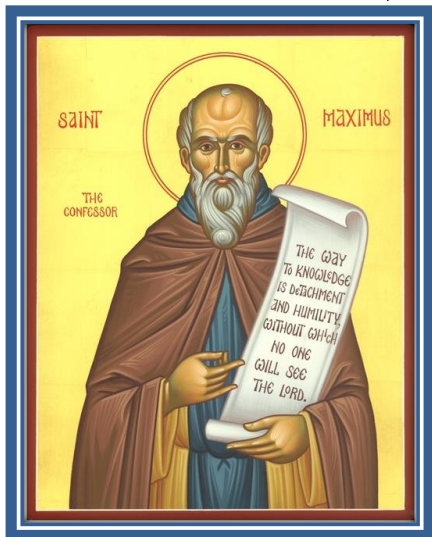


Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church



The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 30, 2022

Welcome all visitors to the beautiful heritage of Antioch

3 Appleton Street
Waterville, ME 04901
Office Phone: 207-872-8515

Pastor: Rev. Fr. James Doran, KHS
Subdeacon: Mr. Stephen Crate
website: <http://www.sjmaronite.org>
e-mail: stjoesinmaine@yahoo.com

"For us, the men and women of the East are a symbol of the Lord Who comes again." *Oriental Lumen*, John Paul II

Qourboneh: Sunday: (Vigil, Sat. 4:30pm) Sunday Morning 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.; Tues. - Fr. 9:00 a.m.; Sat. 10:00a.m.
Sick Calls: To receive the Divine Eucharist and/or the Sacred Anointing, please call the rectory.
Confessions: One half-hour before the Sunday Liturgies and by appointment.
Baptisms: Parents should refer to the website and then contact the parish through the parish e-mail address.
Marriage: Please refer to the parish website and contact the parish a **minimum 6 months before** finalizing the date of your wedding.

Mass Intentions: For *specific* dates requested, please submit at least **two months in advance**. Recommended stipend: \$15

Monthly Memorials: Sanctuary Candles \$35; Altar Bread \$30; Sacramental Wine \$55

Catechism: Steve Crate, *Director* **Choir Director:** Dame Marie Fefa Deeb, DSG **Pastoral Council Chair:** Suzanne Paré

Pastoral Council Members: Suzanne Paré, *Chair*; Gayle Misner-Elias, *Secretary*; Steve Crate, *Religious Education*; Larry Mitchell, *Knights of Columbus*; Ruth Lunn, *Rosary Sodality*; Matthew Stone, *Finance Committee*

THIS DAY'S GOSPEL¹ St. John 4: 5-26

And He came to a city of the Samaritans called *Sh'car*, near the field which Jacob gave to his son Joseph.

And Jacob's well of water was there.

And Jesus was weary with the toil of travelling, and seated Himself by the well.

And it was at the sixth hour.

And a woman from Samaria came to draw water.

And Jesus said to her:

Give me water to drink.

And His disciples had gone to the city, to buy themselves food.

The Samaritan woman said to Him:

*How dost thou, a Jew, ask drink of me,
who am a Samaritan woman?*

¹ Based on The New Testament, translated from the Syriac Peshitto Version, Gorgias Press, New Jersey, 2001, translated by James Murdock, STD, 1893

For the Jews have no familiarity with Samaritans.

Jesus replied and said to her:

*If thou hadst known the gift of God,
and who it is that saith to thee,
Give me to drink,
thou wouldest have asked of Him,
and He would have given thee living waters.*

The woman said to Him:

*My lord, thou hast no bucket, and the well is deep;
how hast thou living waters?
Art thou greater than our father Jacob,
who gave us this well, and drank from it himself,
and his children, and his flocks?*

Jesus replied and said to her:

*Whoever shall drink of these waters,
will thirst again;
but whoever shall drink of the waters
which I shall give him,
will not thirst forever;
but the waters, which I shall give him,
will be in him a fountain of waters,
springing up unto life eternal.*

The woman said to Him:

*My lord, give me of these waters,
that I may not thirst again,
and may come to draw from here.*

Jesus said to her:

Go, call thy husband, and come hither.

She said to Him:

I have no husband.

Jesus said to her:

*Thou has well said, I have no husband;
for thou hast had five husbands,
and he whom thou now hast, is not thy husband.
In this thou didst speak truly.*

The woman said to Him:

*My lord, I perceive thou art a prophet.
Our fathers worshipped on this mountain;
but ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place
where it is proper to worship.*

Jesus said to her:

*Woman, believe me, the hour cometh
when neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem,
ye will worship the Father.
Ye worship, ye know not what;
but we worship what we know;*

*for life is from the Jews.
But the hour cometh, and now is,
when the true worshippers
will worship the Father in spirit and in truth;
for the Father requireth that worshippers be such.
For God is a Spirit;
and they that worship Him,
should worship in spirit and in truth.*

The woman said to Him:

*I know that Messiah will come;
and when he cometh, he will teach us everything.*

Jesus said to her:

I, Who talk with thee, am He.



*You will progress in understanding
the Holy Scriptures
only to the degree that you yourself
have made progress
through contact with them.
St. Gregory the Great (AD 540-604)²*

ABOUNA'S REFLECTIONS

The parish is now debt-free. The last sum that we owed was for repayment of the hot-water system that had been installed a while back in the kitchen of the parish hall. This project will be spoken of later in this bulletin.

So now, this, the last debt owed in any way by the parish, has now finally been reimbursed. This is all good news, and you are all to be congratulated for the generosity and persevering devotion that makes things like this possible.

² Homily 1.7.8 "on Ezechiel"

Money is a horrible thing to consider at any time, but especially it is so as we begin tax season. While money is not the most important thing in the world, it is central to life in this world. *Alas.*

Be that as it may, in 2022, we have projects that need attending. Our love for Beit Maroun and this parish compels us to action. Maintenance and care are endless in any building, and of course they multiply as the years pass. Our beloved church still awaits masonry care and structural maintenance. It has been quite a number of years since we have had the outer walls repaired, pointed, and restored.

This masonry work is the project for which we received the **\$20,000.00** challenge grant, and we are so close to arriving at matching that goal. You did brilliantly over the last year and we have come within spitting distance as it were to meeting the challenge. There is only **\$5,000.00** left to achieve it, and once we have done so we will be able to launch our program. With hope then, 2022 might be the year we can tend to the church and her physical structural needs.

We have also another financial concern. In 2018, we installed a hot-water system in the kitchen of the parish hall. And while the water is now truly hot, and the kitchen churns out her muffins and meals for you, the payment of that expense has now come due. With re-imburement for the work paid for at the time, we have an expense of **\$5,905.33** now to cover.

The first of these expenses has been listed within the “collections box” of the bulletin each week over the last fourteen months, and we will begin to list the hot-water system there, too, until such time as we can cover both expenses and happily launch the large masonry project and the maintenance of the building.

On this weekend of winter storms and nor’easter, please do remember to keep faithful and consistent to the monthly tithing. Although we might miss assisting at the Divine Mysteries due to the unpredictable weather in Maine, the bills and the parish’s financial responsibilities remain constant. Do try to make up any contributions that storms, ice, cold, sleet, or ... health crisis, may have interrupted.

All generous hearts, and all tax returns, are heartily invited to participate and lighten the burden of us all, bolstering our parish’s future for many years to come.

For your present generosity, future Maronites will hold you each in the same awe and esteem as we do those who once built this church many years ago, often with their own hands and backs. **Now it is our turn.** At some point in time, we each pass from out of this valley of tears – this is inevitable – but for now we can freely choose what it is that we leave behind as our memory and as our treasure.

What are our gifts, memorials, and remembrance we choose to leave behind at the end of our path? Will they be for the glory of God? Will they advance the progress of the Gospel and foster the salvation of souls?

Taking up these burdens, we, the present generation, will have been the necessary link in the chain that preserved our sacred tradition in Maine, and allowed it to continue well into the next century – for the honor of God and for the good of a great many souls to come.

May our holy father, Saint Maron, raise each of us up as fitting and loyal children in his work!

Muffins and Coffee

We are all grateful to Larry, Sean, and others, for the extraordinary time and effort they put in to bake the fresh muffins that we enjoy each Sunday following the Qourboneh. Their generosity is edifying and impressive, especially as they continue now into this new year of grace.

The brief moments we have to gather outside of liturgical rites is cherished and the possibility to come together over coffee and delicious baked goods is especially appreciated after the last two years of deprivations.

While the Sunday morning gatherings and muffins are freely offered to all, we would like to gently remind everyone that there is a free-will donation basket on the table. The parish spends many hundreds of dollars over the season to supply the

muffins and coffee for all who wish to come down to the parish hall. Collaboration to lighten the monetary burden would be greatly appreciated.

Last summer, and in earlier discussions, it had been suggested that one think about the offering/donation we contribute when enjoying the results of the labors of those who are in the kitchen well before dawn, and, for those who are able, to please consider a dollar as an offering for each muffin.

Of course, those who may have been more richly blessed with the wealth of this world by the Good One might contribute more, indirectly aiding others less able.

In reflecting upon this spirit of generosity, we might consider the sentiments of Saint Paul in his **Second Letter to the Corinthians**, chapter 8:

*Our desire is not that others
might be relieved
while you are hard pressed,
but that there might be equality.
At the present time your plenty
will supply what they need,
so that in turn their plenty
will supply what you need.
The goal is equality, as it is written:
"The one who gathered much
did not have too much,
and the one who gathered little
did not have too little."³*

Some may be placed by God's providence in a position to more easily contribute for those who may not be as abundant in the riches of this world: contributing for those who cannot, so that all may freely enjoy fellowship, without worry, while keeping low the economic stress of the parish in this endeavor.

We all know the financial strains of the modern world as we watch the monetary deficits under which our beloved parish labors, so this is just a word to the wise for consideration and thoughtfulness.

May the Good One continue to lavish His choicest light, blessings, and grace upon you all; may *shlomoh* and gracious well-being in service to Christ the King ever be the by-word of your families.

Your apostolic spirit is to be commended and your generosity extolled.



SCHEDULE OF READINGS

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

January 30, 2022

Rom 7: 1-6

St. John 4: 5-26

SUNDAY OF DECEASED PRIESTS

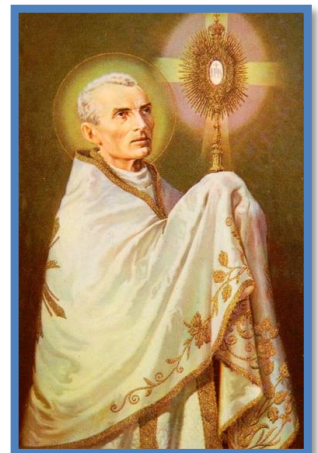
February 6, 2022

I Tim 4: 6-16

St. Luke 12: 42-48

Discover the intimacy of grace and the workings of the Sacred Heart in Eucharistic Adoration at the **Church of the Blessed Sacrament, 101 Silver Street, Waterville.**

Open seven days a week, **7:00am** until **6:00pm**, with Eucharistic Exposition. Come freely, or call **872-7072** to choose a regular hour for your adoration time.



Holyday Schedule

For the *Holy Day of Obligation*
of our Father in Christ, Saint Maron

Our Father in Christ,

Saint Maron

Tuesday, February 8th

Mass: 9:00am

Ramsho of Saint Maron: 5:00pm

Vigil Mass of Saint Maron: 6:00pm

Feast of Saint Maron

Wednesday, February 9th

Alohoyoh Qourbonoh: 9:00am

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

(Budgeted: \$3,100.00)

Regular Collection Last Week: \$1,700.00

(Budget Deficit 2022: \$3,336.00)⁴

Contributions to the **hot-water system** in the parish **hall** (re-imbursement for the project):
\$000.00⁵

An additional \$000.00 has come in this week toward the **needed masonry construction and maintenance** collection of \$39,000.00.⁶

Second Sunday each month is a second collection to cover our **monthly fuel-oil costs**.

Please remember to sustain the apostolic work of this parish through regular contributions.

A heartfelt "thank you" for your generosity



this Christmas and Epiphany season – for all the Masses, prayers, novenas offered, gift cards, books, baked goods,

citrus, gifts, food, more gifts, and, well, even more food – this kindness is all the more noteworthy, appreciated, and outstanding in these difficult times.

⁴ Deficit 2019: \$72,270.59/Deficit 2020: \$34,473.00/Deficit 2021: \$35,178.00

⁵ Our responsibility for this expense remains at \$5,905.00.

⁶ This makes the amount toward our matching Challenge Grant (20k), to be presently \$15,310.00. This lengthy collection is being made to cover the needed **building maintenance projects**, estimated at \$60,000.00.

INTENTIONS FOR THE QOURBONEH (MASSES)

- Sun 30 9:00am For the Members of the Parish
11:00am †Joseph & Ruth Bellamah
(Paul & Stephen Maroon)
- Mon 31 -----
- Tue 1 †Bernard Thomas
(Nicole & Michelle)
- Wed 2 †Violet Elhilow
(Paul & Stephen Maroon)
- Thu 3 †Wayne Thomas
(Pam & Dan Casavant)
- Fri 4 †Albert & Rose Bellamah
(Paul & Stephen Maroon)
- Sat 5 Lolo Salazar
(Steve & Allison Crate)
Sunday Vigil, 4:30 *Private Intention*
- Sun 6 9:00am For the Members of the Parish
11:00am †John Marietta & Paul Thomas
(Pam & Dan Casavant)
- Mon 7 -----
- Tue 8 †Sam, Latifa, and George Deeb
(Paul & Stephen Maroon)
- Wed 9 †Wayne Thomas
(Pam & Dan Casavant)
- Thu 10 †Siblings of Paul Maroon
(Paul & Stephen Maroon)
- Fri 11 Kathleen Baginski
- Sat 12 †Peter Paul Maroon
(Paul & Stephen Maroon)
Sunday Vigil, 4:30 *Private Intention*
- Sun 13 9:00am For the Members of the Parish
11:00am †Eva & Buddy Mitchell
(Paula & Larry Mitchell)
- Mon 14 -----
- Tue 15 †Susan B. Mitchell
(Paul & Stephen Maroon)
- Wed 16 *Private Intention*
(Abouna)
- Thu 17 †Sam & Nimera Maroon
(Paul & Stephen Maroon)

Fri 18 †Joan Gottardi
(Donna-Jo Mitchell)

Blessing of Candles

Remember to bring in your candles for the traditional blessing on the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord on **February 2nd**.



Label well your boxes and place them at the front of the bema before the Divine Liturgy.

*May the Unending Dawn and
Fragrance of Creation
illumine your days and
raise up your spirits into
His radiant light all
throughout this new
year of grace!*



!مَلِكًا حَلِيقًا :Priest

Shlomoh l'koukhoun!

(literally: Peace [be] to all you!)

!وَهُمَا وَمَكَرًا :People

W'am rouHoh deelokh!

(literally: and with spirit your!)

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

p. 107

Lighting of the Church: LB* p 5
Jesus Christ, O Source of Light

Entrance Hymn: LB *msheeHo natareh* 81B

Glory: SB *al majdu*

Qolo/Hymn: LB *bo'outho d'mor ya'qoub*
(Epiphany) 82

Creed p 748

PRE-ANAPHORA:

Transfer of Gifts: LB *The Lord Reigns* (Epiphany)

Incense Hymn Offertory: SB *iqbal*

ANAPHORA:

Saint John Chrysostom: p 876

Sign of Peace: SB *tou ba*

Communion: SB *Aya rab; For the beauty*

Recessional: SB *We three Kings*

VOCATION ICON

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

Sun	Jan	30	Sue Paré & Lolo Salazar
Sun	Feb	6	Daja Gombojav & Family
Sun	Feb	13	Ira & Catherine Mandel
Sun	Feb	20	Dean & MaryAnn Carter
Sun	Feb	27	Chris & Diane Wyder
Sun	Mar	6	Michael & Gayle Misner
Sun	Mar	13	Steve & Allison Crate
Sun	Mar	20	Larry & Lisa Gard

*Grant them health, and raise them up
from their illness, and make them
to have perfect health of body and soul
and strengthen them in spirit;
for Thou art our Savior and Benefactor,
the Lord of lords and Weaver of crowns,
Thou art Lord and King of all. Amen*

Those for whom we pray: Christian Disuag, Daja Gombojav, Maureen Martin, Fr. Bill Bartoul, Margaret Mae Lambert, Mary Theresa Huebner, Mary Morin, Larry Gard, Sarah Grace Misner-Elias, Cindy Elias, David Bourque, Barbara Joseph, Madeleine Dombroski, Sally Derosby, Tala Poulin, Richard Karter, Lolo Salazar, Charlotte Iserbyte, Rita Hikel, and all those who may suffer from illness, disease, want, or depression.



The Ascent of Our Lord to His Temple

February 2nd

Servers of the Divine Altar

January 30th:

9:00am: A. Michaud/ M. Carter
11:00am: I. Misner-Elias/L. Michaud

February 6th:

9:00am: M. Carter/ N. Carter
11:00am: I. Misner-Elias/ S. Nappi

February 13th:

9:00am: A. Michaud/ M. Carter
11:00am: L. Michaud/S. Nappi

February 20th:

9:00am: M. Carter/ N. Carter
11:00am: S. Nappi/I. Misner-Elias

February 27th:

9:00am: A. Michaud/N. Carter
11:00am: L. Michaud/I. Misner-Elias

March 6th:

9:00am: M. Carter/ N. Carter
11:00am: L. Michaud/ S. Nappi

the Wednesday of this year, the Fast of the Ninevites will encompass only Monday, **January 31st** and Tuesday, **February 1st**.

This fast was first instituted in the seventh century by **Mar Sabrisho**, bishop of Beit Garmai,⁷ who ordered the three days of prayer and fasting in response to an epidemic that had ravaged his eparchy. Later, these penitential days became universal practice throughout the Syriac Churches.

Fasting *elevates* the spirit and *cleanses* the mind, as well as *purifying* the body. It fosters a healthy spirit of **repentance** and calls down upon us the grace of God. It strengthens the mind to focus first to the things of God, and to relegate the concerns of this earth to their proper place – subordinated to the things of God. In the Gospel, our Lord speaks to Nicodemus about a new life of grace and of baptism, and He asks rhetorically whether the one who does not properly judge the things of earth can ever come to understand the things of heaven.

A clouded intellect is never disposed to know the things of God, and worldly ignorance blinds the mind to divine realities; so, we fast.

Fasting norms:

We are reminded by our Patriarch that “a fast” is **to go without all foods from midnight to noon**, after which we abstain from all flesh meat and all dairy products – this then is similar to a “vegan” menu, as one would call it these days. These traditional observances are **for all who have attained the age of the use of reason.**



Fast of the Ninevites

Within the Syriac tradition, both east and west, during the first days of the final week following the Epiphany, and coming just before the weeks commemorating the dead, we observe *The Supplication of the Ninevites*. This is a transitional fast on *Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday* that moves us from the festivities surrounding the Glorious Nativity and Denho toward the Great Lenten Fast that approaches.

As the **Ascent of Our Lord to His Temple** (February 2nd, aka *The Presentation*) coincides with

⁷ Region east of the Tigris in north central area of what is today Iraq. Christianity flourished there very early. In 318 two brothers, *Adurpawa* and *Mihrnarsé*, with their sister *Mahdoukh*, were martyred there. In the **fifth century**, under King Yezdegerd II (438-57), the "History of the city of Beit-

Slokh" makes mention of hundreds and thousands of martyrs slain in this city (Moesinger, *Monumenta Syriaca*, II). The "Synodicon Orientale" (Paris, 1902, 674) mentions nine metropolitans of Beit-Slokh who assisted at various councils between 410 and 612.

Extract from the Catholic Encyclopedia, 1913