

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Cathedral

113 Remsen Street (at Henry Street) Brooklyn, New York 11201
(718) 624-7228 (718) 624-8034 FAX Website: OLOLC.org

November—December 2013 Newsletter

Cathrectory@verizon.net

aboonajim@verizon.net



Dear Parishioners and Friends:

With this Newsletter comes finality in the sense that the old Liturgical Year is finished and a new one is on the threshold. I also write this letter with much happiness and yet full of anxiety. I am anxious due to the fact that I was hoping to say 'doesn't the front of the Cathedral look wonderful'. But I can't, at least not yet.

Due to a few set backs with the Landmarks Commission and the crazy way the weather has been, we are not yet able to finish the work on the sidewalks. However, they keep promising me that part of the scaffolding will be able to come down.

Work on the inside is progressing. A new Sacristy and Confessionals are being planned and constructed as I write this. The upper balconies have been reinforced with new flooring as well. One thing that we did not anticipate however is the fact that the chandeliers had to be taken down because of faulty wiring. They will be cleaned and rewired by the middle of December, just in time for the beautiful feast of Christmas. Honestly though it was an expense none of us saw coming.

All these things we must deal with in our every day lives here at the Cathedral. We are dealing with a very old historic building. Things have been neglected for many years and at times the work is overwhelming. None the less, as they say, we roll up our sleeves and go to work.

I wish to thank the various committees and organizations who have worked so diligently and keeping us on track as best as possible. Without the Pastoral Council and the organizations it would not be possible to keep up with the demands of this Cathedral. Even though the majority of you are only here on Sunday, each and every day brings new experiences and at times problems.

But the Cathedral is much more than that. It must be the center of our spiritual life first and foremost. I wish people lived closer to the Cathedral to share in the rich Liturgical Life that we have here.

Each morning at 10:00 am a group of devoted parishioners from the area come and pray the Divine Liturgy. At the end of each daily Liturgy a specific Novena is prayed. Together, we have become a very close knit Spiritual Family. Without this small group of individuals I personally would not be able to continue to minister to this Cathedral Parish. They give me strength and reassurance in the work that must be accomplished here at Our Lady.

I have been reflecting for a few weeks now on the new Liturgical Year. When we say New Year's we think of resolutions and promises that we are not able to keep. The new Church Year however should not be looked at in the same way.

First of all, the first two weeks of the "New" Year are not really a Season as compared to 'Announcement' 'Lent' or 'Resurrection', etc. They do, however, begin the New Year by focusing on the Church. It is a time when, as the Gospels focus on the Jewish Temple and Jesus as the New Temple (John 2:19), we are asked to renew our lives and reconsecrate ourselves to Christ and his life of redemption.

I would like to challenge each and every parishioner at Our Lady of Lebanon. First of all we should not treat this "New Year" like any other New Year. It is not a time to make promises that we know we are not going to keep.

Secondly, we must take our Faith not at face value but rather seriously and in a profound way. So often I hear people say how religious they are. What they are saying is that they do the 'churchy' things like coming to Liturgy on Sunday or saying an occasional rosary or the like. But do we open the Sacred Scriptures daily and pray and reflect on them. Do we go to Confession on a regular basis. Do we fast and abstain each and every Friday of the year. Do we teach our children and families the same.

Thirdly, do we try to be a part of this Cathedral family or are we just on the edge.

So many individuals do so much for this Church from the bottoms of their hearts. Others only criticize and add nothing to the life of this community. We hear we should do this or that. We don't have enough for our youth and the such; but when asked to assist or do something about the situation, always decline to do so. In so many ways it is a very silent majority who try to understand what it means to be 'Church'. Now it is up to all of us to be a part of this Community of Faith. Now is the time to understand what Church really is, the "New Temple" who is Jesus Christ.

In our Lord and His Mother, Our Lady of Lebanon, I remain

Sincerely,



***Book of Initiation
Baptism-Chrismation***

*Ayla Elizabeth Pagan
Daughter of Arnold and Elizabeth Carpio
September 15, 2013*

*Anthony Richard Ziade
Son of Richard and Samaya Ziade
September 21, 2013*

*George Francis Zakaria
Son of Henry and Deonna Pesa Zakaria
September 22, 2013*

*Theodore Strohmer Matar
Son of Dominic and Kristin Strohmer Matar
October 19, 2013*



***Book of Crowning
Marriage***

*Matthew and Lauren Jalinis
September 28, 2013*

*Nicolas and Sarah Machalani
October 6, 2013*

***Book of Life
Death***

Berte Akel

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

*Laurice Fadel
Olga Kahraman
Marian Moshy
Elias Safi
Barbara Segre
Christine Segre
Lorraine Trabulsi*

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

November 2013
James Gordon
Requested by Lydia Gordon

December 2013
Henry Hamid
Requested by Carol Hamid



Sanctuary Lamp

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

November—December Available

Outdoor Shrine to Mary

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, February 22, 2014 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 aboonajim@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. Saturday, January 25, 2014 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 aboonajim@verizon.net or Cathrectory@verizon.net.



Christmas Liturgical Schedule

Christmas Novena December 15–23, 2013

December 15: Following the 9:00 A/M and
11:00 A/M Liturgies

December 16: Following the 10:00 A/M and
7:30 P/M Liturgies

December 17: Following the 10:00 A/M and
7:30 P/M Liturgies

December 18: Following the 10:00 A/M and
7:30 P/M Liturgies

December 19: Following the 10:00 A/M and
7:30 P/M Liturgies

December 20: Following the 10:00 A/M and
7:30 P/M Liturgies

December 21: Following the 10:00 A/M and
7:30 P/M Liturgies

December 22: Following the 9:00 A/M and
11:00 A/M Liturgies

December 23: Following the 10:00 A/M and
7:30 P/M Liturgies

December 24: 6:00 P/M Family Liturgy

12:00 Midnight Liturgy
Followed by Breakfast in the
Social Hall

December 25: 10:00 A/M Divine Liturgy

Confessions: Every Sunday from 10:15 A/M to
10:45 A/M

Daily: From 6:30 P/M to 7:15 P/M

Gifts of the Heart

There are many months available for the Sanctuary Lamps both in the Cathedral and in the Chapel as well as Altar Bread and Wine for the 2014 Calendar Year. Please fill out the form here or call the Cathedral Office during regular hours for availability. The Costs for these items are as follows:

Altar Bread and Wine: \$75.00 per month

Sanctuary Lamp (Cathedral): \$50.00 per month

Sanctuary Lamp (Chapel): \$50.00 per month

Outdoor Shrine to Mary: \$50.00 per month

Request Form

Item: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

On Memory of: _____

On Thanksgiving for: _____

Amount: _____



