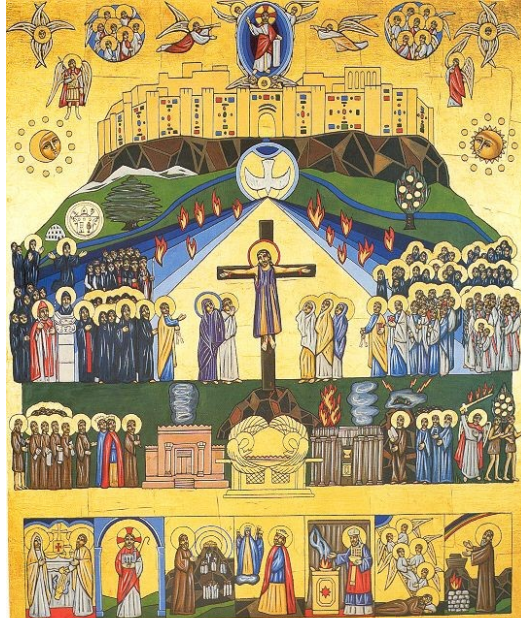


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**The Most Reverend Gregory J. Mansour, Eparchial Bishop**  
**The Very Reverend Dominique Hanna, Rector**  
**Deacon Peter Frangie**  
**Subdeacon Norbert Vogl**  
**Subdeacon Adonis El-Asmar**



**Divine Liturgy Schedule**

**Tuesday through Saturday at 10:00 AM**  
**Sunday at 9:00 AM and 11:30 AM**  
**Holy Day at 10 am & 7:30pm**  
**St. Sharbel the 22nd of each month**  
**at 7:30 PM except on Saturday or Sunday**

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

**First Friday of the month at 10:40 until noon**

**Reconciliation**

**10:15 AM to 10:45 AM Sunday**  
**11:00 AM to 11:45 AM First Friday**  
**and upon request.**

**Initiation Rites (Baptism—Chrismation)**

**Parents and Godparents must meet**  
**with the Rector for instruction and**  
**then a time will be set for the Baptism**  
**and Chrismation.**

**Mystery of Crowning (Marriage)**

**The Rector must be notified at least six**  
**months in advance to set up instruction.**

**Hospital and Sick Calls**

**Notify the Rector as soon as possible.**

**New Parishioners**

**All are welcome at Our Lady of**  
**Lebanon Cathedral. Please notify the Office**  
**of the Rector to become a member.**

# ***Sunday of the Birth of John the Baptist & Feast of the Immaculate Conception December 8, 2019***

<b>Sun. December 8</b>	<b>Birth of John the Baptist</b>	<b>Feast of the Immaculate Conception</b>
	9:00 am Intentions of the Parishioners	
	11:30 am 40 Day for Henriette Achkar	Req. by the Family
<b>Mon. December 9</b>	<b>NO LITURGY</b>	
<b>Tues. December 10</b>	10 am Divine Liturgy	
<b>Wed. December 11</b>	10 am Divine Liturgy	
<b>Thurs. December 12</b>	10 am Divine Liturgy Maria Villegas & Her Family	Our Lady of Guadalupe/ St. Spiridon the Wonderworker Req. by the Family
<b>Fri. December 13</b>	10 am Divine Liturgy	
<b>Sat. December 14</b>	10 am Divine Liturgy	St. Nemtallah El-Hardini
<b>Sun. December 15</b>	<b>Revelation to Joseph</b>	
	9:00 am Intentions of the Parishioners	
	11:30 am Joseph & Esther Sahlani	Req. by the Family

## **Financial Standing November 2019**

### **Ordinary Income**

Sundays & Holy Days Collections: **\$9,421.00**

Cathedral Stipends from Marriages & Funerals, Lower Hall Rent, Candles, Breakfast, Luncheon, Bake Sale, Dues, Religious Education, flowers, ....: **\$52,647.22**

**Total Ordinary Income: \$62,068.22**

### **Ordinary Expense**

Payroll, Gas, Electricity, Building and Medical Insurances, Leasing Equipments, TV, Phone, Internet, Church, Hall & Office Supplies, Postage, Regular Maintenance, Charity, Eparchial Appeal, Insurance,...

**Total Ordinary Expense: \$15,772.55**

**Total Ordinary Income vs Expense: \$46,295.67**

**We also brought in some extraordinary income in the amount of: \$29,741.67** (which included Library Rent, Donations for specific projects, and the Capital Campaign)

**Thank you for your contribution  
in helping maintain the Church  
and in planning different activities**

## **Sunday Readings**

**Lectors and Ushers (age 16 and up) are needed.  
Please [email](#) the church to become one**

December 8, 2019                      Birth of John  
Reading: Galatians 4: 21-5:1  
Gospel: Luke 1: 57-66  
Lectors: 9:00 am                  Raymond Gill  
                 11:30 am                  Marleine Safi - English  
                 11:30 am                  Hweida Chawki - Arabic

December 15, 2019                      Revelation to Joseph  
Reading: Ephesians 3: 1-13  
Gospel: Matthew 1: 18-25  
Lectors: 9:00 am                  Raymond Gill  
                 11:30 am                  George Abi Zeid - English  
                 11:30 am                  Marise Frangie - Arabic

December 22, 2019                      Genealogy Sunday  
Reading: Romans 1: 1-12  
Gospel: Matthew 1: 1-17  
Lectors: 9:00 am                  Raymond Gill  
                 11:30 am                  Nidal Abi Saab - English  
                 11:30 am                  Bassam Ayoub - Arabic

December 24, 2019                      Vigil of the Glorious Birth  
Reading: Hebrews 1:1-12  
Gospel: Luke 2:1-20  
Lectors: 12 Midnight Vivian Akel - English  
                 12 Midnight Edward Antonios - Arabic

### **Dear Beloved Parishioners:**

The following are Abouna Dominique's remarks at the 75th Anniversary Gala two Sundays ago:

"I want to thank all of you for coming today, Sayyedna, fathers, deacons, subdeacons, guests, parishioners of the Cathedral, and a special thanks to the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary committee

"Less than a year after my arrival at the Cathedral at the end of April 2019, Bishop Gregory told me that in November 2019 we would be celebrating the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the first Divine Liturgy in the current location at the corner of Henry and Remsen. After that conversation, I kept saying to myself, 'I have not been here a year and I am already celebrating 75 years.'

"This reminded me so much of St. Paul's letter to the Corinthians when he spoke about the establishment of the Church there. He said, *'I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth.'* Paul was a bit harsh in not giving any credit to himself who planted and to Apollos who watered. As we are celebrating the Cathedral's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, I have to respectfully disagree with Paul by giving thanks and appreciation to all those who planted and are still planting and those who watered and are still watering, priests and laity.

"The theme that is underlying the preparation and the celebration of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is *On God's Holy Mountain: The Maronite People on Pilgrimage*. Our ancestors from the beginning until today have encountered God on mountains that were transformed into holy places where churches were built. On plains, too, our Lord revealed himself as the Maronites moved around the world willingly or unwillingly. This process of moving to new places became for them a pilgrimage as they used the circumstances of their lives, no matter what they were, to evangelize and pass the torch of faith from generation to generation. They created a Church, a culture and a heritage that would live beyond their time.

"When things went wrong, when they tried to reach for the stars, but fell into the mud, when others mocked and criticized their efforts, when they fell embarrassingly short of their own expectations, THEY DID NOT RETREAT INTO SMALLNESS. They persisted and left us the Cathedral, a home for their community, because near enough was not good enough for them. Those who went before us handed down to you and to me a treasure that cannot be bought, an inheritance that cannot be destroyed, a jewel whose color never fades. How are we passing it down to our children and grandchildren and those who will come after us? If we leave it to them the way we received it, it means we have failed, were short-sighted and selfish. We are capable of phenomenal work. Let us not settle for anything less. Do not stop dreaming of how you are going to improve the Church, do not lack imagination about how you are going to preserve your heritage.

"May God keep you and grant you his peace through the intercession of our Lady of Lebanon."



### **The Knights Annual Christmas Dinner**

The Knights & the Confraternity will hold their Annual Christmas Dinner at Le Saggi Restaurant on Wednesday December 11<sup>th</sup> at 8:00pm. \$55 per person. There will be a 50/50 raffle for this event. Please see Subdeacon Adonis, Edgard Abi Daher or George Elhajj for your reservation. You may bring guests also.

### **Annual Bake Sale Sponsored by the Confraternity**

The Annual Winter Bake Sale sponsored by the Confraternity will take place on December 14 & 15. If you would like to help in baking goods or donating toward the Bake Sale, please see one of the members of the Confraternity

### **Christmas Novena December 15th to 23rd**

Starting on Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup> until Monday, December 23rd, the parish will pray the Christmas Novena every evening at 7:30 pm except Sundays. The tradition of praying nine days before Christmas is a great way to be prepared to welcome God among us.

### **Nabiha Yazbek Christmas Concert**

On Friday December 20, Nabiha Yazbek will perform a Christmas Concert at the Cathedral after the 7:30pm Novena. All are welcome to attend.

### **Family Christmas Party December 22**

The Cathedral invites all parishioners to a luncheon to celebrate Christmas on December 22 in the Church Hall. Families are welcome especially the kids for a fun afternoon with Santa and other surprises. During the Liturgy that day, the kids of the Sunday School will enact the Christmas Story.

### **Sloan Kettering Toy Drive**

A Christmas Toy Drive for the children (newborn and up) of Sloan Kettering Cancer Center will be in effect until December 22nd. All toys must be brand new and unwrapped, not used, no stuffed animals, no clothes. A big box is placed in the Cathedral to the far right of the Altar for your convenience.

### **Youth Choir**

All interested in youth choir ages 7 and up are invited to sign up with [Paula Achkar](#) or [Fidelle El-Asmar](#). If you already have an instrument that you would like to play, you are welcome to bring it with you to add to the experience. There will be a Sunday practice in the next few weeks.

### **Pilgrimage: [In The Footsteps of Paul](#)**

A 10-day/8-night trip to **Greece** including a **3-day cruise** to the **Greek Islands** and **Turkey**, visiting Athens, Corinth, Mykonos, Ephesus, Patmos, Crete, Santorini, Meteora, Veria, Vergina, Salonica, and Philippi. Departing **April 29, 2020** - **\$3,498** per person/double occupancy from New York, including fuel surcharge and port taxes. We already have 17 people who have signed up for the trip. [For more information](#) please call Marleine Aflak at 1-917-608-2996 or Tony Tannousis at 1-718-987-3900.



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## Christmas Flower Donations

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Deacon & Mrs. Peter Frangie	In Memory of their Deceased Members
Mr. & Mrs. Edgar Abi Dagher	In Memory of their Deceased Members
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick O’Sullivan	In Memory of their Deceased Members
Mr. Samir Hosri	In Memory of their Beloved Family
Mrs. Gloria Faour	In Memory of Mrs. Marie Rouadi
Mr. Donald Shakal	In Memory of John & Helen Shakal
Mr. & Mrs. Chaouki Eladem	In Memory of George & Margo Allaham & Hanah Eladem
Mr. & Mrs. Antoine Aflak	In Memory of Hyat, Habib & Michel Aflak
Mr. & Mrs. David Wei	In Memory of their Beloved Family
Mr. & Mrs. Michel Merhej	In Memory of their Beloved Family
Mr. & Mrs. Adib El Houayek	In Memory of their Beloved Family
Dr. Elie Chalhoub	In Memory of their Beloved Family
Ms. Jeanette Kahaly	In Memory of Joseph Kahaly & Mary Kahaly
Ms. Claire Habib	In Memory of the Habib Family
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Padalino	In Memory of Najib & Linda Akel



# CHRISTMAS DINNER MEN & LADIES

December 11, 2019

7:30 to 12:00

Le Saggi: 8221 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue | Brooklyn, NY 11209

This is the annual Christmas dinner attended by men and women,  
parishioners and friends of Our Lady of Lebanon Cathedral

Appetizers, full course meal, desserts, wine and soda are included

Cover charge: \$55.00/person

\*Cash bar!

Sponsored by  
The Knights of St. Maron of Our Lady of Lebanon  
Cathedral



**Reservations & Payment - Contact:**

Edgard Abi Daher (917) 673-3341 | Subdeacon Adonis El-Asmar (917) 855-3075 | George Elhadj (646) 691-9925



# "Life Empowers: Pro-Life is Pro-Woman"

Please RSVP no later than Monday January 17.  
Contact the National MYA Board at 310-400-0212 or  
nationalmya@gmail.com if you will be attending this young adult gathering.  
For more information locally please contact:  
Marise Frangie (914) 393-8907  
Simona El-Hallal (540) 798-8450

## March for Life 2020 on Friday January 24th



### Schedule:

#### Thursday, January 23

**5:30 - 7:30 PM** - Pro-Life Vigil Liturgy at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, 400 Michigan Ave NE, Washington, DC

**8:00 PM** - Meet after the Liturgy with Bishop Gregory Mansour in the Maronite Chapel down stairs in the Crypt of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

#### Friday, January 24

**11:00 AM** - We will meet at the Starbucks on the corner of Indiana Avenue and Seventh Street to join for the March for life.

**5:00 PM** - Pro Life Gathering and Dinner with Bishop Gregory at the Maronite Seminary Library, 7164 Alaska Ave NW Washington DC.

#### Saturday, January 25

Open day to tour the Monuments or great museums such as the Bible, Holocaust, Native American, Art etc.

#### Sunday January 26

**11:00 AM** - Maronite Liturgy at Our Lady of Lebanon Church, Washington DC

Following the Liturgy there will be MYO/MYA Pro-life gathering with Bishop Gregory at the Maronite Seminary Library.

**For more information or to access a copy of the flyer visit:**

[maroniteyoungadults.org](http://maroniteyoungadults.org)

[familyandsanctityoflife.org/events](http://familyandsanctityoflife.org/events)

Sponsored by: National Maronite Young Adults as well as the Family and Sanctity of Life Office



## Sunday Readings

### قراءات الأحد

#### Sunday of the Birth of St John the Baptizer

##### Letter to the Galatians 4:21-5:1

Tell me, you who desire to be subject to the law, will you not listen to the law? For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and the other by a free woman. One, the child of the slave, was born according to the flesh; the other, the child of the free woman, was born through the promise. Now this is an allegory: these women are two covenants. One woman, in fact, is Hagar, from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery. Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia and corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. But the other woman corresponds to the Jerusalem above; she is free, and she is our mother. For it is written, 'Rejoice, you childless one, you who bear no children, burst into song and shout, you who endure no birth pangs; for the children of the desolate woman are more numerous than the children of the one who is married.' Now you, my friends, are children of the promise, like Isaac. But just as at that time the child who was born according to the flesh persecuted the child who was born according to the Spirit, so it is now also. But what does the scripture say? 'Drive out the slave and her child; for the child of the slave will not share the inheritance with the child of the free woman.' So then, friends, we are children, not of the slave but of the free woman. For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

##### The Gospel according to Saint Luke 1,57-66.

Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. But his mother said, 'No; he is to be called John.' They said to her, 'None of your relatives has this name.' Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. He asked for a writing-tablet and wrote, 'His name is John.' And all of them were amazed. Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God. Fear came over all their neighbors, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. All who heard them pondered them and said, 'What then will this child become?' For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him.

#### أحد مولد يوحنا

##### رسالة القديس بولس إلى أهل غلاطية 4:21-5:1

يا إخوتي، قولوا لي، أنتم الذين تريدون أن تكونوا في حكم الشريعة، أما تسمعون الشريعة؟ فإنه مكتوب: كان لإبراهيم ابنان، واحد من الجارية، وواحد من الحرة.

أما الذي من الجارية فقد ولد بحسب الجسد، وأما الذي من الحرة فبقوة الوعد. وفي ذلك رمز: فسارة وهاجر تمثّلان عهدين، عهداً من جبل سيناء يلد للعبودية، وهو هاجر؛ لأن هاجر هي جبل سيناء الذي في بلاد العرب، وتوافق أورشليم الحالية، لأنها في العبودية هي وأولادها.

أما أورشليم العليا فهي حرة، وهي أمنا؛ لأنه مكتوب: «إفرجي، أيثها العاقر التي لم تلد؛ اندفعي بالترنيم واصرخي، أيثها التي لم تتمخص؛ لأن أولاد المهجورة أكثر من أولاد المتزوجة». «أما أنتم، أيها الإخوة، فإنكم أولاد الوعد مثل إسحق. ولكن، كما كان جينيد المولود بحسب الجسد يضطهد المولود بحسب الروح، فكذلك الآن أيضاً. ولكن ماذا يقول الكتاب؟ «أطرد الجارية وأبنها، لأن ابن الجارية لا يرث مع ابن الحرة». «إذا، أيها الإخوة، لسننا أولاد جارية، بل أولاد الحرة.

إن المسيح قد حرّرنا لنبقى أحراراً. فاثبتوا إذاً ولا تعودوا تخضعون لنير العبودية.

##### إنجيل القديس لوقا 1:57-66

ثم زمان إيصابات لتلد، فولدت ابناً. وسمع جيرانها وأقاربها أن الرب قد عظم رحمته لها، ففرحوا معه. وفي اليوم الثامن جاؤوا ليختنوا الصبي، وسموه باسم أبيه زكريا. فأجابت أمه وقالت: «لا! بل يسمي يوحنا.»

فقالوا لها: «لا أحد في قرابتك يدعى بهذا الاسم.» وأشاروا إلى أبيه ماذا يريد أن يسميه.

فطلب لوحاً وكتب: «اسمه يوحنا!» فتعجبوا جميعهم. وانفتح فجأة فم زكريا، وانطلق لسانه، وجعل يتكلم ويبارك الله،

فاستولى الخوف على جميع جيرانهم، وتحدثت الناس بكل هذه الأمور في كل جبل اليهودية.

وكان كل من سمع بذلك يحفظه في قلبه قائلاً: «ما عسى هذا الطفل أن يكون؟». «وكانت يد الرب حقاً معه.