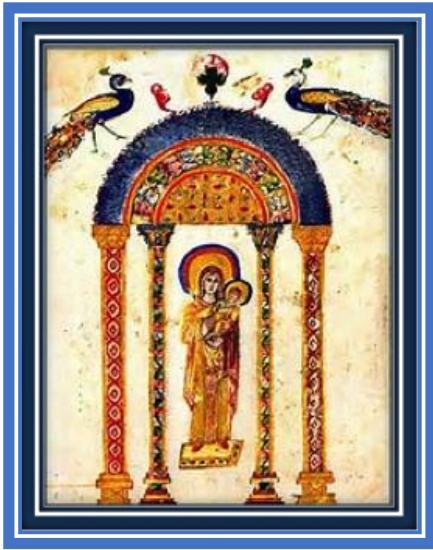


Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church



The Tenth Sunday of Pentecost

July 30, 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>
e-mail: MarYoussef3@outlook.com

"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:**

THIS DAY'S GOSPEL¹ **Saint Matthew 12: 22-32**

Then they brought Him a demoniac
who was dumb and sightless,
and He healed him, so that the dumb and blind
man could speak and see.
All the crowds were amazed, and said,

"Is this not the Son of David?"

But when the Pharisees heard it, they said,
"This man is not casting out devils except by
Beelzebub, the prince of demons".
Jesus knew their thoughts and said to them,
"Every kingdom divided against itself
will be ruined,

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

and every house or city divided against itself
will not stand.

If Satan casts out Satan, he has been divided
against himself.

How then will his kingdom stand?

But if I cast out demons by Beelzebub,
by whom do your children cast them out?
For this reason, they shall be your judges.

But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God,
then the Kingdom of God has come upon you.

Also, how can one enter a strong man's house
and rob his goods,
unless he first tie up the strong man,
and then rob his house?

Whoever is not with Me is against Me,
and whoever does not gather with Me
shall be scattered.

For this reason, this I say to you,
all sins and blasphemies will be forgiven men,
but men will not be forgiven
for blasphemy against the Spirit.
Everyone who speaks a word
against the Son of Man will be forgiven,
but everyone
who speaks against *the Spirit of Holiness*
shall not be forgiven,
neither in this age, nor in the world to come.



*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

By their example, the charitable are revealed
in the purity of their intention,
in the nobility of the motives,
which inspire their conduct;
the latter is always marked by the seal of honesty,
in such a way that *agapè*, excluding all meanness,
becomes quite close to fineness
and clarity of conscience³

In recent decades the notion of charity / *agapè* has
often been debased by the attempt to equate it with
affection and "feeling", clearly an impossible task.
What passes for Christian love these days is often
nothing more than sentimentality. Although
perhaps well intentioned, it can come across as
silly, a bit like ecclesial Woodstock; and this is
tragic. It is also a profound disfiguring and
falsification of *the* great gift given to the world in
Our Lord: divine charity, the love of God itself.
Agapè is the virtue given to men that touches the
will, expands the spirit, and allows us to enter
God's own divine charity and to love Him in return
in that love, to love our neighbor in that same
charity, that is, with the very love of God Himself.

As we considered two weeks ago, the fundamental
notion of Christian charity has the grounded
attributes of **respect, esteem, and even veneration**.
We could never be commanded to hold affection
and sentimental love for our enemies, but we can
be taught, *and commanded*, to hold all in esteem –
including our enemies. Well known, this is the

² Homily 1.7.8 "on Ezechiel"

³ From **Charity and Liberty** by Rev. Fr. Ceslaus Spicq, OP

commandment our Lord has given: to love one another **as He has loved** us.⁴

Examining the Gospels, we see this trait of respect throughout. Our Lord treats all with the greatest esteem and deference, even in confrontation with the Pharisees and during His trial before the Sanhedrin, and in His betrayal: “*Judas, do you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?*”⁵

The additional characteristics, which can also be *taught* and *commanded*, lie in the **honesty** and **nobility of motive** and **intention**. Those who have received the gift of charity are transformed in mind.⁶ Their motive, purpose, and goals are transfigured in the supernatural love of God that has been poured into them.⁷

Redemption comes to an individual by grace that begins at the core of the person and at the highest part of the soul. It requires free collaboration as we are by nature creatures with minds and freewill. This collaboration with the gracious workings of the Merciful One normally requires time for grace to enter every part and aspect of a person’s life, but which, on occasion, can be miraculously quick.⁸ This is the life-long development of the “inner man”.⁹

Redemption brings with it a purification of spirit by the virtue of **faith** and in the Rosh of **baptism**. This clarifies the mind and will, resulting in a refinement and elevation of our vision and motives. Worldly motivation must be burned off as dross, and our minds must be purified by the divine fire. By faith and charity, we are to be conformed to the Holy One and think and act in His likeness as the children of God.

When one sins, he is operating at a bodily and material level and in the mode of emotion and sentiment. Sin, therefore, introduces a clash between grace, the “inner man”, and the “old Adam”¹⁰ who naturally makes choices in a self-centered manner. Conversion is the process of

collaborating with grace and light to the mortification of the worldliness innate to fallen man.

The process of sanctification that continues throughout the Christian life is the purification of the spirit, the cleansing of the heart, purification of the mind, refinement of the soul, and purification of the will, memory, and body. We become “children” precisely by being engendered in grace by the Unseen Father, conformed to the Eternal Son, and purified in the Divine Spirit of Fire.

By grace and living faith we begin to see the world differently and, as a result, our intent and purpose are transformed. We no longer simply plod along like the rest of the world – conformed to its spirit¹¹ – but now, with our true origin and goal correctly perceived, we have purpose and reason for our existence. This transformed vision indicates our path in and to the Kingdom of God. This intent is expressed as we pray the **Morning Offering** each day. All this is included in the understanding of “honest and noble motive”.

At times along the path of the Gospel it may seem to a faithful person that God is not present at all in her life, but this is false. In times when “feelings” are most absent our exercise of faith and charity is at its best – God must be truly present, because one can no longer rely on sentiment, emotion, or other earthly consideration to sustain her religious practice. Although unpleasant, this phase of the Catholic life is a good thing. It is a benevolent sign of the workings of grace in the spirit.

When we pray for ourselves, it is most efficacious as we readily dispose our will to the grace we ask, and dispose our spirit to hear the Voice of the Holy One. We await His grace. Our intention disposes our will to holiness, and, with a mind thus enlightened, we see the path more clearly. We develop the Christian life by greater awareness and attentiveness to the Divine Mysteries, too: how often we attend and how well we prepare for these

⁴ St. John 13: 34

⁵ St. Luke 22: 48 In a parallel text, in the Gospel of St. Matthew, Our Lord at that moment still refers to Judas as “**friend**”.

⁶ Ephesians 4: 23

⁷ Romans 5: 5

⁸ St. John 3: 6

⁹ Ephesians 3: 16

¹⁰ I Corinthians 15: 47

¹¹ Romans 12: 2

unique encounters with the Luminous One. From grace, to light, through struggle and darkness, back to light, we move. This is the Catholic Apostolic life.

In practice, this means that while we continue very much to live *in* the world, we do so in a different light. We are no longer *of* the world.¹² Where once we simply worked because income was necessary to live, as an example, we now accomplish our life's work as a service to God and neighbor. We still pay bills, of course, but these are put in a corrected perspective within the light of eternal life and subordinated to the support of the apostolic work of the Body of Christ. All is done for the glory of God and the salvation of others.

All things pass, only the divine endures. Without faith, light, and grace all is dust and ashes; but with faith and the light of grace transforming our intent and motive, even the simplest things become beautifully great and greatly beautiful.

Charity present in our lives reminds us that our trials and hardships, too, are passing. The light of faith allows us to embrace in *agapè* life's difficulties, transforming them into fruit-bearing "crosses" united with our once-suffering Savior, knowing that all things elevated by grace will triumph finally in the glorious Resurrection.

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 30	Jody Lachance
Sun	Aug 6	Sava Nappi
Sun	Aug 20	Suzanne Paré
Sun	Sep 3	Jeanne Thomas
Sun	Sep 17	Diane Wyder
Sun	Oct 1	Ira Mandel

VOCATION ICON

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

Sun	July	30	Maureen Martin
Sun	Aug	6	Dean & MaryAnn Carter
Sun	Aug	13	Steve & Allison Crate
Sun	Aug	20	Anne Marie Mathieu
Sun	Aug	27	Suzanne Paré
Sun	Sept	3	Daja Gombojav & Family
Sun	Sept	10	Ira & Catherine Mandel

Schedule of Readings

THE TENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

July 30, 2023

I Cor 12: 1-11

St. Matthew 12: 22-32

THE GLORIOUS TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

August 6, 2023

II Cor 3: 7-17

St. Mark 9: 1-7



*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.*

The **sanctuary lamp** for July
has been donated in memory of **Lucas Thomas**
by **Dame Fefa**



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

¹² I Cor 7: 29-31

Profound gratitude and thanksgiving to Ruth, Allison, Steve, Sue, Anne, and all those who so generously put together the BBQ on Friday. It was a beautiful evening and wonderful companionship for all who attended.



I am grateful for the evening, appreciative of the sacrifices that were needed to achieve its success, and touched by such a gesture in honor of the sacred priesthood, along with the cards and gifts that have come in this last month. Thank you!

Thank you to all, and my continuing gratitude for your prayers and devoted labors in the apostolic endeavors we share here at Saint Joseph's.

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: 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.

INTENTIONS FOR THE QOURBONEH (MASSES)

Sun 30 9:00am Parishioners of Saint Joseph
11:00am Legion of Mary,
Queen of the Clergy
(Mary Nicholas)

Mon 31 -----

Tue 1 Patrick and Romona Phillips
(Romona Phillips)

Wed 2 Theresa Casavant
(Pam & Dan Casavant)

Thu 3 Rachel and Jimmy Riley
(Sara Younes)

Fri 4 †Ferris Family
(Allison & Steve)

Sat 5 10:00 Legion of Mary,
Queen of the Clergy
(Mary Nicholas)

4:00pm Ramsho and Vigil
of the Most Holy Transfiguration
Private Intention

Sun 6 9:00am Parishioners of Saint Joseph
11:00am Theresa Casavant
(Pam & Dan Casavant)

Mon 7 -----

Tue 8 †Deacon Peter and Pat Joseph
(Allison & Steve Crate)

Wed 9 Theresa Casavant
(Pam & Dan Casavant)

Thu 10 †Paul LaVerdière
(Audrey Yotides)

Fri 11 Nicholas Family
(Mary Nicholas)

Sat 12 10:00 Poulin Family
(Pam & Dan Casavant)

4:30pm Sunday Vigil

Sun 13 9:00am Parishioners of Saint Joseph
11:00am Sandra Lord Sturtevant
(Pat Sturtevant & Family)

Mon 14 **5:30pm Ramsho and**
Vigil Liturgy of the Assumption
 Parishioners of Saint Joseph

Tue 15 **10:00am Solemnity of the Assumption**
 Susan LaVerdière
(Audrey Yotides)

Wed 16 Theresa Casavant
(Pam & Dan Casavant)

Thu 17 Nicholas Family
(Mary Nicholas)

Fri 18 †Joan Gottardi
(Donna-Jo Mitchell)

Sat 19 10:00 Bruce LaVerdière
(Audrey Yotides)

4:30pm Sunday Vigil

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

(Budgeted weekly: \$3,500.00)

Regular Collection Last Week: \$2,049.00

(Running Budget Deficit, 2023: **\$30,707.00**)¹³

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: **\$422.00**¹⁴

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

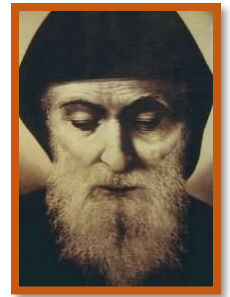
Tell your friends and family of the wonders of the
 Maronite tradition through her saints! We still
 have available Chorbishop Eid's wonderful
 introduction to **Saint Sharbel**, now updated and in
 its fourth edition.

Chorbishop Joseph Eid was Vice-Postulator for the
 Beatification of Mar Sharbel, and he wrote this

work to introduce the great hermit to an American
 audience.

This book is available from the
 sacristy directly after Mass.

**Brand-new beautiful
 hardcover edition,
 with dust jacket, only
 \$25**



SERVICES OF THE DIVINE ALTAR

July 30th:

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

August 6th:

9:00am: Lorenzo Michaud / Michael Carter
 11:00am: Sava Nappi / Caesar Gombojav

August 13th:

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

August 20th:

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

August 27th:

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

September 3rd:

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

September 10th:

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

September 10th:

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

¹³ Deficit 2019: \$72,270.59 / Deficit 2020: \$34,473.00 / Deficit
 2021: \$35,178.00 / Deficit 2022: \$29,423.00

¹⁴ Jan: \$670.00 / Feb: \$345.00 / March: \$729.00 / April: \$30.00 /
 May: \$444.00 / June: \$405.00. Our contractual payment each
 month to DownEast is **\$2,455.00**.



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 a **coffee social** scheduled **after each Sunday Mass on August 20th**.

¹⁵ Deficit 2019: \$72,270.59 / Deficit 2020: \$34,473.00 / Deficit 2021: \$35,178.00 / Deficit 2022: \$29,423.00

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(Budgeted weekly: \$3,500.00)

Regular Collection Last Week: \$3,027.00

(Running Budget Deficit, 2023: **\$29,256.00**)¹⁵

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: **\$332.00**¹⁶

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



The Fast of the Dormition

The Assumption of the Ever-Virgin Mary into Heaven, body and soul (August 15th)

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 7th until August 14th inclusively.

¹⁶ Jan: \$670.00 / Feb: \$345.00 / March: \$729.00 / April: \$30.00 / May: \$444.00 / June: \$405.00. Our contractual payment each month to DownEast is **\$2,455.00**.

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 12-13th 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*

Creed p 748

PRE-ANAPHORA:

Transfer of Gifts: LB *The Lord Reigns*

Incense Hymn Offertory: SB *l'maryam yoldat*

ANAPHORA:

The Twelve Apostles: p 754

Sign of Peace: SB *tou ba*

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

Recessional: SB *Alleluia*

! مَلْعَا حَلْجَه :Priest

Shlomoh l'koulkhoun!

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

! هَحْم وَهَسَا وَكُح :People

w'am rouHoh deelokh!

(literally: and with spirit your!)

The Tenth Sunday of Pentecost

p. 425

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*



The Three Hundred and fifty Martyrs,

Disciples of Saint Maron

Martyrs

July 31st