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Organ Concert
Friday, December 12, 2008
at 7pm

A reception will be held in the hall following the concert.

Mark Your Calendar

December

- 3 Meeting for anyone who has decorated the church in the past at 6:30 pm
- 3 Altar Society Meeting 7pm
- 12 Organ Concert at 7pm
- 13-14 Christmas Collection for decorations following mass by the Altar Society
- 20 Church Cleaning at 10am
- 21 Altar Society decorating the church following mass
- 25 Christmas Day the Birth of our Lord Jesus
- 31 New Year's Eve

Altar Server Schedule

November 23: Team 2
November 30: Team 3



Church cleaning for November:
Madeline Zerka & Mona Massoud





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 November 23, 2008 – Sunday November 30, 2008

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:



Sue Stubbert
Milad Zerka
Rose Khoury
Michelle Garey
Jean Rossie

Sarah Marshall
Hanneh Chammas
Hap Maroun
Joe Faris
Ann Faris
Dorothy Mattar
Wanda Maroun
Joe Pavlovich
Phillip Shaker
Amy Burke



**Our Lady of Lebanon
Office Hours**

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

Randy WISE Automotive Team

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MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY 23: Announcement to the Virgin Mary

10A.M: (Gal 3:15-22; Lk 1:26-38) Reader: Ferris Anthony
- Rep. Sylvia Zerka by George & Sue Rasak
- Rep. Louie Shaker by Julia Shaker

MONDAY 24: St. Andrew Dung-Lac

- Rep. Sam Marino by Tom & Deann Townsend

TUESDAY 25: St. Columban

- Int. Aziz Massad by Juleit Hermiz

WEDNESDAY 26: St. Catherine of Alexandria

- Rep. Dr. Joseph Manoharan by James & Theresa Manoharan

THURSDAY 27: Thanksgiving Day

St. James the Interclusus

- Living and Deceased Members of the Parish

FRIDAY 28: St. James the Marche

12NOON

- NO MASS

SATURDAY 29: John of Mone Corvino

- Rep. Audrey Hoder by Mon & Elsie Shaheen
- Int. Rose Khoury by Aziz & Diane Massad

SUNDAY 30: The Visitation to Elizabeth

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

- Rep. John Zerka by Rossie Family
- Rep. Shamoun Hanna by Family
- Int. Milad Zerka by Juleit Hermiz

SUNDAY December 7: Birth of John the Baptist

St. Ambrose

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

- Rep. Norman Weissert by Yvonne & Family
- Rep. Karen Solomon by Chuck & Family
8th Anniversary

Thanksgiving Table Prayer

O Gracious God, we give you thanks for your overflowing generosity to us. Thank you for the blessings of the food we eat and especially for this feast today. Thank you for our home and family and friends, especially for the presence of those gathered here. Thank you for our health, our work and our play. Please send help to those who are hungry, alone, sick and suffering war and violence. Open our hearts to your love. We ask your blessing through Christ your son. Amen.

Announcements



The parish office will be closed on Thursday, November 27th and Friday, November 28th. Mass will be celebrated at 9am on Thursday. There will be no mass or adoration on Friday. Happy Thanksgiving!



Bible Study classes are held every Tuesday evening at 7pm. If you would like any information regarding these classes please see Deacon Marty.



The Altar Society ladies will be having a meeting on Wednesday, December 3, 2008 at 6:30. This meeting is for anyone who has helped in the past to decorate our church for Christmas.



The Ladies Altar Society will be having their monthly meeting on Wednesday, December 3, 2008 at 7pm.



To My Parish Family,
I would like to thank everyone for all your prayers, visits and masses during my illness. I really appreciate everything you have done for me and my family. God Bless you, Milad and Georgette Zerka and family.



Registration has begun for Arabic and English classes (speak, write and read). There are different levels for children and adults. If you are interested please see Fr. Hanna.



We are looking for Sunday lectors. If you are willing to read on Sundays it would only be about once every 8 to 10 weeks. If you are interested please call Pam in the parish office.



We are very pleased to tell you that we made four food baskets and gave them out to needy families for Thanksgiving. We expect to make more than four baskets for Christmas. Please keep the food coming! Thank you and God Bless you for your generosity.

St. 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 Saviour, 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.