

Our Lady of Lebanon Church - Easton

Healing of the Blind man

Volume 2009, Issues 13

Sunday, March 29 , 2009

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Words of Wisdom

- *Vote against FOCA*
- *Ignorance of scripture is ignorance of Christ (St. Jerome)*
- *Information not shared is lost*
- *A lot of Kneeling will keep you in good standing*
- *Men are like computers: hard to figure out and they never have enough memory.*

Healing of the Blind Man

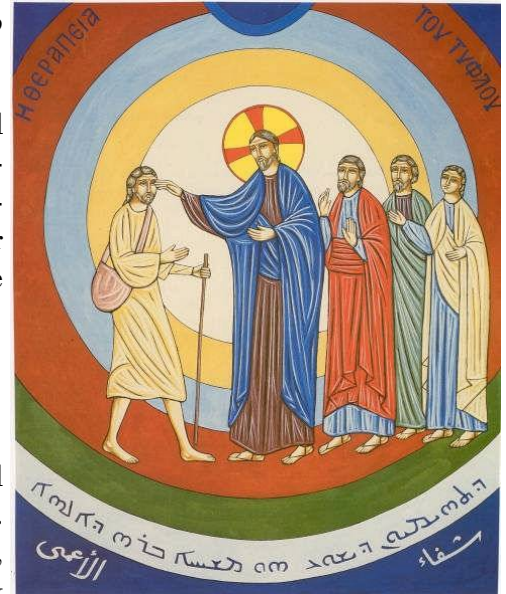
“What do you want me to do for you?”

He will save assuredly; yet he will do so just in the way he has promised. But in what way has he promised? On our willing it, and on our hearing him. For he does not make a promise to blocks of wood.

“And immediately he received his sight”

The commandment of the Lord shines clearly, enlightening the eyes. Receive Christ, receive power to see, receive your light, that you plainly recognize both God and man. More delightful than gold and precious stones, more desirable than honey and the honeycomb is the Word that has enlightened us. How could he not be desirable, who illumined minds buried in darkness, and endowed with clear vision “the light-bearing eyes” of the soul?..... Sing his praises, then, Lord, and make known to me your Father, who is God. Your Word will save me, your song instruct me. I have gone astray in my search for God; but now that you light my path, Lord, I find God through you, and receive the Father from you, I become co-heir with you, since you were not ashamed to own me as your brother. Let us, then, shake off forgetfulness of truth, shake off the mist of ignorance and darkness that dims our eyes, and contemplate the true God, after first raising this song of praise to him: “All hail, O light!” For upon us buried in darkness, imprisoned in the shadow of death, a heavenly light has shone, a light of a clarity surpassing the sun’s, and of a sweetness exceeding any this earthly life can offer.

“He followed Him on the way” So let us follow him as our pattern: offering him for our ransom, receiving him as our Eucharistic food and waiting for him as our endless and exceeding great reward. (Fr. B.C)





THIS WEEKEND * THE HEALING OF THE BLIND MAN *****

Sat., March 28 – 5:00 P.M. – Merhej Sassine & wife Anna & son George & granddaughter Jennifer by family

Sun., March 29 – 10:00 A.M. – Katherine Howard by Mr. & Mrs. Alex karam

WEEKDAY LITURGIES

Monday	March 30	6:30 p.m	John Saba karam by Mr. Joseph M. Karam
Tuesday	March 31	6:30 p.m	Helen Melhem by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Buesing.
Wednesday	April 1	*****	Anna John by Mr. & Mrs. Keene Jabbour
Thursday	April 2	*****	***** NO MASS (priests / Bishop's mass in the cathedral) *****
Friday	April 3	6:30 p.m 7:00p.m	- Assad Moussa & Jamil Romanos by Mrs. Daoun Boulos. - Stations & Adoration of the Holy Cross

NEXT WEEKEND * HOSANNA (PALM) SUNDAY *****

Sat., April 4 – 5:00 P.M. – Youssef Milan by (late) Katherine Howard & niece Marlene Bedway

Sun., April 5 – 10:00 A.M. – Palm Sunday - mass is offered for the kids of our parish .



BINGO	CALLER	KITCHEN	PAYOUT
March 31	Rose Sabra	Aziz Koury	Owtill Karam Antonios Jabbour
April 7	HOLY WEEK - NO BINGO		

		<p>THANK YOU & GOD BLESS</p>
Collection Saturday, March 7, 2009	\$ 431.00	
Collection: Sunday, March 8, 2009	\$ 450.00	
Collection Saturday, March 14, 2009	\$ 440.00	
Collection: Sunday, March 15, 2009	\$ 412.00	
Collection : Saint Joseph Feast	\$ 247.00 + 250 Donation	

Readers

Saturday, March 28	Claire Willard
Sunday, March 29	Rosie Jacob
Saturday, April 4	Sharon John
Sunday, April 5	Abraham jaoude
Saturday, April 11	Richard Russack
Sunday, April 12	Nikki Assise

Scripture Readings

Sunday March 22 , 2009

Healing of the Blind man

2 Cor 10 : 1-7

Mk 10: 46-52





Pamphlets outlining the proactive policy of the USCCB (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops) to protect children are available in the back of the church, or by logging on to www.usccb.org/ocyp

Likewise information on our eparchial website www.stmaron.org

It takes a dedicated team effort to safeguard our children. Thank You.



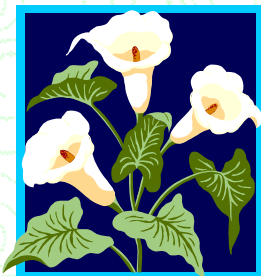
We take a special moment in our day as we pray for all the sick in our parish, the shut-ins, and those recovering from any illness, surgery, or treatments. May the Good Lord touch them with His healing and restore them to a good health of body and soul.

Please remember in your prayers this week: Yasmaine Shortell, Mary & John Tony and karam Simon (Skimo) and Joe M. (our friend), Marian Boulos.

SUNSHINE

It has been brought to my attention that many shut-ins and people in nursing homes desire to have company once in a while. For this reason, we call upon all of you if you are interested to be a part of a Sunshine Committee which consists of the ministry of visiting the elderly and nursing homes and bringing a smile to those who are lonely and longing for someone to talk to. If you have the time to serve on this committee, please contact the rectory at (610) 252-5275. This ministry will help all of us grow in humanity and the love of God and our neighbors.

EASTER LILIES



Dear Parishioners and Friends: Every Easter the church looks beautiful decorated with the flowers donated from your hearts to the Blessed Mother. We are accepting donations for the purchase of Easter flowers in memory of your loved ones through Thursday, April 2. please Include your donation in an envelope with your name, and the names to be listed "In Memory of..." Make your check payable to: OLOL Church – Memo: Easter Flowers, and mail to the church or deposit in the offering basket. Thank you in advance.

Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday Schedule

Processions: On Saturday and Sunday, April 4-5th, the palms will be blessed during both Masses and distributed. We will have a procession with the children at every Mass. Please bring your children and grandchildren and let us welcome Christ the King in our hearts with the shouts of "Hosannas." Decorated candles can be carried **inside** the church but **STRICTLY MUST NOT BE LIGHTED FOR SECURITY PURPOSES.** You can light these candles outside the church only.

HOLY WEEK

SCHEDULE OF CELEBRATIONS

MONDAY April 6,2009	Coming to the Harbor	6:30 P.M	Coming to the Harbor followed by the Mass
TUESDAY April 7,2009	Coming to the Harbor	6:30 P.M	Coming to the Harbor followed by the Mass
WEDNESDAY (of Job) April 8,2009	Rite of the Lamp	6:30 P.M	Rite of the lamp followed by the Mass.
THURSDAY April 9,2009	Holy Thursday	6:30 P.M	Washing of the feet followed by the Mass
		8:30 P.M	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament sponsored by St. Theresa Sodality
		9:30 P.M	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament sponsored by the Holy Name Society
		10:30 P.M	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament sponsored by MYA
		11:30 P.M	Silent adoration & Final prayers
FRIDAY April 10,2009	Good Friday	10:00 A.M	Pre-sanctified Mass (Anaphora of the signing of the Chalice)
		6:30 P.M	Adoration of the Cross and the Burial ritual
SATURDAY April 11,2009	Saturday Of the Light	10:00 to 12:00 Noon	Confessions (Msgr.Sadek, Fr. Bob George, Fr. Paul)
		12:00 Noon	Prayer of Forgiveness.
		5:00 P.M	Easter Vigil Mass & Rite of Peace
		12:00 Midnight	Resurrection Mass
SUNDAY April 12, 2009	Easter Sunday	10:00 A.M	Easter Day Mass & Rite of Peace

Holy Week Retreat Master

On behalf of all of us at OLOL church , Easton we would like to welcome the Reverend Monsignor **Ignace Sadek** (pastor emeritus of OLOL Cathedral) who is the Retreat Master for 2009 Holy Week. The theme for this retreat will be: **The Pillars of Our Faith:** with the focus on the Eucharist, the Cross and the Resurrection. Msgr. Sadek will be preaching on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday, and will be available for confessions and meetings with the parish organizations.



Saturday Choir

We are looking for volunteers to start a Saturday Choir . Volunteers are kindly requested to sign up their names and to provide us with their phone numbers or emails. Forms are available at the church doors. Always remember that by singing you will praise the Lord in a double way : first by your voice and second by your

Maronites on EWTN

I would like to let you know that the Rev. Msgr. Sharbel Maroun will be hosted on EWTN Live with the Reverend Fr. Mitch Pacwa this coming Wednesday, April 1st at 8:00pm (Eastern time). The topic will focus on **Christianity in the in the Middle East and Evangelization**. Msgr. Sharbel will also be celebrating a **Maronite Liturgy** on Thursday, April 2nd at 8:00am (Eastern Time.) It will be repeated at 12noon; 7:00pm and 12 midnight. (Eastern Time) These two events will be broadcasted also on Noursat (Telumiere) at the same time (Simulcast). EWTN is on most cables and satellites worldwide. Please, pass this news around.



A Time to Laugh

Three men

One day, three men were hiking and unexpectedly came upon a large raging, violent river. They needed to get to the other side, but had no idea of how to do so. The first man prayed to God, saying, "Please God, give me the strength to cross this river." Poof!!! God gave him big arms and strong legs, and he was able to swim across the river in about two hours, after almost drowning a couple of times. Seeing this, the second man prayed to God, saying, "Please God, give me the strength and the tools to cross this river." Poof!!! God gave him a rowboat and he was able to row across the river in about an hour, after almost capsizing the boat a couple of times. The third man had seen how this worked out for the other two, so he also prayed to God saying, "Please God, give me the strength and the tools... and the intelligence... to cross this river." And poof!!! God turned him into a woman. SHE looked at the map, hiked upstream a couple of hundred yards, then walked across the bridge.

SEND THIS TO A SMART WOMAN WHO NEEDS A LAUGH and a man who can laugh at his own kind!

2009 MYO Retreat

The 2009 MYO conference will be in Ligonier, PA from July 21 to July 26 for all youth between the age of 12 and 18, including 2009 high school graduates. The conference will be hosted at the Antiochian Village Retreat and Conference Center . The cost will be \$ 350 per participant (quadruple occupancy). Registration is due by May 15. for more information and details please visit the MYO official website: [www. Ma-roniteyouth.com](http://www.Maroneyouth.com)

Monk Soup Sale

The Annual Monk's Soup Sale will take place on Good Friday, April 10, 2009, starting @ 11:30 A.M in the church hall. You may eat the soup in the church hall or order it for Take Out. Please bring your own containers for Take Out orders.

Egg Coloring

There will be an Egg Coloring event on Saturday , April 4th. At 6:00 P.M. there will be games, food and snacks. All kids are invited to join us . This event will prepare for The Egg Tapping contest event that will take place on Easter Sunday, after mass.



REQUIEM

Our deepest sympathy and sincere condolences go to the family, friends, and relatives of **Joe Beers (grandson of Alexander Nehme)** who passed away this past week . May the Lord grant eternal rest to his souls , and may He grant comfort and consolation to all those who mourn his death. May all the faithful departed rest in Peace.

FOOD DRIVE

“The children of our CCD classes will be conducting a food drive again this year to commemorate the holy season of Lent. All parishioners are encouraged to bring in food items for this collection. Please bring only canned or boxed items - no glass jars please. These donations can be placed in the vestibule at the entrance of the church hall any time the hall is open. All donations will be given to the ProJeCt of Easton Food Bank based in St. John's Lutheran Church in downtown Easton . If you'd like to make a large donation of food or have questions, you may contact Marta Gabriel at 610-504-0541. Thank you for supporting the less fortunate in our community during this holy season.”

MANY THANKS

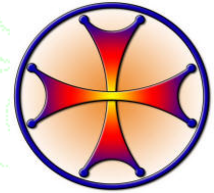
Alexander Nehme and family would like to thank all who called them to offer their condolences and all who attended the divine liturgy that was celebrated in memory of their beloved **Joe Beers**. Your presence and prayers were deeply appreciated by the family. May Our Lord reward you all and grant rest to all our faithful departed.

DAY OFF Please be advised that the Rectory's office will be closed on Wednesdays. No phone calls will be answered . For emergencies - Hospital calls- please call Abouna on his cellular.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

“Let every man therefore cry out for the healing of his wounds, and call upon the physician of souls, and of bodies as the blind man called out: “Jesus Son of David, have mercy on me.” “And they that went before, rebuked him.” But his courage in speaking was not stayed by their rebuke. Faith renews in man the strength to withstand all things, to triumph over all. Men shouted at him to be silent, but the man of faith abated nothing of his eagerness, but sought the Lord, as one who well knows that honest presumption may serve the cause of righteousness. For if there be many who thrust themselves forward for the sake of gain, should a man not put bashfulness aside, when it is a question of his soul’s salvation? “Jesus commanded him to be brought unto him.” He had brought it about that Jesus stood. The voice of the man who cried out in faith had caused Jesus saying: “What do you want me to do for you?” he does not ask idly: for he could have healed him as he sat by the way side. But because the Jews might say, as they said of the man born blind: “It is not this man but one like him.” He therefore calls the blind man into their midst, that he first might make evident to them the defect in his nature, and then show the power of his grace “What do you want me to do for you?” He questions the man, and in this way instructs those about him. “But he said: Lord, that I may see.” Observe what testimony he requires of this man, to whom he gave health, to thwart the falsehoods of the evil-minded. He thereupon says to him: **“Go, your faith has saved you.”**

Lenten Meditation: Accepting Our Powerlessness



“In you, O LORD, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.” (Psalm 71:1)

There is no hope in denial or avoidance, for ourselves or anyone else. New life can only be born out of the seed planted in crushed soil. Indeed, God, our Lord, “a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise” (Psalm 51:17).

What keeps us from opening ourselves both to the reality of the world around us and to God’s healing hand? Could it be that we cannot accept our powerlessness and are only willing to see those wounds that we can heal? Could it be that we do not want to give up our illusion that we are masters over our world, and therefore, create our own Disneyland where we can make ourselves believe that all events of life are safely under control? Could it be that our blindness and deafness are signs of our own resistance to acknowledging that we are not the Lord of the Universe? Often we don’t realize how much we resent our powerlessness.

Lord, during the Holy Week when you were rendered powerless for our sake, I will strive to accept my own weakness and to depend on You. In a few moments of silence this day I will remember one time in my life when Your strength became clear because of my weakness.

OUR LADY OF LEBANON CHURCH**Maronite Catholic Church**

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We are on the internet at:

www.mountlebanon.org

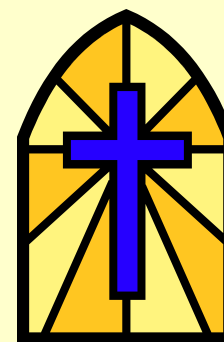
You can find us also at:

www.catholicweb.com church ID : 55071**An Extra Story for You: The Mouse Trap**

A mouse looked through a crack in the wall to see the farmer and his wife opening a package; what food might it contain? He was aghast to discover that it was a mouse trap! Retreating to the farmyard, the mouse proclaimed the warning, "There is a mouse trap in the house, there is a mouse trap in the house."

The chicken clucked and scratched, raised her head and said, "Mr. Mouse, I can tell this is a grave concern to you, but it is of no consequence to me; I cannot be bothered by it." The mouse turned to the pig and told him, "There is a mouse trap in the house." "I am so very sorry Mr. Mouse," sympathized the pig, "but there is nothing I can do about it but pray; be assured that you are in my prayers." The mouse turned to the cow, who replied, "Like wow, Mr. Mouse, a mouse trap; am I in grave danger, Duh?" So the mouse returned to the house, head down and dejected to face the farmer's mouse trap alone. That very night a sound was heard throughout the house, like the sound of a mouse trap catching its prey. The farmer's wife rushed to see what was caught. In the darkness, she did not see that it was a venomous snake whose tail the trap had caught. The snake bit the farmer's wife. The farmer rushed her to the hospital. She returned home with a fever. Now everyone knows you treat a fever with fresh chicken soup, so the farmer took his hatchet to the farmyard for the soup's main ingredient. His wife's sickness continued so that friends and neighbors came to sit with her around the clock. To feed them, the farmer butchered the pig. The farmer's wife did not get well, in fact, she died, and so many people came for her funeral the farmer had the cow slaughtered to provide meat for all of them to eat.

So the next time you hear that someone is facing a problem and think that it does not concern you, remember that when the least of us is threatened, we are all at risk.



Stations of the Cross

Every Friday during Lent, we will celebrate the Mass at 6:30 p.m. and Stations of the Cross at 7:00 p.m., followed by Benediction of the Cross.

Indulgences

The Church encourages the faithful to practice this devotion, and has granted a plenary indulgence to those who piously exercise the way of the cross, preferably when it is done in a Church or any place where the stations have been placed with Church approval. ("Enchiridion of Indulgences," No. 63).

The conditions are to walk from station to station while meditating the sufferings of Our Lord. Those who cannot do it in such manner may still gain a plenary indulgence by meditating on the Passion and sufferings of Our Lord for at least half hour.