

## 13, 14 December, 2014 \* Revelation to Joseph



### St. Joseph Maronite Catholic Church

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Pastor: The Rev. Larry Jensen

Deacon: Rev. Mr. Peter P. Joseph 872-2225



Birth of the Baptizer

Subdeacon: Steve Crate 872-9257 Web Site Address

<http://www.sjmaronite.org>

“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.

<b>Choir Director:</b> Fefa Deeb	<b>Sacristans:</b> Theresa Nemer & Laurie Nale	<b>Parish Secretary:</b> Paula Mitchell
<b>Teachers</b>	<b>DRE:</b> 3-5 <sup>th</sup> Lenore Boles, K-1 <sup>st</sup> Rosanna Joseph, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Jane Lee	
<b>Parish Council:</b>	Sheila Bonenfant, Lisa Grard, Lowell Hawes, Rosanna Joseph, 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	

**Matthew 1:18-25** *Now this is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means “God is with us.” When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home. He had no relations with her until she bore a son, and he named him Jesus.*

#### Dear Parishioners and Friends,

The importance of this Sunday is to reinforce the belief that Jesus is the Son of God; that God is His

Father in a real way through the power of the Holy Spirit.

In a world that is filled with mythology, it was a “risk” to have the One and only true God take on the nature of humanity. The story is not supposed to be another mythology of gods visiting humans and making new gods. Even in our culture we develop mythical images from what were once true religious realities like St. Nicholas, a Bishop who preached the love of the ONE born in Bethlehem, who has been switched into a mythical figure from the North Pole.

We like stories and legends to reinforce values or lessons, but we must be careful not to confuse the difference between eternal truths of salvation and what are creative teachings for entertainment. What is interesting is even in mythical stories there is the desire to teach morality.

This is important to know because it is intrinsic to our nature to want to live in a moral, loving, caring society. We shape stories to give flesh to the ideas of what is good for ones self and for those we want to be at peace with. Even the Scriptures use earthly stories to give a heavenly meaning. This is why it is important to not take many parts of the Scriptures literally, unless the emphasis is specifically clear.

Because it is so easy to make public every thought and conjecture about just about everything, we have to be careful to not be swayed by the many controversial speculations regarding our Faith. It can seem like there are contradictions in what different parts of the Bible say. Why four Gospels with slightly, and some not so slightly different details in a story? I think one of the reasons is because no one sees and experiences everything identically, and that the truths regarding salvation are not the details of a story, but in the message they tell.

Today we are focused on a man of faith discovering that he is called to take Mary as his wife to protect her and the child from harm, not just physical harm, but also the dangers present in how they would be judged and treated.

The Announcements of the Season tell us that God wants to bring us back to our intended glory, to save us from our ability to choose destruction. Not only that but to repair the damages of past choices. We have the power to cling to every hurt, pain, sorrow, and grief. Jesus becomes all of this to free us from it. Joseph enters into the story as a loving, caring man, and a just man. Only a person attuned to the Spirit of God can have the faith to believe the dreams and messages that will change their life forever.

Change can be frightening, and often we accept it unwillingly. Joseph had to know a great deal about God to be even willing to trust in the revelation that he received. We cannot move through life without experiencing doubts and confusion. It is the habit of acting with faith and trust that gives us the ability to continue to walk by loving faith and trust God in those “unbelievable” moments. Have you had thoughts and inspirations, that if you had responded to them, your words and actions would be a powerful witness of faith in Christ? **Aboona**

## Liturgy Helps:

**Be sure your cell phone is off or silenced**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection:** Dec 14 Fuel (Pink Envelope)

### Liturgy: Revelation to Joseph

Entrance chant: Pg.58, Creed: Pg. 748, Anaphora of St. Peter Pg. 774

The Song Books are done. The Song number and page is on the back of the bulletin.

## Liturgy Intentions

- Sat 13 4:00 p.m.**  
 † **Marie Aboussi**  
 By The Caron Family
- Sun 14 10:00 a.m.**  
 † **Raymond & Georgette Veilleux**  
 By Larry & Paula Mitchell
- Mon 15** Father's day off for rest, prayer, reflection, and relaxation
- Tues 16 9:00 a.m.**  
 SI **Joe & Marie Kendra**  
 By Don & Marcia Kendra
- Wed 17 9:00 a.m.**  
 † **Ernest & Charlotte Maroon**  
 By Peter Maroon
- Thur 18 9:00 a.m.**  
 † **John "Jackie" Thomas**  
 By Bernie Thomas & Family
- Fri 19 9:00 a.m.**  
 † **Caroline Nale**  
 By Mark & Laurie Nale
- Sat 20 4:00 p.m.**  
 † **Marie Aboussi**  
 By Fefa Deeb
- Sun 21 10:00 a.m.**  
 † **Brandon Rancourt**  
 By Pearley & Alice Lachance

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

## Deepest Sympathy

Our condolences and deepest sympathy go out to the **Joseph Family** for the loss of **Deacon Peter Joseph** who died this week. Peter's death will be felt by the whole parish and we pray that the Lord God may grant him rest in His kingdom and consolation to his family and loved ones.

## December Food Pantry

Ravioli	Condiments
Toilet paper	Stews

Thank you for your thoughtfulness and help.

## 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: **Dianne Fjeldheim, Herb Jabar, Albert Joseph, Betsy Joseph, John M. Joseph, Bertha Jensen, Theresa Lee, Dr. Ronnie Marrache, Hope Murphy, Anita Perreault, Jay Petersen, Tala Poulin, Virginia Poulin, Brent Williams.**

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

**Fuel Budget for the 2014 – 2015 Winter:**

**Fuel Budget** \$20,000.00  
Collected last week \$120.00  
Collected before last week \$521.00  
Total yet to collect \$(19,359.00)

**December Devotions - Sanctuary Candles**

**St. Joseph 14 day Sanctuary Candle**

**Available**

By

**St. Jude 7 Day Sanctuary Candle**

**Available**

By

**Altar Bread:**

**Shackie & Rose Marie Joseph**

By Rosanna Joseph

**Altar Wine:**

**John & Margaret Joseph**

By Rosanna Joseph

**Last Week's Collection**

Regular Collection \$ 2,572.00

God bless you for your generosity.

Please don't forget to send in your contributions when you are unable to attend, our monthly bills still continue to arrive every month.

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

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

**READERS SCHEDULE**

**Revelation to Joseph**

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

4 p.m. Dec 13 Lila Hallowell

10 a.m. 14 Joe Rowden

**Revelation to Joseph**

Romans 1:1-12 Mathew 1:1-17

4 p.m. Dec 20 Subdeacon Steve Crate

10 a.m. 21 Joe Rowden

**EVENTS FOR DECEMBER**

Sun 14 Children's Christmas Party

Thu 18 6 p.m. Choir Practice

Sat 20 Cookie Sale after 4:00 pm Liturgy

Sun 21 Cookie Auction after 10:00 am Liturgy

Wed 24 3:30 Christmas Cantata

24 4:00 Christmas Eve Liturgy

Thu 25 10 a.m Christmas Liturgy

**Coffee Schedule**

We will continue to serve muffins at the coffee hour - thanks to Larry Mitchell and Gareth Belton

Dec 14: Children's Party

Dec 21: April Mitchell & Paula Mitchell

Dec 28: Theresa Nemer & Jane Lee

Jan 4: Dale Sturtevant & Lenore Boles

Jan 11: Larry Mitchell & Gareth Belton

**Religious Education Dates for 2014-2015**

12/14 (Christmas Party) 1/4, 2/1, 3/1,

4/to be announced, 5/3 May Crowning.

**Use of the Hall – Guidelines will be posted.**

We really have a beautiful hall and because it is used more often now, there needs to be more attention to its proper use and care. Sometimes there is a request to use the hall, and without guidelines, it is not always clear what is expected of the group after they are done using the hall. Guidelines will be made available in the hall.

When anyone asks to use the hall, it is expected they will take responsibility to be sure it is clean after each use. We do not have a staff to do this for you.

**Giving Tree**

This year it will be for the local Veterans Home in Augusta. Please feel free to take an ornament from the giving tree. You can decide which and how many of the listed suggestions you would like to purchase for the veterans.

There is no need to wrap the gift(s).