

OUR LADY OF LEBANON
2026
NEW YEAR'S
Party



FEATURING
Shady Younes and Band

31
DECEMBER
8:00 P.M.

55 S 4TH STREET, EASTON, PA 18042
FULL BUFFET | BYOB | CASH BAR | ENTERTAINMENT

TICKETS:
ADULTS: \$100
KIDS (5 TO 12): \$50
KIDS 4 & UNDER: FREE

RESERVATIONS & INFORMATION:
DIANA KARAM: (484)-908-8083
SARA KOURY: (484)-358-6417

** ALL PROCEEDS GO TO OUR MYO & MYA **

COMMUNION HOST & WINE
The Communion Host and Wine offering for November is donated in loving memory of **MARY SHUMAR & SON, HABOUK** by the Family

SANCTUARY CANDLE
The Sanctuary candle for November is donated in loving memory of **SFC, JESSE DALE** by his parents, James & Lila Dale and a birthday remembrance for **JOSEPHINE & JOHN SYMLIA** by their family.

PASTOR CONTACT
In case of any needed pastoral assistance, we ask that only the family contact Fr. Kamil on his cell phone at **610-739-8586**.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Saturday, Nov 8 -	\$351.00
Sunday, Nov 9 -	\$758.00
Total -	\$1,109.00



**OUR LADY OF LEBANON
MARONITE CATHOLIC
CHURCH**

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



Week 47 - Week 49 Email: ololchurch@yahoo.com Website: ololeaston.org Nov 15 - Nov 30, 2025

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."

Congratulations to the newly appointed council members!

We look forward to the fresh perspectives, energy, and leadership you will bring to the council. May your tenure be marked by collaboration, and meaningful impact.

A heartfelt thank you to our outgoing council members.

Your dedication, time, and thoughtful contributions have helped shape our community in lasting ways. We honor the integrity and care with which you served, and we are deeply grateful for the legacy you leave behind. Your efforts have paved the way for continued growth and unity, and we wish you every blessing in the journey ahead.

<u>PARISH COUNCIL</u>	<u>FINANCE COMMITTEE</u>
Fahim Elias	Mary Sue Baurkot
Joseph Kassis	Mike Boulos
Sharbel Koorie	Labebe Buesing
Elias Kourkomaz	Michael Karam
Anthony Melhem	Ferris Koorie
Joe Moussa, Jr.	<u>BUILDING COMMITTEE</u>
Nehme Nehme	Badway Karam
Greg Piagesi	George Koorie
Richard Saba	Steve Koorie
	Anthony Koury, Jr.
	Schawki Milan
	Eddy Touma

CLERGY:
Fr. Kamil Al-Chouefati, Pastor
Deacon Adonis El-Asmar

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:
Monday through Thursday 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Closed on Fridays.

RECTORY & MAILING ADDRESS:
54 South 4th Street
Easton, PA 18042
Phone: 610-252-5275
Email: ololchurch@yahoo.com
Website: ololeaston.org

LITURGIES:
Saturday: 5:00 PM
Sunday: 10:00 AM
Tuesday - Friday: 6:30 PM
Holy Days of Obligation: 7:00 PM
Confession is available 30 minutes before each Mass or by appointment.

Season of the Glorious Birth of Our Lord

Announcement to Zechariah

Saturday, Nov 15 - 5:00 PM - ANTHONY COMITO (40 Day Mass) & SHIRLEY COMITO (Anniversary) by Mr. & Mrs. Maynard Melhem & Family

Sunday, Nov 16 - 10:00 AM - JEANETTE KASSIS by Peggy & Daniel Baurkot

Tuesday	Nov 18	6:30 PM	KAMIL AND SALLY RIZK by Rafih Hayek & Family
Wednesday	Nov 19	6:30 PM	JEANETTE KASSIS by Joe and Minerva Jacob & Family
Thursday	Nov 20	6:30 PM	LILA RIZK HAYEK (Birthday Remembrance) by Rafih Hayek & Family
Friday	Nov 21	6:30 PM	RIMAH MELHEM by Joseph DiGirolamo

Announcement to the Virgin Mary

Saturday, Nov 22 -5:00 PM - ST. SHARBEL PRAYERS AND BENEDICTION
LOUISE JOSEPH (20th Anniversary) & EDWARD JOSEPH (Birthday Remembrance)
By daughters, Roseann and Charlene & Family

Sunday, Nov 23 - 10:00 AM - PAUL ROUHANA, EDMOND AND NEHAD MOUAWAD
by Tony and Nathalie Rouhana & Family

Tuesday	Nov 25	6:30 PM	SANNA BAURKOT by Joe and Minerva Jacob & Family
Wednesday	Nov 26	6:30 PM	LILLIAN AND SON, ELIAS SYMIA by Dr. George & Kathy Nassoor
Thursday	Nov 27	6:30 PM	HAPPY AND BLESSED THANKSGIVING TO EVERYONE by Fr. Kamil
Friday	Nov 28	6:30 PM	LILA HAYEK by Joe and Minerva Jacob & Family

Visitation of the Virgin to Elizabeth

Saturday, Nov 29 -5:00 PM - ROSE SYMIA (Anniversary) by her Children and Grandchildren

Sunday, Nov 30 - 10:00 AM - BARBARA MELHEM by Marom Rizk & Family

Reverent Participation

Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ, I kindly urge all to remain prayerful and silent, especially during the sacred celebration of the Divine Liturgy. In this spirit of reverence, we ask that parents ensure their children are quiet or accompany them to the crying room. Thank you for your cooperation. Fr. Kamil

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Announcement to Zechariah

Gen 17:15-22 / Rom 4:13-25 / Lk 1:1-25

Announcement to the Virgin Mary

2 Sam 7:8-10, 11b-12, 12b-17/Gal3:15-22/Lk 1:26-38

Visitation of the Virgin to Elizabeth

2 Sam 6:9-15, 17, 18b / Eph 1:1-14 / Lk 1:39-45

MARONITE CHRISTIAN FORMATION (MCF)

On Sundays we ask all grade levels to gather in the church immediately following the Divine Liturgy.

Parents while your children begin their journey of growing in faith and learning more about Christ and the Maronite tradition, we invite you to enjoy fellowship and refreshments in the social hall.

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY

We invite all adults to join us for our Bible Study series, every Tuesday, immediately following the 6:30 PM Liturgy.

St. Theresa-Holy Name Spinach Pie Sale

When: November 15th & 16th

Where: OLOL Church Hall

Cost: \$8 each or 13 for \$100.00

Deadline to order: Monday, November 10th

To order call or email:

Labebe Buesing @ 610-349-3530, lbuesingctc@gmail.com

or Lila Melan @ 401-996-8129, llayla50@gmail.com

Pick-up Times: Saturday the 15th from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM
Sunday the 16th from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Donations are gratefully accepted.

Payment may be made by cash, check or Venmo when you pick up your order.



The Maronite Journey to Christmas

Like all the Eastern Churches, as Maronites, our theology or beliefs can be found in the liturgical celebrations of the church. So the best place to start a reflection on the Maronite journey to Christmas, is in fact the liturgy.

Much like the season of Advent in the Roman Catholic Calendar, the Maronite journey to Christmas is a distinct season within our liturgical cycle that aims to prepare the faithful to welcome the birth of the Messiah. Officially known as the “Season of the Glorious Birth of our Lord” or the “Season of Announcements”, the journey goes for six Sundays and focusses on the announcement to Zechariah, the Annunciation to Mary, Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth, Birth of John the Baptist, Revelation to Joseph and the Genealogy of Jesus.

These six stops provide us with an opportunity to follow the Christmas narrative as it is told in the opening chapters St Luke’s and St Matthew’s Gospel. Focusing on “The Announcements of the Lord that will make the universe rejoice” (Entrance Hymn from the Annunciation Liturgy) and through the Epistle, Gospel, hymns and prayers of the liturgy, we journey as a community through the events which occurred leading up to Jesus’ birth.

One thing that is really unique in our Maronite tradition is that Para-liturgical way in which pray the Christmas Novena from December 15th to 23rd. The novena is prayed with the Blessed Sacrament exposed and with all the incense you would expect from an Eastern Church celebration. Hymns and prayers are sung that really bring to life the Syriac Antiochene heritage of the Maronite Church.

Inspired by the poetry of the Syriac Fathers, each day of the novena draws us ever more deeply into the mystery of the Incarnation and how we participate in this great mystery through the mysteries (sacraments) of the Church. An example of this can be found in the novena prayer for 20 December:

“O Word of God, you have come from the mouth of God to be the life for all people. You became the living Bread and were born in Bethlehem, ‘the House of Bread,’ to satisfy our hunger. We implore you, through your pure Nativity and through the intercession of your Mother and Saint Joseph, your chosen one, to grant us an insatiable hunger for your pure Body and Blood. May we approach your altars, and with proper preparation receive your Sacred Mysteries for our salvation and eternal life. Amen.”

In this year, where uncertainty, fear and separation were the order of the day, the coming Christmas celebrations remind us that the hope of Christ is always available. The birth of Our Lord gives us the chance to look at the Child Jesus and know, that the God of all creation, the King of Kings, took on flesh out of a great love for us. We can know that through this great mystery we can share in God’s divine life and love. It is because of this hope that we are able to look forward with hope and sing:

We praise and give you thanks, God the Father, and the Son, And the Spirit, three in one.

O Strong and Holy God, undivided Trinity,

You are blest from age to age.

hal-lel. hal-lel. hal-lel-loo-noh! (Praise him! Praise him! Praise him, our Lord!)

(Verse 7 of Maronite Hymn God Sent His Only Son)

Fr. Charbel Dib