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Mark Your Calendar

February
22-24 MYO Retreat in Cleveland

March
7-9 NAM Regional Lenten Retreat, OHIO
15 Easter Church Cleaning
15-16 Bake Sale
16 Palm Sunday
16 No Religious Ed classes today
20 Holy Thursday
21 Great Friday
21 Great Friday Supper
23 Easter Sunday
23 No Religious Ed classes today

Weekly Contributions

January 20: \$1313
January 27: \$2512
February 3: \$3007
February 10: \$1650



Church cleaning for February:
Cindy Shaheen

Altar Server Schedule

February 17: Team 1
February 24: Team 2




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 17, 2007 – Sunday February 24, 2008

Clergy
Rev. Father Jihad Younes
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



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
Wanda Maroun



**Our Lady of Lebanon
Office Hours**

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

**Mark Your Calendars
for
Saturday, MAY 31, 2008**

We have reserved the

Grand Blanc Golf Club
5270 Perry Road
Grand Blanc, MI 48439

Tournament begins with a shotgun start at 9:30am

It will be a great day, *full of fun, food and prizes for all.*

You will not want to miss this event!!

If you have any questions see Duane,
Chuck, Freda and Pam at 810-733-1259.

THINK SPRING!!!



All proceeds will be used to
purchase a new organ for the
church.





MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY 17: Sunday of the Hemorrhaging Woman

10A.M. (2 Cor 7:4-11; Lk 8:40-56): Reader: Earl Matte
 - Rep. Subdeacon Charlie Rossie by Family, 40 day memorial
 - Rep. John & Jeanne Shaheen by Daughters
 - Rep. Jerry Knight by Mr. & Mrs. John Northrup

MONDAY 18: President's Day Pope St. Leo the Great, Confessor Office closed today

- Rep. Louie Shaker by James E. George

TUESDAY 19: The 500 Martyrs of Tyre

- Rep. Joseph Ferris by Alberta Kelush

WEDNESDAY 20: St. James the Hermit of Cyrrus, Confessor

- Rep. Kelly Cassel by James Wilfinger

THURSDAY 21: St. Eustasius, Patriarch of Antioch, Confessor

- Int. V. Kumar & Family by James & Theresa Manoharan

FRIDAY 22: Establishment of the Chair of St. Peter in Antioch

12NOON

- Rep. Rev. Fr. Antoun Saad by Aziz Family

SATURDAY 23: St. Polycarp of Smrtna, Martyr

5PM

- Rep. Sam Marino by George & Virginia Rizk

SUNDAY 24: Sunday of the Prodigal Son

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

- Rep. Charlie Rossie by Choir
 - Rep. Mike Rizik by Erik and Lisa Lindhurst

SUNDAY March 2: Healing of the Paralytic

10A.M. (ITim 5:24-6:5; Mk 2:1-12) Reader: MYO

- Rep. Maroun Family by Sam

Prayer

Father of light, in You is found no shadow of change but only the fullness of life and limitless truth. Open our hearts to the voice of Your Word and free us from the original darkness that shadows our vision. Restore our sight that we may look upon Your Son who calls us to repentance and a change of heart, for he lives and reigns with You forever and ever.

Announcements

The office will be closed on President's Day Monday, February 18, 2008. Mass will be celebrated at 9am.

There will be an Altar Society meeting on Wednesday, February 20, 2008 at 7pm at the rectory.

We began a bible study class that will continue every Tuesday during Lent to prepare ourselves for the great feast of Resurrection of our Lord. Classes will be held in the library at 7 P.M. every Tuesday until the end of Lent. You are all invited to participate in these classes.

The Adoration of the Cross is going to be every Friday during Lent at 6:30pm. Please come and spend some time in prayer with our Lord. Note that there will be no Eucharistic adoration at 11 A.M. on Friday until after Easter.

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 Bazaar 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
Yvonne Weissert	732-4856

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.



NAM

Mid West Region: Lenten Retreat
 March 7-9, 2008
 National Shrine of Our Lady of Lebanon
 North Jackson Ohio

Retreat Theme: "Lent: A Time for Reflection"
 Retreat Master: Fr. James Sullivan, OP
 The Pastor and Prior of St. Dominic's Church
 Youngstown Ohio

If you would like to attend there is additional information on the bulletin board.

Suffering, Forgiveness, Hope

Lent is a season that revolves liturgically around two themes, both of which are related, but each of which receives its own emphasis. At the opening of Lent, we are exhorted to works of penance and meditation on our sins. We are invited to go with Jesus Christ into the desert, to fast and pray and, as a result of this effort, to be tempted by the Devil. We do this so that we can properly prepare to receive God's forgiveness and welcome the Good News that will arrive at the Easter Vigil.

Before we arrive at Easter, however, the liturgy will quietly shift into a meditation on the sufferings of our Lord Jesus Christ. His sufferings are obviously a prelude to His death and triumph over death. On the other hand, they are, as was His temptation in the desert, models for us to imitate and so conform ourselves to grace in Christ. Unlike the personal initiative required for fasting and prayer, suffering generally arrives in our lives uninvited. We can prepare ourselves for suffering, but only in the most general way. When suffering comes, it is likely to throw us for a loop, no matter how well we have prepared. In the final two weeks of Lent, we are invited to watch as Jesus Christ prepares Himself and undergoes tremendous suffering, out of sheer obedience to His Father's divine will. Like Jesus, all we can do when suffering occurs is to navigate it as best as possible; we must attempt to see in it God's will, and move forward in faith and trust.

These two poles of Lent: repentance for sins, and Christ's suffering 'for our sake', are clearly related. We say that Christ 'was crucified for our sake', and by this we go beyond the observation that He took on suffering to give us an example. The Church has always affirmed that Christ's sufferings bear with them expiatory power. We are invited to make this claim by the prophet Isaiah, whose mysterious Suffering Servant 'justifies the many' by 'bearing our grief', being 'wounded for our transgressions'. In our failings, we 'like sheep have gone astray', but in a wondrous act of reconciliation, 'the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all' so that 'with his stripes we are healed'. I called the Suffering Servant 'mysterious': of course if we are willing to accept this as a prophecy of Christ's healing sufferings, we see into this mystery, at least a small way. So we also watch and experience Christ's passion not merely as students in a school, but we do so in an

attitude of thanksgiving and worship, since we participate again in the unfolding of the triumph of good over evil, love over hate, God over Satan. "Through the Cross our human nature has been set at the right hand of the throne of God, and we have been granted countless good things besides. Therefore we must not give way to mourning or sadness; we must rejoice greatly instead over all these blessings." Thus St. John Chrysostom, echoing Ezra and Nehemiah, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep...for the joy of the LORD is your strength!" [Neh 8: 9-10]

The two poles of Lent, penance and Christ's passion, are thus related in the sense that while we are making an effort to do battle against sin by our repentance, the final victory belongs to Christ. Our efforts in one sense are merely to prepare our hearts to recognize this victory and accept it as our own by faith.

At the same time (and this is what is so wonderful about the liturgy: its symbols move many directions at once), the same efforts of fasting, prayer and almsgiving will cost us. It is not for nothing that the same St. John Chrysostom in his Lenten homilies on Genesis begins the latter sermons with exhortations to patience (a word significantly related to 'passion') and perseverance in spite of the discomfort of hunger and distractions at prayer. Voluntary penance is a bit like football practice: you don't try out your offensive plays for the first time against a real defense in a real game. First you do a 'walk-through' to train all of the players to run, block, throw and catch under 'frictionless', ideal conditions. That practice will be tested by a real team on Sunday; for now, we get a taste of that testing by controlled experience of game conditions. Likewise, by fasting, by experiencing a small bit of discomfort when we fully expect it, we do prepare ourselves in a small way for the major sufferings that are likely to come when we least expect them: illnesses, the loss of a loved one, estrangement from loved ones, disappointment at work, fires, earthquakes and hurricanes.

"Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I complete what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church." Colossians 1:24

From the Daily Bread