

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

Sunday of the Blind, March 21, 2021

Sunday, March 21, 2021 at 11:00 o'clock

Layla Nehme (mother of Houda Fattouche)

Monday, March 22, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

Divine Liturgy in honor of Saint Sharbel

Tuesday, March 23, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

Divine Liturgy in honor of Sainte Rafka on her feast day

Thursday, March 25, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

Feast of the Annunciation (Liturgy and Benediction)

Friday, March 26, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

Divine Liturgy and Benediction with the Holy Cross

Sunday, March 28, 2021 (Palm Sunday) at 11:00 o'clock

Sunday, April 4, 2021 (Easter Sunday) at 11:00 o'clock

Members of Our Lady of Lebanon, both living and deceased

Sunday, April 11, 2021 at 11:00 o'clock

Kozhia Gerges Choueiry

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

The **last Sunday of every month**, a Holy Hour of Adoration will take place after the 11:00 a.m. 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.

Thank you for your generosity

Summary of the Collection for **Sunday, March 14, 2021**

Regular Sunday Collection \$ 874

Individual Contribution \$ 1150

Bishop's Appeal \$ 4000

Pledge \$ 600

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

Second Collections

On Palm Sunday, March 28, 2021, 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. The Chancery Office will send a part of this collection through the USCCB to the Holy Land and another part is sent directly by our Chancery to the Maronite Eparchy of Haifa.

This collection is requested by the Holy See to be taken on Good Friday in all the Catholic Churches, however, I've moved it to **March 28, Palm Sunday**.

Bishop Gregory Mansour, Bishop of the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn, has authorized a special collection on **Easter Sunday, April 4, 2021**.

MYO Virtual Easter Event

Under the theme: Rollin' Stones, the National Maronite Youth Organization will be hosting an **Easter Event on April 9, 2021 at 8 p.m.** This 2 hours event is open to all youth ages 12-18 in both eparchies.

The deadline for the required registration is **April 6, 2021**. Interested youth can register at www.maroniteyouth.org. A ZOOM Link will be emailed out after registration, so please ensure that email addresses are included in the registration. You can direct any registration questions or issues to office@maroniteyouth.org.

Holy Week Events Holy Week Events Holy Week Events Holy Week Events

Palm Sunday, March 28, 2021: Divine Liturgy at 11:00 o'clock
(There will be no outdoor procession)

March 29 - 30, 2021: Monday - Tuesday

9:00 A.M.: Divine Liturgy

7:30 P.M.: Special Service of *Coming to the Harbor*

March 31, 2021: Wednesday

7:30 P.M.: Rite of the Lamp and Divine Liturgy

Holy Thursday, April 1, 2021

7:30 P.M.: Divine Liturgy of Holy Thursday (No washing of the feet ceremony)

Great Friday of Crucifixion (April 2, 2021)

9:00 A.M.: Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts

7:30 P.M.: Burial of the Lord

Saturday of the Light (April 3, 2021)

Prayer of Forgiveness at 11:30 A.M.

Easter Sunday

11:00 A.M.: Divine Liturgy



Virtual Meeting with His Eminence and Beatitude Patriarch Bechara Cardinal Peter Rai

THE EPARCHY OF OUR LADY OF LEBANON OF LOS ANGELES & THE EPARCHY OF SAINT MARON OF BROOKLYN

INVITE YOU TO A SPECIAL GATHERING WITH OUR PATRIARCH

MARCH 27, 2021
8PM LEBANON TIME
10 AM PACIFIC
11 AM MOUNTAIN
12 PM CENTRAL
1PM EASTERN

VIA ZOOM
TO REGISTER VISIT OUR PAGE

Virtual Meeting with Patriarch Bechara Rai.

Saturday, March 27, 2021 at 1 o'clock.

Registration is required. **To register:**

<https://eparchy.org/virtual-meeting-with-patriarch-rai/>

Sunday of the Blind

A theme that is central to the Maronite Liturgy is that Jesus as the Light of the world and daily we invoke Mary as the Mother of the Light. On this six Sunday of Lent, we recall Bartimaeus, the blind man who wanted to behold the Light of the world.

Jesus was on the way to celebrate his last Passover. He was traveling along the road to Jericho, a resort city, as known as the City of the Palms (this Jericho is to be distinguished from the old Jericho of Joshua). Jericho was fifteen miles from Jerusalem and every Jew living in the area was required to attend to the Passover in Jerusalem. If they were unable to attend, they were required to stand along the sides of the roads and listen to the rabbis who taught as they passed by.

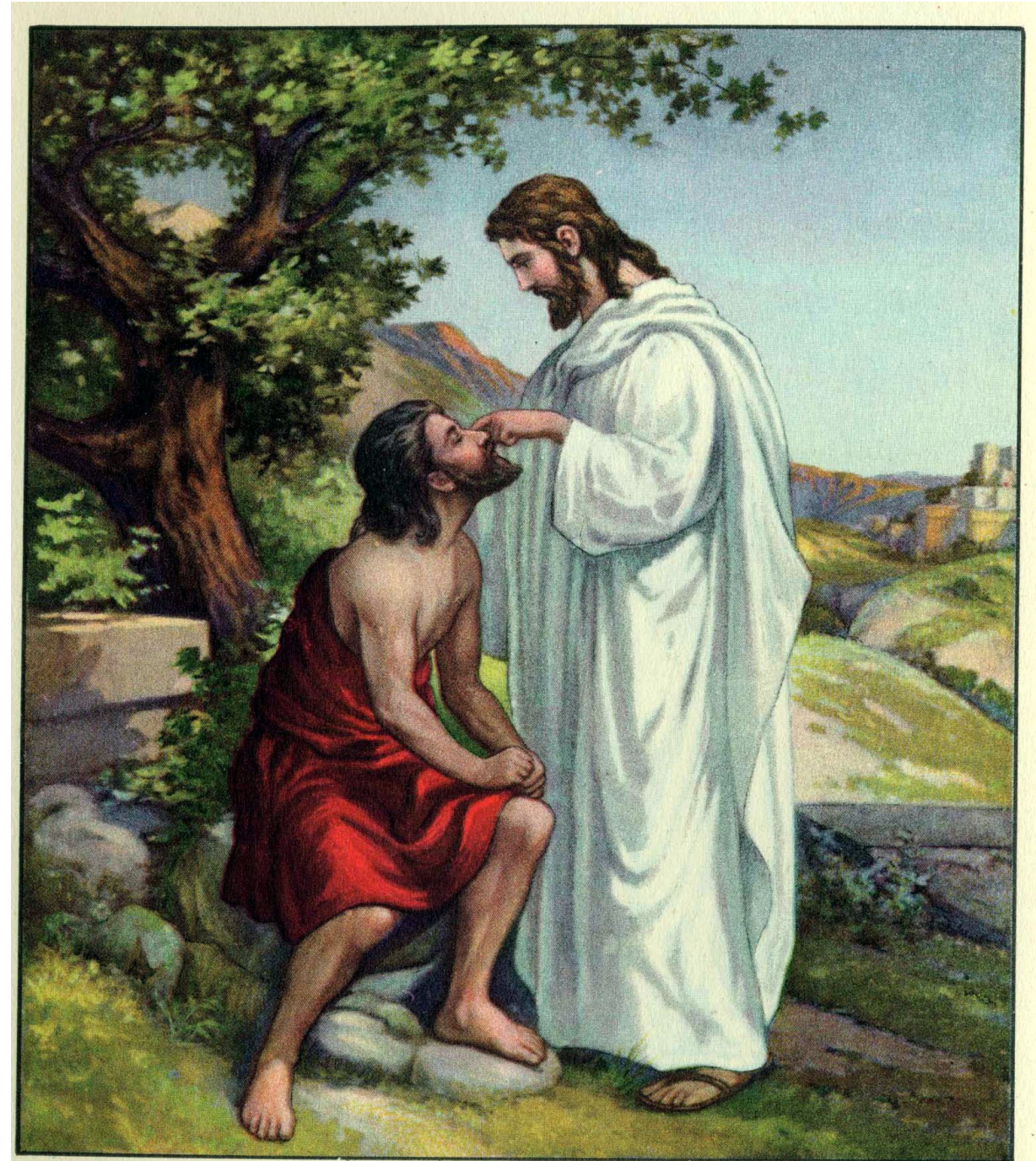
This Passover was a very tense one. Jesus was considered as a rebel, one who was preaching against the orthodox Judaism. He was now openly proceeding to Jerusalem, teaching as a rabbi. If what Jesus was teaching was true, the entire temple worship was irrelevant. Jericho was filled with priests and levites, who took turns in serving at the Temple. Naturally, they would be concerned about what Jesus had to say.

Jesus and the crowds around him were approaching the gate of the city, where a blind beggar was sitting. It was a good time to beg for alms because of the number of persons who walked by. The gospel gives his name as "Bartimaeus." Bartimaeus heard the trampling of feet and the noise of the crowd and asked who was passing by. When he heard that it was Jesus who was approaching, he began to shout and make noise in order to attract Jesus' attention. Everyone who was trying to listen to the Master was offended and tried to silence the beggar. But this was the only chance for the beggar: Jesus was passing by and he wanted to escape from his world of darkness.

When Jesus indicated that he wanted to see what Bartimaeus wanted, the attitude of the crowd changed. They told the blind beggar, "Courage, get up, He is calling you." The beggar's response was immediate. He threw off his cloak and rushed to the Lord. In many ways, we are called to be like the beggar. Certain opportunities come only once. When the Lord calls us, we must throw off anything that will hinder us and run to Christ.

The blind man knew what he wanted; he wanted light. Not only was the beggar to receive the gift of sight from the Lord; he was also to receive the gift of inner light, the gift of faith. How courageous Bartimaeus was in his desire to seek the Light of the world. Many of us desire to remain in the darkness, Let us not allow the world to prevent us from seeking the Light, but let us cast aside all that hinders us and go to meet the Lord. "Through the rays of your light, we shall see the light. O Jesus, full of mercy."

(Maronite Prayer of the Faithful)



JESUS AND A BLIND MAN