## **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 13, 2022, Sunday of the Hemorrhaging Woman

Sunday, March 13, 2022 at 11:00 o'clock George Franjie (40 Day Anniversary)

Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. Alice Zoghbi Gebara

Friday, March 18, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. (Eve of St. Joseph's Feast) Mona Barrios

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)

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

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 **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 20, 2022

Halim Younes, Victor Beasley, Rafah Elias and Salah Dagher Ushers for Sunday, March 27, 2022 Halim Younes, Anthony Beasley, John Nadder & Fawzi Abouchabke

Altar Servers for Sunday, March 13, 2022 Jason Pitzer and Peter ElKhoueiry

## Thank you for your generosity

Summary of the Collection for Sunday, March 6, 2022	
Regular Collection	\$ 1068
Pledge	\$ 600
Donation by mail	\$ 600
Contribution	\$ 200
Bishop's Appeal	\$ 100
Ash Monday	\$ 1148
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.

**Scripture Readings** Sunday, March 13, 2022, Healing of the Hemorrhaging Woman 2 Cor 7:4-11; LK 8:40-56 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

Please send in your contribution, earmarked **Bishop's Appeal**, before Easter Sunday. We depend on your generosity and cooperation to 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 in Richmond, Virginia. Zoom link will be provided in future bulletin.

# FYI

#### What does the hidden life of Jesus in Nazareth teach us?

In the course of his hidden life in Nazareth Jesus stayed in the silence of an ordinary existence. This allows us to enter into fellowship with him in the holiness to be found in a daily life marked by prayer, simplicity, work and family love. His obedience to Mary to Joseph, his foster father, is an image of his filial obedience to the Father. Mary and Joseph accepted with faith the mystery of Jesus even though they did not always understand it.

(For further reading: Catechism of the Catholic Church CCC 533-534, 564)

#### Why did Jesus receive from John the "baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins" (Luke 3:3)?

To inaugurate his public life and to anticipate the "Baptism" of his death, he who was without sin accepted to be numbered among sinners. He was "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." (John 1:29). The Father proclaimed him to be "his beloved Son" (Matthew 3:17) and the Spirit descended upon him. The baptism of Jesus is a prefiguring of our baptism (For further reading: CCC 535-537, 565).

# **Reflection for the Sunday of the Hemorrhaging Woman** "Who is it that touched me?"

Today begins week three of Great Lent. Hopefully by now we have had some time to examine what gets in the way of our relationship with Christ, and hopefully this relationship has grown a little deeper as a result. But even if our Lord seems far away from us, there is still plenty of time for us to reach for His grace!

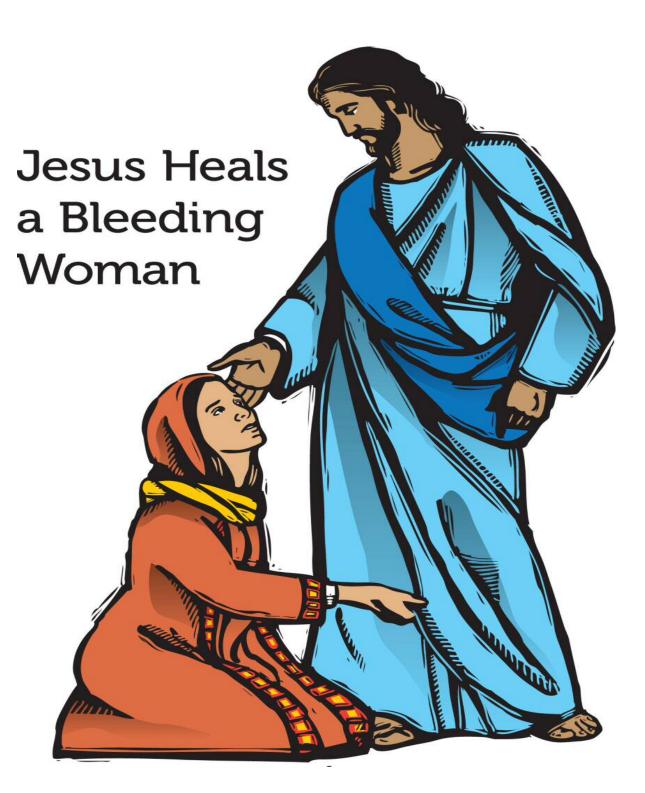
Reaching out for God's grace is exactly what we hear about in the Gospel today. The hemorrhaging woman had been bleeding for twelve years and throughout this time she visited countless different doctors for help, but none of these doctors were able to put an end to her bleeding. Imagine how exhausted and weak she would have been from constantly losing blood every day for twelve years! She must have been discouraged and weary. Her discouragement wasn't greater than her faith, however, and through faith she turned to the true Doctor, the Divine Physician and healer of bodies and souls. Her faith moved her to action, and she confidently reached for the tassel of Christ's cloak.

This woman was likely a Gentile, and she would have been shunned and considered unclean because of her bleeding. She does not let this prevent her from approaching Jesus, and amidst the commotion of the crowd she goes directly to Him. Like her, we must be tenacious in the spiritual life, and we must boldly reach for the tassels that can bring us closer to God. I invite you to reflect on the following question this week: what are the tassels in your life, the little things that connect you to the healing divinity of our Lord? In His generosity the Good One gives different tassels to different people, but there are some tassels that we all have access to. The most important of these are the sacraments-the holy mysteries-and prayer.

Even Christ who knows all things was surprised at the boldness of the woman's action. "Who is it that touched me?" He asked, feeling that power went out from Him. How exciting is it to think that we can, in a way, "surprise" our Lord through our acts of faith? The hemorrhaging woman acted so boldly on her faith that she shocked the One who knows all things! Through her faith, she entered into a living relationship with her Lord.

As the hemorrhaging woman shows, faith is a dynamic relationship between Jesus and His people, and we have the freedom to keep this relationship lively and exciting. This relationship is a deep one, as deep as a family bond. When Jesus tells the woman that her faith has healed her, He doesn't call her "woman," but He calls her "daughter." Through her great act of faith she has indeed become His daughter. Let us reach for the tassels around us, turn to our Lord in faith, and so become His adopted children!

Seminarian Jacob Wyder





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March 3, 2022

Prot. No. 250/1/22 Circ. No. 22.18

Brother Priests, Deacons and Subdeacons, Consecrated Men and Women, Brothers and Sisters;

In my letter of 28 May 2021 (Prot. No. 356/1/21; Cir. No. 21.16), I reinstated the obligation for all to attend Divine Liturgy on Sunday and Holy Days of Obligations on the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul, Sunday June 27, 2021, I also stated the following:

<u>Barring anything unforeseen</u>, we hope to return to the normal exchange of the Greeting of Peace and totally eliminate Holy Communion in the hand, as of August 15, 2021, the Feast of the Assumption.

The Delta, then Omicron variants of the Corona Virus became that "unforeseen" situation. Thus, I have waited until it was safer to return to our ancient practice of communion on the tongue by intinction under both species.

On the Feast of Saint Joseph, March 19, 2022, I ask all pastors to return to this practice and no longer give Holy Communion in the hand. Likewise, the sign of peace is to be returned in the customary way.

I thank the priests once again for their faithful service as true pastors during these difficult times.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Gregory

GJM/rb