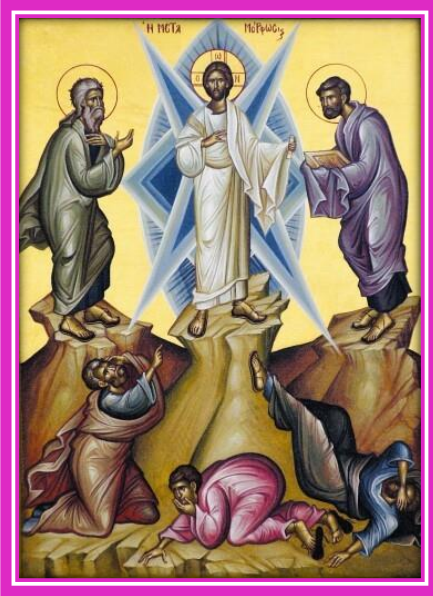


Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church



The Transfiguration of Our Lord

August 6, 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 Mark 9: 1-7

He said to them, "Amen, I say to you,
there are some standing here
who will not taste death
before they see the Kingdom of God
come in power".

After six days, Jesus led *Kepha*, James, and John
and brought them up a high mountain
by themselves, and He was transformed
before their eyes.

His clothing gleamed
and became very white – like snow – such that
men on earth are not able to whiten.

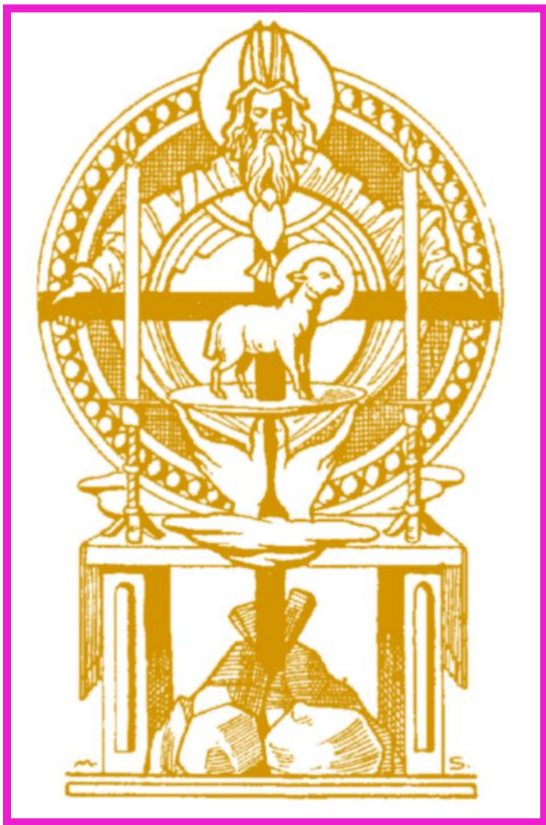
¹ Based on The Syriac-English New Testament, Gorgias Press,
New Jersey, 2020, ed. George A. Kiraz

Elijah and Moses appeared to them,
speaking with Jesus.

Kepha said to Him,
“Rabbi, it is good for us to be here.
Let us build three shelters – one for You,
one for Moses, and one for Elijah”.

He did not know what he was saying,
since they were afraid.

Then a cloud appeared
and overshadowed them,
and there was a voice from the cloud that said,
“This is My Beloved Son. Listen to Him”.



*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

Full of delicacy
and a very refined moral sense,
charity is quite grateful
for every favor received
and it seeks to express adequate thanks.³

The essence of supernatural charity – and of even
mundane love – is **benevolence** and **beneficence**.
Love transforms human vision so that firstly we see
the good around us, then we choose the good to
expand and flourish (*benevolence*) and to do the
good that is possible to and for others (*beneficence*)
when occasion allows. Recognizing the good that
exists around us, and seeing the good that is
possible to achieve, can only come from a grateful
heart.

Gratitude is therefore a characteristic of charity.
The New Testament asserts that there is a
distinction between worldly (mundane) love and
infused charity. The love which enters the world
through the Incarnation and its grace is self-giving
and selfless. The charity of God is poured into our
hearts by the Holy Spirit.⁴ We are touched and
transformed by its presence.

The example of the Crucifixion, the miracles of Our
Lord, and His healing compassion then show us
the path of divine charity. His grace permits us to
share in that transcendent beauty. Grateful love
costs, however, and grace burns, because it requires
death to oneself and the uprooting of the normal

² Homily 1.7.8 “on Ezechiel”

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

⁴ Romans 5: 5

self-interestedness that comes so naturally to all the children of Adam.

With insistence, the Gospel contrasts sinners and the **children of this world** – those who naturally love themselves and those who love them – with the **children of God**, the children of the light, who love, do good, and who give without expecting anything in return, because this is virtuous in itself and a reflection of the Good One.⁵ Touched by grace, the children of God love because love is desirable in itself, beautiful, and good. The worldly love from what they get out of it to their own benefit.

Because it is natural for us to love those who love us, and to love what benefits us, it becomes a sad characteristic of human life to form barriers, build walls, to segment out and isolate “the other” whom we do not know, and who, for that reason, may not love us. They are perceived as outside our personal interests. Natural love is always restrictive. Supernatural love always pushes the lover beyond these merely natural bounds. Thus, worldly love is always prey to insecurity and jealousy.



Charity, on the other hand, changes our sight, and by permitting us to see “the good” moves us **to do good because it is good** and not because of any other, ulterior, or self-interested motive of gain or recognition. It is grace alone that can make us

overcome our natural and primary preoccupation with “what’s-in-it-for-me”.

Moreover, due to this elevated perception of good, one transformed by charity is strengthened to overlook the occasional bad treatment that he may suffer at the hands of others.⁶ As we pray in the Act of Charity:

O my God, I love Thee above all things with my whole heart and soul, because Thou art all-good and worthy of all love.... I forgive all who have injured me, and ask pardon of all whom I have injured.

This does not mean that we become impervious to pain, but that we are strengthened to practice good even in the face of suffering and betrayal. In this, we imitate the crucified Messiah. Grace elevates the spirit to “pray for those who persecute you”⁷ – an impossible task for the worldly.

In the end, this strengthening of mind, spirit, and heart by supernatural charity means that we are enabled more keenly to perceive the good around us and to pursue the good that should be accomplished – because it is good and without calculating personal gain. This makes for another fundamental characteristic of charity:

disinterestedness.⁸ Setting aside self-interest is as difficult as it is God-like.⁹ It is this which makes us the “children of God”.¹⁰

Those who have come to learn from the Sacred Heart and who follow in the footsteps He once trod along the paths of Galilee and Jerusalem – from Nazareth to Calvary – become disciples and imitators of His divine charity.¹¹ This is the redemptive purpose of the Incarnation. Our Lord first loved us so that we might love in return.¹²

And those who love with this divine charity shall find profound peace of soul, and proceed on the way unto the Resurrection and the fulness of the Kingdom.

Excelsior!

⁵ St. Luke 6: 32-34

⁶ Romans 8: 28

⁷ St. Matthew 5: 44

⁸ I Cor 13: 5

⁹ St. Matthew 5: 43-48

¹⁰ St. Matthew 5: 9

¹¹ Romans 15: 1-6

¹² I John 4: 18-19

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



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
Sun	Oct	15	Jody Lachance

VOCATION ICON

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

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
Sun	Sept	17	Maureen Martin

Schedule of Readings

THE GLORIOUS TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

August 6, 2023

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

THE TWELFTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

August 13, 2023

Ephesians 3: 1-13 St. Matthew 15: 21-28

The **sanctuary lamp** for August
has been donated in memory
of **Bernard Thomas**
by **Nicole & Michelle**



*May he 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: 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 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.

INTENTIONS FOR THE QOURBONEH (MASSES)

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

Sun 20 9:00am Parishioners of Saint Joseph
11:00am †Fr. Paul Coury
(the parish)

Mon 21 -----

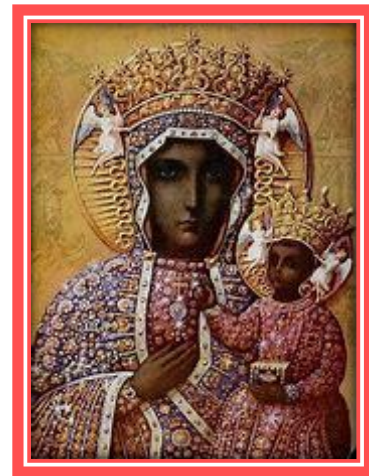
Tue 22 †Veilleux Family
(Pam & Dan Casavant)

Wed 23 †George Neumayer
(Mary Nicholas)

Thu 24 Susan LaVerdière
(Audrey Yotides)

Fri 25 Gantumur Gombojav
(Israel Gombojav)

Sat 26 10:00 Poulin Family
(Pam & Dan Casavant)
4:30pm Sunday Vigil



A final *heartfelt thanks* to you all once again for the beautiful weekend BBQ in celebration of my thirty-fifth anniversary of priestly ordination.

Your generosity in time, organization, cards, and gifts has been touching and the faith you have shown deeply edifying. Please forgive me for falling behind in personally thanking each of you individually.

*May the Good One
reward each of you
with grace and blessing
for the kindness you have shown
to His servant.*



SERVERS OF THE DIVINE ALTAR

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

September 17th:

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

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*.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

(Budgeted weekly: \$3,500.00)

Regular Collection Last Week: \$2,770.00

(Running Budget Deficit, 2023: \$31,437.00)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: \$000.00¹⁴

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.

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

! مَكْمَا حَكْبَه :Priest

Shlomoh l'koulkhoun!

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

! هَحْم وَهْمَا وَكْر :People

w'am rouHoh deelokh!

(literally: and with spirit your!)

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 / July: \$422.00. Our contractual payment each month to DownEast is \$2,455.00.

The Transfiguration of Our Lord

p. 583

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 John Chrysostom: p 876

Sign of Peace: SB *tou ba*

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

Recessional: SB *Alleluia*



Saint Clare

*Foundress of the Second Order
Franciscan Women*

Confessor

August 11th