

## Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Cathedral

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### January-February-March, 2013 Newsletter

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Dear Parishioners and Friends:

We are very late in getting this Newsletter out to you in a timely fashion. I am sorry for the delay. As a result please note that this Issue of our Newsletter includes everything up to and including Easter.

For those of you who use envelopes or make your weekly donations by check, you will have a financial statement included in your packet. If you feel that we have made an error on your statement please call Madelyn and we will work it out. If you give only by dropping in the basket with no envelope we can not verify that you donate. I am sorry to say that out of 414 registered envelope holders, only 134 people received statements. This is not good at all. This saddens me to say the least.

For the past five and a half years we have tried to educate you on what good Stewardship is. Everyone sees what progress we have made on the Cathedral. Weekly we publish what our income is in order to make our working budget. By the grace of God we have made it each year. Thanks also to those who understand what Church really is.

For the rest of the Cathedral parish I really do not know what to say. Much is demanded from us and yet very few people wish to do their part for this great Cathedral and parish.

What is even more stressful is the fact that over 60% of the parish does not even participate in the religious nor social aspects of this Church. For example; our Heritage Program. We are morally obligated; and I must say, joyfully teach our youth and young people their faith. It is not a burden but rather a grace from Almighty God to share our faith, tradition and hope in Jesus Christ. However, once the majority of the children have received First Communion, we do not see them in the program.

We have been preaching on the New Evangelization for the past three months. We write articles, use the pulpit and have discussions within all the organizations.

Having said all this people make us out to be villains. When we ask our children questions about the faith they have no idea. As a matter of fact, over 53% of all Catholics do not believe in the real presence of Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. That is heresy. Most Catholics today say we should not speak on issues such as abortion and same-sex marriage. After all the Church is old and archaic in its beliefs.

You see we have allowed society to overrule and dictate to what the Church has always, and always will hold to be "TRUTH". I will admit that it is much easier to be popular and to think in "popular" terms than to follow the teachings and precepts of Holy Mother Church.

In my soon to be 29 years of priesthood I have seen a drastic change in the mentality of the Church. Unfortunately many of these changes have not been for the good of Holy Mother the Church. Human secularism has infiltrated and taken over in so many ways.

Earlier this month all of the clergy of our Eparchy were on retreat. Our retreat master, Bishop Mengeling, the retired Bishop of Lansing, Michigan; told us that this is an exciting time for the priesthood. We have a lot of work ahead of us. He is absolutely correct. It is exciting to be a priest today and to preach the Good News of Jesus Christ to all the peoples. It isn't easy, but none the less we continue in our journeys of faith as we come to know and serve our Lord and the "TRUTH" that He stands for.

I pray that more people will come to weekly Bible and Adult Faith sharing to have a deeper and truer understanding of what the Church teaches and not society. After all we need to face reality. We need to, if I may, come clean with God.

On a final note please take a good look at all the announcements in this Newsletter. Also, if you have made a pledge or would like to make a pledge for the Capital Campaign, I encourage you to do so. Work on the Cathedral façade is coming along. Soon the new carpeting will be installed in time for Sheneenee and Easter.

The new liturgy books will be here by the middle of February. If anyone would like to donate toward this project you will find the flyer with all the details in this Newsletter as well. Many thanks to Chorbishop Michael Thomas and Father Geoffrey Abdallah for all their hard work in this great endeavor.

I wish to thank you for all your love, confidence and generosity toward our Church. Please be assured of my continued prayers for each and everyone of you as well.

In Our Lord and His Mother, I remain  
Sincerely,

Msgr. James A. Root  
Rector



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## ***Book of Initiation***

*Christian James Arias*  
*Son of Omar and Louise Sabbagh Arias*  
*December 2, 2012*

*Jayden Gabriel Torruella*  
*Son of Justin and Carla Elboustani Torruella*  
*December 2, 2012*

*Charlize Olivia Diab*  
*Daughter of Mario and Brianna Johnson Diab*  
*December 2, 2012*

*Lachlan Christopher Bryant Kruse*  
*Son of Christopher and Fadia Hatem Kruse*  
*December 23, 2012*

*Cedarina Audrey Antun*  
*Daughter of Abdo and Joanna Blaauw Antun*  
*December 28, 2012*

*Adrian Leonardo Blanchet*  
*Son of Adrian and Sandra Wong Blanchet*  
*December 29, 2012*

*Audrey Najat Rached*  
*Daughter of Roger and Rouba Souheil Rached*  
*January 4, 2013*

## ***Book of Crowning***

*NO Entries*

## ***Book of Life***

*No Entries*

## ***Prayers for the Sick and Homebound***

*Laurice Fadel*  
*Olga Kahraman*  
*Gladys Lanese*  
*Bernice Mansour*  
*Marian Moshy*  
*Raymond Safi*  
*John Shakal*  
*Lorraine Trabulsi*

## ***Gifts of the Heart***

### ***Altar Bread and Wine***

**January 2013**  
*William Waked*  
Requested by Janet Waked

**February 2013**  
*Henry Hamid*  
Requested by Carol Hamid

**March 2013**  
*Kaiser and Richard Nofil*  
Requested by Lydia Gordon

**April 2013**  
*George Makadssi*  
Requested by Roger and Vera Shammas

**May 2013**  
*Simon and Raphael Families*  
Requested by Philomena Simon

**June 2013**  
*Mary Batal—Nofil*  
Requested by Lydia Gordon

**July 2013**  
*Arthur Matney Sr.*  
Requested by Laurice Matney

**August 2013**  
*Charles and Susie Gustin and Joe and Delores Gustin*  
Requested by Joseph Gustin

**September 2013**  
*Joseph and Margaret Mansour*  
Requested by Bernice and Marilyn Mansour

**October 2013**  
*Ciaccia and Sahadi Families*  
Requested by Marian Ciaccia

**November 2013**  
*James Gordon*  
Requested by Lydia Gordon

**December 2013**  
*Henry Hamid*  
Requested by Carol Hamid



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**Sanctuary Lamp**

**January 2013**

***Arthur Matney Sr.***

Requested by Laurice Matney

**February 2013**

***Anthony Jure***

Requested by the Jure Family

**March 2013**

***Maro Batrouni and Rita Hage Batrouni***

Requested by Salim Batrouni

**April 2013**

***Margaret Mansour***

Requested by Bernice and Marilyn Mansour

**May 2013**

***Simon and Raphael Families***

Requested by Philomena Simon

**June 2013**

***Salavessa, Santoni Spehn Families***

Requested by Daisy and Elana Diamontopulos

**July 2013**

***Diamontopulos and Ahearn Families***

Requested by Daisy and Elana Diamontopulos

**August 2013**

***Duart, Leito and Brignoni Families***

Requested by Daisy and Elana Diamontopulos

**September 2013**

***Maro Batrouni and Rita Hage Batrouni***

Requested by Salim Batrouni

**October 2013**

***Joseph Mansour***

Requested by Bernice and Marilyn Mansour

**November 2013**

***Margaret Mansour***

Requested by Bernice and Marilyn Mansour

**December 2013**

***Saad and Leesha Families***

Requested by Bernice and Marilyn Mansour

**Chapel Sanctuary Lamp**

**January 2013**

**Arthur Matney**

Requested by Laurice Matney

**February 2013**

**Arthur Matney**

Requested by Laurice Matney

**March 2013**

**Arthur Matney**

Requested by Laurice Matney

**April—December 2013**

***Available***



**Outdoor Shrine to Mary**

**January 2013**

***Adele and Cheme . Kiss—Bar***

Requested by Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Coussa

**February 2013**

***Special Blessings***

Requested by Bernice and Marilyn Mansour

**March 2013**

***Arthur Matney Sr.***

Requested by Laurice Matney

**April 2013**

***Arthur Matney Sr.***

Requested by Laurice Matney

**May 2013**

***Joseph Mansour***

Requested by Bernice and Marilyn Mansour

**June 2013**

***Eid and O'Shea Families***

Requested by Mr. and Mrs. George Eid

**July 2013**

***Eid and O'Shea Families***

Requested by Mr. and Mrs. George Eid

**August 2013**

***Eid and O'Shea Families***

Requested by Mr. and Mrs. George Eid

**October 2013**

***Sahadi and Ciaccia Families***

Requested by Marian Ciaccia

**November 2013**

***Farres Mattar***

Requested by Leila Badran and Family

**December 2013**

***Saad and Leesha Families***

Requested by Bernice and Marilyn Mansour

**Knights of the Altar**

***Application to begin Service***

*The primary purpose of the program is to address the obvious need for Altar servers. However, a secondary and significant purpose of the program is to be a tool for our youth—to encourage personal growth in the areas of faith, service, devotion, social awareness, family, prayer and knowledge of our Maronite Catholic Faith. At each level a Knight is challenged in some way to broaden and deepen his growth and to display an appropriate level of understanding of what he is being called to achieve in service to the priest and the Parish community. Guidance from the clergy, adult staff and parents is always encouraged and provided to assist the Knights in moving from one level to another.*

**PLEASE PRINT**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grade in Heritage:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent (s) Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email address:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**PERMISSION**

**I am happy to assist my son in becoming a Knight of the Altar. I agree to encourage and motivate him through my own active stewardship and faith, especially in the areas of daily prayer, Sunday Divine Liturgy, and living out my daily activities knowing they are done in service to God. As a parent of a Knight of the Altar, I will support my son in needed transportation and time commitment to ensure proper training and reverence in his service to God.**

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Training will be held in the Church, and you will be notified of the date and time.**



