

**Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church**  
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**Pastor's cell number: (804) 240-9820**

**October 3, 2021, Third Sunday after Holy Cross**

**Sunday, October 3, 2021 at 11:00 o'clock**

Antoine Toufic Touma

**Sunday, October 10, 2021 at 11:00 o'clock**

**Sunday, October 17, 2021 at 11:00 o'clock**

Younes Younes

**Thursday, October 21, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.**

Liturgy and Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament

**Friday, October 22, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.**

In honor of Saint Sharbel

**Sunday, October 24, 2021 at 11:00 o'clock**

Saad and Elaine ElHaddad

**Sunday, October 31, 2021 at 11:00 o'clock**

Dr. Robert Frangieh

**Reconciliation** (Confession) is available every Sunday between 10:15 and 10:45 a.m. before the Divine 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, October 10, 2021**

**Halim Younes, Victor Beasley, Rafah Elias and Gebran Fatouche**

**Ushers for Sunday, October 17, 2021**

**Halim Younes, Tom Karam, John Nadder and Saleh Dagher**

(If you will not be attending the Liturgy on that day, please get in touch with **Halim Younes** to find a replacement.

***Thank you for your generosity***

Summary of the Collection for **Sunday, September 26, 2021**

Regular Sunday Collection           \$ 2385

**September 22, 2021**                   \$ 226

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

***Raffle Winners***

The raffle drawing took place on **Sunday, September 26, 2021**, in the social hall during the luncheon. The First Prize went to Pamela Younes; the second prize to Andre Sabbagh; and the third prize to Pierre Ghanem. Thank you for your generosity.

***Holy Hour of Adoration***

**Starting on October 21, 2021** and every **third Thursday of the month** thereafter, we will have the **Divine Liturgy at 7:30 p.m.** followed by exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction. The Holy Hour was scheduled on the last Sunday of every month, but it has not been working out. Maybe it will be better attended on a week night.

**Scripture Readings**

**Sunday, October 10, 2021, Fourth Sunday after Holy Cross**

1 Thes 5:1-11; Mt 24: 45-51

**Sunday, October 17, 2021, Fifth Sunday after Holy Cross**

Phil 2:12-18; Mt 25:1-13

***Order of Saint Sharbel***

**This year, October 10** is designated as "Order of Saint Sharbel Sunday" in our Eparchy. On October 10, all Maronite parishes will be promoting the Order. The Order of Saint Sharbel is vitally important in providing financial and spiritual support for our seminarians, who are crucial for the future of our Maronite Church. This year we have six men studying in Washington and two in Lebanon for our Eparchy. Please prayerfully consider joining the Order. You may enroll online at [www.orderstsharbel.org](http://www.orderstsharbel.org).

***Meeting***

In an effort to revive the **Altar Servers** minister, while the parents are socializing in the social hall, there will be a **training meeting on Sunday, October 3, 2021**, following the Divine Liturgy for all young men (age 9 years old and up) who want to become Altar Servers. A schedule will be prepared and included in the weekly bulletin.

***Second Collection***

**Sunday, October 24, 2021**, a second collection will be taken to benefit **World Mission Sunday**. As established by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), 91% of this collection goes to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, and 9% to the Catholic Near East Welfare Association [CNEWA]. All funds collected will be sent to our Chancery office for proper transfer. Thank you for your generosity and cooperation.

***FYI***

**How can a Catholic best safeguard his faith?** A Catholic can best safeguard his faith by making frequent acts of faith, by praying for a strong faith, by studying his religion very earnestly, by living a good life, by good reading, by refusing to associate with the enemies of the Church, and by not reading books and papers opposed to the Church and her teaching. *(I know that after my departure fierce wolves will get in among you, and will not spare the flock. And from among your own selves men will rise speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them)* (Acts 20:29-30).



*The Rosary in Maronite Spirituality* by Brother John M. Samaha, S.M.

**Origin of the Rosary**

The Rosary has an ancient origin. Most likely it originated in the ancient East and not in the medieval West, perhaps in India. It was and still is a popular prayer device among the Muslims, who use the Arabic term *masbahat*, which means to give praise. Devout Muslims used the *masbahat* in repeating the attributes of God, just as it was used by the early Christian hermits. Following the Crusades the Rosary found its way to the West. The missionary who worked hardest to spread this devotion were Abed El-Ahad, Saint Dominic, and his Dominican companions.

The Rosary became a popular method of prayer and spread quickly in the West during the Middle Ages. For Christians it has always been "the Gospel strung on beads." It is a simple and easy prayer that can be employed for vocal prayer or silent contemplation by individuals, families, and communities.

**Papal Encouragement**

Since the 16th century the popes have frequently encouraged the faithful of East and West to pray the Rosary. The first was a Dominican pope, Saint Pius V, who wrote a papal letter about the Rosary in 1569 shortly after the Council of Trent, and instituted the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary.

In the late 19th century after the First Vatican Council Pope Leo XIII wrote more than ten encyclicals and instructions promoting the use of the Rosary.

To make pastoral applications of the Marian teachings of the Second Vatican Council Pope Paul VI in 1974 authored the apostolic exhortation Devotion to Mary (*Marialis Cultus*). Paul VI discussed the Rosary at some length as a summary of the Gospel comprised of prayers based on Gospel texts. He urged the faithful to pray the Rosary, and especially recommended the family Rosary.

In a pastoral letter about the 1987 Marian Year, Patriarch Nasrallah Peter Cardinal Sfeir, encouraged all Maronites to honor the Mother of God by praying the Rosary.

Pope John Paul II in 2002 issued a pastoral letter entitled The Rosary of the Virgin Mary, in which he put forth the Luminous Mysteries based on the public life of Jesus.

Pope Benedict XVI values the prayer of the Rosary as a means of contemplating Jesus with Mary's eyes.

**The Rosary Today**

Unlike some Eastern Christians who erroneously consider the Rosary foreign to Eastern spirituality, Maronites have emphasized the prayer of the Rosary for centuries. On a visit to Maronites in Lebanon in 1580, Jesuit Father Eliano recorded that he brought them "about one thousand rosaries."

Early on, the Rosary was a common method of prayer in the East among Christians and non-Christians. Even though it came to us through Western missionaries, it was and still is an easy and rich method of prayer to help the faithful fathom the mysteries of God along the journey of salvation. Praying the Rosary, particularly in the family, is an excellent method of bringing us together in the faith under the protection of Mary who always and everywhere intercedes for all people.

October is the month of the Holy Rosary

