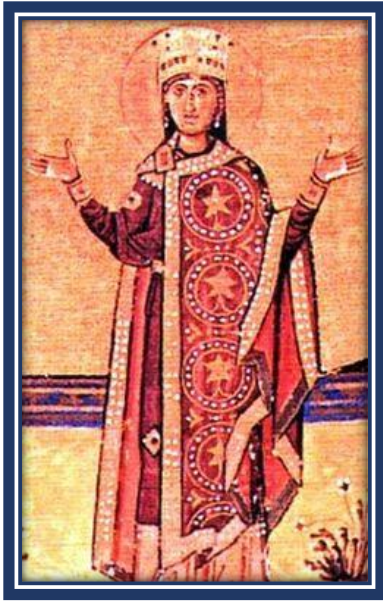


# Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church



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

## The Sixteenth Sunday of Pentecost

September 10, 2023

Welcome all visitors to the beautiful heritage of Antioch

**Pastor:** Rev. Fr. James Doran, KHS  
**Subdeacon:** Mr. Stephen Crate  
**Website:** <http://www.sjmaronite.org>  
**e-mail:** [MarYoussef3@outlook.com](mailto:MarYoussef3@outlook.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 11:00a.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:**

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### THIS DAY'S GOSPEL<sup>1</sup> Saint Luke 18: 9-14

Against those who were confident  
in themselves, that they were righteous,  
and who despised all other men,  
He spoke this parable:

"Two men went up to the Temple to pray;  
one a Pharisee, the other a publican.  
The Pharisee stood by himself

and prayed in these words:  
'O God, I thank You  
that I am not like other men  
– robbers, oppressors, adulterers –  
and not like this publican.  
Instead, I fast twice a week  
and tithe of everything I own.'

But the publican stood off at a distance.

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

He would not even lift his eyes up to Heaven,  
but beat his chest and said,  
'O God, have mercy on me, a sinner'.

I say to you, this man went down to his house  
more justified  
than the Pharisee.

For all who exalt themselves shall be humbled,  
and all who humble themselves shall be  
exalted."



*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

"Paradise", this is a word that is central to the Syriac tradition. The Fathers long saw the movement of grace in redemption as a healing, restoration, and clothing in the "robe of glory" that were in the end all details of mankind's return to his original state of creation in the Garden. Redemption is thus viewed as a pilgrimage to the unseen Good One, and a return to man's original state of grace.

The word "paradeisos" itself originated in the pre-Christian Greek attempt to encapsulate the beauty, harmony, and order of the stunningly rich sixth-century walled-gardens that surrounded the tomb of the ancient Persian Emperor, Cyrus. The place, *Pasargardae*, was transformed into the Greek word that has since come down to us in English as "paradise", "garden".

The Fathers of the Church easily used this term to indicate the original state of justice in which the human race had been created. "Paradise" indicates the harmony, order, grace, justice, and beauty of Creation as it was first established. *Eden*, the proper name in Genesis of this state, comes from the Hebrew word for "delight, pleasure, finery".<sup>3</sup>

In this Paradise of Eden, was created "Adam". This word can also be misleading in English. The word "adam" means, "someone" or "man" in the generic sense. As used in Genesis its purpose is threefold; it indicates the creation of humanity, "adam"; it signifies the males of the human race; and, finally, it is the personal name of the first man. From "man" (*ish* in Hebrew) was created "woman" (*isha* in Hebrew).

*"And God created man to his own image:  
to the image of God, He created him:  
male and female He created them."*<sup>4</sup>

This reality becomes the type of the **New Adam**,<sup>5</sup> the Messiah, who re-created humanity within Himself in His Death and Resurrection, and gave it

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

<sup>3</sup> It is also the origin of the female name, "Edna".

<sup>4</sup> Genesis 1: 27

<sup>5</sup> I Corinthians 15: 45-49

the possibility to be raised up into the life of divine glory. This New Creation is by its grace, therefore, a return to man's primitive state in union with God, but now elevated even higher and transformed in the Word Incarnate. This is the "return to Paradise".

Thus, the divinely intended place for mankind was harmony and beauty, elevated supernaturally to the friendship with God in grace. This image was effectively distorted,<sup>6</sup> maimed, and wounded by the personal choices made by the first human beings, Adam and Eve, and our likeness to God was lost. Nevertheless, it is ultimately the decision of *Adam*, and *not* of his wife Eve, that resulted in the disorder and wounds in all his descendants. The absence of grace and the resulting loss of harmony became for us, his descendants, our inheritance. As Adam is the Father of the whole human race, in turn, fathers are the fount of each generation.

In the New Creation of grace, our lives are transformed into pilgrimages in our return to Paradise. Wounds must be healed, natures elevated, and minds and spirits transformed in grace. None of this happens magically, it all requires conscious choice and effort in determination to collaborate with the Work of God. Without this effort (*ascesis*) and freely-chosen collaboration we are doomed to continue in a wounded state, lacking grace, and thus set on a path of absence and brokenness toward a permanent separation (*damnation*) from the Hidden Creator Who has invited us to return to Paradise by His help, but to Whom a deaf ear may be turned. ***Where and when grace is accepted, the path turns back to Paradise.***



As Adam once was, so too all human fathers in each generation continue to be to this day: they are the potential **source of life** or the **source of death**. Fatherhood is the greatest good on earth, reflecting the Unseen Father and Origin of all Creation, and it is manifested in either natural or supernatural ways. When fathers are faithful, generations are transformed for the better, but when they fail in fidelity the generations are maimed. Insofar as grace and redemption are concerned, these effects are forever. **Fathers, both spiritual and temporal, are central in the drama of salvation.**

We should take the time to remember, pray for, and express our gratitude to those men through whom we have received both our life in nature *and* the supernatural life of grace in the light of Providence. These good men have been the two-fold path blazers for us in this generation both in nature and in grace. By nature they gave us the possibility to live and work, but additionally (and more importantly) being faithful to grace themselves, they have given us the ability to enter into the glory of Paradise for eternity.

True and genuine fathers are the first to show us the Face of God and lay out for us the path we must follow as pilgrims in this valley of tears.

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<sup>6</sup> The **Anaphora of Saint John**: "... He descended, became flesh, suffered, and was crucified for us, who had distorted His image." p. 818 in the **Book of Offering**

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	10	Ira & Catherine Mandel
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

### SCHEDULE OF READINGS

#### THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

September 10, 2023

Rom 8: 18-27      St. Luke 18: 9-14

#### THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER HOLY CROSS

September 17, 2023

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

# Saint Joseph's Mediterranean Food Festival



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

**Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup>**  
**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.



To open the  
**Season of the Holy Cross,**  
according to  
our Maronite tradition,  
the parish will sing  
**Ramsho** on Wednesday,  
**September 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm**

## LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

(Budgeted weekly: \$3,500.00)

Regular Collection Last Week: \$3,277.00

(Running Budget Deficit, 2023: **\$35,712.00**)<sup>7</sup>

**Today's Special Collection, September 10<sup>th</sup> :**  
**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: \$50.00**<sup>8</sup>

*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**.

!مَلْعًا حَلْجَه :Priest

**Shlomoh l'koulkhoun!**

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

!هَمْ وَهْمًا وَكُرْ :People

**w'am rouHoh deelokh!**

(literally: and with spirit your!)

<sup>7</sup> Deficit 2019: \$72,270.59 / Deficit 2020: \$34,473.00 / Deficit  
2021: \$35,178.00 / Deficit 2022: \$29,423.00

<sup>8</sup> Jan: \$670.00 / Feb: \$345.00 / March: \$729.00 / April: \$30.00 /  
May: \$444.00 / June: \$405.00 / July: \$422.00 / August: \$548.00.



### INTENTIONS FOR THE QOURBONEH (MASSES)

Sun 10 9:00am Parishioners of Saint Joseph

11:00am Bruce LaVerdière  
(Audrey Yotides)

Mon 11 -----

Tue 12 Gantumur Gombojav  
(Israel Gombojav)

Wed 13 †Patrick Phillips  
(Abouna)

Thu 14 †Lucas Thomas  
(Badiha Spencer)

Fri 15 †Cindy Elias  
(Gayle Misner-Elias)

Sat 16 10:00 James Yotides  
(Audrey Yotides)

4:30pm Sunday Vigil  
Private intention

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)

Thu 21 †Elaine Eberlein  
(Abouna)

Fri 22 Laya and Nada Joseph  
(Abouna)

Sat 23 10:00 †Monica Connors  
(Mary Bawcum)

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





## *SERVERS OF THE DIVINE ALTAR*

### September 10<sup>th</sup>:

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

### September 17<sup>th</sup>:

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

### September 24<sup>th</sup>:

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

### October 1<sup>st</sup>:

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

### October 8<sup>th</sup>:

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

### October 15<sup>th</sup>:

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

### October 22<sup>nd</sup>:

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

### October 29<sup>th</sup>:

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

**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 James, the Brother of the Lord:** p 794

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

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

**Recessional:** SB *Alleluia*



## **An angel appears to Saint Cornelius the Centurion**

*The first non-Israelite baptized  
into the Kingdom of God*

mar<sup>tyr</sup>

*September 12<sup>th</sup>*

## **The Sixteenth Sunday of Pentecost "A"**

**p. 425**

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

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