

SECOND SUNDAY

**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)**  
For emergency call: (202) 829-4779

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

AFTER HOLY CROSSES



## *Second Sunday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross* *September 26th, 2021*

Sun., September 26	2nd Sunday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross 9 am for the Intentions of the Parishioners 11:30 am for Jean Barsoum, the Father of Vicky Nasr	St. John the Evangelist  Req. by Mr. & Mrs. Ziad Nasr
Mon., September 27	NO LITURGY St. Vincent de Paul	
Tues., September 28	10 am Divine Liturgy for Hasna Azizi Besheer St. Chariton	Req. by Mrs. Salma Vahdat
Wed., September 29	10 am Divine Liturgy for Special Intention St. Romanos, known as Rouhanna the Cantor	Req. by Mrs. Phyllis Simon
Thurs., September 30	10 am Divine Liturgy St. Gregory the Illuminator	
Fri., October 1	10 am Divine Liturgy St. Therese of the Child Jesus, Doctor of the Church	
Sat., October 2	10 am Divine Liturgy Sts. Cyprian & Justina	
Sun., October 3	3rd Sunday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross 9 am for the Intentions of the Parishioners 11:30 am for Sami Nassour	St. Dionysius the Areopagite/ St. Theodore Guerin  Req. by Mr. & Mrs. Tony Nassour

### August 2021 Financial Standing

#### Ordinary Income

- ♦ Collections on Sundays & Holy Days: **\$7,646.80**
- ♦ Cathedral Stipends from Marriages & Funerals, Hall Rent, Candles, Breakfast, Luncheon, Raffle, Dues, Religious Education, Flowers .... **\$10,017.00**

**Total Ordinary Income: \$17,663.80**

#### Ordinary Expenses

- ♦ 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 Expenses: \$14,792.65**

**Total Ordinary Income vs Expenses: \$2,871.15**

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\*\*\*\*\*

**Do you know? A couple of basic monthly expenses:**

**Cathedral monthly building insurance: \$3,484.00**

**Monthly Eparchial Assessment & Bishop's Appeal: \$2,125.00**

**The Library is no longer renting the hall. The space was vacated at the end of October 2020.**

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

### HELP LEBANON!

**PRAY FOR  
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, Saint Vincent de Paul or The Franciscan Sisters of the Holy Cross.

#### ONLINE:

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

### FAMILY-TO-FAMILY HELP THROUGH CARITAS LEBANON

In coordination with Caritas Lebanon, a family in the United States is now able to sponsor a family in Lebanon. The sponsorship varies from \$50 to \$100 per month depending on the size and the need of the family.

Please click [here](#) to sponsor a family and for additional information.

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

You might be tired of me by now for repeating in bulletins and homilies how important the reading is for the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians. It actually summarizes the best way for us to understand this Season the focus of which is on the second coming of Christ and the end times. 1 Corinthians 1: 18-25 speaks about how to understand the message of the cross which is nonsense to all who do not believe in Christ, but to us who know Jesus it is the power of God. Then Paul makes it clear why Jews and Greeks do not understand the meaning of the cross of Christ. "For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ [is] the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men" (1 Corinthians 1: 22-25).

This Sunday the Gospel is taken from Matthew 24: 1-14 where Jesus talked about the destruction of the temple which is a metaphor for his own death on the cross: "Truly I tell you, not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down." But he also told his disciples that they would hear of wars and rumors of wars and nations rising against nations, and kingdom against kingdom. There would be famines and earthquakes in various places before the second coming and the end of the world. Big signs are anticipated and are reported by Christ himself, but the disciples, who are Jews and are demanding signs, would be distracted by these signs and ignore the cross of Christ because it does not seem to make any sense to them.

Matthew, the evangelist, continued his narrative and wrote, "When he [Jesus] was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, 'Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?' " The disciples here were behaving like the Greeks who looked for wisdom or knowledge wanting to know when these end events would take place. Knowledge is powerful but not more powerful than the cross of Christ. The word "privately" demonstrates that the disciple thought they had privileged access to Christ and were privy to some knowledge that others were not. This is also a diversion from the cross of Christ. Christ Jesus became wisdom from God, righteousness, sanctification and redemption, as it was written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord." In our society, we feel superior when we know something before others do with the attitude "I beat you to it" or "I knew it before you."

St. Augustine wrote in his Confessions, "Late have I loved you, beauty so old and so new: late have I loved you. And see, you were within and I was in the external world and sought you there, and in my unlovely state I plunged into those lovely created things which you made. You were with me, and I was not with you. The lovely things kept me far from you, though if they did not have their existence in you, they had no existence at all. You called and cried out loud and shattered my deafness. You were radiant and resplendent, you put to flight my blindness. You were fragrant, and I drew in my breath and now pant after you. I tasted you, and I feel but hunger and thirst for you. You touched me, and I am set on fire to attain the peace which is yours."

During this Season of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, let nothing keep us from embracing the cross even when it is, humanly speaking, irrational.



### **Sajj Sunday Sponsored by Knights**

On Sunday, October 10th, the Knights of St. Maron are sponsoring a sajj breakfast after Church. Please support them.

### **Order of St. Sharbel Awareness Sunday**

This year, October 10th is designated as "Order of Saint Sharbel Sunday" in our Eparchy. On October 10th, all Maronite parishes will be promoting the Order. The Order of Saint Sharbel is vitally important in providing financial and spiritual support for our seminarians, who are crucial for the future of our Maronite Church. This year we have six men studying in Washington and two in Lebanon for our Eparchy. Please prayerfully consider joining the Order. You may enroll online at [www.orderstsharbel.org](http://www.orderstsharbel.org) or ask Father Dominique for more information.

### **Maronite Catholic Formation (Sunday School)**

Registration for Sunday School is underway. It is of extreme importance to hand down the faith to our children (1st to 12th Grades) and our Sunday Formation is one small way to do so. Thus, everyone is encouraged to register their children and not wait until the last minute. Classes begin on Sunday, October 3rd, at 10 am. The program will run until the end of May with two or three in-person classes and one on Zoom monthly. Please [print the registration form online](#) and email it to [Lily Elhaje](mailto:Lily.Elhaje)

### **Maronite Catholic Formation (Sunday School)**

Any parishioner who would like to help with Maronite Catholic Formation (Sunday School) as a teacher or substitute, please contact Norma Haddad on her [email](#).

### **Interested in Joining the Choir?**

The choir of the Cathedral would like to welcome anyone interested in joining them to praise the Lord in a more dedicated way. We are also looking for someone who knows the Maronite music to play the organ. Please make sure to see Christiane Merhej after the 11:30 Divine Liturgy.

### **Arabic Class Registration**

Adult Arabic Class registration has begun. Please see Leila Vogl if you are interested.

### **The Yearly Benefit Eparchial Dinner**

Each October, the Eparchy has a Benefit Dinner to raise funds for educating seminarians, expanding ministries, and supporting parishes and missions in need in the Eparchy. Also, 10% of the proceeds are given to help in Lebanon and the Middle East. This year's Benefit Event will be held by Zoom on **Thursday, October 7th, 2021 at 7:00 pm Eastern Time**, and will also honor the many dedicated people and organizations who are helping alleviate the suffering in Lebanon during these difficult times. Please click [here](#) to register and make a donation. Please support this important event – the Church needs your support this year more than ever. For more information, please [email](#) or call 718-237-9913. Thank you.



PLEASE JOIN US  
FOR OUR SECOND VIRTUAL BENEFIT EVENT

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2021 AT 7:00PM**

SERVING SEMINARIANS, RETIRED PRIESTS, MISSIONS,  
YOUTH MINISTRY AND THOSE IN NEED IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

EPARCHY OF SAINT MARON OF BROOKLYN

718-237-9913 | SAINTMARON@YAHOO.COM

WWW.STMARON.ORG

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

As you recall, last year's Fall Benefit Dinner for the Eparchy was a Virtual Event due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to lingering health concerns and restrictions, we believe a virtual event again this year is in everyone's best interest. While I am disappointed that we cannot have an in-person event this year, **I hope you will join us for this very special celebration on Thursday, October 7, 2021 at 7:00pm Eastern Time.**

Each year, our Fall Benefit Event provides important financial support to educate seminarians, help parishes and missions, assist retired priests, and foster a variety of ministries of the Eparchy. As in past years, a portion of this year's proceeds will be dedicated to help the Church in Lebanon and the Middle East – which is now needed more than ever. Out of respect for the serious conditions in Lebanon, this year's Benefit Event will honor those organizations and individuals who have been dedicating their time and resources to help the people of Lebanon during these various crises.

Your participation in this year's Benefit Event will help strengthen our Eparchy in her service to our faithful here, and for the vulnerable in Lebanon. I hope you will consider supporting the Eparchy with a donation in any amount. Or perhaps you might consider joining the Order of Saint Sharbel, if you are not already a member. Please visit [www.stmaron.org/eparchial-benefit](http://www.stmaron.org/eparchial-benefit) to make a gift and/or register for this special online Benefit Event, or return the enclosed reply card in the envelope provided.

Thank you for helping us make a difference in the Maronite Church both at home and abroad. I hope to "see" you on October 7. May God bless you for your generosity!

Gratefully yours in Christ,

+ Gregory

+ Gregory John Mansour  
Bishop of the Eparchy of Saint Maron



*Providing aid to the vulnerable of Lebanon*



*Serving the faithful of our Eparchy*



*Serving our seminary and seminarians*



*Praying for Lebanon and her people*

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR SUPPORT  
OF THIS VIRTUAL BENEFIT EVENT

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ I am pleased to participate in this Virtual Benefit Event for 2021 and offer my support:

- \_\_\_\_ **Platinum Sponsorship** (\$15,000)
- \_\_\_\_ **Gold Sponsorship** (\$10,000)
- \_\_\_\_ **Silver Sponsorship** (\$5,000)
- \_\_\_\_ **Bronze Sponsorship** (\$3,500)
- \_\_\_\_ **Patron** (\$2,500-\$3,499)
- \_\_\_\_ **Supporter** (\$1,000-\$2,499)
- \_\_\_\_ **Donor** (\$500-\$999)
- \_\_\_\_ **Contributor** (\$200-\$499)
- \_\_\_\_ **Friend** (up to \$199)
- \_\_\_\_ In lieu of a regular ticket I would like to donate \$350.

*All Supporters will be acknowledged at the virtual event and in our post event report.*

Please make checks payable to "Eparchy of Saint Maron" and return in the enclosed envelope.

Or make a donation online with a credit card at [www.stmaron.org/eparchial-benefit](http://www.stmaron.org/eparchial-benefit)

For questions,  
please email [saintmaron@yahoo.com](mailto:saintmaron@yahoo.com) or call  
718-237-9913.



# JOIN THE ORDER OF SAINT SHARBEL

TO SUPPORT THE EDUCATION OF MARONITE SEMINARIANS  
AND HELP BUILD THE FUTURE OF THE MARONITE CHURCH

*Meet this year's Seminarians for the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn*



## JOIN THE ORDER OF SAINT SHARBEL TODAY

Enroll online at [www.orderstsharbel.org](http://www.orderstsharbel.org) or in your Parish.

For more information about the Order, contact the Order of Saint Sharbel  
Vice President, Charlene Hiffa at [mchiffa@bellsouth.net](mailto:mchiffa@bellsouth.net) or ask your Parish Priest.

If you are interested in becoming a Priest, Religious Sister, or Deacon, contact Vocations Director  
Father Dominique Hanna at (718) 624-7228 or [cathrectory@verizon.net](mailto:cathrectory@verizon.net).

## Sunday Readings

### قراءات الأحد

#### Second Sunday after Holy Cross

##### First Letter to the Corinthians 15: 19-34

If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. For 'God has put all things in subjection under his feet.' But when it says, 'All things are put in subjection', it is plain that this does not include the one who put all things in subjection under him. When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the one who put all things in subjection under him, so that God may be all in all. Otherwise, what will those people do who receive baptism on behalf of the dead? If the dead are not raised at all, why are people baptized on their behalf? And why are we putting ourselves in danger every hour? I die every day! That is as certain, brothers and sisters, as my boasting of you a boast that I make in Christ Jesus our Lord. If with merely human hopes I fought with wild animals at Ephesus, what would I have gained by it? If the dead are not raised, 'Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.' Do not be deceived: 'Bad company ruins good morals.' Come to a sober and right mind, and sin no more; for some people have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame.

##### The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew 24: 1-14

As Jesus came out of the temple and was going away, his disciples came to point out to him the buildings of the temple. Then he asked them, 'You see all these, do you not? Truly I tell you, not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.' When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, 'Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?' Jesus answered them, 'Beware that no one leads you astray. For many will come in my name, saying, "I am the Messiah!" and they will lead many astray. And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars; see that you are not alarmed; for this must take place, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places: all this is but the beginning of the birth pangs. 'Then they will hand you over to be tortured and will put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of my name. Then many will fall away, and they will betray one another and hate one another. And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. And because of the increase of lawlessness, the love of many will grow cold. But anyone who endures to the end will be saved. And this good news of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the world, as a testimony to all the nations; and then the end will come.

#### الأحد الثاني بعد عيد الصليب

##### رسالة القديس بولس الأولى إلى أهل كورنثس 15: 19-34

يا إخواني، إن كنا نَرْجُو الْمَسِيحَ فِي هَذِهِ الْحَيَاةِ وَحَسْبُ، فَخُذْ أَشَقَى النَّاسِ أَجْمَعِينَ! وَالْحَالُ أَنَّ الْمَسِيحَ قَامَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ، وَهُوَ بَاكُورَةُ الرَّاقِدِينَ. فِيمَا أَنَّ الْمَوْتَ كَانَ بِوَاسِطَةِ إِنْسَانٍ، فَبِوَاسِطَةِ إِنْسَانٍ أَيْضًا تَكُونُ قِيَامَةُ الْأَمْوَاتِ. فَكَمَا أَنَّهُ فِي آدَمَ يَمُوتُ الْجَمِيعُ، كَذَلِكَ فِي الْمَسِيحِ سَيَحْيَا الْجَمِيعُ، كُلٌّ وَاحِدٍ فِي رُتْبَتِهِ: الْمَسِيحُ أَوَّلًا، لِأَنَّهُ الْبَاكُورَةُ، ثُمَّ الَّذِينَ هُمْ لِلْمَسِيحِ، عِنْدَ مَجِيئِهِ.

وَبَعْدَ ذَلِكَ تَكُونُ النَّهَايَةُ، حِينَ يُسَلَّمُ الْمَسِيحُ الْمُلْكَ إِلَى اللَّهِ الْآبِ، بَعْدَ أَنْ يَكُونَ قَدْ أَبْطَلَ كُلَّ رِئَاسَةٍ وَكُلَّ سُلْطَانٍ وَقُوَّةٍ، لِأَنَّهُ لَا بَدْ لِلْمَسِيحِ أَنْ يَمْلِكَ، إِلَى أَنْ يَجْعَلَ اللَّهُ جَمِيعَ أَعْدَائِهِ تَحْتَ قَدَمَيْهِ. وَآخِرُ عَدُوٍّ يُبْطَلُ هُوَ الْمَوْتُ. لَقَدْ أَخْضَعَ اللَّهُ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ تَحْتَ قَدَمَيْهِ. وَحِينَ يَقُولُ الْكِتَابُ: «أَخْضَعَ لَهُ كُلُّ شَيْءٍ»، فَمِنْ الْوَاضِحِ أَنَّهُ يَسْتَنْتِي اللَّهَ الَّذِي أَخْضَعَ لَهُ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ. وَمَتَى أَخْضَعَ لِلْآبِ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ، فَحِينَئِذٍ يَخْضَعُ الْآبُنُ نَفْسَهُ لِلَّذِي أَخْضَعَ لَهُ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ، حَتَّى يَكُونَ اللَّهُ الْكُلُّ فِي الْكُلِّ. وَإِلَّا فَمَاذَا يَفْعَلُ الَّذِينَ يَتَعَمَّدُونَ مِنْ أَجْلِ الْأَمْوَاتِ؟ إِنْ كَانَ الْأَمْوَاتُ لَا يَقُومُونَ أَبَدًا، فَلِمَاذَا يَتَعَمَّدُونَ مِنْ أَجْلِهِمْ؟ وَنَحْنُ، فَلِمَاذَا نَعْرِضُ أَنْفُسَنَا كُلَّ سَاعَةٍ لِلْخَطَرِ؟ أَفَسَيُفْنِ، أَيُّهَا الْإِخْوَةُ، بِمَا لِي مِنْ فَحْرٍ بِكُمْ فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ رَبِّنَا، أَيُّ أَوَاجِهِ الْمَوْتُ كُلَّ يَوْمٍ. إِنْ كُنْتُ صَارَ عَثْرُ الْوُحُوشِ فِي أَفْسُسَ، لِغَايَةِ بَشَرِيَّةٍ، فَأَيُّ نَفْعٍ لِي؟ وَإِنْ كَانَ الْأَمْوَاتُ لَا يَقُومُونَ، فَلَنَأْكُلَ وَنَشْرَبُ، لِأَنَّنَا غَدًا سَنَمُوتُ! لَا تَضَلُّوا! إِنَّ الْمُعَاشِرَاتِ السَّيِّئَةَ تُفْسِدُ الْأَخْلَاقَ السَّالِمَةَ! أَيَقْطَعُوا قُلُوبَكُمْ بِالنَّفَقَى، وَلَا تَخْطَاوْا، فَإِنَّ بَعْضًا مِنْكُمْ يَجْهَلُونَ اللَّهَ! أَقُولُ هَذَا لِإِخْبَالِكُمْ!

##### إنجيل القديس متى 14: 1-24

خَرَجَ يَسُوعُ مِنَ الْهَيْكَلِ وَمَضَى. فَدَنَا مِنْهُ تَلَامِيذُهُ يَلْفُتُونَ نَظْرَهُ إِلَى أُنْبِيَةِ الْهَيْكَلِ. فَاجَابَ وَقَالَ لَهُمْ: «أَلَا تَنْظُرُونَ هَذَا كُلَّهُ؟ أَلَحَقُّ أَقُولُ لَكُمْ: لَنْ يَبْنَى هُنَا حَجَرٌ عَلَى حَجَرٍ إِلَّا وَيُنْقَضُ.» وَفِيمَا هُوَ جَالِسٌ عَلَى جَبَلِ الزَّيْتُونِ، دَنَا مِنْهُ التَّلَامِيذُ عَلَى أَنْفَرَادٍ قَائِلِينَ: «قُلْ لَنَا مَتَى يَكُونُ هَذَا، وَمَا هِيَ عَلَامَةُ مَجِيئِكَ وَنَهَايَةِ الْعَالَمِ؟» فَاجَابَ يَسُوعُ وَقَالَ لَهُمْ: «إِخْذَرُوا أَنْ يَضِلَّكُمْ أَحَدٌ! فَكثِيرُونَ سَيَأْتُونَ بِأَسْمِي قَائِلِينَ: «أَنَا هُوَ الْمَسِيحُ! وَيُضِلُّونَ الْكَثِيرِينَ. وَسَوْفَ تَسْمَعُونَ بِخُرُوبٍ وَبِأَخْبَارِ خُرُوبٍ، أَنْظُرُوا، لَا تَرْتَعِبُوا! فَلَإِنَّ أَنْ يَخْذُثَ هَذَا. وَلَكِنْ لَيْسَتْ النَّهَايَةُ بَعْدًا! سَتَقُومُ أُمَّةٌ عَلَى أُمَّةٍ، وَمَمْلَكَةٌ عَلَى مَمْلَكَةٍ، وَتَكُونُ مَجَاعَاتٌ وَزَلَزَلٌ فِي أَمَاكِنَ شَتَّى، وَهَذَا كُلُّهُ أَوَّلُ الْمَخَاضِ.

حِينَئِذٍ يُسَلِّمُونَكُمْ إِلَى الضَّبِقِ، وَيَقْتُلُونَكُمْ، وَيُبَغِضُكُمْ جَمِيعُ الْأُمَمِ مِنْ أَجْلِ أَسْمِي. وَحِينَئِذٍ يَزِيدُ الْكَثِيرُونَ عَنِ الْإِيمَانِ، وَيُسَلِّمُ بَعْضُهُمْ بَعْضًا، وَيُبَغِضُ بَعْضُهُمْ بَعْضًا. وَيَقُومُ أَنْبِيَاءُ كَذِبَةٌ كَثِيرُونَ وَيُضِلُّونَ الْكَثِيرِينَ. وَلِكثَرَةِ الْإِثْمِ تَقْصُرُ مَحَبَّةُ الْكَثِيرِينَ. وَمَنْ يَصْبِرْ إِلَى النَّهَايَةِ يَخْلُسَ. وَيُكْرَزُ بِإِنْجِيلِ الْمَلَكُوتِ هَذَا فِي الْمَسْكُونَةِ كُلِّهَا شَهَادَةً لِجَمِيعِ الْأُمَمِ، وَحِينَئِذٍ تَأْتِي النَّهَايَةُ



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