

# Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church



## The Fifth Sunday of Pentecost

June 25, 2023

Welcome all visitors to the beautiful heritage of Antioch

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

Pastor: Rev. Fr. James Doran, KHS  
Subdeacon: Mr. Stephen Crate  
Website: <http://www.sjmaronite.org>  
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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 11:00a.m.; Tues. – Fr. 9:00a.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*    **Legion of Mary:** Sir Ira Mandel, KHS, *President*  
**Choir:** Dame Marie Fefa Deeb, DSG, *Director Emerita*    **Pastoral Council Chair:** Suzanne Paré  
**Pastoral Council Members:** Suzanne Paré, *Chair*; Jeanne Thomas, *Secretary*; Steve Crate, *Religious Education*;  
Ira Mandel, *Legion of Mary*; Larry Mitchell, *Knights of Columbus*; Ruth Lunn, *Almoner*; Judith Metzger, *Finance Committee*

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### **This Day's Gospel<sup>1</sup>** **Saint Matthew 10: 1-7**

He called His twelve disciples,  
giving them authority  
to drive out unclean spirits

and to heal every disease and sickness.  
These are the names of the twelve apostles:  
The first of them was Simon, called Kepha,  
and his brother Andrew;  
James, son of Zebedee, and his brother John;  
Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas,  
and Matthew, the publican;

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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

James, son of Alphaï,  
and Lebba, surnamed Thadai;  
Simon the Canaanite,  
and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed Him.

Jesus sent out these twelve  
and commanded them,  
"Do not go among the pagans,  
nor enter any town of the Samaritans,  
but go rather to the lost sheep  
of the House of Israel.  
As you go, proclaim,  
'The Kingdom of Heaven has arrived'."



*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**

You are a Fire always burning,  
but never consuming.  
You are a Fire consuming in Your heat  
all the soul's selfish love.  
You are a Fire lifting all chill and giving light.  
In Your light, You have made me know Your truth.  
You are that Light beyond all light,  
Who gives the mind's eye supernatural light  
in such fullness and perfection  
that You bring clarity even to the light of faith.  
In that faith I see that my soul has life,  
and in that light receives You Who are Light.<sup>3</sup>

Things remaining the same can have varying effects in their actions depending on the disposition of the receiver. For example, the same sun can both melt wax and harden mud. Light can allow us to see so that we do not stumble when walking, and it can also cause pain and blindness to those whose eyes are weakened by sickness. The same heat can bring warm comfort and growth as well as burn up dried grass and cause forest fires. Fire can purify metals from dross and set ablaze that which is inflammably desiccated.

The presence of one and the same thing thus can have various effects depending on the recipient. So it is with God; He loves and sanctifies from an infinite Heart – even dying for us and conquering death – and yet not all are ultimately saved by that unique Love. It all depends on the disposition and condition of the receiver. Are we wax or mud? Does grace soften or harden our heart?

The above prayer of Saint Catherine of Siena bears a remarkable likeness to the image often used by the Syriac Fathers: God is Light and Fire. Profound in expression, it is an image that is easy to grasp, even if not to comprehend.

<sup>2</sup> Homily 1.7.8 "on Ezechiel"

<sup>3</sup> Saint Catherine of Siena, The Dialogue, tran. By Suzanne Noffke, as quoted in An Easter Sourcebook p. 147

Saint Ephraim referred to the sun as an image of the Most Holy Trinity. Although the natural sun is not a revelation of the Triune Mystery of God, neither is the shamrock, but both have been used to express the Divine Mystery. The sun does hold a fitting symbolism for those who already know Divinity to be Threefold Personality as it has been revealed by our Savior. That said, the image remains an apt one to convey a fuller understanding of the works of God.

Saint Ephraim spoke of God as the Divine Sun in as much as the natural sun exhibits fire, heat, and light, so the Divine Trinity can be expressed threefold as Fire, Heat, and Light. The Logos illumines and for this reason is represented by the *light* of the sun, while the Spirit that enkindles the divine fire of charity within us is aptly referred to the *heat* of the natural sun. As light and heat originate in the solar fire, so the Divine Word and the Spirit of Holiness originate each from the *Divine Fire* that we call the Unseen Father. So the one sun – one light, one heat, one fire – speak to us of the One God: one Father, one Logos, and one Divine Spirit as Gift.

As we might find ourselves out in the natural cold – especially in Maine for much of the year – we can also find ourselves physically in shade, even in darkness at times. In our lives these physical conditions can suggest the spiritual realities of lack of charity, the obscurity of sin, and the disorienting darkness of selfish egocentrism. Sin can easily swamp us. Our “default settings” by birth into this fallen world are just that: cold, dark, and separated from God. Nevertheless, we have been created in the image of the Word Incarnate, and this means that each person is open to divine light and is “capable of God”.

As noted in the prayer of Saint Catherine, the divine heat of grace is to consume our selfish love and turn us outwardly from our ego, thereby remedying our blindness. The divine fire is to enlighten us so that, transformed by faith, we can enter the perfection of the supernatural light. In this we come to a more profound and ever greater understanding of the one true God, ablaze in love.

Enlightened and enkindled in this manner, we are then disposed to “receive You Who are Light”.



God did not become Man and die on Calvary so that we be made simply “good people”. As Saint Catherine portrays so well in her prayer, Our God and Savior came into this world to transfigure us and make us transcend the merely natural and wounded life we received once at birth. This transcendent action is the meaning of “returning to Paradise” often repeated throughout the Great Fast.

Good education can make for “nice” people, but only grace, the true Faith, and the Divine Mysteries can make us the *children* of God. Only as divinized offspring can we enter the fullness of the Kingdom of Light.<sup>4</sup>

May we each form the desire to enter the spiritual vision and divine fire experienced by our Fathers and Mothers in the Faith. We move into the eternal Light so that the divine Heat may enkindle us, burn away our selfishness, and transfigure us progressively over the days of our lives.

Human life is an ongoing process to an end and a consummation. Grace gives it purpose and meaning. By the end of our days on earth, our

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<sup>4</sup> St. Matthew 18: 3-4

purified desire to enter the Divine Fire in blazing brilliance should find its perfection in the radiant fullness of the Kingdom.

Only on this path, and in this light, is the human heart able to find true rest.

## Schedule of Readings

### THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

June 25, 2023

Phil 3: 7-14      St. Matthew 10: 1-7

### SOLEMNITY OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL

July 2, 2023

II Cor 11: 21-30      St. Matthew 16: 13-20

## VOCATION ICON

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

Sun	June	25	Steve & Allison Crate
Sun	July	2	Anne Marie Mathieu
Sun	July	9	Suzanne Paré
Sun	July	16	Daja Gombojav & Family
Sun	July	23	Ira & Catherine Mandel
Sun	July	30	Maureen Martin
Sun	Aug	6	Dean & MaryAnn Carter



<sup>5</sup> Date modified by our Patriarch (from June 17<sup>th</sup> in the original encyclical) in February 2021.

## Schedule of Leaders for the Recitation of the Rosary at 10:30 am on the first, third, and fifth Sundays of each month:



Sun	July	2	Diane Wyder
Sun	July	16	Ira Mandel
Sun	July	30	Jody Lachance
Sun	Aug	6	Sava Nappi
Sun	Aug	20	Suzanne Paré
Sun	Sep	3	Jeanne Thomas

## The Fast of the Holy Apostles

*Saints Peter and Paul (June 29<sup>th</sup>)  
and the Twelve Apostles (June 30<sup>th</sup>)*

Reminded by our Patriarch, it is our tradition to fast in preparation for the great feasts of Saints Peter and Paul, and all are encouraged to do so faithfully, *par.* 23:

*This fast is known as "The Apostles' Fast", during which the faithful abstain from eating meat, dairy products, and eggs, from June 21<sup>st</sup> -- 28<sup>th</sup>.<sup>5</sup>*

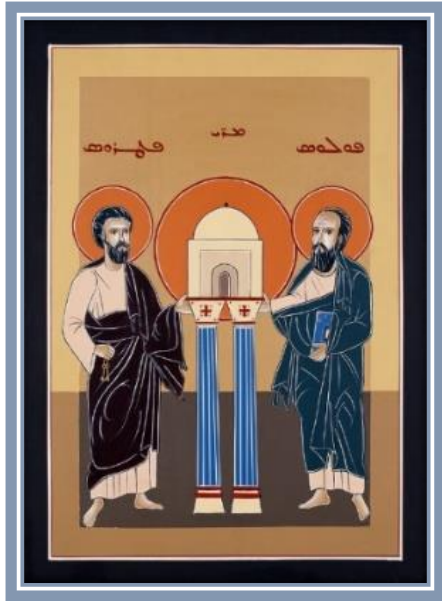
We are reminded in *paragraph 21* of the same letter that "a fast" is *to go without all foods from midnight to noon*, after which we abstain from all animal flesh and animal products – more or less "vegan" as one would call it today.

When a fast day falls on a Saturday or a Sunday (as will be the case on **June 24-25** this year) one can eat when they wish but should still abstain from all animal products, eggs,



and flesh. *Shellfish*, however, is permissible on Saturday and Sunday.

This practice is applicable to all who have *attained the age of the use of reason*, par. 22.



The parish will pray the Evening Office

*Ramsho of Saints Peter and Paul*

on **Wednesday**, June 28<sup>th</sup> at **6:30pm**.

The sanctuary lamp for June  
has been donated in memory of **John Maroon**  
by **Dame Fefa**



*May he receive light, peace, and joy  
in the fulness of the Kingdom*

## INTENTIONS FOR THE QOURBONEH (MASSES)

Sun 25 9:00am Parishioners of Saint Joseph  
11:00am Anniversary of  
Michael and Maureen Martin

Mon 26 -----

Tue 27 †Darrell Mitchell  
(Donna-Jo Mitchell)

Wed 28 †Elizabeth Serwin  
(Mary Ann Carter)

**6:30pm Ramsho of  
Saints Peter and Paul**

Thu 29 Abouna  
(same)

Fri 30 †Timothy Dean  
(Mike & Maureen Martin)

Sat 1 10:00 †Andrew Armstrong  
(Mary Ann Carter)

**4:30pm Sunday Vigil**  
*Private Intention*

Sun 2 9:00am Parishioners of Saint Joseph  
11:00am †Edward Serwin  
(Mary Ann Carter)

Mon 3 -----

Tue 4 †John Marietta and Paul Thomas  
(Pam & Dan Casavant)

Wed 5 †Elizabeth Serwin  
(Mary Ann Carter)

Thu 6 †Windy Bizier  
(Daja Gombojav)

Fri 7 †Linda Armstrong  
(Mary Ann Carter)

Sat 8 **NAM Convention and  
Priests' Convocation**

**No Ramsho and No Masses today**

Sun 9 9:00am Parishioners of Saint Joseph  
11:00am †Linda Armstrong  
(Mary Ann Carter)

Mon 10 -----

Tue 11 **Fortieth Day for Cindy Elias**  
(Michael & Gayle Misner-Elias)

Wed 12 †**Mary Theresa Huebner**  
(Audrey Yotides)

Thu 13 **Michael & Teresa Paré**  
(Suzanne Paré)

Fri 14 †**Linda Armstrong**  
(Mary Ann Carter)

Sat 15 10:00 †**Joseph Smus**  
(Paula, David, & Patricia)

**4:30pm Sunday Vigil**  
*Private Intention*



The standing apostolic meeting of the **Praesidium of Mary, Queen of the Clergy** is at **10:30am each Friday**. All Legionaries must attend and all Auxiliaries are invited to do so.

All **men** and **women**, practicing Catholics, being called by the Holy Mother of God into this work of Catholic Action and Marian Apostolate may acquire more information from **Ira Mandel**, its president, or from its vice-president, **Daja Gombojav**.



Presentation on the Legion and more information will be available at **coffee socials** scheduled **after each Sunday Mass on July 16<sup>th</sup>** – Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel – and again on **August 20<sup>th</sup>**.

*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:** Mary Maroon, Ira Mandel, Mary, Joseph, and Doreen Nader, Ruth Lunn, Joyce Black, Stephen Michaud, Dame Fefa, Paula Mitchell, Sheila Bonenfant, Gareth Belton, Katrina Nappi, Holly Perron, Christian Disuag, Daja Gombojav, Margaret Mae Lambert, Mary Morin, Larry Grard, Sarah Grace Misner-Elias, Barbara Joseph, Sally Derosby, Tala Poulin, Richard Karter, Rita Hikel, and all those who may suffer from illness, disease, want, or depression.

## LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

(Budgeted weekly: \$3,500.00)

Regular Collection Last Week: \$2,992.00

(Running Budget Deficit, 2023: **\$25,334.00**)<sup>6</sup>

Today's **Special Collection** is **Peter's Pence:**  
**June 25<sup>th</sup>**

*(This is sent to the Holy Father to assist him  
with emergency financial assistance  
to aid the neediest throughout the world.)*

May the Good One bless and richly reward  
the generous of heart who can and choose  
to help offset these latest parish expenses:

Expenses still outstanding for:

**Video Camera:** \$811.21

**Rectory Refrigerator:** \$1,025.00

**Second Sunday each month** is a second collection  
to cover our **monthly fuel-oil costs**. The next twelve  
months will cost us **over \$26,000.00**.

**Please be as generous as you can.**

This month's fuel collection to date: **\$355.00**<sup>7</sup>

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



*After the Divine Mysteries,  
at both 9:00 and 11:00am,  
there is a gathering in the  
parish hall for coffee and freshly  
baked muffins on the **second**  
and **fourth Sunday** of each  
month, October through May.*

## *SERVERS OF THE DIVINE ALTAR*

### June 25<sup>th</sup>:

9:00am: Caesar Gombojav / Lorenzo Michaud

11:00am: Sava Nappi / Rocco Nappi

### July 2<sup>nd</sup>:

9:00am: Michael Carter / River Gombojav

11:00am: Icbelig Gombojav / Patrick Carter

### July 9<sup>th</sup>:

9:00am: Caesar Gombojav / Nathanael Carter

11:00am: River Gombojav / Sava Nappi

### July 16<sup>th</sup>:

9:00am: Icbelig Gombojav / Lorenzo Michaud

11:00am: Rocco Nappi / Patrick Carter

### July 23<sup>rd</sup>:

9:00am: Nathanael Carter / Caesar Gombojav

11:00am: River Gombojav / Sava Nappi

### July 30<sup>th</sup>:

9:00am: Michael Carter / Icbelig Gombojav

11:00am: Patrick Carter / Rocco Nappi

### August 6<sup>th</sup>:

9:00am: Lorenzo Michaud / Michael Carter

11:00am: Sava Nappi / Caesar Gombojav

### August 13<sup>th</sup>:

9:00am: Icbelig Gombojav / Nathanael Carter

11:00am: Patrick Carter / River Gombojav



<sup>6</sup> Deficit 2019: \$72,270.59 / Deficit 2020: \$34,473.00 / Deficit  
2021: \$35,178.00 / Deficit 2022: \$29,423.00

<sup>7</sup> Jan: \$670.00 / Feb: \$345.00 / March: \$729.00 / April: \$30.00 /  
May: \$444.00. Our contractual payment each month to  
DownEast is **\$2,455.00**.

We have had a series of small catastrophes and troubles throughout May. The rectory's refrigerator died, gasping a long death over two weeks, the computer in the front office also went haywire – events interspersed with the Ignatian Exercises for the Women's retreat and several deaths and funerals in the parish.

This explains why there have not been bulletins, or only intermittent ones, in the last month. The video camera that records the parish Masses has also given up the ghost in the last few months, and we have not yet resolved the inaccessibility of the parish email account following the computer's upset.

Please be patient. In the meantime, you can begin to use the new address listed on the front of the bulletin: [MarYoussef3@outlook.com](mailto:MarYoussef3@outlook.com).

For those who are able, and may wish to do so, contributions will be gratefully received in the parish to cover the costs incurred in the replacement of the rectory's **refrigerator** and for the new **video camera** that had to be purchased to record the Masses for the parish website. You can find the amounts needed in the "financial box" above.

The Luminous One reward your continuing generosity in this, our shared apostolic endeavor.

# The fifth Sunday of Pentecost "B"

p. 492

**Lighting of the Church:** LB p 5

*Jesus Christ, O Source of Light*

**Entrance Hymn:** LB *fsheeto* p

**Glory:** SB *al majdu*

**Qolo/Hymn:** LB *toobaik 'eedto* p

**Creed** p 748

**PRE-ANAPHORA:**

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

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

**ANAPHORA:**

**Saint Peter, Chief of the Apostles:** p 774

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

**Communion:** SB *Father of Truth;  
Aboun d'b'shmayo*

**Recessional:** SB *Alleluia*

! :Priest **مَلْعَا حَلْجَه**

**Shlomoh l'koulkhoun!**

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

! :People **هَكم وَهَما وَكُ**

**w'am rouHoh deelokh!**

(literally: and with spirit your!)

## Saints Peter and Paul

Princes of the  
Apostles  
and Pillars of the  
Church

June 29<sup>th</sup>

