

ANNOUNCEMENT TO MARY

**Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Cathedral**  
**113 Remsen Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201**  
**(718) 624-7228 | [ololc.org](http://ololc.org) | [cathrectory@verizon.net](mailto:cathrectory@verizon.net)**  
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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**



DROR RCO FO H-B-R-SO-R-OLG

## ***Sunday of the Announcment to the Virgin Mary November 22nd, 2020***

Sun., November 22	Sunday of the Announcment to the Virgin Mary 11: 30 am 40 Day Divine Liturgy for Sami Nassour	Req. by Mr. & Mrs. Tony Nassour
Mon., November 23	NO DIVINE LITURGY	
Tues., November 24	10 am Divine Liturgy for Emilie Kallassy & Fares Ayoub	Req. by Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Kallassy
Wed., November 25	10 am Divine Liturgy for George Tannousis	Req. by Mr. & Mrs. Tony Tannousis
Thurs., November 26	10 am Divine Liturgy Thanksgiving Day	
Fri., November 27	10 am Divine Liturgy St. James Intercisus	
Sat., November 28	10 am Divine Liturgy	
Sun., November 29	Sunday of the Visitation of the Virgin to Elizabeth 11: 30 am for the Intentions of the Parishioners	

### **Financial Standing November 2020**

#### **Ordinary Income**

- ♦ Sundays & Holy Days Collections: **\$10,918.81**
- ♦ Cathedral Stipends from Marriages & Funerals, Lower Hall Rent, Candles, Breakfast, Luncheon, Raffle, 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:

An anxious person, by definition, is someone who experiences worry, unease, or nervousness, typically about an imminent event or something with an uncertain outcome. Fear also adds to the equation. Zechariah, in last week's Gospel of the angel Gabriel appearing to him in the Temple of Jerusalem to announce that in his old age he and Elizabeth would have a son, exhibited anxiety and nervousness. Despite the angel Gabriel's words, "Do not be afraid," which should have appeased Zechariah's fear and reassured him of how wonderful the priest's son, John, as forerunner to prepare the people and the way of the Lord would be. Instead, Zechariah asked, "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). God was showing Zechariah the big picture and the importance of John in his plan of salvation, but the priest burning incense in the Temple of Jerusalem could not see beyond his nose. He was worrying and analyzing the how and why of things when God had already figured things out. All that was demanded of Zechariah was to say yes, but his worry overwhelmed him to the point where he, the priest, did not believe in God's intervention in history. It would take Zechariah nine months to overcome his anxiety and express this change in a hymn, "That we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him [the Lord] without fear, in holiness and righteousness all our days" (Luke 1:74-75). This is when Zechariah went from being a worrier in the world to being a warrior for the Lord.

This Sunday in our Maronite Church we continue with the series of announcements leading us to Christmas and we celebrate the Announcement to the Virgin Mary, the second Sunday of the Season of the Glorious Birth of Our Lord. Mary went through a similar experience to that of Zechariah. The angel Gabriel appeared to her and said, "You will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end" (Luke 1: 32-33). Upon hearing all that, Mary, for sure, must have been terrified at first by seeing the angel Gabriel and shocked at what he was telling her. So like, Zechariah, she started worrying and said, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" Nonetheless, the angel Gabriel cut Mary some slack and was not upset at her the way he was at Zechariah. In my opinion, Mary was young and might not have been as experienced as the old priest Zechariah was in God's ways and manifestations. What is fascinating about Mary is that she did not need nine months to meditate and understand the angel's message to her that she would be the Mother of the Most High who would redeem his people from their sins. It took Mary a couple of minutes to move from being a worrier to being a warrior.

Today, God's announcements have changed in content, but not in nature. His plan for us and the world is irreconcilable with our worries and many times we ask ourselves how God can be doing this or that. We end up unfortunately building a prison of worries around ourselves which prevents us from acting.

May these Sundays of Announcements help us to move quickly from being worriers to being warriors.

*Abouna Dominique*

## Christmas Basket Raffle

In lieu of the annual Christmas bake sale, the Confraternity is 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.

## Sloan Kettering Gift Card Drive

Instead of the usual toy drive for Christmas, a Christmas Gift Card Drive for the children (newborn and up) of Sloan Kettering Cancer Center will be in effect until December 22nd. This is the best way to keep the children at Sloan safe during the pandemic. Please bring your \$25 gift card to Church or give it to Chris Safi. For more information please see Chris Safi.

## 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.





*Our Lady of Lebanon Cathedral  
Brooklyn, NY*

*Christmas Gift Basket Raffle 2020  
Sponsored By The Confraternity Of The Immaculate Conception*



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- 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 the Virgin Mary

##### The Letter Paul to the Galatians 3: 15-22

I give an example from daily life: once a person's will has been ratified, no one adds to it or annuls it. Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring; it does not say, 'And to offsprings', as of many; but it says, 'And to your offspring', that is, to one person, who is Christ. My point is this: the law, which came four hundred and thirty years later, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to nullify the promise. For if the inheritance comes from the law, it no longer comes from the promise; but God granted it to Abraham through the promise. Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring would come to whom the promise had been made; and it was ordained through angels by a mediator. Now a mediator involves more than one party; but God is one. Is the law then opposed to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could make alive, then righteousness would indeed come through the law. But the scripture has imprisoned all things under the power of sin, so that what was promised through faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

##### The Gospel according to Saint Luke 1: 26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore, the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

#### أحد بشارة العذراء

##### رسالة القديس بولس إلى أهل غلاطية 3: 15-22

يَا إِخْوَتِي، كَبَشِّرُ أَقُولُ: إِنَّ الْوَصِيَّةَ، وَإِنْ كَانَتْ مِنْ إِنْسَانٍ، إِذَا أَقَرَّتْ، لَا أَحَدٌ يُبْطِلُهَا أَوْ يَزِيدُ عَلَيْهَا. فَالْوَعْدُ قِيلَتْ لِإِبْرَاهِيمَ وَلِنَسْلِهِ. وَمَا قِيلَتْ: «وَلَأَنْسَالِهِ»، كَأَنَّهُ لِكَثِيرِينَ، بَلْ «وَلِنَسْلِكَ»، كَأَنَّهُ لِوَاحِدٍ، وَهُوَ الْمَسِيحُ! فَأَقُولُ هَذَا: إِنَّ وَصِيَّةَ سَبَقَ اللَّهُ فَأَقَرَّهَا، لَا تُلْغِيهَا شَرِيعَةٌ جَاءَتْ بَعْدَ أَرْبَعِ مِئَةٍ وَثَلَاثِينَ سَنَةً، فَتُبْطِلُ الْوَعْدَ. وَإِذَا كَانَ الْمِيرَاثُ مِنَ الشَّرِيعَةِ، فَهُوَ لَمْ يَعْذُ مِنَ الْوَعْدِ؛ وَالْحَالُ أَنَّ اللَّهَ بَوَّعَ أَنْعَمَ بِالْمِيرَاثِ عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ. إِذَا فَلِمَ أَذًا الشَّرِيعَةُ؟ إِنَّهَا أُضِيفَتْ بِسَبَبِ الْمَعَاصِي، حَتَّى مَجِيءِ النَّسْلِ الَّذِي جُعِلَ الْوَعْدُ لَهُ. وَقَدْ أَعْلَنَاهَا مَلَائِكَةً عَلَى يَدِ وَسِيطٍ، هُوَ مُوسَى. غَيْرَ أَنَّ الْوَاحِدَ لَا وَسِيطَ لَهُ، وَاللَّهُ وَاحِدٌ! إِذَا فَهَلْ تَكُونُ الشَّرِيعَةُ ضِدَّ الْوَعْدِ؟ اللَّهُ؟ حَاشَا! فَلَوْ أُعْطِيتُ شَرِيعَةً قَادِرَةً أَنْ تُخَيِّبَ، لَكَانَ التَّبَرُّيرُ حَقًّا بِالشَّرِيعَةِ. وَلَكِنْ الْكِتَابُ حَبَسَ الْكُلَّ تَحْتَ الْخَطِيئَةِ، لِكَيْمَّا بِالْإِيمَانِ بِيَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ يُعْطَى الْوَعْدُ لِلَّذِينَ يُؤْمِنُونَ.

##### إنجيل القديس لوقا 1: 26-38

وَفِي الشَّهْرِ السَّادِسِ (بَعْدَ بَشَارَةِ زَكَرِيَّا)، أُرْسِلَ الْمَلَكُ جِبْرَائِيلُ مِنَ عِنْدِ اللَّهِ إِلَى مَدِينَةٍ فِي الْجَلِيلِ أَسْمُهَا النَّاصِرَةِ، إِلَى عَذْرَاءٍ مَخْطُوبَةٍ لِرَجُلٍ مِنْ بَيْتِ دَاوُدَ أَسْمُهُ يُوسُفُ، وَأَسْمُ الْعَذْرَاءِ مَرْيَمَ. وَلَمَّا دَخَلَ الْمَلَكُ إِلَيْهَا قَالَ: «السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ، يَا مَمْلُوءَةٌ نِعْمَةً، أَلَرَّبُّ مَعَكَ!»! فَأَضْطَرَبَتْ مَرْيَمَ لِكَلَامِهِ، وَأَخَذَتْ تُفَكِّرُ مَا عَسَى أَنْ يَكُونَ هَذَا السَّلَامُ! فَقَالَ لَهَا الْمَلَكُ: «لَا تَخَافِي، يَا مَرْيَمَ، لِأَنَّكَ وَجَدْتَ نِعْمَةً عِنْدَ اللَّهِ. وَهَا أَنْتِ تَحْمِلِينَ، وَتَلِدِينَ ابْنًا، وَتُسَمِّيَنَّهُ يَسُوعَ. وَهُوَ يَكُونُ عَظِيمًا، وَابْنُ الْعَلِيِّ يُدْعَى، وَيُعْطِيهِ الرَّبُّ إِلَهُ عَرْشَ دَاوُدَ أَبِيهِ، فَيَمْلِكُ عَلَى بَيْتِ يَعْقُوبَ إِلَى الْأَبَدِ، وَلَا يَكُونُ لِمُلْكِهِ نِهَائَةٌ.»! فَقَالَتْ مَرْيَمَ لِلْمَلَكِ: «كَيْفَ يَكُونُ هَذَا، وَأَنَا لَا أَعْرِفُ رَجُلًا؟». «فَأَجَابَ الْمَلَكُ وَقَالَ لَهَا: «الرُّوحُ الْقُدُسُ يَجِلُّ عَلَيْكَ، وَقُدْرَةُ الْعَلِيِّ تَطَّلُكَ، وَلِذَلِكَ فَالْقُدُّوسُ الْمَوْلُودُ مِنْكَ يُدْعَى ابْنُ اللَّهِ! وَهَا إِنَّ الْيَصَابَاتِ نَسَبَتِكَ، قَدْ حَمَلَتْ هِيَ أَيْضًا بَابْنٍ فِي شَيْخُوخَتِهَا. وَهَذَا هُوَ الشَّهْرُ السَّادِسُ لِتِلْكَ الَّتِي تُدْعَى عَاقِرًا، لِأَنَّهُ لَيْسَ عَلَى اللَّهِ أَمْرٌ مُسْتَحِيلٌ. «فَقَالَتْ مَرْيَمَ: «هَآ أَنَا أَمَةٌ الرَّبِّ، فَلْيَكُنْ لِي بِحَسَبِ قَوْلِكَ!»! وَأَنْصَرَفَ مِنْ عِنْدِهَا الْمَلَكُ.



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