

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

February 6, 2022, Sunday of the Priests and Feast of St. Maron

Sunday, February 6, 2022 at 11:00 o'clock

Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. (St. Maron Feast)
For the Parish

Sunday, February 13, 2022 at 11:00 o'clock
Linda Gemayel Sebaali (Mother of Msgr. George Sebaali)

Thursday, February 17, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.
Divine Liturgy and Holy Hour of Adoration

Sunday, February 20, 2022 at 11:00 o'clock
Joseph Fares Fayad

Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.
Habib Lahoud and Simon Touma

Sunday, February 27, 2022 at 11:00 o'clock
Alice Zoghbi Gebara (40 Day Anniversary)

Monday, February 28, 2022 (Ash Monday) at 7:30 p.m.
Divine Liturgy and blessing of the ashes

Friday, March 4, 2022 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.

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, February 13, 2022

Halim Younes, Victor Beasley, Rafah Elias and Salah Dagher

Ushers for Sunday, February 20, 2022

Halim Younes, Tom Karam, John Nadder and Fawzi Abouchabke

Altar Servers for Sunday, February 13, 2022

George Beasley and Mateo AbouJaoude

Thank you for your generosity

Summary of the Collection for Sunday December 30, 2022

Regular Collection	\$ 2115
Donation by mail	\$ 300
Pledge	\$ 650
Visitor's checks	\$ 150
Memorial Contribution	\$ 1000

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

Holy Day of Obligation

Wednesday, February 9, 2022, Feast of St. Maron, is a Holy Day of Obligation. Liturgy will be at 7:30 p.m.

Mark your Calendar

Saturday, March 12, 2022, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Church will hold a parish wide Lenten Retreat under the theme of **Spiritual Commitment**. Chorbishop Seely Beggiani is the retreat master. More information will be available in future bulletins.

Scripture Readings

Sunday, February 13, 2022 at 11:00 o'clock
Heb 12:18-24; Mt 25:31-46

Sunday, February 20, 2022 at 11:00 o'clock
1Tim 5:1-11; Lk 16-19 -31

Lenten Services

The Season of Great Lent begins on Ash Monday, February 28, 2022. Starting on Friday, March 4, 2022 and every Friday of Lent thereafter, we will have a Divine Liturgy followed by the Benediction with the Holy Cross. Following the Liturgy a simple lenten meal will be served in the social hall if the pandemic situation allows us.

Marriage Banns

The Marriage Banns are announced for the first time between Halim Helou and Fiona Geiblin. Anyone knowing why they should not be married in the Catholic Church is bound in conscience to make it known to the priest.

Prayer for Fostering Vocations to the Priesthood

Blessed be God, the Father, who chose shepherds after his own heart;

Blessed be the Beloved Son, who entrusted the service of his Mysteries to them;

Blessed be the Holy Life Giving Spirit, who sanctifies their offerings.

O Heavenly Father, we pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life for the service of your holy people.

We ask You to send laborers into your vineyard. Your faithfulness is unconditional and you accompany your church and invite us to cooperate in your plan of salvation.

May we contribute to creating and preserving conditions in which the good seed, sown by your Holy Spirit, can take root and bring forth abundant fruit in us.

We petition you, O Christ Our Lord, to enlighten the paths of those considering a call to priesthood and religious life and bring them close to you, so that their calling may become a pure sacrifice for the glory of God.

To you be glory, and upon us your mercy, now and forever.
Amen. ☐



Saint Maron

All that is known about Maron, the spiritual father and protector of the Maronites, comes from Theodoret, the Bishop of Cyr. In approximately 444, Theodoret undertook the project of writing a religious history about his region. Theodoret never knew Maron personally, but only through the disciples of this holy man. He described Maron as "the one who has planted for God the garden which flourishes now in the region of Cyr." Little is known of the birth or youth of Maron because Theodoret was unconcerned about that aspect of his life. He felt that Maron was a man born not for this world, but for heaven. In his description of the beginning of Maron's life, Theodoret asserts that Maron had "already increased the number of saints in heaven."

According to history, Maron was never satisfied with the ordinary practices of asceticism, but was "always seeking for new ways to accumulate all the treasures of wisdom."

Maron was the spiritual leader not only of the hermits who lived near him, but indeed of all the Christian faithful in the area. He used to counsel them, heal their bodily and spiritual ills. All of these apostolic endeavors manifested the wisdom and holiness of the hermit Maron.

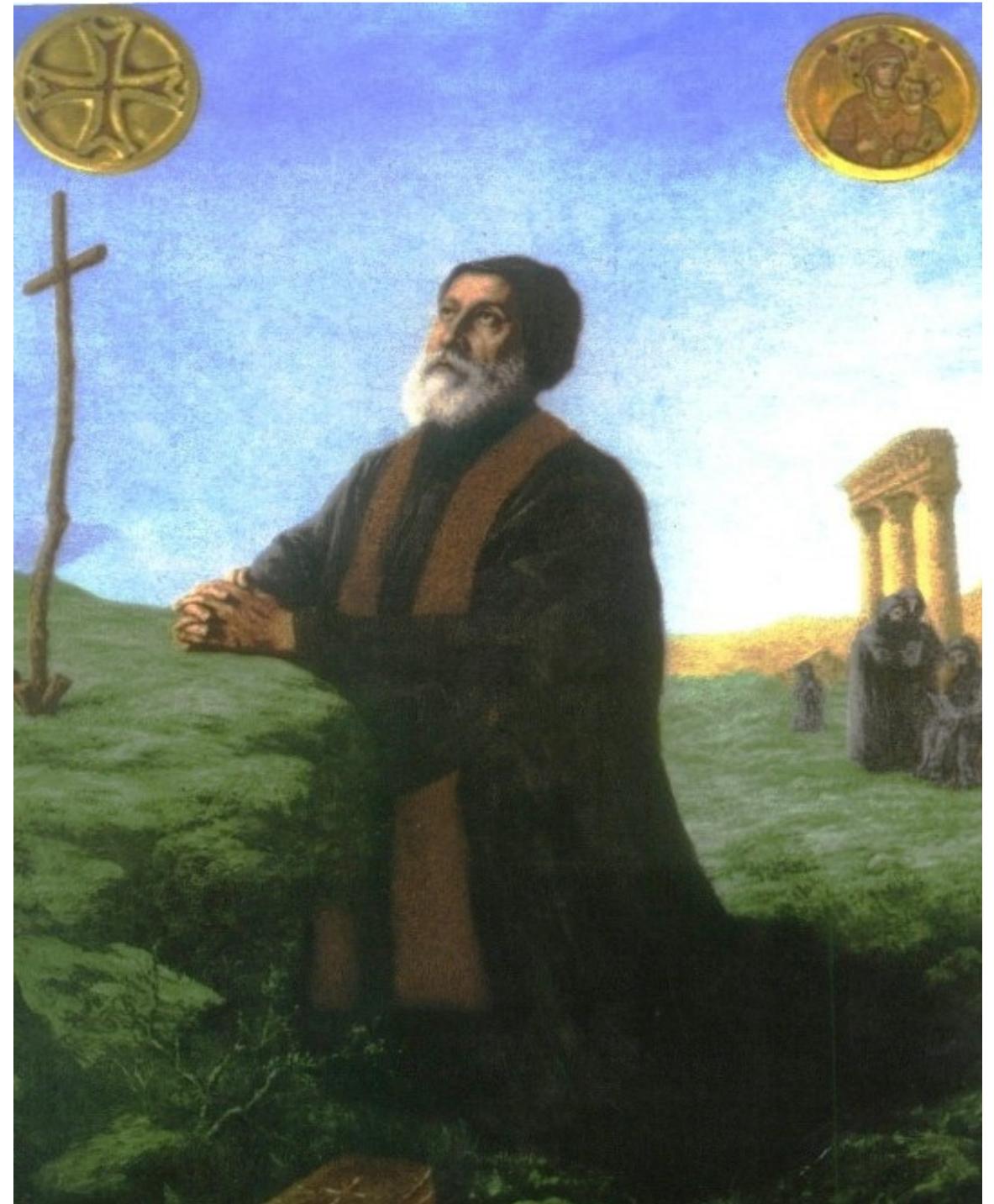
The date of Maron's death is placed somewhere between 407 and 410. Because of his great popularity among the people, riots broke out at the time of his death because everyone wanted to save his remains in their village.

The Maronite Church formerly celebrated the feast of this great saint on January 5th. (This is the day in which the Church of Kfarhai, Lebanon was consecrated in his honor). However, in the seventeenth century, the feast was transferred to February 9th. Lebanon has proclaimed Maron as its patron saint and Pope Benedict XIV granted a plenary indulgence to everyone who visited a Maronite church on February 9th.

The gospel tells us that a tree is known by its fruits and we know from Theodoret that the garden of Maron flourished after his death. One is able to number approximately twenty saints among Maron's disciples of Maron with these words: "These anchorites were virtuous and heroic, totally dedicated to a life of contemplative prayer. They were strangers to any other consideration in the world. They were obedient to Church authority and tried to imitate their predecessor in their exercises of austerity. At times, their acts of penance and mortification were excessive, but they were always obedient to ecclesiastical authority."

After the Council of Chalcedon, Bishop Theodoret worked to construct the famous Monastery of Saint Maron. In addition to being a stronghold for the defense of the teachings of the Council of Chalcedon, this monastery was for a long time the center of the cultural and theological heritage of Antioch.

(Maronite Prayer of the Faithful, Volume 1, page 1135 -1136)



Saint Maron, Founder of the Maronite Church, Pray for us.