

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, October 29, 2023, Seventh Sunday after Holy Cross

Sunday, October 29, 2023 at 11:00 o'clock

Ghassan Imad (40 Day Anniversary)

Wednesday, November 1, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

All Saints Day

Thursday, November 2, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

All Souls Day

Sunday, November 5, 2023 at 11:00 o'clock

Marie AbiSaleh (widow of the late Wadih Massoud Maalouf)

Charlotte Robinson (widow of the late Rev. Eugene Franklin Helms)

Sunday, November 12, 2023 at 11:00 o'clock

Anwar Nassar

Sunday, November 19, 2023 at 11:00 o'clock

Wednesday, November 22, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

Divine Liturgy in Honor of Saint Sharbel

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

George and Theresa AbouChabke and Moussa and Elham ElJor

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, October 29, 2023

Fawzi Abouchabke, Maroun Mezher, Tony ElKhouri and Mark Malkoun

Ushers for Sunday, November 5, 2023

Halim Younes, Victor Beasley, Rafah Elias

Altar Servers for Sunday, November 5, 2023

George Beasley and Marek Oszwaldowski

Thank you for your generosity

Summary of the Collection for Sunday, October 22, 2023

Regular collection \$1778

Pledge \$ 800

Donation by mail \$ 250

2nd collection \$ 431

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

Second Collection

On Sunday, November 5, 2023, a second collection will be taken for **Maronite Patriarchal Charities**. This collection, taken at the request of Bishop Gregory Mansour, allows us, as an Eparchy, to strengthen our Patriarch's charitable giving. It is like the "*Peter's Pence*" collection for our Patriarch. All funds collected will be sent to our Chancery office for proper transfer. Thank you for your generosity and cooperation.

Scripture Readings

Sunday, October 29, 2023 (Christ the King)

Rom 12:9-21; Mt 25:31-46

Sunday, November 5, 2023 (Consecration of the Church)

Heb 9:1-12; Mt 16:13-20

Sunday, November 12, 2023 (Renewal of the Church)

Heb 9:11-15; Jn 10:22-42

Holy Day of Obligation

Wednesday, November 1, 2023, Feast of All Saints, is a Holy Day of Obligation. The Divine Liturgy will be celebrated **at 7:30 p.m.** A Holy Day of Obligation means that a Catholic person is obligated to attend Mass on that day.

Are you Interested?

Hosted by the Maronite Servants of Christ the Light, **on Thursday, November 2**, Chorbishop Michael Thomas will conduct an online workshop on **Marriage and Ordination starting at 8p.m.**

Please use this link to register by completing this google form (<https://forms.gle/KueoT8gPMk1mZ31w7>) to reserve your spot and receive the Zoom link and recordings.

FYI

Why is the Church apostolic?

The Church is apostolic in *her origin* because she has been built on "the foundation of the Apostles" (Ephesians 2:20). She is apostolic in her teaching which is the same as that of the Apostles. She is apostolic by reason of her structure insofar as she is taught, sanctified, and guided until Christ returns by the Apostles through their successors who are the bishops in communion with the successor of Peter (For further reading: Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) # 857,869).

In what does the mission of the Apostles consist?

The Word "Apostle" means "one who is sent." Jesus, the One sent by the Father, called to himself twelve of his disciples and appointed them as his Apostles, making them the chosen witnesses of his Resurrection and the foundation of his Church. He gave them the command to continue his own mission says, "As the Father has sent me, so I also send you" (John 20:21); and he promised to remain with them until the end of the world. (For further reading: CCC 858-861).

What is apostolic succession?

Apostolic succession is the transmission by means of the sacrament of Holy Orders of the mission and power of the Apostles to their successors, the bishops. Thanks to this transmission the Church remains in communion of faith and life with her origin, while through the centuries she carries on her apostolate for the spread of the Kingdom of Christ on earth. (For further reading: CCC 861-865).

Liturgical Year

(Sunday, November 5, 2023 is the beginning of a new liturgical year)

The liturgical year of the Maronite Church opens with commemorations in honor of the Church of Christ. The two Sundays of the Church, the Sunday of the Consecration of the Church and the Sunday of the Renewal of the Church (combined in one Sunday this year), although not directly connected with the Season of Announcement, the first of the liturgical seasons in which the life of Christ is reflected, form a fitting introduction to it. For these two Sundays teach us that the entire salvific mission of Christ today takes place through his Church.

The Old and New Testaments both use the term "corban" to indicate something consecrated to the Lord. Quite often an object was anointed with oil and then considered holy or set apart for the Lord. In the Old Testament, priests, kings, the meeting tent and its furniture, and the Ark of the Covenant were all anointed and thus consecrated to the Lord. In the New Testament, Jesus himself is called the Messiah, the Christ, the Anointed One. In the Church today, we still anoint catechumens, those being chrismated, the sick, priests and bishops, church buildings, and sacred vessels in order to set apart these people, places and objects as sacred, consecrated to the Lord.

In the Old Testament, the sacred object was the Ark of the Covenant. It was a symbol of the covenant between God and his people, as it originally contained the stone tablets of the ten commandments of God's law. By means of the covenant, Israel was set apart as the chosen people, and Yahweh was to be their God. The Ark was the symbol of God's personal and saving presence among his people. It was upon the Ark that the blood of atonement was sprinkled and it was before it that divine communications were received. As a sign of God's leadership and protection for his chosen people, the Ark was carried before the army in battle.

In his prophecies, Isaiah refers to the servant of Yahweh as a "covenant of the people, a light for the nations." This covenant of the people will establish justice on earth, open the eyes of the blind, and free prisoners (Isaiah 42: 46,6-7).

Jesus, the Anointed One, is the New Ark, His sacred person is the place where the divine and the human meet. He is the bearer of the good news. It is through the sacrifice of his body on the cross that the sins are atoned for and his resurrection establishes an everlasting covenant between God and his people.

Through the outpouring of the Spirit of Christ, the Church has come into being and continues the mission of Christ in the world. It is now the Church which proclaims to mankind God's saving love for the world.

The Sunday of the Renewal of the Church invites individual Christians to renew their personal consecration to the Lord and his Church, and to strive to realize God's kingdom on earth.

(Prayer of the Faithful, Volume 1, page 182)

I was hungry and you
gave me food,
I was thirsty and you
gave me something to drink.

Matthew 25:35, NRSV

