

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

Pentecost Sunday, May 23, 2021

Sunday, May 23, 2021 at 11:00 o'clock
Joseph Sandroussi (40 Day Anniversary)

Sunday, May 30, 2021 at 11:00 o'clock
Lilian Khoury (40 Day Anniversary)

Sunday, June 6, 2021 at 11:00 o'clock

Sunday, June 13, 2021 at 11:00 o'clock
Johnny Yusef Ryachi (Gibran Fattouch's brother-in-law)
Janet Nakad Tabshouri

Sunday, June 20, 2021 at 11:00 o'clock
For all fathers, both living and deceased

Sunday, June 27, 2021 at 11:00 o'clock

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, May 16, 2021**

Regular Sunday Collection \$ 2828

Memorial Contributions \$ 950

In honor of Maria Joun's birthday \$ 1750

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

Second Collections

May 23, 2021 Catholic Communications Campaign: Following the norms established by the USCCB, 50% of this collection is sent to them for national Catholic television, radio and other media, and 50% is retained by our Eparchy for the Maronite Voice and any other communication needs the Eparchy may have.

Congratulations and Best Wishes

We offer Chorbishop Seely Beggiani, Founder and first Pastor of our community, our prayerful support, congratulations and best wishes as he celebrates his **60th Anniversary of priesthood**. Chorbishop Beggiani will be the **homilist at the Liturgy this Pentecost Sunday**. May God grant him peace, good health and joy to continue his priestly ministry. Indeed, he is a blessing among us and a true embodiment of the High Priest.

Sunday School Registration

Starting next Sunday (May 30), Janine Helou will be taking registration for Sunday School (Religious Education). The Sunday School, open to all young people from pre-school to high school, will resume (we hope and pray) in-person in the middle of September. We are also in a desperate need for a few **good men and women** to teach religious education and help us pass on our Maronite Catholic faith and traditions to our younger ones. Thank you for your willingness to help us.



On the fiftieth day after Passover - in Greek, "Pentecost" - the feast of the Gathering was celebrated in Jerusalem. Jews from all the corners of the globe assembled in Pilgrimage, in memory of God's gift of the law to Moses on Mount Sinai.

The apostles, the Virgin, a few relatives of the Lord, and a few women were assembled in the upper room. Around nine o'clock in the morning, God appeared to them as he had appeared to Moses on Sinai, in the midst of a storm and with violent wind; his Spirit settle upon them in the form of tongues of fire which rested on their heads. The Spirit gave them the power to evangelize the world by means of the new assembly of God's people, the Church. As a sign that God had now firmly established his Church, the Gospel was understood by all who were present though they spoke different languages and came from all races and nations. This work of god's grace may be compared to what happened to people of babel, who spoke one common language and yet, because of their sin, were no longer able to understand each other.

At Pentecost, although the people spoke diverse languages, they understood the single language of the Apostles. This is clearly a symbol of God's call to all people to unity and mutual understanding. That is why the feast of Pentecost and the season which follows it invite us to meditate on the "One, holy, Catholic Church" which the Spirit has sanctified and which Christ founded on the apostles. Let us ask the Lord to grant us his Spirit and the gifts that come from him, so that we may be true children of God and his church, and zealous apostles willing to spread the Gospel of Christ; to Him be glory for ever. Amen (From the *Maronite Prayer of the Faithful*).

Our Lady of Lebanon

The first Sunday in May we celebrated the memorial of Our Virgin Mother under the title of “Our Lady of Lebanon.” The Maronite Church has always had a special devotion to the Virgin, as is evidenced by the great number of churches which are dedicated to her both in Lebanon and in our own country. Mary, moreover, plays a special role in the Church’s liturgy: There are numerous *hoosoyeh* dedicated to her, *goley* and hymns which extol her virtues, and constant petitions which beg her intercession. And yet, Mary is always seen in the Maronite liturgy as the Mother of the Lord, the *Theotokos*, in whose womb the Word took flesh:

Hail Mary! In your virginity, you became the mother of the mighty One who fills heaven and earth.
Hail Mary! In your virginity, you became the mother of the ancient One whose name was before the sun was created.

Hail Mary! In your virginity, you became the mother of the Creator
who formed Eve and gave her to Adam.

Blessed are you, Mary, in whose womb dwelled in holiness
the only begotten Son who is one in nature and in Splendor with the Father.

It is because of Mary’s unique position as Mother of the Lord that the Church knows that it can turn to her and seek her intercession with her Son:

O Mother of the Life, petition your divine Son
to Keep away from us all the effects of evil,
to preserve us from all animosity
and to strengthen us on our way.

As we honor the Virgin Mother of the Lord under her title of “Our Lady of Lebanon,” we pray for the land of our ancestors in the faith, for the whole Maronite Church, and for those parishes which are dedicated under her patronage. May Our Lady of Lebanon assist us by her prayers. Amen

(Maronite Prayer of the Faithful)

Scripture Readings

Sunday, May 30, 2021, Sunday of the Most Holy Trinity

Rom 11: 25- 36; Mt 28:16-20

Sunday, June 6, 2021, 3rd Sunday of Pentecost

1 Cor 2:1-10; Jn 14:21-27

Sunday, June 13, 2021, 4th Sunday of Pentecost

1 Cor 2:11-16; Lk 10:21-24

Please join us for a

Shawarma Lunch

CHICKEN/BEEF

Following the Liturgy
Sunday 06/06/2021

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Maronite Catholic Church**
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