

Our Lady of Lebanon Church - Easton



7th SUNDAY PENTECOST

Volume 2009, Issues 27

Sunday, July 12, 2009

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The Three Massabki Brothers, Francis, Abdel Mohti, and Raphael

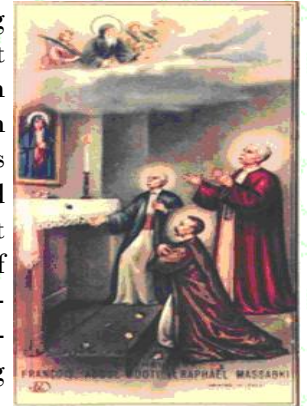


Words of Wisdom

- *The scriptures teach us the best way of living, the noblest way of suffering, and the most comfortable way of dying. (J. Flavel).*
- *Kind words are short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless. (Mother Teresa)*



In 1860, Ahmed Pasha ruled Syria. A sectarian tyrant, nothing would prevent him from achieving his ends. July 9 of that year, by a special and secret order, Ahmed Pasha's henchmen traced crosses in the streets of Damascus and made it known that the "Children of the Christians" were the authors. Spirits were troubled and reprisals were unleashed. Fear permeated the Christian quarters. The trouble was distasteful to honest Muslims, and with the Council of Powers, they demanded of Ahmed to put an end to the trouble for the peace of the inhabitants and the safety of peoples' lives. So Ahmed sent his emissaries to imprison some Christians charged with "disturbing the public peace," and then quickly released them. At sundown, the governor gave the order to his agents, with the help of some hoodlums, to go in to the streets and start fires. Having arrived in front of the Orthodox Church, they set it afire after a bloody massacre. The fire spread, and theft and plundering rampaged through house after house. On the morning of July 10, the Christians were massacred, their houses destroyed and their goods stolen. The survivors took refuge in the citadel, aided by the great Emir Abdel-Kader of Algeria, and by several Muslims. Around 8 o'clock in the evening, while fire took hold of the Orthodox Christian quarters, Francis, Abdel Mohti, and Raphael were at home. Fearing the furor and ferocity of the massacres, they left their wives and children and headed for the Franciscan convent. At 11 o'clock, the Mission Superior closed and barricaded the doors, and invited the refugees into the church. After the litany, the Fathers heard confession and gave communion to all of the devoted present. From the church, they climbed to the convent terrace; only Francis remained kneeling before the altar of the Sorrowful Mother. At one hour past midnight, the slaughterers infiltrated the house by a secret door shown to them by Hassan Allaf, the house manager. Some refugees took flight. Ahmed's agents seized the Superior who promised to show them the hiding place of a treasure. They followed him in delirious joy. The Father descended into the church, lighted two candelabras, opened the tabernacle, and swallowed the Blessed Hosts. He was killed upon the altar. Francis remained kneeling before the Virgin. Ahmed's agents recognized him. They advanced towards him and said: "Sheik Abdullah has sent us to save you from death; you, your brothers, your families, and all those who depend upon you for protection, on the condition that you deny your faith and convert to Islam." Francis responded calmly: "Sheik Abdullah can take the money I lent him, he can also take my life; but my faith, no one can make me deny. I am a Maronite Christian and on the faith of Christ, I will die." "We will kill you," they cried. "I will be with my Lord." Francis then began a prayer, which he finished in heaven. The slaughterers massacred him with swords, hatchets, and daggers. (continue page 4)





THIS WEEKEND * 7th SUNDAY OF PENTECOST *****

Sat., July 11 – Yasmaine Shortell by Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Badway of RI.
(5:00 P.M.) - Elliot badway by John. J. & France Melhem & Family.

Sun., July 12 – Marian Boulous (40 Day Mass) by her niece Susan
(10:00 A.M.) & her husband Anthony Cannata.

WEEKDAYS



Monday	July 13	6:30 P.M	John Saba Karam by Nikki & mary Assisse
Tuesday	July 14	6:30 P.M	Daniel Corey by Deacon Mrs. Anthony koury
Wednesday	July 15	* * * *	No Daily Mass (day-off)
Thursday	July 16	6:30 P.M	Tannous Estephan by Julia & Mike Stevens.
Friday	July 17	6:30 P.M	Josephine Melhem by Rose Symia

WEEKEND of July 18-19 * 8TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST *****

Sat., July 18 – 5:00 P.M. – Peter Melan (anniversary mass) by family

Sun., July 19 – 10:00 A.M. – Emile Khoury (40 day mass) by his son Dr. Joseph Khoury.

- Soubhi Constantine by Mr. & Mrs. Said Constantine & son.

Monday	July 20	6:30 P.M	Samuel Joseph by Mary Shumar.
Tuesday	July 21	6:30 P.M	Marian Boulous by Renee C. Carrigan.
Wednesday	July 22	* * * *	No Daily Mass (day-off)
Thursday	July 23	6:30 P.M	Yasmaine Shortell by Mr. & Mrs. John Malitzki
Friday	July 24	6:30 P.M	Clarence Stahl by Joanne Joseph & Naomi Shiner

WEEKEND of July 25-26 * 9TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST *****

Sat., July 25 – 5:00 P.M. – Emile Mawad by daughters.

Sun., July 26 – 10:00 A.M. – -----



BINGO	CALLER	KITCHEN	PAYOUT
July 14	Mike Boulos	Aziz Koury	Antonios Jabbour
July 21	George Koorie	Aziz Koury	Antonios Jabbour Owtill Karam
July 28	Rose Sabra	Aziz Koury, Susie Karam & Louise Jacob	Muncy Farhat Antonios Jabbour

Saturday, July 11	Jeanette Kassis
Sunday, July 12	Alex Karam Jr.
Saturday, July 18	Toni Lynn Melhem
Sunday, July 19	Rosie Jacob
Saturday, July 25	Mona Melan
Sunday, July 26	Jordan Isaac



Scripture Readings

7th Pentecost / 8th Pentecost / 9th Pentecost

2Cor 3: 1-6 / Rom 8: 1-11 / 2 Cor 5: 20 –6:10

Lk 10: 1-7 / Mt 12:14-21 / Lk 4: 14-21

MYO / MYA

MYO SITE : <http://ollmyo.blogspot.com/>

POOL PARTY The MYO will be sponsoring a pool party on Monday, July 13, 2009 at Palmer Pool from 7-10 p.m. Food and drinks will be provided. Please let us know if you will be coming and the number of people in your party. We would like to make proper arrangements and give them an accurate number at the pool. Contact Peter Koorie or Rhonda Elias. Music provided by DJ Fly Guy.

LABOR DAY PICNIC The MYA will be sponsoring a Labor Day Picnic at Lopatcong Municipal Park on Belvedere Road in New Jersey. This picnic will be held on Monday, September 7, 2009. Live entertainment will be provided by a band. There will be a per table charge. More information will follow. If you would like to reserve a table from now please contact Rhonda Elias.

IRONPIGS GAME

The MYO will be sponsoring a trip to the Lehigh Valley **Ironpigs Game** at Coca-Cola Park in Allentown, PA on Tuesday, August 11th, at 7:05 P.M. Tickets are 9\$ for anyone above 21, and no admission for those 21 and under. You must provide your own transportation. If you need directions to the park, contact Antony Elias at ace61292@hotmail.com. The Pigs will be playing the Louisville Bats (Cincinnati Reds affiliate) that night. We will be seated along the Third Base line behind the Ironpigs dugout. Section 119, Rows K and Up until we seat the first 50 people. The first 50 go. First come, first serve, and tickets are going, going, almost gone! So email me at ace61292@hotmail.com or give me a call at 484-542-6219 to sign up as quickly as possible! As for money, you can give it to Anthony Elias, or Peter Koorie, or Rhonda Elias if and when you see us.



HERITAGE DAY

Saturday

August 1st

&

Sunday

August 2nd

All are welcomed to join

Heritage Day team.



Raffle tickets were mailed to all parishioners.

(need more: call the Rectory)

It is the best festival in town and we hope to continue this great tradition for years to come.

We need your help to contact and bring more sponsors

&

to mail back your raffle tickets

May Our Lord God Bless you for your dedication, generosity and your love to your church

OUR LADY OF LEBANON CHURCH

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E-mail: ololchurch@yahoo.com



We are on the internet at:

www.mountlebanon.org

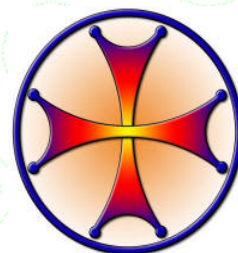
You can find us also at:

www.catholicweb.com church ID : 55071

**Heritage Day
Raffle Tickets Donors**

Amale A. Gaffney, Joe Sergei / Joe Jacob, Peter Haddad, Henry Rouhana, Chafiq & Betty Melhem, Raymond Lahoud, Bernadette & Earl Metzgar, Sam Canone, John Krupka & Jim Canone, Dave Shomp Jr., James Canone (2), Tri State Auto, Linda Bonney, Olga Rivera, Rafi Hayek, Teresa Canone, Frances Koury, Gloria Baurkot, Edward & Rosanne Joseph, Abraham Jaoude, Bob young Jr. & Joe Canone, Tony & Mireille Karam, Kimberly Abood, Marlene Badway, Antoine & Cia Bassil, Victoria Abou Rjaili, Marie Hanni, John Thomas, Robert & Labebe buesing, Rosa Najjar, Mary Najjar, Silvio Coccia, Mary Shumar, Jonathan De Raymond, Frances Koury, Roseberry Family Dental, Aoutel Karam, Aoutel Elias, John & Frances Melhem.

**THANK YOU
&
GOD BLESS**



DAY OFF Please be advised that Father Paul ' day off is Wednesday. On that day the Rectory's office will be closed. phone calls will go to an answering machine . For emergencies - Hospital calls- please call Abouna on his cellular or Deacon Anthony Koury.

The Three Massabki Brothers : (continue from page 1)

Abdel Mohti was on the church terrace, when the convent fell into the hands of the assassins. He ran to the church to take refuge near his brother, but at the chapel door, he was seized and asked to deny his faith in order to enter Islam. His life would be spared. In a clear voice, he proclaimed: "I am a Christian, kill me, I am ready." Daggers and hatchets severed his body and he fell at the church door.

As for Raphael, he was hiding in a corner of the convent. They found him and propositioned him: "become a Muslim, you will be saved." Raphael fell to his knees and appealed to the Holy Virgin. He was beheaded and trampled.

Once the calm had returned, witnesses assure, the three martyred brothers were buried with the Franciscan Priests, martyrs for their faith.