

6, 7 December, 2014 * Birth of John the Baptizer



St. Joseph Maronite Catholic Church

3 Appleton Street, Waterville, ME 04901-6630

Office: Phone: 207-872-8515

E-Mail: stjoesinmaine@yahoo.com

Pastor: The Rev. Larry Jensen

Deacon: Rev. Mr. Peter P. Joseph 872-2225

Subdeacon: Steve Crate 872-9257 **Web Site Address**



Birth of the Baptizer

<http://www.sjmaronite.org>

“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.

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

Luke 1:57-80 When the time arrived for Elizabeth to have her child she gave birth to a son. Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy toward her, and they rejoiced with her. When they came on the eighth day to circumcise the child, they were going to call him Zechariah after his father, but his mother said in reply, “No. He will be called John.” But they answered her, “There is no one among your relatives who has this name.” So they made signs, asking his father what he wished him to be called. He asked for a tablet and wrote, “John is his name,” and all were amazed.

Immediately his mouth was opened, his tongue freed, and he spoke blessing God. Then fear came upon all their neighbors, and all these matters were discussed throughout the hill country of Judea. All who heard these things took them to heart, saying, “What, then, will this child be?” For surely the hand of the Lord was with him. Then Zechariah his father, filled with the holy Spirit, prophesied, saying: “Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, for he has visited and brought redemption to his people. He has raised up a horn for our salvation within the house of David his servant, even as he promised

through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old: salvation from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us, to show mercy to our fathers and to be mindful of his holy covenant and of the oath he swore to Abraham our father, and to grant us that, rescued from the hand of enemies, without fear we might worship him in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. And you, child, will be called prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give his people knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins, because of the tender mercy of our God by which the daybreak from on high will visit us to shine on those who sit in darkness and death’s shadow, to guide our feet into the path of peace.” The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the desert until the day of his manifestation to Israel.

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

They called him John, which means “God is Gracious”. Zechariah and Elizabeth had their miracle child of wonder. The Holy Spirit had worked in their lives, had come into their desert of reproach and pain. Because they were childless they were the victims of insensitive

jokes and gossip. They were hurt, but did not allow the hurt to destroy them. They remained faithful and committed to serving the Lord, even when I am sure they did not always feel it was worth it. Faith is not feelings, it is the will to keep moving forward in life knowing that the will of the Father, in the end, always comes through with a victory in which all past hurt disappears and is no longer remembered.

After over ten months of being mute, Zechariah didn't complain about the "discipline" but praised God in one of the most beautiful canticles ever written. The chaos of all that can go wrong in the world will come to an end. Not by subjugation but through healing power and forgiveness of sin transforming all that seek Him. What a wonderful child it was who went into the desert. John knew about being shaken by fear like a desert reed. He knew about life's irritations like the desert sand on a stormy day. He knew how dry and arid a life can feel without water. Yet, he became a forerunner of joy rather than a forerunner of gloom and despair.

Zechariah and Elizabeth are perfect examples of the gift that comes from going all the way through ones trials to reach the side of joy and blessedness. Far too often we stop and get stuck in the mud of disappointment. Let us go to the waters of the Jordan to be cleansed.

Aboona

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, Deacon Peter Joseph, Bertha Jensen, 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.

December Food Pantry

Ravioli Condiments
Toilet paper Stews

Thank you for your thoughtfulness and help.

God dwells where we let Him in.

~Menachem Mendel

Liturgy Helps:

Be sure your cell phone is off or silenced

2nd Collection: Dec 7 Maronite Patriarchal Charities
Dec 14 Fuel (Pink Envelope)

Liturgy: Visitation to Elizabeth

Entrance chant: Pg.49, Creed: Pg. 748,

Anaphora of the Twelve Apostles Pg. 754

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

Liturgy Intentions

Sat 6 4:00 p.m.

† **Ron Stevens**

By Herb Joseph, Sr.

Sun 7 10:00 a.m.

† **Marietta Thomas (Anniversary Liturgy)**

By Dan & Pam Casavant

No Week Day Liturgy

Sat 13 4:00 p.m.

† **Marie Aboussi**

By The Caron Family

Sun 14 10:00 a.m.

† **Raymond & Georgette Veilleux**

By Larry & Paula Mitchell

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

Visiting Home

I am going home for 5 days to visit my mother. Since visiting home during the summer and celebrating her 91st Birthday, it became necessary to place her in a Care Facility in September. The family felt it is best for me to visit now rather than wait until next year. Be sure to keep my Mother in your prayers. **Aboona**

Fund Raiser: We are doing a Tourtiere (pronounced Toochay) Pie sale during the month of December until we are sold out. They are \$10.00, Thank you for supporting yet another endeavor.

Fuel Budget for the 2014 – 2015 Winter:

Fuel Budget	\$20,000.00
Collected last week	\$5.00
Collected before last week	\$516.00
Total yet to collect	\$(19,479.00)

**Confidence is contagious.
So is lack of confidence.**

~Vince Lombardi

December Devotions - Sanctuary Candles

St. Joseph 14 day Sanctuary Candle

Available

By

St. Jude 7 Day Sanctuary Candle

Available

By

Altar Bread:

Shackie & Rose Marie Joseph

By Rosanna Joseph

Altar Wine:

John & Margaret Joseph

By Rosanna Joseph

December Anniversaries

21 Jody & Rochid Elias

Last Week's Collection

Regular Collection \$ 1,733.00

God bless you for your generosity.

Please don't forget to send in your contributions when you are unable to attend, our monthly bills still continue to arrive every month.

If you are not receiving envelopes and would like to start, please let the office know.

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

***Striving for excellence
motivates you;
striving for perfection is
demoralizing.***

~Dr. Harriet Braiker

READERS SCHEDULE

Birth of John the Baptist

Galatians 4:21-5:1 Luke 1:57-66

4 p.m. 6 Lenore Boles

10 a.m. 7 Joe Rowden

Revelation to Joseph

Ephesians 3:1-13 Mathew 1:18-25

4 p.m. Dec 13 Lila Hallowell

10 a.m. 14 Joe Rowden

EVENTS FOR DECEMBER

S/S 6/7 Tourtiere pie sale after Liturgy

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

Sun 7 Rosary Sodality Christmas Party

Thu 11 6 p.m. Choir Practice

Sun 14 Children's Christmas Party

Thu 18 6 p.m. Choir Practice

Sat 20 Cookie Sale after 4:00 pm Liturgy

Sun 21 Cookie Auction after 10:00 am Liturgy

Wed 24 3:30 Christmas Cantata

24 4:00 Christmas Eve Liturgy

Thu 25 10 a.m Christmas Liturgy

Coffee Schedule

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

Dec 7: Larry Mitchell & Gareth Belton

Dec 14: Children's Party

Religious Education Dates for 2014-2015

12/14 (Christmas Party) 1/4, 2/1, 3/1,

4/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 it will be for the local Veterans Home in Augusta. Please feel free to take an ornament from the giving tree. You can decide which and how many of the listed suggestions you would like to purchase for the veterans.

There is no need to wrap the gift(s).

Song Books are located in pews.

LB=Liturgical Book SB=Song Book

Liturgy of the Word:

Entrance Hymn: Prepare ye the way of the Lord

Entrance Chant: LB - Pg. 49

Glory: SB - Pg. 1 # 02

Hymn: SB – Pg. 51 # 201 (Green Page)

Liturgy of the Eucharist – After the (748) Creed

Transfer of Gifts: SB - Pg. 8 # 108

Peace Hymn: SB - Pg. 31 # 156

Anaphora Parts when Sung: SB - Pg. 4 # 10

Closing Song: SB - Pg. 15 #123

From the Liturgy of the Word – John the Baptizer

“Now, O Prophet of the Most High, we ask you, with the fragrance of this incense, to obtain the miraculous grace of Christ for us, so that our souls may be adorned with good works as we witness to the true faith. With Zechariah, your father, and Elizabeth, your mother, we glorify the Father who sent you, we worship the Son whom you longed to see while you were still in the womb, and we give thanks to the Spirit who sanctified you before you were born.”

We receive this miraculous grace when we, like those who heard John preach, chose to do what is necessary to receive the promised Savior into our life. This prayer beautifully expresses what is meant by our veneration of the saints. We recognize how God has worked through them, and our response to this message is join with them to worship the Son with the same desire to see Him and be sanctified. To be born again into a holy relationship with God.

From the Anaphora of the Twelve Apostles

Calling down the Holy Spirit to complete the changing of the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Our Savior.

“Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us. Send us your life-giving Spirit from heaven to hover over this offering, to make it the life-giving Body and Blood, and also to pardon and sanctify us.”

The Liturgies of the Eastern Churches express the life-giving actions of the Holy Spirit usually more often and vividly than the Western Liturgies. The power of the Holy Spirit is continuously mentioned throughout the Divine Liturgy. In this prayer the Spirit is identified as life-giving and through the Spirit’s power to change the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus the Messiah; the Eucharist also become life-giving because it pardons us of our sins, freeing us be sanctified.

Later in the Liturgy another prayer reveals more of what this means. We become united to the Divine as the Divine becomes united with our humanity.

Recycled Shakespeare Company presents Madcap Madrigal III on Saturday, **January 3, at 6:00 pm at St. Joseph Maronite Catholic Church.** There will be much feasting, singing, and laughter as we celebrate Christmas, Medieval style, in this interactive theatrical experience. Costumes are encouraged but not required so have fun making up a Medieval/Renaissance style costume out of the items in your closet. \$20/ticket, includes 4 course Medieval style meal, wine and beverages. Vegetarian option available. Tickets by reservation only: call 207-314-8607 or email recycledshakespeare@gmail.com. A portion of the proceeds supports our church.

Century 21 – Surette Real Estate
Pam Casavant - Partner/ Associate Broker
Tel: 207-873-5634 Ext 219
e-mail: pcasavant@surette-realestate.com
web: www.surette-realestate.com

Lebanese Cuisine
34 Temple Street * Waterville, ME 04901
207-873-7813

GALLANT FUNERAL HOME INC.
John O. Gallant, CFSP, Owner/Director
10 Elm Street * Waterville, ME 04901
Tel 873-3393 Fax 877-7106 * Website: gallantfh.com

GHM Insurance Agency
Auto * Home* Business * Life * Benefits
51 Main Street – Downtown Waterville
Tel: 207-873-5101 www.ghmagency.com

GRONDIN’S CERTIFIED DRY CLEANERS
259 Main Street - Waterville, ME 04901
207-872-8132

JOKAS’ Discount Beverage
52 Front Street - Tel: 207-873-6228
Central Maine’s Complete Package Store

Joseph’s Market
74 Front Street * Tel: 207-873-3364
E-mail: kpj@josephsmarket.net
Web: www.josephsmarket.net

RINALDI’S AUTO REPAIR
Dom Rinaldi – Established in 1980
Auto Trans * Over Hauls * Major Engine Work * Shocks
Diagnostics * Brakes – We do all Auto & Truck Repairs.
Tel: 207-474-2611 - 237 Madison Ave, Skowhegan

SII Investments, Inc.
One Silver Street - Tel: 207-872-8689
Lawrence D. Griffin, MBA

Waterville Florist
Thank you for your weekly flower donations
287 Upper Main Street
Tel: 207-872-7422 also 888-616-4880

**“The Catholic Church, East and West,
breaths as two lungs in the same body”**