

The Maronite Chapel of Our Lady of Lebanon at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC is the first Middle Eastern depiction of Mary at the Shrine. The Chapel resembles a small Lebanese stone church, utilizes the ancient art of the Syriac Church, and places the Maronite Church in America in the context of the Universal Church for all Shrine visitors. It was built with the support of generous individual donors like you.

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Seminary in Washington predates the founding of both Maronite eparchies (dioceses) in the United States. In 1961, a group of dedicated clergy and laypeople, realizing that a seminary was needed in the United States to train the Maronite priests who would serve the Church in America, contributed funds to purchase a home near Catholic University with the help of Cardinal O'Boyle of Washington. The appointment of the first Maronite Bishop of the United States would follow a few years later. Now there are two Maronite Eparchies in the United States. The Seminary trains men from both Eparchies, and has graduated over 70 men who have been ordained priests, including both current Maronite bishops in the United States, Robert J. Shaheen and Gregory J. Mansour. The Seminary is sustained financially by members of the Order of Saint Sharbel and generous donors like you.

Chorbishop Seely Beggiani has been Rector of Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Seminary since 1968. He is the son of the late Joseph and Sada Beggiani from Youngstown, Ohio, attended John Carroll University – Borromeo Seminary in Cleveland, Universite de St. Joseph in Beirut and Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., where he earned his doctorate in Sacred Theology (S.T.D.) in 1963. In addition to serving as an Adjunct Associate Professor of Theology at Catholic University of America since 1967, Chorbishop Beggiani has served as a Pastor, Diocesan Theologian, Diocesan Consultor, Chairman of the Commission for Lebanon, and on various boards and committees.



Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn
109 Remsen Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201
(718) 237-9913
saintmaron@yahoo.com
www.stmaron.org

With Gratitude to Almighty God
The Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn
invites You to

The Dedication of the Maronite Chapel of
Our Lady of Lebanon at the Basilica of
the National Shrine of the
Immaculate Conception

The Fiftieth Anniversary of Our Lady of
Lebanon Maronite Seminary
&

The Fiftieth Anniversary of Priesthood of
Chorbishop Seely Beggiani

Washington, D.C.

September 23-24, 2011



Dear Friend in Christ:

Bishop Robert J. Shaheen and I invite you to join us September 23-24, 2011 in Washington, D.C. On Friday, September 23rd at 10:30 am, we will dedicate the new Maronite Chapel of Our Lady of Lebanon at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. The capstone of years of work by many people, this Chapel brings a Maronite presence to the Basilica.

Later that evening, we will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Seminary and the 50th Anniversary of Priesthood of Chorbishop Seely Beggiani. It is fitting that we celebrate these anniversaries together, as the Seminary and Chorbishop Beggiani have become almost synonymous during his 43 years as Rector.

The following day (Saturday, the 24th) at 10:30 am, Bishop Shaheen will celebrate a Divine Liturgy of Thanksgiving in the Crypt Chapel of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

We hope you will join us in these events to celebrate these milestones and the richness of our heritage that we love and share. (Details are shown on the next page.)

As you can well imagine, we will be limited in space for some events. Therefore, please be kind enough to respond via the enclosed reply card, or via our online registration form (www.stmaron.org), by September 15.

Through our celebrations, we look forward to sharing in God's grace together.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ 

+ Gregory J. Mansour
Bishop of the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, September 23, 2011

- 10:30 am** **Dedication of the Maronite Chapel of Our Lady of Lebanon at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.** Location: National Shrine (400 Michigan Avenue NE, Washington, D.C. 20017).
- 12:00 noon** **Lunch at the Seminary.** Location: Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Seminary (7164 Alaska Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20012).
- 1:30 pm – 3:30pm** **Lecture: *Historical Perspective on the Seminary*** delivered by Chorbishop Seely Beggiani and a Panel of Seminary Alumni. Location: Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Seminary (7164 Alaska Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20012).
- 6:00 pm** **Fiftieth Anniversary Divine Liturgy** (Homilist: Chorbishop Seely Beggiani). Location: Our Lady of Lebanon Church (7142 Alaska Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20012).
- 7:30 pm** **Dinner in Honor of Both 50th Anniversaries.** Location: Our Lady of Lebanon Church Hall (7142 Alaska Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20012).

Saturday, September 24, 2011

- 10:30 am** **Divine Liturgy** (Celebrant: Bishop Robert Shaheen). Location: Crypt Chapel at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception (400 Michigan Avenue NE, Washington, D.C. 20017).
- 12:00 noon** **Lunch at the Seminary.** Location: Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Seminary (7164 Alaska Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20012).

HOTEL INFORMATION

A special hotel rate of \$119 per night has been arranged at the **Courtyard Silver Spring Downtown**, 8506 Fenton Street, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910. Phone: (301) 589-4899.
Email: reservations@courtyard.com. Ask for the special rate for the Maronite Seminary.
This rate is valid until August 15.