

VISITATION
OF
MARY
TO
ELIZABETH

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



GLORIOUS
BIRTH
OF
OUR
LORD

Sunday of the Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth *November 29th, 2020*

Sun., November 29 Sunday of the Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth
11: 30 am for the Intentions of the Parishioners

Mon., November 30 NO DIVINE LITURGY
St. Andrew

Tues., December 1 10 am Divine Liturgy

Wed., December 2 10 am Divine Liturgy

Thurs., December 3 10 am Divine Liturgy
St. Francis Xavier

Fri., December 4 10 am Divine Liturgy for Sahid S. Besheer
St. Barbara

Req. by Mrs. Salma Vahdat

Sat., December 5 10 am Divine Liturgy
St. Saba the Hermit

Sun., December 6 Sunday of the Birth of John the Baptist
11: 30 am for David Edward

Req. by Mr. & Mrs. Jorge Leon

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:

The announcement to Zechariah, the priest, and the conception of his son with his wife Elizabeth in her old age have two important characteristics. Zechariah prayed for years and when God answered his request to have a child, it seemed it was too late for him to accept God's will. He could not believe that God was responding to his call. Thus, the angel Gabriel told him, "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" (Luke 1: 20). As for Elizabeth, Luke 1: 24-25 reads, "After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion." Zechariah's muteness at God's miraculous intervention in fulfilling his desire is a common attitude among the people today. There are times when people try hard to avoid shedding light on God's continuous wonders in our lives that the world cannot always see, but are, in fact, extraordinary. We experience them, we can hardly comprehend them and we do not talk about them.

Also, the seclusion of Elizabeth compounded Zechariah's muteness. Why would Elizabeth hide away and wait five months to reveal God's miracle to her? Did she also believe she might not be pregnant? This is an example of hiding God's grace in us which is something else that we practice more than we should today. It was not until only a couple of months before the birth of John that Zechariah and Elizabeth came to terms with God's plan for them. As a matter of fact, Zechariah's hymn of praise and thanks and the loosening of his tongue occurred eight days after the birth of his child at the naming ceremony.

The announcement to the Virgin Mary who was chosen by God to bear his Son by the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit was the opposite to the seclusion of Elizabeth and the muteness of Zechariah. Mary did not accept God's call to her to be the mother of his Son only by saying, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Her conformity to the will of God was manifested as well by her visit to Elizabeth. Mary knew immediately that her mission was to bring Jesus to the whole world and not keep him to herself. Mary the Virgin who was found to be with child was the one who should have felt disgraced and ashamed and should have been in seclusion, and not Elizabeth. But Mary knew better and did not hide away but brought the good news of the birth of a Savior to her cousin Elizabeth in the far-away hill country of Judea. When Elizabeth saw Mary entering her house, she said, "Why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me?...And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord" (Luke 1: 43, 45). The Virgin liberated the once-barren Elizabeth from her seclusion because she believed that the Lord was trustworthy. In addition, unlike Zechariah who could not praise God until the birth of John, Mary, even before the birth of Jesus, proclaimed her famous song of praise, "My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior" when she was visiting Elizabeth.

Zechariah's muteness and the seclusion of Elizabeth teach us today that God's plan, if we let it, will burst like a spring of water from the earth. For a time, people might be silent about God's glorious works and refuse to cooperate with his mission to bring salvation to the world. Although it might be hindered for a while, God's plan in due time will be fulfilled as we see with Mary.

Abgona 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.

Christmas Novena December 15th to 23rd

Starting on Tuesday, December 15th until Wednesday, December 23rd, the parish will pray the Christmas Novena every evening at 7:00 pm except Sunday. The tradition of praying nine days before Christmas is a great way to be prepared to welcome God among us.

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.

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](#).



*Our Lady of Lebanon Cathedral
Brooklyn, NY*

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



Prize List:

- 1 \$100 Amazon Gift Card
- 2 \$100 Zio Toto Italian Restaurant Gift Card
- 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 of the Visitation to Elizabeth

Letter to the Ephesians 1: 1-14.

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are in Ephesus and are faithful in Christ Jesus: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory.

In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ to Saint Luke 1:39-45.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me?

For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy.

And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

أحد زيارة العذراء

رسالة القديس بولس إلى أهل أفسس 1: 1-14

يا إخوتي، من بولس، رَسُولِ الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ بِمَشِيئَةِ اللَّهِ، إِلَى الْقَدِيسِينَ الَّذِينَ هُمْ فِي أَفَسُسَ وَالْأَمْنَاءِ فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ:

الْتَعْمَةُ لَكُمْ وَالسَّلَامُ مِنَ اللَّهِ أَبِيْنَا وَالرَّبِّ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ! تَبَارَكَ اللَّهُ أَبُو رَبِّنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ، الَّذِي بَارَكَنَا بِكُلِّ بَرَكَاتٍ رُوحِيَّةٍ فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ فِي الْمَسِيحِ؛ فَإِنَّهُ اخْتَارَنَا فِيهِ قَبْلَ انْشَاءِ الْعَالَمِ، لِنَكُونَ فِي حَضْرَتِهِ قَدِيسِينَ، لَا عَيْبَ فِيْنَا؛ وَقَدْ سَبَقَ بِمَحَبَّتِهِ فَحَدَدْنَا أَنْ نَكُونَ لَهُ أَبْنَاءَ بِالْتَّيْنِ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ، بِحَسَبِ رِضَى مَشِيئَتِهِ، لِمَدْحِ مَجْدِ نِعْمَتِهِ الَّتِي أَنْعَمَ بِهَا عَلَيْنَا فِي الْحَبِيبِ؛ وَفِيهِ لَنَا الْفِدَاءُ بِدَمِهِ، أَيْ مَغْفِرَةُ الزَّلَّاتِ، بِحَسَبِ غِنَى نِعْمَتِهِ، الَّتِي أَفَاضَهَا عَلَيْنَا فِي كُلِّ حِكْمَةٍ وَفَهْمٍ؛ وَقَدْ عَرَفْنَا سِرَّ مَشِيئَتِهِ، بِحَسَبِ رِضَاهُ الَّذِي سَبَقَ فَجَعَلَهُ فِي الْمَسِيحِ، لِيُحَقِّقَ تَدْبِيرَ مِلءِ الْأَرْمَنَةِ، فَيَجْمَعَ فِي الْمَسِيحِ تَحْتَ رَأْسٍ وَاحِدٍ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ، مَا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَمَا عَلَى الْأَرْضِ؛ وَفِيهِ أَيْضًا اخْتَارَنَا مِيرَاثًا لَهُ، وَقَدْ سَبَقَ فَحَدَدْنَا بِحَسَبِ قَصْدِهِ، هُوَ الَّذِي يَعْمَلُ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ بِقَضَاءِ مَشِيئَتِهِ، لِنَكُونَ مَدْحًا لِمَجْدِهِ، نَحْنُ الَّذِينَ سَبَقْنَا فَجَعَلْنَا فِي الْمَسِيحِ رَجَاءً؛ وَفِيهِ أَنْتُمْ أَيْضًا، بَعْدَ أَنْ سَمِعْتُمْ كَلِمَةَ الْحَقِّ، أَيْ إِنْجِيلَ خَلَاصِكُمْ، وَأَمَنْتُمْ، خُتِمْتُمْ بِالرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِّ الْمَوْعُودِ بِهِ، وَهُوَ عَرَبُونَ مِيرَاثًا، لِفِدَاءِ شَعْبِهِ الَّذِي أَقْتَنَاهُ، وَلِمَدْحِ مَجْدِهِ.

إنجيل القديس لوقا 1: 39-45

فِي تِلْكَ الْأَيَّامِ (بعد البشارة ببسوع)، قَامَتِ مَرْيَمُ وَدَهَبَتْ مُسْرِعَةً إِلَى الْجَبَلِ، إِلَى مَدِينَةٍ فِي يَهُودَا.

وَدَخَلَتْ بَيْتَ زَكَرِيَّا، وَسَلَّمَتْ عَلَى الْيَصَابَاتِ. وَلَمَّا سَمِعَتْ الْيَصَابَاتُ سَلَامَ مَرْيَمَ، أَرْتَكَضَ الْجَنِينُ فِي بَطْنِهَا، وَأَمْتَلَأَتْ مِنَ الرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِّ. فَهَتَفَتْ بِأَعْلَى صَوْتِهَا وَقَالَتْ: «مُبَارَكَةٌ أَنْتِ فِي النِّسَاءِ، وَمُبَارَكَةٌ ثَمَرَةُ بَطْنِكَ!

وَمِنْ أَينَ لِي هَذَا، أَنْ تَأْتِي إِلَيَّ أُمُّ رَبِّي؟ فَهَا مِنْذُ وَقَعَتْ صَوْتُ سَلَامِكِ فِي أُذُنِي، أَرْتَكَضَ الْجَنِينُ أَبْتِهَاجًا فِي بَطْنِي! فَطُوبَى لِّلَّتِي آمَنَتْ أَنَّهُ سَيَكُونُ مَا قِيلَ لَهَا مِنْ قِبَلِ الرَّبِّ.»!

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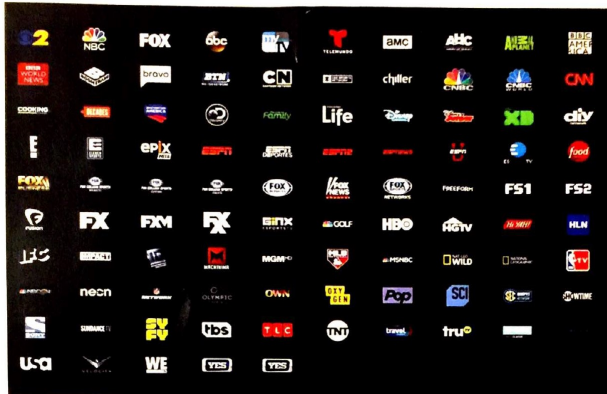
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