and symbolism and tied with a ribbon of grace. They are all the external signs the Church offers us to aid us on our journey of faith, things that assist us in our life of prayer and of charity and connect us to our loving God.

Sacramentals are not lucky charms, but tangible signs that we human beings use to navigate the road to heaven and keep us healthy in our faith. Among these aids are prayers, rituals, rosaries, medals, statues, images, Bibles, scapulars, holy water, candles, and more. These objects are made holy by a blessing, treated with reverence, and designated for a sacred purpose. They are not intended for superstitious use.

Nor are they simply souvenirs of special places and events. They are meant to help us grow in faith and in virtue.

The best tool is only a paperweight if not used properly and effectively. So also with sacramentals. They are intended to keep us aware of God's love and assistance in our lives. These signs remind us of the journey and the destination.

Sacramentals are means of evangelization. Even non-Catholics use sacramentals, for they receive blessed ashes on Ash Wednesday, they wear crucifixes and medals, they receive blessings on special occasions and use holy water, they reverence the Bible and icons.

The homes of the faithful have been enriched with favorite practices employing sacramentals. These customs vary widely and range from honoring crucifixes and holy pictures mounted on the walls, to statues positioned in special locations, to prayer and blessing rituals. A family Bible or another object of piety may be prominently displayed.

Baptism leaves a mark on our souls, and the use of holy water renews that dedication at church and at home. A holy water font in the home reminds us to bless ourselves in our comings and goings, and to bless our children as they prepare to sleep at night. Every such gesture is a step toward our eternal destiny. What practices hold sway in your home?

In times of trial and doubt as well as during times of cultural change and societal upheaval, these physical symbols and practices help us to weather those storms. Sacramentals, properly used and revered, can be the needed anchors.

In today's life of faith we are encouraged to re-experience these items. We need them to draw us closer to God and the Paschal Mystery.

