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www.olol-flint.com

Weekly Bulletin

Sunday March 19, 2006 – Sunday March 26, 2006

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.

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.

MJA Dinner and Hafla



Saturday, April 29, 2006
Cocktails 7:30 – 8:00pm
Dinner 8:00 – 9:00pm
Party begins at 9:30pm

To purchase tickets please see Karim Damouni, Johnny Solomon, Noha Zerka or Nadia Zerka

NAM will be holding their 14th Annual Lenten Retreat from March 31st to April 2nd, 2006, at Our Lady of Lebanon National Shrine in North Jackson, Ohio. This year's theme is "The Mystery of Love" in the Maronite Perspective, a look at the meaning of Life and a search for true meaning of Love. The cost for the complete weekend is \$65 for NAM members \$65 and \$75 for non-members. The pre-registration deadline is March 27, 2006. Informational pamphlets are available. If you would like further information you may contact the NAM Office at: 718-630-5868, fax: 718-630-5191, email: nam@msiny.com or the NAM website: www.namnewsorg

The choir is asking for donations to purchase new choir robes. If you are interested in helping the choir with this cost please see Dee Gardner or the church office.

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.

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:



Faris Adado
Mary Ann Sheehan

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

Eparchial Appeal

As you know every year we have the responsibility of paying our appeal. This years amount is the same as last year \$6400. This year's envelopes for the appeal were added to your contribution envelopes. So far we have collected \$1495 that leaves a balance of \$4905. We have 4 weeks to raise the balance. We ask that each family try to contribute \$50. If you don't have an envelope just use a standard envelope please write Eparchial Appeal and your contribution number on it.



MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY 19: Sunday of the Prodigal Son St. Joseph

10A.M.: (2 Cor 13:5-13; Lk 15:11-32) Reader: Karl Moon
- Rep. Kimberly Gardner by Duane & Dee
- Rep. Frances Moss by Duane & Dee
1st Anniversary

MONDAY 20:

- Rep. Mary Ann BoSauder by Ralph & Helen Burgess

TUESDAY 21:

- Rep. Milia Gebrael by Louie & Pam Aziz Family

WEDNESDAY 22:

- Rep. Souls in Purgatory by Rob Kowalk

THURSDAY 23: St. Rafka, Confessor

- Rep. Harry Haddad by Juliet Hermiz

FRIDAY 24:

- Rep. Ann Smithingell by Joe & Dee Cooke

SATURDAY 25: Announcement to the Virgin Mary

8:30A.M.

- Special Intentions

5P.M.

- Rep. Sue Adado by Louise Shaheen

SUNDAY 26: Sunday of the Paralytic

10A.M.: (1 Tim 5:24-6:5; Mk 2:1-12) Reader: Robert Pollack
- Rep. Mary Ann BoSauder by Josie Knight

SUNDAY April 2: Healing of the Blind Man

10A.M.: (2Cor 10:1-7; Mk10: 46-52) Reader: David Allen
- Rep. Mary Ann BoSauder by Choir

Weekly Contributions

February 19: \$4006
February 26: \$3879
March 5: \$3174
March 12: \$3296



WANTED – We are looking for someone who would like to take on the responsibility of Parish Liaison. This person would be responsible for writing articles and taking pictures of events and happenings in our parish. The articles and pictures would then be submitted to the Maronite Voice and Flint Journal. If you are interested please contact the parish office.

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)

We will be praying The Benediction of the Cross every Friday at 6pm during The Great Season of Lent. Please try to make time to spend in prayer with our Lord.

Adult religious education class this Monday, will be discussing Faith, Hope and Love. If you are interested class begins at 6:30pm.

WANTED: YOUR FAVORITE RECIPE(S)

Our Maronite Young Adults are preparing a new cookbook composed of recipes from parish members. Please take a moment and submit a few of your favorites. You may give them to any MYA member or to the church office.

Altar Servers Schedule for:

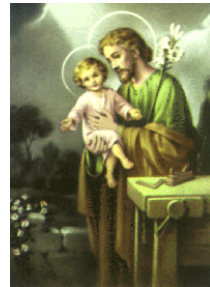
Sunday, March 19: Team 1
Sunday, March 26: Team 2



Church cleaning for the month of March:

Louise Faris

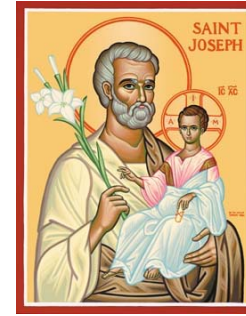
PRAYER TO SAINT JOSEPH PATRON OF FAMILIES



Saint Joseph, please obtain God's grace and protection for my family and for all families. Make our home safe and pure, the kingdom of Jesus and Mary – a sanctuary of peace, joy and love. Your protection is greatly needed today because God's enemies are trying to desecrate and destroy the family. While on earth, you saved the Child and His Mother. So today protect our families and make our homes sanctuaries of prayer, love, patient sacrifice and work. May they be modeled after your own at Nazareth. Remain with us with Jesus and Mary, so that by your help we may obey the commandments of God and of the Church, live a life of prayer and foster religious instruction in our homes. Save us from the evil that

surrounds us, and grant us the grace of going to Heaven to eternally live in the company of the Holy Family. Amen.

Saint Joseph



Saint Joseph was chosen by God to be Jesus' father on earth. God knew that Jesus would need a foster father to raise him and teach him. The Bible tells us that he was a 'just man.' That means he was a good man, honest, fair, and God-loving.

After an angel told Mary that she would be the Mother of God, Saint Joseph wondered what to do. An angel appeared to him in a dream and told him not to worry, that the child was the Messiah, conceived by the Holy Spirit. Joseph was to be her husband and protect the child as He grew. Joseph decided to trust the angel and God. He married Mary and took her into his home.

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem, the angel appeared to Joseph again, warning him that the Child was in danger. Joseph obeyed the angel's message again, and took his family to Egypt to escape from Herod's soldiers. After many years, the Holy Family finally returned to their home village of Nazareth.

Not much else is known about Saint Joseph, the 30 years between the Nativity and the beginning of Jesus' traveling and teaching are called 'the hidden years.' The only other event the Bible tells us about the Child Jesus' life and about Saint Joseph is the Finding in the Temple, when Jesus was missing for three days and finally Joseph and Mary found Him in the Temple teaching the scribes and elders.

Imagine how worried they must have been! God had told them to look after the Child, and they lost him in a crowd. Saint Joseph must have felt that he hadn't done a very good job. When they found Him, they scolded Him a little and returned home to Nazareth. After this, Jesus returned home with Mary and Joseph and 'was subject to them.' That means he was obedient and respectful of their parental authority.

Saint Joseph was probably older than Mary, and probably died before Jesus began his ministry. As a saint in Heaven he still acts as a husband and father to his family and the Church, and will intercede for us on many occasions. He is invoked for aid in selling homes, for help to the poor, support and protection of fathers and families and is the patron of many countries. In 1870 Pope Pius IX declared him patron of the Universal Church.

www.domestic-church.com

Saint Rafka



Rafka, the Holy Nun, is known as the Little Flower of Lebanon. One day, while praying in the chapel, Rafka asked to share in Christ's suffering. She wanted to offer herself to God as victim of love. To carry her cross, Rafka did not want to flee like the apostles at the time of His passion. Rather, she wanted to share in Christ's agony and death.

God's answer was swift. She felt an excruciating pain in her head, especially her eyes. This pain was to increase and last a lifetime. Soon Rafka became not only blind, but also paralyzed. She was totally incapable of sight or movement. Yet she never complained. She was happy, thanking God for his kindness and loving him fully. In return, she received many signs from heaven to show her Beloved was near or to know His will in her life. She twice heard voices, had dreams once, enjoyed a vision of heaven. Many miracles followed her death.

Rafka's story may seem odd to some because she prayed for pain. She chose the path of physical pain and rejoiced in it to prove her love of the Lord. Former Maronite Bishop Francis Zayek explains it well: "Both prayer and suffering are necessary for the Christian ascetic and his sanctification. Prayer enlightened Rafka to the necessity of penance for purification. Therefore, suffering and prayer are intimately connected. Not only does one exclude the other, but also each is insufficient without the other. Prayer not only helps us to endure and accept sufferings, it alleviates them and even brings us to glory and triumph through them.

Saint Rafka followed in the footsteps of the Master. With Him she ascended to Calvary. Our belief is that she now shines in His glory."

www.ololwv.com

