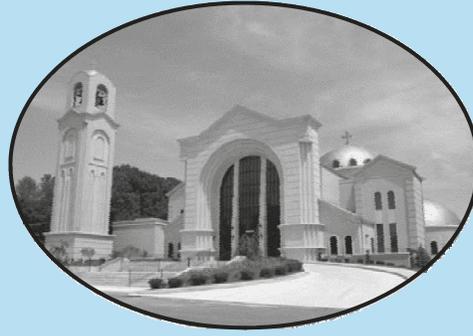


AL-NOUR

The Light of Christ

June 23, 2013

Issue 374



النور

FATHER GEORGE H. SHALHOUB
248-374-0591

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THE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX BASILICA OF ST. MARY

▪ 18100 Merriman Road ▪ Livonia, Michigan 48152 ▪ www.saintmarylivonia.com ▪ Office: (734)-422-0010 ▪

Sunday Services
Confession: 8:30AM
Matins: 9:00AM
Divine Liturgy: 10:00AM

St. Mary's Cultural
and Banquet Center
(734) 421-9220

ودعي التلاميذ مسيحيين في انطاكية أولاً

“And the disciples were first called
Christians in Antioch.” Acts 11:26

Daily Confession by Appointment - Call the Church Office

June 23, 2013

THE GREAT FEAST OF PENTECOST

يوم حلول الروح القدس على التلاميذ

عيد العنصرة

DAY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

By: Metropolitan ANTHONY of Sourozh

Today we are keeping the Feast of the Holy Spirit. What do we know about Him? We heard wonderful words of prayer about Him yesterday on Trinity Sunday, but let us think of Him, of the name He is given in the Gospel, which is translated “The Comforter” in English, in other translations “The Advocate”. He is the One Who is the Comforter indeed, the One Who consoles us for our separation from Christ, Who consoles us who are like orphans, who long to be with Christ our God, our Saviour, and who know that as long as we are in the flesh - and these are the words of St. Paul - we are separated from Him But for Him to be our Comforter, to be our consolation, we must first be aware of the fact that we are separated and this in the first question we must ask ourselves; are we aware of it, or do we live in the delusion that we are in God and God in us, and that nothing more is needed? How much more is needed? He is also the One Who, as the Comforter, gives us strength, strength to live despite the separation, strength to stand fast and to be the doers of the Will, the fulfillers of the Commandments of God, the One Who can give us vigor of soul, determination, power to act. But this, again, only if we turn to Him and say, Come! Come and abide in us! Cleanse us! Be not only our Comforter but our strength also. Lastly, He is the One Who gives us, already now, the joy of knowing how close we are despite what seems to be an infinite distance between God and us, the One Who, in unutterable groanings, speaks to God from the depths of our being; the One Who, because we are Christ's own people, His brothers and sisters in humanity - and these are His own words - that we are the children of the Father. The joy of this, the wonder of this, the dignity of this! Indeed also, the responsibility of this...If we think of our world which is to such a great extent alien to God, the Spirit is already the beginning of eternal life. His presence is a decisive fact. He beats against the rocks like the sea, He breaks resistances. He is the joy of eternity knocking at our door, forcing Himself into our lives, reminding us of God our Father, of Christ our Saviour and of our greatness and dignity before God, showing us that all things are possible in the power of Christ Who sustains us. Let us therefore responsibly and gratefully keep this Feast.

(continued on page 5)

The Antiochian Orthodox Basilica of St. Mary

Fr. George Shalhoub - Pastor
Fr. Jim King - Director of Youth &
Pastoral Outreach
Programs
Archdeacon Issa Rizkallah
313-690-2030
Deacon Dr. Dennis Bojrab
Salem Samaan - Parish Council
Chairman
Linda Lawson - Choir Director
Stacey Badeen - Church Administrator
Arwa Ansara - Church School
Administrator
Richard Shebib/Sami Azzouz -
Ushers
Dr. Tom Saba - Young Adults-
St. John Divine
Georgine Hayes - Ladies Society
President
Nicole Khamis - Teen Soyo President
Lina Nunu - Arabic School
Keith Rowe - Cultural Center General
Manager 734-421-9220

THE EPISTLE

*Their voice has gone out into all the earth.
The heavens declare the glory of God.*

**The Reading is from the Acts of the Apostles
Chapter 2:1-11**

When the day of Pentecost had come, the Disciples were all together in one place. And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. And they were amazed and wondered, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians, we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God."

THE GOSPEL

**The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. John
Chapter 7:37:52, 8:12**

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and proclaimed, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.'" Now this He said about the Spirit, which those who believed in Him were to receive; for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. When they heard these words, many of the people said, "This is really the prophet." Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Is the Christ to come from Galilee? Has not the Scripture said that the Christ is descended from David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?" So there was a division among the people over Him. Some of them wanted to arrest Him, but no one laid hands on Him. The officers then went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, "Why did you not bring Him?" The officers answered, "No man ever spoke like this man!" The Pharisees answered them, "Are you led astray, you also? Have any of the authorities or the Pharisees believed in Him? But this crowd, who do not know the Law, are accursed." Nicodemus, who had gone to Him before, and who was one of them, said to them, "Does our Law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?" They replied, "Are you from Galilee too? Search and you will see that no prophet is to rise from Galilee." Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

PRAYER CORNER

Lord, you are the physician of our souls and body. We pray You grant the following parishioners good health and blessings: baby Aydan Hujdurovic, Paul and Anna Salamy, Issa Nunu, Dr. Muaid Shihadeh, Angela Nasr, Najla, Rose Biedron, Elias Rizk, Michelle Milkie, Leonard, Gianna, Larry, Noel,

HOLY BREAD OF OBLATION

Holy Bread of Oblation is offered by the families, for the month of June, in loving memory of:

- Albert Abdelnour
- Alex and Miriam Kandah
- Raji and Fahdeh Kakish
- Joe Catarineau
- Hilda Naser
- Khalil Ajluni
- Richard and Esther Ajlouny
- Patricia Mason
- Joseph Barakat
- Ibrahim Leon
- Hind Leon
- Ghada Barakat
- Latif Leon

Holy Bread of Oblation is offered by the families, for the month of June, the health and well being of:

- Jad Alex Harb
- Abbey and Chloe Tyree
- Shawqi, Faris and Noura
- Musallam
- and their parents

SAVE THE DATE

The Ladies Society will, once again, be hosting their annual Fashion Show on Friday, September 6, 2013. Adult, Junior and children's fashions. More information to follow.

Thank You

The following parishioners and friends of the Basilica of St. Mary have given special donations to the Church in the past few weeks:

- \$50**-In loving memory of brother Victor George offered by Joe and Elaine Darany,
- \$50**-In memory of Victor George offered by Dr. Raffic and Kathy Mackie and family,
- \$50**-In loving memory of Jeries Kheir offered by Dr. Dennis and Andria Bojrab,
- \$135**-In memory of Victor George offered by family and friends,
- \$500**-For the health and well being of Lina, Rami, Hani and Karim Dirani and in loving memory of George, Noor and Souheil offered by Dr. Samer Dirani,
- \$500**-For the health and well being of newlyweds David and Janine (Ghannam) Ajalat offered by parents Rev. Dr. George and Janine Ajalat,
- \$1000**-In loving memory of Elias Ibrahim Kakish offered by the family,
- \$16,000**-Donation to the general fund from St. Mary's Ladies Society, presented by their president Georgine Bashara Hayes, the officers and membership. May God bless each and everyone's dedication, hard work and love for their church. Well Done!

OUR NEW ARRIVALS

Congratulations and best wishes to Eric and Elise Harrison on the birth of their baby boy, Jude Burdette. Proud grandparents are the late Yusef and the late Angela Hanania and William and Laura Harrison and great grandmother Sylvia Hanania.

Congratulations and best wishes to Michael and Michelle Menking on the birth of their baby boy Gabriel Eugene. Proud grandparents are John and Najwa Kelmigian and Robert and Kathy Menking and great grand-parents Eugene and Ruth Menking.

May God bless parents, grandparents and children.

MEMORIALS

قال يسوع: أنا القيامة والحياة من آمن بي يحيى الى الأبد.

I am the Resurrection and the Life. He who believes in Me shall never die." (John 11:25)
June 23rd-1 year memorial in loving memory of George Ziadeh offered by his wife Rima Ziadeh and family,
June 30th-9/40 day memorial in loving memory of Elias Ibrahim Kakish offered by the family,
June 30th-6 month memorial in loving memory of Naimeh Ayoub offered by the family,

فليكن ذكرهم مؤبدا

"A Vigil Light is Burning" In Loving Devotion

For The Health and Well Being Of: Captain Timothy Lawson, Chloe Photsios,

In Memory Of: Joseph Michael Mouaikel; George Abodeely; Ken Biedron,

Condolences

The clergy and parishioners at the Basilica of St. Mary extend their deepest sympathy to Nancy Krueger, Patty Kassab, Jennifer (Avery) Marsh, Marie (Al) Wunsch, the late Bill Kassab, grandchildren and the entire Kassab family on the passing of their beloved father, Gabe Kassab.

The clergy and parishioners at the Basilica of St. Mary extend their deepest sympathy to wife Joanne, children Kathy, Lisa, Nancy, Linda, Siham, Steven and their mother Margaret and the entire Kakish family on the passing of Elias Ibrahim Kakish.

May their memory be eternal.

Department of Youth and Outreach

Week of June 23, 2013

Upcoming Events



Every Saturday: Great Vespers (5:00-5:45)

Every Wednesday: Mother-Toddler Group (10:00am-11:00am)

June 20-23: Midwest Diocese Parish Life Conference, Louisville, KY

June 22: 20-40 Fellowship visit to Dormition Monastery

June 24-28: Vacation Bible School

June and July: Church School teacher recruitment

July 21-28: 2013 Antiochian Archdiocese Convention, Houston, TX

July 30: No Camp St. Mary

If you have any questions regarding any of these events, please call
Fr. Jim King at the Department of Youth and Outreach office.
The life of the Basilica depends on you. Get involved today!

Senior Heritage Fellowship June 27th

Trip to Windsor

YOU MUST BRING YOUR PASSPORT WITH YOU

Bus leaves Saint Mary's at 10:00 AM

Returning to Saint Mary's at 5:30 PM

Includes a stop at the Duty Free store

COST \$25.00

\$15.00 in vouchers given out

To reserve a seat, please call

Ayda Mughannem @ (734)464-1827

Please visit our website for details about all the Basilica of St. Mary events and activities.
www.saintmarylivonia.com

(continued from page 1)

And may the Spirit of God Who came in tongues of fire upon the Apostles, come to us also, perhaps like a fire that sets us aglow and makes us like a Burning Bush, or touches us like the still, small voice which the Prophet heard in the wilderness in which God was, in His quiet humility, in His surrender to us. In His love for us.

Amen.

50 يومًا بعد القيامة جاء الروح القدس

Pentecost: Originally an Old Testament harvest festival celebrated fifty days following the Passover. In time, Pentecost became the commemoration of the giving of the Law to Moses on Mt. Sinai. Pentecost took on a new meaning with the descent of the Holy Spirit on the apostles at Pentecost. Through the Sacrament of Chrismation, Orthodox Christians experience their own personal Pentecost. Every Divine Liturgy becomes a Pentecost through the descent of the Holy Spirit on the faithful and the gifts (the bread and wine); transforming them into the Body and Blood of Christ.

(Ex. 23:14-17, Lev. 23:15-21, Acts 2:1-41)

Dated Material

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