

26, 27 December 2015 * Sunday after Birth of Our Lord



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

Subdeacon: Steve Crate 314-2049

Nativity of Our Lord

Web Site <http://www.sjmaronite.org>

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

St. John XXIII, Pope of Rome

- 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: Lenore Boles, K-1st Lenore Boles, 2nd Jane Lee 3-5th Shana Page, | | |
| Parish Council: Sheila Bonenfant, Lisa Grard, Lowell Hawes, Pearley Lachance, David Lee, Aaron Rowden, Elizabeth Wilson | | |
| Ex-officio: Subdeacon Steve Crate, Lenore Boles DRE, Paula Mitchell, Rosary Sodality, Larry Mitchell, Knights of Columbus | | |

Matthew 2:13-18 Flight into Egypt /

Killing of the Infants

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.” When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: “A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.”

Dear Parishioners and friends,

I remember this Gospel from when I was a little child and hearing my parents talk about the Holy Innocents, that an evil king wanted to stay king, and didn't want this baby to take away his power. I was not so sure about what kind of power, but I knew he wanted to do something really bad to keep his power; to kill babies. Around this time, I had a little cousin who died shortly after being born, and being told that he had a hole in his heart. This is the first time I

recall thinking about death and innocence. Why should babies suffer?

It doesn't really matter how old we are, at some level we do think about what would be better and what would be worse. What makes us happy what makes us sad?

There is a dark reality in the world. Rejecting God, bitterness, anger, and all the multiple forms of emotion and thought cannot change this reality. Using these methods to deal with what is wrong cannot make the world better. The question is, when we wrestle with these feelings and knowledge what is the healthiest way to cope with them. We can learn everything possible about safety and take every precaution, but still, through no knowable fault, accidents and events can bring incredible harm and destruction.

The stories of Genesis still tell us in a simple manner, yet profoundly insightful, can present a foundation to begin to understand this mystery. God is good, God creates and what he creates is good. When God created us with the ability to image Him we also had the ability to distort this image of Him by going against His will.

Creation, like all art reflects the abilities and mind of the artist. Man and woman have the ability to distort God's artwork; to transform the perfect into the imperfect. Creation now is imperfect and able to be disfigured and deeply wounded. The Christ Child is the perfect image of God for us to see and experience.

God promised to send into the world a way to restore our image. A child shall be born that will finally crush the power of evil. God knows the past, present and future all at that the same time. Prophecy is a way of revealing this knowledge to us. In the Old Testament there are prophecies that guide us to be prepared to identify these events when they happen.

Still, right to this day, innocent people are killed and suffer because the message of Christ is not followed and believed. Even when a person identifies himself or herself as a Christian, this does not mean they will act as a Christian. The love and greed for power and wealth can infect anyone of any religion. Herod symbolizes this.

The news is saturated with people killing others because they want something and are willing to trespass against another's dignity and God's plan to accomplish this.

Herod believed in prophecy, he believed in the promises of God, unfortunately his belief was more similar to the Evil One, who knows God, knows all about the teachings but knows it with hatred and all consuming revenge. This Gospel is manifested over and over in the world. In some manner a person kills to obtain something. Whether revenge, to eliminate competition, to solve a problem they perceive, or a threat they want to end.

The world is always in need of this message. This Child will grow in wisdom and die for us so that we may live. He will be raised to raise us to the light of Eternity. Praise be to God Always! **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: **Fr. Bill Clark, Richard Elias, Sr., Jerry Fortin, Herb Jabar, Albert Joseph, Betsy Joseph, John M. Joseph, Debbie Leary, Theresa Lee, Mary Morneau, Debbie Pomelow, Tala Poulin, Virginia Poulin, Rachel Tode.**

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

Thank you

Thank you everyone for the Christmas Cards, care packages, and gifts. They are deeply appreciated. May God bless you and keep you, and may 2014 be one of many blessings.

**Aboona Larry,
& Subdeacon Steve**

Thank You Fefa and the choir for all your hard work and providing the beautiful singing. Thank you Readers, Servers, and Sacristans for making the church look so beautiful.

Liturgy Helps:

Be sure your cell phone is off or silenced

2nd Collections: Jan 9-10 Fuel Collection
Jan 24 Worldwide Charities

Liturgy: Sunday after the Birth of Our Lord

Entrance chant: Pg. 78 Creed: Pg. 748,
Anaphora of the St. Mark Pg. 835

This week's Songs: The Song number and page are on the back of the bulletin.

Liturgy Intentions

- Sat 26 4:00 p.m.**
† **Robert Sturtevant (40 Day Liturgy)**
By The Family
† **Joseph & Mary Smus**
By Paula, David, & Pat Smus
- Sun 27 10:00 a.m.**
† **Deacon Peter Joseph**
By Karla Sturtevant
† **Albert & Rose Bellamah**
By Paul & Stephen Maroon

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

- Tue 29 9:00 a.m.**
† **Bertha Jensen**
By Al & Ruth Joseph
- Wed 30 9:00 a.m.**
† **Ferdinand Mahieu Family**
By Dan & Pam Casavant
- Thu 31 9:00 a.m.**
† **Prinella Mitchell**
By Dan & Pam Casavant
- Fri 1 12:00 noon**
† **Yvonne Nemer**
By John T. Sleiman
- Sat 2 4:00 p.m.**
† **Gerard Nadeau**
By The Nadeau Family
† **Neil Avcollie**
By George Peters
- Sun 3 10:00 a.m.**
† **Evelyn Bloschke**
By Rita Hikel
† **Madame Jeannette Marie Sleiman**
By John T. Sleiman

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

Last Week's Collection

Regular Collection \$1,947.00

God bless you for your generosity.

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

December Devotions

St. Joseph 14 day Sanctuary Candle

For Special Intention

By Gerry Brouillard

St. Jude 7 Day Sanctuary Candle

For Bertha Jensen

By Fr. Larry

Altar Bread

For **For our Soldiers**

By Doris LaBranche

Altar Wine

For **For our Soldiers**

By Doris LaBranche

Vocation Icon – Prayers for Vocations

We have two Vocation Icons, so I am hoping that some people on Saturday will sign up to take it home also. You can take it home more than once.

| | | |
|-----|----|---------------------------|
| Dec | 27 | Lowell & Mary Hawes |
| Jan | 3 | Larry & Lisa Grard |
| Jan | 10 | Pearley & Alice Lachance |
| Jan | 16 | Audrey Yotides (Sat) |
| Jan | 17 | Greg & Marianne Gillespie |
| Jan | 24 | Nancy Fairfield |
| Jan | 30 | Ann Giguere (Sat) |
| Jan | 31 | Larry & Paula Mitchell |

December Food Pantry

| | |
|-------------|--------------|
| Ravioli | Toilet paper |
| Jiffy mixes | Stews |

Thank you for your thoughtfulness and help.

READERS SCHEDULE

The Sunday after Christmas

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

Dec 27 Lila Hallowell

 28 Joe Rowden

The Finding of Our Lord in the Temple

Hebrews 7:11-19 Luke 2:41-52

Jan 2 Lenore Boles

 3 Joe Rowden

EVENTS FOR DECEMBER

Sun 27 3 p.m. Slide show of Nepal, India and UAE. See further details in this Bulletin

EVENTS FOR JANUARY

Wed 6 6 p.m Parish Council

 11-22 Aboona away for Priest's Retreat

Sat 23 4:30-6 p.m. Turkey Dinner \$8.00

Sun 24 11:30 Religious Education

EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY

Sun 7 Cana Sunday – Super Bowl Breakfast

Mon 8 Ash Monday 12 noon, 6 pm Liturgies

Sun14 M'Jadara Luncheon & Talent Show

APRIL 28, 29 Relics of St. Sharbel will be here at the parish.

Coffee Schedule

Dec 27 Sharon Crowe & Emily Fournier

Jan 3 Mary Hawes & Elaine Hoag

Jan 10 Larry Mitchell & Gareth Belton

Jan 17 Mary Jo Hodgkin & Laya Joseph

Jan 24 Alice Lachance & Jane Lee

Jan 31 Lauraine Mansur & Marie McMahon

Feb 7 April Mitchell & Paula Mitchell

Feb 14 Larry Mitchell & Gareth Belton

MYO Schedule: 1/17, 3/6, 4/3, 5/1

Recycled Shakespeare Company to offer Madcap Madrigal IV

Madcap Madrigal IV takes place at 6 p.m., Saturday, January 2, at REM Forum, 93 Main Street, Waterville, which is handicap accessible. Tickets are \$20 per person and include an era accurate five course meal as well as the play, all set in a castle-like atmosphere. Costumes are not required, but RSC encourages participants to be creative with their closets and put together Medieval/Renaissance style costumes from their own robes and jewels to add to the scene. RSC offers free community theater for all and this is their only fundraising performance. Tickets must be purchased in advance. For more information or to order tickets please contact Emily at 314-8607 or emilyrowdenfournier@gmail.com. See photos and more at <https://www.facebook.com/RecycledShakespeare>.

Sometimes circumstances are such that song choices must be changed at the last minute.

Song Books are located in the pews.
LB=Liturgical Book SB=Song Book

Sunday after the Birth of Our Lord

Lighting of the Church: SB - Pg. 21 #135 or
LB -Pg.5 Jesus, Christ, O Source of Light

Entrance Hymn: SB - Pg. 53 #205

O Come, all ye Faithful

Entrance Chant: LB - Pg. 78

Glory: SB - Pg. 51 # 200

Angels, We have heard on High

Hymn: SB – Pg. 51 #201

Arsal Allah

Creed Pg. 748

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Transfer of Gifts: LB Pg. 81

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God

Incense Hymn: SB – Pg. 3 #08

Anaphora: St. Mark LB - Page 835

Peace Hymn: SB Pg. 40 #176

Tooba Lisa

Anaphora Acclamations after Consecration:
when Sung: SB - Pg. 4 # 10

Communion:

Silent is the Night (Choir)

After Communion

Closing Song: SB Pg. 53 #204

Joy to the World

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

*Oh Heavenly Father,
we ask you to reveal your love
to change the hearts of those who hate.*

Anyone have an old iPad you no longer use?
The choir could use one. All that is needed to
be working is iTunes.

**May Christians in hostile lands worship this
Christmas and safety.
Pray for the persecuted and the conversion
of the persecutors.**

2016 Calendars

We have enough Maronite Calendars for each
family to take one. If in a few weeks we still have
some left, please help your self to another one.
(The picture of the priest is not me.) Aboona

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.

Dana R. McInnis, Owner

John O. Gallant, Director

10 Elm Street * Waterville, ME 04901

Tel 873-3393 * 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”**

Mark your calendar!

Sunday, Dec. 27, 3pm. St Joseph Maronite Church
Hall, Front St, Waterville. Accessible by elevator.
Lyn and Joe Rowden will share their experiences as
they present a show of photos and art from their
recent life changing trip to Nepal, India and UAE.
See the diversity of cultures, the contrasts between
poverty and wealth and what directions that takes in
these countries. **A free will offering may be made
to purchase wheelchairs for UNESCO sites in
India.**