

19, 20 November 2016 * Announcement to the Virgin Mary



St. Joseph Maronite Catholic Church

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Pastor: The Rev. Larry Jensen

Subdeacon: Steve Crate 314- 2049



Announcement to Mary

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.

Choir Director: Fefa Deeb	Sacristan: Laurie Nale	Parish Secretary: Paula Mitchell
Teachers DRE: Lenore Boles, K-1 st Lenore Boles, 2 nd Jane Lee 3-5 th 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 1:26-38 In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" And the angel said to her in reply, "The holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God." Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

The conversation Mary had with the angel lets us know it is all right to ask God questions. It is only logical that we would wonder what His plan is for our life. We have an innate desire to know the meaning and purpose of our life and how He fits into the decisions we make. We also have to understand that some things remain a mystery because the finite mind cannot comprehend the infinite mind of God.

Mary's questions are a form of doubt motivated by faith to make sense out of what is ordinarily not believed. She believes what she hears, but has no idea if it will become true. She wants to make sure what she is experiencing from God is actually God and not an evil spirit. The world already has too many people who think they are guided by the voice of God, when it is only their wishful thinking and desire for status, power, and control.

Being a holy, spiritual, faithful follower means you keep seeking understanding and guidance. In order to grow in wisdom, we have to continually be available to God to speak to us; we have to be willing to ponder like Mary. We have to let it become true. Sometimes we don't let a blessing come true, because our questions are looking for how to say no to Him rather than seeking how our yes will happen.

Fear often is a part of the unknown, and we find in the New Covenant that people who encounter the Divine are told to not be afraid. Reverential fear is spiritually healthy; it protects us from becoming haughty and prideful. It stops a person from having two sets of rules; one rule to control others and one rule that gives permission to not follow the rules we want others to follow.

Even when there is an explanation from the wisdom of God to explain what is happening in our life, we often close our ears, and stick to our distorted way of looking at a situation. This is why it is so hard to completely end wars and divisions within families and communities.

It never ceases to amaze me how stubbornly we stick with the explanations that make us miserable instead of God's ways of miracles, forgiveness and freedom. We might be right about what is wrong, but all wrong about how we choose to resolve our doubts and fears.

Emotional and physical hurt distorts our feelings and thoughts. Our hurts and pains can keep us from being objective in our interpretation of our personal experiences. We need God talking to us through prayer and Scripture to help us make decisions with a wisdom that knows all things and their meaning.

For Mary, she didn't hesitate to make sure it was the voice of "a good angel" proclaiming the truth of the One God of Israel; the one she grew up to know, love, and serve. She was not looking for a way to say no to the will of God, but making sure who she wanted to say yes to with all her heart was the God of Abraham, the God who led Moses from slavery. She wanted to be saying yes to the One, who promised to send a Messiah.

A quick scan of the world reveals the number of times a person said yes to who they think is a message from God, but it wasn't God, it may be attractive, it may claim peace and harmony, but the fruit as the tree matures brings war and hate. For us the yes of Mary brings into the world the Prince of Peace. **Aboona**

*Thank you for all the prayers
and kind thoughts and gestures
of kindness and love.
From the Jensen Family*

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.

Raffle Winners

\$500: George Joseph

\$200: Joe Ferris

\$100: Cindy Elias (**Days Jewelry Store**)

Liturgy Helps:

Be sure your cell phone is off or silenced

2nd Collections: Dec. 3, 4 Patriarchal Charities

Liturgy: Announcement to the Virgin Mary Pg. 27/29

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

Liturgy Intentions

Sat 19 4:00 pm

† **Jackie Marshall (1st Anni)**

By The Family

Sun 20 10:00 am

† **Prinella Mitchell**

By Judie Lynn Nassar & Family

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

Mon 21 Father's day off for for rest, prayer, reflection, and relaxation

Tue 22 9:00 am

H Bridget Rinaldi

By Dominick Rinaldi, Sr.

Wed 23 9:00 am

† **Lester Giguere**

By Herbert Joseph, Sr.

THANKSGIVING DAY

Thu 24 9:00 am

SI For the Parish

Fri 25 9:00 am

† **Amy Engler Stout**

By Dan & Pam Casavant

Sat 26 4:00 pm

† **Simone Laviec**

By John Sleiman

Sun 27 10:00 am

† **Herb Jabar**

By John Mitchell

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

November Food Pantry

Variety Soups

Bisquick

Jelly

Cake mixes

Thank you for your thoughtfulness and help.

November Devotions

St. Joseph 14 day Sanctuary Candle

For Subdeacon Deeb Ferris

By Steve & Allison Crate

St. Jude 7 Day Sanctuary Candle

For Dale Ferris

By Steve & Allison Crate

Altar Bread

For Msg. James Khoury

By Fefa Deeb

Altar Wine

For Sam & Lottie Deeb

By Fefa Deeb

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 \$2,627.00

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.

"Courage is a quietness, not martial music made. Born of facing up to life, even when afraid."

– Emily Sargent Councilman

READERS SCHEDULE

Announcement to the Virgin Mary

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

November 19 Lila Hallowell

20 Joe Rowden

Visitation of the Virgin to Elizabeth

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

November 26 Lenore Boles

27 Joe Rowden

Sun 11 Rosary Christmas Party 11:45 am

Thu 15 Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm

Sun 18 Children's Party after Liturgy

Thu 22 Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm

Coffee Schedule

Nov 20 Lauraine Mansur & Marie McMahon

Nov 27 April Mitchell & Paula Mitchell

Dec 4 Shana Page & Dale Sturtevant

Dec 11 Jody Veilleux & Susan Webber

Dec 18 Elizabeth Wilson & Rosanna Joseph

Dec 25 NO COFFEE

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

Nov 19 Ann Giguere (Sat)

Nov 20 Larry & Paula Mitchell

Nov 26 Jim & Lenore Boles (Sat)

Nov 27 Larry & Lisa Grard

Dec 4 Pearley & Alice Lachance

Dec 11 David & Jody Veilleux

Dec 17 Audrey Yotides (Sat)

Dec 18 Greg & Marianne Gillespie

Dedication: The dedication for the St. Francis de Sales Cross will be held on Nov. 30 at 2:00 pm at St. Francis Cemetery in Waterville (weather permitting). The ceremony will be performed by Bishop Robert Deeley, of the Portland Diocese. _____

"What isn't tried won't work."

– Claude McDonald

EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER

Wed 30 Advent retreat at St. John's in Winslow
Fr. Larry is giving the first talk 6:30 pm

EVENTS FOR DECEMBER

Thu 1 Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm

Wed 7 Parish Council Meeting 6:00 pm

Thu 8 Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm