

June 4, 2017 Pentecost Sunday



St. Joseph Maronite Catholic Church

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Subdeacon: Mr. Steve Crate

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



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

St. John XXIII, Pope

- Liturgies:** Saturday 4:00 p.m.; Sunday 10:00 a.m.; Tues. – Fr. 9:00 a.m. weekdays are 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 the rectory.
- Confessions:** One half-hour before all scheduled Liturgies and by appointment.
- Baptisms:** Please call the rectory.
- Marriage:** Call the rectory a **minimum 6 months before** finalizing the date of your wedding.

*Suggested donations: Sanctuary Candles \$20; Altar Bread \$25; Wine \$25
Mass Stipends: weekday intentions \$10; weekend intentions \$15

Choir Director: Fefa Deeb **Sacristan:** Laurie Nale **Parish Secretary:** Paula Mitchell

Catechists: Lenore Boles, Director & K-1st; Jane Lee, 2nd; Shana Page, 3-5th

Parish Council: Sheila Bonenfant, Lisa Gard, Lowell Hawes, Rosanna Joseph, David Lee, Kevin Michaud, Paula Mitchell, Aaron Rowden, Elizabeth Wilson

Ex-officio: Subdeacon Steve Crate; Lenore Boles, Catechism; Shana Page, Rosary Sodality; Larry Mitchell, Knights of Columbus

This Day's Gospel

Saint John 14:15-20

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him.

You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you."

Aboona's Weekly Reflection

Part One, Pentecost, June 4, 2017

This great day, the "Fiftieth" of the Paschal Season, is the culmination of our commemoration of our Lord's glorious Resurrection. We celebrate today as an observance of our Antiochene tradition, the Rite of Kneeling Adoration, in order to bring to a close a very specific practice in celebrating the Resurrection: the prohibition of kneeling.

Our days are spent inwardly and outwardly. We think to ourselves – even 'talk' to ourselves – we consider the way that we dress, the way that we speak, and in general how we present ourselves to those around us. Human beings are one single substantial nature, and the complexity of our lives is proof of this fact. Often is said that a man is "composed of body and soul", and while this is true *philosophically*, it can be

detrimental and false when it makes us think that the human person is somehow “two things” more or less mysteriously “glued together.” This statement can also lead to the false presumption that somehow what might go on in the mind is disconnected in how one communicates in the world, or that, vice versa, how one appears to the world has nothing to do in influencing my emotional or mental health. How we communicate outwardly will always indicate to some degree our interior dispositions, and how we act externally will affect our inner life. Just stay in your pajamas and do not wash before you go out to work, and see how well public encounters will go. No colleague is going to care much what you protest to be your “intentions” as you stand there in slippers and unwashed. They will judge by what they see, right?

Unfortunately, we have come to create a world where these issues are extraordinarily confused and distorted. It is a world where many think they “have a right” to act as they wish – privately or publically – good mood/bad mood, and that it is for the rest of us to “deal with.”

You’ve met those kinds of people; who hasn’t? They used to be called “rude,” or “uncouth,” now they are just the neighbors. God forbid that they should be “us.”

So it is that how we act affects how we think, and pray; and how we think affects the way we physically communicate with the world around us – and how we communicate with God. ***If we do not act the way we think, or believe, then ultimately we shall think the way we act.*** Falsified actions will even corrupt supernatural faith. St. Paul makes it clear that conversion in morals requires a “renovation of the mind.”

At the Council of Nicea in 325 AD, a Canon gave the directive that confirmed the practice of not kneeling during the Paschal Season, and although the Western Catholic practice did come to kneel more and more, often *in adoration*, the East retained the earlier practice. In the last few centuries – especially in parishes in the western world – even Easterners began to kneel more and more often as they came to be influenced by the surrounding Latin Catholics. In the last forty years, however, there has been a conscious effort to return to the primitive practice.

Canon 20 from the Council of Nicea

*Forasmuch as there are certain persons who kneel on the Lord’s Day
and in the days of Pentecost, therefore,
to the intent that all things may be uniformly observed everywhere,
it seems good to the Holy Synod that prayer be made to God standing.*

This Canon, already predating St. Maron by almost a century, itself indicates a practice that was already common in the second century. This early practice was mindful that both Sunday and the Paschal Season were commemorations of the Resurrection of the Messiah: we stand before the morning light in memory of the rising of Our Lord from the tomb. We stand

as people freed from the bondage of sin and death. As we can tell from the sacred canon, however, this practice was not the same everywhere and the Council attempted to make uniform the practice of the stance used in prayer by Christians, at least for Sundays and the Easter Season. Note that this directive is not about establishing the observance of Mass on Sundays, this had been the practice from the beginning of the Kingdom of God, but on regulating *the manner* in which we prayed on holydays.

So it is that we come to this Day of Pentecost at the end of our Easter Observances when we once again initiate prayer done on our knees. This is done by the ancient ceremony of kneeling in adoration before the Divine Persons of the Most Holy Trinity. This rite takes place just before Holy Communion, reminding us of the profound sense of adoration and humility with which we are to approach the Sacred Mysteries. The ceremony concludes with the blessing of Holy Water and sprinkling the congregation to bless, signify and remind us of the baptismal graces we once received and in which we are meant to live daily. In receiving these Waters we should call to mind the commitment and loyalty, which we owe to our Divine Lord. Anything that we have of any value that endures beyond the ephemeral and fleeting world here below, comes entirely from Him. He is our Way, Truth and Life; He is our *Shlomoh*.

All else is dust and ashes, baubles lent to us briefly before we pass them on and leave this world in death.

The life of prayer must be the ground to everything we do in life. As we pray during this Easter Season: it is the Light of the Resurrection that illuminates and gives meaning to every detail of our lives. So, on Pentecost, we set aside the exclusive use of standing – outside of our Sunday observances – and thus return to the more nuanced usages of our spiritual life.

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

2nd Collections:

June 10, 11 Fuel collection
June 24, 25 Holy Father's Collection

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Sat	3	4:00 pm †Kathleen Griffin (Susan Pare)
Sun	4	10:00 am †Richard Willette (Larry & Paula Mitchell)
Mon	5	Father’s day off for prayer

- Tue 6** 9:00 am
†Lester Giguere
(Ann Giguere)
- Wed 7** 9:00 am
†The Thomas & Veilleux Families
(Dan & Pam Casavant)
- Thu 8** 9:00 am
†Amin Mikael Saad & Hoda Honeine
(John Sleiman)
- Fri 9** 9:00 am
†Alfred Joseph
(Dan & Pam Casavant)
- Sat 10** 4:00 pm
†William Marozze & Violettet Sleiman
(John Sleiman)
- Sun 11** 10:00 am
†Sadie Pendexter
(Wilma Carter)

Liturgical notes: † = Deceased, SI = Special Intention, AV = Anniversary, H = Health

MAY FOOD PANTRY

Toilet paper Family Sized items – soups, Ravioli
Condiments Juice in plastic containers
Thank you for your thoughtfulness and help.

LAST WEEK’S COLLECTION

Regular Collection: \$1,873.00
May God richly reward your generosity!

If you are not receiving envelopes please let the office know.

*Heal Thy servants, who are sick,
O Lord, and send them help
and comfort from Thy Holy Place*

Those for whom we prayer: Jerry Fortin, Dorothy Furgus, Albert Joseph, Sierra Lee, Darrell Mitchell, Doreen Nader, Debbie Pomelow, Tala Poulin, Virginia Poulin, Beverly Rideout, Gordon Webber.

JUNE DEVOTIONS

St. Joseph 14-day Sanctuary Candle

Available

Altar Bread

Available

Altar Wine

Deceased Members of the Jules Cloutier Family
(Larry & Paula Mitchell)

MARONITE CHARITY APPEAL

You have received information regarding the Maronite Charity Appeal. This year we are asked to raise \$4,000 for the needs of the Maronite Church. This money goes for the education of seminarians, support of the retired priests, and various charities of the Maronite Church. Ordinarily this is done during Lent, but due to the collection for fuel, we delayed this Appeal.

Readers’ Schedule

PENTECOST SUNDAY

Acts 2:1-21 Saint John 14:15-20

June 4 Ruth Lunn
5 Joe Rowden

Sunday of the Most Holy Trinity

Romans 11:25-36 Matthew 28:16-20

June 10 Lenore Boles
11 Lauraine Mansur

EVENTS FOR JUNE

June 6 Parish Council Meeting
June 24 K of C Ham Dinner 4:30-6:00 \$10

COFFEE SCHEDULE

June 4 Alice Lachance & Jane Lee
June 11 Larry Mitchell & Gareth Belton
June 18 Lauraine Mansur & Marie McMahon
Larry & Gareth (*Summer*)

VOCATION ICON

“Request therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.” St. Matthew 9:38

June 4 David & Jane Lee
June 11 Lowell & Mary Hawes
June 17 Audrey Yotides (Sat)
June 18 Greg & Marianne Gillespie
June 24 Ann Giguere (Sat)
June 25 Larry & Lisa Grard
July 1 Jim & Lenore Boles (Sat)
July 2 Pearley & Alice Lachance