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Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church

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Flint, MI 48532
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www.ololmi.org

Weekly Bulletin Sunday August 10, 2008 – Sunday August 17, 2008

Mark Your Calendar

August
15 Assumption of the Blessed Mother

September
17 Annual Raffle

October
5 Breakfast with St. George
26 Harvest Dinner



Weekly Contributions

July 13: \$2592
July 20: \$2054
July 27: \$2688
August 3: \$2560



Church cleaning for August:
Louise Faris & Linda Macksood

Altar Server Schedule

August 17: Team 3
August 24: Team 1



Clergy

Rev. Hanna Tayar
Deacon Martin Rachid
Subdeacon Earl Matte

Parish Staff

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

Parish Leaders

Chuck Solomon – Parish Council
Dee Gardner – Choir Director
Dottie Byrnes – Organist
Freda Hearsch – Religious Education
Cindy Shaheen – Altar Society
Jeanette Walterhouse – Morningstar Society



Liturgy Schedule

Monday 9a.m.
Tuesday 9a.m.
Wednesday 9a.m.
Thursday 9a.m.
Friday 12noon
Saturday 5p.m.
Sunday 10a.m.

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
Hanneh Chammas
Hap Maroun
Joe Faris
Ann Faris
Dorothy Mattar
Wanda Maroun
Anne Nickola



Our Lady of Lebanon Office Hours

Monday 10am – 3pm
Tuesday 10am – 3pm
Wednesday 10am – 3pm
Thursday 10am – 3pm
Friday 10am – 3pm



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MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY 10: 14th Sunday of Pentecost St. Laurence

10A.M: (1Thes 2:1-13; Lk 10:38-42) Reader: Mary Matte
- Rep. Jacob, Mary & Louie Zerka by George & Virginia Rizk
- Intentions of Vince Farhat by Aziz & Diane Massad

MONDAY 11: St. Clare

- Rep. Sylvia Zerka by Najib & Siham Massaad

TUESDAY 12: St. Shaina

- Rep. Joe Ferris by Duane & Dee Gardner

WEDNESDAY 13:

- Rep. David Matte by Scott & Cindy Shaheen

THURSDAY 14: St. Maximillian Kolbe

- No Mass today

FRIDAY 15: Assumption of the Virgin Mary Holy Day of Obligation for all Our Lady of the Vineyard 9am

- Intentions of all Parishioners
6pm
- Intentions of all Parishioners

SATURDAY 16:

- Rep. Ferris Adado by Bob & Joanne Potts

SUNDAY 17: 15th Sunday of Pentecost

10A.M: (1Cor 1:18-25; Jn 12:20-32) Reader: Bob Pollack
- Rep. Karime Rizk by Louise Shaheen
- Rep. Wagih Khazaal by Francis & Salwa Haddad

SUNDAY 24: 16th Sunday of Pentecost

10A.M: (Rom 8:8-14; Lk 10:25-37) Reader: Mike Potoczny
- Rep. Milad Lahoud by Family 40 Day Memorial
- Rep. Tom & Margaret LaBranche by Bob & Joanne Potts
- Wagih Khazaal by Youssef & Georgette Damouni

Congratulations to Karim and Dolly Damouni on the baptism of their sons, Patrick and Julien received the sacrament of baptism on Sunday, August 3, 2008 God Bless You!



Announcements

* Friday, August 15, 2008 is a Holy Day of Obligation for all. It is the Assumption of the Blessed Mother into heaven. Mass will be celebrated at 9am and again at 6pm. Following the 6pm mass there will be a pot luck picnic. The church will provide the meat and lemonade. Please bring a dish to pass.

*There will be no mass on Thursday, August 14, 2008.

*A very special thank you to Bob Potts for patching up the dry wall in our church. What a great job! Thank you Bob!

* I would like to express my sincere gratitude to everyone for all the cards, masses and prayers for my brother Wagih Khazaal. I also want to thank Eliane Zerka for baking bread for our 40 day memorial mass. God Bless each of you.

Mike and Madeleine Zerka and Family

* We are in need of volunteers for religious education. We need help with pre-school and with children 5 to 8 years of age. If you would like to help, please see Alisa Massad or Freda Hearsch.

* We are looking for donations of games, toys and books for our children. We will accept used items as long as they are in good shape. If you have anything you would like to donate please bring them to the church office.

* Attention Parents: Registration for Religious Education will begin on Sunday, August 17, 2008 following 10am Liturgy. Classes will begin on Sunday, September 7, 2008. If you have any questions please see Alisa Massad or Freda Hearsch.

* Please watch the bulletin for upcoming information regarding our Cruise Raffle. It will be held on Wednesday, September 17, 2008.

* The fall will be upon us soon, as much as most of us hate to see it coming, its coming. Please keep in mind the families that we help feed at Thanksgiving and Christmas. Our food pantry is a yearly ongoing donation for those in need.

* The new organ is here! The choir has made two payments totaling \$30,000. There is a balance of \$15,000. If you would like to make a donation please see Dee Gardner.



Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

by Marcellino D'Ambrosio



I once asked a college theology class if anyone could explain the doctrine of the Assumption of Mary. A student replied, "yeah, that's the teaching whereby the Catholic Church 'assumes' that Mary is in heaven."

There's a bit more to the dogma of the Assumption than that. The Church does not just "assume" that any canonized saint is in heaven. Rather, it authoritatively declares that a person is in glory and should therefore be honored in liturgy and imitated in life. Our church calendar is filled with saints' days.

But why a particular day for each saint? The first evidence for this goes back to 155AD, to a bishop named Polycarp. The account of his martyrdom notes that after his execution, the faithful collected his bones, more precious than gold, and put them in a place of honor where every year they gathered to celebrate the anniversary of his death as a sort of "birthday" into eternal life. Celebrating Mass in the catacombs over the relics of the martyrs' led to the practice of putting relics in the main altar of every church. Eventually saints who did not die a martyr's death were also commemorated on their heavenly "birthday" and their relics were accorded great honor.

From very early times, August 15 has been observed as the "birthday" of our Blessed Lady. On this greatest of all Marian feasts we celebrate the greatest moment of her life – being permanently re-united with her son and sharing his glory. All the saints experience the "beatific vision" upon their entry into heaven, and we celebrate this on every saint's day. But there is something unique about Mary's day. The Catholic Church teaches authoritatively that it is not just Mary's soul that was admitted to God's glory, but that at the end of her earthly life, Mary's body as well as her soul was assumed into heaven by the loving power of God.

There is no eyewitness account of this actual event recorded in the Bible. Come to think of it, though, no one witnessed the actual resurrection of Jesus either. The evidence was an empty tomb and eyewitness reports that the Risen Lord had appeared to them.

Interesting parallel here. There is a tomb at the foot of the Mt. of Olives where ancient tradition says that Mary was laid. But there is nothing inside. There are no relics, as with other saints. And credible apparitions of Mary, though not recorded in the New Testament, have been recorded from the 3rd century till today.

Mary is not equal to Christ, of course. Jesus, though possessing a complete human nature, is the Eternal Word made flesh. Mary is only a creature. But she is a unique creature, the highest of all creatures. This is not just because she was born without the handicap of original sin. Eve and Adam were born free of sin as well, but it did not stop them from sinning as soon as they had the chance. Mary instead chose, with the help of God's grace, to preserve her God-given purity throughout the whole of her life.

The bodily corruption of death was not God's original plan. It came into the world through sin, as St. Paul says "the sting of death is sin" (1 Cor 15:56). So it is fitting that she who knew no sin should know no decay and no delay in enjoying the full fruits of her son's work. It is fitting that she who stood by Christ under the cross should stand by him bodily at the right hand of the Father. "*The Queen stands at your right hand, in gold of Ophir*" (Ps 45). Enoch and Elijah, who the Old Testament says were assumed into heaven, were surely great in God's eyes. But they do not begin to compare with the immaculate mother of His Son.

We too, one day, insofar as we accept God's grace, will stand at His right hand. But Paul says that "all will come to life again, but each one in proper order" (1 Cor 15:23). The Redeemer, of course, blazes the resurrection trail. But who is to be first among his disciples? The one who is last is first, the Lord's humble handmaid who did no more than say yes, and keep saying yes, and whose soul magnified not herself, but the Lord.

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