

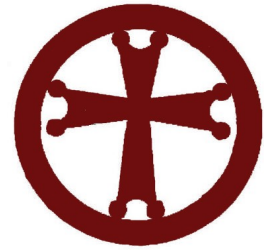
Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Cathedral

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January—February 2014 Newsletter

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Dear Parishioners and Friends:

I greet you with the choicest of blessings for the New Year. I also would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generosity and support and love at Christmas and throughout the year. You truly are my family and I love and respect you..

Please allow me to apologize for not publishing the Christmas Flower donations in this Issue of our Newsletter. It will be published in the next Issue.

The main topics of discussion in this publication concerning our Cathedral parish; are the progress on the Cathedral, Saint Maron Day and the Mega Raffle.

As you know we have been working on the renovation of the Cathedral for the past eight years. Those of you who have been active in the parish know that it seems to be taking forever. However, I have come to realize it is not easy when you have to deal with committees, Landmarks Commission and the like. Nonetheless we are making great progress. Now that much of the scaffolding is down work on the sidewalks will commence when the weather permits.

In this Issue you will find a letter and registration form for our Annual Saint Maron Day Celebration. I hope many of you will attend this annual event. It is more than a fund raiser. It is a celebration of our *Identity*. This year marks the 89th Annual celebration within our Community. William Abou Chrouh is the general chairperson and the Pastoral Council as well as all the Organizations of the Cathedral are working very hard to make this yet another special occasion within our Parish Life. I encourage you to make your reservations.

Finally, concerning the life of the Cathedral Parish, we will once again begin selling tickets for our Annual Mega Raffle. The Raffle last year was a grand prize of a new car. It did not go over very well. The Trustees and the Pastoral Council decided to go back to cash prizes. We are also trying to make this more affordable as well. Therefore we will sell each ticket at \$50.00 each and the prize money will amount to \$12,500.00. Please see the flyer in this Issue for all of the details. The drawing will take place once again at the Coffee Hour following Midnight Liturgy on Easter Sunday, April 20, 2014.

In regard to the Spiritual Life of our Cathedral Parish; I wish to begin by saying how well you are praying the Divine Liturgy with the new Qorbono Books.

At the same time I wish to thank the Choir for all their efforts in leading the congregation in the music. It makes a great difference when we are led. I also wish to thank those who have volunteered to be Lectors. I encourage more people to participate by becoming Lectors and Ushers. Also the youth who serve as Altar Boys and the Daughters of Mary make a big difference. Parents, you need to take a much more active role in encouraging your children to assist us in the Liturgy. For instance my parents didn't ask me if I wished to serve the Altar, I was told I was going to do so. You must do so as well.

Now a much more delicate issue is at hand. Our Spiritual growth as a Parish. Many people say we need to do more, such as Apostolic works. We need to have more, such as Retreats. I agree. After discussing this with the Pastoral Council we came up with one way in which to enhance the spirituality of our community. Having said that this is what we came up with. An overall Parish Mission.

I am a firm believer that we have Religion here but our Faith needs strengthening. Religion is going through all of the motions. In other words we have Divine Liturgy and people participate. We have devotions such as the Christmas Novena and Lenten Services and people once again participate. But honestly it is as if we are going through the motions. That is Religion or religious activity.

Faith is much more than that. From the religious activities and the like our Faith is strengthened. But if we don't truly comprehend what we are doing why are we doing it. In other words we shouldn't do ritual for ritual sake but rather to enhance and exemplify our position as members of the Mystical Body of Christ, the Church.

Therefore, we will have a Spiritual talk each Friday of Great Lent by various preachers. I am also trying to get speakers who may be able to address the Community in Arabic as well. I will not be able to have each session in that manner but we will do our best.

In saying all of this I also encourage you to look at the flyer from the Office of Life. The annual March for Life will take place on January 21st and 22nd in Washington, D.C. (See flyer for details). I encourage young and old to participate in a prayerful and peaceful way; to show the world that ALL Life IS SACRED and WORTHY OF RESPECT.

Please be assured of my own prayers for each of you and again, Happy New Year!



**Book of Initiation
Baptism-Chrismation**

Joseph R. Habeiche, Jr.
Son of Joseph and Lisa Ferragamo Habeiche
November 2, 2013

Charlotte Coco Bechet
Daughter of Guillaume and Brianne Fisher Bechet
November 3, 2013

Leila Rose Tahan
Daughter of Paul and Saba Jazrawi Tahan
December 1, 2013

Christopher Sharbel Charabaty
Son of Elie and Mary Sedarous Charabaty
December 15, 2013

Eli Samer Ayoub
Son of Samer and Tasha Sosa Ayoub
December 28, 2013

Selena Rita Mako
Daughter of Nabil and Mireille Tabaa Mako
January 5, 2014



**Book of Crowning
Marriage**

No Entries

**Book of Life
Death**

Lillian Tremmel Kerr

**Prayers for the Sick and
Homebound**

Laurice Fadel
Claire Habib
Olga Kahraman
Marilyn Mansour
Marian Moshy
Barbara Segre
Christine Segre
Lorraine Trabulsi



Gifts of the Heart
Altar Bread and Wine

January 2014
Available

February 2014
Available

March 2014
Available

April 2014
Available

May 2014
In Memory of the Simon and Raphael Families
Requested by Philomena Simon

June 2014
Available

July 2014
Available

August 2014
Available

September 2014
Available

October 2014
In Memory of the Sahadi and Ciaccia Families
Requested by Marian Ciaccia

November 2014
Available

December 2014
Available

Gifts of the Heart
Sanctuary Lamps

January 2014
Available

February 2014
In Memory of Anthony Jure
Requested by Jure Family

March 2014
Available

April 2014
Available

May 2014
In Memory of the Simon and Raphael Families
Requested by Philomena Simon

June 2014
In Memory of Youssef Abi Habib
Requested by Therese Abi Habib

July 2014
In Memory of Salavessa, Santoni and Spehn Families
Requested by Daisy and Elana Diamontopolus

August 2014
In Memory of Diamontopolus and Ahearn Families
Requested by Daisy and Elana Diamontopolus

September 2014
Available

October 2014
In Memory of Sahadi and Ciaccia Families
Requested by Marian Ciaccia

November 2014
Available

December 2014
Available



Gifts of the Heart

Chapel Lamp

January 2014
Available

February 2014
Available

March 2014
Available

April 2014
Available

May 2014
Available

June 2014
Available

July 2014
Available

August 2014
Available

September 2014
Available

October 2014
Available

November 2014
Available

December 2014
Available

Gifts of the Heart

Outdoor Shrine Vigil Lamps

January 2014
Available

February 2014
Available

March 2014
Available

April 2014
Available

May 2014
Available

June 2014
Available

July 2014
Available

August 2014
Available

September 2014
Available

October 2014
In memory of the Sahadi and Ciaccia Families
Requested by Marian Ciaccia

November 2014
Available

December 2014
Available



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: -----

IN MEMORY OF:

IN THANKSGIVING FOR:

AMOUNT:

