

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Cathedral
113 Remsen Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201
(718) 624-7228 | ololc.org | 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

FIFTH SUNDAY

AFTER HOLY CROSSES



Fifth Sunday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross October 17th, 2021

Sun., October 17	5th Sunday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross 9 am for Dr. Michael Kassouf on his birthday 11:30 am for Elie Safi for Eddy & Martha Manasseh on their 50th wedding anniversary for Aquila Mikhael (Mother of Fr. Elie Michael) for Ricardo Vega Aviña (the father of Isabel Hernandez)	Sts. Cosmas & Damian Req. by Isabel Hernandez Req. by Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Safi Req. by Mrs. Vivian Akl
Mon., October 18	NO LITURGY St. Luke the Evangelist	
Tues., October 19	10 am Divine Liturgy St. Aaron of Antioch, Sts. Jean de Brebeuf, Isaac Jogues & Companions	
Wed., October 20	10 am Divine Liturgy St. Shallita (Artemius)	
Thurs., October 21	10 am Divine Liturgy St. Hilarion of Tabatha	
Fri., October 22	10 am Divine Liturgy for Wagih Azizi Pope St. John Paul II	Req. by Mrs. Salma Vahdat
Sat., October 23	10 am Divine Liturgy St. Ignatius, Patriarch of Constantinople	
Sun., October 24	6th Sunday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross 9 am for the Intentions of the Parishioners 11:30 am for Josefina Barnichta	St. Arethas (Hares) & Companions Req. by the Hache Family

September 2021 Financial Standing

Ordinary Income

- ♦ Collections on Sundays & Holy Days: **\$11,866.41**
- ♦ Cathedral Stipends from Marriages & Funerals, Hall Rent, Candles, Breakfast, Luncheon, Raffle, Dues, Religious Education, Flowers **\$5,611.00**

Total Ordinary Income: \$17,477.41

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: \$17,425.84

Total Ordinary Income vs Expenses: \$51.57

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!



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,

From last Sunday on, the Gospel readings leading up to the end of the Season of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross will no longer talk about the prediction of the events of the end of the world. We will no longer hear of earthquakes, famines, epidemics, rumors of wars and wars, nation rising against nation and kingdom against kingdom. The readings will not refer to the sun darkening, the moon not giving its light or the stars falling. Tribulations, calamities and desolation will not be part of the Sunday proclamations anymore.

The events of the end of the world and the second coming are terrifying and make our hearts anxious. How can we hear about these catastrophes and not be afraid? But fear is very tricky and throws us into survival mode. Then, our main goal becomes how we can stay alive. Serving others diminishes to nothing and our entire energy will be devoted to our own needs.

Last week's passage which is part of the discourse on the end times and the second coming of Jesus from Matthew 24 asks an important question. "Who then is the faithful and wise slave, whom his master has put in charge of his household, to give the other slaves their allowance of food at the proper time? (Matthew 24: 45). In the midst of the tribulations of the end times and the second coming, Christ is asking us to serve food to others and this is the proper time to do it. The best remedy for fear is not to become trapped within ourselves trying to fulfill only our own needs. On the contrary, it is to be at the service of others. So, what are we to do as we wait for the second coming? We serve others.

This Sunday the Gospel of the Ten Virgins from Matthew 25: 1-13 is an indicator of whether we are serving enough. Are we able to bring enough oil to welcome the delayed bridegroom? The oil symbolizes the good deeds we have done as we wait for the second coming. The five foolish virgins brought oil with them, but they did not bring enough. In my opinion, their attention was too much on themselves. Even though they waited until midnight for the delayed bridegroom, their fear that they did not bring enough oil blocked them from serving others.

Next week in the same chapter of Matthew 25, the author tells the Parable of the Talents. A similar motif repeats itself with the servant who received the one talent. Consider what he said, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours" (Matthew 25: 24-26). Fear comes up again as an attitude that stops the servant with one talent from being at the service of others.

The liturgy of the final Sunday of the Season of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross narrates the judgment of the nations passage also from Matthew 25. This takes us back to the idea of serving others. "I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me" (Matthew 25: 35-36). The meaning of the oil as the symbol of the good deeds of the Ten Virgins of the previous Sunday becomes very clear.

Let us conquer our fear by going out to serve others by feeding them, giving them something to drink, welcoming them, clothing them, taking care of them when they are sick and visiting them in prison. This will make the oil in our lamps not only keep burning but radiate even more brightly until the bridegroom arrives.

Maronite Catholic Formation (Sunday School)

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. Classes began 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](#).

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

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

New Year's Gathering

A few families from the Cathedral will be gathering to celebrate New Year's Eve at the Church hall. If you would like to join them, please see Charly & Jihane Ayoub. More information to follow.

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 up their Church donation 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](#). During the last meeting, it was determined that \$125.00 per household a month will help meet the Church's budget.

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.

Abgana Dominique

THE BROOKLYN CHAPTER OF THE
MYA PRESENTS

PUMPKIN CARVING NIGHT

BYOP (Bring Your Own Pumpkin)
Carving Tools will be Provided!

Oct. 23 | 6:30 pm | Church Hall

Our Lady of Lebanon Cathedral
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ADULT FAITH FORMATION FALL 2021

MARONITE SPIRITUALITY

Learn more about the Maronite Faith and Traditions.

VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS

OCT. 21: THE DIVINE OFFICE:
STRUCTURE & SIGNIFICANCE

FR. AARON SANDBOTHE

OCT. 28: EASTERN CANON LAW
CHORBISHOP JOHN FARIS

NOV. 4: SUNDAYS OF THE
GLORIOUS BIRTH

FR. BOUTROS EL HACHEM

NOV. 11: THE CHRISTMAS
NOVENA

MSGR. JIM ROOT

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

[Register Here](#)

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Enroll online at 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 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.

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 فيلبي 2:12-18
يا إخوتي، إعملوا لخلصكم بخوف ورعدة، كما أطعتم دائماً، لا في حضورِي فحسب، بل بالأحرى وبالأكثر الآن في غيابي.

فأله 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 موج ومُحرف، تضيئون فيه كالنيرات في العالم، متمسكين بكلمة الحياة، لافتخاري في يوم المسيح، بأني ما سعت ولا تعبت باطلاً. لو أن دمي يراق على ذبيحة إيمانكم وخدمته، لكنت أفرح وأبتهج معكم جميعاً. فأفرحوا أنتم أيضاً وابتهجوا معي.

إنجيل القديس متى 13:1-25

قال الرب يسوع: «يشبه ملكوت السموات عشر عذارى أخذن مصابيحهن وخرجن إلى لقاء العريس، خمس منهن جاهلات، وخمس حكيما. فالجاهلات أخذن مصابيحهن ولم يأخذن معهن زيتاً. أما الحكيمات فأخذن زيتاً في آنية مع مصابيحهن. وأبطأ العريس فتعسّن جبعهن، ورفدن. وفي منتصف الليل، صارت الصيحة: هوذا العريس! أخرجوا إلى لقاءه! حينئذ قامت أولئك العذارى كلهن، ورين مصابيحهن. فقالت الجاهلات للحكيما: أعطينا من زيتك، لأن مصابيحنا تنطفئ.

فاجابت الحكيمات وقلن: قد لا يكفيك ويكفيك. إذهبن بالأحرى إلى الباعة وابتعن لكن. ولما ذهبن ليبتعن، جاء العريس، ودخلت المستعذات إلى العرس، وأغلق الباب. وأخيراً جاءت العذارى الباقيات وقلن: يا رب، يا رب، افتح لنا!

فاجاب وقال: الحق أقول لكن، إني لا أعرفكن! إنسهرُوا إِذَا، لأنكم لا تعلمون اليوم ولا الساعة

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