

# Our Lady of Lebanon

## Maronite Catholic Church

Bulletin: Vol. 31 No. 12 March 20th–March 26th, 2021



## The Healing of the Blind Man

**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: 3:30–5:00 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. Mary Marincel	817-491-0763	Library: Sharon Wood	214-497-0783
Choir: 11:00 A.M. Roula Vasquez	972-832-8507	Youth Ministry: Sue Marincel	817-491-0763
RCIA: Sue Marincel	817-491-0763	Religious Ed / SE: Sue Marincel	817-491-0763
Lectors: 8:30 AM Joe Marincel	817-491-0763	Ushers Robert Kramer	214-488-5635
Lectors: 11 AM Trevor Rask	503-701-2236	Legion of Mary Rose Onoh	214-289-4300
Parish Council Mouhib Helou	817-845-9953		

719 University Place - Lewisville, TX 75067

Phone: (972) 436-7617 or (972) 221-7705 Fax: (972) 221-3430

website: [www.ourladylebanon.com](http://www.ourladylebanon.com) email: [ladyofl719@gmail.com](mailto:ladyofl719@gmail.com)

## Excerpts from a Homily by Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, 28 Oct. 2012

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The miracle of the healing of blind Bartimaeus comes at a significant point in the structure of Saint Mark's Gospel. It is situated at the end of the section on the "journey to Jerusalem", that is, Jesus' last pilgrimage to the Holy City, for the Passover, in which he knows that his passion, death and resurrection await him. In order to ascend to Jerusalem from the Jordan valley, Jesus passes through Jericho, and the meeting with Bartimaeus occurs as he leaves the city—in the evangelist's words, "as he was leaving Jericho with his disciples and a great multitude." This is the multitude that soon afterwards would acclaim Jesus as Messiah on his entry into Jerusalem. Sitting and begging by the side of the road was Bartimaeus, whose name means "son of Timaeus", as the evangelist tells us. The whole of Mark's Gospel is a journey of faith, which develops gradually under Jesus' tutelage. The disciples are the first actors on this journey of discovery, but there are also other characters who play an important role, and Bartimaeus is one of them. His is the last miraculous healing that Jesus performs before his passion, and it is no accident that it should be that of a blind person, someone whose eyes have lost the light. We know from other texts too that the state of blindness has great significance in the Gospels. It represents man who needs God's light, the light of faith, if he is to know reality truly and to walk the path of life. It is essential to acknowledge one's blindness, one's need for this light, otherwise one could remain blind for ever.

Bartimaeus, then, at that strategic point of Mark's account, is presented as a model. He was not blind from birth, but he lost his sight. He represents man who has lost the light and knows it, but has not lost hope: he knows how to seize the opportunity to encounter Jesus and he entrusts himself to him for healing. Indeed, when he hears that the Master is passing along the road, he cries out: "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me," and he repeats it even louder. And when Jesus calls him and asks what he wants from him, he replies: "Master, let me receive my sight!" Bartimaeus represents man aware of his pain and crying out to the Lord, confident of being healed. His simple and sincere plea is exemplary, and indeed – like that of the publican in the Temple: "God, be merciful to me a sinner"—it has found its way into the tradition of Christian prayer. In the encounter with Christ, lived with faith, Bartimaeus regains the light he had lost, and with it the fullness of his dignity: he gets back onto his feet and resumes the journey, which from that moment has a guide, Jesus, and a path, the same that Jesus is travelling. The evangelist tells us nothing more about Bartimaeus, but in him he shows us what discipleship is: following Jesus "along the way," in the light of faith.

Dear brothers and sisters, Bartimaeus, on regaining his sight from Jesus, joined the crowd of disciples, which must certainly have included others like him, who had been healed by the Master. New evangelizers are like that: people who have had the experience of being healed by God, through Jesus Christ. And characteristic of them all is a joyful heart that cries out with the Psalmist: "What marvels the Lord worked for us: indeed we were glad." Today, we too turn to the Lord Jesus, *Redemptor hominis* and *lumen gentium*, with joyful gratitude, making our own a prayer of Saint Clement of Alexandria: "until now I wandered in the hope of finding God, but since you enlighten me, O Lord, I find God through you and I receive the Father from you, I become your coheir, since you did not shrink from having me for your brother. Let us put away, then, let us put away all blindness to the truth, all ignorance: and removing the darkness that obscures our vision like fog before the eyes, let us contemplate the true God ...; since a light from heaven shone down upon us who were buried in darkness and imprisoned in the shadow of death, [a light] purer than the sun, sweeter than life on this earth." Amen.

### The Catechism on the First Commandment and Sinning Against Faith

**2088** The first commandment requires us to nourish and protect our faith with prudence and vigilance, and to reject everything that is opposed to it. There are various ways of sinning against faith: Voluntary doubt about the faith disregards or refuses to hold as true what God has revealed and the Church proposes for belief. Involuntary doubt refers to hesitation in believing, difficult in overcoming objections connected with the faith, or also anxiety aroused by its obscurity. If deliberately cultivated, doubt can lead to spiritual blindness.

#### THIS WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS

**Tuesday, 3/23:** Sunny & Alphonsine Ugochukwu & Family; Teri Long Birthday Blessings  
**Wednesday, 3/24:** Special Intentions (Sebastian Family); Teri Long Birthday Blessings  
**Thursday, 3/25:** Teri Long Birthday Blessings  
**Friday, 3/26:** †Joyce Korbar  
**Sunday, 3/28:** †Antoinette Bakhos 40 Day Memorial

#### Daily Scripture Readings March 21st through March 27th

<b>Sunday, 3/21:</b>	2 Cor. 10:1–7	Mk. 10:46–52
<b>Monday, 3/22:</b>	Rom. 15:25–33	Jn. 7:32–6
<b>Tuesday, 3/23:</b>	Rom. 8:12–8	Jn. 7:1–13
<b>Wednesday 3/24:</b>	1 Thes. 4:1–9	Lk 11:37–48
<b>Thursday, 3/25:</b>	Gal. 3:15–22	Lk. 1:26–38
<b>Friday, 3/26:</b>	2 Thes. 3:6–18	Lk. 4:1–13
<b>Saturday, 3/27:</b>	1 Thes. 2:17–3:5	Jn. 11:55–12:11



#### Prayer to Our Lady, Undoer of Knots

O Virgin Mary, Mother who never refuses to come to the help of your children in need, Mother whose hands never stop working for the welfare of your children, moved as they are by the loving mercy and kindness that exists in your Immaculate Heart, cast your compassionate and merciful eyes on me and see the snarl of knots that exists in my life.

Oh Mother! You know the difficulties, sorrow and pain that I've had because of them. O loving Mother, I place the ribbon of my life and this knot (these knots) into your loving hands, hands which can undo even the most difficult knot.

Most holy Mother, come to my aid and intercede for me before God with your prayers. I cast this knot into your hands (mention your intention/need) and beg you to undo it, in the name of your son, Jesus Christ, and for the glory of God, once and for all. Amen.

Our Lady, Undoer of Knots, pray for us!

# With A Father's Heart:

A Talk About The Year of Saint Joseph



Thurs March 25th  
at 8 PM EST



with  
Bishop  
Gregory



YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH  
December 8, 2020 – December 8, 2021

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83505540630>

## Help Catholic Radio Across the U.S.

Listen to the GRN Spring Share-a-Thon March 23-26, 2021

The Guadalupe Radio Network airs in DFW on KATH 910AM



RADIO FOR YOUR SOUL

The Catholic faith is heard across the U.S. on 39 Guadalupe Radio Network stations, find out more at [www.GRNOnline.com](http://www.GRNOnline.com)



## Fr. Mitch Pacwa is Joining Us for Easter!

Fr. Mitch Pacwa, S. J., will be joining us for the Easter Triduum from April 1st to April 4th. A select amount of Fr. Pacwa's books will for sale during his visit, and he will be available to sign these books. Don't miss out on seeing Fr. Pacwa!

## Assistance with Taxes

Taxes are due in the next few weeks. Mike Powell, our parish's accountant, is available to assist anyone who needs Certified Public Accountant (CPA) assistance. You can call him at (469) 235-7863.

## Diocese Lenten Appeal

Our Bishop is asking us to raise **\$7,000** for the Annual Diocese Appeal. We have already raised \$3,150. Please continue to give generously so that we may meet our parish's goal. Please **MAKE SURE** to write your check to:

**Our Lady of Lebanon**

and **DELIVER IT TO US, NOT THE DIOCESE**, via mail or the collection baskets. We will send **ONE** collective check the week after Easter.

**THANK YOU for your generosity!**

## Weekly Collections

March 14th, 2021

Cash	\$664
Loose Checks	\$1,165
Envelope Checks	\$2,885
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,714</b>

*Thank you for your support of the House of the Lord!*

## The Benediction of the Cross

The Benediction (Stations) of the Cross will be offered every Friday during Lent beginning at 6:30PM starting on Feb 19th, 2021, and ending on March 26th, 2021. *During Lent, please remember to abstain from meat on all Fridays, and to Fast & Abstain on Ash Monday (or Ash Wednesday) and on Great Friday.*



**Confessions during Lent** You are encouraged to approach the Sacrament of Reconciliation during this season of Lent. Catholics **MUST** go to Confession at least once a year and as often as they need it in order to cleanse themselves of sins and be in a state of grace. Fr. Assaad is waiting for you every Saturday from 3:30pm–5:00pm in the chapel.

Join Bishop Edward J. Burns!  
28th Annual Bishop's Pro-Life Dinner

**Saturday, April 10th, 2021**

At the Renaissance Hotel Addison  
The program will feature the incredible singer Francesca Battistelli and Special Guest Christina Bennet.

**Ballroom will be limited to 650 guests. For more info, call 972-267-LIFE**



## Free Virtual Bible Conference!

AUGUSTINE  
INSTITUTE

Seeking a way to grow your love and knowledge of God's word this Lent? Join the Augustine Institute on March 27th for a free virtual conference on the Bible! Speakers include Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. Brant Pitre. The conference begins at 11

AM central. For more info, visit [bibleconference.augustineinstitute.org](http://bibleconference.augustineinstitute.org).



Maronite Youth Organization

## MYO Virtual Youth Conference

Join the Maronite Youth Organization on Zoom for "Rollin' Stones," a virtual Easter Event.

Date: 9 April 2021

Time: 7 PM Central

Duration: 2 Hours

Register at: [www.maronityouth.org](http://www.maronityouth.org)

"Do you wish to rise? Begin by descending. You plan a tower that will pierce the clouds? Lay first the foundation of humility."

—St. Augustine of Hippo

## North Texas Catholic Men's Conference "Come to the Table: Where Grace Begins"

For all men 18 and older, or 15 and older with an adult

Saturday, April 10th: 8 AM–4 PM  
St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church—Frisco, TX

\$25/person. Register: [www.ntxcmc.org](http://www.ntxcmc.org)



CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church #989776  
719 University Place  
Lewisville, TX 75067

TELEPHONE

972 436-7617

CONTACT PERSON

Michael Pollock

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS