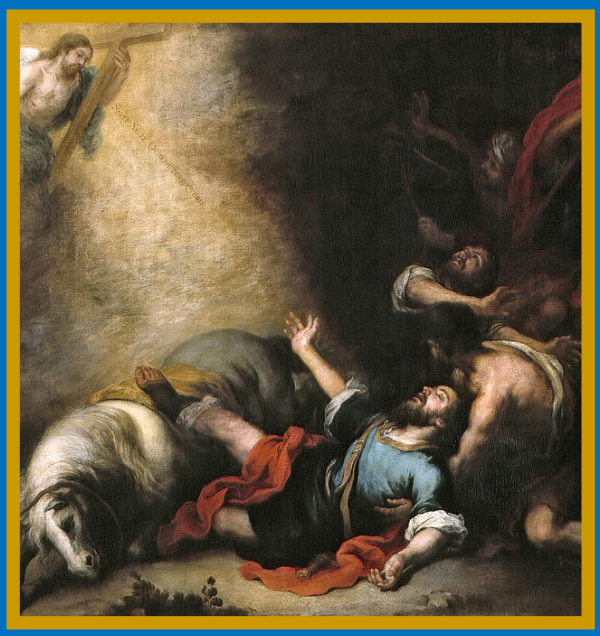
Our Lady of Lebanon

Maronite Catholic Church

Bulletin: Vol. 30 No. 04 January 25th — January 31st, 2020



The Conversion of St. Paul

Jesus Teaching Nicodemus

Third Sunday After Epiphany

Rev. Assaad ElBasha, M.L.M., Pastor
Deacon George Elandary
Mass Schedule

Sunday	8:30 A.M. English
	11:00 A.M. Bilingual; English/Lebanese
Monday	No Mass
Tuesday - Friday	9:00 A.M. English
Saturday	5:30 P.M. English
Reconciliation	Saturday - 4:00 - 5:00 P.M.
Eucharistic Adoration	Sunday: 2:00 P.M -7:00 P.M.
	Monday - Friday: 9:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.
	Saturday: 9:00 A.M. - 5:30 P.M.

Altar Boys: Joseph Marincel	**817-491-0763**	**Adoration:** Sheila Hughes	**817-430-3066**
Choir: 8:30 A.M. Helen Marincel	**817-491-0763**	**Library:** Sharon Wood	**214-497-0783**
Choir: 11:00 A.M. Roula Vasquez	**972-832-8507**	**Respect Life:** Sheri Josefsberg	**940-566-0585**
RCIA: Sue Marincel	**817-491-0763**	**Youth Ministry:** Sue Marincel	**817-491-0763**
Lectors: 8:30 AM Mark Caputo	**469-230-1533**	**Religious Ed / SE:** Sue Marincel	**817-491-0763**
Lectors: 11 AM Trevor Rask	**503-701-2236**	**Ushers** Robert Kramer	**214-488-5635**
Parish Council Mouhib Helou	**817-845-9953**	**Legion of Mary** Rose Onoh	**214-289-4300**

719 University Place - Lewisville, TX 75067
Phone: (972) 436-7617 or (972) 221-7705 Fax: (972) 221-3430
website: www.ourladylebanon.com email: ladyofl719@gmail.com

Jesus and Nicodemus

Jesus told Nicodemus that, "You must be born from above. The wind blows where it wills, and you can hear the sound it makes, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes; so it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." ~ Jn 3: 7b-8 Jesus's conversation with Nicodemus continues in today's reading. He doesn't understand the meaning of what Jesus said, so he asked him, "How can this happen?" Jesus chided him, by saying, "You are the teacher of Israel and you do not understand this?" But really, we should give Nicodemus credit for trying to learn from Jesus and understand his teachings better. The teacher of Israel willingly became a student of Jesus Christ. He had sense enough to do that, at least!

How also, can we teach other people about our faith, if we don't know it or understand it ourselves? This is a double edged problem. Ignorance of our Catholic faith and ignorance of scripture means we are ignorant of Christ. We can't teach other people, like our children or non-Catholics, what we do not know, or rightly understand ourselves. Great teachers are always learning more themselves though. This is what Nicodemus is doing in today's gospel. He is questioning someone more knowledgeable than himself, in order to understand things better. This is an excellent example of how the scriptures can provide guidance and advice for situations in our own lives sometimes.

Jesus set a clear distinction in today's gospel between earthly matters and spiritual concerns though. "If I tell you about earthly things and you do not believe how will you believe if I tell you about heavenly things?" Did you notice that Jesus did go on to tell Nicodemus about heavenly things in advance before they happened though? Jesus explained his own crucifixion to Nicodemus on purpose before it happened, so that when it did happen, Nicodemus would truly understand that Jesus told him the truth. He really is the Son of God. If you remember, it was Nicodemus who went with Joseph Arimathea to prepare the corpse of Jesus for burial after his crucifixion. (Jn 19: 39-42) You can't help but wonder if Nicodemus remembered this conversation while Jesus was being crucified.

One last interesting bit of information is that Nicodemus is now known as Saint Nicodemus. Yes, a prominent Pharisee and member of the Sanhedrin actually became a saint in the Catholic Church. It just goes to show you that anyone can become a saint regardless as to their background. Nicodemus became a saint because he stood up and defended Jesus when he was accused before the Jewish authorities (Jn 7: 45-51) and also because he helped Joseph Arimathea prepare Christ's body for burial after his crucifixion. Nicodemus changed his mindset after his encounter with Christ, and he followed through with it by his actions. He put his new found faith into practice by following his heart in defending Christ and taking care of him after his death. That is what the first reading for mass is about today too. The early believers that we read about in today's first reading also had a new mindset and they followed through with their new found faith by their actions of love and service to other people as well. Written by: Laura Kazlas (www.acatholic.org)

Conversion of St. Paul (Jan 25): Saint Paul's entire life can be explained in terms of one experience—his meeting with Jesus on the road to Damascus. In an instant, he saw that all the zeal of his dynamic personality was being wasted, like the strength of a boxer swinging wildly. Perhaps he had never seen Jesus, who was only a few years older. But he had acquired a zealot's hatred of all Jesus stood for, as he began to harass the Church: "...entering house after house and dragging out men and women, he handed them over for imprisonment" (Acts 8:3b). Now he himself was "entered," possessed, all his energy harnessed to one goal—being a slave of Christ in the ministry of reconciliation, an instrument to help others experience the one Savior.

THIS WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 1/25:	Nick Cvetovich
Sunday, 1/26:	George Ramapuram, **+**Catherine Agada, **+**Tony Cucinotta
Tuesday, 1/28:	Sr. Maria Bernadette, Michal Marincel, Anna Marincel, Hanna & Hayat HajNasr, Antonio & Ingrid del Rincon, **+**Ramapuram Family, **+**Souls in Purgatory
Wednesday, 1/29:	Teresa Marincel, Hanna & Hayat HajNasr, Edmond & Rita Elias, Antonio & Ingrid del Rincon, Marian Burkhart, George & Annie Ramapuram
Thursday, 1/30:	Michael Marincel, Hanna & Hayat HajNasr, Edmond & Rita Elias
Friday, 1/31:	Richard & Diane Manderscheid, Joe & Catherine Andary

+ Repose of the Soul

Merciful God, whose servant Nicodemus was a secret disciple of Christ, meeting him by night to avoid the wrath of the other members of the Sanhedrin, and eventually spoke out to that body to remind them that Jesus had a right to a hearing and with reverence and godly fear prepared the body of our Lord and Savior for burial, and laid it in his own tomb: Grant to us, your faithful people, grace and courage to love and serve Jesus with sincere devotion all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever.

Daily Scripture Readings Jan 26th thru Jan 31st

Sunday, 1/26:	Gal 3:23-29	Jn 3:1-16
Monday, 1/27:	2Cor 4:16-5:1-5,10	Jn 5:1-16
Tuesday, 1/28	2Cor 5:11-21	Jn 9:1-12
Wednesday 1/29:	2Cor 6:1-13	Jn 9:13-25
Thursday, 1/30:	2Cor 6:14-7:1	Jn 9:26-41
Friday, 1/31:	2Cor 7:2-10	Jn 7:40-52

Next Week's Liturgical Roles

Saturday, February 1st @ 5:30 PM

Lector:	Dora Milam
Altar Servers:	Isaac Black, Tarun Louis, Chidozie Ugochukwu
Ushers:	Jason Tsakonas, Paul Levee

Sunday, February 2nd @ 8:30 AM

Lector:	Alphonsine Ugochukwu
Altar Servers:	Sean O'Flaherty, Liam O'Flaherty, Pierce O'Flaherty, Paul O'Flaherty
Ushers:	Daniel Shults, Robert Baca

Sunday, February 2nd @ 11:00 AM

Lector:	Renee Adam
Altar Servers:	Michael Chamoun, John Fahoum, Charbel Attie
Ushers:	Badaoui Yamouni, Rabih Abillama

Regina Caeli
Presents
The Priest Talent Show & Fundraising Gala

Join us on Friday, February 21st, 2020 for
Dinner, Drinks, Show & Auction

Doors open at 6 PM
Dinner & Show begins at 6:45 PM
Auction closes at 10 PM

The Harrison Ballroom
5950 Park Vista Circle, #150
Fort Worth, TX 76244

Visit our webpage to purchase tickets: www.rcahybird.org/priesttalentshows

For more info, contact Solange Hooks @ 317-270-2961

" Holiness is a disposition of the heart that makes us humble and little in the arms of God, aware of our weakness, and confident - in the most audacious way - in His Fatherly goodness."
-St. Therese of the Infant Jesus

Adoration of the Holy Eucharist is available to you every day of the week at Our Lady of Lebanon Church:

Monday thru Friday 9:00am—7:00pm
Saturday 9:00am—5:30pm
Sunday 1:00pm—7:00pm
Contact Sheila Hughes @ 817-430-3066 for more info or to become an Adorer!

Our Second Collection this weekend
January 25th & 26th, 2020
will benefit the Eparchial Charities.

The Eparchy receives many requests from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) to assist others. The Latin Church has approximately 18 second collections during the year and fulfills their obligations in that manner. The Eparchy has always limited the second collections not to burden our Faithful. The Eparchial Charities Collection will allow the Eparchy to contribute to the most in need causes served by the USCCB. Jesus disciples and Christian stewards recognize God as the origin of life, giver of freedom, and source of all things. The gifts received will be used to show our love for God and one another.

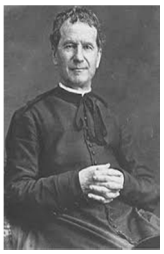
Annual Respect Life Mass

The Annual Respect Life Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Michael F. Olson on **Tuesday, April 28th, 2020** at Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Colleyville. Please join us at 6:00 p.m. to pray for mothers, fathers, families and babies. Center. Presentation by Dr. Gianna Emanuela Molla and reception to follow.

"The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."
John 3:8

Night to SHINE
Sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation
Special Needs Prom
Friday, February 7th, 2020
St. Ann's Catholic Church 6-9 PM

Night to Shine is an unforgettable prom night experience, centered on God's love, for people with special needs ages 14 and older. For more info contact Mary at mmahaffey@stannparish.org or call 972-393-5544 Ext. 1209



"Walk with your feet on earth but in your heart be in heaven."

-St. John Bosco (Jan 31st)

***Vision for the Future - Mission for Today* campaign**

As you know, our parish is participating in our Eparchy's *Vision for the Future - Mission for Today* capital campaign. This landmark campaign is the product of years of study and hard work by clergy, lay leaders, Bishop Zaidan, and eparchy staff. All 42 parishes and missions in our Eparchy will take part in this historic campaign.

The focus of the campaign is to strengthen eparchial parish-based programs and ministries, expand new missions into underserved Maronite communities, and provide long-term support for priests' retirement seminarian's education. Detailed information about the campaign goals will be sent to every parish household in the weeks ahead.

Our parish is participating in this campaign the weekend of Feb. 15th -16th. We will need volunteers to assist our parish for this campaign to be successful. If you are interested in volunteering and helping our parish in this landmark effort, please contact the Church Office.

2019 Contributions

If your annual gifts to your church total $250 or more, and you plan to claim the gift as a deduction on your tax return, the IRS requires that you have a letter or receipt from the church that received the gift. We sent all tax letters by mail this past week. If you do not receive your letter, please contact the Church Office at 972-436-7617.