

**Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church, INC**

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**Msgr. George M Sebaali, Pastor**

**Pastor's personal email: Gmsebaali@aol.com**

**Pastor's Cell number: (804) 240 -9820**

**Sunday, May 12, 2024, Sunday After Ascension**

**Sunday, May 12, 2024 at 11:00 o'clock (First Communion)**

For the First Communion children, their parents, teachers and for all the mothers living and deceased

**Saturday, May 18, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.**

Tanios Habchi (40 Day Anniversary)

**Sunday, May 19, 2024 at 11:00 o'clock (Pentecost Sunday)**

**Wednesday, May 22, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.**

Liturgy in honor of Saint Sharbel

**Saturday, May 25, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.**

Andree Helou (40 Day Anniversary, requested by her family)

**Sunday, May 26, 2024 at 11:00 o'clock**

Clara Ibrahim (40 Day Anniversary)

**Sunday, June 2, 2024 at 11:00 o'clock**

**Sunday, June 9, 2024 at 11:00 o'clock**

**Sunday, June 16, 2024 at 11:00 o'clock**

For all fathers living and deceased

**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, May 5, 2024**

Halim Younes, Gebran Fattouche, Antoine Issa and Joseph Nasr

**Ushers for Sunday, May 12, 2024**

Fawzi Abouchabke, Maroun Mezher, Tony El-Khoury and Mark Malkoun

**Ushers for Sunday, May 19, 2024**

Roger AbouJaoude, Elie Malkoun, Kevin Pitzer, George Choueiry and James Gebara

**Altar Servers for Sunday, May 12, 2024**

Matteo AbouJaoude and Jason Nasr

**Thank you for your generosity**

**Summary of the Collection for Sunday, May 5, 2024**

Regular Collection \$1046

Contribution by mail \$ 570

Pledge \$1150

Second Collection \$ 315

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

**Second Collections**

■ **On Sunday May 19, 2024**, a second collection will be taken for the Catholic Communications Campaign. Following the norms established by the USCCB, 50% of this collection is sent to them for national Catholic television, radio and other media, and 50% is retained by our Eparchy for the Maronite Voice and any other communication needs we may have. Thank you for your generosity and may God reward you handsomely.

**First Holy Communion**

The following will receive their First Holy Communion on **Sunday, May 12, 2024**: Eli Burke, Lucine ElKhoury, Isabelle El Murr, Michael Fawaz, Olivia Karam, Lilianne Khoury and Dominic Mannato. May God through the intercession of Our Lady of Lebanon bless and guide them always.

Parents and First Communion children are asked to be in the church no later than 9:45 a.m.

**Scripture Readings**

**Sunday, May 12, 2024** (Seventh Sunday of the Resurrection)

Eph 1:15–23; Jn 13:31–35

**Sunday, May 19, 2024 (Pentecost Sunday)**

Acts 2:1–21; Jn 14:15–20

**A Big Thank You to our Religious Education Teachers**

Our gratitude and heartfelt thanks go out to all the teachers of the Maronite Catholic Formation (MCF). Thank you for your dedication and love, and your willingness to share your time and talents with our children as you pass on the faith to them. May Jesus the high teacher bless you abundantly.

**Sunday, May 12, 2024**, is the last day of religious education program for this year. The 2024-2025 program will resume in the middle of September.

**Guidelines for the 2024-2025 First Holy Communion Program**

**Eligibility**

- Children generally celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Sacrament of Eucharist for the first time in Second grade.
- Any baptized Catholic child who has reached the age of reason (7 years of age and attended Faith Formation Classes in the first grade at Our Lady of Lebanon Church and is now in the second grade, or has attended first grade religious education in another Catholic Church or school, a letter from the pastor or the Director of Religious education is required) is eligible to receive the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, referred to as First Communion.
- Children need to be enrolled and participating in the Maronite Catholic Formation (MCF) program for 2 years immediately prior to reception of the Sacrament. First grade would be considered Year 1 and Second grade would be considered Year 2.

**Family Preparation**

Our Lady of Lebanon Sacramental Preparation for First Communion requires the child attending the weekly classes as well as the parents working with the child at home to complete lessons focusing on each sacrament.



*A Happy and Joyful Day to all the mothers  
and mothers to be.*

*May our Heavenly Mother watch over you  
and guide you in your vocation and keep you and us  
faithful to the "Mother Church."*

*Enjoy your well deserved day!*



The First Sunday of May, we celebrate the memorial of Our Virgin Mother under the title of "Our Lady of Lebanon." The Maronite Church has always had a special devotion to the Virgin, as is evidenced by the great number of churches which are dedicated to her both in Lebanon and in our own country. Mary, moreover, plays a special role in the Church's liturgy: There are numerous *hoosoyeh* dedicated to her, *qoley* and hymns which extol her virtues, and constant petitions which beg her intercession. And yet, Mary is always seen in the Maronite liturgy as the Mother of the Lord, the Theotokos, in whose womb the Word took flesh:

*Hail Mary! In your virginity, you became the mother of the  
mighty One who fills heaven and earth.*

*Hail Mary! In your virginity, you became the mother of the  
ancient One whose name was before the sun was created.*

*Hail Mary! In your virginity, you became the mother of the  
Creator who formed Eve and gave her to Adam.*

*Blessed are you, Mary, in whose womb dwelled in holiness the  
only begotten Son who is one in nature and in Splendor with  
the Father.*

It is because of Mary's unique position of Mother of the Lord that the Church knows that it can turn to her and seek her intercession with her Son:

*O Mother of the Life, petition your divine Son to Keep away from us all the effects of evil, to preserve  
us from all animosity and to strengthen us on our way.*

As we honor the Virgin Mother of the Lord under her title of "Our Lady of Lebanon," we pray for the land of our ancestors in the faith, for the whole Maronite Church, and for those parishes which are dedicated under her patronage. May Our Lady of Lebanon assist us by her prayers. Amen

*(Maronite Divine Office)*

