

## 3, 4 December 2016 \* Birth of John the Baptist



### *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

**Birth of John the Baptist**

**The Weekly Video of Our Sunday Liturgy can be found on our 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.

<b>Choir Director:</b> Fefa Deeb	<b>Sacristan:</b> Laurie Nale	<b>Parish Secretary:</b> Paula Mitchell
<b>Teachers DRE:</b> Lenore Boles, K-1 <sup>st</sup> Lenore Boles, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Jane Lee 3-5 <sup>th</sup> Shana Page,		
<b>Parish Council:</b> Sheila Bonenfant, Lisa Grard, Lowell Hawes, Pearley Lachance, David Lee, Aaron Rowden, Elizabeth Wilson	<b>Ex-officio:</b> Subdeacon Steve Crate, Lenore Boles DRE, Paula Mitchell, Rosary Sodality, Larry Mitchell, Knights of Columbus.	

**Luke 1:57-80** When the time arrived for Elizabeth to have her child she gave birth to a son. Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy toward her, and they rejoiced with her. When they came on the eighth day to circumcise the child, they were going to call him Zechariah after his father, but his mother said in reply, “No. He will be called John.” But they answered her, “There is no one among your relatives who has this name.” So they made signs, asking his father what he wished him to be called. He asked for a tablet and wrote, “John is his name,” and all were amazed.

Immediately his mouth was opened, his tongue freed, and he spoke blessing God. Then fear came upon all their neighbors, and all these matters were discussed throughout the hill country of Judea. All who heard these things took them to heart, saying, “What, then, will this child be?” For surely the hand of the Lord was with him. Then Zechariah his father, filled with the holy Spirit, prophesied, saying: “Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, for he has visited and brought redemption to his people. He

has raised up a horn for our salvation within the house of David his servant, even as he promised through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old: salvation from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us, to show mercy to our fathers and to be mindful of his holy covenant and of the oath he swore to Abraham our father, and to grant us that, rescued from the hand of enemies, without fear we might worship him in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. And you, child, will be called prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give his people knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins, because of the tender mercy of our God by which the daybreak from on high will visit us to shine on those who sit in darkness and death’s shadow, to guide our feet into the path of peace.” The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the desert until the day of his manifestation to Israel.

**Dear Parishioners and Friends,**

They called him John, which means “God is Gracious”. Zechariah and Elizabeth had their

miracle child of wonder. The Holy Spirit had worked in their lives, had come into their desert of reproach and pain. Because they were childless they were the victims of insensitive jokes and gossip. They were hurt, but did not allow the hurt to destroy them. They remained faithful and committed to serving the Lord, even when I am sure they did not always feel it was worth it. Faith is not feelings, it is the will to keep moving forward in life knowing that the will of the Father, in the end, always comes through with a victory in which all past hurt disappears and is no longer remembered.

After over ten months of being mute, Zechariah didn't complain about the "discipline" but praised God in one of the most beautiful canticles ever written. The chaos of all that can go wrong in the world will come to an end. Not by subjugation but through healing power and forgiveness of sin transforming all that seek Him. What a wonderful child it was who went into the desert. John knew about being shaken by fear like a desert reed. He knew about life's irritations like the desert sand on a stormy day. He knew how dry and arid a life can feel without water. Yet, he became a forerunner of joy rather than a forerunner of gloom and despair.

Zechariah and Elizabeth are perfect examples of the gift that comes from going all the way through ones trials to reach the side of joy and blessedness. Far too often we stop and get stuck in the mud of disappointment. Let us go to the waters of the Jordan to be cleansed.

**Aboona**

"Talk not of wasted affection;  
affection never was wasted."

- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

**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: **Fr. Bill Clark, Jerry Fortin, Dorothy Furgus, Albert Joseph, Betsy Joseph, Debbie Leary, Theresa Lee, Mary Morneau, Debbie Pomelow, Tala Poulin, Virginia Poulin, Gordon Webber.**

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**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collections:** Dec. 3, 4 Patriarchal Charities  
Dec. 10, 11 Fuel Collection

**Liturgy: Birth of John the Baptist**

**Pg. 48/49**

Page numbers for the Prayers and Songs are on the back cover of the Bulletin.

**Liturgy Intentions**

**Sat 3 4:00 pm**  
† **William Marozzi & Violettet Sleiman**  
By John Sleiman

**Sun 4 10:00 am**  
† **John Sleiman (40 Day Liturgy)**  
By Susan Mitchell & Bob Asselin

**SI Joe & Marie Kendra**  
By Don & Marcia Kendra

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

Mon 5 Father's day off for for rest, prayer, reflection, and relaxation

Tue 6 9:00 am  
**SI Don & Marcia Kendra**  
By Don & Marcia Kendra

Wed 7 9:00 am  
† **Cecile Nadeau**  
By Jeanne Thomas

**THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION  
(Holy Day of Obligation)**

Thu 8 9:00 am  
† **Lester Giguere**  
By Ann Giguere

8 6:00 pm  
† **Caroline Nale**  
By John Sleiman

Fri 9 9:00 am  
† **Nidr & Eleanor Jabre**  
By Eddy Jabre

**Sat 10 4:00 pm**  
† **Ron Stevens**  
By Herbert Joseph

**Sun 11 10:00 am**  
† **Raymond & Georgette Veilleux**  
By Larry & Paula Mitchell  
† **Robert Mitchell**  
By Janet Mitchell

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

## **December Devotions**

### **St. Joseph 14 day Sanctuary Candle**

**For Raymond & Georgette Veilleux**

By Larry & Paula Mitchell

### **St. Jude 7 Day Sanctuary Candle**

**For Available**

By

### **Altar Bread**

**For Shackie & Rose Marie Joseph**

By Rosanna Joseph

### **Altar Wine**

**For Shackie & Rose Marie Joseph**

By Rosanna Joseph

*See someone new? Make them feel at home, and hopefully they will call it their home. There is no such thing as outsiders.*

## **Last Week's Collection**

Regular Collection \$1,436.00

God bless you for your generosity.

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

## **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.

## **December Food Pantry**

Ravioli Stews

Jiffy mixes Personal care Items

**Thank you for your thoughtfulness and help.**

## **READERS SCHEDULE**

### **Birth of John the Baptizer**

Galatians 4:21 – 5:1 Luke 1:57-66

December 3 Ruth Lunn

4 Joe Rowden

### **Revelation to Joseph**

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

December 10 Lila Hallowell

11 Lauraine Mansur

## **EVENTS FOR DECEMBER**

Wed 7 Parish Council Meeting 6:00 pm

Thu 8 Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm

Sun 11 Rosary Christmas Party 11:45 am

Thu 15 Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm

Sun 18 Children's Play during Liturgy

Sun 18 Children's Party after Liturgy

Thu 22 Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm

### **Birth of Our Lord and Savior**

**Sat 24** 3:30 Christmas Cantata

4:00 Christmas Eve Liturgy

**Sun 25** 10:00 am Christmas Liturgy

## **Coffee Schedule**

Dec 4 Shana Page & Dale Sturtevant

Dec 11 Jody Veilleux & Susan Webber

Dec 18 Elizabeth Wilson & Rosanna Joseph

Dec 25 NO COFFEE

Jan 1 Mary Bard & Jan Bourque

Jan 8 Larry Mitchell & Gareth Belton

## **Vocation Icon – Prayers for Vocations**

We will be changing the way we schedule the Vocation Icon to allow more options. For now, we will schedule a person once a month or less often.

Aramaic/Syriac Bible

“Request therefore of The Lord of the harvest to send out laborers to his harvest.” Matt. 9:38

Dec 4 Pearley & Alice Lachance

Dec 11 David & Jody Veilleux

Dec 17 Audrey Yotides (Sat)

Dec 18 Greg & Marianne Gillespie

Dec 24 Jim & Lenore Boles (Sat)

Dec 31 Ann Giguere (Sat)

Jan 1 Larry & Paula Mitchell

Jan 8 Larry & Lisa Grard

Jan 21 Jim & Lenore Boles (Sat)

**Knights of Columbus:** On Saturday, Dec 10 the Knights of Columbus, Council 11303, will gather for a Corporate Communion.