

# Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church

Bulletin: Vol. 31, No. 44 November 28th-December 4th, 2021



## Visitation of the Virgin to Elizabeth

<b>Rev. Assaad ElBasha, M.L.M., Pastor</b>		Altar Boys: Joseph Marincel	817-491-0763	Adoration: Sheila Hughes	817-430-3066
<b>Deacon George Elandary</b>		Choir: 8:30 A.M. Helen Marincel	817-491-0763	Library: Sharon Wood	214-497-0783
<b>Mass Schedule</b>		Choir: 11:00 A.M. Roula Vasquez	972-832-8507	Youth Ministry: Sue Marincel	817-491-0763
Sunday	8:30 A.M. English	RCIA: Sue Marincel	817-491-0763	Religious Ed / SE: Sue Marincel	817-491-0763
	11:00 A.M. Bilingual; English/Lebanese	Lectors: 8:30 AM Mark Caputo	469-230-1533	Ushers Robert Kramer	972-655-8056
Monday	No Mass	Lectors: 11 AM Trevor Rask	503-701-2236	Legion of Mary Rose Onoh	214-289-4300
Tuesday - Friday	9:00 A.M. English	Parish Council Mouhib Helou	817-845-9953		
Saturday	5:30 P.M. English				
Reconciliation	Saturday - 4:00 - 5:00 P.M.				
Eucharistic Adoration	Sunday: 2:00 P.M - 7:00 P.M.				
	Monday - Friday: 9:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.				
	Saturday: 9:00 A.M. - 5:30 P.M.				

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## Maronite “Advent”

Being in communion with the Holy See, Maronite Catholics celebrate Christmas on Dec. 25. Maronites call Advent “The Season of Announcements.” Their liturgy takes the people through the “announcements” that lead up to the Savior’s birth. Thus, the first Sunday is called “The Announcement to Zechariah” wherein Zechariah is told by the Angel Gabriel that his aged wife will conceive a son (Luke 1:12- 17). This occurs before Gabriel encounters Mary. Thus, the second Sunday is “The Announcement to the Blessed Virgin Mary.” The final Sunday in the Season involves the genealogy list from the Gospel According to St. Matthew (Matt. 1:1-17) The ten days before Christmas are days of abstinence. Maronites also have a pre-Christmas novena, including a benediction with the Blessed Sacrament. In Maronite homes, families set up Christmas trees and crèches. Some of the crèches are done in cave-like settings, reflecting the period when Maronites lived in isolation in the Lebanese hills. Some families decorate their crèche with sprouted seeds (reflecting the emergence of life). Families gather before the Christmas Midnight Mass for a traditional meal of stuffed chicken and kibbee (meatballs of minced lamb or veal mixed with cracked wheat and cinnamon). The dessert is a nod to the French influence on Lebanese culture: a cake Yule log known as a *Buche de Noël*. It’s a chocolate sponge cake spread with a filling, and rolled into a log. The last step involves shaping the chocolate frosting so it looks like tree bark. The rest of Christmas season involves visiting family and friends, usually over espresso-strength coffee, sugared almonds, and (in another nod to the French) butter cookies. Children get to enjoy a visit by “Baba Noël” (Santa Claus) with his presents. The Maronite Christmas greeting can be the French “Joyeux Noël” or the Arabic “Eid Milad Majid” (Glorious Birth Feast). This Christmas, may we follow Pope St. John Paul II’s exhortation to “look to the east” with our Eastern Rite brothers and sisters, to bear witness the Incarnation of the Lord our God.



### Sunday of the Visitation

See how the Holy Spirit greets the Virgin Mary through the mouth of Elizabeth: "Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb! And blessed art thou that hast believed, because those things shall be accomplished that were spoke to thee by the Lord." Blessed indeed, for by this faith in the word of God the Virgin Mary became the Mother of Christ. What finite creature has ever received honor such as this from the Infinite Being? Mary gives all the glory to the Lord for the marvelous things which are accomplished in her. From the moment of the Incarnation the Virgin Mother sings in her heart a canticle full of love and gratitude. In the presence of her cousin Elizabeth she allows the most profound sentiments of her heart to break forth in song; she intones the "Magnificat" which, in the course of centuries, her children will repeat with her to praise God for having chosen her among all women:

*"My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, Because He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaid... Because He Who is mighty has done great things for me And holy is His name."*

#### This Week’s Mass Intentions

Tuesday, 11/30 Sr. Maria Bernadette, Sr. Maria Seraphina, Sr. Maria Therese, Michael Marincel, TEACH Homeschooling Group, †Cuong Pham  
 Wednesday, 12/01: Julia & Mary Marincel, Helen Hicks  
 Thursday, 12/02: Chris Luter  
 Friday, 12/03: Legion of Mary, Ucce, Mario, Nneka, Onoh & Agadas family

#### Collect Prayers for the Visitation

Grant us the gift of Your heavenly peace, O Lord. Let the solemn feast of the blessed Virgin's Visitation establish us more securely in that peace, just as the birth of Her Child heralded the beginning of our salvation. Rescue us, O Lord, through the Incarnation of Your Only-Begotten Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who by His birth did not impair the virgin purity of His Mother, but rather sanctified it. May He free us from our sins and make us acceptable to You on this feast of Mary's Visitation. Blessed is the womb of the Virgin Mary, which bore the Son of the Eternal Father.

Amen.

#### Daily Scripture Readings Nov. 28 thru Dec. 4

Sunday, 11/28:	Eph 1:1-14	Lk 1:39-45
Monday, 11/29:	Eph 1:15-23	Lk 1:46-56
Tuesday, 11/30:	Eph 2:1-10	Lk 10:38-42
Wednesday, 12/01:	Eph 2:11-16	Lk 19:1-10
Thursday, 12/02:	Eph 2:17-22	Jn 4:39-42
Friday, 12/03:	Eph 3:14-21	Mk 7:24-30
Saturday, 12/04:	Eph 4:1-7	Lk 5:27-32

## Second Collection

Our next Second Collection will take place next weekend on December 4th & December 5th. Donations will go to our Cardinal's Maronite Patriarchal Charities.



## Community Rosaries:

Tuesday—Friday: 8:30 AM (Sanctuary)  
Saturday: 5:00 PM (Sanctuary)  
Sunday: 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM (Sanctuary)

## Lectors & Altar Servers

We are in need of lectors and altar servers for all Masses. If you would like to be trained to be a lector or your son would like to be an altar server, please contact the Church Office at 972-436-7617 or ladyofl719@gmail.com



## St. Joseph Image

This week the St. Joseph image is going to the Marincel Family

## Parish Council Voting

This weekend we are having elections for the Parish Council. Please remember to cast your vote! Cast your vote in the drop box present in the Church's Lobby! Please vote for no more than five people.

## Online Giving

Please remember that you can support our parish through an online donation. This method is secure. To give online, visit our parish website, and click on the 'Needy Families Fund/Online Donations' tab beneath the 'Online Giving' header. May God reward your generosity.

## No Weekly Collection Information

Due to early bulletin due dates, the Weekly Collection for November 28th, 2021 will not be published until the following week!

We thank you for your support of the House of the Lord during this very busy, but joyful season!

## Maronite Youth Organization Retreat

The South 2022 Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon MYO Regional Retreat Registration is now open! The retreat will take place from February 25th-February 27th at Tejas Retreat Center in Giddings, TX.

Register online using link:

<https://www.maroniteyouth.org/south2022registration/>

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT DUE BY JANUARY 14th, 2022.

Youth Cost (12-17): \$175

Adult Cost: \$175 (\$200 for single occupancy)

If you have any questions or issues registering, please reach out to the parish office or email [office@maroniteyouth.org](mailto:office@maroniteyouth.org)! We invite you to register to let the Holy Spirit work in your life!

## YOUNG ADULT SINGLES

The Young Adult Single group meetings have commenced! If you are interested in joining, please email [Jason.Najm@gmail.com](mailto:Jason.Najm@gmail.com).

## Ushers

We are in need of ushers. Are you willing to serve? If you would like to be trained to be an usher, please contact Bob Kramer at (972) 655-8056.



## The 2021 Food Festival Sponsors

*Due to the Corona virus, we have had to cancel the Festival for the second year in a row. As you know, this is our major fundraiser for the year that we greatly depend on for our yearly income and expenses. We are asking for any support you can give. If you would like to make a special donation, please contact the Church Office at 972-436-7617 or LadyofL719@gmail.com*

## Church Office Closed

The Church Office will be closed Thursday, November 25th through the holiday weekend and will reopen Monday, November 29th at 8:30 AM.

## Reserving Mass Intentions

If you would like to request a Mass intention, we invite you to call, email, or stop by the office at your earliest convenience. If you would like for your intention to be included in the bulletin, reservations for the Mass Intention must be made in advance!

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

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