

**Please note that these commentaries are for the Bible Readings for next week, the Sunday of the Renewal of the Church. They are printed here so that anyone wishing to prepare for next Sunday's Readings and reflect on them during the week may do so.**

This is the second of the two Sundays in our Maronite Liturgical Calendar that focus on the Church. These Sundays urge us to renew our idea of what the Church is as well as to dedicate ourselves to being effective members of that Church, the Body of Christ, and to work hard for it.

**First Reading: *Heb 9:11-15***

This Reading continues using terms from the Old Testament. Jesus is seen as the high priest of the New Covenant, entering into the holiest tabernacle, which is Heaven. He is also seen as the Sacrificial Lamb, who sheds his own blood for the forgiveness of sins, thus putting an end to the old sacrifices of the Jewish religion.

**Gospel: *John 10:22-42***

This part of Saint John's Gospel speaks of the Feast of Dedication in Jerusalem. The dialogue between Jesus and those who do not believe in him takes place fittingly in the Temple. Using the language of a Shepherd and Sheep, Jesus tells his hearers that anyone who believes that he is the Son of God belongs to his flock and hears and obeys his voice. In this Gospel, there is great criticism of the words of Jesus. This tells us a lot about our own unwillingness sometimes to hear the words of Jesus the Good Shepherd.

## **Cell phones off before you enter church!**

**NOVEMBER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** will be held on Tuesday, 11 November, at 7:00 pm. The agenda will be full, and will include a discussion of upcoming activities during the holiday season. In addition, the Minutes of the 8 October meeting will be posted soon. However, this is a summary of what was discussed, recommended to Father, and accepted by him at that meeting:

- 1 Replacement of members no longer on Council
- 2 Parish Counsel elections after the first of the year, to allow Father to interact with the existing members for a little while longer
- 3 Financial report
- 4 The discussion of Halloween Party and November Picnic
- 5 Formation of a Stewardship Committee
- 6 Creation of a Prayer Hotline
- 7 Consolidation of Verizon services in the rectory
- 8 Automobile options
- 9 Cell phone options

**CHURCH PICNIC, 23<sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER:** Our Church Picnic will be held on this date. Location will be announced soon. We will begin after the Divine Liturgy (Mass). Donations will be accepted to cover the costs of the picnic and to raise money for our Church. Also, a sign-up sheet will be distributed for items you can donate to the picnic. Lina Fraifer will prepare a flyer for this event. For questions you may contact: Lina Fraifer @ 813-927-1236, Micha Nahhas @ 813-995-9510, or Leila Menassa @ 813-971-5526.

**NEW CAR:** This past week our Community purchased a new car for the use of the Parish Priest. It is a 1999 Lincoln Town Car (Executive Series). It is in excellent shape; had only one owner and has only 56,000 miles on it. We paid only \$5,343.00 for this car, which included tags, registration and delivery fees. We had the money in our savings to make the purchase outright. To complete the deal, we had to purchase auto insurance, of course. This was done from Geico.

**CONTINUING RECTORY ORGANIZATION:** Last Tuesday Lina Fraifer helped Father sort out items that had been left in the rectory from a rummage sale that was held before Father Anthony arrived. These were all donated things that were not sold, and most of them were inexpensive toys for children. These made good donations to Good Will; and Father took them there this week. The reason for this was to make space in that room of the rectory for Father to set up a study (office). A BIG thanks to Lina, who, along with others, is always willing to work hard for this Community!

**GIVEAWAY ITEMS:** There were some items from the rummage sale which are perfectly good and may possibly be used by anyone who is interested in them. They are stored in the rectory, and if you are interested in any of the items, give Father a call. He will keep these items for three weeks, after which they also will find their way to Good Will. These items are:

- 1 A medium sized area throw rug
- 2 Three new reflective front windshield screens
- 3 One pair of men's large sized slippers
- 4 One multi-purpose saw set
- 5 Two hanging brackets
- 6 A solid brass soap dish
- 7 Super laser link IR device
- 8 Decorative fruit basket
- 9 Shower and utility rod

**WATER DISPENSER IN KITCHEN AREA OF THE CHURCH:** The water dispenser has not been in use recently. We are grateful to parishioners who usually replace the water containers for us. However, Father himself investigated how this was to be done and replaced the water dispensers himself, because he wanted to learn the process of what needed to be done. Between him and others, we hope that we can continue to offer water for parishioner use. **YOU ARE ASKED TO USE THE PAPER CUPS PROVIDED ON THE TOP OF THE DISPENSER AND TO BE CAREFUL IN USING WATER AT A MINIMUM.**

**ANYBODY HOSPITALIZED OR HOMEBOUND?** Please call Father at 813-886-7413 or leave a message.