

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Cathedral
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The Most Reverend Gregory J. Mansour, Eparchial Bishop
The Very Reverend Dominique Hanna, Rector
The Reverend Chuck VanHeusen, Assistant Rector
Subdeacon Norbert Vogl



SUNDAY OF THE VISITATION OF THE VIRGIN TO ELIZABETH

**Sunday of the Visitation of the Virgin to Elizabeth
November 30th, 2025**

Sun., Nov. 30	Sunday of the Visitation to Elizabeth / St. Andrew / St. Bishoy 9 am for the Intentions of the Parishioners 11:30 am for Elie Safi	by Raymond Safi & Family
Mon., Dec. 1	NO LITURGY Nahum the Prophet / St. Charles de Foucauld	
Tues., Dec. 2	10 am Divine Liturgy Habakkuk the Prophet	
Wed., Dec. 3	10 am Divine Liturgy St. Francis Xavier	
Thu., Dec. 4	10 am Divine Liturgy St. Barbara / St. John of Damascus	
Fri., Dec. 5	10 am Divine Liturgy St. Saba the Hermit	
Sat., Dec. 6	10 am Divine Liturgy St. Nicholas (Mar Zakhia)	
Sun., Dec. 7	Sunday of the Birth of John the Baptist / St. Ambrose 9 am for the Intentions of the Parishioners 11:30 am for Michel Hitti	by Antoine Hitti

Financial Standing October 2025

Ordinary Income

- ♦ Collections on Sundays & Holy Days: **\$11,938.77**
- ♦ Cathedral Stipends from Marriages & Funerals, Hall Rent, Candles, Breakfast, Luncheon, Raffle, Dues, Religious Education, Flowers**\$36,886.00**

Total Ordinary Income: \$48,824.77

Ordinary Expenses

- ♦ Payroll, Gas, Electricity, Building Insurance and Medical Insurance, Leasing Equipment, TV, Phone, Internet, Supplies for Church, Hall & Office, Postage, Regular Maintenance, Charity, Eparchial Appeal, Insurance **\$47,504.85**

Total Ordinary Expenses: \$47,504.85

- ♦ **Total Ordinary Income vs Expenses: \$1,319.92**

Do you know? A couple of basic monthly expenses:

The Monthly Eparchial Assessment & Bishop's Appeal has increased from \$2,125 to \$2,670 a month starting January 2024.

The Cathedral's Building Insurance increased 14.3% in 2023, 7% in 2024 and 9% in 2025. We are now paying \$53,716 which will amount to \$4,476.33 a month.

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



Darb Mar Charbel is a unique 130-kilometer long-distance pilgrimage-hiking trail project, developed by the Darbessama Association and implemented on the ground by the Lebanon Mountain Trail Association according to international standards and the best practices of world-class pilgrimage trails.

The journey starts at the Monastery of Mar Antonios Qozhaya in the Qadisha Valley and concludes at the Our Lady of Lebanon Shrine, Harissa. The path leads the pilgrim/hiker through Saint Charbel's many stages of earthly life and dwelling locations: birth, spiritual awakening, novitiate, ordination and his cenobitic and eremitic life.

The "Darb" is a source of spiritual enrichment, cultural discovery, physical challenge, and an instrument of sustainable development for the trail's 40+ bordering towns and villages.

The groundwork began in May 2024 and inauguration is expected in May 2026.

Please make your donation [here](#).

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annual Bake Sale Sponsored by the Confraternity

The Annual Winter Bake Sale sponsored by the Confraternity will take place on December 6th & 7th. If you would like to help by baking goods or donating to the bake sale, please see Yolla Howayek, Mirna Abi Daher or Hala Maalouf. The Confraternity will be having their Christmas Raffle. The drawing will be on December 25th, after the 11:30 am Divine Liturgy.

Season of the Birth of the Lord Retreat

Sponsored by the Confraternity, the Cathedral will hold the Season of the Birth of the Lord Retreat on December 13th, starting at 9 am. Everyone is welcome.

Family Christmas Party

Sponsored by the Sunday School, the Cathedral invites all parishioners to a luncheon to celebrate Christmas on Sunday, December 14th, in the Church Hall. Families are welcome, especially the kids, for a fun afternoon with Santa and other surprises. During the 11:30 Liturgy that day, the children will enact the Christmas story.

75th Year Anniversary of the Bible Society

Under the patronage of His Eminence, Bishop Gregory Mansour, you are invited to a special private dinner to celebrate the 75th diamond anniversary of the formal registration of the Bible Society, Lebanon. The dinner will be held on December 11, 2025, at Our Lady of Lebanon Cathedral at 7pm, and will include an update on the Society's distribution of 100,000 Special Edition New Testaments to celebrate Pope Leo's visit to Lebanon. Please email the Church if you are coming.

Fr. Chuck and Marie VanHeusen Farewell and Gratitude Luncheon

The Cathedral will hold a farewell luncheon of gratitude for Fr. Chuck and Marie VanHeusen on Sunday, December 28th after the 11:30 am Divine Liturgy. All are welcome to thank Fr. Chuck and Marie for their 3 year ministry at the Cathedral. Fr. Chuck has been assigned to serve St. Joseph Maronite Church in Olean, NY and will be departing with his wife Marie in early January.

St. Maron Gala

Please save the date for the 99th St. Maron Gala at El Caribe (5945 Strickland Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11234) on Saturday, February 7th.

Finance Council Recommendation

The Finance Council has recommended that parishioners set up their Church donation as an automatic payment. You may also make your contribution online by clicking [here](#). It was determined that a minimum of \$150.00 per household a month will help meet the Church's budget.

Sixth Pastoral Letter of Bishop Gregory Mansour

[The Man of God Is a Man for Others](#) is the most recent pastoral letter of Bishop Gregory. The Bishop said, "The words were born in my heart out of love from one man to another. But I hope my words will also be helpful to women as well." Please click [here](#) to read the letter.

Vocation Team Initiatives

The Vocation Team is starting a new initiative to foster and promote a culture of vocations in our parishes with a vocation form that Bishop Gregory would like everyone to consider completing. Please click on the [link](#) and consider submitting a name of one or two young people, whom the Vocation Team can pray for, and possibly accompany on their vocation journey. The Vocation Team and Bishop Gregory will intentionally pray for those whose names are submitted, and, if given permission, we will follow up with them to see how we can support them in their ongoing discernment. Please click [here](#) for our vocation prayer card and icon to aid our young people, families, and parishes to come together as the Body of Christ to pray for vocations.

Bulletin Advertisements

Business owners, you may advertise your businesses in the Church bulletin that reaches over 600 households via email. For more information click [here](#) or call the rectory at (718) 624-7228.

Cedar Remembrance Tree

Parishioners and friends can now remember their deceased and honor their living with their names on the commemorative tree located in our Cathedral Chapel vestibule. Please click [here](#) for more details.

Eparchial Vocation Video

To listen to the whisper of one's heart which might be calling one towards a special life of service, love, and purpose, Bishop Gregory is inviting you to view and share [this video](#) produced by Nadim Khalid, one of our seminarians, to discover and nurture the vocation that God has placed within you, and be faithful to his call no matter where it leads.

Saturday Speaker Series at St. Sharbel Spiritual Life Center

Please click [here](#) to watch a lecture by Michael Aquilina at the Saint Sharbel Spiritual Life Center. The talk is a superb analysis of the influence of the early Christians on society with respect to the dignity of women and children.



Our Lady of Lebanon Cathedral has been designated as a holy site for the 2025 Jubilee Year. Catholics who visit the Cathedral with a sincere heart free from attachment to sin, and who fulfill the following conditions, can obtain a plenary indulgence:

1. Receive Holy Communion.
2. Participate in the Sacrament of Penance (Confession).
3. Pray for the intentions of the Holy Father.

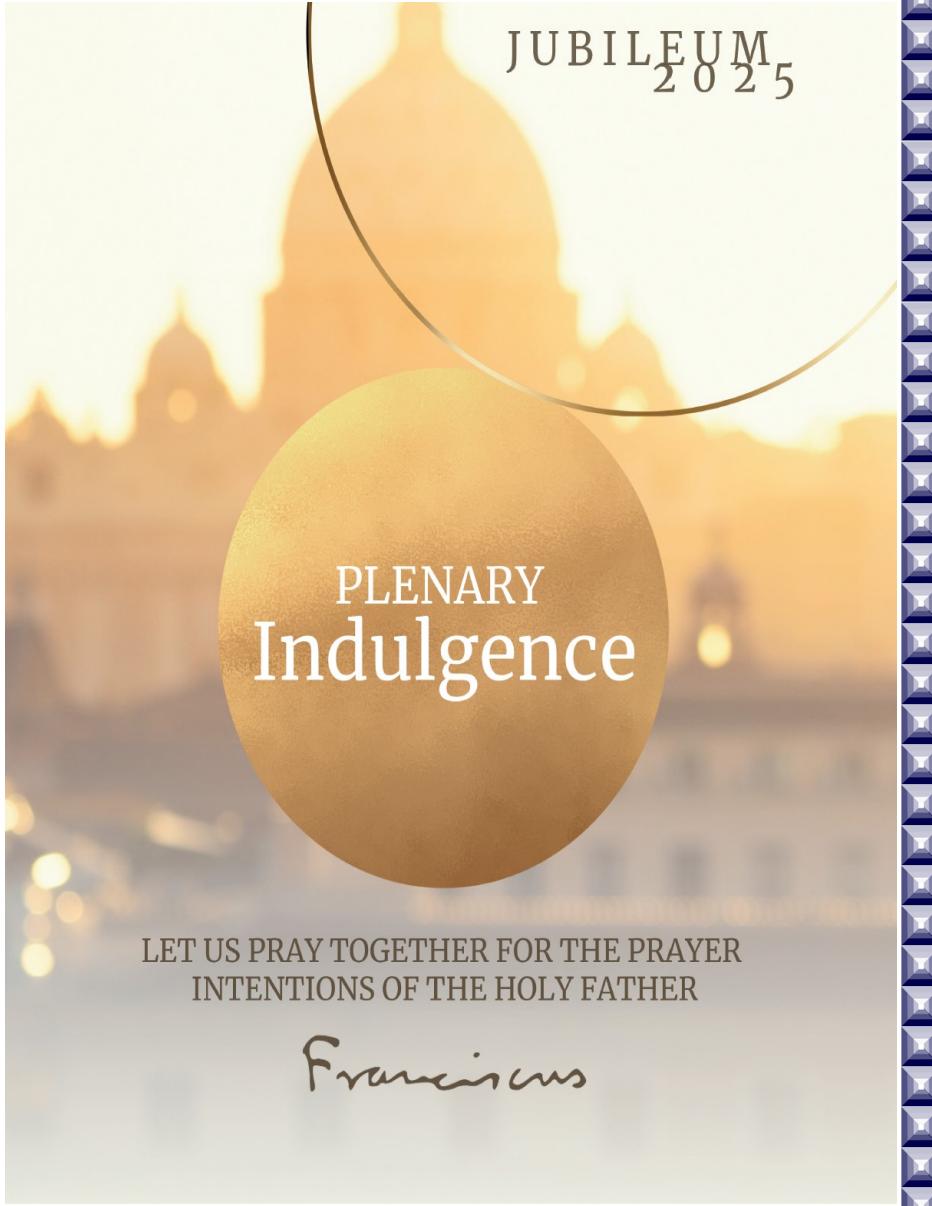
A plenary indulgence grants the complete remission of all temporal punishment due to sin, restoring the soul to the purity it had at baptism.

The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.



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Zoom Link: <https://surl.li/ejqldx>



Guest Speaker
James Salamy



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Sunday, December 7th, 2025
5:00 pm - 10:00 pm



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Dr. Ghassan Abou-Alfa

Master of Ceremonies
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Sunday Readings

قراءات الأحد

Sunday of the Visitation to Elizabeth

Letter to the Ephesians 1: 1-14.

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are in Ephesus and are faithful in Christ Jesus:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love.

He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory.

In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ to Saint Luke 1:39-45.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.'

And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me?

For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy.

And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

أحد زيارة العذراء

رسالة القديس بولس إلى أهل أفسس 14-1:1

يا إخوتي، من بولس، رسول المسيح يسوع بمشيئة الله، إلى القديسين الذين هم في أفسس والأماناء في المسيح يسوع:

النعمَة لِكُمْ وَالسَّلَامُ مِنَ اللَّهِ أَبِينَا وَالرَّبِّ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ! تَبَارَكَ اللَّهُ أَبُو رَبِّنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ، الَّذِي بَارَكَنَا بِكُلِّ بَرَكَةٍ رُوحِيَّةً فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ فِي الْمَسِيحِ؛ فَإِنَّهُ أَحْتَارَنَا فِيهِ قَبْلَ اِنْشَاءِ الْعَالَمِ، لِنَكُونَ فِي حَضْرَتِهِ قَدِيسِينَ، لَا عَيْبَ فِينَا؛

وَقَدْ سَبَقَ بِمَحْبَبِتِهِ فَحَدَّدَنَا أَنَّ نَكُونَ لَهُ أَبْنَاءَ بِالْتَّبَّنِي بِيَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ، بِحَسْبِ رِضَى مَشِيتِهِ، لِمَدْحُ مَجْدُ نِعْمَتِهِ الَّتِي أَنْعَمَ بِهَا عَلَيْنَا فِي الْحَبِيبِ؛ وَفِيهِ لَنَا الْفَدَاءَ بِدَمِهِ، أَيْ مَغْفِرَةُ الرِّلَاتِ، بِحَسْبِ غَنِي نِعْمَتِهِ، الَّتِي أَفَاضَهَا عَلَيْنَا فِي كُلِّ حِكْمَةٍ وَفَهْمٍ؛

وَقَدْ عَرَفَنَا سِرَّ مَشِيتِهِ، بِحَسْبِ رِضَاهُ الَّذِي سَبَقَ فَجَعَلَهُ فِي الْمَسِيحِ، لِيُحَقِّقَ تَدْبِيرَ مِلْءِ الْأَرْضِ، فَيَجْمَعَ فِي الْمَسِيحِ تَحْتَ رَأْسِ وَاحِدٍ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ، مَا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَمَا عَلَى الْأَرْضِ؛ وَفِيهِ أَيْضًا أَحْتَارَنَا مِيرَاثًا لَهُ، وَقَدْ سَبَقَ فَحَدَّدَنَا بِحَسْبِ فَصْدِهِ، هُوَ الَّذِي يَعْمَلُ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ بِقَضَاءِ مَشِيتِهِ، لِنَكُونَ مَذْحَا لِمَجْدِهِ، نَحْنُ الَّذِينَ سَبَقُنَا فَجَعَلُنَا فِي الْمَسِيحِ رَجَاءً؛ وَفِيهِ أَنْتُمْ أَيْضًا، بَعْدَ أَنْ سَمِعْتُمْ كَلْمَةَ الْحَقِّ، أَيْ إِنْجِيلَ خَلاصِكُمْ، وَآمَنْتُمْ، خُتْمْتُمْ بِالرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ المَوْعُودِ بِهِ، وَهُوَ عَرْبُونُ مِيرَاثًا، لِفَدَاءِ شَعْبِهِ الَّذِي أَفْتَاهَ، وَلِمَدْحُ مَجْدِهِ.

إنجيل القديس لوقة 45-39:1

في تلك الأيام (بعد البشارة بيسوع)، قameت مريم وذهبت مسرعة إلى الجبل، إلى مدينة في يهوذا.

ودخلت بيت زكرياء، وسلمت على الإصبابات. ولما سمعت الإصبابات سلام مريم، أرتكض الجنين في بط匪ها، وأمتلأت من الروح القدس.

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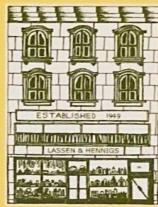
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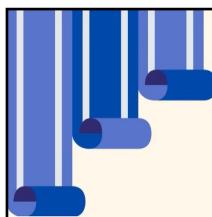
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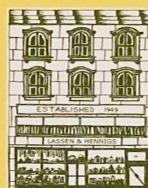


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