

**Our Lady of Lebanon**

**Religious Education  
Faith Formation**

**Handbook  
2007-2008**



## **Registration**

All children should be registered each year. We offer classes for grades K through High School. The registration donation is: \$20 per child. This fee will go towards the purchase of books and supplies.

See the Director if you lose your book, a \$5 replacement fee is requested.

## **Attendance**

Prompt and weekly attendance is requested of each child.

Your child is asked to make up missed lessons at home. Please notify the Director if there is a difficulty in attending regularly.

## **Assignments and Evaluations**

All students are to bring to each class: religion book, completed assignments, pencil or pen, paper or notebook. Home assignments will be given every week for Grades K-8. Please be sure your child completes these assignments.

Each religion book is sent home with a *Family Guide*. Please make use of this guide to assist your child and family to grow in the Faith lessons being presented. Be sure to read the "introduction" for an explanation of this guide.

Evaluations will be based upon their class and home assignments, attendance and participation. Progress reports will be given in January and in May.

## **Communication**

Please contact the Director with your questions and concerns. Also, our volunteer catechists welcome your comments. Regular announcements of our activities will be posted in the Sunday parish bulletin.

Please notify the Director if your phone number and/or address change during the year, or if you move out of the area. This information is important for our records.

## **Discipline**

As disciples of Jesus, our children are to be on their best behavior, respectful and courteous to all.

## **Safety Procedure**

In the event of an emergency evacuation of our premises during class time, all children, volunteers and families, will be sheltered in the seminary library across the driveway. To maintain order and calm, the children with their teachers will exit first, followed by parents, and others in the hall. It's important to keep silence in such times to allow everyone to hear directions and instructions for a safe evacuation.

## **Family Catechesis**

During the year there will be presentations offered to the parents on topics of faith and family. These will take place during class time. Also, there will be opportunities for large group activities (parents with children). These gatherings will offer a time for growing in our faith as a parish family.

## **Sacramental Programs**

**First Communion:** A separate handout outlining our program will be given to families with children in the second grade. Also, on our website.

**Chrismation/Confirmation:** Children baptized in the Roman Rite and are in need of the Sacrament of Confirmation (Chrismation) should speak with our Pastor.

**Commitment to Christian Life:** All children in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade year will be offered a review of the Sacrament of Confirmation to help them understand its meaning in their lives. This catechesis will teach them how to live their call as a baptized and confirmed Maronite. (Those baptized in the Maronite Rite received chrismation at baptism.) During this year they will also take part in a “Commitment to Christian Life Service”, this blessing ceremony will be offered by our Pastor.

## **Curriculum**

At each grade, our Religious Education curriculum is planned to present the teachings of our Maronite Catholic Faith and its application to everyday life. As a child grows and develops on many levels, so should their Faith life. This spiritual life is a journey with Christ that begins at our Baptism and continues throughout our years into eternal life. It is a journey of love, lived in a relationship of communion with the Blessed Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and with one another. The foundation of this communion is the family. Parents are the first teachers of the Faith by their example and words. Faith Formation aims to assist you in this awesome responsibility God has entrusted to you. Our curriculum builds upon and supports the life of Faith lived at home and in our parish community.

## **Prayer & Liturgy**

Be sure to include daily prayer, weekly Mass and regular Confession (Penance) as part of your family’s spiritual life. Refer to the prayers in the back of your child’s religion book.

## **Class Schedule**

Classes meet each Sunday 10:00AM to 10:50AM. Consult the calendar on our website or in this Handbook for a schedule of holidays or other important dates.

## **Calendar**

2007

**Days Off: November 25<sup>th</sup> December 23<sup>rd</sup>, & 30<sup>th</sup>**

2008

**Days Off: March 16<sup>th</sup>, March 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Last Class in on May 11<sup>th</sup>.**

## **Contact Information**

Chor-Bishop Dominic F. Ashkar, Pastor Phone 202.829-5554  
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