## 25, 26 January 2014 \* Third Sunday After Epiphany



# St. Joseph Maronite Gatholic Ghurch

3 Appleton Street, Waterville, ME 04901-6630

Office: Phone: 207-872-8515 E-Mail: stjoesinmaine@yahoo.com Pastor: The Rev. Larry Jensen

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

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

To receive the Eucharist and/or the Anointing of the Sick, Please call Fr. Larry.

Sick Calls: 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: 3-5<sup>th</sup> Lenore Boles K-1<sup>st</sup> Rosanna Joseph 2<sup>nd</sup> Jane Lee **Choir Director:** 

Teachers

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

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.

#### John 3:1-16

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above."

Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him. "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things?

No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

#### **Dear Parishioners and Friends.**

Nicodemus was a sensible man: sincere questions need to be expressed. Sometimes good and necessary questions are asked with good intentions, and sometimes out of a confrontational attitude to cause trouble. The bottom line for us is our responses to what Jesus teaches about Himself, and calling us to do the will of His Heavenly Father.

If we believe that Jesus is the Son of God, the Bread that came down from Heaven, then we should also believe that He is right about what is in Heaven and how do we get there.

To be born again, in the water and the spirit, is not just a personal emotional experience that we feel. Jesus never uses the word personal, or feel, to describe salvation, but whether we will to live according to the will of the Father through faith in what He teaches by Word and Example.

To say one is following the path of salvation through baptism, being born from above, or "born again" is saying that we are seeking the supernatural gift of God's grace and not through the natural forces of nature, whether it be by profound wise sayings, or emotional encounters of one sort or another.

We are on the road of salvation through the teachings of what comes down from Heaven. Jesus believes He Himself is what came down from heaven, and by the graces and mercy He grants to those who believe in Him, they find salvation.

God's relationship to the world is one of Love; He does not see what He has created as competition with His love. It is obvious that we are to love and care for all creation; to hold it sacred, and protect it. To exist is a profound gift from God, even when circumstances are not always at their best. Love always has boundaries in which for it to survive and flourish. We can move away from love, those manners in which we move away from God's love are called sins. Some are so grave; they are called deadly, or mortal.

Baptism is not an optional way, it is the way in which Jesus says we are born to eternal life. It is true that we are alive before baptism in the same way that we are alive before we are physically born. But without a birth, on the physical level there is a death. On the Spiritual level, without a spiritual birth, there is not an eternal life filled with peace, joy and light.

Because God so loved the world, all creation is sacred, especially human life, because it is created in the image of God. We are conscious of the promises that God gives human life to be totally restored. All human life is worthy of redemption, and perfect eternal existence with Him.

#### **Aboona Larry**

### 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, Theresa Lee, Brent Maroon, Kendra Maroon, 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

## **Liturgy Helps:**

## Be sure your cell phone is off or silenced

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: 1/26 World Missions

## **Liturgy: 3rd Sunday after Epiphany**

Entrance chant: Pg. 108, Creed: Pg. 748,

Anaphora of St. John Pg. 815

### **Liturgy Intentions**

Sat 25 4:00 p.m.

† Madame Jeannette Marie Sleiman By John Sleiman

Sun 26 10:00 a.m.

† Frederick Martin Blaschke (40 Day) By the Family

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

**Mon 27** Father's day off for prayer, reflection, and relaxation

Tue 28 9:00 a.m.

† Robert P. Brouillard By Gerard E. Brouillard

Wed 29 9:00 a.m.

SI Don & Marcia Kendra By Don & Marcia Kendra

Thu 30 9:00 a.m.

† Caroline Nale By Mark & Laurie Nale

Fri 31 10:00 a.m.

† Bernie Thomas
By Pat, Michell, Nicole, & Brock

Sat 1 4:00 p.m.

† Elias Karam, wife Rosa Saad By John Sleiman

Sun 2 10:00 a.m.

† Sam Deeb Family By Freda Nassar & Judie Lynn Nassar

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.

#### Calendars 2014 Are in!

Please feel free to take one calendar per family for now, until we are sure everyone has received one. **January Devotions** Sanctuary Candles

St. Joseph 14 day Sanctuary Candle

**Bernie Thomas** For

By The Bernie Thomas Family

St. Jude 7 Day Sanctuary Candle

For **Kathleen Hawes** Lowell & Mary Hawes By

Altar Bread & Wine: For Pat Joseph

Deacon Peter Joseph By

**Super Bowl Breakfast** 

- sponsored by the MYO. Tickets will go on sale after masses, starting January 11.

Breakfast includes eggs, choice of bacon or sausage, pancakes, toast, coffee, and juice. Adults - \$4.00 / children ages 5-10 and under -\$2.00 / under 5 - Free.

Chances for the pool will be available after final teams have been determined.

**Last Week's Collection** 

\$1,957.00 Regular Collection

God bless you for your generosity.

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

READERS SCHEDULE

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Galatians 3:23-29 John 3:1-16

4 p.m. Jan 25 Lenore Boles

10 a.m. 26 0

4th Sunday after Epiphany

John 4:5-7, 9-26 Romans 7:5-7

4 p.m. Feb 1 Lila Hallowell

10 a.m. 2 0 **EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY** 

1 Bean Supper

Sun 2 Super Bowl Breakfast

5 Parish Council Wed 9 Rosary Sodality Sun

Sat 15 7- 10 Valentines Party in Hall

**EVENTS FOR MARCH** 

Sat 1 Bean Supper

Sun 2 Cana Sunday - Miadra Dinner

5 Parish Council Wed

Fri 7 Fish Chowder Supper

Sun 9 Rosary Sodality

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

Muffins will be served the second Sunday of each

Jan 26: Lenore Boles & Sharon Crowe

Feb 2: MYO

Feb 9: Larry Mitchell & April Mitchell (Muffins)

Feb 16: Cindy Elias & Kelly Elias

**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 - January** 

Juice in plastic bottles Condiments Canned stews 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.

**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.