

27, 28 February 2016 * Parable of the Prodigal Son



St. Joseph Maronite Catholic Church

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Subdeacon: Steve Crate 314-2049



The Prodigal Son

Web Site <http://www.sjmaronite.org>

“The Eastern Rites are the Treasure of the Catholic Church”

St. John XXIII, Pope of Rome

- 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:** Laurie Nale **Parish Secretary:** Paula Mitchell
Teachers DRE: Lenore Boles, **K-1st** Lenore Boles, **2nd** Jane Lee **3-5th** Shana Page,
Parish Council: Sheila Bonenfant, Lisa Grard, Lowell Hawes, Pearley Lachance, David Lee, Aaron Rowden,
Elizabeth Wilson **Ex-officio:** 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:

Today’s Gospel is a favorite for many reasons. We want to see God as a loving Father who does not use force to stop us from using our free will even when the choices can destroy our self and others. We might wish that God did not give this power to others, but we seem to want it for ourselves.

The father did not drag his son back. The son took what was his father's and through his wasteful and destructive choices disinherited himself. Which means that if he did not go back, he dies with nothing. That nothingness is being without ever knowing the love of being embraced back into his father's heart and home.

Sometimes with some children, the parent cannot rescue them from their destructive life. With all the wishful desires in the world, the father and mother cannot bring their child to come to his or her senses to embrace the path of truth that sets one free. The conscious that is left has become too distorted to be influenced by the Holy Spirit's power.

This son began to desire what is only fit for an animal. How often what seems to satisfy our thirst and cravings, becomes what degrades and destroys. Sin is what ever distorts what is good. It is lies that lead us to make choices that what we thought was improving our happiness actually destroys us and the world around us. This son could choose to remain at this level of existence and die where he was, away from his father, away from the dignity of being his son. Away from everything good that he once had as a son.

Thank God what he remembered and learned about his father was this: that even as a slave his life would be better. How joyous to discover his Father was even more wonderful than what he previously believed.

He turned his life around and surrendered to his discovery that his choices had degraded him. He now knew the repercussions of his actions of his rebellious passions. Until he could see it, he would have rejected the insights and wisdom of those who may have tried to warn him.

The older son had to decide to stay angry and never understand how much he already had, or forgive and begin to enjoy all he had. There is always sadness when we cannot comprehend the results of God's ability to forgive us. **Aboona**

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: **Fr. Bill Clark, Craig Derosby, Richard Elias, Sr., Jerry Fortin, Herb Jabar, Albert Joseph, Betsy Joseph, John M. Joseph, Debbie Leary, Theresa Lee, Mary Morneau, Debbie Pomelow, Tala Poulin, Virginia Poulin, Rachel Tode.**

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

Retreat Theme:

The Seven Pillars of Catholic Spirituality by Matthew Kelly

Schedule: Friday 4 – Saturday 5

Friday: 1st talk 6:30 p.m.

Saturday 2nd talk 10:30, Bag lunch, (BYL)
3rd talk 1:00,

Liturgy Helps:

Be sure your cell phone is off or silenced

2nd Collections: Mar. 12-13: Fuel Collection
Mar. 25: Holy Land

Liturgy: Parable of the Prodigal Son

Entrance chant: Pg. 218 Creed: Pg. 748,
Anaphora of St. Peter Pg. 774

This week's Songs: The Song number and page are on the back of the bulletin.

Liturgy Intentions

Sat 27 4:00 p.m.

† **Prinella Mitchell**

By George Peters

† **Hilda Cook Hoda**

By John Sleiman

Sun 28 10:00 a.m.

† **Theresa Nemer (40 Day Liturgy)**

By The Rosary Sodality

† **Robert Mitchell**

By Janet Mitchell

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

Mon 29 Father's day off for prayer,
reflection, and relaxation

Tue 1 12:00 noon

† **John & Marietta Thomas & Paul**

By Dan & Pam Casavant

Please Note of time change Wednesday

Wed 2 9:00 am

† **Constance Hallee**

By Dan & Pam Casavant

Thu 3 12:00 noon

† **Morris Peters**

By Bob & Sally Derosby

Fri 4 12:00 noon

† **Bishop Donald & Rev. Dana Pelotte**

By Larry & Paula Mitchell

Sat 5 4:00 p.m.

† **Gerard Nadeau**

By The Nadeau Family

† **Simone Laviec**

By John Sleiman

Sun 6 10:00 a.m.

† **Prinella Mitchell**

By Paul Maroon

† **Edward Atkins, Sr.**

By John Sleiman

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

March Devotions

St. Joseph 14 day Sanctuary Candle

For Theresa Nemer

By Rosanna Joseph

St. Jude 7 Day Sanctuary Candle

For Theresa Nemer

By Rosanna Joseph

Altar Bread

For For our Soldiers

By Doris Labranch

Altar Wine

For For our Soldiers

By Doris Labranch

Vocation Icon – Prayers for Vocations

We have two Vocation Icons, so I am hoping that some people on Saturday will sign up to take it home also. You can take it home more than once.

Feb 27 Audrey Yotides (Sat)

Feb 28 Greg & Marianne Gillespie

Mar 6 Nancy Fairfield

Mar 12 Ann Giguere (Sat)

Mar 13 Larry & Paula Mitchell

Mar 20 Larry & Lisa Gard

Mar 27 Pearley & Alice Lachance

Last Week's Collection

Regular Collection \$2,146.00

God bless you for your generosity.

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

READERS SCHEDULE

Parable of the Prodigal Son

2 Corinthians 13:5-13 Luke 1:11-32

Feb 27 Lila Hallowell

28 Joe Rowden

Healing of the Paralytic

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

4 p.m. March 5 Lenore Boles

10 a.m. 6 Joe Rowden

EVENTS FOR MARCH

Wed 2 Parish Council Meeting 6 p.m.

Thur 3 Choir Rehearsal 6 p.m.

Fri 4 Haddock Chowder Supper 4:30 -6:00 pm

6 pm Lenten Devotions

Stations & Veneration of the Cross

Fri 4 6:30 pm Parish Retreat

Sat 5 10:30 & 1:00 Parish Retreat

Thur 10 Choir Rehearsal 6 p.m.

Fri 11 Haddock Chowder Supper 4:30 -6:00 pm

6 pm Lenten Devotions

Stations & Veneration of the Cross

Sun 13 Rosary Sodality Meeting 11:45

Thur 17 Choir Rehearsal 6 p.m.

Fri 18 Haddock Chowder Supper 4:30 -6:00 pm

6 pm Lenten Devotions

Stations & Veneration of the Cross

Sat 19 St. Patrick's Dinner 4:30 -6:30 \$9

Sun 20 **Hosanna Sunday**

Sun 27 **Sunday of the Resurrection**

EVENTS FOR APRIL

Sun 10 Lebanese Supper

Thurs 28, 29 Relics of St. Sharbel will be here at the parish.

Sat 30 Spring Dance in Church Hall

Coffee Schedule

Feb 28 Susan Webber & Elizabeth Wilson

Mar 6 Audrey Yotides & Mary Bard

Mar 13 Larry Mitchell & Gareth Belton

Mar 20 Lenore Boles & Jan Bourque (Palm Sunday)

Mar 27 Easter Sunday (need Volunteers)

Apr 3 Pam Casavant & Sharon Crowe

Apr 10 No Coffee

MYO Schedule: 3/6, 4/3, 5/1

March Food Pantry

Condiments Jelly Juice in plastic containers

Family sized items – soups, ravioli, etc.

Thank you for your thoughtfulness and help.