

**Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church**  
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**Cana Sunday (Entrance Into Great Lent) February 14, 2021**

**Sunday, February 14, 2021 at 11 o'clock**

**Monday, February 15 (Ash Monday) at 7:30 p.m.**

Divine Liturgy, Blessing and Distribution of Ashes

**Friday, February 19, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.**

Divine Liturgy and Benediction with the Holy Cross

**Sunday, February 21, 2021 at 11 o'clock**

Riyad Diab Chit Dirani (40 Day Anniversary)

**Friday, February 26, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.**

**Sunday, February 28, 2021 at 11 o'clock**

Antoine Touma

**Sunday, March 7, 2021 at 11:00 o'clock**

**Friday, March 12, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.**

Divine Liturgy and Benediction with the Holy Cross

**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.

### ***Thank you for your generosity***

Summary of the Collection for **Sunday, February 7, 2021**

Regular Sunday Collection \$ 362

Donation by Mail \$ 865

Pledges \$ 1100

Maintenance collection \$ 34

Thank you for your generosity and may God bless you all.

### ***Lenten Observances 2021***

#### ***Ash Monday***

**ASH Monday** The Liturgy for **Ash Monday [February 15]** will be at **7:30 p.m.** Blessing of Ashes will take place at the

Liturgy. Ash Monday is a day of complete fast and abstinence. Fasting in the Maronite Church involves eating and drinking nothing at all (except water and medicine) from midnight until noon. The rest of the day normal meals can be taken, but without meat. All Maronites who **are physically capable** are to fast on these two days.

#### ***Lenten Devotion***

Starting on **Friday, February 19, 2021** and every Friday of Lent, the Divine Liturgy followed by the Benediction of the Holy Cross will take **place at 7:30 p.m.**

#### ***Bishop's Annual Appeal***

The Bishop's Annual Appeal for 2019 will start on **Ash Monday, February 15, 2021**, and will last until **Easter Sunday**. Please send in your contribution, earmarked **Bishop's Appeal 2021**, before Easter Sunday. Thank you for your generosity. More information will be emailed to you all.

#### ***FYI***

The second monthly talk ( Beloved Sons & Daughters of God, Mt 19: 13-15) sponsored by the Office of Family and Sanctity of Life

for the Eparchy of Saint Maron and the Office of Family Life Ministries for the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon will take place on **Tuesday February 16, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. on zoom.** Bishop Elias A. Elias Zaidan will offer the opening prayer.

**The Zoom link information:**

<https://tinyurl.com/manfullyalive>

Meeting ID: 829 6137 3446

Passcode: fullyalive

### ***Online Donation***

Starting this weekend you may use Vanco online to financially support your church if you wish to use E-Giving. Using Vanco Online is easy. You can make one-time gifts or set up recurring donations. Just follow these simple directions:

- 1) Log on to: <https://secure.myvanco.com/YHC6>
- 2) Or visit the Parish's website: [www.Ololdc.org](http://www.Ololdc.org) and look for online donation to the right
- 3) Select your funds and amount and click the "donate" button. From there, you can choose a donation amount and frequency, then proceed to payment
- 4) Enter Payment Method (credit card, debit card, etc.) Since Vanco charges 4% processing fee, you will be asked if you want to add the fee to your donation. You can even save your payment information for future donations
- 4) Review and submit your gift by clicking "submit"
- 5) The Online Donation **does not replace** the collection basket on Sunday or the donation by mail (pledge or contribution). It is only a convenient way for those who prefer to use it.

While visiting the Parish's website you can see the parish's calendar and the weekly bulletin. Thank you for your generosity and may God bless you.

### ***Scripture Readings***

**Monday, February 15, 2021, Ash Monday**

2 Cor 5:20 - 6:7; Mt 6:16-21

**Sunday, February 21, 2021, Sunday of the Healing of the Leper**

Rom 6:14-23; Mark 1:35- 45

**Sunday, February 28, 2021, Healing of the Hemorrhaging Woman**

## *Wedding Feast of Cana*

Great Lent is a time for change, for transformation. The Maronite Church begins Great Lent with Cana Sunday, a commemoration of the transformation of water into wine at the wedding feast of Cana of Galilee. This change prepares us for the evening when He changed wine into his blood and bread into his body.

Cana is situated 750 feet above sea level. It is known as Cana of Galilee in order to distinguish it from Cana in Coclo. Saint Jerome said that he was able to see Cana from Nazareth. Cana of Galilee was the town of Nathaneil and it is to this town that Jesus will return to heal the son of the royal official.

The actual circumstances of the wedding are unknown. Perhaps Nathaniel had invited Jesus and his followers to the wedding feast in his village. Some say that the groom was related to Mary, the Mother of Jesus, or was one of the friends of Jesus. In the Middle Ages, legend held that it was the wedding feast of John the Beloved.

According to Jewish law, the wedding of a virgin was to take place on a Wednesday. The wedding was to be followed with eight days of celebration and an abundance of food and drink was essential. At this the wedding wine began to diminish.

Mary had only to mention to Jesus that something was going wrong: "They have no wine." Jesus understood that his mother was not simply making an observation, but was seeking his powerful intervention. On her part, Mary was confident that he would listen to her. She had given birth to him and had lived with him for thirty years, so she had faith in him. At first, Jesus responded with an apparent refusal. "Woman, (is a term of respect which he would also use on the cross) how does this concern of yours involve me?" The reason for his response was that his hour had not yet come, namely the hour of his death and resurrection, after which he would answer all the prayers of his mother.

Jesus came into the world for a definite purpose and task, as we all do. He did not see his life in terms of the immediate needs of any particular moment, but only in terms of his purpose and the eternal plan of the Father. All of his deeds had to correspond and lead to the ultimate purpose of his life.

Mary knew that her prayer would not be refused; she told them to do whatever he told them. Mary trusted in her son and her request was fulfilled. She told the servants as she tells all of us: do whatever my son tells you.

Jesus instructed the servants to fill the six waterpots. The number six might be significant because in the of the time, six was an imperfect number (seven was considered as perfection.) The six waterpots can represent the imperfection of the old law, which Jesus is to fill with the wine of the Gospel and his grace. The imperfection of law was transformed into the perfection of grace. These jars held 180 gallons of water, which was to be transformed into excellent wine, what was originally lacking is now to be found in superabundance.

Aside from the rich theological significance of the transformation of water into wine, let us reflect on the simplicity and "homeliness" of the act. Jesus knew that the lack of wine would be source of embarrassment to the groom and misfortune for the guests. He did not rejoice in the misfortune of others, but used his great power o save a simple man of Cana from humiliation. Let us imitate his example and be concerned with the simple needs of those around us and how we can fulfill them.

*(Maronite Prayer of the Faithful)*

