



Woody Mattar
Sales Consultant
Phone (810) 603-1408
Fax (810) 694-5680
Toll Free (800) 826-5263
wmattar@alserra.com

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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.com

Weekly Bulletin

Sunday February 19, 2006 – Sunday February 26, 2006

Clergy

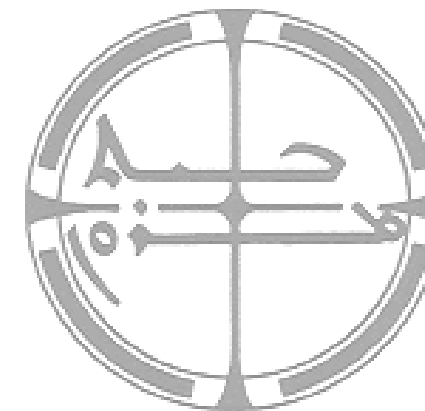
Rev. Father Jihad Younes
Deacon Martin Rachid
Subdeacon Earl Matte
Subdeacon Charles Rossie

Parish Staff

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

Parish Leaders

Lewis Walterhouse II– Parish Council
Dee Gardner – Choir Director
Dottie Byrnes – Organist
Erik Lindhurst – 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	8:30a.m.
	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.

The Patriarch, Nasrallah Peter Sfeir is coming to the states!
We have been notified that His Eminence, Nasrallah Peter Cardinal Sfeir will be attending the Clergy Conference and Maronite Convention in Chicago this summer. As you know, 2006 marks the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the Maronite Hierarchy here in the United States of America.
The bishop is asking that each parish have some representation. You can obtain more information on the NAM Convention at www.nam2006chicago.com.

Help Wanted

If anyone is interested in donating a gift to be used as a prize at our May Salad Supper Bingo the Altar Society would be deeply grateful.

This is our BIG fundraiser of the year. We are helping to pay for new upholstery on the Temple pews and the choir has also asked us to procure new choir robes. So we need lots of money.

If you would like to participate, sign up on the Bulletin Board sheet in the narthex to pledge a donation. We will need all donations by April 15th. They may be dropped off at the office at any time...or contact a member of the Altar Society.

Prayer for Priests

O Jesus, our great High Priest, hear my humble prayers on behalf of Thy servants. Give them a deep faith, a bright and firm hope, and a burning love, which will ever increase in the course of their life. In their loneliness, comfort them. In their sorrows, strengthen them. In their frustrations, point out to them that it is through suffering that the soul is purified, and show them that they are needed by the Church; they are needed by souls; they are needed for the work of redemption.

O Loving Mother Mary, Mother of Priests and religious, take to your heart your children who are close to you because of the power which they have received to carry on the work of Christ in a world which needs them so much. Be their comfort, be their joy, be their strength, and especially help them to live and to defend the ideals of consecrated celibacy.

Amen.



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:



Mary Ann Sheehan

- Sarah Marshall
- Mike Rizik
- Hanneh Chammas
- Joe Faris
- Doris Beck
- Lu Lu Williams
- Rose Johnson
- Dorothy Matta
- Winston Walterhouse
- Beth Garner

Quote of the Week

"We make a living by what we get,
but we make a life by what we give."

Sir Winston Churchill





MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY 19: Sunday of the Faithful Departed The 500 Martyrs of Tyre

10A.M.: (Ithes 5:1-11; Lk 16:19-31) Reader: Diane Massad

- Rep. Mary Ann Maroun BoSauder

40 Day by Family

MONDAY 20: President's Day

St. James the Hermit of Cyrus, Confessor

- Rep. Billy Okal by Ray & Jeannie Faris

TUESDAY 21: St. Eustatius, Patriarch of Antioch, Confessor

- Rep. Ann Smithingell by Josie & Teresa Knight

WEDNESDAY 22: The Elevation of the Chair of St. Peter of Antioch

- Rep. Michael Hannoush by Ahlam Solomon & Family

THURSDAY 23: St. Polycarp the Roman, Martyr

- Rep. Dorothy Ragnone by Shaheen & Rose Shaheen

FRIDAY 24:

12 NOON

- Rep. Sue Adado by Lee & Janet Yott

SATURDAY 25:

8:30A.M.

- Special Intentions

5P.M.

- Rep. Nejme Khalil, Charlie Khalil & Said Khalil by Barnaba Family

SUNDAY 26: Cana Sunday

10A.M.: (Rom 14:14-23; Jn 2:1-11) Reader: Tony Massad

- Living & Deceased Members of the Deibis Family by Sue Deibis

SUNDAY March 5: Sunday of the Leper

10A.M.: (Rom 6:12-23; Mk 1:35-45) Reader: Earl Matte

- Rep. Mary Ann BoSauder by Mike & Tyl Rizik

Weekly Contributions

January 22: \$1781

January 29: \$2332

February 5: \$2475

February 12: \$1923



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The church office will be closed every Thursday and Fr. Jihad will be out of town. If you have an emergency please call Deacon Marty. (232-9713)

The Great Season of Lent begins Monday, February 27, 2006. Ash Monday mass will be celebrated at 9am and 6pm. Please remember no meat and you must fast until 12noon.

MYA will be having a bake sale on Saturday, February 25 and Sunday, February 26, 2006.

If there is anyone in the parish who would like to be an usher on Sundays please see or call Pam in the office.

Please remember that the Great Season of Lent also brings with it our commitment to pay our Eparchial Appeal. The amount for our parish is \$6,400. You will find an envelope for this contribution in your yearly box of envelopes. If you do not have one please put your contribution for the appeal in a regular envelope with your envelope number on it.

The 2006 Maronite Diocesan Convocation will be held in St. Louis on Wednesday, March 15 through Sunday, March 19, 2006. This meeting is open to the parishioners in all parishes. If you are interested in attending please see Father Jihad.

Adult religious education class this Monday will be discussing Death and Judgment. If you are interested class begins at 6:30pm.

Altar Servers for Sunday, February 19, 2006

Sharbel Massoud Matthew Lindhurst
George Allen Joseph Dakki

Altar Servers for Sunday, February 26, 2006

David Allen Daniel Allen
Sam Kadadu Chris Gebrael



Church cleaning for the month of
February: Nawal Gebrael & Mona Massoud



Turn Back to the Lord with All Your Heart

During this holy season of Lent, we are invited by Holy Mother Church to purify and renew ourselves in order to be properly disposed to celebrate the death and resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ at Easter: the summit of our Faith. How do we undertake this renewal and purification? Our Lord Himself tells us in what might be called His "first sermon."

Speaking publicly to the people for the first time in His public ministry, He did not say: "God is love; God's love is inclusive; go therefore and make the world over in accordance with inclusively." Rather, He said, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel" (Mk 1:45). The word repents translated the Greek word "metanoia" which in turn translated the Aramaic spoken by Our Lord. The Aramaic "repent" connoted a turning away from a former way of life, now recognized as wrong, and going in a completely different direction. It involves not just atonement for past sins but a whole new orientation for the future.

This means that repentance is an ongoing process: something we must do each day of our lives. Repentance is not a "one shot deal" as in being "born again" and being given the "absolute assurance of salvation." Despite our best efforts, our fallen human nature often reasserts. Recall the words of St. Paul in his letter to the Romans: "I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do." Sounds like a familiar story for all of us. Fortunately, Our Lord left with the means to combat this tendency to sin within each of us: repentance and the sacrament of Penance.

TO BE CONTINUED.....

www.maronitemonks.org/

St. James the Hermit of Cyrus, Confessor

James of Cyrus was a hermit and one of the disciples of St. Maron. These disciples of Maron are an extension of their spiritual Father and Founder: they went to his school of asceticism, learned from him and were directed by him. Theodoret describes these disciples as flowers in the garden of Maron.

Many of the disciples never met the saint, but only heard about his life and virtues and his new school of asceticism and solitude. They wanted to imitate his life of devotion and sacrifice, so they became his followers. The disciple James was still alive when Theodoret wrote about him.

The great Maron who loved him very much instructed James in the heavenly way. He lived with Maron for a while and then went off to live by himself. However, James excelled his master in his acts of penance and good deeds. Maron accepted as his dwelling the ruin of a temple, and for clothes he used the skins of goats to protect him from the cold and the rain. James refused all of this and lived in the open air, saying that the skies were his roof. James thus exposed himself to the intemperate weather, quite often being drenched with rain and submerged in the snow and the ice. In the summer, he was exposed to the burning sun. He accepted everything with great patience, as if he were not enduring all of the sufferings in his own body, but in the body of a stranger. He sustained everything with the strength of the Spirit. It seemed that his body did not suffer from all of these mortifications. Indeed, it seemed as if he did not have a body at all, saying with Saint Paul, "We do indeed live in the body, but we do not wage war with human resources. The weapons of our warfare are not merely human. They possess God's power for the destruction of strongholds. We demolish sophistries and every proud pretension that raises itself against the knowledge of God; we likewise bring every thought into captivity to make it obedient to Christ. We are ready to punish disobedience in anyone else when your own obedience is perfect" (2Corinthians 10:3-6).

He spent his time looking for the exercise of virtues. In seeking solitude, he went to the mountains, far from the city. This mountain became famous because of him and people would go there and take soil from this place, which they considered holy. This place is still referred today as "Sheikh Khourous," or "the holy one from Khourous."

Bishop Theodoret wrote that he himself went out to see James and to observe him. After remaining with the holy hermit, Theodoret wrote of many examples of James' holiness and life of penance.

www.opuslibani.org.lb