

1, 2 April 2017 * Healing of the Blind Man



The Blind Man

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 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, Rosanna Joseph, Pearley Lachance, David Lee, Kevin Michaud, Mark Morin, Aaron Rowden, Elizabeth Wilson	Ex-officio: Subdeacon Steve Crate, Lenore Boles DRE, Paula Mitchell, Rosary Sodality, Larry Mitchell, Knights of Columbus.	

Mark 10:46-52.

They came to Jericho. And as He was leaving Jericho with His disciples and a sizable crowd, Bartimaeus, a blind man, the son of Timaeus, sat by the roadside begging. On hearing that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, “Jesus, son of David, have pity on me.” And many rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he kept calling out all the more, “Son of David, have pity on me.” Jesus stopped and said, **“Call him.”** So they called the blind man, saying to him, “Take courage; get up, He is calling you.” He threw aside his cloak, sprang up, and came to Jesus. Jesus said to him in reply, **“What do you want me to do for you?”** The blind man replied to him, “Master, I want to see.” Jesus told him, **“Go your way; your faith has saved you.”** Immediately he received his sight and followed Him on the way.

Dear Parishioners and Friends:

Jesus knew Bartimaeus wanted to see. By asking the question there a public profession of faith in what Jesus has the power to do. In many instances we cannot feel fully accepted until we can say it out loud to someone else. Trust, confidence, and honesty all are a part of coming to terms with life as it unfolds.

His life just unfolded in a miraculous healing; he received his sight and followed Jesus on the way.

There are different levels of physical blindness as well intellectual and spiritual. Science has made great strides in preventing or treating blindness. There are many places on earth where education and healthcare are not available for many reasons, all of them can be traced to a variation of turning a blind eye to needs of others.

The Catholic Church for centuries, through the support of its members and the work of its religious have set up education and health clinics throughout the world to care for those that are often neglected and rejected.

In many ways, the Catholic Church led the world, Catholic meaning universal, and providing education and healthcare throughout the world as one of Christ’s most concretely expressed commands to His followers and how to view the least among us as Jesus Himself. For centuries these religious, and they still do, worked and lived with a vow of poverty for themselves to enrich those in need of an education and healthcare.

The first Liturgy I celebrated as a priest, was the Sunday of Bartimaeus in my hometown in

Muskegon, Michigan. Even before I was interested in becoming a priest I was shaped by what I observed. We each form a vision of what we want from our religion; sometimes it is shaped by faith, and sometimes by our own blindness or the blindness of others.

Living across the street from our parish, the priest of my childhood when he saw us playing tag, flying kites, roller skating, or riding our bikes in the church parking lot; he saw us like a "father" sees his children playing in their yard. The priest of my teenage years was a property guard, he saw us as intruders and unwanted trespassers on private property.

These experiences made it difficult for some to see the "following of Jesus" as a healing walk, but as a following of conflicts. We all know the phrase, "the blind trying to lead the blind". Jesus understood this when He said, 'before trying to remove the speck from your neighbor's eye remove the plank from your own.' Often it is our unhealed self that is reacting to the unhealed other.

Sometimes we can't see the real situation. We are looking through our anger, or maybe overly controlling. I remember a high school friend being grabbed by the priest and pushed against the wall in the foyer for leaving church before it was over. Actually, his father had asked him to go get the tickets to sell for the Jitney Dinner out of the car so he would have them to sell when the people came out. Guess who didn't sell tickets or return to church? There was a time when the church, or any organization could still thrive with these flaws. Unfortunately, society has changed. We have become insensitive and too sensitive at the same time. **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: **Jerry Fortin, Dorothy Furgus, Albert Joseph, Darrell Mitchell, 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.

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.

Liturgy Helps:

Be sure your cell phone is off or silenced

2nd Collections Apr. 8, 9 Fuel Collection
Apr. 29, 30 Catholic Home Missions

Liturgy: Healing of the Blind Man

Pg. 246/247

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

Liturgy Intentions

- Sat 1 4:00 pm**
† **Khalil, Abou Sleiman & Frangieh Harfoush**
By John Sleiman
- Sun 2 10:00 am**
† **Richard Elias (1st Anni)**
By Cindy Elias

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

- Mon 3 Father's day off for prayer, reflection, and relaxation
- Tue 4 12:00 noon
† **The Thomas & Veilleux Families**
By Dan & Pam Casavant
- Wed 5 12:00 noon
† **Lester Giguere**
By Ann Giguere
- Thu 6 12:00 noon
† **Cathi Lee**
By Fefa Deeb
- Fri 7 12:00 noon
SI Don & Marcia Kendra
By Don & Marcia Kendra
- Sat 8 4:00 pm**
† **Tannous Harfouch Boles, & Mariam Saad**
By John Sleiman
- Sun 9 10:00 am**
† **Andrea Nagem**
By Joe Ferris

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

April Food Pantry

Ravioli Stews
Jiffy Mixes Personal care items

Thank you for your thoughtfulness and help.

Last Week's Collection

Regular Collection \$1,491.00
God bless you for your generosity.

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

April Devotions

All Are Available

St. Joseph 14 day Sanctuary Candle
St. Jude Shrine 7 day Sanctuary Candle

Altar Bread & Altar Wine

LENTEN REGULATIONS

Abstinence from meat is observed on all the Fridays of Lent by all faithful from the ages of 18 to 65. Fasting from all food and drink (except water and medicine) is to be observed from midnight until noon **on Ash Monday and Great Friday of the Crucifixion**. Optional would be the traditional abstinence from meat on Wednesdays. Those who are unable to fast because of health must perform other penances and acts of charity.

Easter Basket Raffle **for Caritas – The Refugees Lebanon**

Lyn Rowden will be selling raffle tickets for a gift basket on Sunday, April 2 & 9. The drawing will be held on the 9th. All proceeds go to Caritas. Tickets are \$1 a ticket or 6 for \$5. For more information or to purchase tickets call Lyn at 314-4730.

READERS SCHEDULE

Healing of the Blind Man

2 Corinthians 10:1-7 Mark 10:46-52
April 1 Ruth Lunn
 2 Joe Rowden

Hosanna (Palm) Sunday Shanee'nee

Philemon 1:1-13 John 12:12-22
April 8 Lenore Boles
 9 Lauraine Mansur

EVENTS FOR APRIL

Sun 2 Religious Education
 2 Rosary Sodality Meeting 11:30 am
Tue 4 Parish Council Meeting 6:00 pm
Thu 6 Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm
Fri 7 Haddock Chowder Supper 4:30 -6:00 pm
 6 pm Lenten Devotions
 Stations & Veneration of the Cross

HOLY WEEK

Sun 9 Palm Sunday – Holy Week Starts
 9 Childrens' Basket Party
Tue 11 12 Noon - **Coming to the Harbor**
Wed 12 12 noon - **Rite of the Lamp**
Thu 13 7:00 pm - **Washing of the Feet**
Fri 14 12 noon - **Signing of the Chalice**
 7:00 pm - **Procession & Burial service**
Sat 15 **10:00 am - Service of the Light**
Sat 15 8 pm Easter Vigil – no Choir
Sun 16 10 am Easter Sunday
Sun 30 Lebanese Supper

Coffee Schedule

Apr 2 Larry Mitchell & Gareth Belton
Apr 9 Mary Bard & Jan Bourque (Palm Sunday)
Apr 16 Betty Michaud & Rosanna Joseph (Easter Sunday)
Apr 23 Elizabeth Wilson & Rosanna Joseph
Apr 30 NO COFFEE
May 7 Sharon Crowe & Mary Hawes

Vocation Icon – Prayers for Vocations

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

Apr 2 Larry & Paula Mitchell
Apr 8 Audrey Yotides (Sat)
Apr 9 Greg & Marianne Gillespie
Apr 16 Pearley & Alice Lachance
Apr 22 Ann Giguere (Sat)
Apr 23 Larry & Lisa Grard
Apr 29 Jim & Lenore Boles (Sat)
Apr 30 Lowell & Mary Hawes