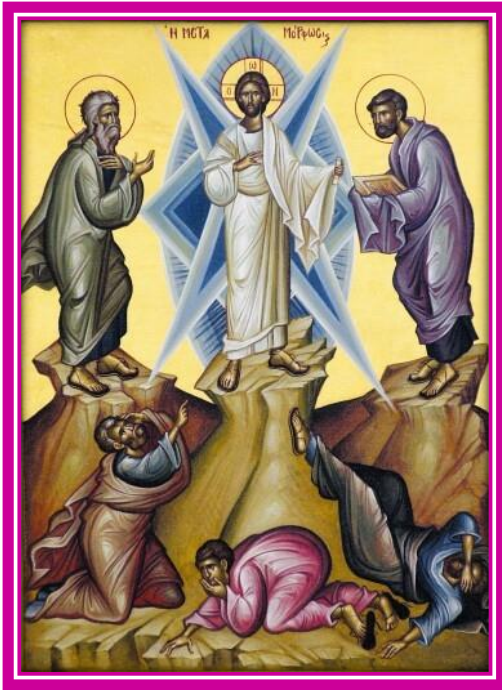


# Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church



## Solemnity of the Transfiguration of Our Lord

August 7, 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](mailto:stjoesinmaine@yahoo.com)

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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*

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### **THIS DAY'S EPISTLE**

#### **II Corinthians 3: 7-17**

Now if the ministration of death was engraved upon stones in writing, and was so glorious

that the children of Israel could not look on the face of Moses, on account of the glory upon his face which vanished away; how then shall not the ministration of the Spirit be still more glorious?

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

For if there was glory in the ministration of condemnation, how much more shall the ministration of justification excel in glory? For that which was glorious, was as if not glorious, in comparison with this which excelleth in glory.

For if that which was abolished was glorious, much more must that which abideth be glorious. –

Seeing therefore we have this hope, we the more speak with boldness; and are not like Moses who threw a veil over his face, that the children of Israel might not behold the termination of that which was abolished.

But they were blinded in their understanding; for until this day, when the old Testament is read, the same veil resteth upon them, nor is it manifest (to them), that it is abolished by the Messiah.

And unto this day, when Moses is read, a veil is thrown over their hearts.

But when any of them is converted unto the Lord, the veil is taken from him.

Now the Lord Himself is the Spirit.

And where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

And we all, with uncovered faces, behold as in a mirror the glory of the Lord; and we are transformed into the same likeness, from glory to glory, as by the Lord the Spirit.



*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)<sup>2</sup>

## **ABOUNA'S REFLECTIONS**

*She,<sup>3</sup> therefore, reaches mightily from one end to the other, and she orders all things sweetly, exceedingly well.<sup>4</sup>*

All praise be to the Good One for His generosity, Who continually bears us up by tender mercy in the workings of His order and wisdom. We move forward.

We all love the building and grounds of our parish, and we all desire to see her community thrive in all things: both spiritual and material.

Diligently over the last three months, the Finance Committee has contacted the companies that have been asked to put out bids for the work. The new quotes, as of last week, have finally come in. These construction estimates were made last Spring, but as we had not matched the Challenge Grant we could not proceed and these estimates needed to be updated for consideration this year.

*It is important to understand the eparchial directives for projects such as these.* There seem to be some parishioners who think this is a matter of “fiat”, simply saying “yes” and plowing ahead. This is not true. It is not that simple, nor do things happen overnight. We work as we must – with order and with prudential foresight.

*You know (this), my dearest brethren; and let each be swift to hear, but slow to speak, and slow to anger.<sup>5</sup>*

<sup>2</sup> Homily 1.7.8 “on Ezechiel”

<sup>3</sup> Divine Wisdom

<sup>4</sup> Wisdom 8: 1

<sup>5</sup> St. James 1: 19

As disciples of the Word Son – eternal Word of the hidden and silent Father – each of us needs to consciously work to *listen more, speak less*, and be *even slower to judge*. Rash judgement causes the destruction of families and the death of communities. Let us never be the culprit in generating fruitless “chatter” on social media. These agitations do not accomplish the will of God.

Impatience solves no problems, and frustration hurries along no projects. Anger and fury *accomplish* even less; while, it must be said, gossip and a critical spirit are positively corrupting. These aggressive attitudes do not achieve, nor fulfill the purpose of God’s Plan and they do not manifest the work of the Good One: “the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God”.<sup>6</sup>

There has ever been order and reason in all the workings of Holy Mother Church, and there are obligatory procedures in the manner that we must proceed in the eparchy. Our eparchy requires all projects that exceed \$10,000.00 to be submitted for prior approval.

When a project is proposed to the eparchy there must be *at least three* estimates included. Two years ago, in the fall of 2020, I did ask the bishop to be allowed to begin the masonry work, and the request was denied. The request was refused (based as it was on but a single estimate submitted) and the eparchial directives were reiterated.

Once updated estimates have been gathered, and the funds for the projects are verifiable, the Finance Council and the Pastor write up a *votum*, that is, the desired proposal that is presented to the bishop and the eparchial offices along with the estimates. This, once approved, allows a parish to proceed with its major projects.

“**Verifiable funds**” must also be shown in order to proceed on such projects. As all well know, the parish has not met its annual budget for many, many years now (this was the primary reason to establish an endowment fund in 2015) and our proposal needs to show to the bishop that we can pay for such a large project.

The Eparchy does not subsidize parishes – the parishes subsidize the eparchy.

As you know from the published financial report, our Endowment Fund reached **\$600,000.00** at the end of December 2021. However, from that date onward the financial markets have dropped precipitously and our invested funds have *lost* **\$55,000.00** (this is equal to almost the entire amount needed for our masonry maintenance!). Matching our Challenge Grant will merely plug this dramatic financial hole.

We struggle, but we do so with hope and confidence.

Although it is true that the *poverty syndrome* means that works that are put off for lack of funds increase in expense as time goes on, we must be realistic in estimating our capabilities. We cannot/will not go below the level of our endowment capital (**\$500,000.00**), this would defeat the purpose of setting it up. The Endowment is not simply another bank account from which to pull funds. Over the last twenty years all extraneous bank accounts have already been drained in such a manner.

An endowment fund is meant to generate supplemental income, which does not look to happen this year. In any case, a \$500,000.00 invested endowment might be expected to generate around \$25,000.00 – in a good year for the markets, which this one is certainly not – but this sum is only slightly half of our average annual deficit.

It’s math; either regular contributions must increase or the *fundraisers* will have to fill up the additional **\$25,000.00**.

Clarity of thought must take priority, and clear goals must be set for the future to be sustained.

*Be silent in the presence of the LORD,  
and wait patiently for him to act.<sup>7</sup>*

These are, therefore, the minimal things we must do to go forward. The Finance Council is aware of this, and is proceeding accordingly.

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<sup>6</sup> St. James 1: 20. See also, Ephesians 4: 26; II Timothy 2: 24-25; and, St. James 3: 17-18.

<sup>7</sup> Psalm 37: 7

To note:

- 1.) the **construction estimates** – the minimal *three* to be submitted – as of last week have been updated and made current for this year.
- 2.) the *votum* is being drawn-up by the Pastor and the Finance Council that will be submitted to the bishop’s final decision and approval.
- 3.) when all the above is in hand, *then* the project can be **scheduled** with the chosen company in order to move forward.

All those who have contributed to these projects are to be heartily thanked. Those who have exercised wisdom in patience and charity are to be commended, and those who patiently cherish hopes for a grace-filled future will be consoled in the workings of the God of mercies. Wisdom labors strongly, sweetly, touching all things, and she manifests the charity and calm of the Good One. We should all act likewise.

During these last couple years of pandemic, trial, disappointment, and hardship, your generosity has done wonders to improve our financial footing, expand our apostolic reach, and continually encourage us to turn our eyes with hope toward a bright future.

The consoling grace of God comes to those who labor patiently under the Cross, who live with charity filling their souls, who are gentle in spirit, peaceable and not rash in judgement, and who follow in the footsteps of the Sacred Heart.

This most do beautifully.

VOCATION ICON

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

Sun	Aug	7	Steve & Allison Crate
Sun	Aug	14	Suzanne Paré
Sun	Aug	21	Daja Gombojav & Family
Sun	Aug	28	Ira & Catherine Mandel
Sun	Sept	4	Dean & MaryAnn Carter
Sun	Sept	11	Michael & Gayle Misner

*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:** John Gallant, Gareth Belton, Katrina Nappi, Holly Perron, 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, Rita Hikel, and all those who may suffer from illness, disease, want, or depression.

**SCHEDULE OF READINGS**

**SOLEMNITY OF THE THE TRANSFIGURATION  
OF OUR LORD**  
August 7, 2022

**II Cor 3: 7-17      St. Mark 9: 1-7**

**THE ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST**  
August 14, 2022

**Eph 2: 17-22      St. Luke 19: 1-10**



The Sanctuary Lamp burns in August in memory of the *Bernie* and *Pat Thomas*. at the request of Michelle Cothran and Nicole Thomas.

*May their memory be eternal!*



INTENTIONS FOR THE QOURBONEH (MASSES)

Sun 7 9:00am For the Members of the Parish  
 11:00am †Albert Duguay  
 (KofC 11303)

Mon 8 -----

Tue 9 Tony Miklaszewski  
 (Virginia Miklaszewski)

Wed 10 †Lovie and Peter Maroon  
 (Paul & John Maroon)

Thu 11 †Lolo Salazar  
 (Peter & Kim Paré)

Fri 12 Joseph Gosselin  
 (Jodi Gosselin)

Sat 13 Saturday, 10:00 am  
 Gayle Misner-Elias  
 (Michael Misner-Elias)

4:30pm Sunday Vigil  
 Private Intention

Sun 14 9:00am For the Members of the Parish  
 11:00am †All the Faithful Departed of  
 Saint Joseph's Parish  
 (Audrey Yotides)

6:00pm Ramsho  
**Glorious Assumption**

Mon 15 10:00am Feast of the Assumption

Tue 16 No Public Liturgy -----

Wed 17 †Lolo Salazar  
 (Suzanne Paré)

Thu 18 †Joan Gottardi  
 (Donna-Jo Mitchell)

Fri 19 †Norma Maroon  
 (John Maroon)

Sat 20 Saturday, 10:00 am  
 Christine Arbour  
 (Suzanne Paré)

4:30pm Sunday Vigil  
 Private Intention

Sun 21 9:00am For the Members of the Parish  
 11:00am †Roger Charette  
 (Dame Fefa)

Mon 22 -----

Tue 23 Israel Gombojav  
 (Daja Gombojav)

Wed 24 †Albert Duguay  
 (Suzanne Paré)

Thu 25 Ganchimeg Gombojav  
 (Daja Gombojav)

Fri 26 †Sandra Sabbaq  
 (Suzanne Paré)

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

(Budgeted: \$3,100.00)

Regular Collection Last Week: \$2,122.00

(Budget Deficit 2022: \$26,120.00)<sup>8</sup>

An additional \$000.00 has come in this week toward the needed masonry construction and maintenance collection toward the last \$20,000.00.<sup>9</sup>

Donations to date for the new appliances in the parish hall kitchen: \$5,960.00<sup>10</sup>

Donations to date to install next heat-pump in the church to burn cleaner, more efficiently, and lower fuel-oil costs: \$2,173.00<sup>11</sup>

Second Sunday each month is a second collection to cover our monthly fuel-oil costs. The next twelve months will cost us over \$33,000.00.

Please be as generous as you can.

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

<sup>8</sup> Deficit 2019: \$72,270.59/Deficit 2020: \$34,473.00/ Deficit 2021: \$35,178.00

<sup>9</sup> 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.

<sup>10</sup> Our projected goal to raise that is needed to finance the new appliances is \$6,000.00.

<sup>11</sup> The next twelve-month contract for heating oil is set to cost over \$33,000.00! The projected cost for this heat-pump installation is \$8,000.00.

# Solemnity of the Transfiguration of Our Lord

p. 583

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

**Entrance Hymn:** LB *ehnono nouhro shareero* 227A

**Glory:** SB *glory*

**Qolo/Hymn:** LB *Msheeho natareh l'eedtokh* 228A

**Creed** p 748

## PRE-ANAPHORA:

**Transfer of Gifts:** LB *The Lord Reigns*

**Incense Hymn Offertory:** SB *l'maryam yoldat*

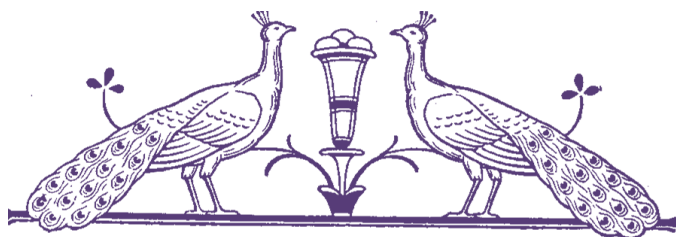
## ANAPHORA:

**Saint John Chrysostom:** p 876

**Sign of Peace:** SB *tou ba*

**Communion:** SB *O Bread of Life; Holy*

**Recessional:** SB *Praise to the Lord*



## *The Fast of the Dormition*

*The Assumption of the Ever-Virgin Mary into Heaven, body and soul (August 15<sup>th</sup>)*

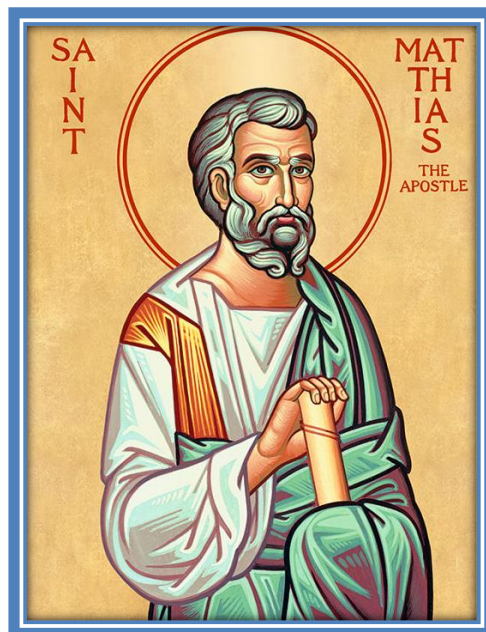
As we were reminded by our Patriarch in his encyclical, it is our tradition to fast in preparation for the great feasts, and all are encouraged to do so faithfully, *par.* 24:

*This fast is known as “The Fast of the Virgin”, during which the faithful abstain from eating meat, dairy products, and eggs, from August 7<sup>th</sup> until August 14<sup>th</sup> inclusively.*

We are also reminded in *paragraph 21* of the same letter that “a fast” is to go without all foods *from midnight to noon*, after which we *abstain from all animal flesh and most all animal products* – this is most similar, but not exactly the same, to a “vegan” diet.

When a fast day falls on a Saturday or a Sunday (as will be the case on August 7<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> this year) one can eat as they wish, but should still abstain from animal flesh, dairy, and animal products, although shellfish is permitted.

These observances are for all who have attained the age of the use of reason, *par.* 22



## *Saint Mathias*

*Apostle*

*August 9<sup>th</sup>*