

24, 25 December 2013 * Nativity of our Lord and Savior



St. Joseph Maronite Catholic Church

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"The Eastern Rites are the Treasure of the Catholic Church"

Pope John XXIII

- 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:	Yvonne Nemer, Theresa Nemer & Laurie Nale
Teachers	DRE: 3-5 th Lenore Boles K-1 st Rosanna Joseph 2 nd Jane Lee		
Parish Council:	David Elias, Frank Griffin, David Lee, Gerald Joseph, Rosanna Joseph, Kevin Michaud, Lowell Hawes, Aaron Rowden, Lisa Gard & Elizabeth Wilson		
Ex-officio:	Deacon Peter Joseph, Subdeacon Steve Crate, Lenore Boles DRE, Paula Mitchell, Rosary Sodality, Larry Mitchell, Knights of Columbus.		

Isaiah 9:1-8

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; Upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing, As they rejoice before you as at the harvest, as men make merry when dividing spoils. For the yoke that burdened them, the pole on their shoulder, And the rod of their taskmaster you have smashed, as on the day of Midian. For every boot that tramped in battle, every cloak rolled in blood, will be burned as fuel for flames. For a child is born to us, a son is given us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-counselor, God-hero, Father-forever, Prince of Peace. His dominion is vast and forever peaceful, From David's throne, and over his kingdom, which he confirms and sustains By judgment and justice, both now and forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!

The Holy Gospel

The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord. And

this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

Dear Parishioners and friends,

Can anyone argue against the world's need for a Prince of Peace?

We are celebrating the day the light came into the world. The darkness of the world has something quite powerful to contend with, and darkness knows its days are numbered and will end in humiliation and shame.

Isaiah says if you have felt Forsaken, or desolate, you are now to be called **MY Delight**, you are to rejoice like the bridegroom rejoices in his bride.

Everyone wants to feel like there is someone special in his or her life; to feel like a treasure to someone. Isaiah says you are his delight. You are a treasure, you are his in a way no one else can ever be, this is why you exist.

Like a burning torch chasing away the night, the Lord will be your vindication against every sorrow. You have the new name of the chosen. No longer will you be Forsaken or desolate you shall be filled with delight.

Another prophet besides Isaiah has come preaching the coming of the Savior. Luke says in the Acts of the Apostles that God raised up David the son of Jesse to be King of the Israelites.

The Israelites found victory after victory following king David, and through David the promise has been fulfilled, the descendant of David has been born and his name is Jesus. Now all those who profess the Name of Jesus are His chosen.

We live in world where we cannot escape every situation of grief. We are not in the Garden of Eden.

Over the year some of us have tasted the fruit of immense sorrow and pain. Some of us have made mistakes we want to be forgiven for. Some of us have made mistakes we are unwilling to face and carry deep shame or blame that is destroying us inside.

There is darkness out there; I have seen it. There are shadows of feeling forsaken out there I have experienced it. There is desolation out there; I have felt it; in your life and in my own.

Some Christians have been in "Egypt" too long, and don't know that the world has them as a slave. The Book of Acts, says God made his people great as they came up out of the land of Egypt that is when he led with an outstretched arm.

Some Christians found room at the inn, at the bar and know there is a child wrapped in swaddling clothes out in the cave, but to get to Bethlehem the house of bread you have to get up early, and stay awake.

I will show you Bethlehem, I will show you the house of Bread, its right here in the Tabernacle. Don't be afraid, the angels said. You have nothing to fear! I come to proclaim good news to you, -tidings of great joy to be shared by the whole people. The Messiah has come and he is here.

Glory to God! Peace on earth to whom his favors rest.

The prayers say the prophets are stirring in their tombs soon the cross will break an opening to free them.

Let us work together to **help stamp out darkness**, to help the forsaken **find consolation** and the desolate find compassion and understanding.

I know this light that has come into the world. We have to let it reach the darkest places in our life. **When you want Jesus, when you seek him. When you start your march to Zion.** When you pack up and leave Egypt, when you head for the New Jerusalem, when you leave the inn for the cave of Bethlehem, when you seek the house of the Bread from heaven, a bright light can shine in the darkest hour and then you will be called a child of the light.

We thank you Lord for the gift of Pope Francis. May we once again be revived to the essence of the Gospels' truth. Aboona

Liturgy Helps:

Be sure your cell phone is off or silenced

2nd Collection: Jan/12 School Subsidy

Liturgy: Christmas Liturgy

Entrance chant: Pg. 78, Creed: Pg. 748,

Anaphora of St. Peter Pg. 786

Christmas Eve

Tue 24 4 p.m.

Intentions of the Parish

Christmas Day

Wed 25 10:00 a.m.

Intentions of the Parish

Thu 26 9:00 a.m.

† **Joe & Marie Kendra**

By Don & Marcia Kendra

Fri 27 9:00 a.m.

† **Caroline Nale**

By Mark & Laurie Nale

Sat 28 4:00 p.m.

† **Joseph & Mary Smus**

By Paula, David, & Patricia Smus

Sun 29 10:00 a.m.

† **Rev. George Hickey**

By Kevin Michaud

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: **Theresa Clark, Dianne Fjeldheim, Herb Jabar, Albert Joseph, Betsy Joseph, Gerry Joseph, Alice Lachance, Theresa Lee, Brent Maroon, Kendra Maroon, Hope Murphy, Gerard Nadua, Anita Perreault, Tala Poulin, Virginia Poulin.**

Be sure to let Aboona know if you would like a name added or removed.

Christmas Collection

The custom of giving the Christmas Collection to the priest is still followed in the Maronite Eparchies (Dioceses). In some Latin Rite Dioceses they have discontinued this tradition, and substantially increased their salaries. One of the reasons for doing this is so priests in smaller or poorer parishes would receive a more equal income compared to priests in a larger or wealthier parish.

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 \$1,626.00

God bless you for your generosity.

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

December Devotions

Sanctuary Candles

St. Joseph 14 day Sanctuary Candle

For John and Margaret Joseph Family

By Rosanna Joseph

St. Jude 7 Day Sanctuary Candle

For John and Margaret Joseph Family

By Rosanna Joseph

Altar Bread:

For Shackie and Rose-Marie Joseph

By Rosanna Joseph

Altar Wine:

For Shackie and Rose-Marie Joseph

By Rosanna Joseph

TO PROTECT THE LITURGICAL BOOKS we are asking that you place them on the pew instead of using the book-rack because of the tight fit it makes them difficult to remove and return. Please handle them carefully and respectfully. If you have a child that might mishandle them, be sure to provide another item for them to be entertained with.

"The Catholic Church, East and West, breaths as two lungs in the same body"

Angels Explained By Children

When an angel gets mad, he takes a deep breath and counts to ten. And when he lets out his breath again, somewhere there's a tornado.

-Reagan, age 10

All angels are girls because they gotta wear dresses and boys didn't go for it.

-Antonio, age 9

READERS SCHEDULE

Sunday after Christmas

Hebrews 11:23-31 Matthew 1:13-18

4 p.m. Dec 28 Lila Hollowell

10 a.m. 29 Kevin Michaud

Finding the Lord in the Temple

Hebrews 7:11-19 Luke 2:41-52

4 p.m. Jan 4 Lila Hollowell

10 a.m. 5 Kevin Michaud

EVENTS FOR DECEMBER

Tue 24 3:35 p.m. Christmas Program

4 p.m. Christmas Eve Liturgy

Wed 25 10 a.m. Christmas Liturgy

There is coffee and donuts served each Sunday after the 10 a.m. Liturgy.

Muffins will be served the second Sunday of each month.

Dec. 29: Lenore Boles & Theresa Nemer

Jan. 5: Jane Lee & Jody Veilleux

Jan. 12: Larry Mitchell & April Mitchell (Muffins)

Religious Education Schedule

2/2 – 3/2 – 4/6 – 5/4

MYO Schedule

1/26 Lenten Discussion, Super Bowl Breakfast preparation, 2/2 Super Bowl Breakfast, 3/2 M'jadra dinner, 4/13 Hosanna Sunday Celebration.

Food Pantry - December

Juice in plastic bottles

Condiments

Canned stews

Toilet tissue

Thank you for caring!

This years Giving Tree

This year we will be giving to those who are victims of Domestic Violence. Please take a tag and place unwrapped (DO NOT wrap gifts) gifts under the tree.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

As we prepare for a fairly comfortable Christmas 2013 many of our brothers and sisters in the Middle East are preparing for a rather harsh one. Still there is "no room" at the inn for Jesus.

Here below we have posted a video produced by *Aid to the Church in Need* on Lebanon. We must pray for and assist the good Lebanese people, especially those working with *Caritas Liban* and *Catholic Relief Services* to make Christmas a little better for the many Syrian refugees who have sought shelter in their country.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hLIZIXs7wPk>.

From Bishop Gregory Mansour.