



Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church

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Flint, MI 48532
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Weekly Bulletin

Sunday December 18, 2011– Sunday December 25, 2011



Christmas Gifts

Christmas vacation from Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit meant eight full days without classes. I was ready to go home, but there was one thing I needed to do first: say

“goodbye” to my spiritual director, Father Lynch, and get his Christmas blessing.

As we sat in his study chatting for a while, I suddenly boldly blurted out something that had been on my mind for a long time: “Father,” I said, “I wish you would tell me something about yourself. I mean, I’d really like to know you better.

Oh, what was I thinking? It was no business of mine, a young seminarian, what my teacher’s life was like. How brazen of me! How impertinent! How nosy! How ... how ... stupid! I was immediately afraid I’d offended my favorite priest.

But, you know what? Father Lynch was not offended at all. In fact, he seemed to relax in his big chair and, smiling, he began to tell me beautiful stories about his own school days, his first parish, assignments, priests he’d known when he was young.

I could see he was enjoying himself ... as was I. But then, as he began to ramble on, a terrible thought occurred to me: could it be that this dependable director of souls, this spiritual rock-solid advisor, this icon of independence and holiness was, in fact ... lonely?

Continued page 2...

Clergy

Rev. Paul Tarabay, O.M.M.
Deacon Martin Rachid
Subdeacon Earl Matte
The Maronite Order of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Parish Leaders

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

Parish Staff

Michelle Tennis - Secretary
Pat Haley – Caterer
Dan Bartos - Custodian

Our Lady of Lebanon Office Hours

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

Please pray for our sick and homebound Parishioners:

Wanda Maroun

Anthony Mansour



Hector & Rose Khoury

Delore Shaker

Ann David

Helen Azzarello

Patsy Joseph

Fayez Zerka

Dorothy Mattar

Hanneh Chammas

Sue Stubbart

Joe Faris

Ann Faris

Helen Zerka

Nadia Sob

Patti Pollack

Ron Delling

Bruce Lindhurst

Sharon Griffiths

Nina Rachid

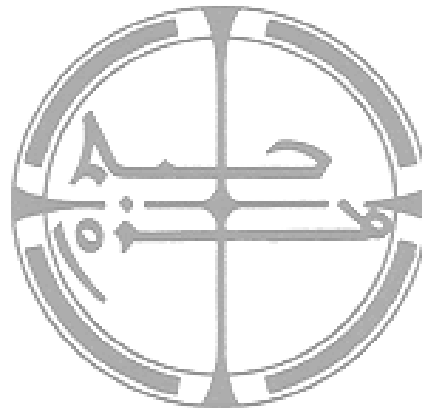
Agnes Torok

Ophelia Polovina

Ronda Kaufman

Fouzi Zerka

Zeidan Zerka



Liturgy Schedule

Mon. – Wed. 9a.m.
Friday 12noon
Saturday 5p.m.
Sunday 10a.m.

Adoration and Rosary

Friday 11:00a.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 December 18th: Genealogy Sunday

10A.M.: (Rom 1-12, Mt. 1:1-17) Diane Massad

- Rep. Nouhad Badr by Josef & Mona Massoud
- Rep. Samir Deeb (40 day) by Family
- Rep. Violette Naffah by Najib & Siham Massaad

MONDAY 19: St. Nemesius

- Rep. Elias Zerka by Azar Zerka & Ed & Christine & Family

TUESDAY 20: St. Ignatius of Antioch, Martyr

- Rep. Jean Rossie by Keith & Freda Hearsch

WEDNESDAY 21: St. Peter Canisius

- Rep. Paul (Hap) Maroun by Jacqui Lavelle

THURSDAY 22: St. Chaeromon

NO MASS

FRIDAY 23: St. John of Kanty

- In Thanksgiving by James & Teresa Manoharan

SATURDAY: December 24th: Christmas Eve 6:00 PM

- Int. of all Parishioners

SUNDAY December 25th Christmas Day

12 MIDNIGHT: (Rom 1:1-12, Mt 1:1-17) Aziz Massad

- Int. of all Parishioners

10A.M.: (Rom 1:1-12, Mt 1:1-17) Clergy

- Int. of all Parishioners

SUNDAY January 1st: The Circumcision of Jesus

10A.M.: (Heb. 7:1-10, Lk 2:21-24) MYO

- Int. of all Parishioners



Christmas Gifts continued....

And then I had an encouraging thought: Suppose my clumsy suggestion that day actually gave this older man a small jolt of joy during the Christmas season. Just maybe reminiscing made him happy ... for a little while.

One thing is for sure. I learned something useful during that holiday visit. I discovered an infallible technique for helping people, especially older people, feel good.

Christmas is a time for giving presents, isn't it? Well, men and women, of a certain age, loose their need for candy, flowers, and a new Christmas sweater. What they really would like for Christmas is some attention. When you say to them: "Tell me about your past, your achievements. I'm interested in you. I care about you. I want to know the wonderful things you've done ..." ... this is your gift to them.

... and we old people unfailingly smile. We then give you a gift: It's our best and most beautiful stories.

May we all be grateful ... for these Christmas gifts.

By Sub deacon Earl Matte

"No person was ever honored for what he received. He was honored for what he gave."

- Calvin Coolidge

Announcements:



Lectors Needed

We are looking for volunteers to read the Epistles in Arabic at Sunday Masses. If you would be interested in helping out with this, please contact the parish office at 732-2370.



Christmas Novena

Please join us in our Christmas Novenas which are being held now through the December 23rd. Confessions will be heard for ½ hour before and after the 6:00PM service. Please take advantage of this opportunity to prepare your souls for the coming of Jesus.



Christmas Eve Music

If you are attending 6:00PM mass on Christmas Eve come early and enjoy the music! The choir will be singing Christmas carols 20 minutes before the service begins.



Blessing of Homes

Fr. Paul will be blessing homes after the feast of the Epiphany from Jan. 6th to Jan. 16th There is a list of parish household outside the church. Be sure to check your name if you would like Abouna to come and bless your home. Also, please provide the best day and the daytime phone number where you can be reached.



Adult Conversion Classes Scheduled

We will be starting our Adult Conversion Classes Sunday January 8th after 10:00 mass. Anyone interested in attending should contact Deacon Marty or the church office for a registration form.



We would like to thank all of our parishioners for their generosity this Christmas season. Our parishioners have donated clothing, food, and money to support the following causes this holiday season:

- Clothing for newborns at Hurley Hospital
- Food and gift cards for four families with children in the Hurley Hospital Cancer Ward.
- Food baskets for twenty families from the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Flint.
- A weekend canned goods and non-perishable food drive for the Holy Angels Soup Kitchen. (We hope all of you had a chance to see Father Paul on Channel 25 in one of the many appearances he made supporting this project.)

Your generosity this season has been overwhelming!

Holiday Devotion Schedule



Christmas Novena

Thursday Dec. 15-through Friday Dec. 23:
6:00PM Devotions
(Confession ½ hour before and after services)

Christmas

Saturday Dec. 24: Mass 6:00PM
Mass 12:00 Midnight

Sunday Dec. 25: Mass 10:00AM

New Year's

Saturday Dec. 31: Mass 6:00PM
Sunday Jan. 1: Mass 12:00 Noon

Epiphany

(Holy Day of Obligation)

Thursday Jan 5: Mass 6:00PM
Friday Jan 6: Masses 9:00AM & 6:00PM



Mark Your Calendar

December:

Dec. 18: Breakfast with Santa
Dec. 31: New Year's Party



January:

Jan. 8: Adult Conversion Classes Begin

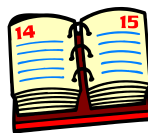
Altar Servers Schedule

December 25: All Servers
January 1: Team 1

Ushers Schedules


December 25: Team 1
January 1: Team 1/MYO

Church Cleaning December: Sawson Kalo



And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger. Luke 2:12

Our Lady of Lebanon Church
presents
New Year's Eve Party
2012
Saturday, December 31, 2011 at 8:00 PM
Dinner served at 8:30 PM



SLEIMAN SLEIMAN & SOFIE EL SAIED

\$50 Adults
\$30 Kids 4 or older
Includes Dinner

ARABIC & AMERICAN MUSIC

Babysitting Service Available!

For Reservations Call:
Shouky Zerka 810.287.1601
Elie Damouni 810.730.8959

Location:
Our Lady of Lebanon Church
4133 Calkins Road Flint, MI
810.733.1259

St. Ignatius of Antioch

Feast Day: December 20



"I prefer death in Christ Jesus to power over the farthest limits of the earth. He who died in place of us is the one object of my quest. He who rose for our sakes is my one desire." *St. Ignatius of Antioch*

In 107, during the reign of the brutal Emperor Trajan, this holy Bishop was wrongfully sentenced to death because he refused to renounce the Christian faith. He was taken under guard to Rome where he was to be brutally devoured by wild beasts in a public spectacle. During his journey, he made good use of the time by writing seven letters of encouragement, instruction and inspiration to the Christians in those communities. We still have these letters as a great treasure of the Church today.

Bishop Ignatius was not afraid of death. He knew that it had been defeated by the Master. He followed the Lord Jesus into his Passion, knowing that he would rise with Him in his Resurrection. He wrote to the disciples in Rome: "Permit me to imitate my suffering God ... I am God's wheat and I shall be ground by the teeth of beasts, that I may become the pure bread of Christ. "He died a Martyr's death in Rome, devoured by two lions in one of the cruel demonstrations of Roman excess and animosity toward the true faith.

http://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=677

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Stewardship

Weekend Dec. 10 – Dec. 11, 2011

Weekly Envelopes

Distributed	170
Received	70
Weekly envelopes	\$ 1,811.00
Fuel	\$ 210.00
Loose	\$ 112.00
Total Sunday Collection	\$ 2,133.00

Second Collection

Christmas Appeal	\$ 110.00
Budgeted for December	\$ 15,000.00
Amount needed for Dec.	(\$10,543.00)



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