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	October 24th, 2010

Sixth Sunday After Holy Cross

Abouna Dominique's Corner: The Six Eastern Catholic Churches of the Middle East

Greek Melkite Church

The Melkites, also known as Byzantine Catholics, number 1.3 million around the world. They entered into full communion with Rome in 1729 under the Pontificate of Benedict XIII. Melkite Patriarch Gregory refused to sign the declaration on the doctrine of papal infallibility at Vatican Council I, along with others in a minority called the anti-infallibilists, but later consented with the addition of the clause "except the rights and privileges of Eastern patriarchs." Gregory's concerns about the latinization of the Eastern Churches was somewhat relieved by Leo XIII's encyclical "Orientalium Dignitas." Following Vatican Council II, the Melkites took further measures to remove Latin-rite traditions from their liturgy.

The current prelate in the See of Akko, Haifa, Nazareth and All Galilee is Archbishop Elias Michael Chacour, a Palestinian who has been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for his charitable and peace-promoting work, namely with the Mar Elias Educational Institutions.

The current Melkite Greek Catholic Patriarch of Antioch and All the East, Alexandria, and Jerusalem is Gregory III Laham, who resides in Damascus, Syria. In the Middle East his flock can be found in Israel, Syria, Jordan, and Lebanon, and also in Africa, South America, North America and Australia.

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<i>DIVINE LITURGIES</i>	<i>REQUESTED BY</i>
<u>Saturday, October 30, 2010</u>	Readings: Romans 12: 9-21 & Matthew 25:31-46
5:00 PM Azzi & Aoun Family	Brigitte Azzi
<u>Sunday, October 31, 2010</u>	Readings: Romans 12: 9-21 & Matthew 25:31-46
9:00 AM For the Intention of Louise Najjar on her 80th birthday	Shamatta Family
11:00 AM Special Intentions	
<u>Saturday, November 6, 2010</u>	Readings: Hebrews 9: 1-12 & Matthew 16: 13-20
5:00 PM Forty Day Liturgy for Aida Nasr	Elie Nasr
<u>Sunday, November 7, 2010</u>	Readings: Hebrews 9: 1-12 & Matthew 16: 13-20
9:00 AM For the Wellbeing of Peter Shamatta	Shamatta Family
11:00 AM Special Intentions	
<u>THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION IS OFFERED BEFORE EACH LITURGY</u>	

Abouna Dominique's Corner: The Six Eastern Catholic Churches of the Middle East (continues from page 1)

Maronite Church

The Maronites derive their name from the Syrian monk St. Maron, who was an important figure in the Christian community of Antioch at the same time as St. John Chrysostom, but who left the city to follow the example of St. Anthony of the Desert and took up a hermitic life. The Maronites voted in favor of the Council of Chalcedon in 451, subsequently finding themselves the sole Chalcedonian Christians in the region. Some 350 Maronite monks were then killed by monophysites (those who believe in the one nature of Christ), causing the Maronites to flee and settle in Lebanon, particularly in the mountainous regions. The first specifically Maronite patriarch, John Maron, was elected in 687, in the midst of an Islamic invasion and conflict with the Orthodox Church and the Byzantine Emperor, Justinian II. The Muslim conquest of Eastern Christendom cut off Maronite communication with Rome for 400 years, until the time of the First Crusade, when the Maronites re-affirmed their union with Rome in 1182, the only non-uniatic Eastern Christian Church in the Middle East to this day. In 1584, the Maronites established their presence in Rome with the Maronite College, followed by the building of several monasteries and convents of Maronite orders. Today, the majority of Christians in Lebanon are still Maronite, approximately 930,000, and the patriarch, currently the Cardinal Nasrallah Boutros Sfeir, resides outside Beirut in the town of Bkerke. The Maronite expansion is far greater in number at nearly three million, with congregations in Australia, the United States, Canada, Brazil, Argentina, Mexico, Israel and Cyprus.

Syriac Church

The Syriac Church, also referred to as the Western Syriac Rite, uses a Syriac language liturgy that is called the "Anaphora of St. James" and dates back to the bishopric of St. Peter in Antioch. The Syriac Catholic Church made a final split from the Orthodox Church and came into union with Rome in 1781. Dramatically, in 1782, Syriac Orthodox Patriarch Michael Jarweh of Aleppo declared himself Catholic and in union with Rome shortly after his election, and then took flight to Lebanon where he established an unbroken line of Catholic Syriac patriarchs. During the 18th century the Church went underground due to persecution from the Orthodox, encouraged by the Ottomans.

In the subsequent years the patriarchate was moved from Lebanon to Aleppo, Syria, then to Mardin, Turkey, and finally back to Lebanon to Beirut during the Assyrian genocide of World War I, which brought about the deaths of over 37,500 Syriac Catholics at the hands of Turkish nationalists.

Today there are approximately 159,000 Syriac Catholics globally, concentrated in the Middle East in Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Egypt, Syria, Turkey, and also in the diaspora in Australia, Sweden, France, Venezuela, Brazil, Sudan, the United States and Canada. The current Patriarch of Antioch and All the East of the Syrians is Patriarch Ignace Joseph III Younan, who resides in Beirut, Lebanon.

Miscellaneous Events & Announcements

All Saints & All Souls: Monday, November 1st is the All Saints Day and Tuesday, November 2nd is All Souls Day. There will be Liturgies on Monday and Tuesday @ 7:30 pm.

Holy Hour: Every First Friday of the month at 7:30 in the evening, there will be an hour of Adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Mark your calendar for November 5th @ 7:30 pm to spend an hour with the Lord.

Bake Sale: The Ladies Altar and Rosary Society is organizing a bake sale for Sunday November 14. Home made delicacies will be available for sale after both masses. The ladies encourage every member of the parish to donate and purchase items for the benefit of the Church. If you would like to bring something for the bake table please contact Dany Dagher at danydagher@hotmail.com.

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta Toy or Gift Drive: We are having a parish-wide toy or gift drive for patients at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta at Egleston. Toys or gifts must be **brand new** and **unwrapped**. Please no balloons, guns or items that suggest violence or fighting. Gifts must be safe, sturdy and non-toxic. The drive starts Sunday, Oct. 24th and continues through Sunday, Dec. 5th. The age range of patients at Egleston's is from infancy up to 21 years old. Please leave your gifts in the receptacle provided for this purpose in the downstairs hallway. Let us all try to make a hospitalized girl or boy happier this Christmas season. For further info, please contact Reem Ragy or Marie DiPaola.

Family Portraits for the Ad Book: On November 14th, Mark Najjar at Atlanta Studios will be taking family portraits for the Ad Book of our Centennial. The photos will be shot at different locations around the church, both inside & outside. More information about the dates and sign-up sheet are to come

100th Anniversary Ad/ Commemorative book: On the occasion of its centennial celebration, our parish is putting together an Ad book. Families as well as businesses could acquire a form at the entrance of the Church or from the members of the Centennial Committee. For more information please see Louie Abdou contact info in the bulletin.

Junior Choir: Starting next week November 7th after the 11:00 Liturgy, there will be a junior choir rehearsal for children between 7 - 18. George Moussa and Cecilia Romero will be in charge of the Choir. Please encourage the children to take part in this activity.

Ex Officio Members for the Pastoral Council: The president of the Altar and Rosary Society and of the MYA and a representative of the MCF will be joining the pastoral council. Out of their office, these three members will attend and participate in the meetings.

Congratulation to the New Officers of the Altar & Rosary Society

During their meeting last Sunday 10/24 the Ladies Altar and Rosary Society elected the following officers for the year 2011:

Marize Murad (president) , Mireille Teeny (Vice President) Cecilia Romero (recording secretary) and Corinne Moussa (corresponding Secretary). Susan Swanson has accepted to be the treasurer of the group. Congratulations and may God bless their hard work.

NEW YEAR'S EVE BALL 2011

Friday December 31, 2010 (8 PM to 3 AM)

TICKET PRICE (Donation)

Adults: \$75

Child: \$30 (5 yrs - 14yrs)



Live Music
Featuring
Lebanese Star
Chadi Hachem
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