

## Our Lady of Lebanon Church - Easton

# 5th SUNDAY OF THE HOLY CROSS

Volume 2009, Issues 38-39

Sunday, October 18-25, 2009



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## Gospel Reflections : Mt 25:1-13

### Words of Wisdom

- *The scriptures teach us the best way of living, the noblest way of suffering, and the most comfortable way of dying (J. Flavel).*

### A Week Without God Is:

**S**unday  
**M**ournday  
**T**earsday  
**W**asteday  
**T**hirstday  
**F**ightday  
**S**hatterday

Like the bride in the parable of the ten virgins, we know that the bridegroom is coming, but we do not know when: none of us can tell when Christ is coming to take him away in death, no generation of men knows when Christ will return to make the Church triumphant. But because our whole mind and our whole action must be concentrated on that longed-for hour of lodgment, we must always be ready. Lamps are not enough: there must be oil as well. This means that it is not enough to belong outwardly to the Church. We must have a living faith, grace and real love. All equipment and costume are meaningless without them. Only men whose minds are alive with the riches God has given them are ready. Health and beauty, cleverness, energy and courage are of no use if God's grace is not there. Golden lamps of good design are of no use in the dark if they have no oil. "I never knew you," is the answer which Christ will give to those who put their trust in strength, beauty, intelligence or personality, yet had no care for God's word, his grace or love: their lamps were without oil. Our readiness must be continual. We are not just friends of the bridegroom or the bride, but living members of the Lord's mystical body, living members of the Church, sharing in the betrothal and the marriage. We are not just spectators looking on nearby, not even mere friends invited to the feast. Thus every soul, and the whole Church, should be full of joyful expectancy at Christ's coming. It is natural for us to fear death and try to avoid it, but faith gives us an entirely different view of death. To our naive view of things, death is the end: to faith it is the beginning of great joy. The Christian looks to the future with a restlessness founded in this joy. What Christ has told us, "keep watch, therefore, as you do not know the day or the hour," does not mean a fearful expectancy like that of Noah before the flood, or of the householder who feared the coming of the thief. This waiting of ours is joy. What we are expecting is the fulfillment of the good news, the revelation of God's mystery, the ecstatic happiness of complete communion between God and men. Here will be the fulfillment of all foreshadowing, wishes and longings of ancient myth and Christian mysticism, summed up in the cry of the Apocalypse when the bride says: "Come," and the heavenly Bridegroom answers: "I come quickly." (Fr. B.C)



**THIS WEEKEND \*\*\* 5th SUNDAY AFTER HOLY CROSS \*\*\***  
**Sat. Oct. 17– 5:00 P.M. – Andrew J. Baka** by daughter Frances Melhem & family.  
**Sun., Oct. 18 – 10:00 A.M. – Amin Abi Samra** by family.

**WEEKDAYS**

Monday	Oct. 19	6:30 P.M	<b>Josephine Melhem</b> by Jennie Melhem
Tuesday	Oct. 20	6:30 P.M	<b>Anthony Vaccaro</b> by Robert & Dolores Ellwood
Wednesday	Oct. 21	*****	<b>NO DAILY MASS **** DAY-OFF</b>
Thursday	Oct. 22	6:30 P.M	<b>Catherine Melan</b> by Mr. & Mrs. Canone Anthony
Friday	Oct. 23	6:30 P.M	<b>Tannous Estephan</b> by Deacon & Mrs. Anthony Koury

**NEXT WEEKEND \*\*\* 6TH SUNDAY OF THE CROSS: CHRIST THE KING \*\*\***  
**Sat., Oct. 24 – 5:00 P.M. – Wanda Lauer (40th day mass)** by family.  
**Sun., Oct. 25– 10:00 A.M. – Michael Koury, Sr.** by family

Monday	Oct. 26	6:30 P.M	<b>Marian Boulous</b> by Lorraine Boulous & family
Tuesday	Oct. 27	6:30 P.M	<b>Carol Marinetti</b> by Sharon John & family
Wednesday	Oct. 28	*****	<b>NO DAILY MASS **** DAY-OFF</b>
Thursday	Oct. 29	6:30 P.M	<b>Helen Melhem</b> by Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Moussa
Friday	Oct. 30	6:30 P.M	<b>Katherine Howard</b> by Mr. & Mrs. Donald Solomon & family

**NEXT WEEKEND \*\*\* ALL SAINTS - CONSECRATION OF THE CHURCH \*\*\***  
**Sat., Oct. 31 – 5:00 P.M. –**  
**Sun., Nov. 1 – 10:00 A.M. – for all Parishioners** by Fr. Paul Damien



BINGO	CALLER	KITCHEN	PAYOUT
<b>Oct. 20</b>	Mona Milan	Rosann Constantine, Jawhara karam & Aziz Koury	Cheffie Melhem Antonios Jabbour
<b>Oct. 27</b>	Badway Karam	Aziz Koury	Antonios Jabbour
<b>Nov. 3</b>	Mike Boulous	Aziz Koury	Antonios Jabbour Owtil karam

**Readers**

Saturday, October 17	Frances Melhem
Sunday, October 18	Rima Jabbour
Saturday, October 24	Bill Joseph
Sunday, October 25	Michael Koury
Saturday, October 31	Simon Koorie
Sunday, November 1	Naomi Koerwitz

**Scripture Readings**  
**5th Holy Cross 6th Holy Cross**  
**Phil 2: 12-18 / Rom 12:9-21**  
**Mt 25: 1-13 / Mt 25: 31-46**



**DAY OFF** Please be advised that Father Paul ‘ day off is Wednesday. On that day the Rectory’s office will be closed. phone calls will go to an answering machine . For emergencies - Hospital calls- please call Abouna on his cellular or Deacon Anthony Koury.

# MYO / MYA




The M.Y.O will be sponsoring a Halloween party on Friday, October 30th. It will be held in the church hall from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. There will be games and prizes for entertainment as well as a DJ. There will be food, snacks, and drinks. If anyone would like to make any monetary or food donations. Please contact Peter Koorie or Rhonda Elias. The cost to get in is \$5 for anyone over 18 and \$3 for anyone under 18. Children under two years of age will be no charge. A dance will follow for anyone 13 and above from 9-11 p.m.

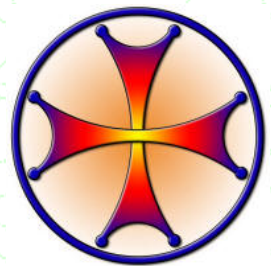

**Future events to keep in mind;**  
 November Hafli - Saturday, November 28th  
 MYO/St. Teresa Christmas Party - Saturday, December 19th



**St. Therese of the Child Jesus Sodality**



Congratulations for the Newly elected officers:  
 Rose Sabra (President), Dora Elias (Vice-President), Marcene Soliday (Secretary) and Tara Simonetta (Treasurer).

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: Berlin Kassis, Geraldine Boulos and Agnes Pelligotti.

**Rummage Sale**

“Do you have items lying around the house that you no longer use or need? Want to give them away for a worthy cause? The church’s CCD students will be holding a Rummage Sale from 1-7 p.m., on Saturday, **November 14, 2009** in the church hall. Parishioners can drop off their items at the hall between 9 a.m. and 12 noon that day. Proceeds of the sale will donated to the Safe Harbor Homeless Shelter in downtown Easton. Please invite your family, friends and neighbors to donate their items and to also come and purchase items for sale. Any questions, contact Marta Gabriel, 610-504-0541, or Rosie Jacob, 610-360-5020.”



**EPARCHY OF SAINT MARON OF BROOKLYN  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP**

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8 September 2009

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

We are happy to announce a new effort to connect families with Middle Eastern roots to their churches, relatives, villages and country of origins. *Project Roots* is a joint effort of the Eparchy of Saint Maron and Our Lady of Lebanon in cooperation with, and at the request of, His Beatitude and Eminence, Nasrallah Peter Cardinal Sfeir, our Maronite Patriarch, and the Synod of Maronite Bishops throughout the world.

The project is made possible by a grant from the Maronite Foundation and its sole purpose is to encourage Christians here in the United States to connect with their roots in Lebanon and the Middle East ([www.maronitefoundation.org](http://www.maronitefoundation.org)). Enclosed, please find a one page summary that answers some questions you may have. As Bishops, our desire is that Christians with Middle Eastern roots have at their disposal all they need to make connections with those who have given them life in Christ over the ages. *Project Roots* also hopes to assist those interested in obtaining Lebanese citizenship.

For more information you may contact Father Abdallah Zaidan, M.L.M., at Our Lady of Mt. Lebanon Cathedral, 333 S. San Vicente Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90048, telephone number (310)-276-1939, fax number (310)-858-0856 and email [projectroots@live.com](mailto:projectroots@live.com).

We hope you will find this effort will be helpful to you.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Robert J. Shaheen  
Bishop of the  
Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon

+Gregory J. Mansour  
Bishop of the  
Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn

Enclosure



### Project Roots

The Eparchies of Saint Maron and Our Lady of Lebanon are joining together to help people reconnect with their Christian spiritual roots in Lebanon and the Middle East. An office in Los Angeles, under the direction of Father Abdallah Zaidan MLM, will assist those interested to:

1. Obtain their sacramental records from their country of origin;
2. Connect with family members living in their place of origins and throughout the world where the emigrated;
3. Obtain Lebanese citizenship if desired;
4. Obtain immigration records if desired;
5. Remain connected with the Maronite Church here and throughout the world.

This Project is being made possible by a grant from the Maronite Foundation. No eparchial funds are being used, but the office will accept financial contributions from those willing to help. For more information contact:

Father Abdallah Zaidan, MLM  
333 South San Vicente Boulevard  
Los Angeles, CA 90048  
310-276-1939  
[projectroots@live.com](mailto:projectroots@live.com)

Those interested in Lebanese citizenship can log on directly to the website for the Maronite Foundation at [www.maronitefoundation.org](http://www.maronitefoundation.org).



## *Famous Quotes: Single Liners*



--The good Lord didn't create anything without a purpose, but mosquitoes come close.

--When you get to your wit's end, you'll find God lives there.

--People are funny; they want the front of the bus, the middle of the road, and the back of the church.

--Opportunity may knock once, but temptation bangs on your front door forever.

--Quit griping about your church; if it was perfect, you couldn't belong.

--If the church wants a better preacher, it only needs to pray for the one it has.



## *Reflection: Prayer to a Friend*



Not often do we find a friend  
In whom we can confide.  
One who seems to understand  
And will stay by your side.  
One who you can laugh with  
And enjoy the fun of life.  
One who you can paint with,  
And create a picture bright.  
This friend of mine has cried with me,  
She made me welcome in her home.  
There were times she prayed with me,  
And listened to all my poems.  
Dear Father, God, I need this friend,  
She's a real treasure in my life.  
We share our innermost thoughts, dear Lord,  
And at times I need her advice.  
We often discuss the Bible,  
And talk about our faith.  
We talk of love, war, sin, and hate,  
Recipes, clothes and past dates.  
Lord, not often do we find a friend  
To whom we can relate.  
To her, good health will you please send?  
Help her illness, put her on the mend.  
Thank you, Lord, her life to preserve,  
And You we will praise and always serve.

--Irene Chapple, MN



# MYO / MYA

The MYO/MYA will be sponsoring their **Annual Fall Hafli** on Saturday, November 28, 2009. The party will be held in Our Lady of Lebanon church hall. A full course meal and a full cash bar will be offered. The cost for adults 18 and over is \$40. The cost for children 2 and over is \$15. Children under two years old are free of charge. Tickets will be sold very soon. If you would like to make reservations we can not make them unless you pay on the spot. If you have any questions or would like to help or make donations please contact peter Koorie or Rhonda Elias. Benefits from this party pay for all the children and young adults' events throughout the year

## HOLY NAME SOCIETY EVENTS



**October 24th:** Philadelphia Shrine Tour ; St. Rita, St. John Neuman and St. Maron Church

**November 15:** Spaghetti Dinner (Our Lady of Lebanon Church Hall)

## St. Theresa Sodality Events



\*\*\* St Therese Sodality will be holding its **Annual Spinach/Meat Pie Sale** on Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. Spinach Pies are \$3.00 each and Meat Pies will be \$4.00 each. Orders may be picked up between 1:00 and 4:30 PM. To place an order please call Renee Melan at 610-253-5968. The deadline for orders is Monday November 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Sodality's charities will benefit from the proceeds. Thank you in advance for your continuing support of our fundraising events.

\*\*\* **St. Therese Sodality/MYO Christmas Party** – The children's annual Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, December 19<sup>th</sup>. The Christmas "Pageant" normally scheduled on Christmas Eve will be moved to December 19<sup>th</sup> immediately following Saturday's Liturgy. The party will begin once the Pageant is concluded. Admission fee for adults will be \$5.00, children are free. All money collected for admission will be used to buy 150 sets of hats, gloves and scarves for underprivileged children in our local area. May God reward you for helping to keep these little ones warm during the cold winter months ahead.

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

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We are on the internet at:

[www.mountlebanon.org](http://www.mountlebanon.org)

You can find us also at:

[www.catholicweb.com](http://www.catholicweb.com) church ID : 55071

**Bulletin Advertisement**

The weekly Bulletin will have a whole page set for advertisements. If you are interested in advertising your business or special events, please call Father Paul.

**HOLIDAY BAZAAR & BREAKFAST**

will be held the weekend of October 24 and 25 at the Holy Family Gym located at the end of W. Center St. in Nazareth. Craft items, "Nice As New" table, "Tricky Tray", Bake Sale and Quilt Raffle. On Saturday the kitchen will serve cabbage & noodles, soup, barbecue, baked goods, etc. A buffet breakfast will be served on Sunday; Adults/\$6; Children 6 & over/\$3. Open Saturday from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm and Sunday 8:00 am to 1:00 pm.



The Knights of Columbus (345) will be visiting Our Lady of Lebanon parish on October 31st and November 1st. The knights will sell their Christmas Cards that support their scholarships. Please be generous as usual.

**CHARITY**

To reach out to the needy and the poor in our community, we are in the process of creating our own independent charity project. In the past we used to help through other local non-profit organizations, but our contributions went un-noticed and many people thought that we are not helping our needy brothers and sisters as recommended by the Lord's commandments.

We will have a weekly distribution of canned food, clothing, toys ...etc. a list of needed items will be posted in the bulletin to make sure that we receive only needed items since we do not have space for storage. Distribution dates and place will be published later. This project will be supervised by Muncy Farhat. All helpers are welcome to join the team.

**Fr. Youakim Moubarac's Scholarship**

To honor the memory of a great Maronite scholar: *Father Youakim Moubarac* of Kfarsghab, Our Lady of Lebanon Church in Easton will offer annual scholarships to encourage our families to send their children to Catholic Schools. A special fund was created for this purpose.

All interested parishioners and friends of Abouna Youakim Moubarac will be able to donate directly to the fund and encourage catholic education.

