

**Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church**  
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**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost, June 27, 2021 (Feast of Sts. Peter & Paul)**

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

Najm Abou Jaoude (40 Day Anniversary)

**Sunday, July 4, 2021 at 11:00 o'clock**

**Sunday, July 11, 2021 at 11:00 o'clock**

George Khoury

**Sunday, July 18, 2021 at 11:00 o'clock (Feast of St. Sharbel)**

Members of Our Lady of Lebanon both Living and deceased

**Sunday, July 25, 2021 at 11:00 o'clock**

**Sunday, August 1, 2021 at 11:00 o'clock**

**Sunday, August 8, 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.

***Ushers for July 4, 2021***

**Halim Younes, Gebran Fatouche, Antoine Issa and Joseph Nasr**

***Ushers for Sunday, July 11, 2021***

**Fawzi Abouchabke, Maroun Mezher, Tony ElKhouri & Mark Malkoun**

***Ushers for Sunday, July 18, 2021***

**Halim Younes, Victor Beasley, Rafah Elias and Gebran Fatouche**  
(If you will not be attending the Liturgy on that day, please get in touch with **Halim Younes** to find a replacement. The ushers will also count the collection and make the deposit before they give it to the priest to take it to the bank.)

***Thank you for your generosity***

Summary of the Collection for **Sunday, June 20, 2021**

Regular Sunday Collection           \$1095

Memorial Contribution               \$ 200

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

***Second Collection***

**Sunday, June 27, 2021**, a second collection will be taken for the Holy Father (Peter's Pence). The Peter's Pence Collection enables the Holy Father to respond with emergency financial assistance to requests to aid the most needy throughout the world.

**Scripture Readings**

**Sunday, July 4, 2021, 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost**

2 Cor 3:1-6; LK 10:1-7

**Sunday, July 11, 2021, 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost**

Rom 8:1-11; Mt 12:14-21

**Sunday, July 18, 2021, Feast of St. Sharbel**

Rom 8:28-39; Mt 13:36-43

***Covid-19 Update***

**Starting this Sunday, June 27, 2021:**

- ◆ Holy Communion will be given under both species, on the tongue (no more communion in the hands)
- ◆ Holy Water font will be filled
- ◆ The obligation for all to attend Divine Liturgy on Sunday and Holy Days of obligations will be reinstated (The dispensation from attending Liturgy on Sunday that was given by the Bishop in March 2020, is canceled)
- ◆ Masks are optional unless required by local law
- ◆ The normal exchange of the Greeting of Peace will **return on August 15, 2021**

***FYI***

***For what reason has the Sabbath been changed to Sunday for Christians?***

The reason is because Sunday is the day of the Resurrection of Christ. As "the first day of the week" (Mark 16:2) it recalls the first creation; and as the "eighth day", which follows the sabbath, it symbolizes the new creation ushered in by the Resurrection of Christ. Thus, it has become for Christians the first of all days and of all feasts. It is the day of the Lord in which he with his Passover fulfilled the spiritual truth of the Jewish Sabbath and proclaimed man's eternal rest in God. (For further reading: CCC 2174-2176, 2190-2191)

***How does one keep Sunday holy?***

Christians keep Sunday and other days of obligation holy by participating in the Eucharist of the Lord and by refraining from those activities which impede the worship of God and disturb the joy proper to the day of the Lord or the necessary relaxation of mind and body. Activities are allowed on the Sabbath which are bound up with family needs or with important social service, provided that they do not lead to habits prejudicial to the holiness of Sunday, to family life and to health. (For further reading: CCC 2177-2185, 2192-2193).

## *Saints Peter and Paul*

On June 29, the Church celebrates the feast day of Saints Peter and Paul. According to some tradition, the celebration of this feast day goes back to the year 258.

Peter, who was named Simon, was a fisherman of Galilee and was introduced to the Lord Jesus by his brother Andrew, also a fisherman. Jesus gave him the name Cephas (Petrus in Latin), which means 'Rock.'

Peter was the first to recognize that Jesus was "the Messiah, the Son of the living God." But he also made many mistakes, such as losing faith when walking on water with Christ and betraying the Lord on the night of His passion. Yet despite his human weaknesses, Peter was chosen to shepherd the Church. According to The Acts of the Apostles he became the head of the Church after the Resurrection and Ascension of Christ. Peter became the first Pope.

Peter is mentioned 191 times in the Gospels (162 times as Peter or Simon Peter, 23 times as Simon and 6 times as Cephas.) John is mentioned 4 times. In the Acts of the Apostles Peter's name appears 54 times while James' name appears 4 times.)

St. Peter spent his last years in Rome, leading the Church through persecution and then being martyred in the year 64. He was crucified upside-down at his own request, because he claimed he was not worthy to die as his Lord. He was buried on Vatican hill, and St. Peter's Basilica is built over his tomb.

St. Paul was the Apostle of the Gentiles. His letters to different communities form a major part of the New Testament, and through them we learn much about his life and the faith of the early Church.

Before receiving the name Paul, his name was Saul, a Jewish pharisee who persecuted Christians in Jerusalem. Scripture records that Saul was present at the martyrdom of St. Stephen.

Saul's conversion took place as he was on his way to Damascus to persecute the Christian community there. As he was traveling along the road, he was surrounded by a great light from heaven. He was blinded and fell off his horse. He then heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He answered: "Who are you, Lord?" Christ said: "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting." Saul continued to Damascus, where he was baptized and his sight was restored. He took the name Paul and spent the rest of his life preaching the Gospel to the Gentiles.

Paul was imprisoned and taken to Rome, where he was beheaded in the year 67. He is buried in Rome in the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls. *(From Maronite Prayer of the Faithful)*

Sts. Peter and Paul by Fr. Abdo Badawi (USEK)

