

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE BIRTH OF THE SAVIOR

FOR THE BIRTH OF THE SAVIOR

**Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Cathedral**  
**113 Remsen Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201**  
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For emergency call: (202) 829-4779

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



## *Sunday of the Announcement to Zechariah* *November 15th, 2020*

Sun., November 15	Sunday of the Announcement to Zechariah 11: 30 am 40 Day Divine Liturgy for Paul Al Asmar	Req. by the Ache Family
Mon., November 16	NO DIVINE LITURGY St. Matthew the Evangelist	
Tues., November 17	10 am Divine Liturgy for Salma Dahdah Azzi St. Gregory the Wonderworker	Req. by Mrs. Salma Vahdat
Wed., November 18	10 am Divine Liturgy for Laurance Aldayaa Dreik St. Romanos (Raymond)/ St. Rose Philippine Duchesne	Req. by Mr. & Mrs. Adib Howayek
Thurs., November 19	10 am Divine Liturgy	
Fri., November 20	10 am Divine Liturgy for Charles Brown, IV	Req. by the family
Sat., November 21	10 am Divine Liturgy for Charles Brown, IV Presentation of the Virgin Mary in the Temple	Req. by the family
Sun., November 22	Sunday of the Announcement to the Virgin Mary 11: 30 am 40 Day Divine Liturgy for Sami Nassour	Req. Mr. & Mrs. Tony Nassour

### Financial Standing November 2020

#### Ordinary Income

- ♦ Sundays & Holy Days Collections: **\$10,918.81**
- ♦ Cathedral Stipends from Marriages & Funerals, Lower Hall Rent, Candles, Breakfast, Luncheon, Bake Sale, Dues, Religious Education, Flowers .... **\$6,489.00**

**Total Ordinary Income: \$17,407.81**

#### 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: \$17,760.86**

**Total Ordinary Income vs Expense: -\$353.05**

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

**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:

The world today is in desperate need of good news and joyful announcements. And the Season of the Glorious Birth of Our Lord, starting this Sunday with the announcement to Zechariah that his wife Elizabeth would bear John the Baptist, is full of wonderful proclamations. The fundamental message of this Season is that the Son of God took flesh and became man. The news of a savior making himself accessible and present to his people by his incarnation should give humanity a boost of hope that exceeds all expectations.

The Angel Gabriel, who was sent by God, appeared to Zechariah in the Temple of Jerusalem and told him, "Your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord" (Luke 1: 13-17).

Nowadays, I am sure if a father hears his teenaged son praised by a friend, he will be proud and thrilled at hearing great things about him. Imagine not a person, but an angel is telling a father that not his teenaged son, but his unborn son, will be great in the sight of the Lord and will turn many people to their God. Zechariah should have been jumping up and down with joy because he had nothing to worry about how John would turn out. Zachariah's reaction to the Angel Gabriel ought to have been, "Thank you so much for this wonderful message from God. He answered my prayers. I cannot wait to tell my wife, Elizabeth." However, we know this was not Zechariah's response. In fact, this is what he told the Angel, "How will I know that this is so? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years" (Luke 1: 18). There is no doubt that Zechariah has been praying for a son for a long time, the "problem" with God is that he was slow in answering him. Zechariah did not like God's timing and must have been on a different timetable. In his old age, Zechariah could not enjoy his baby, would not have the patience to run after him, or the strength to play with him like a young father would. Basically, Zechariah, the priest, refused to accept God's gift to him because the timing was not right for him. Zechariah might have wanted a son to keep his family name from being extinguished and probably to protect Elizabeth from the disgrace she endured for being barren, but God had a different plan. The delay in God's response came in the fullness of time and not only to benefit Zechariah and his family, but the whole of creation.

My friends, we are not in dire need of good news. We have already received the GOOD NEWS and all we need is to be reminded of it. Finding a vaccine for Covid-19 is great and might protect us, but will not save us. It is only Christ—acting in history—that brings salvation.



## MYA Friendsgiving Dinner

The MYA will have a Friendsgiving Dinner on Saturday, November 14th at 6:30 pm. Please see the flyer on the next page for more information.

## Presentation Sponsored by the Confraternity

On Sunday, November 15th at 7:30 pm, the Confraternity is sponsoring a Zoom presentation given by Sahimar Yammine RD, MPH, MS, a clinical dietitian, on how to eat healthy during the Covid pandemic. Please [click here](#) to access Zoom. Meeting ID: 814 2182 8178. Passcode: 369754

## Christmas Basket Raffle

In lieu of the annual Christmas bake sale, the Confraternity are sponsoring a Christmas basket raffle. Tickets are available from Darine Safi, Lily Elhage, Yolla El Howayek, Mirna Abi Daher and Helen Zihenni. The drawing will take place on December 20th after the 11:30 Divine Liturgy.

## Salaam Club Scholarship

The Salaam Club of New York has extended the deadline to apply for its scholarships to December 31st. High school graduates and college freshmen are welcome to apply. Please [click here](#) for the application.

## 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 the 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.



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**SR. BEATA VICTORIA SV**

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# Friendsgiving

Brooklyn MYA

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*Prize List:*

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- 3 \$100 Chill Hookah Bar & Restaurant Gift Card
- 4 \$100 LeSajj Lebanese Restaurant Gift Card
- 5 3 Tier Gold Plated Server with \$50 Le Sajj Lebanese Restaurant Gift Card
- 6 Wine Basket with a \$50 Le Sajj Lebanese Restaurant Gift Card
- 7 Christmas Nativity Set
- 8 Christmas Lottery Tree
- 9 Christmas Tree Decorated with 12 Monthly Birthstone Angels
- 10 Specialty Homemade Christmas Log Cake- Buche de Noel
- 11 Baking Supply Basket
- 12 Wine Basket with Italian Chef Wine Holder
- 13 Vodka Basket
- 14 Last Supper Sculpture
- 15 Holy Family Sculpture
- 16 Jesus and The Children Sculpture
- 17 Wella Hair Beauty Product Basket
- 18 \$150 Chiselle Hydraderm Facial Gift Card
- 19 \$200 Chiselle Laser Hair Removal Gift Card

*Drawing Sunday December 20, 2020 Following Divine Liturgy, it will be broadcasted live.  
Donation: 1 Booklet (5 Tickets) for \$25.00, 2 Booklets or more \$20 each*

*For Tickets Please Contact Confraternity Board Members:  
Darine Safi 347-336-5265 Lily Elhaje 646-591-4500  
Mirna Abi-Daher 646-271-5737 Norma Haddad 917-442-7860*



## Sunday Readings

### قراءات الأحد

#### Sunday of the Announcement to Zechariah

##### Letter to the Romans 4: 13-25

The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason, it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations') in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become 'the father of many nations', according to what was said, 'So numerous shall your descendants be.' He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore, his faith 'was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now the words, 'it was reckoned to him', were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

#### The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke 1:1-25

Since many have undertaken to set down an orderly account of the events that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed on to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, I too decided, after investigating everything carefully from the very first, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed. In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years. Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. Now at the time of the incense-offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. But the angel said to him, 'Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.' Zechariah said to the angel, 'How will I know that this is so? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years.' The angel replied, 'I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur.' Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah, and wondered at his delay in the sanctuary. When he did come out, he could not speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. When his time of service was ended, he went to his home. After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, 'This is what the Lord has done for me when he looked favorably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people.'

#### أحد بشارة زكريا

رسالة القديس بولس إلى أهل رومة 25-13:4  
يا إخوتي، الوعد لإبراهيم أو لنسله بأن يكون وارثاً للعالم، لم يكن بواسطة الشريعة، بل بالبر الذي ناله بالإيمان. فلو كان أهل الشريعة هم الوارثين، لأبطل الإيمان، وألغى الوعد؛ لأن الشريعة تسبب غضب الله؛ وحيث لا شريعة، فلا تعدي للشريعة. لذلك فأهل الإيمان هم الوارثون، لكي تكون الورثة هبة من الله. وهكذا تحقق الوعد لكل نسل إبراهيم، لا للنسل الذي هو من أهل الشريعة فحسب، بل أيضاً للنسل الذي هو من أهل الإيمان، إيمان إبراهيم، الذي هو أب لنا أجمعين؛ كما هو مكتوب: «إني جعلتك أباً لأمم كثيرة». فأبراهيم الذي آمن بالله هو أب لنا أمام الله، الذي يحيي الأموات، ويدعو غير الموجود إلى الوجود. وقد آمن إبراهيم راجياً على غير رجاء، بأنه سينصير أباً لأمم كثيرة. كما قيل له: «هكذا يكون نسلك». ولم يضعف بإيمانه، برغم أنه رأى، وهو ابن نحو مئة سنة، أن جسده مات، وأن حشا سارة قد مات. وبناءً على وعد الله، ما شك ولا تردد، بل تقوى بالإيمان، ومجد الله. وأيقن مدء اليقين أن الله قادر أن ينجز ما وعد به. فلذلك حسب له إيمانه برأ. ولم يكتب من أجله وحده أنه «حسب له بر»، بل كتب أيضاً من أجلنا، نحن الذين سيحسب لنا برأ، لأننا نؤمن بالذي أقام من بين الأموات يسوع ربنا، الذي أسلم من أجل زلاتنا، وأقيم من أجل تبريرنا.

#### إنجيل القديس لوقا 25-1:1

بما أن كثيرين أخذوا يرتبون رواية للأحداث التي تمت عندنا، كما سلمها إلينا من كانوا منذ البدء شهود عيان للكلمة، ثم صاروا خداماً لها، رأيت أنا أيضاً، أيها الشريف ثيوفيل، أن أكتبها لك بحسب ترتيبها، بعدما تتبعتها كلها، منذ بدايتها، تتبعاً دقيقاً، لكي تتيقن صحة الكلام الذي وعظت به. كان في أيام هيرودس، ملك اليهودية، كاهن اسمه زكريا، من فرقة أبيا، له امرأة من بنات هازون اسمها إيصابات. وكانا كلاهما بارين أمام الله، سالكين في جميع وصايا الرب وأحكامه بلا لوم. وما كان لهما ولد، لأن إيصابات كانت عاقراً، وكانا كلاهما قد طعنا في أيامهما. وفيما كان زكريا يقوم بالخدمة الكهنوتية أمام الله، في أثناء نوبة فرقة، أصابته القرعة، بحسب عادة الكهنوت، ليدخل مقدس هيكل الرب ويحرق البخور. وكان كل جمهور الشعب يصلي في الخارج، في أثناء إحراق البخور. وترأى ملاك الرب لزكريا واقفاً من عن يمين مذبح البخور، فأضطرب زكريا حين رآه، وأستولى عليه الخوف. فقال له الملاك: «لا تخف، يا زكريا، فقد استجبت طلبتك، وأمرتك إيصابات ستلد لك ابناً، فسمه يوحنا. ويكون لك فرح وأبتهاج، ويفرح بمولده كثيرون، لأنه سيكون عظيماً في نظر الرب، لا يشرب خمراً ولا مسكراً، ويمتلئ من الروح القدس وهو يعد في حشا أمه. ويرد كثيرين من بني إسرائيل إلى الرب الههم. ويسير أمام الرب بروح إيليا وقوته، ليرد قلوب الآباء إلى الأبناء، والعصاة إلى حكمة الأبرار، فيهيئ للرب شعباً معداً خيراً إعداد». فقال زكريا للملاك: «بماذا أعرف هذا؟ فإني أنا شيخ، وأمرأتي قد طعنت في أيامها». فأجاب الملاك وقال له: «أنا هو جبرائيل ألواقف في حضرة الله، وقد أرسلت لأتكلّمك وأبشرك بهذا. وما أنت تكون صامتاً، لا تقدر أن تتكلم، حتى اليوم الذي يحدث فيه ذلك، لأنك لم تؤمن بكلامي الذي سيتم في أوانه». وكان الشعب ينتظر زكريا، ويتعجب من إبطائه في مقدس الهيكل. ولما خرج زكريا، لم يكن قادراً أن يكلمهم، فاذكروا أنه رأى رؤيا في المقدس، وكان يشير إليهم بالإشارة، وبقي أبكم. ولما تمت أيام خدمته، مضى إلى بيته. وبعد تلك الأيام، حملت أمراة إيصابات، وولدت ابناً. وختمت أمرها خمسة أشهر، وهي تقول: هكذا صنع الرب إليّ، في الأيام التي نظر إليّ فيها، ليزيل العار عني من بين الناس!

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\*al-SHIELDS Giving Back Program is valid until 12/31/2020.