

12, 13 December 2015 * Revelation to Joseph



St. Joseph Maronite Catholic Church

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Pastor: The Rev. Larry Jensen

Subdeacon: Steve Crate 314-2049



Revelation to Joseph

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 1:18-25 *Now this is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means “God is with us.” When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home. He had no relations with her until she bore a son, and he named him Jesus.*

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Even though here in America this no big deal for a man marrying a woman with child, even when he knows it isn't his, this was gravely serious situation at

the time Joseph was discerning whether he should marry Mary. There are many places in the world where this situation would be punished by honor killing, even by the family.

Joseph was a righteous man, not a self-righteous man. He wished no harm, in fact he wanted to protect her from harm and disgrace as well as himself. Joseph, a man of deep faith, was given a revelation to guide him in his discernment. He believed what the Holy Spirit was revealing. Sometimes we are asked to make decisions guided by faith and trust rather than our hurt and suspicions.

Last week the Sunday Gospel revealed to us the name of the child of Elizabeth and Zechariah. His name would be John, “God is gracious”. God was gracious to Elizabeth and Zechariah to be able to conceive John in their old age. God was gracious to us because the prophet John gave a message that prepared the culture and time for enough people to accept Jesus and to follow Him at the beginning of His ministry.

This generation also needs a prophetic voice to announce the graciousness of God. This is

proclaimed in a variety of ways. Through our prayerful attentiveness in the study of the Scriptures, our Liturgical celebrations, and in other forms of devotion.

This week, the name is, "God is with us." God is literally with us in the womb of Mary. We have a song in the Maronite tradition called "God is with us", or in Syriac, "Imanu Moryo". God is gracious and He is with us.

We all like empathy, which is when another can identify with our situations. With Jesus He becomes our situation, to free us, that is love beyond just empathy or sympathy. God became subject to each of our unique situations by becoming human like us. He is a sinless offering carrying our sins for us. He saves us. We might ask ourselves, save us from what? At the deepest level it is to save us from allowing death and sorrow be our final experience and destination.

The Holy Spirit that empowered Mary to conceive also touches our lives to make us aware of our need to be saved. The Holy Spirit enlightens us to those behaviors and practices, attitudes and inclinations that are destructive in having a loving and obedient relationship with God, our self and our neighbor.

The more we think only of ourselves, the more we cannot enjoy who we are, because that is being truly alone. Hell, is being alone. No source of affirmation and acceptance. The suffering of hell is according to the distance we have pushed God out of our life and others. We can push compassion and mercy from us. This dream of Joseph is for all of us to take this event and make it ours. **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: **Richard Elias, Sr., Jerry Fortin, Patricia Holmes, Herb Jabar, Albert Joseph, Betsy Joseph, John M. Joseph, Debbie Leary, Theresa Lee, Mary Morneau, Debbie Pomelow, Tala Poulin, Virginia Poulin.**

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

Liturgy Helps:

Be sure your cell phone is off or silenced

2nd Collections: Dec. 12-13 Fuel Collection

Liturgy: Revelation to Joseph

Entrance chant: Pg. 58 Creed: Pg. 748,
Anaphora of the St. Peter Pg. 774

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

Liturgy Intentions

- Sat 12 4:00 p.m.**
† **Ronald Stevens**
By Herb Joseph, Sr.
† **Elias Boles**
By John T. Sleiman
- Sun 13 10:00 a.m.**
† **Raymond & Georgette Veilleux**
By Larry & Paula Mitchell
† **Bertha Jensen**
By Edward & Beverly Ackell

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

- Tue 15 9:00 a.m.
† **Glenys Gurski**
By Dan & Pam Casavant
- Wed 16 9:00 a.m.
† **Yosef Akoury & Joseph Elias Nasr**
By Fefa Deeb
- Thu 17 9:00 a.m.
† **Georges Richard**
By John Sleiman
- Fri 18 9:00 a.m.
† **Prinella Mitchell**
By Dan & Pam Casavant
- Sat 19 4:00 p.m.**
† **Bertha Jensen**
By Janet Coury
† **Edward & Evelyn Griffin**
By Francis & Peggy Griffin
- Sun 20 10:00 a.m.**
† **Brent Maroon (40 Day Liturgy)**
By The Family
† **Fred & Evelyn Blaschke**
By Fefa Deeb

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

Last Week's Collection

Regular Collection \$3,795.00

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

St. Jude 7 Day Sanctuary Candle

Available

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 13 Nancy Fairfield
Dec 19 Ann Giguere (Sat)
Dec 20 Larry & Paula Mitchell
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

December Food Pantry

Ravioli Toilet paper
Jiffy mixes Stews

Thank you for your thoughtfulness and help.

READERS SCHEDULE

Revelation to Joseph

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

December 12 Lila Hallowell
13 Joe Rowden

Genealogy Sunday

Romans 1:1-12 Matthew 1:1-17

December 19 Lenore Boles
20 Joe Rowden

EVENTS FOR DECEMBER

Sat 12 Play Rehearsal 9:00 am
Sun 13 Children's Play and Party
Thu 17 Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm
Thu 24 3:30 Christmas Cantata
24 4:00 Christmas Eve Liturgy
Fri 25 10 a.m Christmas Liturgy
Sun 27 3 p.m. Slide show of Nepal, India and UAE. See further details in this Bulletin

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

Coffee Schedule

Dec 13 Mary Bard & Lenore Boles
Dec 20 Jan Bourque & Pam Casavant
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

MYO Schedule: 12/12, 12/13, 1/24, 3/6, 4/3, 5/1

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.**

Giving Tree

This year the gifts will be for the Homeless Shelter including students who are homeless and or going without basic necessities. On each ornament is a suggested gift. You may take as many Ornaments as you would like to purchase a gift for. You do not have to wrap your gift(s). The Christmas gifts will be delivered on December 18th.