Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church 7142 Alaska Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20012 Phone (202) 291- 5153

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Email: OurLadyofLebanonchurchdc@gmail.com

Msgr. George M. Sebaali, Pastor Pastor's personal Email: Gmsebaali@aol.com Pastor's cell number: (804) 240-9820

November 28, 2021, Visitation to Elizabeth

Sunday, November 28, 2021 at 11:00 o'clock

Alice Zischkau

Sunday, December 5, 2021 at 11:00 o'clock

Deceased members of the Zailah and Saade families

Sunday, December 12, 2021 at 11:00 o'clock

Mona Zahrah Khfoury, Faris Zahrah and Boulos Yammuny

Sunday, December 19, 2021 at 11:00 o'clock

Fahed and Jamileh Nasr

Friday, December 24, 2021 (Christmas Eve) at Midnight

Members of Our Lady of Lebanon Parish, living and deceased

 $\textbf{Saturday}, \textbf{December 25, 2021 (Christmas Day)} \ \text{at } 11:00 \ \text{o'clock}$

Private intention

Sunday, December 26, 2021 at 11:00 o'clock

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

Scripture Readings Sunday, December 5, 2021, Birth of John the Baptizer Gal 4:21-5:1; Lk 1:57-66

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 5, 2021

Halim Younes, Gebran Fatouche, Antoine Issa and Joseph Nasr Ushers for Sunday, December 12, 2021

Fawzi Abouchabke, Maroun Mezher, Tony ElKhouri and Mark Malkoun

(If you will not be attending the Liturgy on that day, please get in touch with Halim Younes to find a replacement.

Altar Servers for Sunday, December 5, 2021

Jason Pitzer, Peter ElKhoueiry

Thank you for your generosity

Summary of the Collection for **Sunday, November 21, 2021**Regular Sunday Collection \$1160

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

Sunday School

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, there will be no Sunday School on **November 28, 2021.** Religious Education will resume on **December 5, 2021**, at 10 o'clock in the morning.

Holy Day of Obligation

Wednesday, December 8, 2021, Feast of the Immaculate Conception, is a Holy Day of Obligation. The Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at 7:30 p.m.

Parish Christmas Luncheon

Please join our Christmas Luncheon on December 19, 2021, 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.



New Year's Eve Celebration

The New Year celebration will take place on Friday, December 31, 2021 at Martin Crosswinds, 7400 Greenway Center Dr., Greenbelt, MD. For additional information and tickets, please see the flyer on the next page or contact: Gebran Fattouch: 443-600-9484; Gisele Azar: 703-470-6328; or Jano Nicolas: 301-537-7990.

Christmas Novena and Divine Liturgy

Starting on Wednesday, December 15, 2021, we will celebrate the Divine Liturgy followed by the Christmas Novena at 7:30 p.m. Please note that we will not have Divine Liturgy/Novena on Saturday, December 18. On Sunday, December 19, the Novena will be celebrated following the Divine Liturgy.

Christmas Poinsettias

If you would like to contribute toward flowers for the Church at Christmas, please let me know on or before December 19, 2021. Please give your check and order form directly to the Pastor in order to avoid any mix-up (Please do not bring or have poinsettias delivered). The check should be made payable to Our Lady of Lebanon and marked "Christmas Flowers." Cost: Poinsettias \$20 each. All flower contributions will be acknowledged in the Christmas Bulletin. Flowers could be in memory of deceased loved ones, or in honor of a loved one, or even in thanksgiving for special graces. Monetary contribution is also appreciated and acknowledged.

Donor's name and last name:

Number of Poinsettias:

In memory of:

In Honor of:

In Thanksgiving:

Visitation to Elizabeth

The third Sunday of the Season of the Announcement commemorates another important event in the unfolding of the Promise of God: Mary went to visit her cousin Elizabeth.

After receiving such a tremendous good news, Mary could have secluded herself in a life of prayer and contemplation. However, after the angel of the of the Lord communicated the news of Elizabeth's conception to her, Mary perceived it as the Lord's will that she goes to be with Elizabeth, and thus chose to share the divine life within her with another. Mary shared Jesus with others even before His birth. The fundamental task of an apostle is to share Jesus with others, and so, Mary is called the Queen of the Apostles.

Impelled by the Spirit of God, Mary left on a journey that required four days of difficult travel, especially for a poor girl such as herself. Yet, as the Mother of God and our Mother, she was already concerned for the welfare of others.

When Mary encountered Elizabeth, the unborn infant in her womb leapt for joy, and Elizabeth herself was filled with the Spirit and sang of the blessedness of Mary.

Mary is blessed, not simply because she was to be the Mother of God, but also because of her own personal faith. She heard the words of the angel and accepted everything that was to happen with humility. For this reason, she is blessed throughout the ages.

The hymn of Mary differs from that of Zachariah. Zachariah's hymn is communal: He is proclaiming gratitude to God on behalf of all the people of Israel. On the other hand, Mary's hymn is personal, "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord. . . . " She is humbly proclaiming the great things that God has done for her. In humility, the Virgin of Nazareth proclaims how great the Lord has made her by choosing her to be the Mother of His Son. The hymn of Mary announces a three fold revolution which God will bring about through His Son: It is moral "He has confused the proud.."; social "He has deposed the mighty from their thrones...."; and economic ". . . The hungry He has given every good thing. . . . ".

To be called by God for any task, brings with it a crown of sorrow and a crown of joy. God chooses us not for our own glorification, but in order to use us to bring about His Kingdom. Like Mary, Let us respond with humility and be grateful to God for choosing us as His instruments.

(Maronite Prayer of the Faithful, Volume 1)



OUR LADY OF LEBANON CHURCH

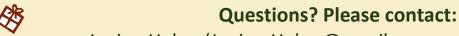
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

12/19/2021 | 12PM (after liturgy in the church hall)

Our Sunday School students will kick-off the party by performing the Nativity play. Lunch will be provided afterwards. Santa will also make an appearance, bringing a present for all the attending children!

Food Drive: Sharing our Blessings!

We ask each child to bring a **non-perishable food item, no more than \$5 in value**. A collection bin will be set-up at the entrance of the hall inside.



Janine Helou (Janine. Helou@gmail.com or 703-599-8341)

