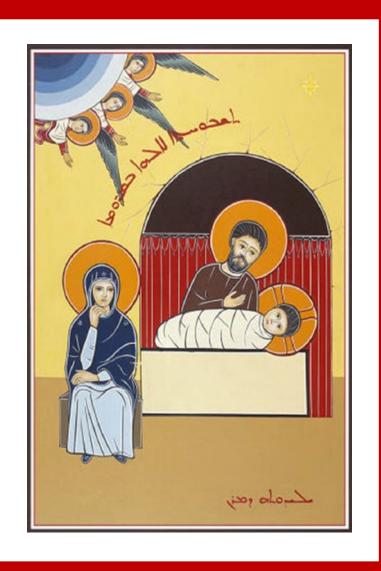
C U S B R

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



The Glorious Birth of Our Lord

December 25th, 2022

Sat., December 24 Sat., December 24	10 am Divine Liturgy for Simon Besheerby Mrs. Salma Vahdat12 Midnight Divine Liturgy of the Glorious Birth for the Intentions of the Parishioners		
Sun., December 25	11:30 am Divine Liturgy of the Glorious Birth for the Intention	ns of the Parishioners	
Mon., December 26	NO DIVINE LITURGY Felicitations to the Virgin Mary		
Tues., December 27	10 am Divine Liturgy for Marianne Leon on her 33rd birthday St. Stephen, the First Martyr and First Deacon	by Mr. & Mrs. Jorge Leon	
Wed., December 28	10 am Divine Liturgy for the Living & Deceased of the Tom, Thor The Adoration of the Magi / St. Marina of Pisidia	nas & Mary Ann Perun Families	
Thurs., December 29	10 am Divine Liturgy for Jorge Justin Marion Leon The Flight into Egypt & The Massacre of the Children of Bethlehe	by the Family m	
Fri., December 30	10 am Divine Liturgy for Nadia Melnik The Return from Egypt to Nazareth / St. Anysia	by Mr. & Mrs. Jorge Leon	
Sat., December 31	10 am Divine Liturgy in thanksgiving to God for his many blessing St. Zoticus	gs by Mr. & Mrs. Jorge Leon	
Sun., January 1	The Feast of the Circumcision of Jesus / Sts. Basil & Gregory 9 am for the Intentions of the Parishioners 11:30 am for Antoine Toume	by Mr. & Mrs. Antoine Saba	
Mon., January 2	NO DIVINE LITURGY Pope St. Silvester I		
Tues., January 3	10 am Divine Liturgy for Michael Lee Wall Malachi the Prophet	by Mr. & Mrs. Jorge Leon	
Wed., January 4	10 am Divine Liturgy for Marianne Wall &Family Pope St. Caius / St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	by Mr. & Mrs. Jorge Leon	
Thurs. January 5	10 am Divine Liturgy for Teresa & Earle Layng & Familyby Mr. & Mrs. Jorge LeonSt. Paul the First Hermit / St. John Neumann		
Fri. January 6	10 am Divine Liturgy of the Feast of the Glorious Epiphany 7:30 pm Divine Liturgy of the Feast of the Glorious Epiphany		
Sat., January 7	10 am Divine Liturgy Praises of St. John the Baptist		
Sun., January 8	9 am Divine Liturgy of the First Sunday after Epiphany / St. C 11:30 am Divine Liturgy of the First Sunday after Epiphany	arterius the Priest	

Dear Parishioners & Friends,

Please find below the letter of November 19th that was mailed to all whose addresses I had on file. If you would like me to add your address to the Cathedral database, please send it to me by email.

Dear Parishioners & Friends,

Happy Season of the Birth of the Lord!

Traditionally, the Season of the Birth of the Lord was called the Season of Announcements. As it is today so it was at the time of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob of the Old Testament and Zechariah and Elizabeth, and Mary and Joseph of the New Testament, having a child is a gift from God for his people and a sign of blessing. The first Sunday reading of this Season from Romans 4 talked about Abraham to whom God promised that his descendants would be a great nation. But Abraham and his wife, Sarah, were old and childless. So how could God promise him that he would make his offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand on the seashore? Romans 4: 18 describes Abraham's reaction to the idea of begetting a child. It reads, "Hoping against hope, he [Abraham] believed that he would become 'the father of many nations,' according to what was said, 'So numerous shall your descendants be.' " It is clear that Abraham had no hope of having a son, but still hoped in God because he believed in the Almighty. "Faith," according to the Letter to the Hebrews 11: 1, "is assurance of things hoped for and conviction of what is not seen." In a desperate situation, when human hope reaches its limit according to the natural order and can no longer aspire to anything, it is God's hope that will sustain what minds cannot conceive.

After the celebration of Bishop Gregory's 40th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood in September, the Cathedral hosted Bishop Hanna Rahme of Baalbek and Deir El Ahmar and Bishop Joseph Mouawad of Zahle for a few days. Bishop Rahme was fundraising for Al Mahabba Hospital in his eparchy and Bishop Mouawad's appeal was to help his priests with their day-to-day expenses and his chancery operation. For each bishop, the Cathedral was able to raise more than \$15,000 which demonstrated the continuous unity between the Church in Lebanon and in the United States. People outside Lebanon have become "hope" for family and friends living in the ancestral land of the cedars. As you are well aware, the economic crisis is not only in Lebanon, but people all over are experiencing inflation and supply chain issues causing worldwide shortages of necessities. In addition, wars, violence and discrimination are increasing around the globe.

I recommend that we keep repeating the phrase "hoping against hope" to ourselves and to others during this Season of Christmas every time our hope reaches a dead end, for God's hope is boundless and immeasurable.

The following are a few ways you can boost the hope of God in you, so do not miss out on:

- The Confraternity annual bake sale on Saturday & Sunday, December $3^{rd} \& 4^{th}$.
- *The Knights of St. Maron yearly Christmas dinner on Friday, December* 9th.
- The Cathedral Christmas luncheon and Christmas pageant on Sunday, December 11th, in the upper hall sponsored by the Maronite Catholic Formation Program.
- *The Christmas Novena every day from December 15th to 23rd at 7:30 pm (except Sunday, December 18th).*

A more detailed schedule can be found in the weekly bulletin or on the website: <u>www.ololc.org</u>

I join the various parish organizations in wishing you and your family a blessed and joyful Christmas.

Sincerely yours,

Cicco

Fr. Dominique Hanna, Rector

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS Christmas Novena December 15th to 23rd

Starting on Thursday, December 15th, until Friday, 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.

Welcoming Seminarian Nadim Khaled

Please join me in welcoming Nadim Khaled, a seminarian in first-year theology studying for our Eparchy. Nadim will be with us during his Christmas break.

Christmas Basket Raffle

The Confraternity is sponsoring a Christmas basket raffle (each basket is worth between \$100 and \$125). Tickets are available from members of the Confraternity. The drawing will take place on December 25th in the hall after the 11:30 Divine Liturgy.

New Year's Gathering

Families from the Cathedral will be gathering to celebrate New Year's Eve in the hall on Saturday, December 31st, at 8 pm. Tickets are \$80 per adult and \$50 per child 12 years old or younger. Please join us for a Lebanese buffet, party favors and DJ, and bring your own liquor and soft drinks. For reservations please contact Mike Naber 917-612-4004.

Welcoming Abouna Chuck VanHeusen

Bishop Gregory has assigned Fr. Chuck VanHeusen to be the assistant rector at the Cathedral. The assignment begins on January 1st, 2023. Please join me in welcoming Fr. Chuck and his wife, Marie.

St. Maron Feast Day Luncheon

On Sunday, February 5th, the Cathedral will celebrate the Feast of St. Maron. The celebration begins with the Divine Liturgy celebrated by His Excellency Bishop Gregory Mansour at 11:30 am followed by a luncheon at Sirico's from 2 to 6 pm. Tickets are \$125 per adult and \$75 per child 12 years old or younger.

Holy Land Pilgrimage

An 11 day/9 night special pilgrimage to the Holy Land from September 17th to 27th, 2023, is being planned to visit the major sites in the Holy Land and Jerash, Mount Nebo, Madaba and Petra in Jordan. \$3,898 per person from Newark with double occupancy in first class hotels including buffet breakfast and dinner daily and all airport taxes, fuel surcharge and border taxes. Those who register with a \$500 deposit no later than February 17th, 2023, will save \$100. Please click <u>here</u> for more information or call Marleine at 1-917-608-2996 or Tony at 1-646-207-3995.

Mrs. Salma Vahdat Mr. & Mrs. Edgar Abi Dagher Mrs. Phyllis Simon Mr. Donald Shakal Mr. & Mrs. Chehade Arnaout Samer & Marie-Therese Estanbouli Joe & Joy Nassif Lorraine Padalino Marie Schepis John, Sonia, Michael & Jenna Mr. & Mrs. Chaouki Eladem The Merhej Family Mr. & Mrs. Wadih Azzi Mr. & Mrs. Eddie Revuelta Mr. & Mrs. John Kahaly The Shaia Family Mr. Samir Hosri Pierre &Norma Haddad Antoine & Marie Aflak Mr. & Mrs. Adib El Houayek Ed & Martha Manassa Mrs. Marian Ciaccia The Jebaily Family Mr. & Mrs. Patrick O'Sullivan Mr./ Mrs. Tony & Kate Tannousis

PLEASE RSVP AT (202) 723-8831 OR MARONITESEMINARY@COMCAST.NET

Christmas Flower Donations

In Memory of the Besheer & Azizi Families & Massoud Vahdat, MD For a Special Intention In Memory of the Simon & Raphael Families In Memory of John & Helen Shakal In Memory of the Deceased of the Arnaout & Chouki Families In Memory of Jean (Youhanna) & Isabelle Aouad In Memory of Laurice, Bichara & Marie Nassif In Memory of Najib & Linda Akel In Memory of Violet & Michael Owen In Memory of Youssef Abi-Habib In Memory of Haneh Eladem & George & Margo Allaham In Memory of Michel Merhej In Memory of the Deceased of their Family In Memory of the Revuelta & Garzon Families In Memory of Jeanette M. Kahaly In Memory of Philip & Lorraine Shaia In Memory of their Beloved Family In Memory of the Deceased of the Haddad & Tohme Families In Memory of Hyat & Habib Aflak In Memory of their Beloved Family In Memory of the Olivera & Ouitsola Families In Memory of Ronald Ciaccia & Joseph & Helen Sahadi In Memory of the Deceased of the Jebaily Family In Memory of the Deceased of the O'Sullivan & Mouawad Families In Memory of Michael Kari



March For Life Schedule

Thursday 1/19

5:30	ΡΜ	Prayer for Life Vigil Mass at Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception
7:30	РМ	Bishop leads opening prayer in Maronite Chape (Lower level of Basilica)
8:00	PM	On your own for dinner
9:00	PM	Social outing

Friday 1/20

11:00AM	Meet at <mark>Starbucks</mark> Walk over to the March for Life together!
5:00 PM	Post March dinner and discussion at Seminary
9:00 PM	Drinks and dancing

Saturday 1/21

10:30	AM	Maronite Liturgy at Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception	
12:00	PM	Lunch	
3:00	PM	Outing to the Museum of the Bible	
6:00	PM	On your own dinner	
9:00	PM	Social outing	

Sunday 1/22

11:00 AM	Divine Liturgy at Our Lady of Lebanon in DC		
12:30 PM	Brunch at Parish hall		
2.00 PM	Group photo	2022MARCH	

Group photo and tour monuments



Sunday Readings قراءات الأحد

Feast of the Glorious Birth of Our Lord Letter to the Hebrews 1:1-12

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

For to which of the angels did God ever say, 'You are my Son; today I have begotten you'? Or again, 'I will be his Father, and he will be my Son'? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, 'Let all God's angels worship him.'

Of the angels he says, 'He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire.' But of the Son he says, 'Your throne, O God, is for ever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore, God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.' And, 'In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end.'

The Gospel according to Saint Luke 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!' When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.'

So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child;

and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

عيد ميلاد الربّ يسوع بحسب الجسد لرسالة إلى العبرانيين 1:1-12

ياً إخوتِي، أنَّ أللَّه كَلَّمَ الآبَاءَ قَدِيْمًا فِي الأَنْبِيَاء، مَرَّ ات كَثْبِرَة، وبِأَنُواع شَتَّى، وفي آخر هذه الأَيَّام، كَلَّمَنَا في الأَبْن، الذي جَعَلَهُ وَارِتًا لِكُلِّ شَيء. وبه أَنْشَأَ العَالَمِين. قُدْرَتِه. فَبَعْدَمَا أَتَمَ تَطْهِيرَ الْخَطْآيَا، جَلَسَ عَنْ بَمِينَ قُدْرَتِه. فَبَعْدَمَا أَتَمَ تَطْهِيرَ الْخَطْآيَا، جَلَسَ عَنْ بَمِينَ الجَلاَلَةِ في الأَعَالِي، فَصَارَ أَعْظَمَ منَ المَلائِكَة، بِمِقْدَار ما آلاَسُمُ آلَذي وَرَثَهُ أَفْضَلُ مِنْ أَسْمَائِهم. فَلَمَنْ مِنَ وقَالَ أَيْضًا: »أَنَا أَكُونُ لَهُ أَبًا، وهُوَ يَكُونُ لِي آبَنَارَ؟ فَيْنَمَا يُدْخِلُ آبَنَهُ أَلَكُونُ لَهُ أَبًا، وهُوَ يَكُونُ لِي آبَنَارَ؟ عَنْمَا يُدْخِلُ آبَنَهُ اللَّكُونُ لَهُ أَبًا، وهُوَ يَكُونُ لَي آبَنَارَ؟ عَنْمَا يُدْخِلُ آبَنَهُ اللَكُونَ لَهُ أَبًا، وهُوَ يَكُونُ لِي آبَنَارَ؟ عَنْمَا يُدْخِلُ آبَنَهُ اللَكُونُ لَهُ أَبًا، وهُوَ يَكُونُ لَي آبَنَارَ؟ عَنْدَمَا يُدْخِلُ آبَنَهُ اللَكُونُ لَهُ أَبَا، وهُوَ يَكُونُ لَي آبَنَارَ؟ عَنْمَا يُدْخِلُ آبَنَهُ اللَكُونُ لَهُ أَبَا، وهُوَ يَكُونُ لَيَ آمَالَكَهُ عَنْوُلَ؟ عَنْدَمَا يُدْخِلُ آبَنَا أَكُونُ لَهُ أَبَا، وهُوَ يَكُونُ لِي آلَكُونُ أَمَّا مَلَائِكَة مَنْ أَنَّنَ اللَّهُ بَعَمَانَ اللَهُ بَومًا: يأَنَّا أَنْتَا أَنُونُ؟ عَنْدَمَا يُدْخِلُ آبَنَا أَنَتَمَ الْعَلَى إِنَّا أَعُونُ إِلَى العَالَمِ فَيَقُولُ: يُعَنَارٍ؟ عَنْتَقَوْلُ: يُعَنِي الْنَهُ بَوَمَا أَيْحَانَ مُنْكَاةٍ عَنْ أَنْعَارَ مَالَكُونُ أَنْ أَعْمَا مَنَ الْأَسْتَعَامِ وَقُولُ: مُولَكُمُ أَلَكُنُ مُنَعْ يَنَعْمَنُ أَنْ اللَهُ بَعَنْ وَلَنْ وَنَا أَنْ أَنْعَضَا مَنْ اللَهُ مُنْ أَنْهُمُ الْمُونِ وَنَ أَنْ أَنْعَنْ مَنْ الأَسْنَتَ الْنَانَةُ اللَّهُ مَنْ الْنَهُ مَا أَنْ مَنْ وَعُنْ أَنْهُ مِنْ أَنْهُ مَنْ أَنْهُ عَنْ أَنْ وَالْنَهُ مَا اللَهُ الْذَيْنَ مَنْ وَالَكُونُ أَنْ اللَهُ مَنْ أَنْنَا اللَهُ الْعَامَانَ وَالْنَعْنَ مَنْ أَنْتَ أَنْتَ أَنْهُ مَالَكُمُ أَنْ مَا أَنَهُ مَا أَنْتُ مُنْ أَنْتَ مَنْعَانَ مَنْ أَنْتُعَانَ مَنْ أَنْ أَنْ أَنْتُ مَائَنَهُ أَنْ أَنَا اللَهُ مُنْعَانَ مُنْعُنَا مَنْ أَنْ مُ أَنْ مُ عَنْ مِنْ أَنْسُ أَنْ أَنْنَا أَنَتُ مَا أَنْ أَنُونُ أَنْ مُنَائِنُ مَا أَ

إنجيل القديس لوقا 2:1-20

في تِلْكَ الأَيَّام، صَدَرَ أَمْرٌ مِنْ أَغُوسْطُسَ قَيْصَرَ بِإَحْصَاءِ كُلّ الْمَعْمُورَةِ. جَرَى هذا الإحْصَاءُ الأَوَّلِ، عُنْدَمَا كَانَ كِيرِينيُوسُ والِيًا على سُورِيًّا. وكانَ الجَمِيعُ يَدْهَبُون، كُلُّ واحِدٍ إلى مَدِينَتِهِ، لِيَكْتَتَبُوا فِيهَا. وَصَعِد يُوسُفُ أَيضًا مِنَ أَلْجَلِيلٍ، مَنْ مَدينَةِ النَّاصِرَةِ، إِلَى الْيَهُودِيَّة، إلى مَدَينَةِ دَاؤُدَ الَّتِي تَدْعَى بَيْتَ لَحْمَ، لأَنَّهُ كََانَ مِن بَيْتِ دَاؤد وعَشِيرَتِهِ، لِيَكْتَبَ مَعَ مَرْيَمَ خِطِّبَتِهِ، وهِي حَامٍل. وفِيمَا كَانَا هُنَاك، تَمَّتْ أَيَّامُهَا لِتَلِدٍ، فَوَلَدَتِ ٱبْنَهَا البِكْرِ ، وَقَمَّطَتْهُ، وأَضْجَعَتْهُ في مِذْوَدٍ، لأَنَّهُ لَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُمَا مَوْضِعٌ في قَاعَةِ الضُّيُوف. وكانَ في تِلْكَ النَّاحِيَةِ رُعَاةٌ يُقِيمُونَ فَى الحُقُول، وَيَسْهَرُونَ فَى هَجَعَاتِ اللَّيْلِ على قُطْعَانِهم . فإذَا بمَلاكِ ٱلرَّبِّ قَدْ وقْفَ بُهم، ومَجْدَ الرَّبِّ أَشْرَقَ حَولَهُم، فَخَافُوا خَوَفًا عَظِيمًا أُفْقَالَ لَهُمُ المَلِاكَ: »يلا تَخَافُوا إِ فَهَا أَنَا أُبْشِرُكُمْ بِغَرَجٍ عَظِيمٍ بَكُونُ لِلشَّعْبِ كُلِّهِ، لأَنَّهُ وَلِدَ لَكُمُ ٱليَوْمَ مُخَلِّصٌ، هُوَ ٱلْمَسِبِّحُ الرَّبِّ، في مَدِينَةِ دَاؤُد. وهذه عَلامَةً لَكُم: تَجدُونَ طِفْلاً مُقَمَّطًا، مُضْبَجَعًا في مِذْوَد . «إو ٱنْضَمَّ فَجْأَةً إلى المَلاكِ جُمْهُورٌ مِنَ الجُنْدِ السَّمَاوِيِّ يُسَبِّحُونَ ٱللهَ وَيَقُولُون: أَلْمَجْدُ للهِ فَي الْغُلَى، وعَلَى ٱلأَرْضِ ٱلسَّلام، وَالرَّجَاءُ الصَّالِحُ لِبَنِي البَسْرِ. ولَمَا ٱنْصَرَفَ ٱلمَلائِكَةُ عَنْهُم إلى السَّمَاءَ، قالَ الرُّعَاةُ بَعْضُِهُم لِبَعْض: »هيَّا بِنَا، إلى بَيْتَ لَحْم، لِنَرَى هذا ٱلأَمْرَ الَّذِي خَدَث، وقَدْ أَعْلَمَنا بِهِ الرَّبّ .‹‹وٰجَاؤُوا مُسْرِعِين، فوَجَّدُوا ِمَرْبِمَ ويُوسُف، َوالطِّفْلَ . «وَجَوَوْ مَسَرَحِيْنَ مَرْجَوْ مَنْهَا رَأَوْهُ أَخْبَرُوا بِالْكَلَامِ الَّذِي مُصْجَعًا في الْمِذُود. ولَمَّا رَأَوْهُ أَخْبَرُوا بِالْكَلَامِ الَّذِي قِيلَ لَهُم في شَأَن هذا الصَّبِيّ. وجَمِيعُ الَّذِينَ سَمِعُوا، تَعَجَّبُوا مِمَّا قَالَهُ لَهُمُ الرُّعَاة . أَمَّا مَرْيَمُ فَكَانَتُ تَحْفَظُ هٰذِهِ الْأُمُورَ كُلَّهَا، وتتَّأَمَّلُهَا في قَلْبِهَا. ثُمَّ عَادَ الرُّعاةُ وهُمُّ يُمَحِّدُونَ اللهِ ويُسَبِّحُونَهُ على كُلِّ ما سَمِعُوا ورأوا، حَسَبَما قِبْلَ لَهُم.



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