

Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church



The First Sunday after Holy Cross

September 17, 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
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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* **Pastoral Council Chair:**
Choir: Dame Marie Fefa Deeb, DSG, *Director Emerita* **Almoner:** Ruth Lunn

THIS DAY'S GOSPEL¹ **Saint Mark 10: 35-45**

And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Him. "Teacher," they said to Him, "we desire You to do for us whatever we ask." He said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?"

They said to Him,
"Grant to us that one of us
shall sit to Your right and the other to Your left
in the Kingdom".

"You do not know for what you ask,"
He said to them.

¹ Based on The Syriac-English New Testament, Gorgias Press, New Jersey, 2020, ed. George A. Kiraz

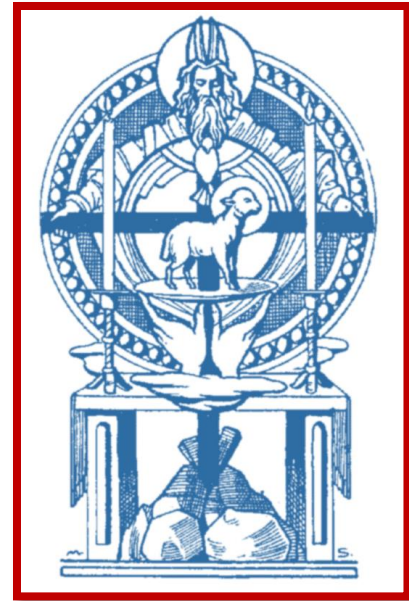
"Can you drink the cup that I drink,
or be baptized with the baptism
with which I am baptized?"
"We can," they said to Him.

And He said to them,
"You will drink the cup that I drink,
and you will be baptized
with the baptism with which I am baptized,
but for you to sit at My right hand
and My left is not Mine to give,
except to those for whom
it has been prepared".

When the Ten heard about this,
they began complaining
against James and John.

Jesus summoned them and said to them,
"You know that they
who are rulers of the Gentiles lord over them,
and their great ones exercise authority
over them.
It shall not be this way among you.
Instead, whoever desires
to be great among you should be your servant,
and whoever desires to be first among you
should be the slave of all.
For even the Son of Man
did not come to be served but to serve,
and to give His life as a ransom
for the sake of many".

They came to Jericho.



*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

Just as the entirety
of the Governing of things by God,
inspired by *agapé*,
makes the whole order of the world
efficaciously concur
for the good of the elect,³
the children of God give proof
of the authenticity of their own charity
by deploying it in good and admirable works,
and in maintaining it ever active and generous.⁴

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross is an exceptionally
sacred day for the Eastern Churches, so much so

² Homily 1.7.8 "on Ezechiel"

³ Romans 8: 28

⁴ From **Charity and Liberty** by Rev. Fr. Ceslaus Spicq, OP

that it initiates an entire liturgical season, one that focuses on the power of the Cross in redemption, the Resurrection, and in the full glory of the Lord when He will manifest Himself – ending time and opening definitive Judgement – bringing the world as we know it to an end, and entering into the eternity of God.

The Maronites, as children of Saint Maron, have from the beginning gathered around their monasteries and churches to sing the glory of God in the Divine Office – the **ShHimo**. Noted by visitors over the centuries and throughout Maronite history, parishioners sang the Evening Office with their pastors. This way of living the Catholic life (monastically influenced) in public prayer is a fundamental way in which we became “Maronites”.

This is our glory. This is our heritage. This is what makes us a “monastic” Church. We love, and therefore we sing the divine praises as they are found in the Offices of *Beit Maroun*.

For this reason, it was especially beautiful to have the numbers show up as they did on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. **Ramsho** brings great consolation in devotion and excellent preparation to celebrate holy days. You are to be congratulated for this faithful devotion as true children of Saint Maron. In many places in our eastern churches, the Offices are sung only by the clergy, but this you do not allow; you add your voices freely to the choirs of angels in holy prayer, and in union with the clergy. Glory to God for inspiring such devotion among the children of Saint Maron.

As we grow in the Sacred Heart, we fall in love with the Apostolic and Catholic Faith as it has come down to us in *Beit Maroun*, in the footsteps of Saint Maron, and in his laudatory and ascetic vision.

Love is the response to what is perceived as “good”, and when the good is **objectively** “good” that love is virtuous. When the good is divine the love is “agapé” or “charity” and this love is ecstatic in its fullest form.

Love can sometimes make people nuts. We speak about “falling in love” or “being smitten”. Both these images are violent ones, although they do describe the emotional turmoil that many times afflict the sufferer. However, as it has been said many times, love is an engagement of the whole person when it is truly *human* love – not merely a volcanic eruption of emotions – and divine love, *infused charity*, liberates the person into an even higher engagement.



Animal passions, hormones, and emotions may blind someone “in love” but the effects of grace in a soul are altogether otherwise. Ecstasy may take place, but that is only to lift us out of the banality of human existence into the arms of the Good One. Because **grace** originates in the immutable Hidden One it brings with it both a **dynamic** and a **stabilizing** effect. Charity is *dynamic* because it is the modification of a human life accomplished by the Living God of eternity. Charity *stabilizes* human life because it originates in the Eternal One of all life.

Charity declares itself present by the fact that it makes itself known, transforms the spirit of the recipient, acts through him and gives proof of its love in action. Saint James, the Brother of the Lord wrote, "faith without works is dead,"⁵ and charity is this animator of faith. When the good works of alms are absent one can be certain that charity is also missing in that person's life.

Charity cannot remain hidden within the human heart anymore than the one who has "fallen in love" can ignore (or even stop thinking about) the object of his affection. In both instances, love is **imperative**. Both the natural lover and the supernatural lover in grace must manifest his love. This brings about gift-giving, service, alms, and self-sacrifice.

The lover sings and acts because of his love.

God has shown us a love that is proper to Him alone. The entire realization of salvation in this world is the unfolding of Divine Love in the "Divine Economy". It is this charity that is offered to us in order to call us into "the elect/the chosen ones"⁶ referred to by Saint Paul in the Epistle today. When we freely respond, our lives begin to reflect the eternal divine Charity, making us the "children of God", that is, the offspring of eternal Love. And that Love, rooted within us, poured into us,⁷ transforms the spirit, the mind, and eventually the body through its stabilizing, fruitful, and life-giving qualities.

Grace is to be at work from our conversion until the resurrection of the dead.

Lifted up by grace, may we each treasure the gift of charity and pray that the Eternal Light remove all the obstacles in our way so that we may correspond to its divine presence. Then each will be transformed by hidden grace into visible examples of divine love - fittingly "children" of the Hidden Father, modeled on the Incarnate Son.

Children, after all, are the best reflection of the parents who have reared them. "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments."⁸


⁵ St. James 2: 14-26

⁶ II Timothy 2: 10

Schedule of Leaders

for the Recitation of the Rosary

at **10:30 am** on the **first, third,**
and **fifth** Sundays of each month:



Sun	Sep 17	Diane Wyder
Sun	Oct 1	Ira Mandel
Sun	Oct 15	Jody Lachance
Sun	Oct 29	Sava Nappi
Sun	Nov 5	Suzanne Paré
Sun	Nov 19	Jeanne Thomas

VOCATION ICON

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

Sun	Sept	17	Maureen Martin
Sun	Sept	24	Dean & MaryAnn Carter
Sun	Oct	1	Steve & Allison Crate
Sun	Oct	8	Anne Marie Mathieu
Sun	Oct	15	Suzanne Paré
Sun	Oct	22	Daja Gombojav & Family
Sun	Oct	29	Ira & Catherine Mandel

Schedule of Readings

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER HOLY CROSS

September 17, 2023

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

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER HOLY CROSS

September 24, 2023

I Cor 15: 19-34 St. Matthew 24: 1-14

⁷ Romans 5: 5

⁸ St. John 14: 15

Saint Joseph's Mediterranean Food Festival



*Authentic Lebanese
and American Fare,
and so much more!*

**Saturday, September 30th
11:00am ---- 5:00pm**

UNDER THE TENT AT HEAD OF FALLS

This is a rain or shine event!

The sanctuary lamp for September
has been donated in memory
of Patricia Thomas
by Nicole & Michelle



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



*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.*

*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: Nancy Fairfield, 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 Gard, 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.

The **Knights of Columbus** in the Waterville area have now consolidated into a single council established in the parish of **Corpus Christi**. Although many years later, these councils have followed in the footsteps of their parishes by so doing. Our parish has been honored to house the KofC of the Fairfield Council for over a decade, and we wish the new council many years of fruitful service to our Lord.



With this new chapter opening for the Knights of Columbus as they leave us, we have additional expenses to consider. Fortunately, many items were simply donated to Saint Joseph, and the kitchen and parish hall remain mostly unchanged. There are only two costs of which we need be aware.

The parish needs to replace the large professional-size mixer in the kitchen: **\$6,720.00**.⁹

From now on the parish will also need to pay the annual propane costs. Propane feeds our parish stove and oven.

Annual estimated propane cost: **\$800.00**.

The *generous of soul and those who are able are asked to* contribute to these needs and help offset the expenses, especially the once-off costs of the new mixer.

⁹ This includes the shipment, delivery, and set-up. This mixer is essential to baking the Sunday muffins.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

(Budgeted weekly: \$3,500.00)

Regular Collection Last Week: \$1,865.00

(Running Budget Deficit, 2023: **\$37,347.00**)¹⁰

Special Collection, September 10th: **\$209.34**
Catholic University of America and for our
Maronite Seminary

(25% is for academic scholarships at CUA, and 75%
is used for our Maronite Seminary in Washington)

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

This month's fuel collection to date: **\$250.00**¹¹

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



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.

Servers of the Divine Altar

September 17th:

9:00am: Nathanael Carter / Lorenzo Michaud
11:00am: River Gombojav / Sava Nappi

September 24th:

9:00am: Michael Carter / Rocco Nappi
11:00am: Patrick Carter / Ihbeleg Gombojav

October 1st:

9:00am: Lorenzo Michaud / Nathanael Carter
11:00am: Sava Nappi / River Gombojav

October 8th:

9:00am: Rocco Nappi / Michael Carter
11:00am: Patrick Carter / Ihbeleg Gombojav

October 15th:

9:00am: Rocco Nappi / Lorenzo Michaud
11:00am: Sava Nappi / River Gombojav

October 22nd:

9:00am: Michael Carter / River Gombojav
11:00am: Ihbeleg Gombojav / Patrick Carter

October 29th:

9:00am: Lorenzo Michaud / Nathanael Carter
11:00am: River Gombojav / Sava Nappi

November 5th:

9:00am: Rocco Nappi / Michael Carter
11:00am: Ihbeleg Gombojav / Patrick Carter

INTENTIONS FOR THE QOURBONEH (MASSES)

Sun 17 9:00am Parishioners of Saint Joseph
11:00am †George and Jean Deeb
(Dame Fefa)

Mon 18 -----

Tue 19 †Joan Gottardi
(Donna-Jo Mitchell)

Wed 20 †Sam and Lottie Deeb
(Dame Fefa)

¹⁰ Deficit 2019: \$72,270.59 / Deficit 2020: \$34,473.00 / Deficit
2021: \$35,178.00 / Deficit 2022: \$29,423.00

¹¹ Jan: \$670.00 / Feb: \$345.00 / March: \$729.00 / April: \$30.00 /
May: \$444.00 / June: \$405.00 / July: \$422.00 / August: \$548.00.

Thu 21 †Elaine Eberlein
 (Abouna)
 Fri 22 Laya and Nada Joseph
 (Abouna)
 Sat 23 10:00 †Monica Connors
 (Mary Batwum)
 4:30pm Sunday Vigil
 Private intention
 Sun 24 9:00am Parishioners of Saint Joseph
 11:00am †Edmond & Lucille Paré
 (Suzanne Paré)
 Mon 25 -----
 Tue 26 †Al and Rose Bellamah
 (Dame Fefa)
 Wed 27 †Darrell Mitchell
 (Donna-Jo Mitchell)
 Thu 28 †Cynthia Elias
 (Martha Paterson)
 Fri 29 †Lucas Thomas
 (Aunt Pam & Uncle Dan and family)
 Sat 30 10:00 †Lucas Thomas
 (the LaChances)
 4:30pm Sunday Vigil
 Private intention
 Sun 1 9:00am Parishioners of Saint Joseph
 11:00am †Sandra Lord Sturtevant
 (Pat Sturtevant and family)
 Mon 2 -----
 Tue 3 Gantumur Gombojav
 (Israel Gombojav)
 Wed 4 †Carolyn Yovic
 (Barbara Joseph)
 Thu 5 †Lucas Thomas
 (the LaChance family)
 Fri 6 †Lucas Thomas
 (Aunt Pam & Uncle Dan and family)
 Sat 7 10:00 Gabrielle Blais
 (Suzanne Paré)
 4:00pm Ramsho and Sunday Vigil
 Private intention

! مَحْلُ حَحْجَه :Priest

Shlomoh l'koulkhoun!

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

! هَحْم وَهْمَا وَحَرْ :People

w'am rouHoh deelokh!

(literally: and with spirit your!)

The First Sunday after Holy Cross

p. 606

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

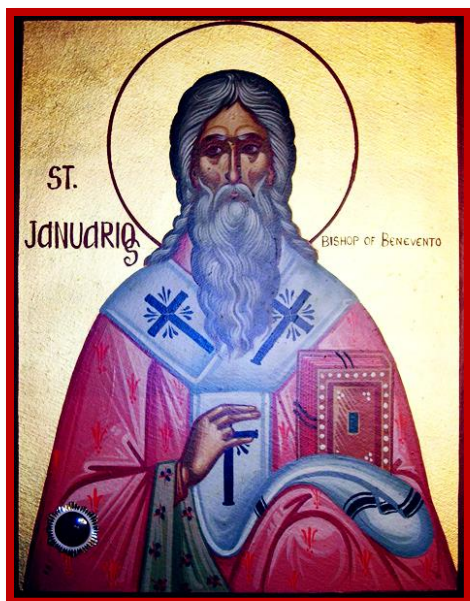
ANAPHORA:

Saint Mark the Evangelist: p 835

Sign of Peace: SB tou ba

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

Recessional: SB Alleluia



Saint Januarius

Bishop of Benevento

martyr

September 19th