



# Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church

4133 Calkins Rd  
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www.ololmi.org

**Weekly Bulletin**

**Sunday March 22, 2009 – Sunday March 29, 2009**

### Clergy

Rev. Hanna Tayar  
Deacon Martin Rachid  
Subdeacon Earl Matte

### Parish Staff

Michelle Tennis - Secretary  
Pat Haley – Caterer

### Parish Leaders

Chuck Solomon – Parish Council  
Dee Gardner – Choir Director  
Dottie Byrnes – Organist  
Freda Hearsch – Religious Education  
Mary Matte – Altar Society  
Jeanette Walterhouse – Morningstar Society



### Liturgy Schedule

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

### 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:



Sue Stubbert  
Michelle Garey  
Amy Burke  
Agnes Torok

Sarah Marshall  
Hanneh Chammas  
Hap & Eve Maroun  
Joe Faris  
Ann Faris  
Dorothy Mattar  
Wanda Maroun  
Phillip Shaker  
Ann David



### Our Lady of Lebanon Office Hours

Monday 10am – 3pm  
Tuesday 10am – 3pm  
Wednesday 10am – 3pm  
Thursday 10am – 3pm  
Friday 10am – 3pm



# MASS INTENTIONS

## SUNDAY March 22: Healing of the Paralytic

10A.M: (1 Tim 5:24-6:5, Mk 2:1-12) Reader: Erik Lindhurst

- Rep. Milad Lahoud by George & Sue Rasak
- Rep Massad Toufic Massad by Francis & Salwa Hadad
- Rep Hannie Nasr by Robert & Nawal Gebra el
- Rep Adel Elsabie by Laila & Janet Nesse r

## MONDAY 23: St. Rafka, Confessor

Mass 6:00 pm

- Rep. Kelly Cassel by James Wilfinger

## TUESDAY 24: St. Catherine of Sweden

- Rep. Joe Ferris by Ralph & Helen Burgess

## WEDNESDAY 25: The Annunciation to the Virgin Mary

Mass 6:00 pm

- Rep. Sylvia Zerka by Mon & Elsi e Shaheen

## THURSDAY 26: St. Gabriel the Archangel

- Rep. Ferris Adado by Joan Lowe

## FRIDAY 27: St. Rupert of Salzburg

Mass 5:30 pm, Adoration of the Cross at 6 p.m.

- Rep. Delores Grossi by Josie & Teresa Knight

## SATURDAY 28: St. Guntramnus

- Int. Doris Laramore by Hector & Rose Khoury
- Rep Mike Rizik by Tyl Rizik

## SUNDAY March 29: The Healing of the Blind Man,

10A.M: (2Cor 10:1-7, Mk 10:46-52) Reader: Diane Massad

- Rep. Tanious Gebrael, 40 day memorial by Family
- Rep. Diab & Karime Rizik & Lawrance Abou Diwan by John & Fadia Badr
- Rep. Jerry Knight by John & Lucy Northrup
- Int. Maroun Family by Anne Nickola & Diane Bayeh

## SUNDAY April 5: Palm Sunday

10A.M: (Phil1:1-13, Jn. 12:12-22) Clergy

- Rep. John Zerka 1 year anniversary & Sylvia Zerka 2 year anniversary by Childre n and Families
- Living & Deceased members of the Shaheen & Okal families by Family
- Rep. Aziz Chammas 5 year anniversary by Family
- Rep Massad Toufic Massad by Vincent Farhat & Family

## Announcements:



Monday March 23 is the Feast Day of St. Rafka. Mass will be celebrated at 6:00 PM.



Wednesday, March 25 is the Feast of the Annunciation to the Virgin Mary. It is a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass will be celebrated at 6:00 PM



There will be Adoration of the Cross every Friday during Lent at 6:00 PM. Please come and spend some time in prayer with our Lord.



Please join us in our weekly Bible Study classes which are being held here Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm throughout Lent.



We will be continuing to collect your contributions for the Annual Eparchial Lenten Appeal throughout the Lenten Season. These funds are used to support the charities of the Eparchy during the coming year. Please read the letter containing a list of all the organizations that are supported by the appeal. Be generous with your donations to this worthy cause.



The Altar Society would appreciate donations for canned pop and bottled water for their upcoming Salad Supper Bingo. They may be dropped off at the church office.



The Altar Society will be meeting Wed, April 1<sup>st</sup> in the Library. Please bring your pens as we will be addressing postcards for the Salad Supper Bingo.



We wish to offer our condolences to George & Louise Faris. Louise's sister, Julia Meachan passed away Wednesday March 18<sup>th</sup>. Please keep the family in your prayers.

**Maybe . . . when the door of happiness closes,  
another opens.**



## Saint Rafka

Rafka was born in Himlaya, a small village near Bickfaya, Lebanon, on June 29, 1832 . She was given the name Petronilla as a reminder that she was a daughter of St. Peter, on whose feast day she entered the world.

Like Therese of Lisieux, Rafka, “The Little Flower of Lebanon,” the “Purple Rose,” the “Silent and Humble Nun,” had to tell her life story to her Mother Superior some months before her death. Obedience to this request is the reason why today we are able to know something about this woman, who sought for nothing else but to be forgotten by men and live only for God.

Rafka suffered for 17 years as a blind paralytic. Only God knew how much she had to endure. Her pain was continuous night and day, yet the other sisters never heard her murmuring or complaining. She often told them that she thanked God for her sufferings, “...because I know that the sickness I have is for the good of my soul and His glory” and that “the sickness accepted with patience and thanksgiving purifies the soul as the fire purifies gold.” She was always quiet and calm, smiling; enduring even the greatest pain with patience, hoping in the Lord who promised to increase the glory of His faithful servants in Heaven (Luke 21:19).

By her patience, she can be compared to the greatest of the saints. Rafka's condition grew more serious. The pain she was enduring in her eyes became excruciating. Her Superior sent her to Tripoli for treatment. The treatments were most painful, too, and she lost a great deal of blood. However, during all of this time, she kept repeating, "With your sufferings, O Lord, for your glory." ...

Rafka is like the bride of the Song of Songs who listened to the calls of her beloved: "Come from Lebanon, my promised bride, Come from Lebanon, come on your way. Look down from the heights of Amanus, From the crests of Senir and Hermon, The haunt of lions, The mountains of leopards. The scent of your garments Is like the scent of Lebanon. She is a garden enclosed, My sister, my promised bride; a garden enclosed A sealed fountain Fountain of the garden, Well of living water, Streams flowing down from Lebanon!" Excerpts from the Song of Songs 4:1-15.

On November 16, 1985 His Holiness Pope John Paul II declared her a Blessed and on June 10, 2001 he elevated her to the rank of Saints at a solemn ceremony in the Vatican.

Miracles continue to be granted through her intercession. Thousands of believers visit her tomb at Saint Joseph's monastery in Grabta.

**Prayer:** We implore You Saint Rafka, You who walked on our soil, among our oaks and rocks, who lived among your sisters, the nuns, in Your monastery.

**Blessed Sister, daughter of our land and cedars, we implore You to be our guiding light and our example in bearing the sufferings with love and joy.**

**Saint Rafka, our Patron and Sister, let peace reign in our country; sanctify our monasteries and churches; grant Your visitors and those who ask for Your intercession the graces that they need; cure sick people with Your blessed soil; comfort sad people; bless our children and young; raise our orphans; let our harvest be abundant; let our homes be full of blessings; let our work be prosperous; bless our workers; feed hungry people; accompany our emigrants to come back to their homeland; pray for dead people.**

**Teach us dear sister, to pray like You did for Our Christ and Savior who made You share his sufferings and imprinted his wounds on Your body adding to them the sixth wound, and who made You a messenger of faith, joy and love. So that we thank the Virgin Mary and glorify with You the Father the son and the Holy Spirit, forever. Amen.**

## Mark Your Calendar

### April

April 4 : Altar Society Church Cleaning for Easter  
April 5 Altar Society Bake Sale  
April 5: Palm Sunday  
April 12: Easter

### May

May 3 First Communion  
May 13 Salad Supper Bingo  
May 26 Business Luncheon  
May 30 Golf Scramble

## Altar Server Schedule

March 29: Team 1  
April 5: Team 2



## Church cleaning for March:

Eva Massoud/Hannan Chammas

**RE/MAX Select**  
1320 W. Hill Rd - Flint, MI 48507  
Genesee County's #1 Real Estate Office

**Sue Rasak**  
Real Estate Professional  
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Office: 810-238-8888  
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