

Lebanese Parliamentary Vote for US-based Citizens

All Lebanese citizens living in the United States must register with their embassy or consulates and fill a special electoral form if they wish to vote in the next parliamentary elections in 2013. The deadline for registration is December 31, 2012. Please go to the Lebanese Consulate in NY website at: www.lebconsny.org for more information and to download the electoral form.

Join the Order of Saint Sharbel

The order of Saint Sharbel is a national organization of people who have pledged their spiritual strength and financial support for the Seminary of Our Lady of Lebanon in Washington D.C, seminarians and retired clergy of the Eparchy of Saint Maron and the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon. To become a member please see Father Naji Kiwan.

Pray for Our Sick

Please remember in your prayers all the sick and homebound of our parish family.

Requesting a divine liturgy (Mass for the living and the deceased)

Masses are offered for the living or departed as a mean of help to their souls. If possible, Masses are scheduled on the date you request, otherwise the nearest date that is open. People usually give a free-will offering called “stipend” that goes to the priest’s charity. Please contact Father Naji Kiwan to schedule a mass for your living or departed. May the Lord grant rest to your faithful departed and protect your living.

Church Etiquette

Please observe the following etiquette while attending mass:

Arrive 5 minutes prior to mass to prepare yourself for the Divine Liturgy

Stay in Church until the Mass final Blessing is given

Turn your cell phones to silent mode

Refrain from chewing gum & personal conversations

Check it Out!

You are all invited to go online to www.wmcm.org to see the schedule of our Masses, Religious education and Parish Council meetings and our Mission Information.

Ushers Organization

The Usher is the first person who worshipers meet when they arrive at Church. He has the opportunity and responsibility to represent the rest of the assembly in offering hospitality.

I urge every man in our mission to join the Ushers Organization for future help during our masses. Please contact:

Roger Nassar: fadia_roger@yahoo.com

Antoine Najjar: antnajjar@yahoo.com

George AbiNakad: gnakad@gmail.com

Altar Boys

We are seeking to recruit children & young teenagers to serve as altar boys. The only requirement is the completion of First Communion. Please don't be shy to approach us. We want all of you to exchange turns and experience the beautiful service that the priest and his altar boys offer to others. Please contact Ghassan Antonios: myrnagas@dm.net.lb or Roger Abi-Habib: roger@skoolit.com

Choir

We want to open your hearts and minds with traditional hymns sung by our choir. We are looking for men and women that want to enlighten our church with beautiful voices. Please contact Diana Fadel: Diana_ziad@yahoo.com



Bulletin No: 91

**Blessed John Paul II Church
A Maronite Catholic Mission**



December 18th: Genealogy Sunday

Sunday December 18, 2011

Mass Schedule:

*The Sisters
of the Divine
Compassion
@ Good Counsel
Campus
52 N. Broadway
White Plains, NY*

- **Every Sunday at 10AM**
- **Christmas Eve 3:30 pm Pageant 4:00 pm Mass**
(followed by Christmas Carols)

Eparchial Bishop Gregory John Mansour		Vicar General Msgr Michael Thomas	
<p>Administrator: Father Naji Kiwan 52 North Broadway, White Plains, NY 10603 Cell: (401) 688-3700 E-Mail: abounanaji@verizon.net Mission Email: johnpaul2parish@gmail.com Mission Website: www.wmcm.org Eparchy of St. Maron of Brooklyn: www.stmaron.org</p>			
Mysteries of Initiation (Baptism / Confirmation)		Mystery of Crowning (Marriage)	
Parents & Godparents should meet with the pastor 4 weeks before the baptism to make arrangements, which include parental instruction		Contact the pastor 6 months prior to any wedding date	
Mystery of Reconciliation (Confession)		Anointing of the Sick	
Before and after Liturgies, or by appointment		Please notify the Pastor for hospital visitation and communion	
New Parishioners		Members of the Mission	
Welcome to Blessed John Paul II Maronite Catholic Mission. Please notify the pastor for registration or address and phone change by visiting our website.		All members are expected to serve their Mission according to their offerings of time, talent, and money.	
Welcome to Westchester			
We, at Blessed John Paul II Church, a Maronite Catholic Mission, welcome everyone to join us in worship as we give thanks for the gift of faith. Our Mission is an Eastern Rite Catholic Church located at 52 North Broadway White Plains, NY. Our Divine Liturgies are celebrated in both English and Arabic. We have been a “home away from home” for many families that immigrated from Lebanon and the Middle East. According to Mother Teresa, love is a fruit always in season. Let us more and more insist on raising funds of love, kindness, understanding, and peace.			

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The Voice of Liturgy:

- December 18th: GENEALOGY SUNDAY

First Reading: Romans 1:1-12

Gospel : Matthew 1:1-17 The Genealogy of Jesus the Messiah

MASS INTENTIONS: 40th Day Memorial Mass for Elie Makhraz

- December 25th: SUNDAY OF THE GLORIOUS BIRTH OF OUR LORD

First Reading: Hebrews 1:1-12 God Has Spoken by His Son

Gospel : Luke 2:1-20 The Birth of Jesus

40th Day Mass for Elie Makhraz

Our Mass today will be offered for the soul of our parishioner Elie Makhraz on the 40th Day of his passing. A mercy meal is offered by his family in lieu of our usual coffee hour, please join us in extending our deepest sympathy. May God give them peace and patience to go through these difficult times. The Makhraz Family would like to thank all those who shared their grief, and were always there with them in times of sorrow and mourning.

Christmas Eve Celebrations

In addition to our regular Christmas Day Mass on Sunday December 25th at 10:00 am, we are glad to inform you that on Christmas Eve (Saturday Dec 24th), we will have a Christmas **Pageant at 3:30 pm** followed by **Mass at 4:00 pm** and finally our Choir and Heritage program children will perform the traditional (Lebanese + American) **Christmas Carols**.

Call for Altar Christmas Flower Donations requested by the Sisters

Are you having trouble looking for the right gift to buy this season? Why not remember a loved one or simply give as a gift a donation of either an 8-inch poinsettia (\$25) or a 10-inch poinsettia (\$35)? These plants will be placed on the altar at the Chapel of the Divine Compassion for our Christmas Eve Mass. A card will also be placed on the altar acknowledging your intention throughout the Christmas Masses. Kindly make out the check to: Sisters of the Divine Compassion; Mailing address:

Sr. Felicitas Russell—Sisters of the Divine Compassion

52 No. Broadway—White Plains, NY 10603

You can also give your checks/cash to Father Naji today who will deliver them to the Sisters.

Christmas Fair—Thank You

We would like to thank all the volunteers and vendors who helped make our first Christmas Fair a BIG success.

Christmas Party & Raffle—Thank You

We also want to thank all the families, talent show performers and volunteers who helped organize our Christmas Party and Raffle.

Mission & Stewardship Advisory Councils - Wednesday January 18th, 2011

Our Mission Advisory Council will meet on Wednesday January 18th, 2012 at 8:00 pm, in the Hall of the Church. The stewardship Council will meet the same day at 7:00 pm.

Financial Report

Our full financial report is published on a monthly basis. The next one is expected beginning of January.

Here are the results of our two latest events: the Joumana Mdawar Concert and the Christmas Fair. The results of our Christmas Party, which took place last night, will be published in our next bulletin.

Joumana Mdawar Concert:

Total Income \$18,971.00

Total Expenses \$12,462.00

Net proceeds \$ 6,509.00**Christmas Fair:**

Total Income \$ 6,820.00

Total Expenses \$ 4,025.00

Net proceeds \$ 2,795.00**Mission Update Letter**

All our parishioners should have received by now a Mission update letter from Father Naji and the Presidents of the Advisory and Stewardship Councils. The letter was mailed and e-mailed to all our registered parishioners. If you did not receive it, please get in touch with Antoine Najjar (antnajjar@yahoo.com).

2012 Mission Calendar and Extended Coffee Hour

A one page summary 2012 calendar was mailed and emailed with our Mission Update letter. We plan to have a monthly extended coffee hour with families assigned to prepare it. Please note the month to which your family has been assigned and let us know if you have any conflict. We will also be e-mailing a more detailed, month-by-month, 2012 calendar before the end of 2011.

Thank You Letter from Children's Hope Chest

Our Mission has received the following letter from The Children's Hope Chest organization for our support to their Coats for Hope program:

"On behalf of the Board of Directors of The Children's Hope Chest we would like to thank you for your generous donation of 34 coats directed to our Coats for Hope program. Your commitment to our mission of helping children in need has allowed us to reach more children and provide more hope with several new warm winter coats. We would like to give a special thank you to Fadia Nassar and the Heritage Program for initiating this coat drive on behalf of the CHC. We continue to try to reach more children, promote volunteerism and show our own children how to create a new day of hope for children that deserve our advocacy. We thank you for your spirit in participating in this important mission and we are grateful for your continued support and generosity because there are so many children waiting on us. Thank you for holding out your hand, opening your heart and providing hope. The children we help will never know who we are but they will never forget the hope and the embrace they felt knowing someone cares."

Christmas Greetings

Father Naji and all the Mission Councils would like to present their best wishes to all our families for a Merry Christmas and a happy, successful and healthy new year 2012. May God Bless you all!