

## *Visitation to Elizabeth - Third Sunday of Announcment December 3, 2017*

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 3</b>	<i>Visitation of the Virgin to Elizabeth - Third Sunday of Announcment</i> 9:00 am For Vocations 11:30 am First Anniversary of Michel Bassil and Birthday Remembrance of Tamam Bassil	Req. by: Clergy Req. by: Family
<b>Monday</b>	<b>December 4</b>	<i>Feast of Saint Barbara - Martyr</i> NO LITURGY	
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>December 5</b>	<i>Feast of Saint Saba the Hermit - Confessor</i> 10:00 am Said Besheer	Req. by: Alice Besheer
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>December 6</b>	<i>Feast of Saint Nicholas (Zakhia) - Confessor</i> 10:00 am Norma Halpin	Req. by: William Halpin
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>December 7</b>	<i>Feast of Saint Ambrose, Doctor of the Church - Confessor</i> 10:00 am Philip and Lorraine Shaia 7:30 pm For the Immaculate Conception Sodality	Req. by: Family Req. by: Msgr. James
<b>Friday</b>	<b>December 8</b>	<i>Feast of the Immaculate Conception - Holy Day of Obligation</i> 10:00 am For our Maronite Sisters	Req. by: Clergy
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>December 9</b>	NO LITURGY	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 10</b>	<i>Birth of John the Baptist - Fourth Sunday of Announcment</i> 9:00 am For the Unborn 11:30 am First Year Anniversary of Laure and Elias Dib	Req. by: Msgr. James Req. by: Dib Family

### *Weekly Offering*

Collection:	\$ 1,137.00
Candles:	\$ 98.00
Memorials:	\$ 500.00
Rent:	\$ 185.00
Debt Reduction:	\$ 10.00
Cathedral Stipends:	\$ 300.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 2,230.00</b>

### *Yearly Budget – 2017*

<i>Annual Operating Budget:</i>	\$ 375,000.00
Collections to Date:	\$ 125,162.00
Candles to Date:	\$ 7,738.00
Donations to Date:	\$ 13,285.00
Cathedral Stipends to Date:	\$ 10,500.00
Memorials to Date:	\$ 3,280.00
Dividends to Date:	\$ 1,322.09
Rentals to Date:	\$ 216,616.66
Fund Raising/Advertising:	\$ 285.00
Debt Reduction to Date:	\$ 4,580.00
Easter /Christmas Flowers:	\$ 2,835.00
Bishop's Appeal to Date:	\$ 5,005.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 390,616.75</b> (+ 15,616.75)

Each Quarter we must generate \$93,750.00 in revenue to stay on budget.

### *Readings*

<b>December 3, 2017</b>	<i>Visitation of the Virgin to Elizabeth Third Sunday of Announcment</i>
<b>Reading:</b>	Ephesians 1: 1 - 14
<b>Gospel:</b>	Luke 1: 39 - 45
<b>Lectors:</b>	9:00 am Raymond Gill 11:30 am Lydia Gordon - English 11:30 am Adonis ElAsmar - Arabic
<b>December 10, 2017</b>	<i>Birth of John the Baptist Fourth Sunday of Announcment</i>
<b>Reading:</b>	Galatians 4: 21 - 5:1
<b>Gospel:</b>	Luke 1: 57 - 66
<b>Lectors:</b>	9:00 am Raymond Gill 11:30 am Vivian Akel - English 11:30 am Mariam Eladam - Arabic
<b>December 17, 2017</b>	<i>Revelation to Joseph Fifth Sunday of Announcment</i>
<b>Reading:</b>	Ephesians 3: 1 - 13
<b>Gospel:</b>	Matthew 1: 18 - 25
<b>Lectors:</b>	9:00 am Raymond Gill 11:30 am Denise Abou Chrouch - English 11:30 am Zahia Abi Habib - Arabic

*Dear Parishioners and Friends:*

*This week we encounter that beautiful joining of two special women; Mary and Elizabeth, both of whom have encountered the Divine.*

*I pray that each of us may also encounter the Divine, through our love for Christ and for each other. may the Christ child, Emmanuel grace us in our entire being as we sincerely await His coming among us. Listen to His voice!*

*Aboona James*

#### *Maronite Christian Formation*

Classes will resume today, December 3, 2017 at the regular time.

Because of the Confraternity bake sale, Adult Formation will be in the Chapel and all the other classes will be either in the Library or the Rectory.

#### *Pilgrimage*

We are still accepting reservations for our trip to the Holy Land April 23, 2018 to May 2, 2018. There will be a meeting for the group next Sunday, December 10, 2017 immediately following the Divine Liturgy in the Library.

The absolute deadline for registering is January 23, 2018.

#### *Feast of the Immaculate Conception*

The Immaculate Conception Liturgy will be celebrated on Thursday, December 7th at 7:30 pm and then on Friday, December 8th at 10:00 am. This is a Holy Day of Obligation and the Feast of our Confraternity. There will be a reception following the evening Liturgy in the Lower Hall.

#### *Reconciliation*

In order to properly prepare ourselves for the Birth of Jesus, the Mystery (Sacrament) of Reconciliation will be available next Sunday for all the children of the MCF Program, their parents and family members.

We encourage all the parishioners to go to Confession as well. Confessions will be heard from 10:30 am to 11:20 am. If necessary we will also hear Confessions immediately following the 11:30 am Divine Liturgy.

#### *Capital Campaign*

We have collected \$33,750.00 as of November 29, 2017. If you have not made a pledge I encourage you to do so before the end of the year. Thank you.

#### *Parish Census*

We are updating our records. Please help us with this task. We will explain at the Coffee Hour.

#### *Children's Christmas Party*

We are taking reservations for the Annual Children's Christmas party. It will be held on Sunday, December 17th during the Coffee Hour.

It is open to all children of the parish between the ages of New Born to 12 years of age. It is free for all children registered in the MCF Program and \$20.00 per child for all others. Please sign up no later than December 10, 2017.

#### *Attention all Young Adults*

There will be a special Liturgy for all Young Adults at Saint Patrick's Cathedral in Manhattan on Wednesday, December 13th at 7:30 pm. The Liturgy will be celebrated by His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan at the Main Altar of the Cathedral. Holy Hour begins at 6:30 along with the Rosary and Confessions.

I will attend this Liturgy and hope that many of our Young Adults will follow suit. I plan on seeing you there.

#### *Christmas Novena Schedule*

December 15	10:00 am and 7:30 pm
December 16	10:00 am (Only)
December 17	11:00 am ( before the 11:30 Liturgy)
December 18	10:00 am and 7:30 pm
December 19	10:00 am and 7:30 pm
December 20	10:00 am and 7:30 pm
December 21	10:00 am and 7:30 pm
December 22	10:00 am and 7:30 pm (With Devotions to Saint Sharbel)
December 23	10:00 am (Only)

NB: Adoration for Priests and Vocations to Religious Life for the month of December will be remembered each day at the Christmas Novena. Let us pray for an increase in Vocations as well as good marriages.

#### *Christmas and New Year Liturgical Schedule*

December 24, 2017	Midnight Liturgy beginning with Choral Music at 11:30 PM
December 25, 2017	Christmas Day at 9:00 am and 11:30 am
December 31, 2017	at 9:00 am and 11:30 am
January 1, 2018	10:00 am Liturgy (Only)

#### *Thought for the Week*

*"Are we ready to receive Him? Before the birth of Jesus, his parents asked for a simple dwelling place, but there was none. If Mary and Joseph were looking for a home for Jesus, would they choose...your heart, and all it holds? Let us pray that we shall be able to welcome Jesus at Christmas..."*

*+ Saint Teresa of Calcutta*