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



Passion Week & Resurrection Sunday
March 31st, 2024

Thursday of the Mysteries, Mar. 28	7:30 pm Divine Liturgy of the Rite of the Washing of the Feet Confession & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 12 Midnight St. Philetus and his wife, St. Lydia, and their children
Great Friday of the Crucifixion, Mar. 29	10 am Liturgy of the Anaphora of the Signing of the Chalice 7:30 pm Liturgy of the Adoration of the Cross St. Cyril of Baalbek
Great Saturday of the Light, Mar. 30	11 am Prayer of Forgiveness St. John Climacus Midnight Liturgy of the Glorious Resurrection and the Rite of Peace

Sunday, Mar. 31 **Sunday of the Glorious Resurrection and the Rite of Peace**
11:30 am for the Intentions of the Parishioners

Season of the Glorious Resurrection / White Week

Mon., April 1	NO LITURGY St. Mary of Egypt	
Tues., April 2	10 am Divine Liturgy for Jorge Felix Leon St. Antipas	by Mrs. Barbara Leon
Wed., April 3	10 am Divine Liturgy Isaiah & Ezekiel the Prophets	
Thurs., April 4	10 am Divine Liturgy Pope St. Anicetus	
Fri., April 5	10 am Divine Liturgy St. Robert	
Sat., April 6	10 am Divine Liturgy for Sonia Njeim St. Marcellinus	by the Njeim Family
Sun., April 7	New Sunday / Divine Mercy Sunday / St. John Baptist de la Salle 9 am for the living & deceased of the Perun & Mansour Families 11: 30 am George Jebaily, Laurice Jebaily, Allen Stellato & Diane Stephan	by Mr. & Mrs. Jorge Leon by the Jebaily Family
Mon., April 8	NO LITURGY The Second Council of Nicaea / St. Barlaam	
Tues., April 9	10 am Divine Liturgy for Jorge Felix Leon St. Hermas	by Mrs. Barbara Leon
Wed., April 10	10 am Divine Liturgy The Miracle of the Icon of Christ in Beirut / St. Agabus	
Thurs., April 11	10 am Divine Liturgy St. Antipas	
Fri., April 12	10 am Divine Liturgy Sts. Mennas, Hermogenes & Eugraphus	
Sat., April 13	10 am Divine Liturgy for Sonia Njeim St. Zosimas	by the Njeim Family
Sun., April 14	Third Sunday of the Resurrection / St. Hermenegild the King 9 am for the Intentions of the Parishioners 11: 30 am for Fadia Esper Zahran	by Mr. & Mrs. Salim Shaia

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Egg Hunt

Sponsored by the MCF, the children of the Cathedral are invited to participate in the Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday after the 11:30 am Divine Liturgy. Weather permitting, it will take place inside the Cathedral's fence on Remsen St. Do not forget to bring your baskets.

The 2024 Eparchial Lenten Appeal

A second collection for the Eparchial Charities Appeal will be taken up every Sunday during the Season of Great Lent. We are asked to raise \$8,000 to participate in this awesome mission of the Eparchy. We have collected \$5,134 so far. Thank you for your generosity.

Knights Easter Raffle

The Knights are sponsoring an Easter Raffle. Tickets are available from Edgard Abi Daher, William Abou Chrouh, Roger Shammas and Georges El Hage. The drawing will take place on Sunday, April 14th, after the 11:30 Divine Liturgy.

Beatification of Estephan El Douaihy

His Holiness Pope Francis has authorized the Dicastery for the Causes of Saints to promulgate the decree regarding the miracle attributed to the intercession of the Venerable Servant of God Estephan El Douaihy, Patriarch of Antioch of the Maronite Church (1670-1704). This decree will pave the way for his beatification which will be held in Lebanon some time in the coming months.

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. Members of the Choir meet on Zoom every Wednesday to plan for Sunday. Please make sure to see Christiane Merhej after the 11:30 Divine Liturgy if you would like to join.

Promoting Vocations

The Eparchy is trying to bring more awareness to the different vocations in life: priesthood, consecrated life, diaconate, married life and generous single life. For this reason, an icon of the Holy Family along with a prayer will be given to a different family each week for prayer every night so God may guide us to discern and promote the various vocations. Please register [here](#) and see Fr. Chuck for more information.

Catholic Relief Services Lenten Rice Bowl

Join our faith community and more than 12,000 Catholic communities across the United States in a life-changing Lenten journey with the CRS Rice Bowl. Pick up your family's Rice Bowl in the vestibule of the Cathedral. During the 40 days of Lent, let us reflect on how hunger and malnutrition affect our human family, and on the need to take action to end this global injustice. Click [here](#) to learn more.

Traditional Fasting & Abstinence Observance

Those who wish to observe the traditional Maronite practice of fasting and abstinence are invited to follow this practice. According to the Synod of Mount Lebanon of 1736, every weekday of Lent (Monday through Friday) is a day of fasting and abstinence from meat and dairy products (eggs, butter, milk, etc.). Fasting involves eating and drinking nothing at all (except water and medicine) from midnight until noon. The rest of the day, normal meals can be taken but without meat or dairy products. Saturdays and Sundays are exempt from fasting and abstaining as are the following feast days: St. Maron on Feb. 9th if it falls during Lent, the 40 Martyrs on March 9th and St. Joseph on March 19th.

Arab Bankers Association of North America Fellowship Award

Fellowships are open to students pursuing graduate studies in business at an American university. Applications will be taken annually for 5 fellowships to be granted annually for \$15,000 each year for two consecutive years for a total of \$30,000. Please apply [here](#) by April 2nd, 2024.

St. Sharbel Spiritual Life Center

The Grand Opening of the Saint Sharbel Spiritual Life Center in Pittsburgh will take place on Saturday, April 13, 2024! The Center is located in the former Epiphany Center and was recently acquired by and is operated under the direction of the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn. The Cathedral contributed \$5000 to acquire the Center. Doctor Anne Borik serves as Director and Subdeacon Vincent Michael as Assistant Director. To register online for the Dedication and Open House, or to purchase tickets for the Dinner and Concert (\$50 per person), please click [here](#).

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](#). It was determined that a minimum of \$150.00 per household a month will help meet the Church's budget.

Easter Flower Donations

Mrs. Marion Ciaccia	In memory of the Sahadi & Ciaccia families
Mrs. Salma Vahdat	In memory of the Besheer, Azizi & Vahdat families
Elena Diamontopulos	In memory of Daisy Diamontopulos
Mr. Joseph Nassif	In memory of Bichara, Laurice & Marie Nassif
Mr. & Mrs. Chaouki El Adem	In memory of George Allaham & Haneh, Margo, & Josephine El Adem & Chebel Azar
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Chawki	In memory of Abdul Ahad Chawki
Mr. & Mrs. Adib El Howayek	In honor of their family
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick O'Sullivan	In memory of Georges T. Mouawad, Chantal Graux & Hneine Najjar
The Merhej Family	In memory of Michel Merhej
Mr. Donald Shakal	In memory of John & Helen Shakal
Mrs. Phyllis Simon	In memory of the Simon & Raphael families
The Shaia Family	In memory of Philip & Lorraine Shaia
Mr. & Mrs. Chehade Arnaout	In memory of Joseph Salim Arnaout
Ms. Ada Luz Torres	In memory of Emma Snachez
Mr. & Mrs. William Safi	In memory of Joseph & Dalal El-Hawa
The Jabour Family	In memory of Elie Sarkis
Mr. & Mrs. Emile Ayli	In memory of Elias & Salimeh Ayli & Lambert, Vera & Norma Yueh
The Abi Habib Family	In memory of Youssef & Ghassan Abi Habib
Mr. & Mrs. Tony Tannousis	In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Michael Caris
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Elhilow	In memory of the Elhilow & Phillips Families
Mr. & Mrs. Antoine Atallah	In memory of the deceased members of the Atallah Family
Mr. & Mrs. Fadi Hazar	In memory of the deceased members of their family
John & Nayda Kahaly	In memory of the Kahaly Family

FROM THE BISHOP'S OFFICE ON THE YEAR OF PRAYER

5 March 2024

Prot. No. 058/1/24
Cir.24.32

Dear Brother Priests, Deacons and Subdeacons, Consecrated Men and Women, Lay Faithful,

On January 21, 2024, Pope Francis opened the **Year of Prayer** in anticipation of the Jubilee Year 2025. The Holy Father's intention is to have us look closely at how we relate to the Church, to the family, and to the world, according to the wisdom of the Second Vatican Council, and then apply this practically to our own life of prayer.

As you know, Pope Saint Paul VI beatified Saint Sharbel at the end of the Second Vatican Council in 1965, along with a missionary priest martyr, Jacques Berthieu, who served in Madagascar. What an honor for us as Maronites, to have shared in this spotlight, and what a message the Saintly Pontiff gave to the world (and to us!) that prayer, silence, sacrifice, and a missionary spirit are the ways forward to the renewal of the Church, the family, and the world!

In the Apostolic Letter by which Sharbel was declared blessed, we read this:

"We should mention that we recently decreed the same honors (Beatification) for Jacques Berthieu, who won the prize by struggling in the action of life as though in a spiritual combat. Now, a monk, removed from all human association and given over to contemplation of divine things in solitude, is extolled. Both lives are commended by the Church.... Sharbel who represented anew the life, distinguished by the sanctity of the ancient hermits, kept his mind unperturbed... so that from the happiness of his soul would flow the cheerfulness of his countenance."

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, during this Year of Prayer, let us use this opportunity, in the same spirit that animated Pope Saint Paul VI at the end of the Second Vatican Council when he pointed to Saint Sharbel as a model of prayer and devotion, so that we may keep our "minds unperturbed" and thus from the "happiness of our soul" God will cause to "flow the cheerfulness of our countenance."

+ Gregory

PS: Please see the link below for some of the offerings of our new Saint Sharbel Spiritual Life Center on prayer and a life of holiness. <https://saintsharbelcenter.org/>



Rafca Fares

A Lebanese Afternoon

Sunday
April 7
1:00 pm

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To

The Order of Deacons
By The Imposition of Hands of
The Most Reverend Gregory J. Mansour
Bishop of The Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn

On

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Sunday Readings

قراءات الأحد

Great Sunday of the Resurrection

First Letter to the Corinthians 15: 12-26

If Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead?

If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain.

We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished.

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.

The Gospel according to Saint Mark 16: 1-8

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb.

They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?'

When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed.

But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.'

So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

أحد القيامة الكبير

رسالة بولس الأولى إلى أهل كورنتس 15: 12-26

يا إخوتي، إن كان المسيح يُبشِّرُ به أنه قام من بين الأموات، فكيف يقول بعض منكم أن لا قيامة للأموات؟ فإن كان لا قيامة للأموات، فالمسيح أيضًا لم يقم! وإن كان المسيح لم يقم، فباطل تنشيرنا وباطل إيمانكم، وتكون نحن شهود زور على الله، لأننا شهدنا على الله أنه أقام المسيح، وهو ما أقامه، إن صحَّ أن الأموات لا يقومون. فإن كان الأموات لا يقومون، فالمسيح أيضًا لم يقم! وإن كان المسيح لم يقم، فباطل إيمانكم، وتكونون بعد في خطاياكم. إذا فالذين رقدوا في المسيح قد هلكوا. إن كنا نرجو المسيح في هذه الحياة وحسب، فنحن أنقَى الناس أجمعين! والحال أن المسيح قام من بين الأموات، وهو باكورة الرقيدين. فيما أن الموت كان بواسطة إنسان، فبواسطة إنسان أيضًا تكون قيامة الأموات. فكما أنه في آدم يموت الجميع، كذلك في المسيح سيحيا الجميع، كل واحد في رتبته: المسيح أولاً، لأنه الباكورة، ثم الذين هم للمسيح، عند مجيئه. وبعد ذلك تكون النهاية، حين يسلم المسيح الملك إلى الله الأب، بعد أن يكون قد أبطل كل رئاسة وكل سلطان وقوة، لأنه لا بد للمسيح أن يملك، إلى أن يجعل الله جميع أعدائه تحت قدميه. وأخر عدو يبطل هو الموت.

إنجيل القديس مرقس 16: 1-8

لما انقضى السبت، اشترت مريم المجدلية، ومريم أم يعقوب، وسالومة، طيوباً ليائتين ويطينين جسد يسوع. وفي يوم الأحد باكراً جداً، أتت إلى القبر مع طلوع الشمس. وكن يقلن فيما بينهن: «من يدرج لنا الحجر عن باب القبر؟»

وتفرسن فشهدن الحجر قد دُرج، وكان كبيراً جداً. ودخلن القبر، فرأين شاباً جالساً عن اليمين، متوشحاً حلة بيضاء، فأنذهلن. فقال لهن: «لا تندهلن! أنتن تطلبن يسوع الناصري المصلوب. إنه قام، وهو ليس هنا. وها هو المكان الذي وضعوه فيه. ألا أدھين وقلن لتلاميذه ولبطرس: إنه يسبقكم إلى الجليل. وهناك ترونه، كما قال لكم.»

فخرجن من القبر وهربن من شدة الرعدة والذهول. ومن خوفهن لم يقلن لأحد شيئاً..

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