

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church
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Msgr. George M. Sebaali, Pastor
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Pastor's cell number: (804) 240-9820

February 2, 2020, Sunday of Deceased Priests

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

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

Sunday, February 9, 2020 at 11:00 o'clock
For the Parish

Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, February 16, 2020 at 11:00 o'clock
Amal Boudib (40 Day Anniversary)

Tuesday, February 18, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, February 23, 2020 at 11: 00 o'clock

Ash Monday, February 24, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 1, 2020 at 11:00 o'clock
Antoine Touma

Scripture Readings

Sunday, February 9, 2020, Sunday of the Righteous and Just

Heb 12:18-24; Mt 25-31-46

Feast of Saint Maron

2 Tim 3:10-17; Jn 12:23-30

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, February 9, 2020

Maroun Mezher, Alain Khoury, and Chris Khoury

Meetings

Sunday, February 2, 2020, following the Divine Liturgy there will be a meeting for all MYO at the Seminary's library.

Sunday, February 2, 2020, following the Divine Liturgy there will be a meeting for all Altar Servers.

Saint Maron's Feast Day Dinner

Saint Maron's Feast Day Dinner will take place **on Sunday, February 9, 2020 following the 11:00 o'clock Liturgy**. Price is \$30 per person and \$20 per child (3-12 years old). Tickets are being sold in the social hall following the Divine Liturgy. For tickets or more information, please contact Gebran Fattouch at (443) 600 -9484

Thank you for your generosity

Summary of the Collection for **Sunday, January 26, 2020**

Regular Sunday Collection	\$1538
Pledges	\$ 625
Donations by mail:	\$ 625
Tuesday:	\$ 75
Second Collection	\$ 400

Mystery of Penance (Confession)

When coming to confess your sins, kneel and make the sign of the Cross, saying: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Then recite the general formula for confession, saying: Bless me, Father, for I have sinned. It has been _____ (weeks, months, years), since my last confession and these are my sins: (State your sins, and if possible, the number of times you have committed these sins since your last confession.) Then say: For these and for all of my sins, I am truly sorry.

The priest may ask you a few questions and give you some advice. Then he will ask you to do some act of penance. He will now give you "Absolution" to forgive you for all of your sins. At this time you pray the Act of Contrition, Saying:

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended You, and I detest all my sins because of Your just punishments, but most of all because they offend You, my God, who art all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve with the help of Your grace to sin no more and to avoid the near occasion of sin. Amen.

When you are finished, leave the confessional and perform the act of penance that the priest has given you, and thank God for his mercy.

Feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple



Today [February 2], we celebrate the feast of the presentation of Jesus in the temple. The presentation of Jesus in the temple is in fulfillment with the Jewish law that every male child must be taken to the temple and an animal must be offered as a sacrifice. That is why Joseph is artistically depicted in this scene holding a cage with two doves in it.

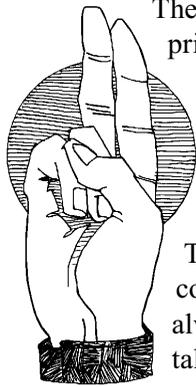
The prophet Simeon and the prophetess Anna meet the Holy Family while at the temple in Jerusalem. Simeon was told by God that he would see the Savior before he died.

When Simeon sees baby Jesus he takes him from Mary and holds Him in his arms and praises God proclaiming, "Now dismiss your servant, O Lord, because my eyes have seen your salvation" Lk 2:29.

Simeon then blesses Mary and Joseph and prophesies to Mary: "Behold this child is set for the fall, and for the resurrection of many in Israel. ..." Lk 2:34.

Today the Maronite Church begins a series of three Sundays dedicated to prayer for the dead. This first Sunday is set aside as a commemoration of all the deceased priests of the Church.

Christ has established the priesthood for His Church and entrusted it with great responsibilities. The priest is given the task of caring for the spiritual needs of the people of his parish. The bishop, however, is responsible for not only all the people of the diocese, but also for his priests and other ministers.



The more the Lord gives to the Church, the more He asks from it. The gift of the priesthood calls the people of God, the Church, to pray for those who were entrusted with the divine mysteries and carried on the salvific work of Christ. The bishops and priests are called to be the salt of the earth and the light and presence of Christ among us. All these responsibilities have been given to men who possess human weakness and frailty.

The gospel for the Eucharist today speaks of the “faithful servant” which is, of course, the role of the priests and bishops. They are to be like the wise virgins always ready to serve the Lord, and like the faithful servant, eager to multiply the talents God has given them.

Because the priests and bishops have been given so much responsibility over the Church of God, they must know, not only God’s will, but must also constantly strive to be examples of fidelity and prudent action. The Church’s ministers must always seek to be strong in virtue, persevering in willingness and humble and constant in action. If not, they may delay the Master’s coming.

Because of the dangers and temptations that assail the bishops and priests, we must pray for them. This is our Christian duty and it arises out of our gratitude for the service they have rendered God in His Church. We pray that all God’s priests and bishops may enter into the house of the Lord and reap the rewards of the faithful servant. May the Lord entrust them with even greater things!

No one is born a priest

It takes:

families who talk about vocations,

Parishes that pray, encourage and promote vocations to religious life

priests who with their compassion and life show Christ’s love

Let us pray for vocations to priesthood and religious life so that when a priest dies there will be another one to take his place.

