

Sunday, February 22, 2026 at 11:00 o'clock

- Mikhael Youssef Kazzi (requested by Gilbert Kazzi)
- Joseph Fayad, Joseph & Salwa Maatouk (by Micheline Maatouk)

Friday, February 27, 2026 at 7:30 p.m.

Hilene Nassar (requested by Dolly Bechara)

Sunday, March 1, 2026 at 11:00 o'clock

- Antoine Emile Touma (requested by Deacon Michel Touma)
- Youssef Wanna (40 Day anniversary) requested by David Wanna

Friday, March 6, 2026 at 7:30 p.m.

Tannous Alwan (requested by Dolly Bechara)

Sunday, March 8, 2026 at 11:00 o'clock

- Mounira Abi Khalil Chedid (requested by Antoine Chedid)
- Norma Younes (40 Day anniversary) requested by her colleagues

Friday, March 13, 2026 at 7:30 p.m.

Divine Liturgy and Benediction with the Holy Cross

Sunday, March 15, 2026 at 11:00 o'clock

Roland Elias Moura (40 Day anniversary) by Joseph Moura

Wednesday, March 18, 2026 at 7:30 p.m.

Divine Liturgy in honor of the Feast of Saint Joseph

Friday, March 20, 2026 at 7:30 p.m.

Divine Liturgy and Benediction with the Holy Cross

Sunday, March 22, 2026 at 11:00 o'clock

Suzanne Luwinzy Gebran (40 Day) requested by Gebran Fattouch

Monday, March 23, 2026 at 7:30 p.m.

Divine Liturgy in honor of the Feast of Saint Rafqa

Friday, March 27, 2026 at 7:30 p.m.

Hafez Saker (requested by Roula AbouSaleh)

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church, INC

7142 Alaska Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20012

Phone (202) 291-5153

www.Ololdc.org

Email: Ourladyoflebanonchurchdc@gmail.com

Msgr. George M Sebaali, Pastor

Pastor's personal email: Gmsebaali@aol.com

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

February 22, 2026, Sunday of the Healing of the Leper

Ushers for Sunday, February 22, 2026

Roger AbouJaoude, Kevin Pitzer, and George Choueiry

Ushers for Sunday, March 1, 2026

Halim Younes, John Nadder and JoAnne Nasr

Ushers for Sunday, March 8, 2026

Halim Younes, Gebran Fattouche, Antoine Issa and Joseph Nasr

Altar Servers for Sunday, February 22, 2026

Marek Oszwakdowski, Michael Fawaz, Evan Kazzi & Chris Moussa

Altar Servers for Sunday, March 1, 2026

Marek Oszwakdowski, Michael Fawaz, Jason and Shady Nasr

Thank you for your generosity

Summary of the Collection for Sunday, February 15, 2026

Regular Collection \$3305

Donation by Mail \$ 435

Pledge \$ 900

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

Scripture Readings

Sunday, February 22, 2026 (Healing of the Leper)

Rom 6:12-23; Mk 1:35-45

Sunday, February 25, 2024 (The Hemorrhaging woman)

2 Cor 7:4-11; Lk 8:40-56

Sunday, March 3, 2024 (The Prodigal Son)

2 Cor 13:5-13; Lk 15:11-32

Bishop's Annual Appeal

The **Bishop's Annual Appeal** for 2026 will start on Ash Monday, **February 16, 2026**, and will last until Easter Sunday. The Annual Bishop's Appeal is an opportunity for all of us in the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn to act with unity in expressing our love for God and to help give the light of our Maronite faith to future generations.

Please send in your contribution, earmarked **Bishop's Appeal 2026, before Easter Sunday**. Thank you for your generosity.

Lenten Services

Every Friday of Lent, we will have a Divine Liturgy followed by the Benediction with the Holy Cross at **7:30 p.m.** Following the Liturgy a **simple lenten (meatless) meal** will be served in the social hall.

Every Friday of Lent is a **day of abstinence**. Abstinence means that no meat or meat products may be consumed during the 24 hour period.



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

Liturgical Directives

According to the decision of the Patriarchal Commission for Liturgical Affairs:

- ◆ Fasting and abstinence are relaxed on Saturdays, Sundays, and on the following feast days: St. John Maron (March 2), the Forty Martyrs (March 9), St. Joseph (March 19), the Annunciation (March 25), and the feast of the parish patron. However, throughout Holy Week- from Monday to Holy Saturday, fasting and abstinence remain obligatory.

Eucharistic Fast

- ◆ This consists of abstaining from food by priests and the faithful in preparation for receiving Holy Communion during the Divine Liturgy, for at least **one hour before the beginning of Mass**. We also recall the importance of maintaining a state of grace, modesty in dress, reverence, and awareness of the Lord Christ present under the forms of bread and wine.

The Cleansing of the Leper

Jesus Heals the Leper



The miracle of Jesus curing the leper took place when Jesus was visiting the cities of Galilee. At that time, many diseases of the skin were referred to as leprosy. It seems that in this case the man was suffering from a true case of leprosy. It tortures a person for many years, destroys any human appearance, and ultimately kills the individual. The sufferer becomes utterly repulsive to others and to himself. In the time of Jesus, the leper was declared to be "unclean" and was separated from the rest of the community. The physical disease of leprosy can be compared to the spiritual disease of sin. A person who sins eventually loses the image of the divine imprinted upon his soul. He becomes hateful to others and even to himself. He becomes separated

from the rest of the community, the Body of Christ, and forced to dwell alone.

In the Old Testament, a leper who was cured was treated similar to a repentant person. A cured leper was required to offer two birds at the Temple. One bird was killed and the second live bird was dipped in the blood of the sacrificed bird and allowed to go free. We are also cleansed by the blood of Christ.

We must consider the courage of the leper who approached Jesus for healing. According to the law, he was forbidden to go near anyone, but the leper does not consider the law.

He simply wants to be cured and he knows where the healing is to be found. Jesus does not reproach the man for breaking the law, but shows him mercy. Jesus stretched out his hand and touched the leper. (This act itself was forbidden by the law.) His only concern was the desperate need of this suffering man. After curing the man, he instructed him to perform the ritual imposed by the law.

Jesus was somewhat severe with the man after the cure and instructed him to tell no one of the miraculous healing. Nonetheless, the man went throughout the countryside and told everyone about Jesus. Jesus was thus obliged to avoid the populated areas and withdraw to the desert places.

The cure of the leper manifests what sin can do to us and what the miraculous healing power of the Lord can do for us. Just as the leper showed courage and sought the healing power of Jesus, let us seek the healing power of Jesus in confessing our sins and asking for forgiveness.

(Maronite Prayer of the Faithful II)

**"RISE AND GO YOUR WAY;
YOUR FAITH HAS MADE YOU WELL."**

LUKE 17:19

