

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church
7142 Alaska Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20012
Phone (202) 291- 5153

Email: Ourladyoflebanonchurchdc@gmail.com

Msgr. George M. Sebaali, Pastor

Pastor's personal Email: Gmsebaali@aol.com

Pastor's cell number: (804) 240-9820

Announcement to Mary Sunday, November 22, 2020

Sunday, November 22, 2018

- Tony Douaihy (40 Day anniversary)

Sunday, December 29, 2018

- Claude Merhi

Sunday, December 6, 2018

- Father Mounir Fakhry (40 Day anniversary)

Tuesday, December 8, 2020 at 7:30 p.m

Feast of the Immaculate Conception (a Holy Day of Obligation)

Sunday, December 13, 2020

Deceased members of the Zailah and Saade families

Sunday, December 20, 2020

Fahd and Jamileh Nasr

Reconciliation (Confession is available every Sunday between 10:15 and 10:45 a.m. before the Divine Liturgy)

The **last Sunday of every month**, a Holy Hour of Adoration will take place after the 11:00 a.m. Liturgy.

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.

Are You Interested

On Sunday, December 6, 2020, following the Divine Liturgy some of the ladies in the parish will be selling pre-packaged home made sweets (*Namoura, Macroon, sofoof and Graibe*). The proceeds will benefit the parish. The event will be take out only.

Holy Day of Obligation

Tuesday, December 8, 2020, Feast of the Immaculate Conception, is a **Holy Day of Obligation**. The Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at **7:30 p.m.** A Holy Day of Obligation means that a Catholic person who has reached the age of reason is obligated to attend the Divine Liturgy under the penalty of mortal sin

FYI

Communion Calls: For hospitalized, shut-in, or suffering from a long illness, please call the priest.

Anointing: Contact the priest for the Sacrament of the Sick.

Baptism: **Contact the priest as soon as the baby is born**, Instruction classes are offered for new parents and sponsors.

Requirements for Sponsors at Baptism:

The Law requires at least **ONE** sponsor for baptism, and provides criteria for being a good sponsor.

- ★ He or she must be a **practicing Catholic**. This may be attested to by a certificate from the sponsor's proper parish pastor;
- ★ He or she must have been fully initiated into the Church (have received all three initiation Mysteries: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist).
- ★ Must be living a good, Catholic life and be free of excommunication.
- ★ Not the father, mother or spouse (of the candidate), and be at least **18 years old**. It is the practice of the Maronite Church to administer the Mystery of Confirmation at the time of Baptism.

Crowning (Marriage): Please contact the **Pastor** at least six months prior to the wedding. Our eparchy requires "any marriages requiring

dispensations or permissions from the Chancery must be received by the Chancery **3 months before the wedding** (Statue 69). Pre-marriage formation classes are required for both, bridegroom and bride. In case of a **prior marriage** no wedding date can be set until the eparchial marriage tribunal makes its final decision. Please note that in the Maronite Church, a **deacon** can neither baptize nor celebrate the mystery of marriage (he may assist but can not be the celebrant.)

Second Collection

On Sunday, December 13, 2020, a second collection will be taken to benefit the Catholic Home Missions Appeal. (This collection is used for Missions in the USA. Our Eparchy has received large grants from the USCCB from this collection for several years.) All proceeds collected will be sent to the Chancery office.

Christmas Poinsettias

If you would like to contribute toward flowers for the Church at Christmas, please let me know on or before **December 15, 2020**. To avoid any confusion please **give (or mail) 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 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 Mary

The second Sunday of the Season of the Announcement commemorates the announcement to Mary that she is to be the Mother of God. The feast actually recalls two aspects of the same salvific mystery: the incarnation of the Divine Word and the motherhood of Mary. For this reason, the feast was given different names according to the aspect which was being emphasized. With time, the incarnation of the Son of God was stressed on the feast of the Birth of our Lord and today's feast (Sunday of the Announcement to Mary) became a Marian feast.

In addition to this second Sunday of the Season of Announcement, the Maronite Church celebrates the Annunciation on March 25th. The feast of the Annunciation appeared in the West, in Italy, during the fifth century, and was eventually adopted by the Maronite Church.

This great announcement to Mary, the fulfillment of the promises of the prophets, took place in the humble home of Mary in Nazareth. At the time, Mary was probably between fourteen and sixteen. Again it was Gabriel, the messenger of the end times, who brought the wonderful message to the young girl.

In many ways, the announcement to Mary can be compared to the announcement to Zechariah. Both apparitions took place during the day and both Zechariah and Mary were to be found at prayer.

Mary, the Queen, is speaking with her Lord in her own home. It was necessary for Zechariah to go to the Temple and encounter the Lord in the holy of holies. When the angel appeared to Zechariah, he was described as "standing." During the announcement to Mary, the angel greets her with signs of respect, gives her the good news and departs. She is not described as "standing." The angel himself praises Mary, "You have found favor with God."

In the name of all humanity, Mary consented to be the instrument through which salvation was to be brought into the world. One recalls Eve, who consented to bring darkness and sin into the world. With Mary, the New Eve, salvation history is at a turning point. She is to be the "Mother of Light."
(Prayer of the Faithful, Volume 1)

*He will be great and
will be called the
Son of the Most High.*

Luke 1:32



Scripture Readings

Sunday, November 29, 2020 (Visitation to Elizabeth)

Eph 1: 1-14; Luke 1:39 -45