

Weekly Contributions

October 28: \$2373
 November 4: \$2805
 November 11: \$1824
 November 18: \$2402



Church cleaning for December:



3 - Cindy Shaheen
 10 - Holiday Cleaning
 Altar Society & MYO
 17 - Mary Matte
 24 - Diane Massad

Altar Server Schedule

December 2: Team 2
 December 9: Team 3
 December 16: Team 4



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

25 No religious education classes

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.

A B C D E G H I J L
 ▼ ♥ I ☆ ● ★ ◆ ○ ✕ ☆
 N O P R S T V W Y
 ■ * ▸ ○ ▲ † ◆ □ *

I bring you _____
 ★ * * ☆ ■ ● □ ▲
 of great _____ that will be for
 * * *
 _____ Today in the
 ▼ ☆ ☆ ▸ ● * ▸ ☆ ●
 town of David a _____ has
 ▲ ▼ ◆ ○ * ●
 been _____ to you; he is
 ▼ * ● ■
 _____ the _____ ...
 I ◆ ● ○ ▲ † ☆ * ● *

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.



Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church

4133 Calkins Rd
 Flint, MI 48532
 Phone 810.733.1259
 www.ololmi.org Fax 810.732.2760

Weekly Bulletin

Sunday November 25, 2007 – Sunday December 2, 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.
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:



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 25: Announcement to the Virgin Mary St. Catherine of Alexandria

10A.M: (Gal 3:15-22; Lk 1:26-38): Reader: Robert Pollack
 - Rep. Kimberly Gardner by Duane & Dee Gardner
 - Rep. John & Francis Taylor by Duane & Dee Gardner
 - Rep. Jim & Cheryl Wilcox by Josef & Mona Massoud

MONDAY 26:
 - Rep. Louie Shaker by Family

TUESDAY 27: St. James the Dismembered, Martyr

- NO MASS

WEDNESDAY 28:

- NO MASS

THURSDAY 29:

- NO MASS

FRIDAY 30: St. Andrew the Apostle St. Beshai, Confessor

12NOON

- Rep. David Matte by John & Ceal Abdella

SATURDAY December 1:

5PM

- Rep. Glen & Ann Smithingell by Family

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

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

ARABIC MASS 12NOON

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.



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.



Announcements

We would like to express deepest sympathy to Delore Shaker and the Shaker family in the loss of their loved one Louie.

O Lord, in your grace grant rest to your Servant Louie who sleeps in your hope. May Louie's soul rest in peace. Amen

There is a bulletin board in the hall with names of children who are at Hurley Hospital with cancer. On the back of those names are items these children would like for Christmas. If you are interested in sponsoring a child please see Marcus Rossie or Lilly Pavlovich.

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 December 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 Catherine of Alexandria



Catherine was a noble virgin of Alexandria, born in the fourth century. Before her Baptism, she saw in a dream the Blessed Virgin asking Her Son to receive her among His servants, but the Divine Infant turned away, saying she was not yet regenerated by the waters of Baptism. She made haste to receive that sacrament, and afterwards, when the dream was repeated, Catherine saw that the Saviour received her with great affection, and espoused her before the court of heaven, with a fine ring. She woke with it on her finger.

She had a very active intelligence, fit for all matters, and she undertook the study of philosophy and theology. At that time there were schools in Alexandria for the instruction of Christians, where excellent Christian scholars taught. She made great progress and became able to sustain the truths of our religion against even very subtle sophists. At that time Maximinus II was sharing the empire with Constantine the Great and Licinius, and had as his district Egypt; and this cruel Christian-hater ordinarily resided in Alexandria, capital of the province. He announced a gigantic pagan sacrifice, such that the very air would be darkened with the smoke of the bulls and sheep immolated on the altars of the gods. Catherine before this event strove to strengthen the Christians against the fatal lures, repeating that the oracles vaunted by the infidels were pure illusion, originating in the depths of the lower regions.

She foresaw that soon it would be the Christians' turn to be immolated, when they refused to participate in the ceremonies. She therefore went to the emperor himself, asking to speak with him, and her singular beauty and majestic air won an audience for her. She said to him that it was a strange thing that he should by his example attract so many peoples to such an abominable cult. By his high office he was obliged to turn them away from it, since reason itself shows us that there can be only one sovereign Being, the first principle of all else. She begged him to cease so great a disorder by giving the true God the honor due Him, lest he reap the wages of his indifference in this life already, as well as in the next. The consequences of her hardy act extended over a certain time; he decided to call in fifty sophists of his suite, to bring back this virgin from her errors. A large audience assembled to hear the debate; the emperor sat on his throne with his entire court, dissimulating his rage. Catherine began by saying she was surprised that he obliged her to face, alone, fifty individuals, but she

asked the grace of him, that if the true God she adored rendered her victorious, he would adopt her religion and renounce the cult of the demons. He was not pleased and replied that it was not for her to lay down conditions for the discussion. The head of the sophists began the orations and reprimanded her for opposing the authority of poets, orators and philosophers, who unanimously had revered Jupiter, Juno, Neptune, Minerva and others. He cited their writings, and said she should consider that these persons were far anterior to this new religion she was following. She listened carefully before answering, then spoke, showing that the ridiculous fables which Homer, Orpheus and other poets had invented concerning their divinities, and the fact that many offered a cult to them, as well as the abominable crimes attributed to them, proved them to be gods only in the opinion of the untutored and credulous. And then she proved that the prophecies of the Hebrew Scriptures had clearly announced the time and the circumstances of the life of the future Savior, and that these were now fulfilled. Prodigy; the head of the sophists avowed that she was entirely correct and renounced his errors; the others said they could not oppose their chief. Maximinus had them put to death by fire, but the fire did not consume their remains. Thus they died as Christians, receiving the Baptism of blood.

The story of Saint Catherine continues during the time of the emperor's efforts to persuade her to marry him; he put to death his converted wife and the captain of his guards who had received Baptism with two hundred of his soldiers. He delivered Catherine up to prison and then to tortures as a result of her firmness in refusing his overtures. The famous wheel of Saint Catherine— in reality several interacting wheels— which he invented to torment her, was furnished with sharp razor blades and sharp points of iron; all who saw it trembled. But as soon as it was set in movement it was miraculously disjointed and broken into pieces, and these pieces flew in all directions and wounded the spectators. The barbaric emperor finally commanded that she be decapitated; and she offered her neck to the executioner, after praying that her mortal remains would be respected.

The story of Saint Catherine continues with the discovery of the intact body of a young and beautiful girl on Mount Sinai in the ninth century, that is, four centuries later. The Church, in the Collect of her feast day, bears witness to the transport of her body. A number of proofs testified to the identity of her mortal remains found in the region of the famous monastery existing on that mountain since the fifth century. Her head is today conserved in Rome

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