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*Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church*

4133 Calkins Rd  
Flint, MI 48532  
Phone 810.733.1259  
Fax 810.732.2760

www.ololmi.org

**Mark Your Calendar**

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 27: \$2512  
February 3: \$3007  
February 10: \$1650  
February 17: \$1984



**Church cleaning for March:**  
Eva Massoud & Hannan Chammas

**Altar Server Schedule**

February 24: Team 2  
March 2: Team 3



**Weekly Bulletin Sunday February 24, 2008 – Sunday March 2, 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 <sup>nd</sup> 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.

**THINK SPRING!!!**

**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.



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



**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  
Ed Soloman



**Our Lady of Lebanon  
Office Hours**

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



## MASS INTENTIONS

### 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

### MONDAY 25:

- Rep. Woody Mattar by Ralph & Helen Burgess

### TUESDAY 26:

- Rep. Delores Grossi by Lewis & Jeanette Walterhouse

### WEDNESDAY 27: St. Thalaleus, Disciple of St. Maron, Confessor

- Int. Sam Russo by Mary Ann Sheehan

### THURSDAY 28: St. Koura & St. Marana, Disciples of St. Maron, Confessors

- NO MASS

### FRIDAY 29:

12NOON

- Rep. Sam Marino by John Zerka

### SATURDAY 1: St. Domina, Disciple of St. Maron & St. Afdokia of Baabek, Confessors

5PM

- Rep. Rev. Solomon & Mrs. Almas Elia by Deacon Marty and Nina

### SUNDAY 2: Healing of the Paralytic

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

- Rep. Maroun Family by Sam

### SUNDAY 9: Sunday of the Blind Man The Forty Martyrs

10A.M: (2Cor 10:1-7; Mk 10:46-52) Reader: Bob Pollack

- Rep. Wajdi Badr by Family

1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary

### ARABIC MASS 12NOON

## 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.**

## Announcements

As you know the Lenten Appeal began almost four weeks ago. You should have received information in the mail from our Bishop regarding the Appeal. So far we have received \$3,095; we still need \$3,805 to meet our goal of \$6,900 for this year. If you have not turned in your envelope please try to get them in as soon as possible. If you do not have your Appeal envelope there are a few in the Narthex. If you put your contribution in a regular envelope please mark it Lenten Appeal with your name and envelope number on it.

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.

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 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
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.



## Prayer for Lent

*Father,*

*You have taught us to overcome our sins by prayer, fasting, and works of mercy. When we are discouraged by our weakness, give us confidence in Your love. We ask this through Our Lord Jesus Christ Your Son, who lives, and reigns with You for ever and ever. Amen*

## "Pick up Your Mat and Go Home" The Healing of the Paralytic



Sometimes we act as if sins are just black marks against us in God's ledger, debits against our rewards account.

But the gospel story of the paralytic (Mark 2:1-12) should wake us up to the real nature of sin. For sin is more than a demerit – it is distancing of a person from God, who happens to be

our source of life and energy. God's Holy Spirit is "the force" that must be with us if we are to have life and strength and vigor.

Sin is always a result of a decision. Original Sin, flowing from the tragic decision of Adam and Eve, causes us to inherit a weakened humanity that from the moment of conception is distanced from God. Actual sin results from each person's own decisions. Some decisions can cut us off entirely from the divine life source. We call these decisions "mortal." Some decisions don't snuff out divine life, but rather weaken it. Such sins are called "venial."

But whether original or actual, mortal or venial, sin always drains the life right out of us. As we walk away from God, we grow spiritually weaker and weaker till we come to the point that we no longer have the strength to walk back home to our Father.

When Jesus returned to Capernaum after his first mission trip, people flocked to him. But a paralyzed man couldn't join the throng—he just lay there watching people pass him by. Until, that is, some of his friends cared enough to pick him up and bring him to Jesus. But then they encountered a problem—the crowd was so thick that they could not get their friend through the door. They could have consoled themselves that they tried, and then brought the poor man home. But they were more determined than that. They hoisted him up on the roof, opened a hole in the thatch, and lowered him down.

The gospel of Mark makes a curious comment at this point. "Seeing **their faith**," it says, Jesus turns to the paralyzed man and tells him that his sins are forgiven. First of all, note that faith is something that should be visible. The four stretcher carriers believed that Jesus was, at the very least, a mighty man of God who could help their friend. But this belief manifested itself in resolute, persistent, conspicuous action. And of course this faith was united with charity, since they had gone to such great lengths not for themselves but for their unfortunate friend.

Notice, however, that it was not the paralyzed man's faith that prompted Jesus' decision to forgive his sin. It was the faith of his friends. Perhaps his physical paralysis was a sign of utter spiritual paralysis—maybe he had not the strength to make a positive act of faith.

So his friends' faith stood in proxy for his own. That's exactly why infant baptism has always practiced in the Church from the beginning—the faith of parents, godparents, and the whole church stand in proxy for the infant who is incapable of faith.

The most deadly paralysis is the paralysis of sin. But when the scribes object to Jesus authority to heal this malady, to wipe out his past and give him a brand new start (Is 43:18-25), Jesus demonstrates his competence by healing the physical disease as well. Jesus does not say "yes" to our spiritual needs and say "no" to our earthly needs (2 Cor 1:18-22). He created us body and soul and desires that we have fullness of life, in every department, and have it abundantly (Jn 10:10).

So a tormented man who had to be carried to Jesus walked away bearing his own stretcher and free as a lark. It would never have happened, though, if his faith-filled friends had not cared enough to risk ridicule and disappointment to bring him to Jesus.

*By Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio*

Story can be found at:  
[www.crossroadsinitiative.com](http://www.crossroadsinitiative.com)