

EPARCHY OF SAINT MARON OF BROOKLYN OFFICE OF THE BISHOP 109 Remsen Street

Brooklyn, New York 11201-4212 Tel: (718) 237-9913 Fax: (718) 243-0444 chancerystmaron@verizon.net www.stmaron.org

Prot No. 151/1/20 7 April 2020 Circ No. 20.09

Holy Tuesday

Dear Brother Priests, Deacons and Subdeacons, Consecrated Men and Women, Lay Faithful:

Just over 3 weeks ago I assisted a man in front of our Cathedral in Brooklyn who had fallen and was disoriented. People around him had already called for an ambulance, but I reached out to assist him as he was quite troubled. Then a person yelled "stay away, he's coughing, be careful, he may have Coronavirus!", by then it was too late. The ambulance came and assisted him, and I went back to what I was doing. Little did I know that this would have had the consequences it had. A week later I had a high fever for about eight days, a dry cough, dysentery, loss of taste and smell, and most of the symptoms of Covid-19. Although I did not get tested, I suffered the symptoms and isolated myself in my home and in my office as best as I could.

It has been three weeks now, my fever is much reduced, as is the dysentery, heaviness in my chest, dry cough, and I am still hoping for a return of my sense of smell and taste. I am now on the other side of Covid-19, but what a valuable lesson I have had in suffering with others. I do not regret any of this suffering. I offered it for each of you, and especially for those most affected as well as those serving them within such generosity.

My reason for sharing this is to be honest with you. Many will ask why I will not be on the live streaming this Holy Week. I will continue to self-isolate until I know that I can not do harm to anyone. I thus ask for your prayers, and I assure you of mine.

Every Holy Week we enter into Jesus' "desired and yet dreaded" Passion (Divine Office of Holy Monday morning). We know that he desired this difficult moment for us, even though he dreaded it. This also describes the great love every Christian bears when sacrificing him/her self for the good of others. Thus, the way of the cross continues to inspire every good and noble sacrificial love that we have within us.

I wish you all a blessed Holy Week.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Gregory John Mansour

GJM/rs



Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church

54 South 4th Street Easton, PA 18042 610-252-5275

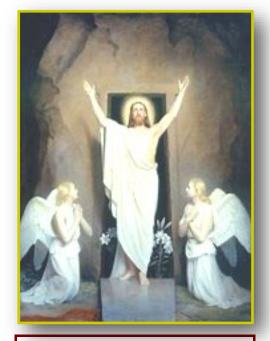


Week 15 - Week 17 Email: abouna@ololeaston.org

website: ololeaston.org

Apr 11 - Apr 26, 2020

HE GLORIOUS RESURRECTION



CLERGY

Fr. Youssef Keikati, Administrator Deacon Anthony Koury Deacon Adib Salameh

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday through Thursday 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

No office hours on Fridays LITURGY:

Saturdays: 5:00 PM Sundays: 10:00 AM

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

EASTER MESSAGE FROM ABOUNA LETTER FROM BISHOP GREGORY

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Saint Mark 16:1-8

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him.

And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back.

As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.'

So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

O Divine Ocean of mercy and compassion, be with us in our time of trial and difficulties.

Today I make an act of spiritual communion with you, the life-giving Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

At this time I am not able to receive the sacred body and blood of my Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ, but I choose to live in union with him and in the unity of the Holy Spirit.

I offer my day, my daily life, my joys and sorrows to you, for those around me, and for the whole world.

Be with us, O life-giving Triune God, for we know that nothing in this world has power over us.

O Lover of all people, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

WEEKEND of Apr 11 - 12 ***The Glorious Resurrection***

Saturday, Apr 11 - 5:00 PM - FOR THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF ALL PARISHIONERS by Fr. Youssef

Sunday, Apr 12 - 10:00 AM - FOR THE HEALTH AND RECOVERY OF BISHOP GREGORY by Fr. Youssef, Deacons Anthony and Adib and the Parishioners of Our Lady of Lebanon.

Mass will be streamed on Facebook @ https://www.facebook.com/OurLadyofLebanonEaston

The church is closed to the public due to the Coronavirus Pandemic. ALL MASSES WILL BE SAID PRIVATELY BY FATHER YOUSSEF.

We will not schedule weekday Mass intentions until it is deemed safe by local and state officials to re-open the church. If you see an Intention listed, it is because the parishioner still wants to have the Mass said for the repose of their loved ones soul even if they cannot attend the Liturgy. Do not hesitate to contact Father with any questions.

Monday	Apr 13	7:00 PM	FELICITATIONS TO THE VIRGIN MARY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ALL DOCTORS AND NURSES
Tuesday	Apr 14	9:00 AM	LITURGY
Wednesday	Apr 15	9:00 AM	LITURGY
Thursday	Apr 16	9:00 AM	LITURGY
Friday	Apr 17	9:00 AM	LITURGY

WEEKEND of Apr 18-19

New Sunday—Divine Mercy Sunday

Saturday, Apr 18 - 5:00 PM **DENISE RUSSELL** by her Friends.

Sunday, Apr 19- 10:00 AM -**CANONE & DOURA ANTHONY** by Emil Anthony & Family

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Tı	uesday	Apr 21	9:00 AM	LITURGY
W	/ednesday	Apr 22	9:00 AM	LITURGY
TI	hursday	Apr 23	9:00 AM	LITURGY
Fr	riday	Apr 24	9:00 AM	LITURGY

WEEKEND of Apr 25 - 26

3rd Sunday of the Resurrection

Saturday, Apr 25 - 5:00 PM -FOR THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF ALL PARISHIONERS

Sunday, Apr 26 - 10:00 AM -FOR THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF ALL PARISHIONERS

SCRIPTURE READINGS

The Glorious Resurrection 1 Cor 15:12-26/ Mk 16:1-8

New Sunday—Divine Mercy Sunday 2 Cor 5:11-21 / Jn 20:26-31

3rd Sunday of the Resurrection 2 Tim 2:8-13/ Lk 24:13-35



BINGO IS CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

EASTER MESSAGE FROM ABOUNA

Beloved Parishioners,

We did not know what sacrifices Lent would bring this year when we celebrated Ash Monday. Never have we experienced a Holy Week and Easter as we face this year. We could not celebrate the holiest of seasons with our friends and extended families, leaving us without the comfort of our church and community.

Our Lord is with us through this all. As the coronavirus pandemic evolves, we must remember that Our Lord sacrificed Himself for us and that He does not abandon us in our need.

On the feast of Easter we celebrate and proclaim that we believe as in the case of Jesus, God can and does bring good out of suffering and that His life conquers sin and death.

As Christians who believe in the Resurrection we must strive to be models of love and hope. Our good works during Lent must continue throughout the rest of the year. We have a mission to make Christ known by our love. We must express our belief that even in this gloomy, dark time, God will not abandon us just like He did not abandon His Son Jesus. And if current events sometimes make it hard for you to believe that God is still present in all of this, ask Him to deepen your faith and to help you to remember when He brought you out of difficulties in your life. Easter tells us that God never leaves us in our pain and brings good out of evil.

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! He is Truly Risen!

Your faithful servant in Christ,

Father Youssef Keikati

