

Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church

Solemnity of the Exaltation of the Most Holy Cross



September 11, 2022

Welcome all visitors to the beautiful heritage of Antioch

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

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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." *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, *Sodality/Almoner*; Matthew Stone, *Finance Committee*



THIS DAY'S EPISTLE¹

I Corinthians 1: 18-25

For discourse concerning the Cross is, to them who are perishing, foolishness; but to us who *live*, it is the power of God. for it is written:

*I will destroy the wisdom of the wise;
and I will dissipate the intelligence
of the sagacious.²*

Where is the wise man?
Where is the scribe?
Or where is the disputant of this world?
Behold, hath not God showed, that the wisdom of this world is folly?
For in the wisdom of God,
because the world by wisdom knew not God,
it pleased God, by the foolishness of preaching,
to *quicken* them who believe.
Because the Jews ask for signs,
and the *Aramaeans* demand wisdom.
But we preach *Messiah* as crucified –
a stumbling-block to the Jews,
and foolishness to the Gentiles –
but to them who are called – both Jews and Gentiles – *Messiah* is the power of God,
and the wisdom of God.
Because the foolishness of God
is wiser than men;
and the feebleness of God,
is stronger than men.



*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)³

ABOUNA'S REFLECTIONS

Even before the great event, the most holy Redeemer's salvific and sacrificial death on Calvary was transfigured by our Lord on the night of His betrayal. It was configured as a Sacrament and confided to the Church as her crowning gift. Our redemption was accomplished in the death of the Messiah, and that reality He shares with us in a very real manner in the Eucharistic Sacrifice.

As a Sacrament, the Eucharist is both divine and human; it is both a gift *to* the Church and the Church's gift *for* the redemption of men. The Divine Eucharist is both fully human and fully divine just as is the Christ. In the Mass, each of the baptized is able to touch as it were and enter into the salvific sacrifice of the God-Man made once in time, and in this contact is able to offer to God in return a Sacrifice that is the Church's own. Each of the baptized within the Church can receive, participate in, and offer in this manner a fitting sacrifice of propitiation. The Mass is the unblemished oblation foretold in the prophets.⁴

During the Mystical ("Last") Supper, the Word Incarnate sacramentalized His Redemptive Death, and, as it were, sacramentalized Himself as the High Priest of mankind's salvation through the apostolic priesthood in the Church. The Eucharistic Sacrifice and the Catholic Priesthood are metaphysically united and inseparable. Without sacrifice there is no priesthood, and without priesthood there is no sacrifice. God-made-man, the Word Incarnate historically as the man Jesus of Nazareth, as the Great High Priest allows mankind to be elevated and made holy –

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

² Isaiah 29:14

³ Homily 1.7.8 "on Ezechiel"

⁴ For from the rising of the sun to its setting my name is great among the nations, and in every place incense is offered to my name, and a **pure offering**: for my name is great among nations, says the Lord of hosts (Malachi 1:11).

*sacrum facere*⁵ – into the Most Holy One. Our healing precedes this sacralization, and without this holiness our healing does not take place.

This sublime Eucharistic Rozoh is actualized in the Church by His Priesthood, and as He sacramentalized His Redemptive Death, so too did He sacramentalize His unique Priesthood at the same moment at the Last Supper. Both were given to the Apostles because they form one body and reality in the mystery of redemption: “Do this in memory of Me”.

The Apostles were the first to be ordained into this Mystery, and by being made so they were consecrated into the Mystery of the Incarnation and became its sacramental extension in the world. This is the metaphysical transformation in priestly ordination that we call the “character”. The human priest in the Church of God in his sacerdotal capacity is the image of Christ – that is, *an icon* – in His redemptive incarnation, considered as Priest and Head of His Body. It is as Priest and Sacrificial Victim that Christ is made present in the Divine Eucharist *and* in the priest of the Church, although in a manner different in each. This truth is foundational to the priestly spiritual life.

Men consecrated in the Sacrament of Holy Orders are transformed by the sacred and sacramental character of the Eternal High Priest so that they might accomplish this work and act as the extension of the very Person of Christ; they act, as the theologians say, *in persona Christi*. The Catholic priest is not Christ, of course, but even as simple bread and wine are transubstantiated into the Sacred Body and Blood of Christ in the Divine Eucharist, so too, through the Sacrament and Sacred Character of Holy Orders, the baptized man is further consecrated by the Sacrament and “is made” Christ for the exercise of this priesthood.

In our Maronite tradition, this sublime truth of our Faith is manifested in the ordination of a priest, when the bishop lays his hand upon the Divine Mysteries, signifying that it is the Divine Eucharist consecrating the man who will consecrate the Eucharist. This gesture – centralizing and indicating the Divine Priest and Victim – is an exceptionally beautiful symbol and *rozoh*.

Today we honor that priesthood, venerate the Sacrament of Holy Orders, and celebrate this divine and human reality in the consecrated man – Bishop Gregory Mansour. Forty years of faithfully rendering present the saving death of the Redeemer, through which countless Catholics have been able to sanctify their lives and be transformed within Christ’s Sacrifice (and this in a fitting manner pleasing to the Hidden God of all goodness) is a beautiful accomplishment.

Today, we celebrate the goodness of God and the fidelity of a man. Congratulations, Saydna!

الفريز



VOCATION ICON

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

Sun	Sept	11	Michael & Gayle Misner
Sun	Sept	18	Steve & Allison Crate
Sun	Sept	25	Suzanne Paré
Sun	Oct	2	Daja Gombojav & Family
Sun	Oct	9	Ira & Catherine Mandel
Sun	Oct	16	Dean & MaryAnn Carter

⁵ Origin of our word “sacrifice”.

Schedule of Readings

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE EXALTATION OF THE MOST HOLY CROSS

September 11, 2022

I Cor 1: 18-25 St. John 12: 20-32

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER HOLY CROSS

September 18, 2022

II Tim 2: 1-10 St. Mark 10: 35-45



The Sanctuary Lamp burns
in September
in memory of **Albert** and
Rose Bellamah.
at the request
of Dame Fefa.

May their memory be eternal!

*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: Kevin J. Michaud,
Sheila Bonenfant, John Gallant, Gareth Belton,
Katrina Nappi, Holly Perron, Christian Disuag,
Daja Gombojav, Margaret Mae Lambert, Mary
Theresa Huebner, Mary Morin, Larry Grard, Sarah
Grace Misner-Elias, Cindy Elias, Barbara Joseph,
Madeleine Dombroski, Sally Derosby, Tala Poulin,
Richard Karter, Rita Hikel, and all those who may
suffer from illness, disease, want, or depression.

Bishop Gregory, in honoring his anniversary, asks that we take special note to his appeal and the fundraising dinner in October. He is committing 25% of the funds received to go to Lebanon in this grave hour of her need. This is an excellent way to both honor the priesthood and aid our sisters and brothers suffering in Lebanon:

Each October, the Eparchy has a Benefit Dinner to raise funds for educating seminarians, expanding ministries, and supporting parishes and missions in need in the Eparchy. 25% of the net proceeds of this year's event will be directed to help in Lebanon and the Middle East, as they continue to need assistance more now than ever.

The **Thirteenth Annual Benefit
Dinner** will take place on **Thursday**
evening, **October 6**, at The Water Club.

Please visit www.stmaron.org/eparchial-benefit to register and make a donation. Please support this important event – the Church relies on you and is always so grateful for your generosity. For more information, please email saintmaron@yahoo.com or call 718-237-9913. Thank you.

INTENTIONS FOR THE QOURBONEH (MASSES)

Sun 11 9:00am †Mary Yasmine Hawes
(Lowell Hawes)

**11:00am No Liturgy/
Reception of the Eparch**

Mon 12 _____

Tue 13 †Faithful Departed of St. Joseph's
(Audrey Yotides)

Wed 14 Ganchimeg Gombojav
(Daja Gombojav)

Thu 15 David Nicholas
(Mary Nicholas)

Fri 16 Catherine Mandel
(Misner-Elias Family)

Sat 17 Saturday, 10:00 am
Israël Gombojav
(Daja Gombojav)
4:30pm Sunday Vigil
Private Intention

Sun 18 9:00am Parishioners of Saint Joseph
11:00am †Joan Gottardi
(Donna-Jo Mitchell)

Mon 19 -----

Tue 20 †Philip & Belle Veilleux
(Paula & Larry Mitchell)

Wed 21 Ganchimeg Gombojav
(Daja Gombojav)

Thu 22 Tony Miklaszewski
(Virginia Miklaszewski)

Fri 23 †Barbara Souther
(Mary Nicholas)

Sat 24 Saturday, 10:00 am
†Mary Bellamah Maroon
(Paul & Stephen Maroon)
4:30pm Sunday Vigil
Private Intention

Sun 25 9:00am Parishioners of Saint Joseph
11:00am Ramon Managad
(Mathieu Family)

Mon 26 -----

Tue 27 †Darrell Mitchell
(Donna-Jo Mitchell)

Wed 28 †Evi Schön
(Simon Misner-Elias)

Thu 29 †David Baldassara
(Dan & Pam Casavant)

Fri 30 Catherine Mandel
(Misner-Elias Family)



SERVERS OF THE DIVINE ALTAR

September 11th:

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

September 18th:

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

September 25th:

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

October 2nd:

9:00am: N. Carter / A. Michaud
11:00am: J. Gamble / S. Nappi

October 9th:

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

October 16th:

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



Attention all readers!

www.Blessedsacramentlibrary.org

Reading beatifies the spirit and transforms the imagination. Are you looking for good reading and a library of Catholic Books?

Access to the **private library** at **Blessed Sacrament Convent** is now possible.
101 Silver Street, Waterville.

The Sisters have 3000 books available in 17 categories.

There are two ways to borrow books from the convent library:

- 1.) From your computer or smartphone (see above);
- 2.) By appointment to browse in the library:
(207) 872-7072

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

(Budgeted: \$3,100.00)

Regular Collection Last Week: \$-----.00⁶

(Budget Deficit 2022: \$30,198.00)⁷

Today's Special Collection, **September 11th**:
Catholic University of America
(This collection provides funding for the University)

An additional **\$000.00** has come in this week toward the needed **masonry construction** and **maintenance** collection toward the last **\$20,000.00**.⁸

Donations to date to install **next heat-pump** in the church to burn cleaner, more efficiently, and lower fuel-oil costs: **\$5,545.00**⁹

Second Sunday each month is a second collection to cover our **monthly fuel-oil costs**. The next twelve months will cost us **over \$30,000.00**.
Please be as generous as you can.

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

Solemnity of the Exaltation of the Most Holy Cross p. 606

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

Ta B'shlom (entrance of the eparch) 233

Entrance Hymn: LB *fsheeto* 178A

Glory: SB *al majdu*

Qolo/Hymn: LB *toobaik 'eedto* 234

Creed p 748

PRE-ANAPHORA:

Transfer of Gifts: LB *The Lord Reigns*

Incense Hymn Offertory: SB *l'maryam yoldat*

ANAPHORA:

Saint John Maron: p 897

Sign of Peace: SB *tou ba*

Communion: SB *O Bread of Life; Father of Truth*

Recessional: SB *Glorious in Majesty*

Saint Cyprian,
Bishop of
Carthage



September 16th

⁶ There was no office work done this past week.

⁷ Deficit 2019: \$72,270.59/Deficit 2020: \$34,473.00/Deficit 2021: \$35,178.00

⁸ This makes the amount toward our matching Challenge Grant (20k), to be presently **\$20,567.00**. This lengthy collection is being made to cover the needed **building maintenance** and **masonry projects**, estimated at \$60,000.00, two-thirds of which

will come from the Challenge Grant and matching funds: **\$40,567**. This leaves a remainder of **\$19,000.00** to cover the whole project.

⁹ The next twelve-month contract for heating oil is set to cost **over \$30,000.00!** The projected cost for this heat-pump installation is **\$8,000.00**.