

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

March 20, 2022, Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Sunday, March 20, 2022 at 11:00 o'clock

Simon Koweter (40 Day Anniversary)

Tuesday, March 22, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

Alice Zoghbi Gebara

Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. (St. Rafka feast day)

Alice Zoghbi Gebara

Friday, March 25, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

Alice Zoghbi Gebara

Sunday, March 27, 2022 at 11:00 o'clock

George Salwan (40 Day Anniversary)

Sunday, April 3, 2022 at 11:00 o'clock

Youssef El Khouri

Sunday, April 10, 2022 (Palm Sunday)

Private intention

Thursday, April 14, 2022 at 7:30 P.M. (Holy Thursday)

Liturgy of the Washing of the Feet

Friday, April 15, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. (Good Friday)

Service of the Burial of the Cross at 7:30 P.M.

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, March 27, 2022

Halim Younes, Anthony Beasley, John Nadder & Fawzi Abouchabke

Ushers for Sunday, April 3, 2022

Roger Abou Jaoude, Elie Malkoun, Kevin Pitzer and George Choueiry

Altar Servers for Sunday, March 27, 2022

George Beasley and Mateo Abou Jaoude

Thank you for your generosity

Summary of the Collection for **Sunday, March 13, 2022**

Regular Collection \$ 1023

Pledge \$ 600

Contribution \$ 500

Bishop's Appeal \$ 800

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

Lenten Services



Every Friday of Lent, 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.

Bishop's Annual Appeal

The Bishop's Annual Appeal for 2022 started on **Ash Monday, February 28, 2022** and will last until **Easter Sunday, April 17, 2022**. Please send in your contribution, earmarked **Bishop's Appeal**, before Easter Sunday. We depend on your generosity and cooperation to

Scripture Readings

Sunday, March 20, 2022, Parable of the Prodigal Son

2 Cor 13:5-13; LK 15:11-32

Sunday, March 27, 2022, Healing of the Paralytic

I Tim 5:24 -6:5; Mk 2:1-12

Sunday, April 3, 2022 at 11:00 o'clock

2 Cor 10:1-7; K 1046-52

fulfil our obligation to the eparchy. You may send your contribution by mail or online at www.ololdc.org.

Second Collection

On Palm Sunday, April 10, 2022, a second collection will be taken for the Holy Land. The funds collected will be used for the preservation of Christianity in the Middle East and the holy places in Palestine. This collection is requested by the Holy See to be taken on Good Friday in all the Catholic Churches, however, due to the solemnity of the Burial of the Lord, I've moved it to Palm Sunday.

Save the Date

Join us for a Zoom session on **Wednesday, March 30, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.** on Church Governance by Chorbishop John D. Faris. Msgr. Faris teaches Canon Law at CUA and is the Pastor of Saint Anthony Church in Richmond, Virginia. To join the Zoom meeting cut and past the following link in your browser:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6361089902?pwd=cFhweG13d2hYS3JxR0RCQldMK0dVZz09>

The meeting ID: 636 108 9902 and the Passcode: 102020.

Easter Flowers



If you would like to donate for Easter flowers, please do so no later than Sunday, April 10, 2022. All donations will be acknowledged in Easter Sunday Bulletin. Donations could be in memory of loved ones or in thanksgiving to God for special favors granted or for whatever intentions you may have. Easter lilies are \$20 each. Please fill out the form below and return to Church Office with check (earmarked Ester Flowers):

Name of Donor:

Number of Lilies:

In Memory (or in honor) of:

The Prodigal Son

During Lent, we constantly reflect upon the theme of our sinfulness and the mercy of God. During the Divine Mysteries, we pray: "many are my sins, but greater is your mercy. When placed on a scale your mercy prevails over the weight of the mountains known only to you. Consider the sin and consider the atonement. The atonement is greater and exceeds the sins." Our sins have been atoned for because of the infinite compassion and mercy of God.

The Gospel of Luke provides us with three parables which speak about the mercy of God: the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the lost son. The sheep became lost because of its own ignorance. Many times we think of ourselves as intelligent, but out of foolishness we wander away from the sheepfold of the church. Of course, the coin was lost through no fault of its own. Many people become lost through no fault of their own, but are misled and taught to do wrong. This is especially true of the young. The son, however, deliberately left the house of his father. This parable is most rich in explaining the concern of God for our well-being and Jesus himself provides all the details of the story.

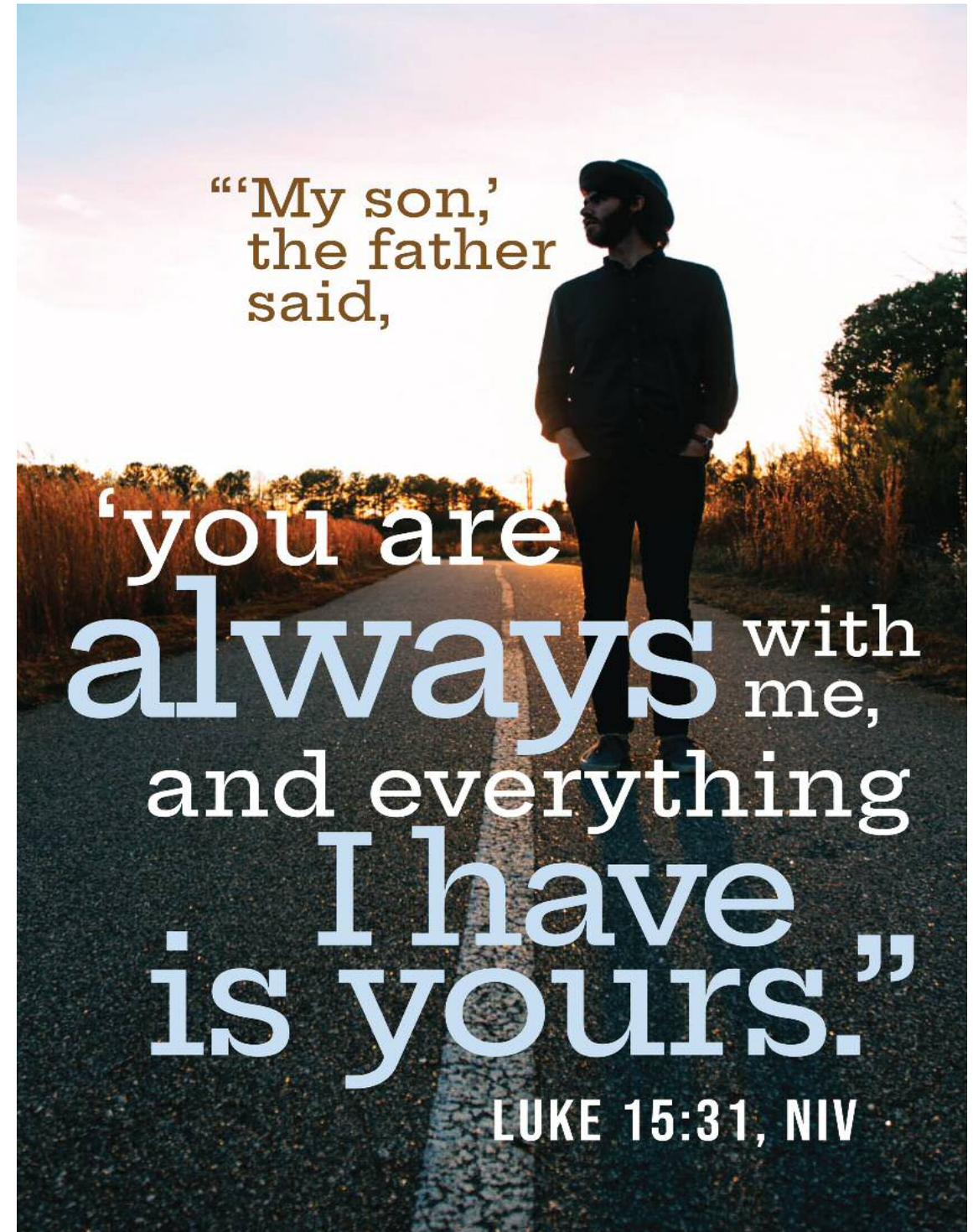
Jesus tells of how the son boldly goes to the father and asks for "his portion." Actually, all of the property belongs to the father and the son has no right to any of it. How often do we treat all of the gifts of God as if they were our rightful portion rather than gifts of God? Seeking freedom and pleasure, with money in hand, the son does not concern himself about anybody or anything, he goes far from home so that no one knows what he is doing. He ran off to live among the non-believers where more pleasure could be offered to him, but, he soon went through all of his money. A famine struck the land and he was forced to seek work in tending for the pigs. The Jews considered the pigs as unclean and the one who cared for the pigs as cursed. In the face of physical and moral degradation, he was forced to come to his senses. "How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough to spare, but I perish with hunger. I will arise and go to my father..."

The father must have been awaiting for the son daily, because he saw him at a distance and ran out to meet him, he embraced and kissed him. He gave him a robe (a sign of honor), a ring (a sign of authority) and shoes (unlike slaves who did not have shoes). The son was treated as if he had never been away.

The son showed courage and humility in his return. It took courage to examine his life and ascertain his pitiful condition, It took humility to admit his mistakes to his father.

The older son represents those who prefer to see a sinner destroyed rather than saved. He is jealous and self-righteous, considering only the sins of his brother and not of his repentance. He even tries to incite the father against his brother. However, the father encouraged him to be happy because his brother who had been lost has been found. How joyful is heaven on the occasion of the return of a sinner to the Father!

On some occasions we are able to identify with the prodigal son who has gone astray. Let us imitate his courage and humility and see the forgiveness of the father. At other times, we are able to see ourselves as the older son, righteous and unwilling to forgive the mistakes of another. At times like this, let us listen to the wisdom of the Father and be joyful at the conversion of the sinner. (*Maronite Prayer of the Faithful*)



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Easter 2022

Dear Parishioners,

As we approach Holy Week and the greatest feast of all feasts, Easter, may the Risen Christ bring every blessing and joy to each home in our parish. May His blessings overflow into your hearts, minds and souls.

Here is our parish schedule of Holy Week Services. Holy Week brings us a wonderful opportunity to relive the Passion and Resurrection of Christ and to attain His graces. Please make a special effort to get to each of the Holy Week services.

It is my privilege to greet you and your families and to sincerely thank you for your dedication to your parish and its ministries. I pray that Our Risen Lord and Savior will bestow upon you those blessings that will bring peace to you and to our world - that peace which Christ alone can give.

May the Glory of Our Risen Savior bring to you and all yours Peace, Happiness, Joy and Blessings this Easter and always.

Please be assured of my prayers, as I humbly ask for yours,

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. George M. Sebaali". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "F" and "S".

(Msgr.) George M. Sebaali
Pastor



Palm Sunday, April 10, 2022

Palm Sunday Liturgy and Procession with the Palms at 11:00 o'clock



April 11 - 12, 2022: Monday - Tuesday

9:00 A.M.: Divine Liturgy
7:30 P.M.: Special Service of *Coming to the Harbor*

April 13, 2022: Wednesday

7:30 P.M.: Rite of the Lamp, anointing with holy oil and Divine Liturgy

Holy Thursday, April 14, 2022 (Thursday of the Mysteries)

7:30 P.M. Divine Liturgy with Washing of the Feet
9:00 P.M. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for private prayers and meditation



Great Friday of Crucifixion (April 15, 2022)

9:00 A.M.: Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts
7:30 P.M.: Burial of the Lord

Saturday of the Light (April 16, 2022)

Prayer of Forgiveness at 11:30 A.M.

Easter Vigil: Saturday, April 16, 2022, Divine Liturgy at 6:00 P.M.
(Please note there will be no midnight Liturgy)



Easter Sunday: 11:00 A.M.: Divine Liturgy

(Easter Egg Hunt for children up to 12 years old will take place following the Divine Liturgy on Easter Sunday, April 17, 2022)