

Commemoration of the Righteous and the Just

January 28, 2018



Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church



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"The Eastern Rites are the Treasure of the Catholic Church" Saint John XXIII, Pope

- Qoorboneh (Masses):** Saturday 4:00 p.m.; Sunday 10:00 a.m.; Tues. – Fr. 9:00 a.m. in the St. Jude Chapel
The Miraculous Medal and the St. Jude Novenas are on Tuesday following the 9 a.m. Liturgy
- Sick Calls:** To receive the Eucharist and/or the Anointing of the Sick, please call the rectory.
- Confessions:** One half-hour before weekend 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 **three months in advance**. Recommended stipends:
weekday intentions \$10; weekend intentions \$15
- Monthly Memorials:** Sanctuary Candles \$20; Altar Bread \$25; Wine \$45

Choir Director: Fefa Deeb **Parish Secretary:** Paula Mitchell **Catechists:** Lenore Boles, Director & K-1st; Jane Lee, 2nd; Shana Page, 3-5th **Parish Council:** Sheila Bonenfant, Lisa Grard, Lowell Hawes, Rosanna Joseph, David Lee, Ruth Lunn, Kevin Michaud, Paula Mitchell, Elizabeth Wilson **Ex-officio council members:** Subdeacon Steve Crate; Lenore Boles, Catechism; Shana Page, Rosary Sodality; Larry Mitchell, Knights of Columbus

THIS DAY'S GOSPEL St. Matthew 25; 31-46

When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He shall sit on His glorious throne. Before Him shall be gathered all the nations, and He will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and He will place the sheep at His Right Hand, but the goats at the left.

Then the King will say to those at His Right Hand, "Come, O blessed of My Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world;
for I was hungry and you gave Me food;
I was thirsty and you gave Me drink;
I was a stranger and you welcomed Me;
I was naked and you clothed Me;
I was sick and you visited Me;
I was in prison and you came to Me."

Then the righteous shall answer Him, "Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? And when did we see You a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe You? And when did we see You sick or in prison and visit You?"

And the King will answer them, "Amen, I say to you, as often you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me."

Then He shall say to those at His Left Hand, "Depart from Me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave Me no food, I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome Me, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me."

Then they also shall answer, "Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?"

Then He will answer them, "Amen, I say to you, as often as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to Me."

And they shall go forth into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.



ABOUNA'S REFLECTIONS

○ God, number among Thy elect the priests who sanctified Thy Name, administered Thy Holy Mysteries and praised Thee.¹

As was mentioned last week during Holy Mass, the Church of Rome has had a number of Syrian popes. This may come as a surprise to many, but it should be kept in mind that these ancient ecclesiastical traditions are historical and geographical realities and not ethnic, or even less, genetic ones. Salvation does not come by birth, but by personal perseverance. The three original patriarchal sees are Antioch, Rome and Alexandria, and from these three "Mother Churches" are derived all the other Church rituals and traditions.

In the first centuries of the Church we find a number of non-Latin popes in Rome, but this is due to the easy movement in the ancient Roman Empire. Greek popes are also found in the seventh and eighth centuries scattered among the Syrian popes we will list below. Greek being the common language of the people in those centuries, movement among the ecclesiastical traditions was facilitated.

However, it is with the seventh-century Islamic invasions that many who had the means to do so, emigrated from their Middle Eastern home countries. Jerusalem and Damascus, cities that had been up to that point Christian populations, were both captured in the 630's. This seventh-century upheaval displaced peoples and families, even as such events due at present.

Pope **Saint Anicetus** was from Hims, Syria. He was pope from **AD 155** until 166. He was martyred under Marcus Aurelius.

We find a pope born in Palestine who ascends the Throne of Peter in **642, Theodore I**. He was the last pope from Palestine and guided the Church of Rome for a bit more than six years.

Around forty years later, in **685**, we have our first Syrian born pope, **John V**, who shepherded the Latin Church for one year.

The saintly pontiff who instigated this little historical discourse was **Saint Sergius I**, whose feastday we celebrate on January 23rd. He was born in Palermo, Sicily, but his parents had been immigrants from Syria. His family was an Antiochene Syriac one, but the language he spoke of Sicily was Greek. It is likely that he spoke Syriac at home with his parents. Nevertheless, he entered service in the Latin Church and became the Cardinal-priest of the parish of Saint Susanna in Rome. As an interesting aside, this parish still exists thirteen centuries later and serves as the official "American parish" in Rome. Saint Sergius succeeded to the papal office in **687 AD** and he governed for thirteen years. During his pontificate he introduced the singing of the "Agnus Dei" at Mass. He also encouraged missionary work in what is now France, Britain and Ireland. He baptized the king of Wessex, Caedwallon. We can note that Saint Sergius was a contemporary to Saint John Maron, the first of the Maronite Patriarchs.

¹ First Prayer, **Safro**, Sunday of Deceased Priests

Following two Greek popes, we arrive at Pope **Sisinnius** in **AD 708**, but he occupied the Roman See for only twenty-one days. He is also a Syrian.

Pope Sisinnius was succeeded by a longer reign, that of **Constantine I**, who guided the Roman Church for seven years beginning in **708 AD**. He, too, was born in Syria. Constantine was the last pope to visit Greece before John Paul II in 2001.

Our final Syrian Roman pope was **Saint Gregory III**. He was a Benedictine monk. He was the third pope to bear the same name as his predecessor, in this case, Saint Gregory II, whose holiness is commemorated on February 3rd. Also a great supporter of mission work, he organized the religious structure in the evangelization of the peoples that now form Germany. His remarkable delegate in all this, whom he established as Metropolitan, was Saint Boniface. He is the last pope to have been born in Syria. It was Saint Gregory who obtained the political sovereignty for Rome from Pepin the Short. This independence and political autonomy remained in place until 1870, when the Masonic forces of Garibaldi overthrew it. Gregory III captained the Church of Rome from March 18, **731** until November 28, 741.

The final point to note – especially for those who may be surprised to see this number of popes having come out of Syria – is that the province of Syria was of great importance in the Roman world. Even an emperor, probably the first Christian one, Philip the Arab, came out of Syria in the mid-third century. Although it is now mostly arid desert and sand, for much of its history, and even well into the Middle Ages, it was grassland and prime hunting country. The agricultural richness of the land made Syria a major “breadbasket”.

Although mostly forgotten now, the riches of Syria (its political importance and its vast and ancient history) along with the upheavals of the wars with Persia *and* the Muslim invasions facilitated that Syrians of the ancient Church of Antioch travelled and immigrated to the West. As we have seen, some of them served as “Latins” in the ancient Church of Rome.

May the Hidden God of Majesty be continually praised for having enriched His Church with such lavish treasures and vast splendor among her traditions and peoples.

LAST WEEK’S COLLECTIONS

Regular Collection: \$1745.00

Today’s Second Collection

UNITED STATES’ CATHOLIC BISHOPS’
WORLDWIDE CHARITIES

*Blessed be the Merciful One Who gives us the
ability
to sustain the apostolate and aid our indigent
brethren*

FISH CHOWDER AND STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Knights of Columbus will once again be serving up the **Lenten Fish Chowders** from **4:30-6:00** every Friday during Lent before the **Stations of the Cross** at 6:00.

INTENTIONS FOR THE OURBONEH (MASSES)

- Sat 27 †Nancy Joseph
(family of Herb Joseph)
- Sun 28 For the members of the Parish
- Mon 29 -----
- Tue 30 Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Wed 31 †Bernie Thomas
(Pat Thomas and family)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Thu 1 †Darrell Mitchell
(Michael Karter)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Fri 2 Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Sat 3 †Andrea Nasr
(Nasim Nasr)
- Sun 4 †Darrell Mitchell
(Donna-Jo Mitchell and family)
-- For the members of the Parish

CANA SUNDAY

Remember that we will host our annual *mjadra* luncheon on the Sunday Entrance into the Great Fast on **February 11th**.

This year the funds raised from this meal will be *for our Maronite Seminary* in Washington DC.

SCHEDULE OF READINGS

COMMEMORATION OF THE RIGHTEOUS AND JUST

January 28, 2018

Hebrews 12; 18-24 St. Matthew 25; 31-46

COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

February 4, 2018

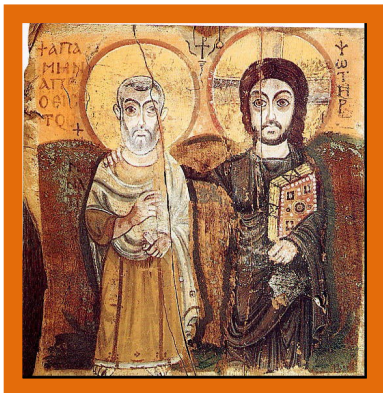
I Thes 5; 1-11

St. Luke 16; 19-31

VOCATION ICON

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

Sun	January 28	Lowell & Mary Hawes
Sun	February 4	Larry & Lisa Grard
Sun	February 11	Chris & Diane Wyder
Sat	February 17	Lenore Boles
Sat	February 24	Audrey Yotides
Sun	March 3	Christ & Diane Wyder
Sun	March 10	Greg & Marianne Gillespie
Sun	March 17	Larry & Paula Mitchell



COFFEE SCHEDULE 2017-2018

Jan 28	Lauraine Mansur
Feb 4	Betty Michaud & April Mitchell
Feb 11	Mary Nader & Shana Page
Feb 18	Dale Sturtevant & Jody Veilleux
Feb 25	Elizabeth Wilson & Mary Bard
Mar 4	Lenore Boles & Jan Bourque

*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 the Savior and Benefactor,
the Lord of lords and Weaver of crowns,
Thou art Lord and King of all. Amen*

Those for whom we pray: Jerry Fortin, Albert Joseph, Doreen Nader, Tala Poulin, Virginia Poulin, Beverly Rideout, Gordon Webber, Melissa Karter, Maxine Morrisette, Paul Laverdiere and Paul Mitchell

Commemoration of the Righteous and the Just p 157

Lighting of the Church: SB* p 21 #135/LB p 5
Jesus, Christ, O Source of Light

Entrance Hymn: LB p 81A

Glory: SB p 1 # *Al mjadu*

Qolo/Hymn: LB* p *b'edoneh d'safro 2*

Creed p 748

PRE-ANAPHORA:

Transfer of Gifts: LB p 750 The Lord Reigns

Incense Hymn: SB p 3 #8 *Ikkal*

ANAPHORA:

St. James, Brother of the Lord: LB p 794

Sign of Peace: SB p *too ba*

Communion: SB p Here I am, Lord; Holy Ground

Recessional: SB p They will know

*LB=Liturgical Book SB=Song Book