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*Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church*

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Phone 810.733.1259  
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www.ololmi.org

**Weekly Bulletin      Sunday December 10, 2006 – Sunday December 17, 2006**



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**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**DECEMBER**

15 Christmas Novena begins  
25 Christmas  
31 New Year's Eve Party

**Clergy**  
Rev. Father Jihad Younes  
Deacon Martin Rachid  
Subdeacon Earl Matte  
Subdeacon Charles Rossie

**Parish Staff**  
Pam Aziz – Parish Secretary  
Darrell Frye – Maintenance  
Pat Haley – Caterer

**Parish Leaders**  
Lewis Walterhouse II– Parish Council  
Dee Gardner – Choir Director  
Dottie Byrnes – Organist  
Freda Hearsch – Religious Education  
Cindy Shaheen – Altar Society  
Jeanette Walterhouse – Morningstar  
Rob Kowalk – Spiritual Growth Coordinator

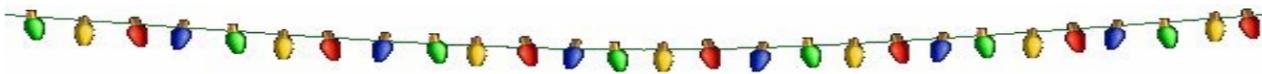


**Liturgy Schedule**

Monday	9a.m.
Tuesday	9a.m.
Wednesday	9a.m.
Thursday	9a.m.
Friday	12noon
Saturday	8:30a.m. 5p.m.
Sunday	10a.m.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month	10a.m. (English) 12noon (Arabic)

**Adoration**  
Friday 11a.m.

**Confessions**  
½ hour before liturgy on Saturday and Sunday and by appointment.



**PARISH UPDATE**

Please help us to update our parish records. Please fill out the form below and return it to the church or place it in the collection basket. Also if you know of any family members or friends as well as any local Maronites who are not attending please provide us with names and any other information you can. Thank You!

LAST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: home: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ work: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ cell: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION: \_\_\_\_\_

**Sacrament of Baptism**, please contact the priest at least **1 month** before the intended date for the baptism.

**Sacrament of Marriage**, please contact the priest at least **6 months** before the intended date for the wedding.

**Sick calls**, please notify the Church office as soon as possible if you want communion for your sick. We usually do sick calls on Wednesdays.

**Pray for our sick and homebound Parishioners:**



Hap Maroun  
Jeannie Rossie  
Charlie Rossie  
Marge Okal

Sarah Marshall  
Mike Rizik  
Hanneh Chammas  
Eddie Rashid  
Joe Faris  
Doris Beck  
Rose Johnson  
Dorothy Mattar  
Ferris Adado  
Beth Garner

Sharon Griffiths  
Osama Abou Shakra  
Bob Beck  
Woody Mattar



**Our Lady of Lebanon Office Hours**

Monday 9am – 5pm  
Tuesday 9am – 5pm  
Wednesday 9am – 5pm  
Thursday 9am – 5pm  
Friday 9am – 5pm



## MASS INTENTIONS

### SUNDAY 10: Birth of John the Baptist

10A.M.: (Gal 4:21-Lk 1:57-66) Reader: Diane Massad  
 - Rep. Norman Weissert by Yvonne & Family  
 - Living & Deceased of the Shaheen & Okal Families

### ARABIC MASS 12NOON

#### MONDAY 11:

- Rep. Winston Walterhouse by Mansour & Elsie Shaheen

#### TUESDAY 12: St. Spiridion the Wonderworker Our Lady of Guadalupe

- Living & Deceased Victims of School Violence

#### WEDNESDAY 13:

- Rep. Lola Williams by Leo & Diane Macksood

#### THURSDAY 14: St. Nematallah El-Hardini

- Rep. Sue Adado by Tom & Blanche Alex

#### FRIDAY 15: Christmas Novena 6:30pm 12NOON

- Rep. Elias Deibis by Enza Haley

#### SATURDAY 16: Christmas Novena 6:30pm 8:30A.M.

- Special Intentions

5P.M.

- Rep. Ted Mansour by Betty & Family

#### SUNDAY 17: Christmas Novena 6:30pm The Revelation to Joseph

10A.M.: (Eph 3:1-13; Mt 1:18-25) Reader: Clergy  
 - Rep. Mary Faris by Family  
 - Rep. Mark Grab by Pat & Vikki Haley

#### SUNDAY 24: Genealogy Sunday

10A.M.: (Rom 1:1-12; Mt 1:1-17) Reader: Clergy  
 - Rep. Tammy Bawardi  
 4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary by Naim Bawardi & Family

#### Weekly Contributions

November 12: \$1691  
 November 19: \$2226  
 November 26: \$2551  
 December 3: \$3453



#### Altar Servers Schedule for:

Sunday, December 10: Team 1  
 Sunday, December 17: Team 2

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

We will begin praying a Christmas Novena on Friday, December 15, 2006 at 6:30pm. The Christmas Novena will be prayed for nine days. Please try to make time to share in this beautiful devotion.

A group of parishioners will be going out and singing carols for the sick and homebound. If you are interested in participating please contact Kay Rix or see the sign up sheet on the bulletin board.

Please don't forget about our food drive. As you know these baskets are for families who have children sick with cancer at Hurley. If you would like to contribute please put your food donations in the box in the Narthex and donations of money go to Deacon Marty.

The Ladies Altar Society will be doing a major church cleaning on Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 10am.

There will be a Christmas Party for the MCO group, children ages 5 to 10 years. The party will be on Saturday, December 16, 2006 from 11am to 1pm. If there are any questions please call the church office or see Freda Hearsch or Natalie Zerka.

The New Year's Eve Party will be held on Sunday, December 31, 2006 following 5:30pm Liturgy. Doors open at 6:30pm the cost is \$35 per person 13 years and older. Children 12 to 5 years \$10 and under 5 are free. Tickets are available from any Parish Council member or the church office.

Just a reminder to our parish as we near the end of 2006, if you have contribution envelopes that you are behind on please consider catching them up soon. Sometime around the middle of January the printing of yearly contribution statements will take place. If anyone has any questions please call the office.



Church cleaning for the  
Month of December:

Major Cleaning December 16<sup>th</sup> at 10am

## Saint Nimatullah Hardini



Father Hardini was born Joseph Kassab in the year 1808. His father was George Kassab and his mother Mariam Raad, daughter of Reverend Yousef Yacoub. He had four brothers and two sisters, his brothers were 'Assaf, Elias, Tanious, Yacoub and his sisters Masihieh and Mariam. Joseph's brother Elias became Father Lasha', the Hermit at Qozhaya, and later at 'Annaya where he died. Father

Charbel replaced the late Father Lasha' at the hermitage in 'Annaya. Joseph entered the school of the monks of St. Anthony at Houb from 1816 to 1822 and then entered the monastery of St. Anthony Ishaia and became a novice on November 1828. There he adopted the name Fr. Nimatullah Kassab Hardini, and then he learned to bind books.

He professed his first vows on 14th of November 1830. After he finished his theological studies, he was ordained a priest under Bishop Seiman Zwain in the monastery at Kfifan on 25th of December 1833.

He became a member of the general council three times from 1845 to 1848, 1850 to 1853, 1856 to 1858. As a member of the council he continued to bind books. He taught in monastic schools, especially in Kfifan.

Father Nimatullah lived a very holy life. He was a man of prayer, totally "enraptured by God". He spent days and nights in meditation, prayer and adoration of the Eucharist. The Virgin Mary was his patron and Father Nimatullah prayed Her Rosary. He was also a very humble, sensitive and patient person who lived his monastic vows of "obedience, chastity and poverty" to perfection. His fellow brother Monks and the people who knew him called him "The Saint" while he was still alive. One of his students was Charbel Makhlouf (St. Charbel), 1853 to 1858.

Father Nimatullah Hardini died in the monastery of Kfifan on 14th December 1858. He passed away after struggling ten days with a high fever, which he contracted from the cold winter wind characteristic of northern Lebanon. He was only then fifty years of age. He died holding a picture of the Virgin Mary, his last words being: "O Virgin Mary between your hands I submit my soul." People who were nearby at the moment of Father Nimatullah's death witnessed a heavenly light illuminating his room and an aromatic smell, which remained in his room for a number of days afterwards. When the then Patriarch, Boulos Massad, heard of Father Nimatullah's death he commented: "Congratulations to this monk who knew how to benefit from his monastic life."

Some time later, the Monks opened Father Nimatullah's tomb and to their surprise they found his body had remained incorrupt. He was then removed and placed in a coffin near the church. After obtaining due permission from the local ecclesiastical authority, from 1864 visitors were allowed to see Father Nimatullah's intact body until 1927. In that same year the Committee of Inquiry set up to investigate the Cause of Father Nimatullah finalized its investigation. Father Nimatullah's body was then reburied in the curving wall of his monastic cell, before being transferred to a little Chapel where masses are celebrated for visitors.

He was declared Venerable on September 7, 1989. At the behest of his Beatitude Patriarch Nasrallah Peter Sfeir, his body was examined and placed in a new coffin on May 18, 1996. Pope John Paul II canonized Nimatullah Hardini on May 16, 2004. His body was recently transferred to a new coffin made of cedar and placed in the Monastery of Kfifan where people may visit.

Several cures have taken place through his intercession. These include the raising to life of a Muslim child whose mother claimed had died, the healing of a person with a neurological disease, the restoration of sight to a blind person and the curing of a person suffering from cancer.

The case of the curing of Andre Najm is of particular note due to its very recent occurrence and through investigation by the international medical community that followed. Andre Najm, born on October 29, 1966 enjoyed excellent health for the first twenty years of his life. However in June of 1986 he began to experience a chronic fatigue and nervous breakdowns, unable to even walk a short distance. Many physicians in Lebanon and abroad treated him to no avail. He was suffering from a form of blood cancer and required frequent blood transfusions.

[www.hardini.org](http://www.hardini.org)



Saint  
Nimatullah  
Hardini

Statue in front  
of the  
monastery  
where he  
lived, taught,  
and was  
buried.

(picture taken  
August 2003)