

# May 14, 2017 Fifth Sunday of the Resurrection



## St. Joseph Maronite Catholic Church

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

**Choir Director:** Miss Fefa Deeb    **Sacristan:** Mrs. Laurie Nale    **Parish Secretary:** Mrs. Paula Mitchell  
**Catechists:** Mrs. Lenore Boles, Director & K-1<sup>st</sup>; Mrs. Jane Lee, 2<sup>nd</sup>; Mrs. Shana Page, 3-5<sup>th</sup>  
**Parish Council:** Mrs. Sheila Bonenfant, Mrs. Lisa Grard, Mr. Lowell Hawes, Mrs. Rosanna Joseph, Mr. Pearley Lachance, Mr. David Lee, Mr. Kevin Michaud, Mr. Mark Morin, Mr. Aaron Rowden, Mrs. Elizabeth Wilson  
**Ex-officio:** Rev. Mr. Steve Crate; Mrs. Lenore Boles; Mrs. Paula Mitchell, Rosary Sodality; Mr. Larry Mitchell, Knights of Columbus

#### John 21:15-19

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep."

He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep."

"Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

#### Grace Burns

The great Saint Anthony once had a vision of doves flying up from the horizon, but being torn by

brambles – and by an ominous dark figure that clawed at them – as they struggled to ascend, bloodied by stressful wounds. He was given to understand that these doves were souls as they attempted to grow closer to God and make progress in the spiritual life. The life of grace costs much.

"Blessed is He Who has come, and will come again in the Name of the Lord". With these words from the liturgical Anaphora we are made to understand that the historical past of the Incarnation of the Word and His future coming in judgment are linked by the present day, and more importantly, how we use the time and grace that are now given to us. This expectation of the Day of Judgment is part of the very soul of the Syriac tradition. The Day of the Lord is the ultimate epiphany of great light in justice. Each of us will stand stripped bare of all before the Just Mercy of the Hidden One. Knowing this, how do I respond to the present moment of grace in my life? This world is passing. Grace never returns once it has been given. Do we accept the Hand of God when His compassion touches us?

The Catholic life of grace is meant to be a faithfully constant and consistent movement toward the just and last Day of Light. The gift of grace that allows us to surpass our normal and natural limits, and move toward the Light, comes to us from the Victorious Redeemer. In truth, it pushes us ever beyond our presumed limits, and into a greater goodness and generosity for which He created us. It smashes complacency. There is a huge pain factor in all this. This is the reason that so many modern people do not have the stamina or inclination to persevere in the practice of their religion. They are afraid of the light because it shines in too many dark corners of their lives. This gracious light strips away ignorance and forces us to confront the reality that God has established and desires to develop. This is the fundamental reason for the tearing and shredding that Saint Anthony beheld so many centuries ago in the desert.

Our greatest obstacles on this path are our assumptions, prejudices, and suppositions that undergird our personal lives: our "comfort zone," as it were. We naturally try to construct a form of sweet cocoon around ourselves, but God loves us too much to acquiesce in this game of self-deception and ignorant complacency. Grace burns so that it might illuminate and we might see. The path of Calvary is set before us so that we might enter into the Resurrection.

Periodically then, all throughout our lives, we are each touched individually, and sometimes collectively, by this grace that is simultaneously loving and a consuming fire. These weeks, we of the Syro-Maronite community of St. Joseph's have been touched in just such a way. This is the Mystery of the Cross. In the Gospel, Death and Resurrection have been revealed as two facets of one divine Mystery and the manifestations of one single Plan of Salvation. Do we have the strength and will to respond positively to the purifying fire of God's divine Charity and accept the path of crucifixion so that we may be able to enter the Resurrection? The choice is ours to make, but we do know that to embrace the Cross is to be certain of the divine life to come from it. Two aspects, but one Providence; Easter is, after all, more than marshmallow peeps.

There is little that can be said in such moments, but nevertheless we must trust that an infinitely Good God, Who is substantially limitless Charity, governs, directs and guides all in His Wisdom - from the

slightest measurable force in the universe to the highest seraph all are enveloped in a single divine plan. Through the darkness of Calvary we each are meant to arrive at the Resurrection. All of creation will be renewed on the Last Day, but as we recall, Saint Peter wrote that this will be accomplished "in fire."

We may feel betrayed, scandalized and/or repulsed by recent events - and all are saddened - but the loving wisdom of the "Bright-One-Who-cannot-be-clouded" intends to lead us to a more profound and truer understanding of these realities. In the future, as with many of the sad and hard events of our individual lives, I do believe we will look back and see this all as a time of grace. We are all, to varying degrees, being purged in our assumptions and strengthened in our sense of loyalty, affection, appreciation, gratitude and trust. Sometimes we are very conscious of God's work within us, and often not, but God is ever at work. There should be comfort in this thought.

In the end, we may feel torn and cut up these days, but we should be consoled in the knowledge that nothing is ever asked of us by God except that He provides the assistance for us to accomplish it. When God asks great things in our lives, and we perhaps wince at the prospect of the pain required, He grants even greater grace to see them through. Great sufferings reflecting Calvary announce great light and grace of the Resurrection. Who does not wish to live?

The Sacred Heart may ask us to walk through the torments of Calvary, but He Himself knows well that path, and He always remains at our side to steady our steps toward more abundant life, a life that is blessed and transformed, a life made greater by what it has been asked to undergo. By fire we are purified to resemble the white doves of Saint Anthony's vision, and by the light of that same fire we are made to see so that we might ascend to the hidden realm of Light and Life. "The Kingdom of Heaven is taken by violence, and the violent bear it away". Torn we may be, but that blood has the power to cleanse.

May God bless you all, and richly reward your generous perseverance under the cross. In this we may be certain of a bright future for our parish in the resurrection and grace to come.

## 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.

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

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collections :** May 13, 14 Fuel Collection

**Liturgy: Sundays after the Resurrection  
Pg. 315**

Page numbers for the Prayers and Songs are on the back cover of the Bulletin.

## LITURGY INTENTIONS

**Sat 6 4:00 pm**  
†John Sleiman

**Sun 7 10:00 am**  
Mothers of the Parish

**Sat 13 4:00 pm**  
†Kathleen Griffin

**Sun 14 10:00 am**  
First Communicants

**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: \$3,063.00

*May God richly reward your generosity.*

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

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

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

## MAY DEVOTIONS

### St. Joseph 14-day Sanctuary Candle

For: Special Intention  
By: Gerard Brouillard

### Altar Bread

For: Shackie & Rosemarie Joseph  
By: Rosanna Joseph

### Altar Wine

For: Deceased Members of the Philip Veiloux Family  
By: Larry & Paula Mitchell

## Readers' Schedule

### Fifth Sunday of the Resurrection

*Ephesians 2:1-10*      *St. John 21:15-19*  
May 13 Ruth Lunn  
14 Joe Rowden

### Sixth Sunday of the Resurrection

*Romans 10:1-13*      *St. Luke 24:36-48*  
20 Lenore Boles  
21 Joe Rowden

## EVENTS FOR MAY

Sun 21 First Holy Communion

## COFFEE SCHEDULE

May 14 Larry Mitchell & Gareth Belton  
May 21 Cindy Elias & Mary Nader  
May 28 Elaine Hoag & Mary Jo Hodgkin  
June 4 Alice Lachance & Jane Lee  
June 11 Larry Mitchell & Gareth Belton  
June 18 Lauraine Mansur & Marie McMahan  
Larry & Gareth (*Summer*)

## VOCATION ICON

"Request therefore the Lord of the harvest to send laborers to His harvest." *St. Matthew 9:38*

May 14 Pearley & Alice Lachance

## **Fifth Sunday of the Resurrection**

**Lighting of the Church:** SB\* p 21 #135/LB p 5  
**Jesus, Christ, O Source of Light**

**Entrance Hymn:** LB p 315

**Women Bearing Spices**

**Glory:** SB p 1 #1

**Glory (English) X Arabic**

**Hymn:** SB p 1 #4

**O Mary Pray**

**Creed Pg. 748**

**Pre-Anaphora:**

**Transfer of Gifts:** SB p 750

**I Am the Vine**

**Incense Hymn:** SB p 19 #130

**Anaphora: St. John Chrysostom**  
LB p 876

**Sign of Peace:** SB p 32 #159

**Prayer of St. Francis**

**Anaphora Acclamations after Consecration:**  
**when Sung:** SB p 4 #10

**Communion:**

**Holy Ground (Choir)**

**After Communion:**

**Recessional:** SB p 6 #103

**Alleluia #1**

\*LB=Liturgical Book SB=Song Book

**Mount Merici Academy** is now accepting registrations for the 2017/2018 school year! We are a Nursery School through Grade 8 Ursuline Catholic school and we welcome all to enroll! If you have a middle school student, come see what our 6-8 grade program is like! Our already strong academics will have an addition this next year as we increase our STREAM (Science, Technology, Religion, Art, Math) program with dedicated classes in 7th and 8th grade and integrated throughout the classes in 6th grade! STREAM is integrated throughout our elementary classes as well. 4th grade just completed a STREAM unit on healthy drinking water and integrated Pope Francis' environmental encyclical on clean water as a human right in their project.

Come see what Mount Merici is all about! Call the school for a tour at 873-3773 or email Mrs. Duguay/ Principal at [vduguay@mountmerici.org](mailto:vduguay@mountmerici.org). Needs based Scholarships available (over 30% of our students receive scholarships).

### **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)

### **Lebanese Cuisine**

34 Temple Street \* Waterville, ME 04901

207-873-7813

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

Dana R. McInnis, Owner

John O. Gallant, Director

10 Elm Street \* Waterville, ME 04901

Tel 873-3393 \* Website: [gallantfh.com](http://gallantfh.com)

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### **Mount Merici Academy**

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18 Mount Merici Ave. - Waterville, ME 04901

207-873-3773 [info@mountmerici.org](mailto:info@mountmerici.org) facebook: @mountmerici

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### **Waterville Florist**

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Tel: 207-872-7422 also 888-616-4880

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

***St. John Paul II, Pope***