



Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church Las Vegas

5th Sunday of the Glorious Resurrection 2021

May 2021

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Celebrant: Fr. Nadim Abou Zeid

Our Services HOLY MASSES

DAILY: Monday–Friday 8:00 AM English

SATURDAY VIGIL:

4:30 PM English

SUNDAY: 9:30 AM English

& 11:30 AM Arabic/Aramaic/English

1st Sunday : 4:30 PM

Rosario y la Misa en Español

2nd Sunday: 4:30 PM

Tagalog Mass

1st SUNDAY 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM

Youth Mass

Pope John Paul II

“The Church must breathe with her two lungs!”

(Ut unum sint;
That They May Be One).

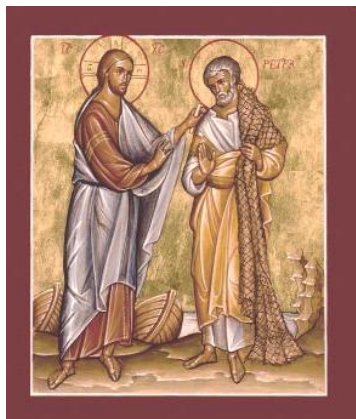


10325 RANCHO DESTINO RD,
LAS VEGAS NV 89183 PHONE: 702-616-6902

www.stsharbellsvegas.org

“You are Peter,
and upon
this rock
I will build My
Church”

Mt 16:18



“Jesus said a third time, ‘Simon son of John, do you love Me? Peter was hurt that he had asked him a third time, ‘Do you love Me?’ ‘Lord’, he said, ‘You know everything, You know I love You.’ Jesus said, ‘then feed My sheep. Then He added, ‘Follow Me.’ (John 21:17, 19)

The three questions Jesus asks Peter “Do you love Me?” Is the opposite of what Peter did during Jesus’ Passion when he denied Him three times. Jesus didn’t mean to embarrass Peter, He wanted to teach him a good lesson about leadership and how to be humble. Peter, whom Jesus named “the Rock” is the first disciple to proclaim the faith in Christ, the Son of God (Mt 16:13). Peter, too, being the most protective shepherd, is a forgiven sinner. Jesus entrusts the entire Church to him: by asking him: Do you love Me? This is the first condition to be fulfilled by a shepherd in the Church.

5TH SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION

This dialogue between Jesus and Peter expresses what being a Christian is all about. Jesus asks us everyday if we love Him in a special and exclusive way. Do you love Me more than these? We answer “YES!” despite our miseries, that Jesus invites us to follow Him again, out of Love, and to share with Him the responsibility of caring for the people of God. There is no better way of following Jesus than by giving up our lives for His mission. The Church continues through the centuries, and Christ does not like us to ignore His Works; What you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven. For this reason the Church will always need a visible head, the Successor of Peter, the Pope.

Fr. Nadim Abou Zeid

“It’s not the Church’s role
to force an individual
to come closer, but rather
to constantly invite.
Not to impose, but to “propose”.
Pope Benedict XVI

LET US PRAY:

O Lord, help us
to renew our
commitment
and to declare
our love,
not by answers,
but also by actions
and dedications to Your
Church and to receive
Your Divine mission for
our salvation. Amen.



READING:

Ephesians 2:1-10

GOSPEL:

John 21:15-19

THE MIRACLES OF ST. CHARBEL

Following the onset of the second intifada in September 2000, and the violence that erupted thereafter, the monks of the Maronite Order left Bethlehem. Their convent remained empty and unused for many years until Father Yacoub Eid, a dynamic priest of the order then working in Jaffa, Israel, was appointed to revive the community. He brought with him the vision of turning the convent into a new spiritual retreat center for all Christians.

There is but a small community of Maronites in Bethlehem, but this has not stopped Father Yacoub from working to bring his vision to life. Upon the completion of the rehabilitation of St. Charbel Church, relics of the saint, the revered 19th-century Maronite monk, were brought from Lebanon to the renewed site in Bethlehem. The relics were welcomed with a solemn celebration that included the participation of faithful from across the country.

Over the years, contributions from the Christian community, private donors and even the Palestinian Authority have helped to restore various parts of the old convent and expand the premises to accommodate the growing number of faithful. Last year, Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas approved Father Yacoub’s request to rename the street after St. Charbel, who is beloved by Christians and Muslims throughout the Middle East.

Despite the successful reestablishment of the Maronite church and convent, arsonists set fire to the site in 2015 and attempted to confiscate the property.

This incident only made Father Yacoub more determined to continue with the plans to complete the restoration work. In fact, more donations to renovate the second floor of the old convent are underway, including a CNEWA grant to install new aluminum windows on the second floor, providing the building with soundproofing while enhancing its historical character.

Since the church’s restoration, attendance is growing for weekly liturgies, holidays and the celebration for the feast of St. Charbel, which has become a significant local event in Bethlehem — complete with a procession from the city’s municipal building to the church.



*The Maronite Convent of St. Charbel in Bethlehem is being renovated,
thanks to partial funding from CNEWA-Pontifical Mission*

OUR HOLY FATHER POPE FRANCIS: AUTHORIZES DECREES REGARDING CANDIDATES TO SAINTHOOD

Pope Francis authorizes the Congregation for the causes of Saints to promulgate decrees concerning the Canonization of an Italian religious, the martyrdom of 12 individuals, and the heroic virtues of three lay people.

Pope Francis on Saturday received in audience Cardinal Marcello Semeraro, Prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of the Saints.

During the audience, the Holy Father confirmed the conclusions of the Ordinary Session of the Cardinals and Bishops, members of the Congregation, and decided to extend to the universal Church the cult of Blessed Margaret of Città del Castello, of the Third Order of Saint Dominic, born around 1287 in Metola, Italy, and died in Città del Castello, Italy, on 13 April 1320, inscribing her in the book of Saints (equipollent canonisation).

During the same audience, the Pope also authorised the Congregation to promulgate the decrees regarding:

The *martyrdom* of the Servants of God Vicente Nicasio Renuncio Toribio and eleven companions of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer, killed in hatred of the faith in Madrid, Spain, in 1936;

the *heroic virtues* of the Servant of God Pietro Marcellino Corradini, bishop of Frascati, Cardinal of the Holy Roman Church, founder of the Congregation of the Collegine Sisters of the Holy Family; born on 2 June 1658 in Sezze, Italy, and died in Rome, Italy on 8 February 1743;

The *heroic virtues* of the Servant of God Emanuele Stabulum, professed religious of the Congregation of the Sons of the Immaculate Conception; born on 10 June 1895 in Terzolas, Italy, and died in Rome, Italy on 16 March 1950;

The *heroic virtues* of the Servant of God María de los Desamparados Portilla Crespo, lay person and mother; born on 26 May 1925 in Valencia, Spain, and died in Madrid, Spain, on 10 May 1996;

The *heroic virtues* of the Servant of God Anfrosina Berardi, layperson; born on 6 December 1920 in San Marco di Preturo, Italy, and died there on 13 March 1933.

OUR MARONITE PATRIARCH CARDINAL BECHARA EL RAI WANTS TO REDEEM LEBANON'S SINS

In an address from the balcony of his limestone residence in the town of Bkerke, Lebanon, at the end of February, Lebanon's senior Catholic prelate, Cardinal Bechara Al-Rai, made it clear he believes his country is on the brink of collapse—and the key to rescuing it involves disarming Hezbollah. “There does not exist two or several states within one land,” Rai said before a crowd of hundreds of people, who had gathered despite the pandemic. “There does not exist two or more armies within one United States.”

It was the latest of a series of sermons and speeches in recent months that continue to grip the Lebanese media and made the 81-year-old Rai—patriarch of Lebanon's Maronite church, the Levant's most influential Christian community—the unlikely head of a new political movement that leans on the support of establishment figures while taking up the language of anti-government protesters. It's fair to wonder where this balancing act is leading.

Rai's rhetoric may seem like vague patriotic talk and moral exhortations. He has been careful not to directly criticize Hezbollah or Iran, instead couching his demands within a broader political initiative to “save Lebanon.” But Rai has also portrayed his campaign as a direct challenge to Lebanon's present sectarian rulers—one grounded in what he sees as his historical mission.

Rai's call to make Lebanon a constitutionally “neutral” country—akin to the role that Switzerland or Belgium sought during the years of great-power rivalries in Europe—are an unmistakable reference to Hezbollah's alliance with Iran and Syria's Bashar al-Assad family. At Rai's February speech, members of the crowd acknowledged his allusion by chanting, “Out Iran!” Rai concluded with a call to protesters to “not be silent on illegitimate and non-Lebanese weapons,” warning of “the coup against the state and the regime.”

Rai also seems committed to organizing political forces, not just making spiritual appeals.

In the tradition of his patriarchal predecessors, Rai says he is speaking for all Lebanese—regardless of their religion—and carefully motioned to the Muslim clerics that had been seated front and center in the crowd. His rallies, however, are heavily attended by partisans from the Lebanese Forces—a Christian political party whose leader, Samir Geagea, led his own militia during the civil war of the 1980s.

Sejean Azzi, a former Christian politician who coordinates a political group advising the patriarch, said Rai's demands include the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1559 that calls for the disarmament of all militias within Lebanon. “The patriarch refuses the maintenance of the military arsenal of Hezbollah,” Azzi said. “The patriarch refuses the Iranian project that Hezbollah propagates in the Middle East and Lebanon. The patriarch refuses the blockage of institutions in Lebanon that Hezbollah practices.”

Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah has rejected the patriarch's call for U.N. intervention in Lebanon's crisis as a “declaration of war” that could thrust the country into civil strife. Talks have been launched between the Shiite group and the Maronite church, with some supporters of the patriarch displaying signs of readiness to fight despite the vast imbalance of power in Hezbollah's favor.

In one sense, Rai's campaign is a historical irony. The Maronite patriarchate—traditionally the guardian of the conservative political and social order that Lebanon inherited from its French colonial rulers—is now portraying itself as an ally of anti-government protesters while the previously insurgent Hezbollah has become the defender of the political status quo it predominates.

History is also impossible to separate from the broader political maelstrom Rai's comments have created in Lebanon. The question now is whether he has a plan for getting out of the confrontation he has started—and how his vision measures up against the anger of Lebanese protesters who he's claiming to represent.

THE HEALING OF A BLIND WOMAN BROADENS SAINT CHARBEL'S FAME TO THE UNITED STATES

A miracle in Phoenix, Arizona, has been attributed to the intercession of the hermit of Annaya, Lebanon. The day after visiting a holy relic associated with the saint, Dafne Gutierrez woke up with very itchy eyes and feeling a lot of pressure on her head and eye sockets. In the glow of a nightlight, amazed, she cried out to her husband, "I can see you. I can see you". A blind woman has been healed in Phoenix, Arizona, thanks to the intercession of Saint Charbel (Sharbel) Makhlouf (8 May 1828-24 December 1898). Thus, the reputation of miracle worker of the hermit of Annaya (Lebanon) is spreading around the world, or at least, wherever fate has taken the Maronites, scattered by the winds of their turbulent history.

The city of Phoenix, capital of the US state of Arizona, has been the scene for one of those amazing miracles whose secret only Saint Charbel knows: the healing of a Hispanic American woman, 30-year-old Dafne Gutierrez, mother of three, who had lost her eyesight to Arnold-Chiari malformation.

Phoenix is a city with a large Lebanese community, mostly Maronite. The local Maronite church is dedicated to Saint Joseph and Masses are celebrated in three languages: Arabic, Spanish and English. Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church is the hub of one of the 36 Maronite parishes in the United States, divided between the two big dioceses of New York and Los Angeles.

The relic of Saint Charbel, who has toured the various parishes since early October 2015, consists of a bone sample kept in a cedar chest. This pilgrimage marks the 50th anniversary of the beatification of the great Lebanese Saint. The pastor of Saint Joseph, Wissam Akiki, had publicised as much as he could the relatively short visit (15-17 January 2016) the relic displayed in his parish, which coincided with a retreat for priests in the presence of the Maronite Bishop of Los Angeles, Mgr Elias Abdallah Zaidan. Diagnosed with Arnold-Chiari malformation at the age of 13, Dafne Gutierrez over the years developed papilledema (swelling of the optic disc swelling) at the end of the optic nerve. Surgery to correct the malformation had proved unhelpful. In the fall of 2014, she lost the use of her left eye, which had gradually weakened a year earlier. In November 2015, the right eye was also lost, which plunged her into total darkness that even sunlight failed to break when she looked at it directly.

A medical report eventually concluded that her blindness was irreversible and that she required permanent medical assistance. Ms. Gutierrez even envisaged moving to a residence for the blind, so as not to be a burden on her family.

Over the weekend of the 16th and 17th of January, motivated by Fr. Akiki's posters, relatives encouraged Ms. Gutierrez to ask for healing. One of them took her to the priest on Saturday, 16th of January. "I put my hand on her head, then on both eyes, and I asked God to heal her through the intercession of St Charbel," the clergyman said with much fuss. On Sunday, Dafne and her family attended Mass and then went home.

On the morning of the 18th, the inexplicable healing occurred. Around 5 am, Dafne woke up with severe itching in the eyes and the feeling of pressure on her skull and eye sockets. She awoke her husband, who detected a strong burning smell in the room. He switched on the light, but then switched it off very quickly, at his wife's request because it bothered her. Then in the glow of a nightlight, she told him, amazed, that she could see. "I can see you. I can see you with my own eyes," she said. At the same time, she felt a strong pressure on the skull and eyes, like after an operation. She put her hand to her head, on the right side, as if there were an injury. One can imagine the rest. "I cannot believe it. I did not want to close my eyes," she said. "My children were shouting: 'Mom can see! God healed mom!'"

"Three days later, an ophthalmologic examination noted the miraculous healing. By then, five doctors had already examined Dafne Gutierrez, including one ophthalmologist of Lebanese origin, Dr Jimmy Saade. The healing defies scientific explanation.

According to her doctor, he had not seen such healing in his forty years of practice. "No way! No way!" he kept repeating, as he read the report in front of him. The optical disc, the report said, shows no sign of the Papilledema. To avoid any doubts, a complete medical check-up is underway to understand better the case and fully document the inexplicable nature of the healing. The goal is also to verify whether the miracle includes the correction of the malformation causing blindness, as suggested by the feeling of pressure Dafne Gutierrez feels on the skull "as if it were part of an operation."

Popular faith does not have such scruples. News of the healing of a blind woman in Phoenix spread like wildfire and made it on US and Mexican regional TV channels.

As a result, thousands of visitors began arriving at Saint Joseph Church, whose pastor wisely set aside a special intercession day on the 22nd of each month, like in Annaya, since the amazing healing of Nohad El Shami (22 January 1993).

After touring the United States, the reliquary of St Charbel, was brought back to the Maronite Diocese of Our Lady of Lebanon in Los Angeles, following two final stops in Detroit, where the local Chaldean community honored it in Miami (Florida).



EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLE SAINT ANTHONY OF PADUA

During the 13th century St. Anthony of Padua was reported to have converted a hardened heretic through a rather unique contest. The heretic, by the name of Bononillo, was unmoved by the reasoning of the "hammer of heretics," as St. Anthony was called. Bononillo was as stubborn as the mule that stood beside him.

Eyeing the mule, Anthony made an offer to Bononillo. He asked him whether he would give up his heresy if the mule were to bow down and adore its Creator present in the Blessed Sacrament. The heretic answered he would, provided he could lay down certain conditions: for two days the mule was not to be fed, and on the third day it was to be led into the public square. On one side of the square would be placed a tempting pile of fresh feed, on the opposite side Anthony could stand with what Bononillo contemptuously called the "Body of Christ." Anthony agreed, but in all humility made one condition. If the animal did not kneel before the Blessed Sacrament, his sins alone were to be blamed.

My Lord
and my God,
I believe,
I adore,
I trust
and I love You!
I beg pardon
for those who
do not believe,
do not adore,
do not trust,
and do not love You



The day arrived for this strange contest and the square was crowded with people. When the derisive Bononillo arrived with his half-starved mule, he was fully confident that his mule had sense and appetite enough to go after the feed. But he was wrong. Anthony had implored his Lord in the intervening two days for the soul of this heretic. God did not let his faithful servant down. When turned loose, the mule without the least hesitation advanced towards Anthony and knelt in an attitude of adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. With much emotion and contrition the heretic too fell on his knees and gave up his heresy. As wonderful as these miracles are the greatest of all, transubstantiation, has to be viewed with the eyes of faith.

OUR LADY OF ELIGE

This beautiful icon, also known as Our Lady of the Maronites, depicts the Virgin Mother supporting on her lap, the Child of her womb, Jesus Christ (a favorite theme of St. Ephrem.) It was discovered at the Patriarchal Church of Elige, Lebanon and is dated around the 10th Century. After uncovering several diverse pictorial layers, this icon has been revealed and marks a historic event in the history of Syro-Maronite iconography.



This painting continues the tradition initiated by the RABBULA manuscript of the 6th Century.

The antiquity and authenticity of this icon seem to be supported and verified by the following elements: the colors of Mary's robes (deep blue) and Christ's (deep purple) are faithful to the Syriac tradition dating to the 6th Century. Blue (sky tone) signifies divinity, and purple (kingly) signifies royalty. The halos of both figures are a simple wide band (gold) typical of Syriac iconography and free of Byzantine influence, namely a cross in Christ's halo and lettering for the "Mother of God" in the Lady's. The profession of faith made by the symbolic form of blessing of Jesus' right hand, i.e. three fingers joined (to signify the three Persons in one God), and the index and other finger (signify that Christ is God and man.) What is not visible in His left hand is the typical scroll which Jesus holds (refers to Isaiah in the OT and Revelations in the NT.) Moreover, the Lady's right hand declares the same Chalcedonian formula of faith - the duality of Christ's natures - divine and human.

As is typical in Syriac icons, the Virgin Mother's hair is completely concealed and covered by the headband worn in the Semitic culture. The two star-like symbols on Mary's head and shoulder represent her enduring virginity before and after Christ's birth. According to St. Ephrem, "the First Eve by her 'hearing' of the serpent gave the world death; the Second Eve, by her 'hearing' of the angel gave the world LIFE."

The facial features of both figures (Syriac Orient) reveal the delicate, gentle and transparent divine presence. Art of the Latin West depicts the faces mostly human, while that of the Byzantine East, mostly divine.

Beautiful Faces & Places



The bans of marriage between Amanda Saade & Jorge Olivas will be taking place next month



Congratulations to Mark & Andrea Mapa on the baptism of their son Max in April



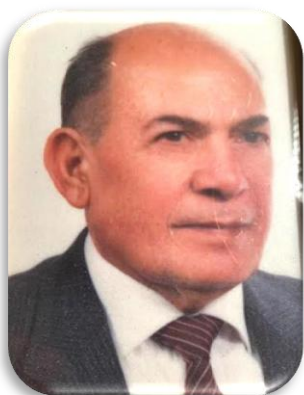
Congratulations to Kenneth & Jane Fersner on the baptism of their son Kenneth in April



Congratulations to John & Danielle Suzuki on the baptism of their son John Jr. in April



Congratulations to Johnny & Zeina Salfiti on the baptism of their daughter Joya in April



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Salim G. Kabban of Las Vegas, died March 11, 2005. He was born April 24, 1924, in Jerusalem and resided in Las Vegas for 12 years. He was a retired international merchant. He is survived by his wife, Bernadette; sons, Bassem and Bassam; and daughters, Ibtissam Raad, Hanan Kabban and Hayat Barrak.



MILAGROS DE
SAN CHARBEL
YOUSSEF AL KHOURY



Youssef se sometió a una operación quirúrgica de trasplante de cornea en el ojo derecho, pero cuatro años después, sintió un fortísimo dolor y un punto negro apareció en su ojo. Youssef fue hospitalizado pero su doctor descubrió, tras una radiografía, que sufrió de un desprendimiento de retina. Visitó al tumbo de San Charbel implorando la gracia de la curación y tomó un poco de tierra del tumbo y limpió el ojo. Después, una nueva radiología mostró que su ojo se curó completamente. Youssef se dirigió al monasterio de San Maron – Annaya, para agradecer a Jesucristo, frente al Tumbo de San Charbel e inscribió su curación en el 29/03/2012.

El Grupo Guadalupano

de la Iglesia de San Charbel Te invita a que asistas
a la

Misa y El Rosario que se celebran el primer
domingo cada
mes comenzado,

DIA: Domingo 2 de Mayo

HORA: Rosario 4:30pm Misa

**DONDE: Iglesia Catolica de San Charbel
10325 Rancho Destino Rd,
Las Vegas, NV 89183**

Después de la Misa te invitamos a que nos
acompañes a una pequeña
recepción donde compartiremos: café, postres,
bocadillos con todos los asistentes.

Si tienes alguna duda communicate con:

Oficina de la Iglesia 702-616-6902





Filipino News



MANILA BISHOP BRODERICK PABILLO DECLARES MAY 8 DAY OF PRAYER FOR COVID-19 DEAD

Bishop Broderick Pabillo has declared a day of prayer and remembrance in the Manila archdiocese to honor those who have lost their lives to coronavirus.

Manila's clergy on May 8 will pause to mourn the thousands who have died from the Covid-19 since the pandemic began a year ago.

In a pastoral instruction released Tuesday, the bishop said that the day will be marked a "Mass for the Dead" at the Manila Cathedral at 9:00 a.m.

"We bring together at the altar of the Lord all the tears and sorrows of our people for their loved ones," Pabillo said.

"The whole archdiocese will mourn for our dead during this pandemic but with great hope given by the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus," he said.

Pabillo asked all the parishioners to join the Mass through live streaming.

He said that a memorial can also be set up in parishes with the pictures of those who succumbed to the disease.

"This can serve as a reminder for us to always pray for them," according to him.

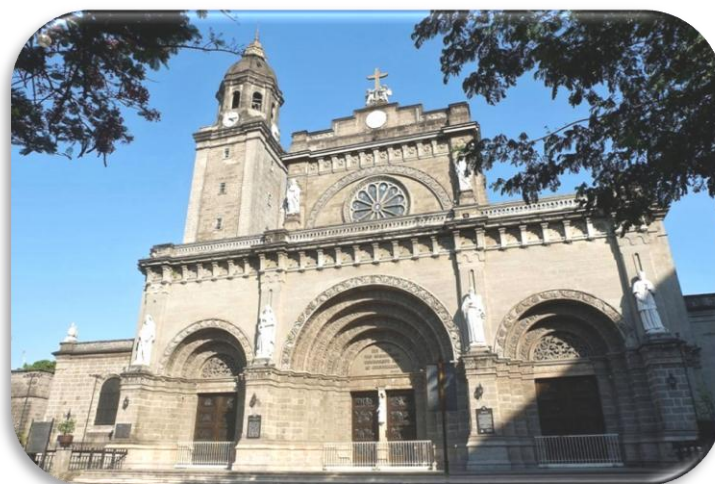
The day of prayer will be preceded with three days of "Holy Hour" at 6:00 p.m. in front of the Blessed Sacrament, which will also be live streamed to the faithful.

The prelate said there will be a pre-recorded video of a reflection for each day that will be played during the prayer service.

"Together we shall implore the Lord for the front liners on May 5, for the sick on May 6, and for the dead on May 7," he added.

The country on April 20 logged 7,379 new Covid-19 infections and over 21,000 new recoveries.

Active cases reached 127,006, equivalent to 13.3 percent of the total infections, according to the health department. The death toll also increased to 16,141 after 93 more patients died of the disease.



Bishop Broderick Pabillo will lead "Mass for the Dead" at the Manila Cathedral on May 8

CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE OF THE PHILIPPINES PRAISES 'BAYANIHAN' SPIRIT AMID PANDEMIC

The Catholic bishops' leadership on Wednesday lauded the community-based initiatives to help the needy amid the Covid-19 pandemic.

Archbishop Romulo Valles, president of the bishops' conference, said current efforts to support needy families with food and other basic goods exemplified the "true bayanihan spirit".

"We are happy to know that in recent days, in true bayanihan spirit, neighborhoods and communities have organized themselves to help needy families, especially with food and other basic necessities," he said.

Valles also encouraged parishes and religious communities to carry on their charitable works "even if we are all suffering".

"Let us again challenge ourselves to continue helping the most needy families in our midst," the archbishop said.

The CBCP head made the statement as community pantries sprouted across the country.

In the Church, Caritas Philippines' "Kindness Stations" have been operating in many dioceses.

He then asked the church community to also bring their attention to communities affected by the recent Typhoon "Bising", "which has compounded the suffering of the people" due to the health crisis. He said that Caritas Philippines, the Church's social action arm, has already started bringing assistance to the affected areas.

"The love of Christ compels us to act. It is difficult when all of us have to deal with our own difficulties and sufferings. But our faith in Jesus tells us to look first to those who are most in need," Valles said.

"I would like to believe that true charity does not stop even when that charity and care come from people who themselves are in great need," he added.

May 2021

Good News for a change

Our Lady at Fatima

May 13 is the anniversary of the apparition of Our Lady to three shepherd children in the small village of Fatima in Portugal in 1917. She appeared six times to Lucia, 9, and her cousins Francisco, 8, and his sister Jacinta, 6, between May 13, 1917 and October 13, 1917.

The story of Fatima begins in 1916, when, against the backdrop of the First World War which had introduced Europe to the most horrific and powerful forms of warfare yet seen, and a year before the Communist revolution would plunge Russia and later Eastern Europe into six decades of oppression under militant atheistic governments, a resplendent figure appeared to the three children who were in the field tending the family sheep. "I am the Angel of Peace," said the figure, who appeared to them two more times that year exhorting them to accept the sufferings that the Lord allowed them to undergo as an act of reparation for the sins which offend Him, and to pray constantly for the conversion of sinners.

Then, on the 13th day of the month of Our Lady, May 1917, an apparition of 'a woman all in white, more brilliant than the sun' presented itself to the three children saying "Please don't be afraid of me, I'm not going to harm you." Lucia asked her where she came from and she responded, "I come from Heaven." The woman wore a white mantle edged with gold and held a rosary in her hand. The woman asked them to pray and devote themselves to the Holy Trinity and to "say the Rosary every day, to bring peace to the world and an end to the war."

She also revealed that the children would suffer, especially from the unbelief of their friends and families, and that the two younger children, Francisco and Jacinta would be taken to Heaven very soon but Lucia would live longer in order to spread her message and devotion to the Immaculate Heart.

In the last apparition the woman revealed her name in response to Lucia's question: "I am the Lady of the Rosary."

That same day, 70,000 people had turned out to witness the apparition, following a promise by the woman that she would show the people that the apparitions were true. They saw the sun make three circles and move around the sky in an incredible zigzag movement in a manner which left no doubt in their minds about the veracity of the apparitions. By 1930 the Bishop had approved of the apparitions and they have been approved by the Church as authentic.

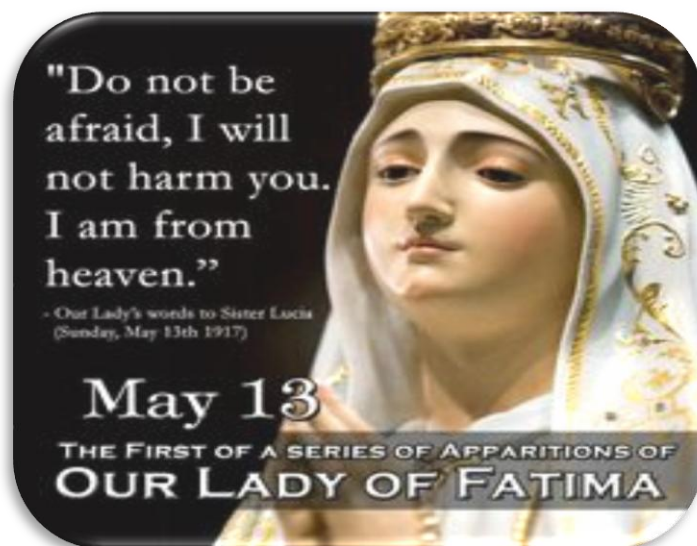
The messages Our Lady imparted during the apparitions to the children concerned the violent trials that would afflict the world by means of war, starvation, and the persecution of the Church and the Holy Father in the twentieth century if the world did not make reparation for sins. She exhorted the Church to pray and offer sacrifices to God in order that peace may come upon the world, and that the trials may be averted.

Our Lady of Fatima revealed three prophetic "secrets," the first two of which were revealed earlier and refer to the vision of hell and the souls languishing there, the request for an ardent devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary,

the prediction of the Second World War, and finally the prediction of the immense damage that Russia would do to humanity by abandoning the Christian faith and embracing Communist totalitarianism. The third "secret" was not revealed until the year 2000, and referred to the persecutions that humanity would undergo in the last century: "The good will be martyred; the Holy Father will have much to suffer; various nations will be annihilated". The suffering of the popes of the 20th century has been interpreted to include the assassination attempt on Pope John Paul II in 1981, which took place on May 13, the 64th anniversary of the apparitions. The Holy Father attributed his escape from certain death to the intervention of Our Lady: "... it was a mother's hand that guided the bullet's path and in his throes the Pope halted at the threshold of death."

What is the central meaning of the message of Fatima? Nothing different from what the Church has always taught: it is, as Cardinal Ratzinger, now Pope Benedict the XVI, has put it, "the exhortation to prayer as the path of "salvation for souls" and, likewise, the summons to penance and conversion."

Perhaps the most well known utterance of the apparition of Our Lady at Fatima was her confident declaration that "My Immaculate Heart will triumph." Cardinal Ratzinger has interpreted this utterance as follows: "The Heart open to God, purified by contemplation of God, is stronger than guns and weapons of every kind. The fiat of Mary, the word of her heart, has changed the history of the world, because it brought the Savior into the world—because, thanks to her Yes, God could become man in our world and remains so for all time. The Evil One has power in this world, as we see and experience continually; he has power because our freedom continually lets itself be led away from God. But since God himself took a human heart and has thus steered human freedom towards what is good, the freedom to choose evil no longer has the last word. From that time forth, the word that prevails is this: "In the world you will have tribulation, but take heart; I have overcome the world" (Jn 16:33). The message of Fatima invites us to trust in this promise.



13th
Annual



Friday: October 8 @ 4 pm – 11 pm
Saturday: October 9 @ 2 pm – 11 pm
Sunday: October 10 @ 12 noon – 8 pm

♥ *Annual Raffle* ♥
Limited 300 Tickets

\$10,000 cash (\$100 a Ticket)

Drawing Sun. Oct. 10 @ 6 pm

**Don't wait Reserve your Booth today deadline
is September 1, 2021 call the office
702-616-6902 or go to the festival website
Lebaneseamericanfestival.com**



Summer Dress Code

“Our lady of Fatima spoke to the children:
“...the sins which bring most souls to hell are
the sins of the flesh.” Certain fashions are
going to be introduced which will offend Our
Lord very much. Those who serve God
should not follow these fashions. (Jacinta
Marto of Fatima). **No shorts, no halter-tops,
no low-cut dresses, shirts and shoes required.**
Gentlemen wear long pants and formal
shirts. God will bless modesty in dress.
Thank you for your Cooperation.



HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

WEEKEND

Saturday 4:30pm May 1

*+Wadih Hanache
+David Martin
+Domingo & Miguela Maristela
+Gail Tenore
Kawhi Flores & Family

Sunday 9:30 am

May 2

+Ilda Ramos
+Gloria Pacheco Vitug
+Florentina Bolus (40 days)

Sunday 11:30 am

+Ibrahim Amine Morcos
+ Raymond Tabet
+ Juliette Estafen

5 pm Misa en Español

Para todos trabajador del mundo



**PRAY
FOR THE SICK**

DAILY 8AM

MONDAY May 3

Unborn Babies

TUESDAY May 4

+Susan Antonia

WEDNESDAY May 5

Healing of the Sick

THURSDAY May 6

Faithfully departed

FRIDAY May 7

+Juanito & Bonifacia

Alicante

+Fernando Contreras

COMMUNITY LIFE ANNOUNCEMENTS

2nd COLLECTION this weekend is for Our Lady of Lebanon National Shrine and Basilica. Please be generous.

MONTHLY SPANISH MASS will be held this **Sunday, May 2nd at 5:00 PM** and Rosary at 4:30 PM.

GOD OUR FATHER DEVOTION will be held this **Sunday, May 2nd after the 9:30 Mass** in the Chapel. All are welcome.

YOUTH GROUP will be held this Friday, **May 7 at 6:00 PM** for ages 10 and older. Join us for pizza, fun and fellowship. Raffle winners will be announced on May 7th and you must be present to win.

SPONSOR A POOR FAMILY – Our Bishop has given us ten families in Lebanon to support for an entire year that is below poverty for food and medication. If you would like to sponsor one of these families \$50, \$75 or \$100 per month, please contact Juliette at the office.

FESTIVAL RAFFLE TICKETS are available at the Gift Shop - \$100 each and only 300 printed. Grand price is \$3000 and total prizes \$10,000.

FESTIVAL BOOTH RENTAL – Please contact the Office if you want to rent a booth for your business at our 13th Annual Lebanese-American Festival which will be held on October 8, 9, and 10th.

BAPTISMS, FUNERALS, MEMORIAL MASS, WEDDINGS, ANNIVERSARIES HOUSE BLESSINGS, 1st HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION

Please make an appointment with Juliette, Secretary to fill out all necessary paperwork and scheduling.