

Weekly Contributions

November 11: \$1824
 November 18: \$2402
 November 25: \$2025
 December 2: \$1983



Church cleaning for December:

17 – Mary Matte
 24 – Diane Massad

Altar Server Schedule

December 16: Team 4
 December 23: Team 1
 December 25: All Altar Servers
 December 30: Team 2



Candy Train Craft

This candy train is made from a roll of hard candy (like Lifesavers), wrapped peppermint candies, a wrapped caramel, and a wrapped chocolate kiss.

Supplies:

- Hot glue gun
- A roll of hard candy (like Lifesavers)
- 4 wrapped peppermint candies
- A wrapped caramel
- A wrapped chocolate kiss

Optional - a short length of yarn or string

Using a hot glue gun, glue four wrapped peppermint candies to a roll of candy; the peppermint candies are the wheels of the train.



Glue a wrapped caramel to the top, at one end the train. Glue a wrapped chocolate kiss on top of that. To use the train as a tree ornament, glue a small length of string to the top of the train.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

DECEMBER

15-23 Christmas Novena 7pm
 21 Night of Prayer & Penance 7pm-8pm
 23 No religious education classes
 24 Christmas Eve Liturgy 6pm
 25 Christmas Day Liturgy 10am
 30 No religious education classes
 31 New Year's Eve Party

Fr. Jihad has forms from the Consulate of Lebanon for passport renewals, marriage & birth registrations. If you need any of these forms please see Fr. Jihad.

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE



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 9, 2007 – Sunday December 16, 2007

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
 Sharon Griffiths



Our Lady of Lebanon Office Hours

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



MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY 9: Birth of John the Baptist

10A.M: (Gal 4:21-5:1; Lk 1:57-66): Reader: David Allen

- Rep. Norman Weissert by Yvonne
- Living & Deceased of Shaheen & Okal Families
- Rep. Peter Joubran by Family

ARABIC MASS 12NOON

MONDAY 10:

- Rep. Frank Kin by Mary Ann Sheehan

TUESDAY 11:

- NO MASS

WEDNESDAY 12: St. Spyridon, Confessor

Our Lady of Guadalupe

- NO MASS

THURSDAY 13:

- NO MASS

FRIDAY 14: St. Nematallah El-Hardini,

Confessor

12NOON

- All Souls in Purgatory by Rob Kowalk

SATURDAY 15:

5PM

- Rep. William Schumacher by Louise Rizk

SUNDAY 16: The Revelation to Joseph

10A.M: (Eph 3:1-13; Mt 1:18-25): Reader: Ferris Anthony

- Rep. Mary Faris by Family
- Rep. Mike Rizik by Scholarship Recipients
- Rep. Louie Azzam
- 40 Day Memorial by Albert & Thereze Karram

SUNDAY 23: Geneology Sunday

10A.M: () Reader: Erik Lindhurst

- Rep. Tammy Barwardi by

ANNUAL HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

Please deposit non-perishable food items in the collection box in the Narthex. Cash donations can be given to Deacon Marty. Food baskets and gift cards will be provided to the families of children who are suffering from cancer. Let us share our abundance with those who suffer.



Announcements

We will begin praying a Christmas Novena on Friday, December 15, 2007 to Sunday, December 23, 2007 at 7pm. Please try to make time to share in this beautiful devotion.

In preparation for Christmas, we are having an evening of prayer and meditation on Friday, December 21, 2007 at 7pm. Priests will be available for confession. Please consider coming to this evening to prepare a place in your heart for our Lord.

Please remember your census forms and try to get them turned in as soon as possible.

The Ladies Altar Society will be taking up a collection for holiday decorations after Saturday and Sunday mass on December 8th & 9th and also 15th & 16th. Anyone wishing to make a special donation can contact Diane Massad (232-4766) or Cindy Shaheen (659-8758).

Anyone wishing to donate a RED Poinsetta that will be used for holiday decorations in lieu of money may do so by contacting Diane Massad (232-4766). Donated Poinsettias must be delivered to the Church at Noon on Saturday December 22nd.

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.

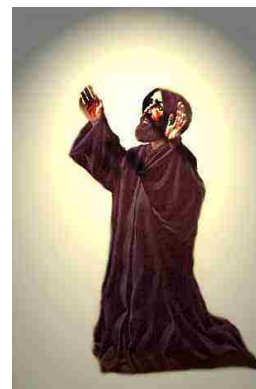
Linda Macksood	732-7322
Elsie Shaheen	732-2887
Yvonne Weissert	732-4856

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.



Saint Nimatullah Hardini



Father Hardini was born Joseph Kassab in the year 1808. His father was George Kassab and his mother Mariam Raad, daughter of Reverend Yousef Yacoub. He had four brothers and two sisters, his brothers were 'Assaf, Elias, Tanious, Yacoub and his sisters Masihieh and Mariam. Joseph's brother Elias became Father Lesha', the

Hermit at Qozhaya, and later at 'Annaya where he died. Father Charbel replaced the late Father Lesha' at the hermitage in 'Annaya. Joseph entered the school of the monks of St. Anthony at Houb from 1816 to 1822 and then entered the monastery of St. Anthony Ishaia and became a novice on November 1828. There he adopted the name Fr. Nimatullah Kassab Hardini, and then he learned to bind books.

He professed his first vows on 14th of November 1830. After he finished his theological studies, he was ordained a priest under Bishop Seiman Zwain in the monastery at Kfifan on 25th of December 1833.

He became a member of the general council three times from 1845 to 1848, 1850 to 1853, 1856 to 1858. As a member of the council he continued to bind books. He taught in monastic schools, especially in Kfifan.

Father Nimatullah lived a very holy life. He was a man of prayer, totally "enraptured by God". He spent days and nights in meditation, prayer and adoration of the Eucharist. The Virgin Mary was his patron and Father Nimatullah prayed Her Rosary. He was also a very humble, sensitive and patient person who lived his monastic vows of "obedience, chastity and poverty" to perfection. His fellow brother Monks and the people who knew him called him "The Saint" while he was still alive. One of his students was Charbel Makhlouf (St. Charbel), 1853 to 1858.

Father Nimatullah Hardini died in the monastery of Kfifan on 14th December 1858. He passed away after struggling ten days with a high fever, which he contracted from the cold winter wind characteristic of northern Lebanon. He was only then fifty years of age. He died holding a picture of the Virgin Mary, his last words being: "O Virgin Mary between your

hands I submit my soul." People who were nearby at the moment of Father Nimatullah's death witnessed a heavenly light illuminating his room and an aromatic smell, which remained in his room for a number of days afterwards. When the then Patriarch, Boulos Massad, heard of Father Nimatullah's death he commented: "Congratulations to this monk who knew how to benefit from his monastic life."

Some time later, the Monks opened Father Nimatullah's tomb and to their surprise they found his body had remained incorrupt. He was then removed and placed in a coffin near the church. After obtaining due permission from the local ecclesiastical authority, from 1864 visitors were allowed to see Father Nimatullah's intact body until 1927. In that same year the Committee of Inquiry set up to investigate the Cause of Father Nimatullah finalized its investigation. Father Nimatullah's body was then reburied in the curving wall of his monastic cell, before being transferred to a little Chapel where masses are celebrated for visitors.

He was declared Venerable on September 7, 1989. At the behest of his Beatitude Patriarch Nasrallah Peter Sfeir, his body was examined and placed in a new coffin on May 18, 1996. Pope John Paul II canonized Nimatullah Hardini on May 16, 2004. His body was recently transferred to a new coffin made of cedar and placed in the Monastery of Kfifan where people may visit.

Several cures have taken place through his intercession. These include the raising to life of a Muslim child whose mother claimed had died, the healing of a person with a neurological disease, the restoration of sight to a blind person and the curing of a person suffering from cancer.

The case of the curing of Andre Najm is of particular note due to its very recent occurrence and through investigation by the international medical community that followed. Andre Najm, born on October 29, 1966 enjoyed excellent health for the first twenty years of his life. However in June of 1986 he began to experience a chronic fatigue and nervous breakdowns, unable to even walk a short distance. Many physicians in Lebanon and abroad treated him to no avail. He was suffering from a form of blood cancer and required frequent blood transfusions.

www.hardini.org

