

Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church



The Third Sunday of Pentecost

June 11, 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*
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*

This Day's Gospel¹ **Saint John 14: 21-27**

“Whoever has My commands, and keeps them,
loves Me.
And the one who loves Me
shall be loved by My Father,

and I will love him and show Myself to him.

Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him,
“*My Lord*, how is it that are you going
to show Yourself to us and not to the world?”

And Jesus answered him,

¹ Based on The New Testament, translated from the Syriac Peshitto Version, Gorgias Press, New Jersey, 2001, translated by James Murdock, STD, 1893

“Whosoever loves Me keeps My word,
and My Father will love him,
and We will come to him,
and We will make our dwelling with him.

“But the one who does not love Me
does not keep My word;
and this word that you hear is not mine,
but belongs to the Father Who sent Me.

“I have spoken these things to you
while I am yet with you,
but the Comforter, *the Spirit of Holiness*,
Whom My Father will send in My Name,
shall teach you everything,
and remind you of all that I have said to you.

“Peace I leave with you;
My peace I give to you;
not as the world gives, do I give to you.
Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.



*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

The Christian is precisely the one who knows
that the true reality of the world –
of *this* world, of *this* life of ours –
not of some mysterious “other” world –
is in Christ;

the Christian knows, rather,
that Christ *is* this reality.

In its self-sufficiency the world and all that exists in it
has no meaning. And as long as we live after the
fashion of this world, as long, in other words, as we
make our life an end in itself, no meaning and no goal
stand, for they are dissolved in death.

And as Christ's Death “trampled down death”
because in it the ultimate meaning
and strength of life were revealed,
so also does our dying with Him unite us
with the new “life of God”.³

We learn, we love, and we live right here; and
while some among us would prefer to do it all
somewhere else, in fantasy – especially the loving
part – reality has a way of slapping us down to
make us realize that we are *here*.

When Our Lord spoke about charity at the Last
Supper, that is love which is inspired by grace,
infused into the human spirit allowing us to
participate in the eternal divine Charity that is God,
He spoke of interpenetration of the lover and the
beloved. All love requires some form of common
experience, but divine charity takes this to wholly

² Homily 1.7.8 “on Ezechiel”

³ From **For the Life of the World: Sacraments and Orthodoxy**
by Alexander Schmemmann

other level: there is a true indwelling among the lovers.

A quality of the gift of charity (*agapé* in the Greek Gospels) is to dwell in the one whom one loves.⁴ Note the order: we perceive, we come to know, and then we love. To refuse knowledge is finally to refuse love and friendship. This could be likened to a work situation where one might know a pleasant woman at the office with whom brief conversations are shared here and there around the office and during breaks, but this is an acquaintance, not a friend. Friendship can only blossom and flourish with further knowledge that allows us to see and love more. If we were to say that that fellow employee was “a friend” but then went on to refuse further invitations, conversation over dinner for example or “meeting up” it would be a contradiction. It would be like saying that we have a friend but we are indifferent to learning more about that person. This would not be friendship, nor even a condition in which friendship could develop.

One cannot love what one does not know. There are sadly many who claim that they love God but who have no desire to know Him any better. They claim that they can love without “knowing” but this is illusory. This is equivalent to “having a friend” for whom one has “no time”. A marriage without communication is not a stable one. A marriage with a refusal to know the other spouse would be dead. Presumption of that spousal knowledge is perhaps even more lethal.

Knowledge inspires love, and love provokes further desire to better know the friend. Perfect love – charity at its best – achieves *union* between the lovers. By grace, God dwells in us and we in God; and this charity transfigures us “from glory to glory”.⁵

This is why God has spoken personally to mankind. He did not leave knowledge of Himself to be grasped merely by weak human minds in philosophical contemplation – always a precarious task open to self-deception. He gave us knowledge

of Himself by the Word so that we might not only know but also come to love in free response.

Translated into the world of grace and redemption this means that our natural human heart was created for God and ultimately God alone; it is animated, healed and elevated by grace; illuminated by revelation; enflamed by charity and oriented to the things of God from within the human life where it first found us, *right here*. This divine knowledge and love transform everything.

Understood correctly, charity is not something for “later” any more than salvation means only “after death”. Divine love, grace, salvation and the transformation by the Holy Spirit begin now, today, at this very moment; should we choose to receive this divine love and return *gracified* love in return, this is what our God and Savior meant by the “good” or “luminous” heart receiving the divine word.⁶ For these reasons the Church has never seen anything as escaping from its purview, even sin is included as that which must be remedied and healed.

For twenty centuries the Catholic Church has adored, loved, pondered, considered and lived the Gospel. During this time she has developed beautiful teachings on every aspect of human life – both natural and supernatural. Most Catholics are perhaps unaware that there is an overwhelmingly rich patrimony of doctrine concerning things as sublime as the Most Holy Triune God through family life, and even down to the nuts and bolts social and economic organization of society. Of course, the Church does not lay out specifying details as each human culture and society has its own needs, but she does lay out the principles by which we are to think and approach life. “Heaven” is only meant to be the state into which we enter at death because we have freely followed the course of grace in life. It is the logical effect of a *gracified* life.

This is the meaning of Fr. Schmemmann’s emphasis on the “true reality of the world” as being “this world, of this life of ours”. Christianity is an

⁴ St John 17: 23-26

⁵ II Cor 3: 18

⁶ St. Luke 8: 15

incarnate religion of an incarnate God, whose disciples make up His visible Body, the Church.

Salvation begins each day in grace, and when we love and enter the Beloved our ultimate salvation is assured. While at the same time it is also true that should we neglect grace day after day, we also tear down that assurance.

Our neglect or indifference today indicates the future abandonment eternally after death.

Let us rather be on the side of *here and now*, and in grace learn to know and to love in the true and actual "plan of salvation".

SCHEDULE OF READINGS

SOLEMNITY OF OUR LADY OF LEBANON

May 7, 2023

St. James 3: 13-18 St. Luke 9: 23-27

SIXTH SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION

May 14, 2023

Romans 10: 1-13 St. Luke 24: 36-48

VOCATION ICON

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

Sun	June	11	Dean & MaryAnn Carter
Sun	June	18	Michael & Gayle Misner
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

Schedule of Leaders
for the Recitation of the Rosary
at **10:30 am** on the **first, third,**

and fifth Sundays of each month:



Sun	June 18	Jeanne Thomas
Sun	July 2	Diane Wyder
Sun	July 16	Ira Mandel
Sun	Aug 6	Jody Lachance
Sun	Aug 20	Sava Nappi
Sun	Sep 3	Suzanne Paré

INTENTIONS FOR THE QOURBONEH (MASSES)

Sun 7 9:00am Parishioners of Saint Joseph
11:00am Simon Misner-Elias
(Gayle Misner-Elias)

Mon 8 -----

Tue 9 †Albert & Rose Bellamah
(Paul & Stephen Maroon)

Wed 10 †Charlene LaVerdière
(Audrey Yotides)

Thu 11 †Jerry Vachon
(Pam & Dan Casavant)

Fri 12 †Ameen & Hoda Saad
(Barbara Atkins)

Sat 13 10:00am †Nathaniel Morrison
(Mike & Maureen Martin)

4:30pm Sunday Vigil
Private Intention

Sun 14 9:00am Parishioners of Saint Joseph
11:00am †Michael and Bridget Kilroy
(Barbara Atkins)

Mon 15 -----

Tue 16 †Henry Ostrout
(Dan Casavant)

Wed 17 †George and Mintaha Mitchell
(Barbara Atkins)

5:30pm Ramsho and 6:00pm
Vigil of the Ascension

Thu 18 10:00am Solemnity of the Ascension
†Scott LaVerdière

(Audrey Yotides)

- Fri 19 †Paul & Yvette Mitchell**
(Barbara Atkins)
- Sat 20 10:00am †Robert Mitchell**
(Barbara Atkins)
- 4:30pm Sunday Vigil**
Private Intention
- Sun 21 9:00am Parishioners of Saint Joseph**
11:00am †Joan Gottardi
(Donna-Jo Mitchell)
- Mon 22 -----**
- Tue 23 †Susan Mitchell**
(Barbara Atkins)
- Wed 24 †Edward Serwin**
(Mary Ann Carter)
- Thu 25 †Mary Theresa Huebner**
(Audrey Yotides)
- Fri 26 †Darrell Mitchell**
(Donna-Jo Mitchell)

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



*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.*

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

(Budgeted weekly: \$3,500.00)

Regular Collection Last three Weeks: \$3,948.00
add to this number this weeks and then recalculate the deficit accordingly

(Running Budget Deficit, 2023: \$22,704.00)⁷

Video Camera: \$811.21

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

Rectory Refrigerator: \$1,425.00

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: **\$00.00⁸**

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

SERVERS OF THE DIVINE ALTAR

June 11th:

9:00am: Lorenzo Michaud / Michael Carter

11:00am: Sava Nappi / Caesar Gombojav

June 18th:

9:00am: Icbelig Gombojav / Nathanael Carter

11:00am: Patrick Carter / River Gombojav

June 25th:

9:00am: Caesar Gombojav / Lorenzo Michaud

11:00am: Sava Nappi / Rocco Nappi

July 2nd:

9:00am: Michael Carter / River Gombojav

11:00am: Icbelig Gombojav / Patrick Carter

July 9th:

9:00am: Caesar Gombojav / Nathanael Carter

11:00am: River Gombojav / Sava Nappi

July 16th:

9:00am: Icbelig Gombojav / Lorenzo Michaud

11:00am: Rocco Nappi / Patrick Carter

July 23rd:

9:00am: Nathanael Carter / Caesar Gombojav

11:00am: River Gombojav / Sava Nappi

July 30th:

9:00am: Michael Carter / Icbelig Gombojav

11:00am: Patrick Carter / Rocco Nappi

! مَلَمًا لَكُجِبُهْ! :Priest

Shlomoh l'koulkhoun!

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

! هَحْمُ وَهَسَا وَكُحْر! :People

w'am rouHoh deelokh!

(literally: and with spirit your!)

The Solemnity of Our Lady of Lebanon

p. 454

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:

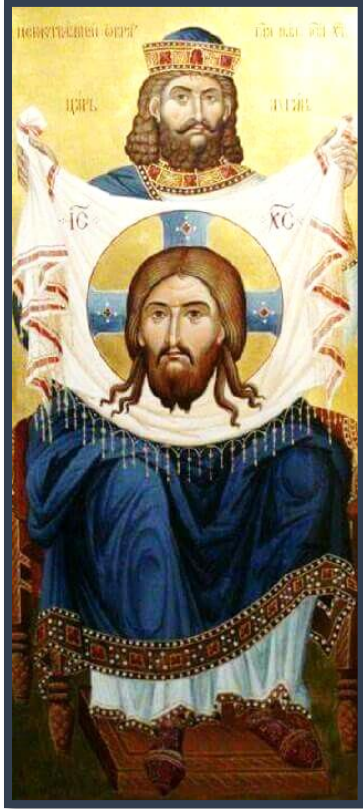
Saint John Maron: p 897

⁸ 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.

Sign of Peace: SB *tou ba*

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

Recessional: SB *Alleluia*



**Mar Addai,
Disciple of the Seventy-Two**

Apostle to Mesopotamia

May 13th