

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church
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Msgr. George M. Sebaali, Pastor

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

December 18, 2022, Genealogy Sunday

Sunday, December 18, 2022 at 11:00 o'clock
Assaf and Nasra El-Rayes and Haifa and Elie Kassas

Monday- Friday, December 19 -23, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.
Divine Liturgy and Christmas Novena

Saturday, December 24, 2022 (Christmas Eve) at 5:30 p.m.
Members of Our Lady of Lebanon Parish, living and deceased

Sunday, December 25, 2022 (Christmas Day) at 11:00 o'clock
Private intention

Saturday, December 31, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 1, 2023 at 11:00 o'clock

Friday, January 6, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.
Faten Abou Chabke

Sunday, January 8, 2023 at 11:00 o'clock
Georgette El Alam Frangieh

Sunday, January 15, 2023 a 11:00 o'clock
Alice Gebara

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, December 18, 2022

Halim Younes, Gebran Fatouche, Antoine Issa and Joseph Nasr

Altar Servers for Sunday, December 18, 2022

George Beasley and Jason Nasr

Thank you for your generosity

Summary of the Collection for Sunday, December 11, 2022

Regular Collection	\$1682
Pledge	\$1850
Donation by mail	\$ 675

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

Parish Christmas Luncheon

Please join our Christmas Luncheon **on December 18, 2022, following the Sunday liturgy.** Santa and his helpers will pay a visit. Participating children are asked to consider bringing a small gift to Santa (**imperishable food item, no more than \$5 in value**) to donate to a food bank.

Religious Education

Due to the Christmas holiday, there will be no Sunday School [Religious Education] **December 25 and January 1.** Religious Education will resume on **Sunday, January 8, 2023 at 10 o'clock.**

Scripture Readings

Sunday, December 18, 2022, Genealogy Sunday

Rom 1-12; Mt 1:1-17

Sunday, December 25, 2021, Birth of the Lord

Heb 1:1-12; Lk 2:1-20

Monday, December 26, 2021, Felicitations to Mary

Eph: 1-3-14; Lk 1:46-55

Sunday, January 1, 2023, Circumcision of the Lord

Eph 2:11-22; Lk 2:21

Liturgical Schedule

Sunday, December 18, 2022

- ★ Divine Liturgy at 11:00 o'clock and Christmas Novena following the Divine Liturgy
- ★ Following the Divine Liturgy and Christmas Novena there will be a parish Christmas Luncheon in the social hall. The Children will present a nativity play

★ **Monday - Friday, December 19 - 23, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.**

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

- ★ **Saturday, December 24, 2022 (Christmas Eve)**
- ★ **4:15 p.m. - 4:45:** Confession will be available
- ★ **5:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Divine Liturgy**
- ★ **(Please note there will be No Midnight Liturgy)**

★ **Sunday, December 25, 2022 (Christmas Day)**

★ 11:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Monday, December 26, 2022 (Felicitations to the Virgin Mary)

★ Divine Liturgy at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 31, 2022 (New Year's Eve)

★ **6:30 P.M.** Divine Liturgy

Sunday, January 1, 2023 (Circumcision of the Lord) at 11:00 o'clock

Friday, January 6, 2023 (Baptism of the Lord)

★ **7:30 P.M.** Divine Liturgy and Blessing of the Epiphany water



Holy Day of Obligation

Friday, January 6, 2023, (Epiphany of the Lord) is a Holy Day of Obligation. The Liturgy will be at **7:30 p.m.**

Blessing of the Epiphany Water will take place during the liturgy. You may bring a bottle of water to have it blessed if you wish.

Save the Dates

Visit of Bishop Simon Faddoul

Sunday, January 15, 2023, His Excellency Bishop Simon Faddoul, Maronite Bishop of Nigeria and Africa, will visit our parish and celebrate the Divine Liturgy. Following the Divine Liturgy, a luncheon reception will be held in the social hall. All are welcome to attend and meet and greet Bishop Faddoul.

Saint Maron Feast Day Dinner

Sunday, February 12, 2023, Saint Maron Feast Day annual dinner will take place following the Divine Liturgy. More information will be forthcoming in future bulletins. Please save the date and plan to join us as we celebrate the legacy of our Father, Saint Maron.



Do you Know why we put Tinsels on Christmas Trees

Legend has it, that when the Holy Family was on its way to Egypt, as evening came they sought refuge in a cave. It was very cold and the ground was white with frost. A spider saw the little baby Jesus, and recognizing his creator, wished that he could do something to keep him warm in the cold night. He decided to use the talent that God gave him so he span his web across the entrance of the cave to make a curtain to keep the cold air out.

A group of Herod's soldiers came seeking infant boys to kill in order to carry out Herod's command to kill all male children two years and under. When they came to the cave they were about to burst in to search it, but their captain noticed the spider's web, covered with the white frost and stretched across the entrance of the cave. So he said to his soldiers "look at the spider's web. It is unbroken and there cannot possibly be anyone in the cave because anyone entering would have torn the web."

So the soldiers continued their way and left the Holy Family in peace because a little spider had spun his web. This is the origin of the custom of putting tinsel on Christmas trees. The tinsel stands for the spider's web across the entrance of the cave while the Holy Family was on its way to Egypt.

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