Weekly Contributions

December 9: $2531
December 16: $1329
December 23: $3232
December 24 & 25: $2927

Church cleaning for January:

Altar Society

Altar Server Schedule

December 30: Team 2
January 6: Team 3
January 13: Team 4

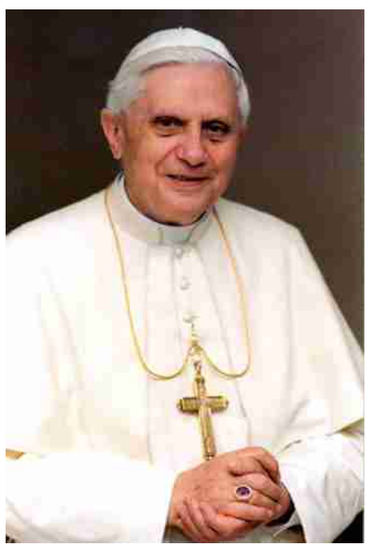
MARK YOUR CALENDAR

DECEMBER

30 No religious education classes
31 New Year's Eve Party

From the Clergy, Staff, and Parish Leaders of Our Lady of Lebanon

We wish you a Blessed 2008 that overflows with the love and peace of our Lord.



Message of His Holiness
Pope Benedict XVI
For the Celebration of the
World Day of Peace

1 January 2008

The Human Family, A Community of Peace

At the beginning of the New Year, I wish to send my fervent good wishes for peace, together with a heartfelt message of hope to men and women throughout the world. I do so by offering for our common reflection the theme which I have placed at the beginning of this message. It is one which I consider particularly important: *the human family, a community of peace*. The first form of communion between persons is that born of the love of a man and a woman who decide to enter a stable union in order to build together a *new family*. But the peoples of the earth, too, are called to build relationships of solidarity and cooperation among themselves, as befits members of the one *human family*: "All peoples" – as the Second Vatican Council declared – "are one community and have one origin, because God caused the whole human race to dwell on the face of the earth (cf. Acts 17:26); they also have one final end, God". The entire message by His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI can be read at www.vactian.va.

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church

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Flint, MI 48532
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Fax 810.732.2760

www.ololmi.org

Weekly Bulletin **Sunday December 30, 2007 – Sunday January 6, 2008**

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
Albert Zerka– Parish Council
Dee Gardner – Choir Director
Dottie Byrnes – Organist
Freda Hearsch – Religious Education
Cindy Shaheen – Altar Society
Jeanette Walterhouse – Morningstar
Rob Kowalk – Spiritual Growth Coordinator

Liturgy Schedule

Monday	9a.m.
Tuesday	9a.m.
Wednesday	9a.m.
Thursday	9a.m.
Friday	12noon
Saturday	5p.m.
Sunday	10a.m.

2nd 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
Charlie Rossie

Our Lady of Lebanon
Office Hours

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

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY 30: Finding of the Lord in the Temple
10A.M: (Heb 7:11-19; Lk 2:41-52): Reader: Diane Massad
- Rep. Deceased Members of the Maroun Family by Sam
- Rep. Karen Solomon by Chuck & Family 7th Anniversary
- Intentions of George Nweisier by Kadadu Family

MONDAY 31: New Year's Eve
Liturgy celebrated at 6pm
- Intentions of all Parishioners

TUESDAY 1: New Year's Day
Holy Day of Obligation
The Circumcision
St. Basil & St. Gregory
Liturgy celebrated 12Noon
- Intentions of all Parishioners

WEDNESDAY 2:
- Rep. Gnamanie Lourdes Saverimuttu by James & Theresa Manoharan

THURSDAY 3:
- Rep. Mike Rizik by Tom & Julia Joubran

FRIDAY 4: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Confessor
12NOON
- Rep. Woody Mattar by Shirley Zerka

SATURDAY 5: St. John Neumann, Confessor
St. Paul, the First Hermit, Confessor
Vigil of the Glorious Epiphany
5PM
- Rep. Souad Diab by Hector & Rose Khoury

SUNDAY 6: The Glorious Epiphany
10A.M: (Tit 2:11-3:7; Lk 3:15-22): Reader: MYO
- Rep. Sam Marino by George & Sue Rasak

SUNDAY 13: Sunday of the Deceased Priests
St. John of Nisbis, Confessor
10A.M: (ITim 4:6-16; Lk 12:42-48): Reader: David Allen
- Living & Deceased Members of the Maroun Family by Sam
- Rep. Gerald Knight by Josie & Family 5th Anniversary
- Rep. George Faris by Family

Announcements

New Year's Eve liturgy will be celebrated on Monday, December 31, 2007 at 6pm. New Year's Day Liturgy will be celebrated on Tuesday, January 1, 2008 at 12noon.

The office will be open Monday, December 31st, from 9am to 12noon and closed January 1st and January 2nd.

If you have not returned your census forms please try to get them in as soon as possible.

The Ladies Altar Society is looking to sponsor a Women's Spiritual Retreat after the first of the year. In order to plan this event, we need to know how many women of our Parish would be interested in participating. Please contact Cindy Shaheen (659-8758), Diane Massad (232-4766) or Pam in the church office as soon as possible.

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
Elsie Shaheen	732-2887
Yvonne Weissert	732-4856

We are selling golf shirts to help raise money for the church. The shirts are $35 each, they come in white, forest green, burgundy, red, navy, pewter and black and are available in sizes up to 5x. If you would like to purchase a shirt please see Chuck Solomon or the church office.

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.

Don't forget your contribution envelopes
Contribution envelopes are now available in the Narthex. If you do not see a box of envelopes with your name on it please call the church office.
If you have contribution envelopes that you are behind on please consider catching them up as soon as possible. Sometime around the middle of January the printing of yearly contribution statements will take place. If anyone has any questions please call the office.

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seaton

Elizabeth Bayley Seton was the first native born American to be canonized by the Catholic Church.

Born two years before the American Revolution, Elizabeth grew up in the "cream" of New York society. She was a prolific reader, and read everything from the Bible to contemporary novels.
In spite of her high society background, Elizabeth's early life was quiet, simple, and often lonely. As she grew a little older, the Bible was to become her continual instruction, support and comfort; she would continue to love the Scriptures for the rest of her life.

In 1794, Elizabeth married the wealthy young William Seton, with whom she was deeply in love. The first years of their marriage were happy and prosperous. Elizabeth wrote in her diary at first autumn, "My own home at twenty-the world-that and heaven too-quite impossible."
This time of Elizabeth's life was to be a brief moment of earthly happiness before the many deaths and partings she was to suffer. Within four years, Will's father died, leaving the young couple in charge of Will's seven half brothers and sisters, as well as the family's importing business. Now events began to move fast - and with devastating effect. Both Will's business and his health failed. He was finally forced to file a petition of bankruptcy. In a final attempt to save Will's health, the Seton's sailed for Italy, where Will had business friends. Will died of tuberculosis while in Italy. Elizabeth's one consolation was that Will had recently awakened to the things of God.

The many enforced separations from dear ones by death and distance, served to draw Elizabeth's heart to God and eternity. The accepting and embracing of God's will - "The Will," as she called it - would be a keynote in her spiritual life. Elizabeth's deep concern for the spiritual welfare of her family and friends eventually led her into the Catholic Church.

In Italy, Elizabeth captivated everyone by her own kindness, patience, good sense, wit and courtesy. During this time Elizabeth became interested in the Catholic Faith, and over a period of months, her Italian friends guided her in Catholic instructions.
Elizabeth's desire for the Bread of Life was to be a strong force leading her to the Catholic Church.

Having lost her mother at an early age, Elizabeth felt great comfort in the idea that the Blessed Virgin was truly her mother. She asked the Blessed Virgin to guide her to the True Faith. Elizabeth finally joined the Catholic Church in 1805.

At the suggestion of the president of St. Mary's College in Baltimore, Maryland, Elizabeth started a school in that city. She and two other young women, who helped her in her work, began plans for a Sisterhood. They established the first free Catholic school in America. When the young community adopted their rule, they made provisions for Elizabeth to continue raising her children.

On March 25, 1809, Elizabeth Seton pronounced her vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience, binding for one year. From that time she was called Mother Seton.

Although Mother Seton was now afflicted with tuberculosis, she continued to guide her children. The Rule of the Sisterhood was formally ratified in 1812. It was based upon the Rule St. Vincent de Paul had written for his Daughters of Charity in France. By 1818, in addition to their first school, the sisters had established two orphanages and another school. Today six groups of sisters trace their origins to Mother Seton's initial foundation. For the last three years of her life, Elizabeth felt that God was getting ready to call her, and this gave her joy. Mother Seton died in 1821 at the age of 46, only sixteen years after becoming a Catholic. She was canonized on September 14, 1975.

www.catholic.org

Prayer for the New Year

O God of new beginnings and wonderful surprises, thank you for the gift of a new year. May it be a time of grace for me, a time to grow in faith and love, a time to renew my commitment to following Your Son, Jesus. May it be a year of blessing for me, a time to cherish my family and friends, a time to renew my efforts at work, a time to embrace my faith more fully. Walk with me, please, in every day and every hour of this New Year that the light of Christ might shine through me, in spite of my weaknesses and failings. Above all, may I remember this year that I am a pilgrim on the sacred path to You.

Amen