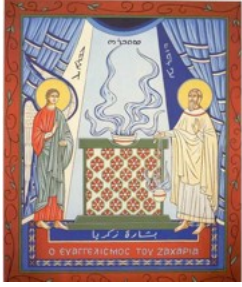


14, 15 November 2015 * Announcement to Zechariah



St. Joseph Maronite Catholic Church

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Pastor: The Rev. Larry Jensen

Subdeacon: Steve Crate 314-2049



Announcement to Zechariah

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 1:5-25 “.... the angel said to him, “Do not be afraid, Zechariah, because your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall name him John. And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of [the] Lord. He will drink neither wine nor strong drink. He will be filled with the Holy Spirit even from his mother’s womb, and he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God. He will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah to turn the hearts of fathers toward children and the disobedient to the understanding of the righteous, to prepare a people fit for the Lord.” Then Zechariah said to the angel, “How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years.” And the angel said to him in reply, “I am Gabriel, who stands before God. I was sent to speak to you and to announce to you this good news. But now you will be speechless and unable to talk until the day these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled at their proper time.” Meanwhile the people were waiting for Zechariah and were amazed that he stayed so long in the sanctuary. But when he came out, he was unable to speak to them, and they realized that he

had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He was gesturing to them but remained mute. Then, when his days of ministry were completed, he went home. After this time his wife Elizabeth conceived, and she went into seclusion for five months, saying, “So has the Lord done for me at a time when he has seen fit to take away my disgrace before others.”

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

This Sunday is the official **first step** in preparing for the birth of our Messiah. The Gospel reading is a human interest story. Zechariah and Elizabeth were dealing with timeless and universal human problems; this particular problem was their relationship with others. Despite their stature in the “religious” circles of being blameless and just, they still were not completely happy because of a certain stigma. In their society, to not have a child was an embarrassment, a disgrace. There is reason to believe they did their best to not let it bother them but I am sure when they heard of another birth among their relatives and neighbors, and even at the synagogue or temple there was some pain.

Zechariah and Elizabeth remained faithful and loyal in their service to the Lord, even though at times life did not seem fair to them. Their faithfulness was

rewarded in their old age. Elizabeth was filled with praise for the Lord when she discovered she was with child because God had made what was impossible, possible, He had removed her feelings of shame.

We have to remember the same holds true for us. We forget what our own history is; we lose touch with how precious our life and the lives of others are. We are being prepared for an eternal destiny. **Old age is not preparing for the end. Old age is getting ready to embrace a new eternal life, a life where every reproach, every failure, every fault, is removed.**

There are stages in our life when we feel sterile, almost lifeless, where we think we are "losing" our ability to climb any more mountains. Our self-esteem is at an all time low. We must first remain faithful. Let the angels, **let the Holy Spirit, find you in the holy temple, offering praise**, so you can hear about another way to climb the mountain of life, to become more fruitful.

Let your heart conceive the freedom that comes from His love for us. Let the Holy Spirit give us a new concept, a new vision for all eternity through joining our humanity with His divinity. We need no longer try to climb/move the mountain with our own concept of power, position, control, over the world around us, for we will be too bruised by our slipping. Zechariah's doubt became mute to safeguard the listeners. Being mute, they knew he had a vision. Being mute, the listeners were prepared for the preaching of John, the Baptizer. **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, Kevin Scully.** Be sure to let Aboona know if you would like a name added or removed.

From Today's Liturgy

O God the Word, when you chose to become man for our salvation, the archangel Gabriel was sent to the holy temple, to announce the birth of John, the Forerunner, to Zechariah, the priest. Prepare us to celebrate your birth, which is filled with blessings, that we may glorify you, and your Father, and your Holy Spirit, for ever.

Liturgy Helps:

Be sure your cell phone is off or silenced

2nd Collections: Dec. 5- 6 Maronite Patriarchal

Liturgy: Announcement to Zechariah

Entrance chant: Pg. 19 Creed: Pg. 748,

Anaphora of St. John Pg. 815

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

Liturgy Intentions

- Sat 14 4:00 p.m.**
† **Yosef Akroury**
By Laya Joseph
- † **Bertha Jensen**
By Steven Maroon
- Sun 15 10:00 a.m.**
† **Adam Hikel**
By Carol Jakobowski
- † **Dora Theriault**
By Rita Hikel

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

- Tue 17 9:00 a.m.**
SI Don & Marcia Kendra
By Don & Marcia Kendra
- Wed 18 9:00 a.m.**
† **Selma (Joseph) Thompson**
By Al & Ruth Joseph
- Thu 19 9:00 a.m.**
† **Adolphe Veilleux Family**
By Dan & Pam Casavant
- Fri 20 9:00 a.m.**
† **Prinella Mitchell**
By Frank & Maria Bouchard
- Sat 21 4:00 p.m.**
† **Edward & Evelyn Griffin**
By Francis & Peggy Griffin
- † **Madame Jeannette Marie Sleiman**
By John T. Sleiman
- Sun 22 10:00 a.m.**
† **John "Jackie" Thomas**
By The Choir
- † **Yvonne Nemer**
By John T. Sleiman

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

Last Week's Collection

Regular Collection \$2,225.00

God bless you for your generosity.

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

November Devotions

St. Joseph 14 day Sanctuary Candle

St. Jude 7 Day Sanctuary Candle

Available

Altar Bread

For Shackie & Rose Marie Joseph

By Rosanna Joseph

Altar Wine

For John & Margaret Joseph & Family

By Rosanna Joseph

Our Sympathy

Our condolences go to **Charlie & Mary Maroon, of** our parish who suffered the loss of their son, **Brent Maroon**, this past week. Our prayers go out to his family and friends as they mourn their loss.

May the angels carry his soul as well all the faithful departed into His Kingdom where there is no more pain and every tear is dried.

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

A Sunday School teacher decided to have her young class memorize one of the most quoted passages in the Bible - Psalm 23. She gave the youngsters a month to learn the chapter. Little Rick was excited about the task - but he just couldn't remember the Psalm. After much practice, he could barely get past the first line.

On the day that the kids were scheduled to recite Psalm 23 in front of the congregation, Ricky was so nervous. When it was his turn, he stepped up to the microphone and said proudly, "The Lord is my Shepherd, and that's all I need to know."

READERS SCHEDULE

Announcement to Zechariah

Romans 4:13-25 Luke 1:1-25

November 14 Lila Hallowell

November 15 Mary Jo Hodgkin

Announcement to Mary

Galatians 3:15-22 Luke 1:26-38

November 21 Lenore Boles

22 Mary Jo Hodgkin

EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER

Sat 14 Christmas Bazaar 9 – 2

Thu 19 Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm

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

Coffee Schedule

Nov 15 Jane Lee & Marie McMahon

Nov 22 April Mitchell & Paula Mitchell

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

November Food Pantry

Jelly Family sized items – soups, ravioli, etc.

Condiments Juice in Plastic Containers

Thank you for your thoughtfulness and help.

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

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 15 Lowell & Mary Hawes

Nov 22 Larry & Lisa Grard

Nov 29 Pearley & Alice Lachance

Dec 6 Greg & Marianne Gillespie

Dec 13 Nancy Fairfield

Dec 19 Ann Giguere (Sat)

Dec 20 Larry & Paula Mitchell