

**Weekly Contributions**

December 24 & 25: \$2927  
 December 30: \$2417  
 January 6: \$2612  
 January 13: \$1821



Church cleaning for January:

Mary Matte

**Altar Server Schedule**

January 27: Team 1  
 February 3: Team 2  
 February 10: Team 3



**Mark Your Calendar**

January

22-24 MYO Regional Retreat in Cleveland Ohio  
 27 MYO Dinner and Play 6pm

February

4 Ash Monday the beginning of Lent  
 9 Feast of Saint Maron  
 9 Feast of Saint Maron Hafli following 5pm Liturgy

March

16 Palm Sunday  
 20 Holy Thursday  
 21 Good Friday  
 23 Easter



*Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church*

4133 Calkins Rd  
 Flint, MI 48532  
 Phone 810.733.1259  
 Fax 810.732.2760

www.ololmi.org

**Weekly Bulletin**

**Sunday January 20, 2007 – Sunday January 27, 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.

*Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Youth Organization*

Presents



*Dinner and a Play*  
*Sunday, January 27, 2008*  
*Dinner at 6pm and Play at 7pm*



*Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased from any MYO Member or Johnny Solomon*

**Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church**  
 4133 Calkins Road  
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*Annual Saint Maron's Day Hafli*  
*Saturday, February 9, 2008*  
*Liturgy at 5pm followed by Dinner & Hafli*

Adults \$10  
 Children 12 and under \$8  
 Tickets can be purchased from any Parish Council Member

**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  
 Wanda Maroun  
 Nadia Sob



**Our Lady of Lebanon Office Hours**

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



## MASS INTENTIONS

**SUNDAY 20: Sunday of the Righteous and Just**  
10A.M: (Heb 12:18-24; Mt 25:31-46): Reader: Clergy

- Rep. Mary Bernath by Duane & Dee Gardner

**MONDAY 21: Martin Luther King Day**  
**Office will be closed**

- Rep. Rose Johnson by Gazall Family

**TUESDAY 22: St. Timothy, Disciple of St. Paul**  
- Rep. Sam Marino by David & Mary Gantos

**WEDNESDAY 23: Pope St. Sergius I, Confessor**  
- Rep. Woody Mattar by Aziz Family

**THURSDAY 24: St. Francis DeSales, Doctor of the Church**

- Int. Mary Manohari by James Manoharan

**FRIDAY 25: The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle**

12NOON

- Rep. Eileen Holland by Pam  
5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

**SATURDAY 26:**  
5PM

- Rep. Woody Mattar by Family  
1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary

**SUNDAY 27: Sunday of the Faithful Departed**  
10A.M: (1 Thes 5:1-11; Lk 16:19-31): Reader: Mary Matte

- Rep. Edward Zaknoen by Ahlam Solomon & Family

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**SUNDAY February 3: Cana Sunday**  
**Entrance into Lent**

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

- Rep. Sam Adado by Vicky, Jim & Family

### A Special Thank You

Dear Parishioners and others who have donated monies for the church organ,

Thank you very much for your kind and generous donations. To date our organ fund has a current balance of ten thousand forty seven dollars and twenty five cents (\$10,047.25). We're off to a great start and are in need of everyone support to reach our goal of forty five thousand dollars!

Sincerely,  
Dee Gardner, Music Director

## Announcements

The office will be closed on Monday, January 21, 2008. Mass will be celebrated at 9am.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, celebrated each year in January (traditionally 18-25), is the designated time for prayer and study together, to deepen the spiritual foundation for our collaboration and quest for the unity of the Church.

### 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

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, May 31, 2008. We have reserved the Grand Blanc Golf Club (Perry Road) for a great day, full of fun, food and prizes for golfers. You will not want to miss this event. More information and details to follow.

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.



### Did you know?

Today is the thirty-fifth anniversary of the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision which legalized abortion.

For 35 years Christians have worked to restore the basic right to life, which John Paul II said was the foundation for all other rights in society.

Today, we have perform acts of penance both in reparation for crimes against human dignity caused by abortion and in intercession to God to grant wisdom to our nation and civil leaders, that they might know and protect life from conception to natural death.

Christians work without violence to proclaim human dignity. In his first encyclical, *Deus Caritas Est*, Pope Benedict insisted, "a pure and generous love is the best witness to the God in whom we believe and by who we are driven to love" (no 31).

## **Sunday of the Righteous and Just**

The feast of The Righteous and Just (All Saints) is celebrated in the West on November 1st. Originally the word "saint" was synonymous with martyr, i.e., someone who witnesses faith in Christ even to death. After a martyr's death, local Christians endeavored to bury the body in a tomb that would be accessible to the faithful. On the anniversary of the martyr's death, the faithful would gather to pray and celebrate the Eucharist "in memory of those athletes of the Christian faith who have gone before, and to train and make ready those who are to come hereafter." Eventually, the memorial celebration of martyrs occurred in local churches that did not have tombs. By the fifth century there was already a feast of "righteous and just" in the East, on the Friday of Easter week, which was called "all saints" in the West (Roman Church). By the eighth century the Church of "St. Mary of the Martyrs" in Rome seems to have celebrated a similar feast.

In the ninth century Pope Gregory IV changed the date of this feast to November 1st. From the beginning those who had endured torture for the faith, but did not face death (martyrdom), were given the title "confessors" who were actually treated with great respect and dignity. Eventually, Christians who led heroic gospel-inspired lives were often acclaimed after their death as a saint by a local church. The theology and the celebration of this unique feast emphasize the bond between those Christians already with God and those who are still on earth.

We hear so much of the "communion of saints", the faithful on earth, in purgatory and in heaven. It is mentioned in the third article of the Apostles' Creed and probably dates from the late fourth century. In the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians, we learn that all who share the one spirit through the one baptism become one body in Christ. It is also called by Pope Pius XII *Mystici Corporis*, i.e., "The Mystical Body of Christ" [1943]. All the faithful on earth, in purgatory, and in heaven share the common life of the mystical body of Christ. Manifestations of the common life of the communion of saints on earth are in union with the ecclesiastical community, meaning union with the Universal Church, built on Peter and his successors. Also just as equal are the following:

- Participation in the sacraments, particularly the Eucharist;
- Other forms of common prayer, including prayer for one another; common service to others;
- The love produced and urged by the spirit who animates the ecclesiastical community in its sacramental participation, prayer and service.

Prayer for the dead is an ancient custom by which the faithful on earth and in heaven care for those in purgatory. Tertullian and Augustine teach that suffering after death might be relieved by the intercession of the living, and they both mention the practice of offering the Eucharist for the dead. In organizing the teachings of the earlier prayer system on purgatory, Gregory I, in the sixth century, teaches clearly that the prayers of the faithful (offering of the Eucharist) on earth and of the saints in heaven could aid in obtaining the release of those in purgatory.

In the medieval period, prayer for the dead became strongly associated with the notion of satisfying the penalty for forgiven sins. The Council of Florence (1439) explained suffrages as "the sacrifice of the mass, prayers, alms, and other religious activities which, according to the laws and customs of the church, the faithful normally offer." Furthermore, the Council of Trent (1563) affirmed that "a purgatory exists and the souls detained in it can be assisted by the suffrages of the faithful."

The Righteous and Just (saints) in heaven are in a position to assist not only those in purgatory but also the faithful on earth, who have honored them in heaven and sought their intercession from the earliest days of Christianity. Honoring the Righteous and the Just (Saints) includes imitation of them, prayers addressed to them, reverence given to their relics and the right use of icons (images). Prayer asks the intercession of the saints with God and honors God's holy creatures, so giving honor to the creator, the source of all holiness. It is important to note the following: (A) It is more common in the East than in the West to reverence the icons (images of the saints). (B) It is common in both East and West to reverence relics of the saints. And (C) It is commonly known that prayers and reverence are paid not to these material realities but to whom or what they represent for the faithful in order to honor the saints and to glorify God for such examples.

[www.stjohnmaron.org](http://www.stjohnmaron.org)