

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church
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Msgr. George M. Sebaali, Pastor

Pastor's personal Email: Gmsebaali@aol.com

Pastor's cell number: (804) 240-9820

February 16, 2020, Sunday of the Faithful Departed

Sunday, February 16, 2020 at 11:00 o'clock

Amal Boudib (40 Day Anniversary)

Tuesday, February 18, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, February 23, 2020 at 11: 00 o'clock

Ash Monday, February 24, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

Divine Liturgy, Blessing and Distribution of Ashes

Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

No evening Liturgy

Sunday, March 1, 2020 at 11:00 o'clock

Emile, Antoine and Charbel Touma

Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

Divine Liturgy and Benediction with the Holy Cross

Sunday, March 8, 2020 at 11:00 o'clock

Scripture Readings

Sunday, February 23, 2020, Cana Sunday

Rom 14:14-23; John 2:1-11

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

Sunday, February 23, 2020

Halim Younes, Mark Malkoun, Billy Haddad and Joseph Nasr

Thank you for your generosity

Summary of the Collection for **Sunday, February 9, 2020**

Regular Sunday Collection \$ 2606

Pledges \$ 200

Tuesday: \$ 98

Attention All Youth

The **annual regional youth retreat** for young people ages 13 to 18 years old will take place the weekend of **March 27, 28, 29, 2020 at St. Anthony Church in Richmond, Va.** This is a great opportunity for our youth to get together in both religious and social activities. The deadline for registration is **February 27**. If you would like for your child to attend, please let me know by email at ourladyoflebanonchurchdc@gmail.com or by calling the office at (202) 2 91-5153.

Parish's Email

Please note the Parish's email is:

OurLadyofLebanonChurchDC@Gmail.com. Besides the pastor's personal email address, no other email is to be used for parish business.

Lenten Observances 2020

For us Maronites, Lent begins on **Ash Monday, February 24, 2020** and lasts until **Holy Saturday (April 11) at noon**. The following Lenten guidelines are observed in the Eparchy of Saint Maron.

- ★ All Maronites who are physically capable are to **abstain from meat** on Ash Monday (**February 24**) and all Fridays of Lent.



**The confessional is not a torture chamber,
but the place in which the Lord's Mercy Motivates us to do
better.**

Pope Francis

- ★ Ash Monday and the Great Friday of the Crucifixion are also days of **fasting**. Fasting in the Maronite Church involves eating and drinking nothing at all (except water and medicine) from midnight until noon. The rest of the day normal meals can be taken, but without meat. All Maronites who are physically capable are to fast on these two days.

Ash Monday



The Liturgy for **Ash Monday [February 24]** will be at **7:30 p.m.** Blessing of Ashes will take place at the Liturgy. Ash Monday is a day of complete fast and abstinence.

Bishop's Annual Appeal

The Bishop's Annual Appeal for 2020 will start on **Ash Monday, February 24, 2020** and will last until **Easter Sunday, April 12, 2020**. Please send in your contribution, earmarked **Bishop's Appeal**, before Easter Sunday. More information will be emailed to you in the very near future. Thank you for your generosity.



A big and sincere thank you to you all for making our Saint Maron Feast Day Annual Luncheon the success it was. In a special way, I would like to extend my gratitude to all the unknown soldiers who worked silently and behind the scene to prepare, organize and serve the luncheon. May God reward you a hundred fold.

While we welcome everyone to worship with us, we encourage you to contact the Church Office as soon as possible if you would like to register in the parish. Please keep in mind, in order for you to get any correspondence from the Church, you must be registered. Registration gives you the sense of belonging to the Parish and gives us the opportunity to try to better serve you.

Sunday of the Faithful Departed

Today the Maronite Church commemorates all the faithful Christians who have departed this life in the faith. This feast is the Syrian Church's equivalent to the feast of All Souls in the Latin Church.

As we have just prayed in the *Hoosoyo*, we ask our Lord Jesus Christ to welcome all our deceased brothers and sisters, who have been nourished with his body and blood, into his kingdom of light. Not knowing the state of perfection they have achieved in their lives, we commend them to the mercy of God with hope and expectation.



THE DAY DRAWS NEAR

It is a Christian obligation for us to help our brothers and sisters through our prayers and the offering of the Divine Mysteries for their salvation. For though they have not yet reached the joy of the righteous and the just, they are called to ultimately enter the kingdom of light and peace. Our intercession can bring them nearer to the day of eternal happiness.

Death takes the body. God takes the soul. Our mind holds the memories. Our heart keeps the love. Our faith lets us know we will meet again.

We should pray in a special way for those who have been near us, our relatives, friends and benefactors who have died. At the same time we should pray for the deceased members of our parish and for all the departed who have no one to pray for them.

We commend the faithful departed to the Lord that by His cross He may lead them into the eternal wedding feast, and newly arrived in God's kingdom may they intercede before Him on our behalf.

