7, 8 December 2013 * Birth of John the Baptist



St. Joseph Maronite Gatholic Ghurch

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NEW Web Site Address http://www.sjmaronite.org



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

Pope John XXIII

Saturday 4:00 p.m., * Sunday 10:00 a.m. * Tuesday - Friday 9:00 a.m. in the St. Jude Chapel Liturgies:

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.

Fefa Deeb Sacristans: Yvonne Nemer, Theresa Nemer & Laurie Nale DRE: 3-5th Lenore Boles K-1st Rosanna Joseph 2nd Jane Lee **Choir Director:**

Teachers

David Elias, Frank Griffin, David Lee, Gerald Joseph, Rosanna Joseph, Kevin Michaud, **Parish Council:**

Lowell Hawes, Aaron Rowden, Lisa Grard & Elizabeth Wilson

Ex-officio: Deacon Peter Joseph, 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. 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,

The prophet Isaiah says God wants to comfort His people by speaking kindly to them, to remove their guilt, make straight their wasteland,

fill their low valleys and make their rough mountains smaller. He reminds all of us that our earthly life is **grass soon to whither**, not very long at all.

Very often, sadness in our life is because we lose our perspective of what is most important in living. There are many sad things happening in the world, and for most people, this sadness hits home at some time in our lives - for some more, some less.

The reason God offers His comfort to us is because He knows we are in need of it. We have fallen, and we have hurt ourselves. This we all have in common. The place where we hurt may be different, but, nonetheless, there are compassionate reasons why our Father wanted to send His Son into the world.

Our turmoil, sickness and shame now have a healthy direction to go. Now Zechariah through the power of the Holy Spirit begins to speak and we read it in today's Gospel. Reread his canticle; it is simply beautiful and never out of date.

John's mission was to prepare us for the Savior, to prepare our hearts to be open to happiness, to be open to compassion by first experiencing forgiveness.

God named John. Who has not been called "names"? Maybe it was, ugly, clumsy, blind, deaf, dying, maybe an Alcoholic, maybe stupid. Our real name is the name God calls us by. Our name is, son or daughter. Our name is loved one. Our name is redeemed, beautiful, who can now see, hear, walk, restored health, sober, living forever. John will preach and our life can be cleansed, changed and restored to wholeness, for God is gracious. **Aboona**

Do not complain that there are thorns on roses. Be thankful there are roses on thorns. ~Henry Ward Beecher

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

TO PROTECT THE LITURGICAL BOOKS we are asking that you place them on the pew instead of using the bookrack 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.

Liturgy Helps:

Be sure your cell phone is off or silenced

2nd Collection: 12/8 School Subsidy

Liturgy: Birth of John the Baptist

Hymn Entrance chant: Pg. 49, Creed: Pg. 748,

Anaphora of St. James Pg. 794

Sat 7 4:00 p.m.

† Ida George

By the Sturtevant Family

Sun 8 10:00 a.m.

† Raymond & Georgette Veilleux

By Larry & Paula Mitchell

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

Mon 9 Father's day off for prayer, reflection, and relaxation

Tue 10 9:00 a.m.

† Special Intention By Mary Ticken

Wed 11 9:00 a.m.

† Leo Paul Labranche By Doris Labranche

Thu 12 9:00 a.m.

† Helen Corsen
By Dan & Pam Casavant

Fri 13 **9:00 a.m.**

† Caroline Nale
By Mark & Laurie Nale

Sat 14 4:00 p.m.

† Anthony Marin By Carole Levine

Sun 15 10:00 a.m.

† Marion L. Maroon By Sylvia Plourde

PRAY FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Real 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, Alice Lachance, Theresa Lee, Brent Maroon, Kendra Maroon, Hope Murphy, Anita Perreault, Tala Poulin, Virginia Poulin.

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

A thankful heart is not only the greatest virtue, but the parent of all other virtues.

~Cicero

Food Pantry - December

Juice in plastic bottles Condiments
Canned stews Condiments

Thank you for caring!

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

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.

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

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.

Parish Council

Tentative plans: Valentines Dance, Co-Sponsor the Franco-American weekend – Franco – Lebanese Weekend in September. A portion of the Lebanese Exhibit in Augusta will be exhibited at the Waterville Library. The Chapel relighting and hall remodeling is is finished. The higher railings have received many compliments and have proved to be a great help for many.

READERS SCHEDULE

Birth of John the Baptist

Galatians 4:21-5:1 Luke 1:57-66

4 p.m. Dec 7 Lenore Boles 10 a.m. 8 Mary Jo Hodgkin

Revelation to Joseph

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

4 p.m. Dec 14 Lila Hallowell 10 a.m. 15 Lauraine Mansur

EVENTS FOR DECEMBER

Sat 7 Bean Supper after Liturgy

Sun 8 Rosary Sodality Christmas Party

Thu 12 6 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Sun 15 Religious Ed Christmas Party

Wed 18 6:00 p.m. Finance Committee

Thu 19 6 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Tue 24 3:35 p.m. Christmas Program

4 p.m. Christmas Eve Liturgy

Wed 25 10 a.m. Christmas Liturgy

There are Coffee and donuts served each Sunday after the 10 a.m. Liturgy.

Muffins will be served the second Sunday of each month.

Dec. 8: Larry Mitchell & April Mitchell Dec. 15: Children's Christmas Party

Religious Education Schedule

12/15 - 1/5 -2/2 - 3/2 - 4/6 - 5/4

MYO Schedule

12/15 Liturgy & Christmas party, 1/26 Lenten Discussion, Super Bowl Breakfast preparation, 2/2 Super Bowl Breakfast, 3/2 M'jadra dinner, 4/13 Hosanna Sunday Celebration.

Last Week's Collection

Regular Collection \$2,051.25 God bless you for your generosity.

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

BLESSING OF THE CRECHE: Did you know St. Francis of Assisi created the first crèche using real people, a real manger, a real ox and donkey, and real shepherds? Francis called it a "Crèche", the French word for Cradle.

Go out into the world today and love the people you meet. Let your presence light new light in the hearts of people.

~Mother Teresa