

## 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, September 18, 2022, First Sunday after the Holy Cross*

Sunday, September 18, 2022 at 11:00 o'clock

Thursday, September 22, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

Divine Liturgy in honor of Saint Sharbel

Sunday, September 25, 2022 at 11:00 o'clock

Gabriella Randhahn

Sunday, October 2, 2022 at 11:00 o'clock

Deceased members of the Carali family

Sunday, October 9, 2022 at 11:00 o'clock

Barbara Richey (40 Day Anniversary)

Sunday, October 16, 2022 at 11:00 o'clock

Younes Younes

Sunday, October 23, 2022 at 11:00 o'clock

Antoine Toufic Touma

Sunday, October 30, 2022 at 11:00 o'clock

Christopher and Trina Beasley and Bettie Yazbeck

**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, September 25, 2022**

Halim Younes, Anthony Beasley, John Nadder & Fawzi Abouchabke

### **Ushers for Sunday, October 2, 2022**

Roger Abou Jaoude, Elie Malkoun, Kevin Pitzer and George Choueiry

### **Altar Servers for Sunday, September 25, 2022**

Jason Pitzer and Peter ElKhoueiry

### *Thank you for your generosity*

#### **Summary of the Collection for Sunday, September 11, 2022**

Regular Collection \$1187

2<sup>nd</sup> collection (CUA) \$ 196

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

### *Sunday School*

**Religious Education (Sunday School) program** will start next

**Sunday, September 25, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.** registration for Sunday School (Religious Education). The Sunday School, open to all young people from pre-school to high school.

### *Sunday School Meeting*

**Saturday, September 24, 2022**, there will be a meeting for all Sunday School teachers at 10:00 o'clock in the morning in the parish's office. After the meeting, we will arrange and prepare the class rooms for the start of the program on Sunday.

### **Scripture Readings**

#### **Sunday, September 25, 2022 (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Holy Cross)**

1 Cor 15: 19-34; Mt 24:1-14

#### **Sunday, October 2, 2022 (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Holy Cross)**

Phil 3:17-4:1; Mt 24:23-31

#### **Sunday, October 9, 2022 (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Holy Cross)**

1 Thes 5:1-11; Mt 24:45-51

### *Thanks a Million*



To all the gracious volunteers and behind the scenes personnel who helped to make the Parish's Annual Lebanese Food Festival the success it was. I pray that God Almighty will continue to smile upon you and bless you. May He grant you peace, happiness, success and health in this life and in the life ever after, His eternal kingdom.

With my sincere gratitude and prayers for all of you.

### *FYI*

#### *What is meant in the Apostles' Creed by "the forgiveness of sins"?*

By "the forgiveness of sins" in the Apostles' Creed is meant that God has given to the Church, through Jesus Christ, the power to forgive sins, no matter how great or how many they are, if sinners truly repent.

Receive the Holy Ghost; whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven them; and whose sins you shall retain, they are retained (John 20:22-23).

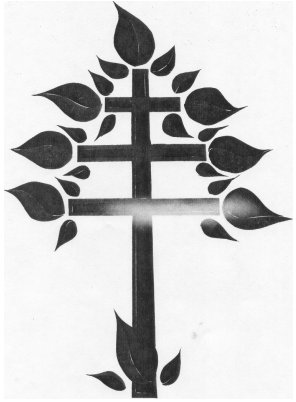
#### *Should we be satisfied merely to keep the commandments God?*

We should not be satisfied merely to keep the commandments of God, but should always be ready to do good deeds, even when they are not commanded. "if you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have, and give to the poor, and you shall have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me" (Matthew 19:21).

#### *What does Our Savior especially recommend that is not strictly commanded by the law of God?*

Our Savior especially recommends the observance of the Evangelical Counsels – voluntary poverty, perpetual chastity, and perfect obedience. "You therefore are to be perfect, even as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Matthew 5:48).

## Feast of the Triumph of the Holy Cross



The Feast of the Holy Cross is one of the most solemn feasts of the Maronite Liturgical calendar and commemorates the finding of the relics of the cross and the dedication of the Church at Calvary.

The feast of the triumph of the Holy Cross was celebrated as early as the 5<sup>th</sup> century. Cyril of Jerusalem claimed that the Cross was discovered early in the 4<sup>th</sup> century by emperor Constantine when he intended to build a Basilica on the site of the tomb of Christ.

According to these early traditions, the people were shown the wood of the cross and allowed to honor it once each year on the 14<sup>th</sup> of September.

There is a difference between the adoration of the cross on Good Friday and the exaltation of the cross today. On Good Friday the focus is on the passion and suffering of Christ. On Good Friday the focus is on the cross as the only way to resurrection. In today's feast we worship the cross because of the power of Christ given to it.

### FYI

- Liturgy:** The Divine Service of the Holy Mysteries (Mass) is on Sunday at 11:00 a.m.
- Confession:** Confession is available before Liturgy or upon request.
- Communion Calls:** For hospitalized, shut-in, or suffering from a long illness, please call the priest.
- Anointing:** Contact the priest for the Sacrament of the Sick.
- Baptism:** Contact the priest as soon as the baby is born. Instruction classes are offered for new parents and sponsors.

### Requirements for Sponsors at Baptism:

The Law requires at least **ONE** sponsor for baptism, and provides criteria for being a good sponsor.

- ★ He or she must be a **practicing Catholic**. This may be attested to by a certificate from the sponsor's proper parish pastor;
- ★ He or she must have been fully initiated into the Church (have received all three initiation Mysteries)
- ★ Must be living a good, Catholic life and be free of excommunication.
- ★ Not the father, mother or spouse (of the candidate), and be at least **18 years old**. It is the practice of the Maronite Church to administer the Mystery of Confirmation at the time of Baptism.

**Crowning (Marriage)** Please contact the pastor at least **Six Months** prior to the wedding. Pre-marriage formation classes are required for both, bridegroom and bride. In case of a prior marriage, no wedding date, (not even tentatively) can be set until the Eparchial Marriage Tribunal makes its final decision.

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross (by Fr. Abdo Badawi - USEEK)

