


THE SISTERS OF LIFE

# BUILDING A CULTURE OF LIFE



ZOOM WEBINAR




**THURSDAY  
NOVEMBER 19  
7PM-8:15PM**

OPENING PRAYER  
**BISHOP GREGORY MANSOUR**

HOST SPEAKER  
**SR. BEATA VICTORIA SV**  
FOLLOWED BY Q&A

INFO & REGISTRITON  
[WWW.FAMILYANDSANCTITYOFLIFE.ORG](http://WWW.FAMILYANDSANCTITYOFLIFE.ORG)



**PASTOR CONTACT**

To speak directly with Fr. Youssef on any matter contact him on his cell phone at (412-583-5702).

**WEEKLY COLLECTION**

Saturday, Nov 7, 2020 - \$363.00  
 Sunday, Nov 8, 2020 - \$476.00  
 Mail-In - \$755.00  
 Total Collection - \$1,594.00

**WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS**

Dear Parishioners,

We are thankful to everyone who continues to financially support our parish. For those of you who are not attending church in person, you may mail your envelopes or go to our website, [ololeaston.org](http://ololeaston.org) and donate through our online donation portal.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Fr. Youssef



**Our Lady of Lebanon  
Maronite Catholic Church**

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



Week 46 - Week 48 Email: [abouna@ololeaston.org](mailto:abouna@ololeaston.org) website: [ololeaston.org](http://ololeaston.org) Nov 14 - Nov 29, 2020

## Announcement to Zechariah



### The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke 1:1-25

Since many have undertaken to set down an orderly account of the events that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed on to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word,

I too decided, after investigating everything carefully from the very first, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed.

In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.

Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. Now at the time of the incense-offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside.

Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. But the angel said to him, 'Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.'

Zechariah said to the angel, 'How will I know that this is so? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years.' The angel replied, 'I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur.'

Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah, and wondered at his delay in the sanctuary. When he did come out, he could not speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak.

When his time of service was ended, he went to his home. After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, 'This is what the Lord has done for me when he looked favorably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people.'

**CLERGY**

Fr. Youssef Keikati. Administrator  
Deacon Anthony Koury

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday through Thursday  
10:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
No office hours on Fridays

**LITURGY:**

Saturday: 5:00 PM  
Sunday: 10:00 AM  
Holy Days of Obligation: 7:00 PM

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**BAPTISM**

Preregistration for Baptism is required. Catholic sponsor certificates must be received by the parish before the Baptism is scheduled.

**CONFESSION**

Saturday: 4:30- 4:50 PM, Sunday, 9:30 - 9:50 AM  
Also available by appointment

**MARRIAGE**

Please notify the pastor at least one year prior to date. Engaged couples need to register as parishioners and take required marriage classes.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

Please inform us of the sick and shut-ins at 412-583-5702

**1ST HOLY COMMUNION CLASS**

October through April, Saturdays 3:45- 4:45  
Parents of children must be registered in parish.

**LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION**

Letters will only be given to registered active parishioners.

**\*\*\*Sunday of the Announcement to Zechariah\*\*\***

**Saturday, Nov 14 - 5:00 PM** MARY SHUMAR (3rd Anniversary) & HABOUK SHUMAR (2nd Anniversary) by the Family  
**Sunday, Nov 15 - 10:00 AM** RIZK, AUROR & SON, VICTOR RIZK by Mr. & Mrs. Tony Rizk & Family

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Nov 17</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>ANTONINE SISTER HOUDA HADDAD</b> by Fr. Youssef
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Nov 18</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>JENNIE MELHEM</b> by Sharon John
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Nov 19</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>PATRICE BAURKOT</b> by Joe Jabeir
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Nov 20</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>MAUREEN GEOSITS</b> by Jacqueline Nehme & Family

**\*\*\*Sunday of the Announcement to the Virgin Mary \*\*\***

**Saturday, Nov 21 - 5:00 PM** NICHOLAS CIAMBRONE (Anniversary) by the Family  
**Sunday, Nov 22 - 10:00 AM** FRANCES KOURY (1st Anniversary) by the Family

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Nov 24</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>ANTONINE SISTER HOUDA HADDAD</b> by Fr. Youssef
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Nov 25</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>KATHRYN ISAAC</b> by Rosemary Koury & Sons
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Nov 26</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>	<b>NO MASS - HAPPY THANKSGIVING !</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Nov 27</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>

**\*\*\*\*Sunday of the Visitation to Elizabeth\*\***

**Saturday, Nov 28 - 5:00 PM** SPECIAL INTENTION  
**Sunday, Nov 29 - 10:00 AM** Available

**2nd Collection - Catholic University of America - Sunday, Nov 29th**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**Sunday of the Announcement to Zechariah**  
*Rom 4:13-25/ Lk 1:1-25*

**Sunday of the Announcement to the Virgin Mary**  
*Gal 3:15-22 / Lk 1:26-38*

**Sunday of the Visitation to Elizabeth**  
*Eph 1:1-14 / Lk 1:39-45*



**CONDOLENCES**

Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to the family of  
**GHATTOS MOUSSA & JAWHARA MOUSSA**

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen



**PREPARING FOR THE BIRTH OF CHRIST**

The message of Advent is about the coming and arrival of Jesus – Savior and long promised Messiah. Advent is not only a time to prepare for Christmas when Christ’s first coming to us is remembered, but also as a season when that remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ’s Second Coming at the end of time.



Advent is important in the Christian church. It’s important enough that each year many church’s set out a wreath with candles and each week share a reading and light a candle. We sit there and listen and we sing and then we move on, but if we understood the why behind the event then maybe it would become something more significant. It could become something that touches our very soul and moves us to worship.

When you grasp what these symbols represent, stop and meditate on the events and memories and scriptures that each item reminds us of then you will begin to get a firm understanding on the power behind these events and you will be moved to worship. Simply stated, our traditions are here to put life into perspective. They are our yearly visual reminders of what we are here for on this earth. Not for presents and black Friday’s and big dinners, but to love God, love people, follow Jesus. They are our reminders that there is much more to life and after life than ourselves. They are symbols that represent the fact that there is something greater out there for us than we can imagine and when we grab hold of that truth worship will happen, life will suddenly have meaning, joy will fill you up to the brim. The problems we think are problems suddenly don’t seem so big.

Advent is the reminder God did so much for us. What did you do for him this year? How did you stand up for him? How did you do serving Him? How did you do trusting him? How did you do witnessing for Him? Advent allows us to reflect on those questions.

Lebanon’s economic and social deterioration, exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, has spiraled further out of control since the explosion on Aug. 4th at the Beirut port which killed more than 190 people, injured more than 6,500 and left more than 300,000 people homeless. While most of us will be able to still celebrate a scaled down version of Christmas, our countrymen in Lebanon do not have food to feed their families every day, let alone on Christmas day. People are desperate. More than half of the Lebanese people now live below the poverty line, and the unemployment rate exceeds 50%.

This Christmas, prepare for Jesus’s birth by following his teachings: “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.” Giving, helping, sharing: That’s the true spirit of Christmas.

**HELP NEEDED!**

**"One of the greatest gifts you can give is your time."**

In the age of COVID 19, many families are forced to choose between paying rent or mortgages to putting food on the table, among other things. Community service organizations, both globally and locally, are stretched so thin and find it incredibly difficult to keep up with the demands of the families to which they minister.

Many in this parish community are blessed to not have to make those choices. Over the last several months, we have been called upon to give of ourselves to help others, whether it was here in Easton or in Lebanon, and we have answered that call with extreme compassion and generosity. That time has come again.

We have been asked by the administrators at ProJeCt of Easton to consider helping at their food pantry, a few hours a week. Due to COVID, they have found themselves with a dwindling pool of volunteers, as needs keep growing among families in our area.

If anyone would like to learn more about volunteer opportunities at ProJeCt of Easton, contact: Naomi Koerwitz: naomi.karam@gmail.com or at 201-232-2821.