

Weekly Contributions

November 4: \$2805
 November 11: \$1824
 November 18: \$2402
 November 25: \$2025



Church cleaning for December:

10 – Holiday Cleaning
 Altar Society & MYO
 17 – Mary Matte
 24 – Diane Massad



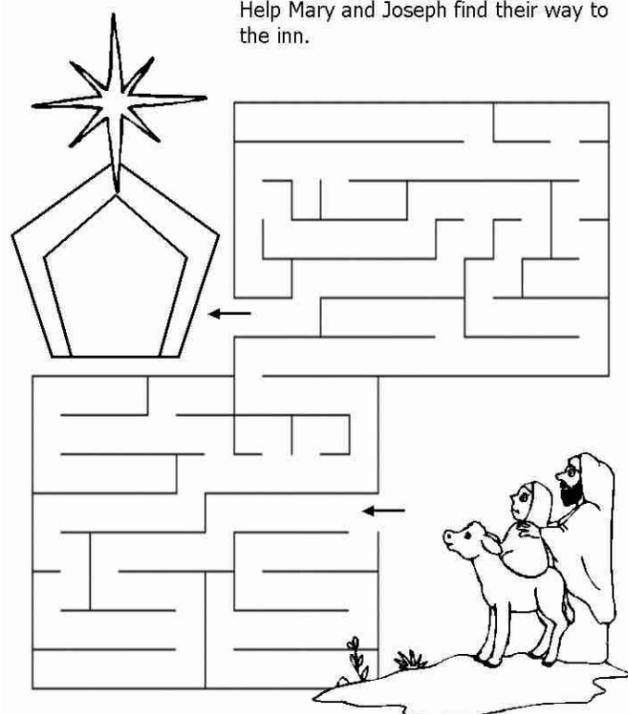
Altar Server Schedule

December 9: Team 3
 December 16: Team 4
 December 23: Team 1
 December 25: All Altar Servers



Christmas Maze

Help Mary and Joseph find their way to the inn.



Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church



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 Flint, MI 48532
 Phone 810.733.1259
 Fax 810.732.2760

www.ololmi.org

Weekly Bulletin

Sunday December 2, 2007 – Sunday December 9, 2007

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 5p.m.
 Sunday 10a.m.
 2nd 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.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

DECEMBER

8 Immaculate Conception Liturgy 8am
 15-23 Christmas Novena 7pm
 21 Night of Prayer & Penance 7pm-8pm
 23 No religious education classes
 24 Christmas Eve Liturgy 6pm
 25 Christmas Day Liturgy 10am
 30 No religious education classes
 31 New Year's Eve Party

Fr. Jihad has forms from the Consulate of Lebanon for passport renewals, marriage & birth registrations. If you need any of these forms please see Fr. Jihad .

DINNER TICKETS

FOR



The National Shrine of Our Lady of Lebanon
 Restoration & Rededication

Banquet Celebration

Saturday, February 16, 2008

\$100 person/\$150 couple
 330-538-3351

If interested please see Fr. Jihad or the parish office.

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:



Eddie Rashid
 Sarah Marshall
 Hanneh Chammas
 Hap Maroun
 Joe Faris
 Doris Beck
 Ann Faris
 Dorothy Mattar
 Sharon Griffiths



Our Lady of Lebanon Office Hours

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



MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY 2: The Visitation to Elizabeth

10A.M: (Eph 1:1-14; Lk 1:39-45): Reader: MYO

- Rep. Jeanette Zerka by Family
- 40 Day Memorial

MONDAY 3: St. Francis Xavier, Confessor

- Rep. Antoine Massoud by Ralph & Helen Burgess

TUESDAY 4: St. Barbara, Martyr

- NO MASS

WEDNESDAY 5: St. Saba the Hermit, Confessor

- NO MASS

THURSDAY 6: St. Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, Confessor

- NO MASS

FRIDAY 7: St. Ambrose, Confessor

12NOON

- Rep. Mayford Penahligon by Bob & Sharon Griffiths

SATURDAY 8: The Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation

8A.M.

- Rep. Antoine Massoud by Aziz Family

5PM

- Rep. Helen O'Brien by Nieces

- Rep. Ted Mansour by Tom & Laura Mansour

SUNDAY 9: Birth of John the Baptist

10A.M: (Gal 4:21-5:1; Lk 1:57-66): Reader: David Allen

- Rep. Norman Weissert by Yvonne
- Living & Deceased of Shaheen & Okal Families
- Rep. Peter Joubran by Family

ARABIC MASS 12NOON

SUNDAY 16: The Revelation to Joseph

10A.M: (Eph 3:1-13; Mt 1:18-25): Reader: Ferris Anthony

- Rep. Mary Faris by Family
- Rep. Mike Rizik by Scholarship Recipients
- Rep. Louie Azzam by Albert & Thereze Karram

ANNUAL HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

Please deposit non-perishable food items in the collection box in the Narthex. Cash donations can be given to Deacon Marty. Food baskets and gift cards will be provided to the families of children who are suffering from cancer. Let us share our abundance with those who suffer.



Announcements

Saturday, December 8, 2007 is The Immaculate Conception and a Holy Day of Obligation for all. Mass will be celebrated at 8am and 5pm.

If you sponsored a child(ren) from Hurley please have your gifts here on December 8th & 9th.

Please remember your census forms and try to get them turned in as soon as possible.

Elections for Parish Council will be December 8th and 9th. Please remember you must be an active member to vote.

The Ladies Altar Society will be taking up a collection for holiday decorations after Saturday and Sunday mass on December 8th & 9th and also 15th & 16th. Anyone wishing to make a special donation can contact Diane Massad (232-4766) or Cindy Shaheen (659-8758).

Anyone wishing to donate a RED Poinsetta that will be used for holiday decorations in lieu of money may do so by contacting Diane Massad (232-4766). Donated Poinsettias must be delivered to the Church at Noon on Saturday December 22nd.

The Ladies Altar Society is looking to sponsor a Women's Spiritual Retreat after the first of the year. In order to plan this event, we need to know how many women of our Parish would be interested in participating. Please contact Cindy Shaheen (659-8758), Diane Massad (232-4766) or Pam in the church office as soon as possible.

Altar Society Cookbook

The Ladies Altar Society is compiling recipes of salads and desserts for a cookbook. This cookbook will be sold at the Salad Supper Bingo in May 2008. We are asking parish members to help us by donating a few of your favorite recipes. Please contact any member of the organization or one of the following members for a format for your recipes.

Linda Macksood	732-7322
Elsie Shaheen	732-2887
Yvonne Weissert	732-4856

We are selling golf shirts to help raise money for the church. The shirts are \$35 each, they come in white, forest green, burgundy, red, navy, pewter and black and are available in sizes up to 5x. If you would like to purchase a shirt please see Chuck Solomon or the church office.

The choir is raising money to purchase a new organ for the church. They need \$45,000. If you would like to make a donation please see Dee Gardner.



Saint Francis Xavier



Francis Xavier was born on April 7th, 1506, in the Spanish kingdom of Navarre; and his native language, like that of Ignatius Loyola, whose devoted disciple he was to become, was Basque. He inherited the proud and passionate temperament of his race and could show himself both fiery and autocratic even to the end of his life. As a boy he was ambitious and fond of sport, but he had a largeness of heart and generosity of nature which made him capable, once he had been converted, of heroic love and endurance.

His first encounter with Ignatius took place at the University of Paris, where Francis went at the age of nineteen. Ignatius was much the elder man, and it took him some time to win Francis from his worldly ambitions. But eventually Francis capitulated and gave himself with his whole soul to the new life which the Exercises of Ignatius opened up to him. He became one of the first members of the Society of Jesus and made his vows with Ignatius and five others on August 15th, 1534, and was finally ordained priest on June 24th, 1537.

The first object of Ignatius and his companions had been to make a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, but events turned out otherwise. Ignatius was asked by King John of Portugal to send priests to the new missions in India, and his choice fell eventually on Francis. Francis, it must be said, had no particular qualifications for this task. Though he took his degree at the University, he was possessed of no great learning, and the only books he took with him on all his missionary journeys were his breviary and a book of meditations. His ignorance of the religion of the people to whom he went to preach the gospel was complete. He regarded all 'moors' and 'pagans' as enemies of God and slaves of the devil, to be rescued at all costs from his power. His attitude never changed, and the devout Muslim, the learned Brahmin and the Buddhist monk made equally little impression on him.

In this respect his mind remained essentially medieval. He saw a vast new world opening before him and his one desire was to win it to Christ. He brought with him nothing but his consuming love for God and for the souls of his fellow men. It is noticeable that he never criticized the social, political or ecclesiastical institutions of his time. He accepted the slave trade and the Inquisition alike apparently without question and, although he complained bitterly of the abuse of power, he never questioned the right of the Portuguese power in India and was prepared at all times to make use of it in the interests of the gospel.

Yet though he might accept the external circumstances of

life as he knew it, he preserved an absolute detachment of heart. He deliberately chose to live in the most complete poverty and refused to accept any of the material conveniences which were offered to him. His food was reduced to so small a quantity that it was a miracle that he kept alive. The only concession he would make in clothing for his long missionary journeys under a tropical sun was a pair of boots. He could put up with the most appalling conditions on his long sea voyages and endure the most agonizing extremes of heat and cold. Wherever he went he would seek out the poor and the sick and spend his time in ministering to their needs. Yet while he was occupied all day with these incessant labors, he would spend the greater part of the night in prayer. And all this was done with a gaiety and lightness of heart, which remind one of the other Francis-of Assisi.

The story of his journeys is an epic of adventure. He arrived in Goa in May 1542 and went on from there to Cape Comorin in the south of India. Here he spent three years working among the pearl-fishers, or Paravas, of the Fishery Coast. From there he went on to the East

Indies, to Malacca and the Moluccas, and, finally, in 1549 he set out for Japan. He died on December 3rd, 1552, on a lonely island, vainly seeking to obtain entrance into China. Thus in ten years he traversed the greater part of the Far East. When one considers the conditions of travel, the means of transport, the delays and difficulties which beset him at every stage, it is, even physically an astounding achievement. It is even more remarkable when one considers that he left behind him a flourishing church wherever he went and that the effects of his labours remain to the present day.

Many miracles have been attributed to St Francis. He was said to have possessed the gift of tongues, to have healed the sick and even to have raised the dead; but for the last, at least, there is no real evidence. That he possessed the gift of prophecy seems to be certain, but he can hardly have possessed the gift of tongues. The evidence is, on the contrary, that he had to rely throughout on interpreters to translate his message into the different languages he required, and was often sadly misled. The real miracle of his life, as has been said, was the miracle of his personality, by which he was able to convert thousands to the faith wherever he went and to win their passionate devotion.

He died abandoned with but one companion, without the sacraments or Christian burial. But within a few weeks his body was recovered and found to be perfectly incorrupt. It was brought to Goa and received there with a devotion and an enthusiasm which showed that the people had already recognized him as a saint. He was beatified by Pope Paul V in 1619 and canonized together with St Ignatius by Pope Gregory XV, on March 12th, 1622. He is now the patron of all the missions of the Catholic Church.