

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



EASOZ

# Sunday of the Visitation of the Virgin to Elizabeth November 28th, 2021

Sun., November 28	Sunday of the Visitation of the Virgin to Elizabeth 9 am for the souls in purgatory 11:30 am for the souls in purgatory	St. Stephen the Younger
Mon., November 29	NO LITURGY Sts. Saturninus & Sisinius	
Tues., November 30	10 am Divine Liturgy for Dr. Ammir Rabadi & Family St. Andrew	Req. by Fr. & Mrs. Peter Frangie
Wed., December 1	10 am Divine Liturgy for Dr. Ammir Rabadi & Family Nahum the Prophet	Req. by Fr. & Mrs. Peter Frangie
Thurs., December 2	10 am Divine Liturgy for Dr. Ammir Rabadi & Family Habakkuk the Prophet	Req. by Fr. & Mrs. Peter Frangie
Fri., December 3	10 am Divine Liturgy for Dr. Ammir Rabadi & Family for Tony Aguilera St. Francis Xavier	Req. by Fr. & Mrs. Peter Frangie Req. by Lisa Aguilera
Sat., December 4	10 am Divine Liturgy for Dr. Ammir Rabadi & Family for Sahid Besheer St. Barbara	Req. by Fr. & Mrs. Peter Frangie Req. by Mrs. Salma Vahdat
Sun., December 5	Sunday of the Birth of John the Baptist 9 am for Edward & Julia Cuevas 11:30 am for Msgr. Maroun Asmar	St. Saba the Hermit Req. by Julie Aguilera Req. by Antoinette Asmar & Family

## **October 2021 Financial Standing**

## **Ordinary Income**

- Collections on Sundays & Holy Days: \$11,550.59
- Cathedral Stipends from Marriages & Funerals, Hall Rent, Candles, Breakfast, Luncheon, Raffle, Dues, Religious Education, Flowers .... \$14,777.00 Total Ordinary Income: \$26,327.59

## **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: \$15,711.96

## **Total Ordinary Income vs Expenses: \$10,615.63**

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

### 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 <u>here</u> to sponsor a family and for additional information.

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

During this current Season of the Glorious Birth of Jesus Christ, the announcements to Zechariah, to Mary, to Joseph and to the shepherds remind and teach us that all God's announcements are good. They might not fit our expectations, but at the end of the day God's interference in human history always makes things better in leading us toward him.

The priest Zechariah might have prayed for a long time to have a son and his request was granted in his old age when it was unnatural and not normal for his wife to bear a child. He was hardly expecting to be told by the Angel Gabriel that he would be a father of the one who would prepare the way for the Messiah, the Son of God. "How could this be for I am an old man?" Zechariah said, "And my wife is barren." His question is legitimate and apropos humanly speaking.

Unlike Zechariah whose time to naturally be a father had already passed, it was early, on the other hand, for the Virgin Mary to be a mother. She was only betrothed to Joseph and had not begun to live with him. The announcement of the Angel was not expected and did not follow the natural course of things.

Through his plan of salvation, God has always been an educator and an instructor for his people and has used different teaching methods to get his point across and to make us understand his ways. A professor at school does not only teach the lesson once, expecting the students to learn it the first time. After a particular lesson is explained in class, teachers give homework for their pupils to practice what they learn on their own at home. In this way, teachers and students alike can better assess their level of understanding of the material. Then in most cases come quizzes and midterms to determine the level of comprehension before the final examination. Like teachers and educators who use different ways to better the learning of their students, God is willing to do anything to show his people that he cares. He does not operate as if one method fits all. On the contrary, he is very flexible and willing to walk not only one extra mile but miles and miles to meet us. Nevertheless, sometimes his ways seem harsh to our human way of thinking, but they serve the same goal at the end.

The priest Zechariah doubted that his barren wife Elizabeth would conceive, but the Virgin Mary also questioned the Angel Gabriel when she said, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" But the reaction of the Angel Gabriel to each of them was different: Zechariah was reprimanded and the Virgin was not. His muteness was a means for him to open his heart to the sign. Zechariah needed this scolding from the Angel, while the Virgin Mary did not. God applies different methods to bring about the growth of each individual as his kingdom

is fulfilled.



#### **Christmas Basket Raffle**

The Confraternity is sponsoring a Christmas basket raffle (each basket is worth between \$100 and \$125). Tickets are available from Darine Safi, Lily Elhage, Mirna Abi Daher and Nicole Safi. The drawing will take place on December 26th in the hall after the 11:30 Divine Liturgy.

#### **Family Christmas Party**

The Cathedral invites all parishioners to a luncheon to celebrate Christmas on December 12th in the Church Hall. Families are welcome, especially the kids, for a fun afternoon with Santa and other surprises. During the 11:30 Liturgy that day, the children of the Sunday School will enact the Christmas story.

#### **Vocations Awareness Poster-Essay**

Students grades K to 12 are encouraged to participate in the <u>Voca-</u> tions Awareness Poster-Essay Multimedia Contest through NAM. <u>Click here for guidelines</u> and information. Also, you can see Subdeacon Adonis El-Asmar or Marian Ciaccia for more information. This year let us have more students take part in the contest.

#### 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 7:30 pm except Sunday. The tradition of praying nine days before Christmas is a great way to be prepared to welcome God among us.

#### **MYO Virtual Christmas Event**

The National Maronite Youth Organization will be hosting an hour-long evening prayer virtually for the Christmas season. Theme: Behold! / Date: Sunday, December 5th, 2021 at 8 pm / Open to all youth ages 12-18 / Where: Live on Instagram @maroniteyouth

#### **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.

#### New Year's Gathering

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

#### Salaam Club of NY 75th Anniversary Celebration

Please join the Salaam Club of New York to celebrate their 75th Anniversary on Saturday, December 4th, 2021 at the Legacy Castle, Wayne, NJ. Hope to see you there. Remember all Journal advertisements are FULLY deductible.

#### **Sloan Kettering Toy Drive**

A Christmas Toy Drive for the children (newborn and up) of Sloan Kettering Cancer Center will be in effect until December 17th. All toys must be brand new and unwrapped, not used, no stuffed animals, no clothes. A big box has been placed in the Cathedral to the far right of the Altar for your convenience.

#### Pilgrimage: In The Footsteps of Pau

A 10-day/8-night trip to **Greece** including a **3-day cruise** to the **Greek Islands** and **Turkey**, visiting Athens, Corinth, Mykonos, Ephesus, Patmos, Crete, Santorini. Meteora, Veria, Vergina, Salonica, and Philippi. Departing **September 25th**, **2022** - **\$3,498** per person/double occupancy from New York, including fuel surcharge and port taxes. if they register with \$500 by July 29th and save \$100. For more information please call Marleine Aflak at 1-917-608-2996 or Tony Tannousis at 1-718-987-3900.



Lebanon needs our help! Lebanon is experiencing a shortage of medication due to ongoing crisis within the nation.



The MYA & MYO of Brooklyn are starting a medication drive to be delivered to Lebanon. Needed: pain relievers, allergy relief, vitamins, cardiovascular support, cold and flu, first aid supplies, or any other OTC medication. Please reach out to the MYA/MYO board members to donate. Your generosity would be greatly appreciated by those who very much need it.

least 6 months.



## Sunday Readings قراءات الأحد

## 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 إخوَتِي، مِنْ بُولُس، رَسُولِ ٱلمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ بِمَشِيئَةِ الله، إِلَى الْقِدِيسِينَ أَلَّذِينَ هُم فَي أَفَسَسَ وَٱلْأُمَنَاءِ فَي الْمُسِيَح أَلنِّعْمَةُ لَكُم والسَّلامُ مِنَ اللهِ أَبِينَا والرَّبِّ يَسُوعَ المَسِيح! تَبَارَكَ اللهُ أَبُو رَبِّنَا يَسُوعَ المَسِيح، الَّذي بَارَكَنَا بِكُلّ بَرَكَةِ رُوحِيَّةٍ في السَّمَاوَاتِ في المَسِيح؛ فإنَّهُ آخْتَارَنَا فُيهِ قَبْلَ إِنْشَاءُ العَالَم، لِنَكُونَ فِي حَضْرَتِهِ قِدِيسِين، لا عَيْبَ فينا؛ وقَدْ سَّبَقَ بِمَحَبَّتِهِ فَحَدَّدَنَا أَنْ نَكُونَ لَهُ أَبْنَاءَ بِالتَّبَنِّي بِيَسُوعَ المَسِيح، بِحَسَبِ رِضَى مَشِيئَتِهِ، لِمَدْحِ مَجْدِ نِعْمَتِهِ الَّتِي أَنْعَمَ بِهَا عَلَيْنَا فِي الْحَبِيبِ؛ وَفِيهِ لَنَا الْفِدَاءُ بَدَمِهِ، أَي مَغْفِرَةُ ٱلزَّ لاَّت، بِحَسَبَ غِنَى نِعْمَتِهِ، الَّتِي أَفَاضَبَهَا عَلَيْنَا فِي كُلّ حِكْمَةٍ وَفَهُم؛ وقَدْ عَرَّفَنَا سِرَّ مَشِيئَتِهِ، بحَسَب رضاةً الَّذَى سَبَقَ فَجَعَلَهُ في المَسِيح، لِيُحَقِّقَ تَدْبِيرَ مِلْءِ الأَزْ مِنَة، فَيَجْمَعَ في المَسِيح تَخْتَ رَأْسٍ وَاحِدٍ كُلَّ شَبِّيء، مَا فِي السَّماوَاتِ ومَا عَلى آلأَرْض؛ وفَيهِ أَيْضَا ٱخْتَارَنَا مِيرَاثًا لَهُ، وقَدْ سَبَقَ فَحَدَّدَنَا بِحَسَبِ قَصْدِهِ، هُوَ الَّذِي يَعْمَلُ كُلَّ شَيءِ بقَضَاءِ مَشْبِئَتِهِ، لِنَكُونَ مَدْحًا لِمَجْدِهِ، نَحْنُ الَّذِينَ سَبَقْنًا فَجَعَلْنَا في المَسْبِحَ رَجَاءَنَا؛ وفيهِ أَنْتُمُ أَيْضًا، بَعْدَ أَنْ سَمِعْتُم كَلِمَةَ الحَقَّ، أَي إِنْجِيلَ خَلاَصِكُم، وآمَنْتُم، خُتِمْتُمْ بِالرُّوحَ القُدُسِ المَوعُودِ بِهِ، وهُوَ عُربُونُ مِيرَ اثِنَا، لِفِدَاءِ شَعْبِهِ الْذَي ٱقْتَنَاه، ولِمَدْح مَجْدِهِ.

إنجيل القديس لوقا 39:1-45 في تِلْكَ الأَيَّام (بعد البشارة بيسوع)، قَامَتْ مَرْيَمُ وَذَهَبَتْ مُسْرِ عَةً إلى الجَبَل، إلى مَدِينَةٍ في يَهُوذَا. ودَخَلَتْ بَيْتَ زَكَرِيَّا، وسَلَّمَتْ عَلَى إليصابَات. ولَمَّا سَمِعَتْ إليصابَاتُ سَلامَ مَرْيَم، ٱرْتَكَضَ الجَنِينُ في بَطْنِها، وَامْتَلاَتْ مِنَ الرُّوح القُدُس. فَهَتَفَتْ بِأَعْلَى صَوِتِها وقَالَتْ: «مُبارَكَةُ أَنْتِ في النِّسَاء، وَمِنْ أَبْنَ لي هذَا، أَنْ تَأْتِيَ إليَّ أُمُّ رَبِي؟ فَهَا مُنْذُ وَقَعَ صَوْتُها وقَالَتْ: «مُبارَكَةُ أَنْتِ في النِّسَاء، وَمِنْ أَبْنَ لي هذَا، أَنْ تَأْتِيَ إليَّ أُمُّ رَبِي؟ فَهَا مُنْذُ وَقَعَ صَوْتُهُ سَلَامِكِ في أَذُنيَّ، آرْتَكَضَ الجَنِينُ ٱبْتِهَاجًا فَوَ بَطْنِي!



