

15, 16 August 2015 * Thirteenth Sunday of Pentecost



The Transfiguration

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

Luke 8:1-15

Jesus went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. The twelve were with him, as well as some women who had been cured of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, and Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their resources.

When a great crowd gathered and people from town after town came to him, he said in a parable: “A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell on the path and was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up. Some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered for lack of moisture. Some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew with it and choked it. Some fell into good soil, and when it grew, it produced a hundredfold.” As he said this, he called out, “Let anyone with ears to hear listen!”

Then his disciples asked him what this parable meant. He said, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but to others I speak in parables, so that ‘looking they may not perceive, and listening they may not understand.’ “Now the parable is this:

The seed is the word of God. The ones on the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not

believe and be saved. The ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe only for a while and in a time of testing fall away. As for what fell among the thorns, these are the ones who hear; but as they go on their way, they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. But as for that in the good soil, these are the ones who, when they hear the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patient endurance.

Dear Parishioners and Friends:

With this parable, Jesus uses an imagery that is well understood by a gardener. If you want your plant to grow well, you have to provide it with the necessary environment and you have to protect it from those things that can damage and hurt the plant. Jesus, the Word made flesh, wants His words to take root and grow in ones heart. He knows for Him to be received into ones life there has to be good ground. What are the chances for the word of God to produce a hundredfold in a child that is taught very little about Jesus while growing up? What we really love and care about we teach and surround them with the best possible example, our self. Sometimes we think we have left the decision up to the child, but actually it was made from the beginning to not have

the soil prepared to make an honest and informed decision to receive the Word of God and live it faithfully.

There are so many decisions to make for a child from the moment we know he or she exists in the womb. What habits need to be stopped to not endanger the baby's health while developing? What is the ideal setting to raise a child? What is the commitment to make sure the child is protected from harm, and brought up in a stable caring manner?

In this parable Jesus takes for granted that if we understood all that Jesus implies by the good seed to be planted in good soil, we would do everything possible for the seed to not die. The word fulfills and brings joy. If we have already had the word snatched away from us, we will have little interest or ability to comprehend how transformed the world can become.

God offers to us His Son, and through His Word, a hundredfold of honest and good hearted people can come through each of us embracing and living His message.

In everything Jesus says and does, His goal is to transform us, to become good soil that produces good fruit. Regardless of what kind of soil we start with, Jesus can make our ground good enough to bear the fruit He has called us to produce. Not in comparison to someone else's talents, but to those talents that are ours.

The teachings and commands that Jesus teaches us are to help us to reach our highest human potential, and lift us higher yet through His grace and mercy. Let us continue the journey of making our ground more fertile with patience and kindness. This is what love is and does, and God is love.

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: Jerry Fortin, Herb Jabar, Albert Joseph, Betsy Joseph, John M. Joseph, Debbie Leary, Theresa Lee, Mary Morneau, Debbie Pomelow, Tala Poulin, Virginia Poulin, Kevin Scully.

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

Last Week's Collection

Regular Collection \$3,429.00

God bless you for your generosity.

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

Liturgy Helps:

Be sure your cell phone is off or silenced

2nd Collections: Sept. 12-13 Fuel Collection

Liturgy: Thirteenth Sunday of Pentecost

Entrance chant: Pg. 493(B), Creed: Pg. 748, Anaphora of Saint Sixtus Pg. 856

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

Liturgy Intentions

Sat 15 4:00 p.m.

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

† **Fr. Paul Coury**

By The Parish

Sun 16 10:00 a.m.

† **Adam Hikel**

By The Choir

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

Tue 18 9:00 a.m.

† **Hilda Boles Cook**

By The Family

Wed 19 9:00 a.m.

† **Leocadia Ticken**

By Mary Ticken

Thu 20 9:00 a.m.

† **John & Marretta Thomas**

By Friend of the Family

Fri 21 9:00 a.m.

† **Edmund Lessard**

By Lester & Ann Giguere

Sat 22 4:00 p.m.

† **Brent Williams**

By Herb Joseph, Sr.

Sun 23 10:00 a.m.

† **Gabriel Hikel**

By Rita Hikel

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

August Food Pantry

Bisquick Variety soups

Cake mixes Personal care items

Thank you for your thoughtfulness and help.

See someone new? Make them feel at home, and hopefully they will call it their home.

There is no such thing as outsiders.

August Devotions

St. Joseph 14 day Sanctuary Candle

Available

St. Jude 7 Day Sanctuary Candle

Available

Altar Bread & Altar Wine

Available

Vocation Icon – Prayers for Vocations

A family or an individual takes home with them a devotional of prayers and an Icon to pray for a week for vocations. It is returned at the end of the week and the next individual or family takes it home.

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.

Aug 16	Nancy Fairfield
Aug 23	Lowell & Mary Hawes
Aug 30	Greg & Marianne Gillespie
Sept 6	Pearley & Alice Lachance
Sept 13	Larry & Lisa Grard

READERS SCHEDULE

Thirteenth Sunday of Pentecost

1 Corinthians 3:1-11	Luke 8:1-15
August 15	Lenore Boles
16	Joe Rowden

Fourteenth Sunday of Pentecost

1 Thes. 2:1-13	Luke 8:10:38-42
August 22	Lila Hallowell
23	Joe Rowden

EVENTS FOR SEPTEMBER

Wed 2	Parish Council Meeting 6:00 pm
Sat 12	K of C Chicken BBQ 5:00-6:30 \$8.00
Sun 13	Rosary Sodality Meeting 11:30 am
Wed 19	Flu Shot Clinic 10 – 2 pm @ church hall
Sun ?	Religious Education Registration

Coffee Schedule

Larry and Gareth for the Summer

Deepest Sympathy

Our condolences and deepest sympathy go out to **Gladys Avcollie**, of this parish on the loss of her husband, **Neal Avcollie** who died last week.

We pray that the Lord God may grant him rest in His kingdom and consolation to his family and loved ones.

Liturgy of the Faithful Departed will be held on August 26, at 11:00 am.

Mahrajan in New Hampshire

Mahrajan 2015, a Middle Eastern food festival, will be held on the grounds of Our Lady of the Cedars Melkite Catholic Church at 140 Mitchell St., Manchester NH on Friday August 21 from 5-10 PM, Saturday August 22 from 12-10 PM, and Sunday August 23 from 12-5 PM. The event features a variety of Lebanese food, live music, dancing, religious gifts, church tours, and entertainment for children. George Maalouf and Ensemble along with DJ Kibar are providing the music. Admission is free. For more information, go to www.bestfestnh.com.

Walking a Mile for Water

Help us raise awareness of this issue by walking a mile for water* August 29, 2015 1pm Start at Pleasant St. United Methodist Church Parking Lot (61 Pleasant St. Waterville) End at Railroad Square Parking Lot Bring a cup, jar, or bucket to carry water (river water will be supplied at the starting point) FREE EVENT