

21, 22 February, 2015 * Healing of the Leper

St. Joseph Maronite Catholic Church

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Pastor: The Rev. Larry Jensen

Subdeacon: Steve Crate 872-9257

Leper Sunday

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.

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	

Mark 1:35-45

The Evangelist said: When it was evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by demons. The whole town was gathered at the door. He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak because they knew him. Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed. Simon and those who were with him pursued him and on finding him said, “Everyone is looking for you.” He told them, “Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come.” So he went into their synagogues, preaching and driving out demons throughout the whole of Galilee. A leper came to him [and kneeling down] begged him and said, “If you wish, you can make me clean.” Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him, and said to him, “I do will it. Be made clean.” The leprosy left him immediately, and he was made clean. Then, warning him sternly, he dismissed him at once. Then he said to him, “See that you tell no one anything, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed; that will be proof

for them.” The man went away and began to publicize the whole matter. He spread the report abroad so that it was impossible for Jesus to enter a town openly. He remained outside in deserted places, and people kept coming to him from everywhere.

Dear Parishioners and Friends:

The beginning of the Gospel starts with the ill or those possessed by demons being brought to Jesus after sunset. The absence of Light is darkness. The absence of God’s Light and compassion is the darkness in the soul and body. Spiritually we say, the sinner lives in darkness.

Jesus is not afraid of the darkness and in fact, confronts the darkness with His healing power. Then, Jesus gets up when it is still dark to go to a deserted place to pray. This is to remind all of us that we need to pray; that we must find a quiet place to face our darkness. With hope and Christ, we know the dawn will come and the radiance of His love will be within us.

With His prayer and fasting, Jesus was able to continue to drive out evil, to drive out demons. This is challenging to us; to think about people needing demons cast out of their lives. There is no need to try

**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, Herb Jabar, Albert Joseph, Betsy Joseph, John M. Joseph, Theresa Lee, Dr. Ronnie Marrache, 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:

Fuel Budget	\$20,000.00
Collected last week	\$130.00
Collected previously	\$3384.00
Total yet to collect	\$(16,486.00)

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

February Devotions - Sanctuary Candles

St. Joseph 14 day Sanctuary Candle

For Bertha Jensen

By Joe & Lyn Rowden

St. Jude 7 Day Sanctuary Candle

Available

Altar Bread:

For Fred & Evelyn Blaschke

By Joe & Lyn Rowden

Altar Wine:

Special Intention

By Doris Labranche

Last Week's Collection

Regular Collection \$1,308.00

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 Contributions

If you are itemizing your charitable contributions and you need your total for 2014 church contributions before we send them out, please call the office.

Deepest Sympathy

We extend our condolences to the family and friends of **Brent Williams**, especially his beloved wife **Lea**, their children; **Brea, Lacey, and Luke**. May the angels of paradise carry him to the Heavenly kingdom of peace and joy.

READERS SCHEDULE

Healing of the Leper

Romans 6:12-23	Mark 1:35-45
4 p.m. Feb 21	Lila Hallowell
10 a.m. 22	Joe Rowden

Healing of the Hemorrhaging Woman

2 Corinthians 7:4-11	Luke 8:40-56
4 p.m. Feb 28	Lenore Boles
10 a.m. 1	Joe Rowden

EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY

Sun 22	M'Jadara Luncheon/Talent Show 11:30
Fri 27	4:30 – 6:30 Haddock Chowder
27	6:00 p.m. Lenten Devotions

EVENTS FOR MARCH

Sun 1	Religious Education
Wed 4	Parish Council 6:00 pm
Fri 6	4:30 – 6:30 Haddock Chowder
6	6:00 p.m. Lenten Devotions
Sun 8	Rosary Sodality – 11:30 am
Fri 13	4:30 – 6:30 Haddock Chowder
13	6:00 p.m. Lenten Devotions
Fri 20	4:30 – 6:30 Haddock Chowder
20	6:00 p.m. Lenten Devotions
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

Feb 22	M'Jadara Luncheon
Mar 1	Mary Bard & Cindy Elias
Mar 8	Larry Mitchell & Gareth Belton

Religious Education Dates for 2014-2015

3/1, 4/to be announced, 5/3 May Crowning.

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.

Church Benefit Dance and Silent Auction:

Come join the fun at the Waterville Elks Lodge on Friday, March 13th from 7:00 to 12:00. Dance to songs from the 60's, 70's, and 80's, with a little 'Dubke' in between! Bid on some fabulous silent auction items and come support our church! Invite family and friends (21 and older).

Tickets are \$12 each, or purchase a table of 10 for \$100. We are also looking for donations of Silent Auction items from parishioners. Gift cards, themed baskets, goods and services, vacation stays, game tickets, etc...all proceeds will go to the Church Fund.

Tickets will be on sale after all Masses until March 8th. No tickets will be sold at the door. Contact Jane Lee, Jody Veilleux, Mary Jo Hodgkin, Emily Fournier, April Mitchell, or Paula Mitchell for tickets, questions, and donations.

M'jadra Luncheon and Talent Show

Sunday, February 22nd at 11:30 AM

A great Lenten meal and free entertainment.

Menu: Salad, yogurt, olives, Lebanese Bread, M'jadra (Lentils), Macaroni & Cheese, and dessert.

If you attended the Talent show in the past, then you already know how much fun it is to participate in this yearly event. From the singing of the 10 days of "Lent" using Lebanese words for foods, Aboona playing his accordion, and the sharing of other talents by young and less young alike makes for an enjoyable time to be together.

Share with your community of faith your song or dance, or maybe as a musician or magician or entertainer. Come and be entertained and have a great meal too. See Marie Deeb to add your name to the list of distinguished entertainers.

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. Details later

Why do Maronites have Ash Monday instead of Ash Wednesday?

The Maronite Church, as the earliest of the Churches, marked time in relationship to the Resurrection. The birth of the Church was Pentecost, and so they measured time according to 50 days as the "new way" of measuring religious significance. As time went by they developed a preparation time for preparing for the yearly celebration of The Resurrection. They used the measurement of 50 days to the Feast just as they had 50 days after to celebrate Pentecost.

The Latin Rite counts the 40 days of Lent as a very penitential period. There really isn't 40 days from Ash Wednesday to Easter, because Sundays are not included.

We count fifty days and we include Sundays.

The 40 day imagery of Jesus in the desert is symbolic. The real events do not take place in the desert. After the Sunday of the man born Blind, (Bartimaeus) the Liturgy is quite joyful because Jesus is now triumphantly heading to Jerusalem. We call the following week and that Sunday "Hosanna Sunday" rather than Passion Sunday because the focus is on the excitement and glory of his pilgrimage to Jerusalem. For us it would be quite odd to read about His passion on this day like the Latin Church does.

We sing Lord Have Mercy, and Alleluia in the same service because repentance is permanently connected to rejoicing. Each tradition is an attempt to deepen one's faith in following Christ all year. What we choose to do during Lent hopefully will enrich the way we live our lives the rest of the year.

From Cana Sunday to Resurrection Sunday, Christ is revealed to us in all His power and Glory, and in His humility.

