

Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church



The Healing of the Paralytic

Fifth Week of the Great Fast

March 27, 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
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"For us, the men and women of the East are a symbol of the Lord Who comes again." *Orientale 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. Mark 2: 1-12

And Jesus again entered into Capernaum, after some days.

And when they heard that He was in the house, many were assembled, so that (it) could not contain them, not even before the door.

And He *spake* with them.

And they came to Him, and brought to Him a paralytic, borne between four persons.
And as they could not come near Him on account of the crowd they ascended to the roof, and removed the covering of the place where

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

Jesus was, and let down the bed on which the paralytic lay.

And when Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic:

My son, thy sins are forgiven thee.

And there were some Scribes and Pharisees there, who sat and reasoned in their hearts:

Who is this speaking blasphemy? Who can forgive sins, except God only?

And Jesus knew, *in His spirit*, that they thus reasoned in themselves; and He said to them:

Why reason ye *these things* in your heart?

Which is the easier, to say to a paralytic, Thy sins are forgiven thee? or to say, Arise, take up thy bed, and walk?

But that ye may know that the Son of Man hath power on earth to forgive sins, -- He said to the paralytic, I say to thee, Arise, take thy bed, and go to thy house.

And he arose in that hour, took up his bed, and departed *in the eyes* of them all: so that they were all amazed, and praised God, saying: We never saw the like.



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 places for the Men's Exercises, scheduled for **May 9-13**, are rapidly filling up. This retreat should prove beneficial to many and be a great moment of profound grace for our parish.

The magnificent accomplishments of the Jesuits throughout history are undeniable. The sixteenth-century Congregation established by Saint Ignatius of Loyola has worked wonders over the centuries and was prodigious in its apostolic work for the salvation of souls. It has been a great glory to the Catholic Church.

These wonders of grace were achieved by the formation the men received, especially in the first centuries of the Company's mission. Saint Ignatius developed the fundamental orientation of his associates by modeling it on his own conversion experience and leading them through the process as he lived it at Manresa. This spiritual renovation became the "Spiritual Exercises", and, as developed by Saint Ignatius, it became the cornerstone of the Jesuits.

Properly speaking, the Exercises are done in a **Thirty-Day format**: one month of silence, prayer, penance, contemplation, conversion, and opening the spirit to the transformative charity of the Sacred Heart. The Exercises have been a monumental achievement both in the men who have followed them and in the recipients of their apostolic endeavors. They have worked untold wonders of grace over the centuries.

Having proven their value over five centuries by supporting those on the path of holiness, the Spiritual Exercises have been lauded by the popes of the twentieth century. Pope Pius XI dedicated an encyclical to the subject in **Mens Nostra**.³ The same pope also established the preaching of the Exercises for the Papal Household's retreats. On the fiftieth anniversary of this encyclical, Pope John Paul II stated that "the Christian is aided by the strong dynamism of the Exercises to enter into the ambit of the thoughts of God, of His plans in order to trust in Him Who is Truth and Love, and thus to make decisions committed to the following of Christ, considering clearly his gifts and his own responsibilities".⁴

To those who may not have a full month to retreat into silence and prayer, these same Exercises can be done in a five-day format that has been tried and true for over a century. Monday through Friday, the Exercises lay the groundwork and establish the

² Homily 1.7.8 "on Ezechiel"

³ December 20, 1929

⁴ Angelus Address, December 16, 1979

structure that aid a man not only in his ongoing conversion to the Lord, they spur him on to a more serious pursuit of holiness. They also teach him **how to prayer** and how to be subtly docile in the recognition and discernment of the spirits at work in their lives and in the world, both good and evil. The Exercises encourage the Catholic to pursue wisdom and to construct his life in a better form for the future. They sustain him afterward as he re-enters the world in the midst of its noise, distractions, confusion, and disorientation.

In short, the Spiritual Exercises give a man the weapons and armor necessary to truly live the Christian life of the Gospel, to seek the glory of God with courage, and to fortify his intent upon the true development, healing, and salvation of his own soul. The Exercises set a man more firmly on an honest path to pursue goodness and virtue as goals, and to accomplish good for his neighbor – all this directed to the greater glory of God, **AMDG**.

This spring we will make a first essay into this realm of conversion, prayer, spiritual discernment, and the pursuit of wisdom under the tutelage of Saint Ignatius of Loyola. The Exercises are open to **all men** who are **at least 18-years-old**. They are scheduled for **May 9-13**, in Biddeford, at the **Marie Joseph Retreat Center**.

Pamphlets with further information and sign-up forms are available at the entrances of the church. *Hesitate no longer*; if you are able to do so, sign up immediately to occupy the few places of grace that yet remain available.

With men properly leading the way along the path of the Gospel (as God has created the sons of Adam to do) traversing the path of grace in triumph and without fear, we can look forward to great things in the future under the providential guidance of the Hidden Father.

Following the success of these Ignatian Men's Exercises, we will organize a similar set for women next spring.

Take up the challenge, men, enter Manresa, and become the men of God that you are called to be. You will never regret the decision.

Schedule of Readings

THE HEALING OF THE PARALYTIC

March 27, 2022

I Timothy 5: 24 – 6: 5

St. Mark 2: 1-12

6TH WEEK OF LENT: HOSANNA WEEK

THE HEALING OF THE BLIND MAN

April 3, 2022

II Cor 10: 1-7

St. Mark 10: 46-52

VOCATION ICON

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

Sun	Mar	27	Sue Paré & Lolo Salazar
Sun	Apr	3	Daja Gombojav & Family
Sun	Apr	10	Ira & Catherine Mandel
Sun	Apr	17	Dean & MaryAnn Carter
Sun	Apr	24	Chris & Diane Wyder
Sun	May	1	Michael & Gayle Misner
Sun	May	8	Steve & Allison Crate
Sun	May	15	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: Lisa Blatcher, Christian Disuag, Daja Gombojav, Margaret Mae Lambert, Mary Theresa Huebner, Mary Morin, Larry Gard, Sarah Grace Misner-Elias, Cindy Elias, Barbara Joseph, Madeleine Dombroski, Sally Derosby, Tala Poulin, Richard Karter, Lolo Salazar, Rita Hikel, and all those who may suffer from illness, disease, want, or depression.

Calling all Volunteers!



In Preparation for the Glorious Resurrection the generous of heart will make a thorough and deep cleaning of the church **to beautify the House of God**

(bring your buckets and your favorite cleaning tools)

Saturday, April 2nd, following the 10:00 am Saturday Mass, to be organized by our indomitable sacristans.

As a result, there will be **no Sunday Vigil** Liturgy on that day.

INTENTIONS FOR THE QOURBONEH (MASSES)

Sun 27 9:00am For the Members of the Parish
11:00am †Darrell Mitchell
(Donna-Jo Mitchell)

Mon 28 -----

Tue 29 †Meryl Smith
(Mike & Maureen Martin)

Wed 30 †Juliet "Judy" Ferris
(Steve & Allison Crate)

Thu 31 Clélia Marie Agnes Sigaud
(Armelle Sigaud)

Fri 1 11:00am †Ginnaz for David Bourque
(Jan Bourque)

Sat 2 †John Marietta & Paul Thomas
(Pam & Dan Casavant)

No Sunday Vigil this day

Sun 3 9:00am For the Members of the Parish
11:00am †Jacinta Marie Sigaud
(Armelle Sigaud)

Mon 4 -----

Tue 5 Lolo Salazar
(Steve & Allison Crate)

Wed 6 Rita Hikel

Thu 7 †Jeff Marshall
(Pam & Dan Casavant)

Fri 8 Nicholas Family
(Mary Nicholas)

Sat 9 Gayle Misner-Elias
(Michael Misner-Elias)

Vigil of Hosanna Sunday
private intention

Sun 10 9:00am For the Members of the Parish
11:00am †George Aaron Johnson
(Lynette Deming Johnson)

Mon 11 -----

Tue 13 †Alice von Hildebrand
(Mary Nicholas)

Wed 14 Patricia & Larry Perron
(Jodi Gosselin)

Thu 15 MC Private Intention
(Abouna)

Fri 16 Nicholas Family
(Mary Nicholas)

!مَلِكًا حَلَجْه! :Priest

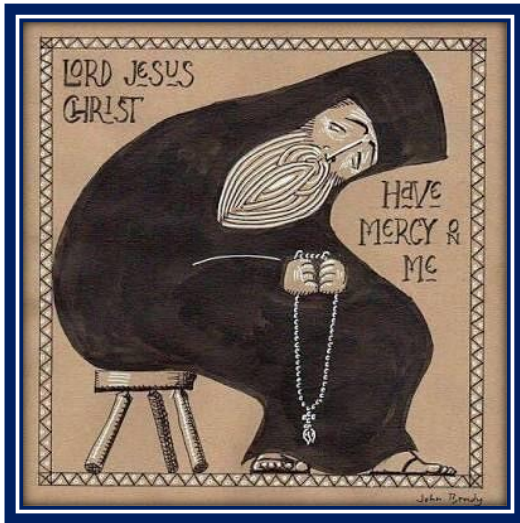
Shlomoh l'koulkhoun!

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

!هَمَّ وَهَمًا وَكْر! :People

W'am rouHoh deelokh!

(literally: and with spirit your!)



Daily Confession of Sins

I confess to Thee, my Lord God and Creator – one Holy Trinity glorified and adored, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – all my sins that I have committed all the days of my life, at every hour, at the present time, and in the past, day and night, in deed, word, and thought; and I acknowledge those things that I have neglected to do, which would have been for my spiritual good.

I confess all my sins against the true faith, my despondency against true hope, and my selfish violation of Thy radiant charity – both against Thee and against my neighbor.

I repent of my self-centered sins of gluttony, inebriation, idle talk, vanity, pride, arrogance, impurity, indolence, a spirit of contradiction, disobedience, a rebellious and indignant heart, a slanderous tongue, my detraction, scorn, and the grudges I harbor in the hardness of my heart.

I confess all my sins of disparagement, negligence, self-love, avarice, theft, lying, dishonesty, greediness, jealousy, envy, anger, rash judgments, hatred, and the manipulation of others.

I confess all my sins and disordered use of my senses: my wandering eyes, my undisciplined tongue, my desire to hear gossip, and to pamper myself with sweet aromas and fragrances; that I preoccupy myself with flavors, tastes, and my appetites and that I have made a god of my belly; I do not fast as I should; and I acknowledge my exaggerated desire for comfort, to have pursued selfishly and inordinately the softness, sensuality, and pleasures of touch.

These sins I acknowledge, along with all my faults – those that corrupt the spirit, indulge the body, and disorient the soul – through which I have angered Thee, my God and Creator, the Radiance of my spirit, and I have violated charity and justice in regard to my neighbor. Compassion I have not shown as I should.

Sorrowing, and repenting of these, I stand guilty before Thee, Thou Who didst create me in the light of Thy eternal love; O my Savior, Thou Who hast borne the weight of my sins, have mercy on me; O Spirit of Holiness, grant me Thy grace and true strength of will to convert with ardent heart and spirit. Aid me, O Lord my God, so that I may entreat Thee humbly and with true tears of compunction.

Forgive my past sins through Thy compassion, and absolve me from all the sins which I have expressed in Thy sacred presence, for Thou art good, compassionate, and the Lover of Mankind.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

(Budgeted: \$3,100.00)

Regular Collection Last Week: \$1,888.00

(Budget Deficit 2022: \$10,894.00)⁵

⁵ Deficit 2019: \$72,270.59/Deficit 2020: \$34,473.00/Deficit 2021: \$35,178.00

Contributions to the **hot-water system** in the parish **hall** (re-imbursement for the project) thus far: **\$1,000.00**⁶

Thank you for your **generous contributions** in covering, piece by piece, the many needs of our parish.

An additional **\$000.00** has come in this week toward the **needed masonry construction and maintenance** collection of **\$39,000.00**.⁷

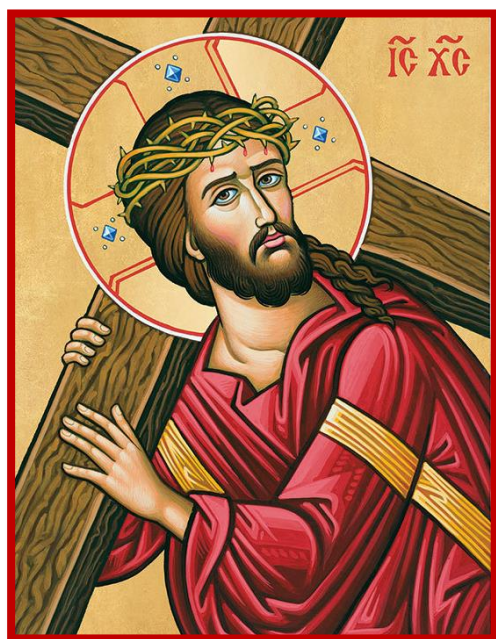
BISHOP'S LENTEN APPEAL 2022:

\$4,000.00 due

Contributions to date: **\$478.00**

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.



Schedule for the Great and Holy Week of the Passion of our Lord and God

The Temptation of Jesus in the Wilderness

Friday, April 8th

Divine Qourbonoh: **9:00 am**

Stations and Adoration
of the Life-giving Cross: **6:30pm**

Lazarus Saturday

Saturday, April 9th

Divine Qourbonoh: **10:00 am**

Followed by skit and celebrations with the children

Ramsho of Hosanna Sunday: 4:00 pm

Sunday Vigil: 5:00 pm

Hosanna Sunday

Sunday, April 10th

Divine Qourbonoh and Liturgy,
the Blessing of Palms and Entrance of our Lord
into the Holy City: **9:00 am**

Divine Qourbonoh: **11:00 am**

⁶ Our responsibility for this expense remains at **\$4,905.00**.

⁷ 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, two-thirds of which will come from the challenge grant and matching funds.

Great and Holy Tuesday

Tuesday, April 12th

Divine Qourbonoh: 9:00 am

Great and Holy Wednesday

(Spy Wednesday)

Wednesday, April 13th

Divine Qourbonoh: 9:00 am

The Rite of the Lamp and Anointing: 6:30 pm

Ramsho of Great and Holy Thursday
of the Mysteries: 8:00 pm

Great and Holy Thursday of the Divine Mysteries

(Maundy Thursday)

Thursday, April 14th

Divine Qourbonoh, Liturgy
and Eucharistic Adoration: 6:00 pm

Ramsho of Great and Holy Friday
of the Crucifixion: 8:00 pm

Great and Holy Friday of the Crucifixion

Friday, April 15th

(remember to bring flowers for the Tomb)

Liturgy, the Signing of the Chalice: 11:30 am

*Collections for the Holy Land to be made
at both Liturgies*

Liturgy, the Death and Burial
of our Lord and God: 6:30 pm

Ramsho of Great and Holy Saturday
of the Light: 8:30 pm

Great and Holy Saturday of the Light

Saturday, April 16th

Liturgy of the Rite of Forgiveness: 11:30 am

Ramsho of the Glorious Resurrection,
Sacred Baptism and Chrismation
of Catechumens,

Vigil of the Glorious Resurrection:

All Commencing at 4:00 pm

The Glorious Resurrection of our Lord and God

Sunday, April 17th

Divine Qourbonoh, Opening of the Tomb,
and the Rite of Peace: 9:00 am

Divine Qourbonoh: 11:00 am

**Blessing of Paschal/Easter Foods
after each Mass**

*Please bring your baskets and foods
to the bema after the Liturgy*

The Healing of the Paralytic p. 237

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

Entrance Hymn: LB *ehnono nouhro shareero* 120

Glory: SB *glory*

Qolo/Hymn: LB *soogheeto (lilyo)* 121B

Creed p 748

C.) From the age of reason onward, all are obliged to follow the abstinence from all meat, meat products, and dairy products on these fast days.

D.) All Fridays throughout the year are traditional days of fast and abstinence from all meat and dairy products.

E.) In general, the sick, expectant mothers, and the elderly who need to eat regularly are exempted from fasting and abstinence, especially those who are under medical care for chronic illnesses.

F.) Saturdays and Sunday are not, in the eastern traditions, days of fasting as are the weekdays.

- 1.) Traditionally, abstinence is observed from all meat and meat products, from all dairy products, eggs, and from fish.
- 2.) Traditional mitigation on Saturday and Sunday does allow for the consuming of shellfish and wine (or other alcohol).
- 3.) There is no fast restriction of time. One may eat at any hour.
- 4.) Fish also may be eaten on Sha'neenee (Hosanna Sunday/Palm Sunday)

G.) Breaking the Fast is permitted also on the following feastdays:

- 1.) Saint John Maron (March 2);
- 2.) The Forty Martyrs (March 9);
- 3.) Saint Patrick (March 17th);
- 4.) Saint Joseph (March 19th); and,
- 5.) The Annunciation (March 25th).

QUANTITY: In our tradition, the weekday fast means no food whatsoever between midnight and noon, only water and medication are permitted.

QUALITY: Also, in our traditional eastern tradition, the days of fast are in practice more or less vegan, that is, no meat, no seafood, no meat products, no dairy products, and no eggs are eaten.



Saint John Climacus

March 30th