

7, 8 March, 2015 * Parable of the Prodigal Son

St. Joseph Maronite Catholic Church

3 Appleton Street, Waterville, ME 04901-6630

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Pastor: The Rev. Larry Jensen

Subdeacon: Steve Crate 314-2049

The Prodigal Son

Web Site <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.

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| 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: | Subdeacon Steve Crate, Lenore Boles DRE, Paula Mitchell, Rosary Sodality, Larry Mitchell, Knights of Columbus | |

Luke 15:11-32 "There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe — the best one — and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!'

And they began to celebrate. "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

Dear Parishioners and Friends:

Today's Gospel is a favorite for many reasons. We want to see God as a loving Father who will forgive us and take us back like a son or daughter. He respects our free will even if we choose to run away from him and live a destructive immoral life. We tend to appreciate being able to assert our free will, but not the free will of others when they use it in a manner that hurts us.

The father did not go to the foreign land and drag his son back. His father allowed him to squander his life. This cannot be understood as acceptance and the will of his father. Which means that this son without coming to his senses and repenting and stopping this living this way, he would die outside of the father's embrace and home.

Sometimes with some children, the parent cannot rescue them from their destructive life. With all the wishful desires in the world, the father and mother cannot bring their child to come to his or her senses to embrace the path of truth that sets one free. It is the child's rejection not the parents.

This son began to desire what is fit for only an animal. How often what seems to satisfy our thirst and cravings, becomes what degrades and destroys. Sin is what ever distorts what is good. It is lies that lead us to make choices that degrade our image without us believing or knowing that it is happening.

This son could have chosen to never return to his father's embrace and be restored to his former position of a son of a loving father.

Thank God he remembered what his father taught him: that even as a slave his life would be better. How joyous to discover his Father was even more wonderful than what he remembered.

The angry older son had to discover the value of what he already had. Some of the most miserable people are those who have far more than they need, and can only focus on what cause them to feel less than what they are and have. This type of distortion can be even more painful than physical starvation because "all the food in the world" cannot fill them. True hunger and thirst is satisfied in a right relationship with the Heavenly Father. **Aboona**

LENTEN REGULATIONS

GREAT FRIDAY, April 3, marks the end of Lent. Abstinence from meat is observed on all the Fridays of Lent by all faithful from the ages of 18 to 65. Fasting from all food and drink (except water and medicine) is to be observed from midnight until noon **on Great Friday of the Crucifixion**. Optional would be the traditional abstinence from meat on Wednesdays.

Those who are unable to fast because of health must perform other penances and acts of charity.

"Somebody has said there are only two kinds of people in the world. There are those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good morning, Lord," and there are those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good Lord, it's morning."

Liturgy Helps:

Be sure your cell phone is off or silenced

2nd Collection: March 8 Fuel Assistance

Liturgy: Prodigal Son

Entrance chant: Pg. 218, Creed: Pg. 748,

Anaphora of the Twelve Apostles: Pg.754

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

Liturgy Intentions

Sat 7 4:00 p.m.

H Neal Avcollie

By Badia Spencer

Sun 8 10:00 a.m.

† Yvonne Nemer

By The Sturtevant Family

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

Mon 9 Father's day off for prayer, reflection, and relaxation

Tues 10 12:00 Noon

† John "Jackie" Thomas

By The Family

Wed 11 12:00 Noon

† Bertha Jensen

By Don & Marcia Kendra

Thu 12 12:00 Noon

† Joe & Marie Kendra

By Don & Marcia Kendra

Fri 13 12:00 Noon

† Caroline Nale

By Mark & Laurie Nale

Sat 14 4:00 p.m.

† Carroll Plourde

By Peter Maroon

Sun 15 10:00 a.m.

† Brent Williams (40 day)

By The Family

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

Weekday Liturgy Schedule During Lent

Weekday Liturgy will be at 12 noon throughout the season of Lent. I strongly encourage you to make weekday Liturgy during the Lenten Season if it is possible.

March Food Pantry

Stews

Condiments

Jiffy Mixes

Toilet Paper

Thank you for your thoughtfulness and help.

**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, Jerry Fortin, Herb Jabar, Albert Joseph, Betsy Joseph, John M. Joseph, Theresa Lee, Dr. Ronnie Marrache, Mary Morneau, Hope Murphy, Tala Poulin, Virginia Poulin.**

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

Fuel Budget for the 2014 – 2015 Winter:

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|----------------------|---------------|
| Fuel Budget | \$20,000.00 |
| Collected last week | \$980.00 |
| Collected previously | \$3,699.00 |
| Total yet to collect | \$(15,321.00) |

We will soon have our annual mailing for the fuel collection. This will be necessary to hopefully cover the cost of the fuel used.

March Devotions - Sanctuary Candles

St. Joseph 14 day Sanctuary Candle

For Christopher Langlais

By Rosanna Joseph & Family

St. Jude 7 Day Sanctuary Candle

Available

Altar Bread:

For Shackie & Rose Marie Joseph

By Rosanna Joseph & Janis McGhee

Altar Wine:

For Shackie & Rose Marie Joseph

By Rosanna Joseph & Janis McGhee

Last Week's Collection

Regular Collection \$2,987.00

God bless you for your generosity.

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.

2014 – 2015 Fuel Collection

The letters were sent out. Thank you for your generosity and helping ease the burden of this winter expense.

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

Parable of the Prodigal Son

2 Corinthians 13:5-13 Luke 1:11-32

4 p.m. Feb 7 Lila Hallowell

10 a.m. 8 Joe Rowden

Healing of the Paralytic

1 Timothy 5:24-6:5 Mark 2:1-12

4 p.m. Feb 14 Lenore Boles

10 a.m. 15 Joe Rowden

EVENTS FOR MARCH

Sun 8 Rosary Sodality – 11:30 am

Thu 12 6:00 Choir Rehearsal

Fri 13 4:30 – 6:30 Haddock Chowder

13 6:00 p.m. Lenten Devotions

13 7:00-12:00 Dance

Thu 19 6:00 Choir Rehearsal

Fri 20 4:30 – 6:30 Haddock Chowder

20 6:00 p.m. Lenten Devotions

Sat & Sun 21-22 Anointing of the Sick

At the end of Liturgy

Thu 26 6:00 Choir Rehearsal

Fri 27 4:30 – 6:30 Haddock Chowder

27 6:00 p.m. Lenten Devotions

Sun 29 Hosanna Sunday

Coffee Schedule

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

Mar 8 Larry Mitchell & Gareth Belton

Religious Education Dates for 2014-2015

4/8, 5/3 May Crowning.

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.