

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Cathedral

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September, October 2013 Newsletter

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Dear Parishioners and Friends:

The summer is coming to a very quick close. We must remind ourselves that autumn does not happen until September 21st. Having said that I realize more and more, as much as I love the summer time, autumn or fall is still my most favorite time of year.

I love it for so many reasons. First of all, the energy and excitement of a new beginning with all the children going back to school. So many of them starting new experiences and challenges with so many beginning Jr. High School, High School and University. It brings back many memories.

Another reason is the fact that the Church year is new as well. In a few short days we will begin the last Liturgical Season of Holy Cross and then the new Church Year will begin.

For us at the Cathedral we will complete the majority of the work on the façade and sidewalks by mid October, Inshallah, and just some of the windows of the main bell tower will need to be put into place. Finally the scaffolding will be taken down.

Many of the Organizations will have new leadership as well. For the officers of the various organizations both new and old, we take this opportunity to say thank you for all your hard work. I am excited to continue now with the new officers as well. I pray we come together and work as one for the up building of our Church here on earth in order to share in the Heavenly Kingdom as well.

The Brooklyn Autism School is moving from our facility. They were happy here but needed a much larger space for their growing school. As luck would have it; a Day Care called Wee Too, a program for 8month old children up to 2.5 year olds inquired about renting our space due to a change in their old space. We are presently working on that deal.

We also recently became members of the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce. Now I would like to share with each of you a new development that literally transpired six days ago from when I am writing this letter.

A member group of the Chamber of Commerce; the Brooklyn Public Library– Business Division, asked to use a part of our facilities due to renovations and reconstruction of their branch. They are willing to pay the Cathedral a large sum of money which would be used totally for the restoration of our building and complex.

I then mentioned it to the Bishop and Msgr. Michael as well as the Trustees of the Cathedral. They all in turn agreed on asking the opinion and advise of the Pastoral Council and heads of the Organizations. So on Sunday, September 1st we held a special meeting of the Council along with a few parishioners who were present at Liturgy. I, along with Claire Habib and Joe Shaia, informed everyone of the intent of the Brooklyn Library. I must say that everyone was in agreement with some stipulation on certain items. I will inform everyone at a Towne Hall meeting in the very near future of more details. What I will share with you is that we were offered \$675,000.00 in rent over a three year period. Along with that they will pay their portion of the Gas, Electric and Water that is used as well as take care of the entrance maintenance during the inclement weather.

The most challenging aspect is that we will have to change our use of the Upper Social Hall and use the downstairs. Now that the Autism School is not there it won't be so much of a problem. We will also put in a chair lift for the elderly who will need assistance. Again, more details to follow in the very near future as we still study all of this.

How do you fit in this equation?

You and I need a large measure of the three great transcendent core values that Saint Paul talks about in his first letter to the Church at Corinth (I Corinthians 13: 13). He speaks about Faith, Hope and Love. We need Faith, the foundation of our Catholic existence. Faith is both trust in God and reliance on the specific content of the Christian Gospel. That is revealed in the Sacred Scriptures and in our Liturgy and it is what makes the church, and those of us in it, indestructible.

Secondly, we need Hope. Hope is the sure confidence that God holds the future tightly and that He is in our future, waiting for us at the Eschaton (second coming).

Lastly, we need Love. This love is true and deep devotion to Him who loves us eternally, unconditionally and mercifully. We need God's love planted deeply in our own selves so that we can love in return; love, unconditionally and mercifully as well.

Welcome to a true new beginning. In our Lord and His Mother, I remain
Sincerely,

Msgr. James A. Root



Book of Initiation

Lucas Michael El Khoury
Son of Michel and Carin Chamoun ElKhoury
March 30, 2013

Chloe Joelle Chebli
Daughter of Rodrique and Christine Sassin Chebli
April 13, 2013

Elias Chahine
Son of Adel and Rola Awad Chahine
April 14, 2013

Rhea Khorana
Daughter of Shaleen and Shanty Mathew Khorana
May 4, 2013

Sebastien Michael Hernandez
Son of Miguel and Stephanie Moise Hernandez
May 5, 2013

Luna Violet Pfitzer
Daughter of Ralph and Pamela Vahdat Pfitzer
May 11, 2013

Paul Edward Sayegh
Son of Paul and Jennifer Pogoda Sayegh
June 8, 2013

Olivia Grace Zogby
Daughter of David and Samara Zogby
June 22, 2013

Henri Nabil Mouzannar
Lourdes Estelle Marie Mouzannar
Son and Daughter of Nabil and Natasha Cote Mouzannar
June 30, 2013

Olivia Joy Mouzannar
Daughter of Karim and Elizabeth Fox Mouzannar
June 30, 2013

Ines K. M Grouard
Daughter of Sebastien and Michele Machalani Grouard
June 30, 2013

Lauren Jbeily
Daughter of Gilbert and Neda Jbeily
August 3, 2013

Book of Crowning

Amer Elias Ayoub and Vera M. Kachnowski
May 11, 2013

Jeffrey Michael Reisner and Jacqueline Mary Smith
May 11, 2013

Peter G. Nassif and Kimberly K. Petros
July 6, 2013

Albert Srour and Rima Baroud
August 18, 2013

Book of Life

Elaine Gabriel
Bernice Mansour
William Rouhana, Sr.

Prayers for the Sick and Homebound

Laurice Fadel
Olga Kahraman
Marian Moshy
Lorraine Trabulsi

Gifts of the Heart ***Altar Bread and Wine***

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



Sanctuary Lamp

September 2013

Maro Batrouni and Rita Hage Batrouni

Requested by Salim Batrouni

October 2013

Sahadi and Ciaccia Families

Requested by Marian Ciaccia

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

September—December Available

Outdoor Shrine to Mary

September 2013

Paul Habib Boustany

Requested by Mr. and Mrs. Tom Jost

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

Marriage Preparation Class

All couples wishing to be married in the Cathedral must attend Marriage Pre-Cana classes. For those wishing to be married between October 2013 and November 2014 the first session will be offered on Saturday, October 19, 2013 beginning at 10:00 am and end around 3:00 pm. This course is mandatory with no exceptions. You may register by calling the Cathedral Office at 718.624.7228 or be contacting Msgr Root at aboonaajim@verizon.net or Cathrectory@verizon.net.

Again, this is mandatory and all couples must participate in the Spiritual and Liturgical life of the Cathedral family.

Baptism and Chrismation Class

All parents and God-Parents of new born children will have to participate in a one hour class with Msgr. James in order to have their children Baptized and Chrismated at the Cathedral. The first class will be held on Saturday, October 26, 2013 from 11:00 am to 12:00 noon. These classes are mandatory for the parents of the new born (one time) and for the God-parents. If you have attended a similar class at another Catholic Church you may bring in the Certificate as proof.

The reason for these classes is that most people do not understand the duties and responsibilities of God-Parents and the responsibility parents have in raising their children as good Catholics; not just Catholic.

To register please call the Cathedral Office at 718.624.7228 or by contacting Msgr. Root at aboonaajim@verizon.net or Cathrectory@verizon.net.

Classes will be held every two months and the next date will be announced by checking out our website or by calling the Cathedral Office.

