

**Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Cathedral**  
**113 Remsen Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201**  
**(718) 624-7228 OLOLC.org**  
**Cathrectory@verizon.net**

The Most Reverend Gregory J. Mansour — Eparchial Bishop  
The Very Reverend Dominique Hanna — Rector  
Deacon Peter Frangie  
Subdeacon Norbert Vogl

**Divine Liturgy Schedule**

Tuesday through Saturday at 10:00 AM  
Sunday at 9:00 AM and 11:30 AM  
Holy Day To Be Announced  
St. Sharbel the 22nd of each month  
at 7:30 PM except on Saturday or Sunday

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

First Friday of the month at 10:40 until noon

**Reconciliation**

10:15 AM to 10:45 AM Sunday  
11:00 AM to 11:45 AM First Friday  
and upon request.

**Initiation Rites (Baptism—Chrismation)**

Parents and Godparents must meet  
with the Rector for instruction and  
then a time will be set for the Baptism  
and Chrismation of the child.

**Mystery of Crowning (Marriage)**

Rector must be notified at least six  
months in advance to set up instruction.

**Hospital and Sick Calls**

Notify the Rector as soon as possible.

**New Parishioners**

All are welcome at Our Lady of  
Lebanon Cathedral. Please notify the Office  
of the Rector to become a member.

# *Eleventh Sunday of the Pentecost*

## *August 18th, 2019*

**Sun. August 18**

**11th Sunday of Pentecost**

9:00 am Intentions of the Parishioners  
 11:30 am Lody Bandali Abi Mansour, Yvonne Gholam Sidaoui  
 Joseph Sidaoui, Joseph Abi Mansour Req. By Claude Sidaoui

Mon. August 19

NO LITURGY St. Luke of Baalbek

Tues. August 20

10 am Divine Liturgy St. Bernard, Doctor of the Church

Wed. August 21

10 am Divine Liturgy

Thurs. August 22

10 am Divine Liturgy

Fri. August 23

10 am Divine Liturgy St. Isaac the Syriani

Sat. August 24

10 am Divine Liturgy

**Sun. August 25**

**12th Sunday of Pentecost**

9:00 am For Manuel Villegas on his Birthday in Thanks to the Sacred Heart of Jesus  
 11:30 am Intentions of the Parishioners

### Financial Standing July 2019

**Ordinary Income**

Sundays & Holy Days Collections: **\$7,448**

Cathedral Stipends from Marriages & Funerals, Lower Hall Rent, Candles, Breakfast, Luncheon, Bake Sale, Dues, Religious Education, flowers, ....: **\$645.53**

**Total Ordinary Income: \$8,093.53**

**Ordinary Expense**

Payroll, Gas, Electricity, Building and Medical Insurances, Leasing Equipments, TV, Phone, Internet, Church, Hall & Office Supplies, Postage, Regular Maintenance, Charity, Eparchial Appeal, Insurance,...

**Total Ordinary Expense: \$15,826.40**

**Total Ordinary Income vs Expense: \$7,732.87**

**We also brought in some extraordinary income in the amount of: \$29,566.67** (which included Library Rent, Donations for specific projects, and the Capital Campaign)

**Thus, we had to use some of our extraordinary income for ordinary expense to make "ends meet." It is our hope that ALL extraordinary expense could be set aside for major improvements for the Cathedral. Thus, we need everyone's help.**

**Thank you for your contribution  
 in helping maintain the Church and  
 in planning different activities**

### Sunday Readings

**Lectors and Ushers (age 16 and up) are needed.  
 Please [email](#) the church to become one**

August 18, 2019 11th Sunday of the Pentecost

Reading: Ephesians 2: 17-22

Gospel: Luke 19: 1-10

Lectors: 9:00 am Raymond Gill  
 11:30 am Roger Shammas - English  
 11:30 am Leila Vogl - Arabic

August 25, 2019 12th Sunday of the Pentecost

Reading: Ephesians 3: 1-13,

Gospel: Matthew 15: 21-28

Lectors: 9:00 am Raymond Gill  
 11:30 am Patrick Elhowayek - English  
 11:30 am Lina Fakhoury - Arabic

September 1, 2019 13th Sunday of the Pentecost

Reading: 1 Corinthians 3: 1-11

Gospel: Luke 8: 1-15

Lectors: 9:00 am Raymond Gill  
 11:30 am Patrick Abou-Chrouch - English  
 11:30 am Mary Eladem - Arabic

September 8, 2019 Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Reading: 1 Corinthians 1: 18-25

Gospel: John 12: 20-32

Lectors: 9:00 am Raymond Gill  
 11:30 am Norbert Vogl - English  
 11:30 am Norma Haddad - Arabic

## Dear Beloved Parishioners:

*A word of thanks, after a month off from sending the bulletin, goes to all of you for your support during my time in Lebanon visiting my family. I am grateful to Subdeacon Norbert and Subdeacon-candidate Adonis for helping the different priests who covered for me during my absence and for making sure the Divine Liturgy was prepared for in a way worthy of the celebration of the most important act of worship, the Eucharist.*

Last Sunday, I did not have enough time during the homily to explain more about the verse that talks about blasphemy against the Holy Spirit. Matthew 12: 31 reads, "Therefore I tell you, people will be forgiven for every sin and blasphemy, but blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven." Without denying that this is a hard verse to explain, it is always very beneficial to study it in its context. Verse 31 is part of the story where Jesus healed a person possessed by a demon who was blind and mute, so he was able to see and speak (Matthew 12: 22-32). Upon witnessing the miracle, the crowd was amazed and wondered if Jesus might be the Son of David. Nonetheless, when the Pharisees heard about what happened, they said, "It is only by Beelzebul, the prince of demons, that Jesus casts out demons."

The Jewish tradition understood illness as the result of sin. This person's state in their understanding was very bad as he was not only mute, but also blind which pointed to demonic possession. In the mind of the Pharisees, this person was doomed and could not be saved because the sin he had committed was very grave and could not be forgiven. Actually, in the entire New Testament, there is only one story in Mark 7: 31-37 that comes close to this one. It recalls Jesus curing a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech. Therefore, this healing in Matthew stands unique in comparison to other miracles. The Pharisees could not believe that a person in such a condition could be healed which meant his sins were forgiven and he could be saved. Instead of praising God for bringing a great healing to this person and making him whole, they went after the healer, Jesus, to prove him wrong because he was putting their teaching on forgiveness in jeopardy.

Article 1864 of the Catechism of the Catholic Church states, "There are no limits to the mercy of God, but anyone who deliberately refuses to accept his mercy by repenting, rejects the forgiveness of his sins and the salvation offered by the Holy Spirit. Such hardness of heart can lead to final impenitence and eternal loss." Thus, as Pope Saint John Paul II in his encyclical *Dominum et Vivificantem* writes, "Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit, then, is the sin committed by the person who claims to have a 'right' to persist in evil – in any sin at all – and who thus rejects Redemption. One closes oneself up in sin, thus making impossible one's conversion, and consequently the remission of sins, which one considers not essential or not important for one's life. This is a state of spiritual ruin, because blasphemy against the Holy Spirit does not allow one to escape from one's self-imposed imprisonment and open oneself to the divine sources of the purification of consciences and of the remission of sins." When the Pharisees attributed Jesus' healing to the work of the prince of demons, they were obstinately persisting in manifest refusal to accept that God is forgiving if the person's repentance is brought about by the Holy Spirit.

*Abanna Dominique*

## Maronite Catholic Formation (Sunday School)

Registration for Sunday School is on its way. It is of extreme importance to hand down the faith to our children (1st to 12th Grade) and our Sunday Formation is one small way to do so. Thus, everyone is encouraged to register their children and not wait to the last minute. Classes begin on Sunday, September 22nd at 10am. The program will run until the end of June two Sundays of formation each month. Please [print the form online](#) and email it to [Lily Elhaje](mailto:LilyElhaje)

## 75th Anniversary of the First Divine Liturgy at the Cathedral

The Cathedral is announcing the 75th Anniversary of the First Divine Liturgy in the Current Location on Sunday November 24, 2019. The celebration begins with the Divine Liturgy at 11:30am followed by a luncheon at the Dyker Beach Golf Course Catering Hall in Brooklyn, NY. There will also be a Commemorative Book in which pages may be purchased to honor beloved living and deceased members of the Cathedral Community. Meanwhile, those who have old pictures from the time the Cathedral was dedicated onward, please make sure to [email](#) them to us, so we can create a nice collage.

## Altar Server Training

Subdeacon Norbert will hold an altar server training Sunday September 8th after the 11:30 Divine Liturgy.

## Housekeeping

The Brooklyn Public Library's Lease was renewed on July 10th extending their stay until December 31, 2020.

## Pilgrimage: [In The Footsteps of Paul](#)

A 10-day/8-night trip to **Greece** including a **3-day cruise** to the **Greek Islands** and **Turkey**, visiting Athens, Corinth, Mykonos, Ephesus, Patmos, Crete, Santorini, Meteora, Veria, Vergina, Salonica, and Philippi. Departing **April 29, 2020 - \$3,498** per person/double occupancy from New York, including fuel surcharge and port taxes. if they register with \$500 by July 29th and save \$100. [For more information](#) please call Marleine Aflak at 1-917-608-2996 or Tony Tannousis at 1-718-987-3900

## Project Roots

Bishop Gregory is asking to redouble the efforts to register American citizens of Lebanese descent who would like to regain their Lebanese citizenship. Parishioners are encouraged to register their births and marriages in Lebanon. Please check Project Root's [new website](#) and contact [Zahia Abi Habib](mailto:ZahiaAbiHabib) for more information

## Recommendation of the Finance Council

The Finance Council recommends that parishioners set the Church up for automatic bill pay. This is the best way to keep supporting your spiritual home while on vacation or out-of-town.

## Bulletin Advertisement

Business owners who would like to advertise their businesses in the Church bulletin that reaches over 400 households via email, please call the Cathedral at 718-624-7228 for more information.



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## ***Adonis El-Asmar***

*TO THE MINOR ORDERS OF  
CANTOR, LECTOR, AND SUBDEACON  
FOR THE EPARCHY OF SAINT MARON  
OF BROOKLYN*

BY THE LAYING OF HANDS OF  
HIS EXCELLENCY  
BISHOP GREGORY J. MANSOUR

On Saturday September, 14<sup>th</sup> 2019 at 10:30 am  
Our Lady of Lebanon Cathedral  
113 Remsen Street  
Brooklyn, New York 11201

Reception to follow – Parish Hall  
RSVP Phone: (718) 624-7228  
Or email: [cathrectory@verizon.net](mailto:cathrectory@verizon.net)

For Concelebrating Clergy: White vestments are requested



«YOU HAVE UNITED, O LORD, YOUR DIVINITY  
WITH OUR HUMANITY  
AND OUR HUMANITY WITH YOUR DIVINITY»

- Maronite Divine Liturgy -

## **The Tenth Annual Benefit Dinner** **The Eparchy of Saint Maron**

This Jubilee Event will recognize three special honorees known for their service to their communities: **Tony Loubnan, Antoun Sehnaoui, and Salma Besheer Vahdat**. We honor Tony for his years of service to his parish, Saint Sharbel in Somerset, NJ; Antoun who, together with Cardinal Timothy Dolan, created the Shrine of Saint Sharbel at Saint Patrick Cathedral; and Salma for her years of service to Our Lady of Lebanon Cathedral and the Brooklyn community.

The Cathedral Community is proud of having **Salma Besheer Vahdat**, a Trustee of the church, as an honoree.

Join us October 3 for an evening of fun and fellowship with your friends in support of a great cause!

*Tenth Annual Benefit Dinner for  
The Eparchy of Saint Maron*

*A Special Decade of Service*

Thursday, October 3, 2019  
New York Athletic Club, New York City

Details to follow



# Sunday Readings

## قراءات الأحد

### Eleventh Sunday of Pentecost

#### Letter to the Ephesians 2:17-22

Jesus came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father.

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling-place for God.

#### The Gospel according to Saint Luke 19:1-10.

He entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax-collector and was rich.

He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature.

So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way.

When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, 'Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.'

So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. All who saw it began to grumble and said, 'He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.'

Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, 'Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.'

Then Jesus said to him, 'Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.'

### الأحد الحادي عشر من زمن العنصرة

رسالة القديس بولس إلى أهل أفسس 2:17-22  
يَا إِخْوَتِي، لَمَّا جَاءَ الْمَسِيحُ بِشَرِّكُمْ بِالسَّلَامِ أَنْتُمْ الْبَعِيدِينَ،  
وَبَشَّرَ بِالسَّلَامِ الْقَرِيبِينَ،  
لَأَنَّنا بِهِ نَلْتَمِسُ الْوَحْدَ فِي رُوحِ وَاحِدٍ الْوَسُوعِ إِلَى الْآبِ.  
إِذَا فَلَسْتُمْ بَعْدُ غُرَبَاءَ وَلَا نَزَلَاءَ، بَلْ أَنْتُمْ أَهْلُ مَدِينَةِ الْقَدِيسِينَ  
وَأَهْلُ بَيْتِ اللَّهِ،  
بُنْيُتُمْ عَلَى أَسَاسِ الرُّسُلِ وَالْأَنْبِيَاءِ، وَالْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ نَفْسُهُ هُوَ  
حَجَرُ الزَّائِغَةِ.  
فِيهِ يَتِمَّاسُكُ الْبِنَاءُ كُلُّهُ، فَيَرْتَفِعُ هَيْكَلًا مُقَدَّسًا فِي الرَّبِّ،  
وَفِيهِ أَنْتُمْ أَيْضًا تُبْنَوْنَ مَعًا مَسْكِنًا لِلَّهِ فِي الرُّوحِ.

#### إنجيل القديس لوقا 19:1-10

دَخَلَ يَسُوعُ أَرِيحَا وَبَدَأَ يَجْتَازُهَا،  
وَإِذَا رَجُلٌ اسْمُهُ زَكَا، كَانَ رَئِيسًا لِلْعَشَّارِينَ وَغَنِيًّا.  
وَكَانَ يَسْعَى لِيَرَى مَنْ هُوَ يَسُوعُ، فَلَمْ يَقْدِرْ بِسَبَبِ الْجَمْعِ لِأَنَّهُ  
كَانَ قَصِيرَ الْقَامَةِ  
فَتَقَدَّمَ مُسْرِعًا وَتَسَلَّقَ جُمَيْرَةً لِكَيْ يَرَاهُ، لِأَنَّ يَسُوعَ كَانَ  
مُزْمِعًا أَنْ يَمُرَّ بِهَا.  
وَلَمَّا وَصَلَ يَسُوعُ إِلَى الْمَكَانِ، رَفَعَ نَظْرَهُ إِلَيْهِ وَقَالَ لَهُ: «يَا  
زَكَا، اسْرِعْ وَأَنْزِلْ، فَعَلَيَّ أَنْ أَقِيمَ الْيَوْمَ فِي بَيْتِكَ.»  
فَاسْرِعَ وَنَزَلَ وَأَسْتَقْبَلَهُ فِي بَيْتِهِ مَسْرُورًا.  
وَرَأَى الْجَمِيعُ ذَلِكَ فَأَخَذُوا يَتَذَمَّرُونَ قَائِلِينَ: «دَخَلَ لِيَبِيتَ عِنْدَ  
رَجُلٍ خَاطِيٍّ.»  
أَمَّا زَكَا فَوَقَفَ وَقَالَ لِلرَّبِّ: «يَا رَبِّ، هَا أَنَا أُعْطِي نِصْفَ  
مُقْتَنَاتِي لِلْفُقَرَاءِ، وَإِنْ كُنْتُ قَدْ ظَلَمْتُ أَحَدًا بِشَيْءٍ، فَأَيُّي أَرُدُّ  
لَهُ أَرْبَعَةَ أَضْعَافٍ.»  
فَقَالَ لَهُ يَسُوعُ: «الْيَوْمَ صَارَ الْخَلَاصُ لِهَذَا الْبَيْتِ، لِأَنَّ هَذَا  
الرَّجُلَ هُوَ أَيْضًا ابْنٌ لِإِبْرَاهِيمَ.  
فَإِنَّ ابْنَ الْإِنْسَانِ جَاءَ لِيَبْحَثَ عَنِ الضَّالِّينَ وَيُخَلِّصَهُمْ»