



## **Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church**

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### **Commemoration of the priests January 17, 2016**



**Bishop Abdallah Zaidan and Bishop Emeritus Robert Shaheen surrounded by the priest and the clergy of the Epharchy of our Lady of Lebanon – Los Angeles.**

**This picture is taken in the Franciscan Renewal center, Phoenix – Arizona during the clergy annual retreat (11/16 – 15/16).**

## إنجيل القديس لوقا 12

"مَنْ تَرَاهُ الْوَكِيلُ الْأَمِينُ الَّذِي يُقِيمُهُ سَيِّدُهُ عَلَى خَدَمِهِ لِيُعْطِيَهُمْ حَصَّتَهُمْ مِنَ الطَّعَامِ فِي حِينِهَا؟  
طُوبَى لِدَلِكِ الْعَبْدِ الَّذِي، مَتَى جَاءَ سَيِّدُهُ، يَجِدُهُ فَاعِلًا هَكَذَا!...  
وَمَنْ أُعْطِيَ كَثِيرًا يُطَلَّبُ مِنْهُ الْكَثِيرُ، وَمَنْ أُتِّمِنَ عَلَى الْكَثِيرِ يُطَالَبُ بِأَكْثَرِ."

### The Gospel according to Saint LUKE 12:42–48

"Who, then, is the faithful and prudent steward whom the master will put in charge of his servants to distribute the food allowance at the proper time? Blessed is that servant whom his master on arrival finds doing so...

Much will be required of the person entrusted with much, and still more will be demanded of the person entrusted with more."

### Commemoration of the priests

In the Maronite Church, the Season of Epiphany focuses on the Baptism of the Lord and leads us to consider our own Baptism, our full incorporation into the life of the Most Holy Trinity.

This season of Baptism concludes with three weeks commemorating those who have been faithful to their Baptism, those who have "achieved faith's goal, [their] salvation." And in the first week we pray for all deceased priests. And rightly do we mention them first, for we all owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to priests, to the sacramental priesthood.

"It is not possible to speak of the Church without the priesthood". Our Liturgy calls Christ the "High Priest". It is Jesus Christ living down through history. Therefore if you remove the priesthood from the Church, you delete Christ from the Church: Jesus Christ, High Priest and Head of His Body. The priesthood is the love of the heart of Jesus.

The Liturgy further describes Jesus as "the Good Shepherd who tends His Church, the Careful Provider, who sees to the needs of His people and never lets them stray from the eye of His loving care." But how has this Good Shepherd decreed to "tend his Church, to see to the needs of His people and never let them stray from the eye of His loving care" after His Ascension? Through His priests. So, the Liturgy not surprisingly describes the role of the Priesthood in terms like those of Christ:

"You have sent us priests to shepherd Your Church; they are the guardians of Your Church, Your people." In other words, Jesus Christ the Priest lives and acts in His human ministers. The priesthood is profoundly conformed to Jesus Christ.

**"O Christ our Lord and God, you have chosen priests in your likeness. They care for your flock, serve at your altar, and celebrate your Mysteries. They bless, forgive and grant life to your people. May be counted among the children of light in the company of the blessed prophets, apostles and saints." Amen.**

## **REMEMBER IT**

**"Blessed is that servant whom his master on arrival finds doing so."**

**Luke 12: 43**

## **Deacon's Corner**

The Alpha and the Omega! The beginning and the end! Thinking about this can stir up some pretty interesting ideas about life, which is the ultimate Alpha and Omega since we know for certain that as we are born into this world, it is our Alpha. And as our journey here on earth is complete, it is our Omega. That, of course, is looking at our lifetime here on earth in the most simplistic fashion, for we all know that our eternal life is the next and final step when our journey here on earth is complete.

But "how do I make my life better here on earth while always striving to obtain life eternal?" I find myself asking that question every morning. I think through my day and attempt to determine what I can do better today than I did yesterday. And that is not ever taking into consideration that many new adventures and challenges will come my way each and every day. I know for myself that there are many different ways to approach a new day. One way for me is to look into my "spiritual mirror" and determine how I can let the Word of God direct my day as well as how I can use the day to spread the Word of God.

So when you get up in the morning, let that be the Alpha. Think about how you can be "one with God" today. And then when you go to bed at night, let that be the Omega. The end of the day when we can ask ourselves "how did I do?" I can assure you that you will go to sleep feeling much better about your day. And you will wake up the next morning feeling fully invigorated ready to start all over again.

## **Mass Intentions for Next Sunday January 24, 2016**

**09:30 Mass:** Jeanette Mattar & Abdo Daou (*Req. by Dr. Ray and Laure Daou*)

**11:30 Mass:** 40 days Memorial: Karim Tenn (*req. by the Tenn Family*)  
Leila Saadeh Sweillem (*Req. by the Sweillem Family*)

## Mass Celebration



Commemoration of the priests: Page 147  
Anaphora of Saint Mark: 835

## Sunday Readings



**Reading:** 1 Timothy 4:6-16 (*Counsel to Timothy*)  
**Holy Gospel:** Luke 12:42-48 (*Vigilant and Faithful Servants*)

## Mass Intentions

### 9:30 AM

Pillip Saccamano (*Req. by Francis and Patricia Kermend*)  
For all who were baptized in our Parish  
and for all the priests who served our parish

### 11:30 AM

Mary Rashid & Victor Fahd (*Req. by Michel Fahd and Family*)  
Leila Saadeh Sweillem (*Req. by the Sweillem Family*)  
Nicola, Anita, and Samia Estephan  
(*Req. by George and Antoinette Estephan*)  
Anthony Sayegh (*Req. by Dimitri Sayegh*)



Schedules	9:30 A.M. Mass	11:30 A.M. Mass
Altar Servers	Andres Ballines, Leila Nehra	Estifan Azzo, Cassandra Chahoud, Yasmina Mulcahey, Ramez Sayegh
Readers	Liliane Hanna	Edmond Lebbos (Arabic) Dr. Daniel Youssif (English)
Ushers	Robert Antoon Frank Kermend	Ed Kneip, John Albani , George Zakhem, Albert Dakhoul,

## Announcements

### ✳ 2015 Contribution Statements

Annual 2015 contribution statements will only be sent out upon request. Please fill out the form below and return it in the collection basket or by mail.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Envelop # \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

### ✳ MYO Origins of Christianity Study

Our MYO will take partake in a 10-part series study on the origins of Christianity thru its persecution, rise, and ideological schisms. This lesson plan will cover the period from the Great Flood all the way into the 20th Century in ten - 1 hour courses. All MYO are asked to attend each Sunday from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., until March 13.

### ✳ Christian Formation Study and Discussion

We would like to invite you to a Christian formation study and discussion. The first meeting will be held on Tuesday January 26, at 7:30 pm in the Shaker Hall and the Topic is the Challenges of our faith in the modern Societies. To register Contact **Sam Sweillem (847-942-4270)**.

### ✳ COUPLES ENCOUNTER

Save the date and join us for a Married Couples Encounter to be held at our parish. Our first session will take place on Saturday, February 13th at 7 p.m. The topic will be '**Rediscover Your Partner**' and will include a wine and cheese party in Shaker Hall. Married couples are welcome to register by contacting **Kira Haddad at (630) 841-1081** or by signing up in the Church Narthex.

## Let us remember

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

✠ Helen Shaker  
✠ Elizabeth Shaker  
✠ Sophia Shaker  
✠ Joseph V. O'Neil

✠ Sarah Malouf  
✠ Michael Jabour  
✠ Albert Hopsy  
✠ Barbra Nahra

✠ George Paul Doucette  
✠ Isabel Damuny Shahwan  
✠ Lynley M. Garvin  
✠ Louise Lucchesi

## COLLECTION

**Sunday January 10, 2016: 1,859.00.**

Thank you for supporting your church and May God bless you!