

FIFTH SUNDAY

**Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Cathedral**  
**113 Remsen Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201**  
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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**



SEASON OF THE HOLY CROSS

## ***Fifth Sunday after the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross October 18, 2020***

<b>Sun., October 18</b>	<b>Fifth Sun. after the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross/ St. Luke the Evangelist</b> <b>11: 30 am Divine Liturgy for Elie Safi</b>	<b>Req. by Marleine Safi &amp; Family</b>
<b>Mon., October 19</b>	<b>NO LITURGY</b> <b>St. Aaron of Antioch, Sts. Jean de Brebeuf, Isaac Jogues, and Companions</b>	
<b>Tues., October 20</b>	<b>10 am Divine Liturgy for Chafik Dib</b> <b>St. Shallita</b>	<b>Req. by Deacon &amp; Mrs. Peter Frangie</b>
<b>Wed., October 21</b>	<b>10 am Divine Liturgy for Chafik Dib</b>	<b>Req. by Deacon &amp; Mrs. Peter Frangie</b>
<b>Thurs., October 22</b>	<b>10 am Divine Liturgy for Chafik Dib</b> <b>Pope St. John Paul II</b>	<b>Req. by Deacon &amp; Mrs. Peter Frangie</b>
<b>Fri., October 23</b>	<b>10 am Divine Liturgy for Chafik Dib</b>	<b>Req. by Deacon &amp; Mrs. Peter Frangie</b>
<b>Sat., October 24</b>	<b>10 am Divine Liturgy for Chafik Dib</b> <b>St. Hareth and Companions</b>	<b>Req. by Deacon &amp; Mrs. Peter Frangie</b>
<b>Sun., October 25</b>	<b>Sixth Sun. after the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross</b> <b>11: 30 am Divine Liturgy for the Intentions of the Parishioners</b>	

### **Financial Standing September 2020**

#### **Ordinary Income**

- ♦ Sundays & Holy Days Collections: **\$9,342.41**
- ♦ Cathedral Stipends from Marriages & Funerals, Lower Hall Rent, Candles, Breakfast, Luncheon, Bake Sale, Dues, Religious Education, Flowers .... **\$482.00**

**Total Ordinary Income: \$9,824.41**

#### **Ordinary Expense**

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

**Total Ordinary Expense: \$12,909.91**

**Total Ordinary Income vs Expense: -\$3,085.50**

**No income was brought in as extraordinary income. The Library did not pay the May, June, July, August & September rents. They vacated the Church Hall at the end of September.**

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

### **HELP LEBANON!**



#### **BY CHECK:**

**Make your donation to Lebanon by sending a check to the Eparchy of St. Maron of Brooklyn and in the memo designate your charity either to Caritas, Lebanon, or Saint Vincent de Paul.**

#### **ONLINE:**

**You may also donate online by clicking [here](#)**

## Dear Parishioners & Friends:

Perfection is a principle that most people strive to achieve. It usually begins early in the first years of school when children are pushed by parents and teachers to get the perfect grade. The constant reminder that you must get an A on the test remains enshrined in the mind for many years to the point where sometimes it becomes pathological. As teens, the ideal of being perfect at school shifts to the look. Adolescents, for example, work hard at having the perfect hair, so they go to famous hairdressers and barbershops. Many become obsessed with the way they look and the way their bodies are. They exercise intensely to be in perfect shape. The serious effort they devote to impress others is remarkable. As a result, teenagers spend most of their allowance on clothes and shoes to appear perfect before others. At the end of the high school years, the search begins to find the perfect college, and to be accepted in the perfect major and to graduate with the perfect GPA. Later on, after graduation, the perfection pursuit shifts to finding the perfect job, and searching for the perfect husband or wife. After securing the job and marrying the perfect partner, one may now buy the dream house in the perfect neighborhood. The journey of the perfect is transmitted to the children and the cycle continues endlessly.

There is nothing wrong with aiming for perfection, but being obsessed with it and ignoring other values in life might be destructive. As a matter of fact, Matthew 5:48 reads, "Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect." This verse comes in the context of loving one's enemies: "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you" (Matthew 5: 44). It follows that perfection is only reached in love and not any love, but the love of one's enemies. This is very hard to reach, so for the meantime let not perfection be the enemy of the good.

In Luke 13: 6-9, Jesus tells the parable of the barren fig tree. "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

It would have been perfect to have an orchard where all the trees gave the best fruit and looked perfect. It could be very easy to cut down a tree that is not fruitful because it wastes not only the soil, but the gardener's time. But after three years of that tree not being productive, the gardener pleaded with the owner to give the tree one more year, so he could spend more time caring for it.

My friends, like the gardener, God looks for the good in us and not for what is perfect. Seeking perfection is good, but being good is perfect. Let not perfection be the enemy of the good.



## Maronite Catholic Formation

### In-person and Online

Registration for Sunday School has begun. It is of extreme importance to hand down the faith to our children (1st to 12th Grade) and our Sunday Formation is one small way to do so. Thus, everyone is encouraged to register their children. Classes began Sunday, October 4th at 10 am. There will be one session in person at the Church and two on Zoom. Please help us by registering using our form. Please [print the form online](#) and email it to [Lily El-haje](#) or [the Church](#).

### Marriage Publication of Banns

Tony Mansour of New York and Denise Abou-Chrouch of New York will be married on October 30th, 2020 at Our Lady of Lebanon Cathedral. If anyone knows a reason or a just impediment why they may not marry each other, please declare it to the priest.

### Arabic Class Registration

Adult Arabic Class registration has begun. Please see Leila Vogl if you are interested. The first class was on Sunday October 11th at 10 am.

### Altar Server Schedule

Subdeacon Norbert will be putting together a schedule for the altar servers. We will only have two servers each Sunday helping on the Altar. Please register your children with Subdeacon Norbert.

### Bulletin Advertisement

Business owners, you may advertise your businesses in the Church bulletin that reaches over 600 households via email. For more information click [here](#) or call the rectory at 718-624-7228.

### Cathedral Cedar Remembrance Tree

Parishioners and friends can now remember their deceased and honor their living with their names on the commemorative tree located in our Cathedral Chapel vestibule. Please click [here](#) for more details.

### Finance Council Recommendation

The Finance Council has recommended that parishioners set their Church donation up as an automatic payment. This is the best way to keep supporting your spiritual home while on vacation or out of town. You may also make your contribution online by clicking [here](#).

### Lector Ministry

If you wish to be put on the next lector's schedule, please see Subdeacon Adonis El-Asmar or email the Church at [cathrectory@verizon.net](mailto:cathrectory@verizon.net).

### Postponement of the Greece Pilgrimage

Due to the coronavirus, the planned Greece Pilgrimage in the Footsteps of St. Paul was postponed to October 10-19, 2021. It will be the same itinerary as before, but we plan to be joining another group.

### Project Roots

Bishop Gregory is asking to redouble the efforts to register American citizens of Lebanese descent who would like to regain their Lebanese citizenship. Parishioners are encouraged to register their births and marriages in Lebanon. Please check Project Root's [new website](#) and contact [Zahia Abi Habib](#) for more information.





Zoom!



# LIFE MATTERS

*A Tomb to Tomb*

*Guest Speakers*

Marise Frangie  
&

Dr. Anne Borik

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81115908009>

ADULT FAITH FORMATION FALL 2020

## MARONITE SPIRITUALITY

Learn more about the Maronite Faith and Traditions.  
Open to all adults in our Eparchy of St. Maron Brooklyn

### VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS

OCT. 1: THE MARONITE CHURCH  
FR. DOMINQUE HANNA

OCT. 8: DIVINE LITURGY  
MSGR. JIM ROOT

OCT. 15: SCRIPTURE & TYPOLOGY  
FR. VINCE FARHAT

OCT. 22: STS. EPHREM &  
JAMES OF SERUG

FR JAMES DORAN

OCT. 29: VOCATIONS IN  
THE MARONITE CHURCH  
FR. ELIE MIKHAEL

Via Zoom on Thursdays 8:00-9:15PM

[Register Here](#)

HOSTED BY THE MARONITE SERVANTS OF CHRIST THE LIGHT

## Sunday Readings

### قراءات الأحد

#### The Fifth Sunday of The Cross

##### Letter to the Philippians 2:12-18

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;

for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Do all things without murmuring and arguing, so that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, in which you shine like stars in the world. It is by your holding fast to the word of life that I can boast on the day of Christ that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.

But even if I am being poured out as a libation over the sacrifice and the offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you and in the same way you also must be glad and rejoice with me.

##### The Gospel according to Saint Matthew 25:1-13

'Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom.

Five of them were foolish, and five were wise.

When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps.

As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out."

But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves."

And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

#### الأحد الخامس بعد عيد الصليب

##### رسالة القديس بولس إلى أهل فيلبّي 2:12-18

يا إخوتي، إعملوا إخلاصكم بخوف ورعدة، كما أطعتم دائماً، لا في حضوري فحسب، بل بالأحرى وبالأكثر الآن في غيابي.

فإن الله هو الذي يجعلكم تريدون وتعملون بحسب مرضاته. إعملوا كل شيء بغير تذمر وجدال،

لكي تصيروا بسطاء لا لوم عليكم، وأبناء لله لا عيب فيكم، وسط جيل معوج ومنحرف، تضيقون فيه كالنيرات في العالم،

متمسكين بكلمة الحياة، لافتخاري في يوم المسيح، بأي ما سعيت ولا تعبت باطلاً.

لو أن دمي يراق على ذبيحة إيمانكم وخدمته، لكنت أفرح وأبتهج معكم جميعاً.

فأفرحوا أنتم أيضاً وأبتهجوا معي.

##### إنجيل القديس متى 13:1-25

قال الرب يسوع: «يشبه ملكوت السماوات عشر عذارى

أخذن مصابيحهن وخرجن إلى لقاء العريس، خمس منهن جاهلات، وخمس حكيما.

فالجاهلات أخذن مصابيحهن ولم يأخذن معهن زيتاً.

أما الحكيما فأخذن زيتاً في آنية مع مصابيحهن.

وأبطأ العريس فتعس جميعهن، وركدن.

وفي منتصف الليل، صارت الصيحة: هوذا العريس!

أخرجوا إلى لقائه!

حينئذ قامت أولئك العذارى كلهن، وزين مصابيحهن.

فقالت الجاهلات للحكيما: أعطينا من زيتك، لأن مصابيحنا تنطفئ.

فاجابت الحكيما وقلن: قد لا يكفيكنا ويكفيكن. إذهبن

بالأحرى إلى الباعة وأبتعن لكن.

ولما ذهبن ليبتن، جاء العريس، ودخلت المستعذات إلى

العرس، وأغلق الباب.

وأخيراً جاءت العذارى الباقيات وقلن: يا رب، يا رب، افتح

لنا!

فاجاب وقال: الحق أقول لكن، إنني لا أعرفكن!

إسهرُوا إِذَا، لَأَتَّكُم لَا تَعْلَمُونَ الْيَوْمَ وَلَا السَّاعَةَ



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"What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us."



Dear Friends,

As we continue to navigate through this globally challenging time, we hope that you and your family are safe and healthy.

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