

# 24, 25 December 2014 \* Nativity of our Lord and Savior

## *St. Joseph Maronite Catholic Church*

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**“The Eastern Rites are the Treasure of the Catholic Church”**

Pope John XXIII

- Liturgies:** Saturday 4:00 p.m., \* Sunday 10:00 a.m. \* Tuesday - Friday 9:00 a.m. in the St. Jude Chapel  
The Miraculous Medal and the St Jude Novenas are on Tuesday following the 9 a.m. Liturgy
- Sick Calls:** To receive the Eucharist and/or the Anointing of the Sick, Please call Fr. Larry.
- Confessions:** A Half-hour before all scheduled Liturgies, emergencies, and by appointment.
- Baptisms:** Call the Office
- Marriage:** Call the Office **6 months** before you finalize a date for your wedding and book your reception.

\***Suggested donation** for the Sanctuary Candles, St. Jude Chapel \$20, St Joseph Church \$20, for the Altar Bread, \$25, and the Wine, \$25.  
Suggested offering for Liturgies: \$10 for weekdays - \$15 for weekends.

<b>Choir Director:</b> Fefa Deeb	<b>Sacristans:</b> Theresa Nemer & Laurie Nale	<b>Parish Secretary:</b> Paula Mitchell
<b>Teachers</b>	<b>DRE:</b> 3-5 <sup>th</sup> Lenore Boles, K-1 <sup>st</sup> Rosanna Joseph, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Jane Lee	
<b>Parish Council:</b>	Sheila Bonenfant, Lisa Grard, Lowell Hawes, Rosanna Joseph, Pearley Lachance, David Lee, Aaron Rowden, & Elizabeth Wilson	
<b>Ex-officio:</b>	Subdeacon Steve Crate, Lenore Boles DRE, Paula Mitchell, Rosary Sodality, Larry Mitchell, Knights of Columbus	

## *Merry Christmas*

### **Isaiah 9:1-8**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; Upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing, As they rejoice before you as at the harvest, as men make merry when dividing spoils. For the yoke that burdened them, the pole on their shoulder, And the rod of their taskmaster you have smashed, as on the day of Midian. For every boot that tramped in battle, every cloak rolled in blood, will be burned as fuel for flames. For a child is born to us, a son is given us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-counselor, God-hero, Father-forever, Prince of Peace. His dominion is vast and forever peaceful, From David's throne, and over his kingdom, which he confirms and sustains By judgment and justice, both now and forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!

### **The Holy Gospel**

*The angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a*

*savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: “Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”*

**Dear Parishioners and friends,**

**Can anyone argue against the world's need for a Prince of Peace?**

We are celebrating the day the light came into the world. The darkness of the world has something quite powerful to contend with, and darkness knows its days are numbered and will end in humiliation and shame.

Isaiah says if you have felt Forsaken, or desolate, you are now to be called **MY Delight**, you are to rejoice like the bridegroom rejoices in his bride.

Everyone wants to feel like there is someone special in his or her life; to feel like a treasure to someone. Isaiah says you are his delight. You are a treasure, you are his in a way no one else can ever be, this is why you exist.

Like a burning torch chasing away the night, the Lord will be your vindication against every sorrow. You have the new name of the chosen. No longer will you be Forsaken or desolate you shall be filled with delight.

Another prophet besides Isaiah has come preaching the coming of the Savior. Luke says in the Acts of the Apostles that God raised up David the son of Jesse to be King of the Israelites.

The Israelites found victory after victory following king David, and through David the promise has been fulfilled, the descendant of David has been born and his name is Jesus. Now all those who profess the Name of Jesus are His chosen.

We live in world where we cannot escape every situation of grief. We are not in the Garden of Eden.

**Over the year some of us have tasted the fruit of immense sorrow and pain.**

Some of us have made mistakes we want to be forgiven for. Some of us have made mistakes we are unwilling to face and carry deep shame or blame that is destroying us inside.

There is darkness out there; I have seen it. There are shadows of feeling forsaken out there I have experienced it. There is desolation out there; I have felt it; in your life and in my own.

Some Christians have been in "Egypt" too long, and don't know that the world has them as a slave. The Book of Acts, says God made his people great as they came up out of the land of Egypt that is when he led with an outstretched arm.

Some Christians found room at the inn, at the bar and know there is a child wrapped in swaddling clothes out in the cave, but to get to Bethlehem the house of bread you have to get up early, and stay awake.

**I will show you Bethlehem,** I will show you the house of Bread, its right here in the Tabernacle. Don't be afraid, the angels said. You have nothing to fear! I come to proclaim good news to you, -tidings of great joy to be shared by the whole people. The Messiah has come and he is here.

Glory to God! Peace on earth to whom his favors rest.

The prayers say the prophets are stirring in their tombs soon the cross will break an opening to free them.

Let us work together to **help stamp out darkness,** to help the forsaken **find consolation** and the desolate find compassion and understanding.

I know this light that has come into the world. We have to let it reach the darkest places in our life.

**When you want Jesus, when you seek him.**

**When you start your march to Zion.** When you pack up and leave Egypt, when you head for the New Jerusalem, when you leave the inn for the cave

of Bethlehem, when you seek the house of the Bread from heaven, a bright light can shine in the darkest hour and then you will be called a child of the light.

**Aboona**

### Liturgy Helps:

**Be sure your cell phone is off or silenced**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection:** Jan 11 Fuel (Pink Envelope)

### **Liturgy: The Glorious Birth of Our Lord**

Entrance chant: Pg.78, Creed: Pg. 748,

Anaphora of St. Sixtus Pg. 856

The Song Books are done. The Song number and page is on the back of the bulletin.

### Liturgy Intentions

#### **Christmas Eve**

**Wed 24 4 p.m.**

**Intentions of the Parish**

#### **Christmas Day**

**Thu 25 10:00 a.m.**

**Intentions of the Parish**

**Fri 26 9:00 a.m.**

**No Liturgy**

**Sat 27 4:00 p.m.**

**† Joseph & Mary Smus**

By Paul, David & Patricia Smus

**Sun 28 10:00 a.m.**

**† Yvonne Nemer**

By Ronald & Marian Ciccia

**Liturgy Codes:** †= Faithful Departed, SI=Special Intention, BD=Birthday, AV.=Anniversary, H=Health.

### **PRAY FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH**

*Heal Your servants, who are sick,*

*O Lord, and send them help*

*And comfort from Your holy place.*

Those who seek our prayers: **Dianne Fjeldheim, Herb Jabar, Albert Joseph, Betsy Joseph, John M. Joseph, Theresa Lee, Dr. Ronnie Marrache, Hope Murphy, Anita Perreault, Jay Petersen, Tala Poulin, Virginia Poulin, Brent Williams.**

Be sure to let Aboona know if you would like a name added or removed.

### **Deepest Sympathy**

Our condolences and deepest sympathy go out to **Aboona** and the **Jensen Family** for the loss of their Mom, **Bertha**, who died Monday evening. We pray that the Lord God may grant her rest in His kingdom and consolation to her family and loved ones.

*From Heaven  
God Sent His Son  
As a Light to the World  
He can bring Peace  
if we follow Him.*

**December Devotions** - Sanctuary Candles

**St. Joseph 14 day Sanctuary Candle**

**Peter Joseph**

By Joseph & Sara Taddeo

**St. Jude 7 Day Sanctuary Candle**

**Special Intention**

By Joseph & Sara Taddeo

**Altar Bread:**

**Shackie & Rose Marie Joseph**

By Rosanna Joseph

**Altar Wine:**

**John & Margaret Joseph**

By Rosanna Joseph

## **READERS SCHEDULE**

### **The Glorious Birth of Our Lord**

Hebrews 1:1-12      Luke 2:1-20

4 p.m. Dec 24 Lenore Boles

10 a.m.      25 Joe Rowden

### **The Sunday after Christmas**

Revelations 21:9-10      Mathew 2:1-12

4 p.m. Dec 27 Lila Hallowell

10 a.m.      28 Joe Rowden

## **EVENTS FOR DECEMBER**

Wed 24 3:30 Christmas Cantata

24 4:00 Christmas Eve Liturgy

Thu 25 10 a.m Christmas Liturgy

## **EVENTS FOR JANUARY**

Sat 3 Madcap Madrigal 6:00 pm

Sun 4 Religious Education

Wed 7 6 p.m. Parish Council

Sat 10 Baked Bean Supper 4:30-6:00 pm

Sun 11 Rosary Sodality Meeting

Mon 12 Maronite Priest Retreat Begins

## **Coffee Schedule**

We will continue to serve muffins at the coffee hour - thanks to Larry Mitchell and Gareth Belton

Dec 28: Theresa Nemer & Jane Lee

Jan 4: Dale Sturtevant & Lenore Boles

Jan 11: Larry Mitchell & Gareth Belton

## **Religious Education Dates for 2014-2015**

2/1, 3/1, 4/1 to be announced, 5/3 May Crowning.

## **Use of the Hall – Guidelines will be posted.**

We really have a beautiful hall and because it is used more often now, there needs to be more attention to its proper use and care. Sometimes there is a request to use the hall, and without guidelines, it is not always clear what is expected of the group after they are done using the hall. Guidelines will be made available in the hall.

When anyone asks to use the hall, it is expected they will take responsibility to be sure it is clean after each use. We do not have a staff to do this for you.

## **Giving Tree**

This year the gifts were for the Veteran Care Facility.

**See someone new?** Make them feel at home, and hopefully they will call it their home. There is no such thing as outsiders.