



# Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church

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**Weekly Bulletin**

**Sunday March 21, 2010 – Sunday March 28, 2010**

## THE SWEETEST SONG

There is an old Irish legend about a certain bird that sings only once in its entire life. But its song is sweeter than that of any other creature on earth.

From the moment the legendary bird leaves its nest, she searches for a thorn tree, refusing to rest until she has found one. Then she impales herself upon the longest and sharpest thorn... and as she dies her agonized song outcarols all other birds.

Is it true that the best is only bought at the price of great pain? The season of Lent seems to encourage the idea.

As we grow old, we think of past sacrifices...old grudges and resentments that we, with much effort, maybe overcame, attempted reconciliations with those who have turned us down, screwed us up, and ripped us off. We suffer some bitter memories and righteous angers against our neighbors. These are the pains and sacrifices...the thorns of life.

I hope that at the end of my life that I can summon up a song sweet enough to make it all worth while.

What about that song sung by Jesus, impaled on the cross, in the context of martyrdom?

“Thy Will Be Done!” Jesus sang.

This is the best song that calls to mind all the good we’ve done... and why we did it...and it’s the sweetest of all songs.

*“Thy Will Be Done” Amen.*

*Submitted by Subdeacon Earl Matte*

## Clergy

Rev. Hanna Tayar  
Deacon Martin Rachid  
Subdeacon Earl Matte

## Parish Staff

Michelle Tennis - Secretary  
Pat Haley – Caterer  
Richard Baka – Custodian

## Parish Leaders

Tom Macksood- Parish Council  
Dee Gardner – Choir Director  
Dorothy Bolduc-Peppin - Organist  
Alicia Massad – Religious Ed.  
Mary Matte – Altar Society  
Jeanette Walterhouse –  
Morningstar Society

## Our Lady of Lebanon Office Hours

Monday thru Friday  
10:00 am to 3:00 pm

**Please pray for our sick and homebound Parishioners:**



Joe Faris  
Ann Faris  
Helen Zerka  
Jean Rossie  
Aziz Massad  
Sue Stubbett  
Michelle Garey  
Luba Elia

Delore Shaker  
Amy Burke  
Helen Azzarello  
Sarah Marshall  
Hanneh Chammas  
Hap & Eve Maroun  
Phil Shaker  
Agnes Torok  
Fran Adado  
Ann David  
Dorothy Mattar  
Wanda Maroun  
Linda Macksood  
Fayz Zerka



## Liturgy Schedule

Mon.- Thurs 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.



## Mass Intentions

### SUNDAY March 21st: Healing of the Blind Man

**10A.M.:** (2Cor 10:1-7, Mk 10:46-52) Erik Lindhurst

- Rep. Roger Nesser (40 day) by the Family
- Rep. Aziz Chammas (6<sup>th</sup> Anniversary) by Family
- Rep. Sam Marino (3 year) by the Family

### MONDAY March 22: St. Basil of Ancyra

- Int. Afeefa Gorgeis by Adeeb & Mayson Stepho & Family

### TUESDAY 23: St. Rafka, Confessor

**Mass 6:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm**

- Int. Ghantous Tayar by Barhoum & Colette Rizk

### WEDNESDAY 24: St. Catherine of Sweden

Rep. Bishop Zweiter b Mary Ann Sheehan

### THURSDAY 25: The Annunciation to the Virgin Mary

**Mass 6:00 pm**

Rep. Margaret LaBranche by the Aziz Family

### FRIDAY 26: Temptation of Jesus in the Wilderness

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

Rep. Elias S. Badr by Barhoum & Colette Rizk

### SATURDAY 27: Raising of Lazarus

- Rep. Wadeh Zugheib by Hector & Rose Khoury

### SUNDAY March 28<sup>th</sup>: Hosanna Sunday

**10A.M.:** (Phil 1:1-13, Jn 12:12-22) Diane Massad

- Rep. Wajdi Badr, & Repts Paul & John Mouheeb Badr by John & Fadia Badr
- Repts. Roger Nesser & Adel Sabie by the Family
- The Living & Deceased Members of the Shaheen & Okal Families by the Family
- Rep. John Zerka 2 yr & Sylvia Zerka 3 yr by the Family

### SUNDAY April 4<sup>th</sup>: Easter Sunday

**10A.M.:** (1Cor 15:12-26, Mk 16:1-8) Clergy

- Intentions of all parishioners

### Altar Servers Schedule:

Mar. 28	Palm Sun.-All Servers
April 4:	Easter Sun.-All Servers

### Church Cleaning for April

Ahlam



### MYO Candle Sale

The MYO is selling Yankee Candles as a fundraiser now through April 2<sup>nd</sup>. 40% of all sales go directly to the MYO. Please see any MYO member to order these candles.

## Announcements:



### Annunciation to the Virgin

Thursday March 25 is the Feast of the Annunciation to the Virgin Mary. Mass will be celebrated at 6:00 PM.



**Mass will be held at 5:30 pm on Friday followed by Stations of the Holy Cross at 6:00 pm.** Please come and take advantage of this opportunity to worship.



The MYA will be meeting Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup> after 5:00 pm Mass.



### Church Cleaning

The Altar Society will be doing their annual cleaning of the church on Saturday, March 27 at 10:00 am. They are asking that **members of the MYO please come and give them a hand with this**



### Altar Society Bake Sale

The Altar Society will have their annual bake sale after Mass Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup>.



### Holy Thursday Washing of the Feet

We are still in need of a few volunteers to assist Father Hanna with the Washing of the Feet on Thursday April 1<sup>st</sup>. There is a sign up sheet at the back of the church if you are willing to help out during this service.



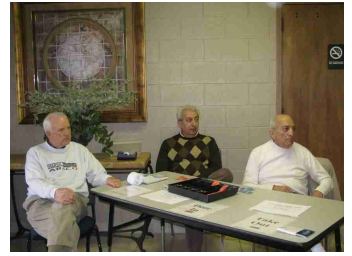
### Annual Eparchial Appeal.

We have collected \$890 for the Annual Eparchial Appeal. Our parish goal is to collect \$6,500.00. Money from the appeal helps to fund many of the Eparchy's special needs such as missions, the seminary and educational materials. We will be collecting these envelopes through Sunday April 4<sup>th</sup>. Envelopes may be turned in during the regular Sunday collection or mailed directly to the Eparchy.

### Voter's Registration

If you are a Lebanese citizen and are interested in voting in the upcoming Lebanese Parliamentary Election please pick up a registration form in the back of the church. The church office also has forms for registering births, marriages, divorces, and deaths. Please contact the church office if you need one of these forms.

## MID EASTERN LUNCHEON



We'd like to extend our thanks to all of our devoted volunteers who worked so tirelessly to make our second 2010 Mid Eastern Luncheon a success. Their task was even harder this month since we are in the middle of the Lenten season and they felt we should offer a second meatless Lenten menu to go along with our regular Mid Eastern menu. The luncheon, which was held Thursday, March 11th was attended by nearly 200 individuals and all the lunches were sold out by shortly after 2:00 PM. Thanks to the efforts of our volunteers, the event earned over \$1,800.00 for the parish.



## SAINT RAFKA FEASTDAY MARCH 23

St. Rafka was the daughter and only child of Mourad Saber Shabaq al-Rayes and Rafqa Gemayel. Her mother died when Rafka was six. She and her step-mother never got along. The girl worked as a maid from age 11 to 15, announcing at age 14 that she felt a call to religious life. Her father objected, but at 21 she became a nun in the Marian Order of the Immaculate Conception at Bikfaya, taking the religious name Anissa or Agnes and making her final vows in 1856.

In 1871, her Order merged with the order of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The sisters were given the choice of joining the new combined order, joining other orders, or being released from their vows. Following dreams in which Saint Anthony the Great appeared to her, she joined the Lebanese Order of Saint Anthony of the Maronites on July 12, 1871 at the age of 39, taking the new religious name of Rafqa or Rebecca.

On the feast of the Holy Rosary in 1885, Rafqa prayed that she might share Christ's sufferings. Her health began to deteriorate, and she was soon blind and crippled. She spent as much of her remaining 30 years in prayer as she could, but always insisted on working in the convent as well as she could with her disabilities, usually spinning wool and knitting. By 1907 she was completely blind and paralyzed. In a 1981 medical report based upon the evidence presented in the Canonization process, specialists in ophthalmology, neurology and orthopedics diagnosed the most likely cause as tuberculosis with ocular localization and multiple bony excrescences. This causes unbearable pain, but Rafqa was thankful for her special form of communion.

Late in life her close friend and supporter, Mother Superior Ursula Doumit, ordered her to dictate her autobiography, and Rafqa complied. Near the time of her death, Rafqa asked that her sight be restored for a single hour so she could again see the face of Mother Ursula; the hour of sight was granted.

Beginning four days after her death, miraculous cures were recorded at Rafka's grave.

**Mark Your Calendar**

**March:**

- March 20-21 Collection for Easter Flowers
- March 27 Altar Society—Cleans Temple
- March 27-28 Palm Sunday Bake Sale

**April:**

- April 1 Holy Thursday
- April 2 Great Friday Supper
- April 4 Easter Sunday



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*If you're young, you're lucky. If you're old you are even luckier!*

**Stewardship**

*Weekend of March 13-14, 2010*

Registered Families	170
Envelopes received this week	59
Weekly envelopes	\$ 1,612.00
Fuel	\$ 435.00
Loose and visitors	\$ 97.00
<b>Total Sunday Collection</b>	<b>\$ 2,144.00</b>
<b>Second Collection</b>	
Eparchial Appeal	\$ 100.00
Budgeted for March	\$ 18,000.00
<b>Amount needed to meet March Budget</b>	<b>(\$12,628.00)</b>



810.244.4112

**JENNY PEERA**  
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