



# **Our Lady of Lebanon**

## **Maronite Catholic Church**

950 North Grace Street, Lombard, IL 60148

**Tel:** 630-932-9640 / **Fax:** 630-932-9463

Rev. Fr. Pierre El Khoury **Cell:** 713-972-2990

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

## **Second Sunday of Great Lent: Healing of the Leper** **February 14, 2016**

### **Lenten Psalm** **Psalm 51**

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your mercy;

In your abundant Love, blot out my transgressions.

Wash away my guilt; and from my sin cleanse me.

For I know my transgressions; and my sin is ever before me.

Against you, you alone have I sinned; I have done what is evil

Behold, I was born in guilt, in sin my mother conceived me.

Behold, you desire true sincerity; and you teach my heart wisdom.

Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, I will be whiter than snow.

You will let me hear gladness and joy; the bones you have crushed will rejoice.

Turn away your face from my sins; and blot out all my iniquities.

A clean heart create for me, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

Do not drive me from before your face, nor take from me your holy spirit.

Restore to me the gladness of your salvation; uphold me with a willing spirit.

I will teach the wicked your ways that sinners may return to you.

Lord, you will open my lips; and my mouth will proclaim your praise.

And my tongue will sing joyfully of your justice.

For you do not desire sacrifice;

A burnt offering you would not accept.

My sacrifice, O God, is a contrite spirit;

A contrite, humbled heart, O God, you will not scorn.

## إنجيل القديس مرقس 1

وَأَتَاهُ أَبْرَصٌ يَتَوَسَّلُ إِلَيْهِ، فَجَنَّا وَقَالَ لَهُ: «إِنْ شِئْتَ فَأَنْتَ قَادِرٌ أَنْ تُطَهِّرَنِي!». فَتَحَنَّنَ يَسُوعُ وَمَدَّ يَدَهُ وَلَمَسَهُ وَقَالَ لَهُ: «قَدْ شِئْتَ، فَأَطْهُرْ!». وَفِي الْحَالِ زَالَ عَنْهُ الْبَرَصُ، فَطَهَّرَ. فَأَنْتَهَرَهُ يَسُوعُ وَصَرَافَهُ حَالًا، وَقَالَ لَهُ: «أَنْظُرْ، لَا تُخْبِرْ أَحَدًا بِشَيْءٍ، بَلْ أَذْهَبْ وَأَرِ نَفْسَكَ لِلْكَاهِنِ، وَقَدِّمْ عَن طَهْرِكَ مَا أَمَرَ بِهِ مُوسَى، شَهَادَةً لَهُمْ». أَمَّا هُوَ فَخَرَجَ وَبَدَأَ يُنَادِي بِأَعْلَى صَوْتِهِ وَيُذَبِّغُ الْخَبْرَ، حَتَّى إِنَّ يَسُوعَ لَمْ يَعُدْ قَادِرًا أَنْ يَدْخُلَ إِلَى مَدِينَةٍ عَلَانِيَةً، بَلْ كَانَ يُقِيمُ فِي الْخَارِجِ، فِي أَمَاكِنَ مُفْفِرَةٍ، وَكَانَ النَّاسُ يَأْتُونَ إِلَيْهِ مِنْ كُلِّ مَكَانٍ.

### Gospel according to Saint Mark 1:35-45

A leper came to him, and kneeling down, begged him and said, "If you wish, you can make me clean." Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him, and said to him, "I do will it. Be made clean." The leprosy left him immediately, and he was made clean. Then, warning him sternly, he dismissed him at once. Then he said to him, "See that you tell no one anything, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed; that will be proof for them." The man went away and began to publicize the whole matter. He spread the report abroad so that it was impossible for Jesus to enter a town openly. He remained outside in deserted places, and people kept coming to him from everywhere.

### Humility before God and Mercy toward others

Man needs air and food for the growth of our body. In the same way, prayer and fasting are necessary for our spiritual growth. Only through fasting and prayer, we will be able to resist Satan's Power. Jesus Christ, our Savior, spent much of His time in Prayer and Fasting.

**What is prayer?** Prayer is nothing but a communication between Man and God. God is a person whom you can rely on always. A trustworthy friend. Unlike our worldly friends, God is a friend in need and a friend indeed. Just a call away. Always ready and willing to help. You should pray not only for you, but also for others who need your prayers.

**What is Fasting?** Fasting is abstaining from certain foods for certain period of time to dedicate oneself to focused prayer. When we fast we should not only give up certain kinds of food, but also fast in our words, actions and thoughts. Fasting and Praying is most effective. Fasting is done for the soul purpose. We get our souls right with God.

Last week, Cana Sunday, was about transformation, this week is about humility and helping others in need. The leper knelt down and prayed "Lord, if you are willing, make me clean." This is a humble request from the leper. This teaches us how to pray and surrender to God's will.

Leprosy is infectious disease which spreads by touch. But here Jesus is patiently waiting and listening to his painful story. He was showed empathy towards this leper. He touched him and healed for him. The take home message for Christians is very clear here: Show mercy and kindness towards fellow citizens.

The greatest sin of the modern world is the lack of awareness about sin.

## **REMEMBER IT**

**“If you wish, you can make me clean.”**

**Mark 1:40**

## **Deacon's Corner**

About a month ago, a good friend sent me an email that was titled; “The last wishes of Alexander the Great”. I read it a number of times since receiving it and feel it is worthy of sharing as we go on with our lives:

On his death bed, Alexander the Great summoned his army generals and told them his three ultimate wishes:

1. The best doctors should carry his coffin...
2. The wealth he has accumulated should be scattered along the procession to the cemetery.
3. His hands should be let loose, so they hang outside the coffin for all to see!

One of his generals who was surprised by these unusual requests asked Alexander to explain. Here is what Alexander the Great had to say: “I want the best doctors to carry my coffin to show that in the face of death, even the best doctors in the world have no power to heal. I want the road covered with my treasure so everyone sees that material wealth acquired while on earth, will stay on earth.” I want my hands to swing in the wind, so that people understand that we come into this world empty handed and we leave this world empty handed after the most precious treasure of all is exhausted and that is TIME”

You see, we can always produce more of everything that we deem important in our lives with the exception of one thing, we cannot produce more TIME. When we give someone our TIME, we actually give them a portion of our life that we will never get back. OUR TIME IS OUR LIFE!

## **Mass Intentions for Next Sunday February 21, 2016**

**11:30 Mass: Farid Mikhael Ziadé (Req. by Tony Ziadé)**

**A speedy recovery of Mary Ann Kirkish**

Our Lady of Lebanon Church  
950 Grace Street  
Lombard, IL 60148

# *Soup Supper*

**Friday, February 26**

Following Stations of the Cross at **8 p.m.**

Come enjoy a variety of homemade soups, salads,  
mjadra, pizza and fruit. Unlimited Refills!

**\$10/adult**

**\$5/children 12 and younger**



**Sponsored by the MYO**

## Mass Celebration



Cana Sunday: Entrance into Great Lent Page 196  
Anaphora of the Twelve Apostles: 774

## Sunday Readings



**Reading:** Romans 6:12-23 (*Freedom from Sin; Life in God*)  
**Holy Gospel:** Mark 1:35-45 (*Jesus Heals a Man With Leprosy*)

## Mass Intentions



### 9:30 AM

**The deceased of the Shaker Family** (Req. by the Breit Family)  
**A speedy recovery of father Doctor William Najm**

### 11:30 AM

**A speedy recovery of father Doctor William Najm**

<b>Schedules</b>	<b>9:30 A.M. Mass</b>	<b>11:30 A.M. Mass</b>
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Joseph and George Estephan, Andres Ballines, Leila Nehra	Estifan Azzo, Cassandra Chahoud, Yasmina Mulcahey, Ramez Sayegh
<b>Readers</b>	Robert Antoon	Costa Yasmine (Arabic) Josiane Dandan (English)
<b>Ushers</b>	Nabil Zahra Frank Kermend	Ed Kneip, Henry Abboud, Tony Boumitri, John Albani,

## Announcements

✳ **Stations of the Cross:** All Fridays of Great Lent, Mass is celebrated at 7 P.M. and Stations of the Cross at 7:30 P.M., followed by a potluck.

### ✳ **BAKE SALE**

Our annual Easter Bake sale fundraising event is on Sunday, March 13th. To pre-order go to our website ([ollchicago.org](http://ollchicago.org)) or pick up a pre-order flyer. All pre-Orders need to be submitted no later than March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016. We appreciate your generosity, your donations and your support. For more info please call **Mrs. Ferial Massud (630) 841-3896**.

In the coming three weeks, Monday through Thursday at 10 A.M., the ladies in our community are called upon to come together, and prepare the Easter Bake sale food. A sign-up Sheet is available in the church Narthex for anyone who is willing to help.

### ✳ **Soup Supper**

Join us for a Lenten Soup Supper on Friday, February 26th, following the Station of the Cross at 8 p.m. in our Shaker Hall. Support our MYO as they serve us a variety of homemade soups, salads, mjadra, pizza, and fruit. Admission is \$10 per person - children 12 and younger are \$5.

### ✳ **Parish Lenten Retreat**

Pope Francis has declared this Holy Year of Mercy, and he called all Catholic parishes to dedicate March 5<sup>th</sup> as a day of prayer, and confession. Our parish will host a Lenten retreat for all our parishioners. The theme of our Spiritual Retreat is "**Remembering God's Mercy**". Sign-up Sheets are available in the Narthex.

## Let us remember

and pray for our Beloved Ones who died during the month of February

† Anton Kattany	† Leila Saadeh Sweilem	† Angelina Lombardo	† George Albert
† Jorge Ruiz	† Eva Wintergeast	† Jacob P. Schuck	† Libby Hajje
† David Gage	† Abraham Rayyan	† Monroe Bouzide	† Sarah Thomas
† Elsie Be-Hannesev	† Margaret Tamer	† John S. Nemeh	† George Owen
† Eleanor Haddad	† Antoine Khoury	† Ralph J. Lutfy	

## **COLLECTION**

**Sunday January 31, 2016: \$ 2, 578.00**

**Ash Monday February 8, 2016: \$ 320.00**

**Lent is a Time of Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving!**