



Palm Sunday, April 2, 2023

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

Monday, April 3, 2023

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

Tuesday, April 4, 2023

7:30 P.M.: Divine Liturgy and Benediction with the Holy Cross

Wednesday, April 5, 2023

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

Holy Thursday, April 6, 2023 (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 7, 2023)

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



Saturday of the Light (April 8, 2023)

Prayer of Forgiveness at 11:30 A.M.

Easter Vigil: Saturday, April 8, 2023, 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 9, 2023**)



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 26, 2023; Sunday of the Healing of the Blind

Sunday, March 26, 2023 at 11:00 o'clock

- Youssef El-Khoury and Toufic Aoun

Saturday, April 1, 2023 at 12:30 p.m.

- Elham Eljor (Claire Abou Chabke's sister) 40 Day Anniversary

Sunday, April 2, 2023 (Palm Sunday Liturgy) at 11:00 o'clock

Monday, April 3, 2023 (Holy Monday)

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

Tuesday, April 4, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

- Divine Liturgy and Benediction with the Holy Cross

Wednesday, April 5, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

- Rite of the Lamp and anointing with the Holy Oil

Thursday, April 6, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

- Divine Liturgy of the Washing of the Feet

Friday, April 7, 2023 (Great Friday of the Crucifixion)

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

Saturday, April 8, 2023 (Holy Saturday)

- Prayer of Forgiveness at 11:30 A.M.

Saturday, April 8, 2023 (Easter Vigil) at 6:00 p.m.

- Easter Vigil Divine Liturgy (special intention)

Sunday, April 9, 2023 at 11:00 o'clock (Easter Sunday)

- For the Parish

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, April 2, 2023

Halim Younes, Gebran Fattouche, Antoine Issa, Roger Abou Jaoude, Elie Malkoun, Kevin Pitzer and George Choueiry

Thank you for your generosity

Summary of the Collection for Sunday, March 19, 2023

Regular collection	\$1388
Donation by mail	\$ 200
Pledge	\$ 250
March 17, 2023	\$ 178
Contribution	\$ 200

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

Lenten Service

Friday, March 31, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., we will have a Divine Liturgy and the Benediction with the Holy Cross.

Marriage Banns

The Marriage Banns are announced for the third time between **Matthew David Berglund** and **Alexandria Aida BouHarb**. Anyone knowing why they should not be joined in marriage is bound in conscience to make it known to the priest. Thank you.

The Marriage Banns are announced for the second time between **David Lundberg** and **Marie Sonia Skaff**. Anyone knowing why they should not be joined in marriage is bound in conscience to make it known to the priest. Thank you

Scripture Readings

Sunday, March 26, 2023; Healing of the Blind Man

2 Cor 10: 1-7; Mk 10:46 -52

Sunday, April 2, 2023, Palm Sunday

2 Cor 10: 1-7; Mk 10:46-52

Bishop's Annual Lenten Appeal

The Bishop's **Annual Lenten Appeal for 2023** started on **Ash Monday, [February 20]**, and will last until Easter Sunday. Please send in your contribution, earmarked Bishop's Appeal 2023 before Easter Sunday.

Second Collection

On Palm Sunday, April 2, 2023, 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 **April 2, 2023, Palm Sunday**.

Sunday School

Please note that due to the Easter celebrations, there will be No Religious Education (Sunday School) **on Palm Sunday, April 2, 2023 and on Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023**. Sunday School will resume on Sunday, April 16, 2023 at 10 a.m.



Following the **Easter Sunday Liturgy on April 9, 2023**, there will be an Easter Egg Hunt for children up to 12 years old.

Pastoral Visit

On Sunday, March 26, 2023, His Excellency Bishop Gregory Mansour will visit our community and he will be the main celebrant of the Divine Liturgy at 11:00 o'clock.

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.

Our parish schedule of Holy Week Services is included with this bulletin. 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. Have a Blessed and fruitful preparation for Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

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, Volume II)

