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Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church

4133 Calkins Rd
Flint, MI 48532
Phone 810.733.1259
Fax 810.732.2760

www.ololmi.org

Weekly Bulletin

Sunday February 25, 2007 – Sunday March 4, 2007

A Different Approach to Fasting

Fasting has a tendency to be more of what to give up rather than what to give. Here are a few suggestions for fasting.

1. Fast from anger and hatred. Try giving an extra dose of love each day.
2. Fast from judging others. Try to remember how our Lord overlooks our faults.
3. Fast from discouragement. Hold on to the promise of our Lord that He has a plan for your life.
4. Fast from complaining. When you find yourself about to complain just take a minute and close your eyes and think about some of the joys our Lord has given you.
5. Fast from resentment or bitterness. Work on forgiving someone who may have hurt you.
6. Fast from spending too much. Reduce your spending by ten percent and give it to the poor.



Lent

Lent, the penitential season of the Church year, begins on Ash Monday, February 19, 2007 and lasts until Easter. Traditionally, the Lenten season is a time of sacrifices through out the Universal Church. The Most Reverend Bishops Robert Shaheen and Gregory Mansour have issued the following Lenten guidelines for the Maronites of the United States:

States:

- All Maronites who are physically capable are to **Abstain from meat** on Ash Monday (February 19) and all Fridays of Lent.
- Ash Monday and the Great Friday of the Crucifixion are also days of **fasting**.

Fasting in the Maronite Church 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. All Maronites who are physically capable are to fast on these two days.

www.st.maron.org

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

27 Discussion Group meets at 6pm to 8pm

MARCH

18 Daylight Savings Time Begins

31 Easter Church Cleaning

31 Lenten Bake Sale

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

Albert Zerka– 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	9a.m.
	5p.m.
Sunday	10a.m.
2 nd 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.

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:



Sarah Marshall
Mike Rizik
Hanneh Chammas
Hap Maroun
Joe Faris
Doris Beck
Rose Johnson
Dorothy Mattar
Sharon Griffiths
Ann Faris



Our Lady of Lebanon Office Hours

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



MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY 25: Sunday of the Leper

10A.M.: (Rom 6:12-23; Mk 1:35-45) Reader: Karl Moon
- Rep. Jacqueline McGilvery by Mon & Elsie Shaheen

MONDAY 26:

- Rep. Mrs. Ponuthurai by James & Theresa Manoharan

TUESDAY 27: St. Thalaleus, Disciple of St. Maron, Confessor

- Intentions of Ignatius Saverimuthu by James & Theresa Manoharan

WEDNESDAY 28: St. Koura & St. Marana, Disciples of St. Maron, Confessors

- Rep. Mayford Penhaligon by Mon & Elsie Shaheen

THURSDAY March 1: St. Domnina, Disciple of St. Maron & St. Afdokia of Baalbek, Confessors

- NO MASS

FRIDAY 2: St. John Maron, Confessor Adoration of the Cross 6pm

12NOON

- Rep. Fr. Joe Bitar by David & Gabrielle Allen & Family

SATURDAY 3: St. Thomas Aquinas, Doctor of the Church & St. Katherine Drexel, Confessor

9A.M.:

- Special Intentions

5P.M.

- Rep. Raymond Chase by David & Gabrielle Allen & Family

- Rep. Valerie Diab by Hector & Rose Khoury

SUNDAY 4: Sunday of the Hemorrhaging Woman

10A.M.: (2 Cor 7:4-11; Lk 8:40-56) Reader: Robert Pollack

- Rep. Sister Helen Maroun by Sam

- Rep. Woody Mattar

40 Day Memorial by Family

- Living & Deceased Members of Allen Family by David & Gabrielle Allen & Family

SUNDAY 11: Sunday of the Prodigal Son

10A.M.: (2 Cor 13:5-13; Lk 15:11-32) Reader: David Allen

- Rep. Norman Weissert by Yvonne

ARABIC MASS 12 NOON



Announcements

Every Friday during the Lenten Season there will be no Adoration at 11am. Mass will still be celebrated at noon. There will be Adoration of the Cross every Friday at 6pm. Please spend some time with our Lord in prayer.

Thanks to the kindness and generosity of our parish we have helped feed families who are really in need. Unfortunately the shelves are a little bare. If you would like to contribute food items please place them in the food box in the Narthex. If you would like to give a monetary donation please see Deacon Marty.

The next discussion group will be held on Tuesday, February 27, 2007 at 6pm. We invite you to come and be apart of our group. This month's topic is "How to Raise a Catholic Family and How Our Church Can Help."

There will be a MYO mini retreat held at St. John the Baptist Church in New Castle Pennsylvania Friday, March 2 to Sunday, March 4, 2007. Please see Johnny Solomon or Rob Kowalk for more information.

During the Divine Liturgy the gifts (bread and wine) are transferred from the side altar to the main altar as a symbol of offering the fruit of our work to Almighty God who will come and unite His Divinity with our Humanity. We need to have gift bearers every Sunday to help in this part of Liturgy. A sign up sheet is put on the bulletin board for you to choose the date when you want to be the gift bearer. Please sign your name and don't forget we need TWO people every Sunday.



Church cleaning for the Month of March:

Cindy Shaheen

Weekly Contributions

January 28: \$1432
February 4: \$2013
February 11: \$2236
February 18: \$2106



Saint Thomas Aquinas



Saint Thomas Aquinas was indisputably the greatest of philosophers. He was born in his family's castle of Roccasecca near the town of Aquino, about halfway between Rome and Naples. The seventh son of the Count of Aquino, Landolfo, and his wife Teodora, at the age of five Thomas was sent to the Benedictine monastery of Monte

Casino, where his uncle was the abbot. His parents hoped he would get a good education at the monastery and perhaps one day become abbot of Monte Casino. However, political struggles between the pope and the emperor made the monastery unsafe, and at age fourteen Thomas moved to the Imperial University in Naples.

At this university Thomas came under the influence of the Dominicans, a mendicant, or begging, order of friars. While the Dominicans were admired by many for their religious commitment, Thomas's family was appalled when in 1244 he announced his plans to join the order. They considered the Dominicans religious fanatics, virtually a cult, with none of the sophistication, prestige, or power of the long-established Benedictines. At his parents' instigation, Thomas's brothers kidnapped him and held him captive in the family castle. For a year they tried reasoning, shouting, intimidating--even tempting him with a prostitute--but Thomas would not be swayed. He eventually managed to escape and became a Dominican friar.

Thomas went to Paris, where he studied with Albertus Magnus (Albert the Great), an advocate of the newly rediscovered Aristotelian writings, and even followed his teacher to Cologne to continue his study of Aristotle. As a student Thomas was so stolid and methodical that many of his peers thought he was dull or downright stupid. Given his deliberate manner and his portly build, his classmates dubbed him "the Dumb Ox." But Albertus saw his potential and turned this cruel epithet into a prophecy, saying, "You call him a Dumb Ox; I tell you the Dumb Ox will bellow so loud his bellowing will fill the world." In 1252 Thomas returned to Paris for graduate studies,

eventually receiving the magistrate (doctorate) in theology in 1256.

On concluding his studies it seemed natural that Thomas would join the faculty of the University of Paris. However, scholars from the mendicant orders were held in suspicion by the regular faculty of the university. Along with the great Franciscan friar Bonaventure, Thomas was not allowed to teach in Paris until the pope himself intervened.

The rest of Thomas's life was spent teaching in France and Italy and writing extensively on philosophical and theological subjects. His complete works in Latin comprise twenty-five volumes. Thomas was also called upon to intervene in several disputes. In addition to defending his Dominican order, he was forced to articulate a middle position between those who rejected Aristotelian philosophy as anti-Christian and those who accepted Aristotle (or, rather, a version of Averroes' interpretation of Aristotle) too uncritically. Throughout his writings, Thomas negotiated a middle path of critical admiration for Aristotle.

www.whitworth.net



Prayer to Saint Thomas Aquinas

God our Father,

You made Thomas Aquinas known for his holiness and learning.

Help us to grow in wisdom by his teaching,

and in holiness by imitating his faith.

Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ,

Your Son, who lives and reigns with you

and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.