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Father Dominique Hanna, Administrator

February 21st, 2010

Sunday of Cleansing of the Leper

Abouna Dominique's Corner:

On the Occasion of the 1600th Jubilee of the Passing of Saint Maron (2)

Hereafter, if the Maronite Patriarchal Assembly and Synod is considered the "Pentecost of the Maronite Church," then the celebration of the Jubilee of one thousand six hundred years since the death of Saint Maron could be considered "a new springtime for Maronite life." In both cases "each Jubilee in Church history is arranged by divine providence" ⁽⁷⁾ as properly said by His Holiness Pope John Paul II.

Three chapters characterize this Jubilee:

First: What does Saint Maron represent to us today?

Second: What does being Maronite mean to us?

Third: What relationship exists between being Maronite and loving Lebanon, the land and the hope?

First: Saint Maron, holiness, the saint, and the Church!

The Maronite Church is proud to belong to Saint Maron her patron and guide. Holiness first of all is a quality of God and is of God; it is the essential characteristic of the Creator. Each time human nature yearns to participate in the divine life, it gets closer and closer to the holiness of God. By doing so, Jesus Christ was the first among the saints, and all who are baptized in His name are considered touched by His divinity; they are therefore among the saints. This was the description given the first Christian community and which determined its spiritual identity. (continues on page 2)

DIVINE LITURGIES FOR

Requested by

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2010 Readings: Romans 6: 12-23 & Mark 1:35-45

5:00 PM Special Intention

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2010 Readings: Romans 6: 12-23 & Mark 1:35-45

9:00 AM Pat Stamboulieh Mrs. Marie DiPaola

11:00 AM Adib & Angel Abdallah Michel Abdallah &

Marwan & Youssef Khoury Jeannette Khoury

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2010 Readings: Romans. 14: 14-23 & John 2: 1-11

5:00 PM Special Intention

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2010 Readings: Romans. 14: 14-23 & John 2: 1-11

9:00 AM Raymond Stevens The Shamatta Family

11:00 AM Toufic Habib Abi Sarkis Teddy & Nancy Abi Sarkis

Abouna Dominique's Corner

Holiness is a spiritual relationship between the human being and the Holy God most venerated. Identifying holiness is the beginning of recognizing the saints through the history of the Church. In theological dictionaries, only God is most holy, because holiness is an expression of His power and the perfection of His being. Holiness also implies persons, things, and places that are considered holy. God is Holy in himself, while the human being is called to holiness.

According to Vatican II, all people are called to holiness by their belonging to the Church; and by sharing in the holiness of the Church they become sanctified by the sanctity poured upon the Church through Jesus the Savior. At the onset, the martyrs who incarnated spiritual bravery as they faced persecution and injustice were called saints; in later stages, the Church determined the principles, basis and conditions necessary to proclaim someone a saint.

The path to holiness is not determined by time and place. It is determined by the dynamic relationship between God and man. Seeing God and enjoying the salvation in the company of the righteous and saints is the final aim of every believer. This path however, is full of difficulties. There is a great struggle between body and soul in order to reach what is called by theologians "belonging to God not to one's own self," and practicing the "prayer of the heart" not "the prayer of the lips." Thus the believer advances in his person and in the practice of his daily life, and sacrifices things of the body to liberate the soul and attain the ideal phase of religion, an absolute love of God and a deep faith in Jesus Christ.

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RELIGIOUS CLASSES

On Sunday @ 9:50 am

COMMUNION CALLS

For Hospitalized, shut-in or suffering from a long illness. Call the Priest.

ANOINTING

Contact the Priest for the Sacrament of the Sick.

BAPTISM

Baptism & Confirmation arrangements must be made six weeks in advance.

CROWNING

Marriage arrangements must be made at least six months in advance. Bride or groom must be a registered member of the parish. Call the Priest.

HOLY ORDERS

If you would like to serve God by preaching the Word of God, by celebrating the Sacraments and by serving those in need, you may have a vocation to the priesthood. Why not speak to a priest today or contact the Vocations Office @ 404-525-2504

Miscellaneous Events & Announcements

MYA Meeting: The MYA are meeting this Sunday, Feb 21st after the 11 O'clock liturgy in the conference room as usual. There are multiple important events coming up on the agenda that are being discussed so please be there.

Stations of and Benediction with the Cross: Every Friday of Lent @ 7:00 pm, Saint Joseph will pray the Stations of the Cross with the Benediction. The service will be followed by a Lenten Supper.

Ladies Altar and Rosary Society Meeting: The ladies will have their next meeting on February 28th between the two masses.

Bishop's Appeal 2010: A second collection will be taken every Sunday during the Season of the Great Lent that begins Monday, February 15th and ends Sunday, April 4th. This Collection is for the Eparchial Charities Appeal which is divided as follows: 30% priests' retirement fund, 25% seminary, 15% endowment fund, 15% Patriarchal liturgical commission & texts, 15% Lebanon. Our goal is to raise \$ 3000.00. We thank you for generosity and financial support.

Lenten Suppers: Families who would like to sponsor a Friday Lenten Supper are to sign up their names. The Sign-up Sheet is in the sacristy.

Holy Grounds: Holy Grounds a series of talks presented by the Office of Young Adult Ministry of the Archdiocese of Atlanta. On March 3rd the MYA of St. Joseph invites all the parishioners for an evening of faith, fellowship. Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at 6:00 pm followed by a talk given by Ann Hartle entitled "the Desert within". Holy Grounds is presented by the Office of Young Adult Ministry of the Archdiocese of Atlanta.

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Abouna Dominique's Corner

Living Christian virtues in ways that surpass human potential to the degree of heroism, leads God to grant the saint characteristics and powers to make miracles. Such holiness raises its possessor to the rank of patron who opens the way for people to accept the grace of God. The patron becomes a beacon in the darkness. In the middle of a tempest the patron enlightens suffering souls that they can find their way in their journey toward God. All saints live in the deepest and most solid faith that remains limitlessly radiant even after they are gone. It is a faith that can only be revealed, rooted, and continuously renewed by a very strong and simultaneous relationship with God the Father and His Son Jesus Christ. "It is, in fact, that deep-rooted faith that formed the foundation of the Maronite Church."

WORDS OF THANKS



December 28, 2009

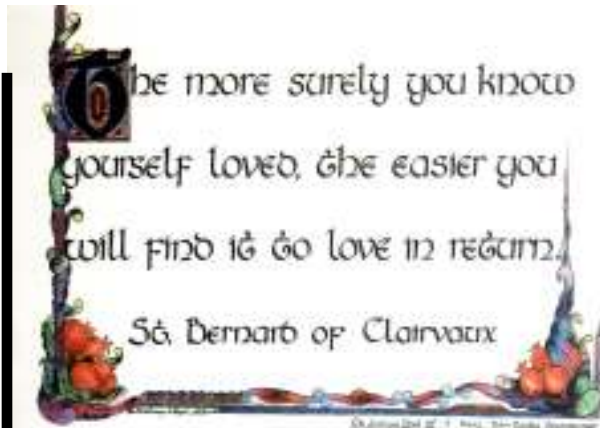
*Thank you for remembering Children's
Northside of Atlanta with your wonderful
toy donation. You generously provided
a Merry Christmas for our children and
their families.*

*Sincerely,
Stephanie Spivey
Special Events Coordinator*



friends

An organization of volunteer people dedicated to supporting children, families and
Children's Healthcare of Atlanta through service, fund raising and advocacy.



*Dear Abouna Dominique + family of
St. Joseph's parish,*

*I thank you so much for the
beautiful farewell and "send off"
at the church. It was so wonderful
to spend that last weekend before
coming to the Monastery with you
all. Both me and my family who
attended were deeply touched by your
love and generosity. Please know
you are all in my prayers. Take
care + God Bless! With love, *Fresco**



- For our military; that the Lord may give them strength and courage. May the Lord help them protect and defend the rights of the innocent. Watch over their loved ones while they are far from home. When they are in harm's way, protect them from injury; We pray to the Lord.
- That we might put our faith in the Lord when we ourselves or family members are confronted with an unexpected pregnancy; We pray to the Lord.
- That this church community may not judge women who have had abortions but rather encourage to seek forgiveness and healing ; We pray to the Lord.
- That we may live out our vocation to be ambassadors for Christ by spreading the message that each human life is sacred; We pray to the Lord.
- For the sick, the suffering and the elderly of our community, especially **Eva Solomon, Almas Tanory, Francois Khalil, Tony Rouhanan, Jeff Faded, Josphine Dahdah**, We pray to the Lord.