

The Shrine Messenger

December 2025



BASILICA & NATIONAL SHRINE
— of Our Lady of Lebanon —

FROM THE RECTOR'S DESK

Dear Friends of Our Lady,

The Syriac Church observes the wonderful and spiritually rich Season of Announcement in preparation for the great feast of the Lord's Nativity. The Gospel of Saint Luke is prominent in the readings of Sacred Scripture during this holy season. The Old Testament readings tell of the anticipated coming of the Messiah and the New Testament Gospel readings bring the anticipating to reality.

I encourage you to spend some time to reflect upon the richness of the Sacred Scripture and also the beautiful prayers of our Divine Liturgy which are poetically spiritual and demonstrate to us the great love of God and His blessings upon humanity as we prepare to celebrate the Word Incarnate, the Savior of the World.

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

Blessed Christmas,
Chorbishop Anthony

Liturgy Schedule

Saturday	5:00 pm
Sunday	10:00 am 5:00 pm
Monday	5:30 pm
Tuesday	5:30 pm
Wednesday	5:30 pm
Thursday	No Liturgy
Friday.	12:00 Noon

Devotion Schedule

Rosary	9:30 Sunday
Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction	10 to 11:30 Friday 3 to 4:30 Sunday
Lenten Benediction of the Cross	Afternoon Liturgy Friday
Confession	1/2 Hr. Before Liturgy or By Appointment

DAYS OF PLENARY INDULGENCE

A plenary indulgence is given to the faithful when they visit the Basilica & National Shrine on the following days and fulfill the following conditions:

- Have a complete detachment from sin, even venial
- Sacramental confession, 20 days before or after
- Receive Holy Communion, 20 days before or after
- Prayers for the intentions of the Pope — an Our Father & Hail Mary are suggested

- The Ascension (40 days after Easter)
- The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Aug. 15)
- Christmas (Dec. 25)
- Easter
- Epiphany (Jan. 6)
- Feast of the Annunciation (March 25)
- Feast of the Chair of St. Peter (Feb. 22)
- Solemnity of Christ the King (last Sunday of the liturgical year Roman calendar)

- Solemnity of the Holy Apostles Peter & Paul (June 29)
- Feast of the Most Holy Rosary (1st Sunday in October)
- Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception (Dec. 8)
- Feast of the Maternity of the BVM (2nd Sunday in October)
- Feast of Our Lady of Lebanon (1st Sunday in May)
- Feast of the Purification (Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple; Candlemas Feb. 2)
- Anniversary of the Papal Election of Pope Leo XIV (May 8)



Christmas Schedule

The Christmas Novena will be December 15 - 23.

Novena prayers will be prayed after the daily Liturgies during the week
and after the 5 p.m. Liturgies on Saturday and Sunday

Wednesday, December 24

Christmas Eve

10:00 PM Liturgy

No 5:30 PM Liturgy

Thursday, December 25

Christmas Day

10:00 AM Liturgy

No 5:30 Liturgy

Wednesday, December 31

New Year's Eve

5:30 PM Liturgy

Thursday, January 1

New Year's Day Liturgy

10:00 AM

No 5:30 PM Liturgy

Christmas Flower Donations

Envelopes are in the office, lobby, & vestibule of the Shrine if you would like to help
with the cost of the trees and flowers purchased for Christmas decorating!

Liturgy Intentions

This will be one of the last remaining opportunities before the solemn closing and sealing of the Holy Doors to mark the end of the Jubilee Year. The solemn closing will take place after the 10 am Liturgy on December 28th.

December 2025



12 2025

Thurs., Dec 4
No Liturgy

Thurs., Dec 11
No Liturgy

Sun., Dec 14
No Holy Hour

Thurs., Dec 18
No Liturgy

Sun., Dec 21
No Holy Hour

Fri., Dec 26
No Holy Hour

Mon 1 Nahum the Prophet
+Steve Medovich By Gloria Anderson
+Souls in Purgatory By Philomenia Cackovic

Tues 2 Habakkuk the Prophet
+Chorbishop Dominic Ashkar By Bruce & Karen Joseph
+Jenny Lesnoski By Susanne Rinehart

Wed 3 St. Francis of Xavier, Confessor
Intentions of Basilica Shrine Benefactors

Thur 4 No Liturgy

Fri 5 St. Saba the Martyr
Noon +Mike Carson By Claudia Morgan
L/D Secular Franciscans By Steve & Eileen Wegendt

Sat 6 St. Nicholas, Bishop
Intentions of Isabelle Mitolol By Shrine Staff & Volunteers

Sun 7 Birth of John the Baptist
10 a.m. +Sam & Carmen Accordino - Anniversary
5 p.m. +Fr. Andrew Kolitsos By Maria Cecil & Family

Mon 8 THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION Holy Day of Obligation Penary Indulgence
+Raymond & Kathryn Johnson By Kara Bernardo
+James Borak By Emmalyn Borak

Tues 9 St. Francis of Paola, Monk
+Lloyd Yazbek By Genevieve Gabriel & Family
+Souls in Purgatory By Philomena Cackovic

Wed 10 Pope Saint Militades, _314
Intentions of Basilica Shrine Benefactors

Thur 11 No Liturgy

Fri 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe, USA Observance
Noon +Steve Medovich By Christine Kampfer
+Steve & Ann Kozarich By Virginia Gabriel Kozarich

Sat 13 St. Lucy, Virgin & Martyr
+Amelia Yazbek By Genevieve Gabriel & Family

Sun 14 Revelation to St. Joseph
10 a.m. +Barbara Lantz By Ellen Saker
3 p.m. No Holy Hour
5 p.m. +Thomas Kovalchik By Caroline Martuccio

Mon 15 St. Eleutherius & His Mother, Martyr
+Pope Francis By Steve & Eileen Wegendt
+Souls in Purgatory By George & Elizabeth Cackovic

Tues 16 Haggai the Prophet
+Steve Medovich By Gloria Anderson
Int: Ron Rovnak By Joseph Rozman

Wed 17 The Three Young Men, Ananias, Azarias, Misael, Confessors
Intentions of Basilica Shrine Benefactors

Thur 18 No Liturgy

Fri 19 St. Athenodorus, Martyr
Noon Int: L/D Members Millcreek Metroparks & Employees By Kevin Wegendt
Int: Cathy Campbell Cassidy By Joseph Rozman

Sat 20 St. Ignatius of Antioch, Martyr
+Ashley Eline

Sun 21 Genealogy of Jesus the Messiah
10 a.m. +Msgr. William Bonczewski
3 p.m. No Holy Hour
5 p.m. +Mario & Virginia DeChellis By Joseph DeChellis

Mon 22 St. Anastasia of the Blakans, Martyr
Int: Birthday Thanksgiving By George & Elizabeth Cackovic
+John & Patricia Reiss By Catherine Mines

Tues 23 St. Eugenia, Martyr
+Souls in Purgatory By Mark Fleming
+Angelina & Robert Kovalchik By Caroline Martuccio

Wed 24 VIGIL OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST THE MESSIAH
10 p.m. L/D Basilica Shrine Benefactors

Thur 25 THE GLORIOUS BIRTH OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST
10 a.m. L/D Basilica Shrine Benefactors

Fri 26 Praises of the Mother of God
10 a.m. No Holy Hour
Noon +Bonnie Lee

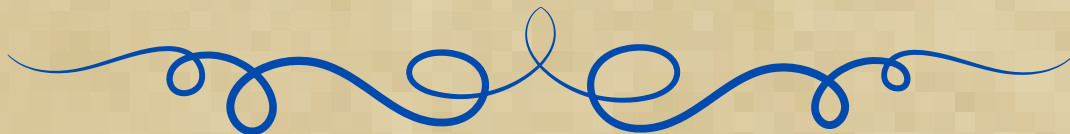
Sat 27 St. Stephen, First Martyr
+Paul Adam By Adelyn Kennick

Sun 28 Sunday of the Birth of the Lord Jesus Christ - The Adoration of the Magi
10 a.m. Special Intention
5 p.m. +Carmel Rinaldi By Kathy Kolitsos

Mon 29 The Flight into Egypt - The Massacre of the Holy Innocents of Bethlehem
+Steve Medovich By Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Sanders Jr.
Int: Family Health By Genoveffa Coppola

Tues 30 The Return from Egypt to Nazareth
Int: Birthday Thanksgiving By George & Elizabeth Cackovic
+Robert Duemler By the Berben Family

Wed 31 The Word Became Flesh
5:30 p.m. L/D Basilica Shrine Benefactors



Christmas at the Basilica & National Shrine of Our Lady of Lebanon

Feast of the Immaculate Conception



The official lighting of the Christmas lights will be on Monday, December 8, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. This is a Holy Day of Obligation and a day of Special Plenary Indulgence for visitors and pilgrims.

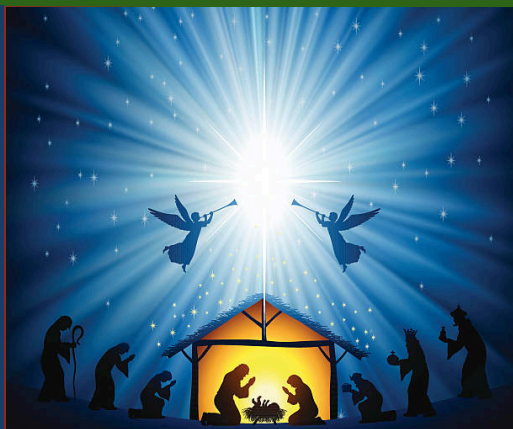


Christmas Novena

The annual Christmas Novena will take place December 15 - 23. The Novena prayers will be prayed after the daily liturgies during the week and after the 5 pm Liturgies of Saturday and Sunday. Please mark your calendars and make this a time of spiritual preparation for the Feast of the Nativity of the Lord.

Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord

Epiphany will be celebrated on Tuesday January 6th at which time the blessing of the Epiphany Water will take place. This may be taken to your homes for house blessings. This is a day of Plenary Indulgence for our Basilica Shrine.



A new Lenten vestment has been ordered from Poland. If anyone would like to donate this vestment, which can be in memory of a loved one, please see Chorbishop Anthony. The cost of the vestment is \$1,000.

Shrine Hours
Monday - Saturday
9 am - 5 pm
Sunday
10 am - 5 pm

Gift Shop Hours
Monday
Closed
Tuesday - Saturday
10 am - 5 pm
Sunday
11 am - 5 pm

Office Hours
Monday
Closed
Tuesday - Friday
9 am - 1 pm

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