

11, 12 January 2014 * First Sunday After Epiphany



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.

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

John 1:29-34 – Sunday after Epiphany

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’ I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.” And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.”

Dear Parishioners and friends,

John, the Baptizer, is a famous preacher, drawing large crowds at this time in salvation history. This is the time that is most dangerous for a famous person, to have their pride and ego take over and focus on their success only. We all know people who have let this happen in their life. The Scriptures shape the preaching of

John, the Baptizer, to compliment Jesus rather than compete with Him. John is testifying that the message he preaches leads to Jesus Christ. Scripture says that John must decrease while Jesus increases. The greatness of John is undisputed in Church history. We are also reminded that greatness can belong to anyone who lives the Word of God.

Genuine greatness comes from a loving relationship with Jesus Christ. John testifies that he saw the Spirit come down like a dove upon Jesus. We are baptized in the Holy Spirit, making us God’s children. This is all the greatness we need to experience joy and peace. We do have a tendency to want some other form of greatness. Some greatness is good, but when it becomes an identity, competing and replacing the identity God gives by calling us His son or daughter, we are decreasing the spiritual power of God over us.

Have you ever wondered why Jesus needed someone to prepare the way for Him? The

Gospel answers it by telling us that John was fulfilling Prophecy. So why did Isaiah prophecy that this would have to happen. It is God's knowledge of our human nature that gives this to us as prophecy. He knows why we as a people will or will not do something in every circumstance. This does not mean He made us do it, but He knows the reason why we did it. In this case John's preaching increases the receptivity of some of the people.

We should count it a blessing that there is such a thing as preparing the way for us to know Jesus. Most of us are Christians because the way was prepared for us through the faith of our parents. The knowledge they insist we know about Jesus, reflects their relationship with Him. Our relationship and perception of God is sometimes linked with how much trust and confidence we have in what our parents believe. Another dimension of preparing the way is like the story of the Good Seed. John's preaching of repentance broke up the hardened ground of the path, removed the rock and thorns, and created fertile ground. Jesus went into the water because He was humble. He knew that people might think He was in the water because He did some bad things, however, He took that chance so that the water could be sanctified.

Jesus now prepares the water for us making it possible to become His Father's children. Baptism is an acknowledgment that we, as a believing community, want to have our sins forgiven and washed away. Without this we are not prepared to be with Christ in Glory.

It was a clear and direct command of Jesus that His followers go out to the four corners of the world to teach all nations all that He taught them and baptize them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. This is what the church continues to do since 2,000 years ago. **Aboona**

Calendars 2014 Are in!

Please feel free to take one calendar per family for now, until we are sure everyone has received one.

TO PROTECT THE LITURGICAL BOOKS we are asking that you place them on the pew instead of using the book-rack because of the tight fit it makes them difficult to remove and return. Please handle them carefully and respectfully. If you have a child that might mishandle them, be sure to provide another item for them to be entertained with.

Liturgy Helps:

Be sure your cell phone is off or silenced

2nd Collection: 1/12 School Subsidy, 26 World Missions

Liturgy: 1st Sunday after Epiphany

Entrance chant: Pg. 108, Creed: Pg. 748,

Anaphora of the Twelve Apostles Pg. 754

Liturgy Intentions

Sat 11 4:00 p.m.

† **Bob Derosby**

By James & Nancy Jurdak

Sun 12 10:00 a.m.

† **Doug Day**

By The Family

When the servers go to the side altar, those who will be carrying the gifts may go at this time.

**No Weekday Liturgies this week
On priest retreat**

if you need a Priest - While I Am Gone.

If you should need a priest call:

Corpus Christi Office. (207) 872-2281.

Sat 18 4:00 p.m.

† **Elias Boles**

By John Sleiman

Sun 19 10:00 a.m.

† **Violet Gifford**

By Gayle Misner

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: **Theresa Clark, Dianne Fjeldheim, Herb Jabar, Albert Joseph, Betsy Joseph, Theresa Lee, Brent Maroon, Kendra Maroon, Hope Murphy, Anita Perreault, Tala Poulin, Virginia Poulin.**

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

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

Last Week's Collection

Regular Collection \$2,024.00

God bless you for your generosity.

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

January Devotions

Sanctuary Candles

St. Joseph 14 day Sanctuary Candle

For Bernie Thomas

By The Bernie Thomas Family

St. Jude 7 Day Sanctuary Candle

For Kathleen Hawes

By Lowell & Mary Hawes

Altar Bread & Wine:

For Pat Joseph

By Deacon Peter Joseph

Thank you

We were absolutely delighted with the donations your congregation made to the families served by The Family Violence Project. Your generosity at this cold and dark time of year is wonderful! The warm blankets, pillows, personal items, household goods and children's items and the variety of gift cards will all be distributed to families struggling with domestic violence who come to us over the next year. It is our hope that your 2014 will be as warm and bright as your gifts! Best, Karen & Connie

Deepest Sympathy.

We extend our condolences to family and friends of **Gerry Joseph** who passed away last Sunday. The Funeral was Saturday.

We extend our condolences to **Cecile Nadeau**, who suffered the loss of her dear husband, **Gerard**. The funeral was Friday.

May they rest in peace in the Kingdom of God.

"The Catholic Church, East and West, breaths as two lungs in the same body"

Church Etiquette

Refrain from long and loud conversations, no food or drinks in church, no leaving of pews during the reading of the Gospel and the Consecration of the Bread and Wine. Check to see if your cell phone is off.

READERS SCHEDULE

1st Sunday after Epiphany

Corinthians 10:1-11 John 1:29-34

4 p.m. Jan 11 Lenore Boles

10 a.m. 12 Kevin Michaud

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

2 Corinthians 4:5-15 John 1:35-42

4 p.m. Jan 18 0

10 a.m. 19 0

EVENTS FOR JANUARY

Sun 12 Rosary Sodality Meeting

Sat 18 Turkey Dinner after Liturgy

Mon 13 Maronite Priest Retreat

Fri 24 Fr. Larry Returns

EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY

Sat 1 Bean Supper

Sun 2 Super Bowl Breakfast

Wed 5 Parish Council

Sun 9 Rosary Sodality

Sat 15 Valentines Party in Hall

EVENTS FOR MARCH

Sat 1 Bean Supper

Sun 2 Cana Sunday - Mjadra Dinner

There is coffee and donuts served each Sunday after the 10 a.m. Liturgy.

Muffins will be served the second Sunday of each month.

Jan. 12: Larry Mitchell & April Mitchell (Muffins)

Religious Education Schedule

2/2 – 3/2 – 4/6 - 5/4

MYO Schedule

1/26 Lenten Discussion, Super Bowl Breakfast preparation, 2/2 Super Bowl Breakfast, 3/2 M'jadra dinner, 4/13 Hosanna Sunday Celebration.

Super Bowl Breakfast

- sponsored by the MYO. Tickets will go on sale after masses, starting January 11.

Breakfast includes eggs, choice of bacon or sausage, pancakes, toast, coffee, and juice.

Adults - \$4.00 / children ages 5-10 and under - \$2.00 / under 5 - Free.

Chances for the pool will be available after final teams have been determined.

Food Pantry - January

Juice in plastic bottles

Condiments

Canned stews

Toilet tissue

Thank you for caring!