

28, 29 November 2015 * Visitation to Elizabeth



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



The Visitation to Elizabeth

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

Luke 1:39 During those days Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled." And Mary said: "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my savior. For he has looked upon his handmaid's lowliness; behold, from now on will all ages call me blessed. The Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is from age to age to those who fear him. He has shown might with his arm, dispersed the arrogant of mind and heart. He has thrown down the rulers from their thrones but lifted up the lowly. The hungry he has filled with good things; the rich he has sent away empty. He has helped Israel his servant, remembering his mercy, according to his promise to our fathers, to Abraham and to his descendants forever." Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

After the angel told Mary that her cousin Elizabeth was with child, she rushed to visit her. It could be that Mary felt alone in the knowledge of her received miracle and thought the perfect person to share all that she was pondering would be Elizabeth. Miracles attract miracles, faith shares faith. The experience of a deep encounter with the Holy Spirit draws us to share with others this experience.

The second discovery in this Sunday's Gospel is that a child in the womb leapt for joy because his mother heard the greeting of Mary. No unborn child can be safer and happier than having a mother who is listening to a greeting from the one who carried and fed the Savior of the world from the essence of her very self. Science has proven that a child within the womb is affected by the temperament and responses of their mother's reactions to daily life events.

This first human to believe that the promised Messiah, the Son of God was now among us, was Mary. The first person named in Scripture believing that Mary was blessed among all generations and the mother of our Lord is Elizabeth.

Through the power of the Holy Spirit, she knew her child was the Son of God and because of that all ages now will call her blessed. The Apostolic Churches, both Catholic and Orthodox, are often accused of worshiping Mary instead of Jesus by others. To be profoundly moved by

what has happened, professed, and proclaimed between Mary, Elizabeth, and John is not worshipping them, but our joy filled faith in the Holy Son of God being shared with them toward the Savior.

Mary proclaims the greatness of God, she rejoices in her Savior. In our lowliness God loves us and lifts us up. When God makes us great, it is not arrogant and self-centered fame, but a humble love toward the ones the prestigious and haughty reject. Those that hunger for riches tend to be tempted to want to send away and ignore. The Spirit of God guides the believer to good things. The hungry are fed.

Pope Francis daily makes news with his understanding of the Gospel, proclaiming what Mary proclaimed about the plan of God. This is not the sermon of prosperity preached on TV. Prosperity among Christians is not condemned but one would be naive to think it is 100% immune from greed and taking advantage of the poverty and ignorance for its own personal gain.

The only way any of us can know mercy is if we are taught and experience mercy. The hungry can only be filled with good things when there is an accurate understanding of what goodness is and it is shared. Who can convert and change the arrogant if it is blocked by a mindset of superiority rather than the virtue of humility as expressed in today's Gospel?

When Mary says that the rich will go away hungry, this is not directed at every single rich person. Having wealth can make life much easier, but it does not guarantee happiness and a peace within the heart. Giving fills the spirit, satisfying the very character of the one who is generous. This is to address the danger of "loving money" more than God and contributing to a culture destroying the dignity of others and of one's moral and physical environment. **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.

Last Week's Collection

Regular Collection \$1,791.00

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: Dec. 5- 6 Maronite Patriarchal
Dec. 12-13 Fuel Collection

Liturgy: Visitation to Elizabeth

Entrance chant: Pg. 40 Creed: Pg. 748,
Anaphora of St. Sixtus Pg. 856

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

Liturgy Intentions

- Sat 28 4:00 p.m.**
† **Ernest Peters**
By Priscilla Peters & Family
† **Edmond Pare (3rd Anniv.)**
† **Marie Arbour**
By Suzanne Pare
- Sun 29 10:00 a.m.**
† **Frederick Blaschke (2nd Anniv.)**
By Joe & Lyn Rowden
† **Adam Hikel**
By A friend of the Family

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

- Tue 1 9:00 a.m.**
† **Yvonne Nemer**
By Al & Ruth Joseph
- Wed 2 9:00 a.m.**
† **Adolphe Veilleux Family**
By Dan & Pam Casavant
- Thu 3 9:00 a.m.**
† **Prinella Mitchell**
By Frank & Maria Bouchard
- Fri 4 9:00 a.m.**
† **Marie Schneider**
By Sara Taddeo
- Sat 5 4:00 p.m.**
† **Bertha Jensen**
By Janet Coury
† **Joseph Elias Nasr**
By Bodie Spencer
- Sun 6 10:00 a.m.**
† **Marietta Thomas (20th Anniv.)**
By The Family
† **Sam & Lottie Deeb**
By Paul & Stephen Maroon

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

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

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.**

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.

Nov	29	Pearley & Alice Lachance
Dec	5	Audrey Yotides (Sat)
Dec	6	Greg & Marianne Gillespie
Dec	13	Nancy Fairfield
Dec	19	Ann Giguere (Sat)
Dec	20	Larry & Paula Mitchell
Dec	27	Lowell & Mary Hawes
Jan	3	Larry & Lisa Gard

READERS SCHEDULE

Visitation of the Virgin to Elizabeth

Ephesians 1:1-14 Luke 1:39-45

November 28 Lila Hallowell

29 Mary Jo Hodgkin

Birth of John the Baptizer

Galatians 4:21 – 5:1 Luke 1:57-66

December 5 Lenore Boles

6 Lauraine Mansur

EVENTS FOR DECEMBER

Wed	2	Parish Council Meeting 6:00 pm
Thu	3	Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm
Sun	6	Rosary Sodality Christmas Party 11:30
Thu	10	Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm
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

Nov	29	Shana Page & Jodi Veilleux
Dec	6	Susan Webber & Elizabeth Wilson
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

December Food Pantry

Jelly Family sized items – soups, ravioli, etc.

Condiments Juice in Plastic Containers

Thank you for your thoughtfulness and help.

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

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.

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

Visitation to Elizabeth

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

Entrance Hymn: SB – Pg. 55 #208

The King of Glory

Entrance Chant: LB - Pg. 40

Glory: SB - Pg. 01 # 01

Hymn: SB – Pg. 51 #201

Arsal Allah

Creed Pg. 748

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Transfer of Gifts:

SB Pg. 26 #145

O Bread of Life

Incense Hymn: SB – Pg. 3 #08

Anaphora: Saint Sixtus LB - Page 856

Peace Hymn: SB Pg. 32 # 159

Prayer of St. Francis

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

Communion: SB Pg. 9 #109

Be Not Afraid

After Communion

Closing Song: SB Pg. 38 #172

The Lamb

*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.*

Maronite Prayers

O King of kings and Savior of the world, you left the throne of your glory and became man. No mind can comprehend such humility and no tongue can describe it. Your mother took you to the hills of Judea while you were still in her womb, and there you met John, filling him with the joy of your Holy Spirit, and then the hills were filled with joy and gladness. Amen.

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

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
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GALLANT FUNERAL HOME INC.

John O. Gallant, CFSP, Owner/Director
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***“The Catholic Church, East and West,
breaths as two lungs in the same body”***

St. John Paul II, Pope of Rome

UNANSWERED PRAYER

The preacher's 5 year-old daughter noticed that her father always paused and bowed his head for a moment before starting his sermon. One day, she asked him why.

"Well, Honey," he began, proud that his daughter was so observant of his messages. "I'm asking the Lord to help me preach a good sermon."

"How come He doesn't answer it?" she asked.