

## 22, 23 March 2014 \* The Parable of the Prodigal Son



### *St. Joseph Maronite Catholic Church*

3 Appleton Street, Waterville, ME 04901-6630

**Office: Phone:** 207-872-8515

**E-Mail:** [stjoesinmaine@yahoo.com](mailto:stjoesinmaine@yahoo.com)

**Pastor:** The Rev. Larry Jensen

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

**Subdeacon:** Steve Crate 872-9257



**The Prodigal Son**

**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.

**Choir Director:** Fefa Deeb

**Sacristans:** Yvonne Nemer, Theresa Nemer & Laurie Nale

**Teachers** **DRE:** 3-5<sup>th</sup> Lenore Boles **K-1<sup>st</sup> Rosanna Joseph 2<sup>nd</sup> Jane Lee**

**Parish Council:** David Elias, Frank Griffin, David Lee, Rosanna Joseph, Kevin Michaud, Lowell Hawes, Aaron Rowden, Lisa Grard, Elizabeth Wilson & Sheila Bonenfant

**Ex-officio:** Deacon Peter Joseph, Subdeacon Steve Crate, Lenore Boles DRE, Paula Mitchell, Rosary Sodality, Larry Mitchell, Knights of Columbus.

**Luke 15:11-32** “There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I

have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe — the best one — and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate. “Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is

yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.”

**Dear Parishioners and Friends:**

We know this story well; a son brings shame to his family by demanding from his father his inheritance and heading off to some far off place to embrace a lifestyle that leaves him with no money, a rotten reputation, and an identity he himself would reject. He reached a point where his status was to eat what was in a pig trough.

During the past weeks I was wondering what would happen if the younger brother met his older brother first. Would his older brother tell him “we don’t need you coming back here and wrecking our lives again?” We know he was angry and resented him coming back and having not only “everything again” but even more than he thought he had himself.

I wonder how many of us are like the older son? Do we represent believers in the loving Father, or are we more likely controlled by anger and resentment over the pain that we experience in our perceptions of an unfair world?

If the younger son did not encounter his father first, would he draw the wrong conclusion of how his father really felt about him?

The parable is not about how the younger son got away with living a sinful life and can just come back waltzing in for a party. The story is about recovery. How we discover that sin, sooner or later, alienates us from God, our self, and each other. One day the fruit it bears is misery. By the grace of God, it is possible to not die in misery far from living with the heavenly Father. We can return, once we truly believe that running away from the embrace of the Father’s way, truth, and life is not lasting happiness.

The older son needs to know that God can restore all relationships and transform all of us by sharing all that he has. He has to know that this does not lessen what is available to him to be infinitely loved and cherished also.

In the real world, we sometimes have to be willing to face the judgments of the “older son” to reach the true beliefs and nature of the Father. We must present a loving and forgiving atmosphere to help a person return to the Lord. It is not our place to present a hostile judgment. Our memory might be filled with pain and resentment, but grace replaces it with compassion.

If it is a “fake return,” leave it between God and them, do not put yourself in the middle of it. The Father reminded his older son, that he had everything, and if he doesn’t enjoy and know it, he has only his judgments, fears, and his inability to forgive to blame.

**Liturgy Helps:**

**Be sure your cell phone is off or silenced**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection**

**Liturgy: The Father who Loves his Son**

Entrance chant: Pg. 218, Creed: Pg. 748,  
Anaphora of The Twelve Apostles Pg. 754

**Liturgy Intentions**

**Sat 22 4:00 p.m.**

† **Douglas Day**

By The Bernie Thomas Family

**Sun 23 10:00 a.m.**

† **Madeline Joseph**

By Tony & Joyce Joseph

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

**Tue 25 9:00 a.m.**

† **Rev. Paul Coury**

**Wed 26 9:00 a.m.**

† **Gerard Nadeau**

By The Rodrigue Family

**Thu 27 9:00 a.m.**

**SI For our Soldiers**

By Doris Labranche

**Fri 28 10:00 a.m.**

† **Caroline Nale**

By Mark & Laurie Nale

**Sat 29 4:00 p.m.**

† **Gerard Nadeau**

By The Bernie Thomas Family

**Sun 30 10:00 a.m.**

† **Biff, Margaret, & Gary Joseph**

By Gail Joseph Guthrie

**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, Theresa Lee, Brent Maroon, Kendra Maroon, Mitch Michaud, Hope Murphy, Anita Perreault, Tala Poulin, Virginia Poulin, Brent Williams.**

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

## **March Devotions**

### **Sanctuary Candles**

#### **St. Joseph 14 day Sanctuary Candle**

**For Subdeacon Deeb Ferris**

By the Family

#### **St. Jude 7 Day Sanctuary Candle**

**For John Tardiff**

By Bernice Tardiff

#### **Altar Bread and Wine:**

**For Dominick & Genevieve Rinaldi**

By Dominick Rinaldi, Sr.

## **March is NAM, National Apostolate of Maronites, Month at St. Joseph's**

NAM is the official lay apostolate of the Maronite Church of the USA. The only lay apostolate of its kind in the Maronite World, it was established in 1964 and has held a national convention every year since. NAM was established before the presence of a Maronite Bishop or diocese in the USA. In fact it was begun to help unify and organize the Maronite faithful in order to petition Rome for a Maronite Bishop. Since 1966, NAM has served the then Diocese of St. Maron and now serves both our Maronite Eparchies and our Eparchial bishops.

### **CATCHING FIRE BECOMING A FLAME:**

A 6-week journey of spiritual transformation with Fr. Albert Haase, OFM is a Lenten DVD and discussion series hosted by Corpus Christi Parish. These will be offered on two different days and times: Mondays (Mar10 –Apr 14) 7:00–8:30 pm; and Tuesdays (Mar 11–Apr 15) 12:30–2:00 pm. Sessions will be held at the Faith Formation Center next to St. John's School in Winslow. For more information call Joshua Houde.

## **READERS SCHEDULE**

### **Sunday of the Prodigal Son**

2 Corinthians 13:5-13                      Luke 15:11-32

4 p.m. March 22      Lila Hollowell

10 a.m.                      23      Joe Rowden

### **Sunday of the Paralyzed Man**

1 Timothy 5:24-6:5                      Mark 2:1-12

4 p.m. March 29      Lenore Boles

10 a.m.                      30      Joe Rowden

## **EVENTS FOR MARCH**

- Sun 23 Retreat ends after Liturgy.  
See detailed information in Bulletin.
- Thu 27 6 p.m. Choir Practice
- Fri 28 4:30 – 6:30 Haddock Chowder
- 28 6:00 p.m. Lenten Devotions
- Sun 30 Rosary Sodality Meeting

## **EVENTS FOR APRIL**

- Thu 3 6 p.m. Choir Practice
- Fri 4 4:30 – 6:30 Haddock Chowder
- 4 6:00 p.m. Lenten Devotions
- Sat 5 5 p.m. Bean Supper
- Sun 6 Religious Education
- Wed 9 6 p.m. Parish Council Meeting
- Thu 10 6 p.m. Choir Practice
- Fri 11 4:30 – 6:30 Haddock Chowder
- 11 6:00 p.m. Lenten Devotions
- Sun 13 Hosanna / Sha'neenee (Palm Sunday)

### **Holy Week Schedule**

- Thu 17 7 p.m. Washing of the feet
- Fri 18 12 Noon Signing of the Chalice
- 7 p.m. Burial of Our Lord and Savior
- Sat 19 10 a.m. Service of Light

### **FEAST OF THE RESURRECTION**

- Sat 19 Sundown, time yet to be determined
- Sun 20 10 a.m. Sunday of the Resurrection

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

Muffins will be served the second Sunday of each month.

### **Religious Education Schedule**

5/4

### **MYO Schedule**

4/13 Hosanna Sunday Celebration.

### **Last Week's Collection**

Regular Collection                      \$1,881.00

God bless you for your generosity.

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

## WELCOME!

*“The Catholic Church, East and West,  
breaths as two lungs in the same body”*

### Maronite Servants of Christ the Light

We thank **Sr. Marla Marie**, and her sister companions, for coming up into the North Country to share the Light of Christ with us.

The theme of retreat was on Great Lent and Maronite spirituality along with the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary.

It began Saturday at 9:30 a.m. with coffee, in the hall. The first started at 10 a.m. ending with a “bag lunch around Noon. The second session soon followed.

After Divine Liturgy at 4 p.m. those who made the retreat moved to the Hall for a Lentil supper together where they discussed and shared their retreat experience with each other.

At the Sunday 10 a.m. Liturgy, Sr. Marla will speak 5-7 minutes about the new Maronite mission she has started.

For more information you can contact through the information below.

**EMAIL** — [sister@maroniteservants.org](mailto:sister@maroniteservants.org)

**WEBSITE**— [maroniteservants.org](http://maroniteservants.org)

**BLOG**— [RadiateHisLight.blogspot.com](http://RadiateHisLight.blogspot.com)

**VOCATIONS** — [Vineyardofthelord.com](http://Vineyardofthelord.com)

**PHONE**—(508) 996-1753

#### **MAILING ADDRESS**

Maronite Servants  
856 Tucker Road, Dartmouth, MA 02747

#### **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.

#### **Food Pantry - March**

Bisquick, Canned Stew, Juice in plastic bottles, & Toilet tissue. - Thank you for caring!

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

***Who begins too much  
accomplishes little.***

~German proverb

#### **LEBANESE CUISINE**

34 Temple Street \* Waterville, ME 04901  
207-873-7813

#### **Waterville Florist**

**Thank you for your weekly flower donations**  
287 Upper Main Street  
Tel: 207-872-7422 also 888-616-4880

#### **GALLANT FUNERAL HOME INC.**

John O. Gallant, CFSP, Owner/Director  
10 Elm Street \* Waterville, ME 04901  
Tel 873-3393 Fax 877-7106 \* Website: [gallantfh.com](http://gallantfh.com)

#### **GHM Insurance Agency**

Auto \* Home\* Business \* Life \* Benefits  
51 Main Street – Downtown Waterville  
Tel: 207-873-5101 [www.ghmagency.com](http://www.ghmagency.com)

#### **GRONDIN'S CERTIFIED DRY CLEANERS**

259 Main Street - Waterville, ME 04901  
207-872-8132

#### **Century 21 – Surette Real Estate**

Pam Casavant - Partner/ Associate Broker  
Tel: 207-873-5634 Ext 219  
e-mail: [pcasavant@surette-realestate.com](mailto:pcasavant@surette-realestate.com)  
web: [www.surette-realestate.com](http://www.surette-realestate.com)

#### **JOKAS' Discount Beverage**

52 Front Street - Tel: 207-873-6228  
Central Maine's Complete Package Store

#### **Joseph's Market**

74 Front Street \* Tel: 207-873-3364  
E-mail: [Josephmkt@myfairpoint.net](mailto:Josephmkt@myfairpoint.net)  
Web: [www.Josephmkt.com](http://www.Josephmkt.com)

#### **SII Investments, Inc.**

One Silver Street - Tel: 207-872-8689  
**Lawrence D. Griffin, MBA**

#### **LENTEEN 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 on **Great Friday of the Crucifixion**. Optional would be the traditional abstinence from meat on Wednesdays. Those who are unable to fast because of ill health must perform other penances and acts of charity.