

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

www.ololdc.org

Email: OurLadyofLebanonchurchdc@gmail.com

Msgr. George M. Sebaali, Pastor

Pastor's personal Email: Gmsebaali@aol.com

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

Bulletin for July 11 through August 8, 2021

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

Friday, August 6, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

Feast of the Transfiguration

Sunday, August 8, 2021 at 11:00 o'clock

Sunday, August 15, 2021 at 11:00 o'clock

Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Mother into Heaven

Sunday, August 22, 2021 at 11:00 o'clock

Martha Rached

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 Sunday, July 18, 2021

Halim Younes, Victor Beasley, Rafah Elias and Gebran Fattouch

Ushers for Sunday, July 25, 2021

Fawzi Abouchabke, Maroun Mezher, Tony ElKhouri and Mark Malkoun

Ushers for Sunday, August 1, 2021

Halim Younes, Gebran Fattouch, Antoine Issa and Joseph Nasr

Ushers for Sunday, August 8, 2021

Halim Younes, Victor Beasley, Rafah Elias and Gebran Fattouch

(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 27, 2021

Regular Sunday Collection \$ 975

June 22, 2021 \$ 255

Second collection (Holy Father) \$ 316

Summary of the Collection for Sunday, July 4, 2021

Regular Sunday Collection \$ 403

Pledge \$ 200

Second collection (Maintenance) \$ 57

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

Scripture Readings

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

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

Sunday, July 25, 2021, 10th Sunday of Pentecost

1 Cor 12:1-11; Mt 12: 22-32

Sunday, August 1, 2021, 11th Sunday of Pentecost

Eph 2:17-22; LK 19:1-10

Sunday, August 8, 2021, 12th Sunday of Pentecost

Eph 3:1-13; Mt 15: 21- 28

Liturgical Schedule

Msgr. George Sebaali will be out of the country from July 17 through August 10. In his absence, **Msgr. Peter Azar**, Rector of the Seminary, will celebrate all the scheduled liturgies. If there is any emergency please call Msgr. Azar at (202) 723-8831 or on his cell number at (978) 996 -2600.

Save the Date

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Church in Washington, D.C. will hold its annual Lebanese Food Festival on **Saturday, September 18, 2021** from 12:00 noon to 10:00 p.m.

FYI

What are the essential elements of the sacrament of Reconciliation?

The essential elements are two: the acts of the penitent who comes to repentance through the action of the Holy Spirit, and the absolution of the priest who in the name of Christ grants forgiveness and determines the ways of making satisfaction. [For further reading Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) 1440-1449]

What are the acts of the penitent?

They are: a careful examination of conscience; contrition (or repentance), which is perfect when it is motivated by love of God and imperfect if it rests on other motives and which includes the determination not to sin again; confession, which consists in the telling of one's sins to the priest; and satisfaction or the carrying out of certain acts of penance which the confessor imposes upon the penitent to repair the damage caused by sin. (Further reading: CCC 1450-1460, 1487-1492)

Which sins must be confessed?

All grave sins not yet confessed, which a careful examination of conscience brings to mind, must be brought to the sacrament of Penance. The confession of serious sins is the only ordinary way to obtain forgiveness [For further reading: CCC 1456].

The Three Massabki Brothers

On July 10, The Maronite Church celebrates the feast of the three Blessed Massabki Martyrs. The Massabki brothers were from a noble Christian family, they lived in Damascus in the nineteenth century and were known for their piety, generosity and Christian Values.

The Massabki brothers were 3 of 6 children, Francis, Abdel El –Maoti, Raphael, (the three martyrs) Abdullah (who later becomes a priest), Mariam and Martha.

They lived in a time of great persecution of Christians. There was much political and religious tension for Maronites and other Christians in both Damascus and Mount Lebanon. On 9 July 1860 a fire broke out through the Christian area of Damascus. Many Maronite families took refuge in a Franciscan monastery along with the Massabki brothers and the Superior Father Emmanuel. Father Emmanuel closed the Monastery and called everyone to the church where they prayed and made their confession and received communion.

While everyone took refuge on the roof, Francis one of the Massabki brothers remained kneeling at the feet of the Sorrowful Mother. Moments later the church was attacked, The Superior Father was captured and told the attackers that he would lead them to the treasure inside the church. He proceeded to the altar, where he lit the candles and took out the Eucharist from the tabernacle. Father Emmanuel was then put to death.

The attackers then noticed Francis kneeling in prayer and recognized him. They told him that the Sheikh had sent them to save him and his family from death on the condition that you deny your faith and convert. Francis answered them, "Sheikh Abdullah can take my money, he can also take my life; but my faith no one can make me deny. I am a Christian and on the faith of Christ, I will die." Francis was then put to death.

The attackers then confronted Abdel El –Maoti in the convent yard and also asked him to renounce his faith to escape death, He refused and was also martyred.

Raphael who was hiding inside the convent was offered the same as his brothers, but also refused and was also martyred. According to witnesses, the three Massabki brothers were buried in the convent along with the eight martyr priests and others who had sought refuge there. On October 7, 1926, His Holiness Pius XI proclaimed the beatification of the three brothers.

The Massabki brothers are great role models for Maronite families. Although they were rather wealthy they remained faithful and humble. We pray, that these great Maronites will soon be recognized amongst our Maronite Saints. We ask for their intercession to help us live our lives as honest Christians, and we pray for all those who are being persecuted around the world. May they find refuge and comfort in you Lord. Amen (Livingmaronites.com)

The three Massabki Brothers

