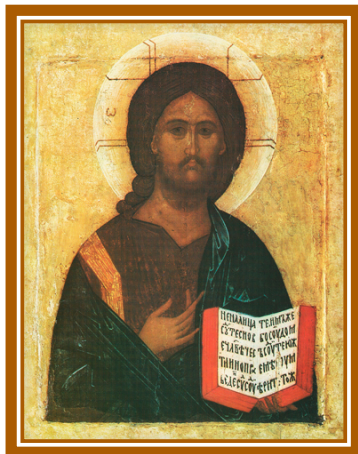


Consecration of the Church

November 5, 2017



St. Joseph Maronite Catholic Church



3 Appleton Street
Waterville, ME 04901
Office Phone: 207-872-8515
E-Mail: stjoesinmaine@yahoo.com
Pastor: Rev. Fr. James Doran
Subdeacon: Mr. Stephen Crate
website: <http://www.sjmaronite.org>

"The Eastern Rites are the Treasure of the Catholic Church"

Saint John XXIII, Pope

- Liturgies:** 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 Gard, 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 16; 13-20

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, "Who do men say that the Son of Man is?"

And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter replied, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jona! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father Who is in heaven.

Amen I say to you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My Church, and the gates of Sheol shall not prevail against it.

I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

Then He strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that He was the Christ.



ABOUNA'S REFLECTIONS

Death, a supported departure **Part III**

Beauty attracts; truth satisfies; and, light expels shadow. The Lord God draws to Himself all creation by life, beauty, truth and love. Grace allows intelligent creatures to respond and enter into His love.

When there is something of value before us, a thing that is both attainable and worthy of pursuit, we desire it. This is normal and the appropriate reaction.

Anything of worth takes effort to acquire. All serious endeavors require preparation. In the modern world, we spend at least eighteen years trying to prepare for a responsible adult life – for some that preparation might continue even further by ongoing formation and studies, sometimes another eight or ten years, finishing their goal “to begin”¹ only at about the age of thirty.

Physically we are free, however, to pursue a goal or not. At times, the amount of effort needed to attain some objective itself may discourage a person.

What motivates us then? What inspires our labor?

All things are done for a final goal, or ultimate purpose.² What motivates us sets our course, and

¹ “Commencement”

² It is said, philosophically, that the “end” is the “cause of all causes”.

our choices put us on specific paths. While we *are* free to make choices, we are not able to choose the results that follow. Each fork in the road puts us on a new path.

So it is, that what we choose, and thus *how* we act, depends fundamentally on each of us alone.

Throughout our lives we are continually confronted with the questions of how desirable is any given goal? And following upon that, then how much effort are we willing to put into attaining it?

For Catholics, this is why there are the *Sacraments* and the *Liturgical Year*. This is something for us to consider as we enter once again into a new Liturgical Year with the *Consecration of the Church* this Sunday. The liturgical life and the sacred Mysteries form us as Catholics, develop us as the children of God, and make us heirs of the eternal Kingdom of Light. Without them it is impossible to be so formed.

Even as a person who may not will, or be able, to put in the long years of studying medicine will never be a physician, so the individual who will not participate in the sacred formation and pedagogy of the Church's life will never enter into the Kingdom of God – short of a miracle. We are created as radically free beings and our voluntary collaboration with grace is necessary in order to live the divine life of Christ.

No one is brought into salvation without his will and choice to do so.

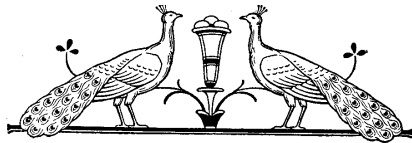
Even as we must prepare for an adult life in this world, the life of true permanence in God also requires maturity; and the path itself matures us.

*O Lord our God, make us worthy
of Thy Dawn that does not pass away,
of Thy Light that never dims,
and of Thy eternal Kingdom with all the saints,
who have labored in Thy vineyard
from morning until night.
To Thee be glory, now and forever. Amen.*³

³ Monday, *Safro*, Opening Prayer.

The peace and grace of God offered to us, *shlomoh*, is wholeness and well-being, but it is our free choice that carries us forward into that healing. Grace offers, and finally brings us into, the “fullness of Christ”⁴. It elevates us into the fullness of being true disciples of the Christ and heirs of God. This is why the weekly Divine Sacrifice of the Eucharist on Sunday – the *Alohoyo Qoorbonoh* – the frequent reception of the Divine Mysteries, and consciously observing the Church’s liturgical year are so essential to Christianity: they form us into mature disciples prepared to enter the Kingdom of Light at the end of our days. They are also the *easiest* means to attain that goal.

Death comes to all, but even before it arrives definitively it often shadows our days. At the end of years following Our Lord, we will be asked to come and join Him in the divine Light. It is for this reason that we were given in the Church the *Holy Rozo*⁵ of Anointing.



The Mystery of Anointing fundamentally heals. It is administered to a baptized person who is in danger of death from internal causes. Although often referred to as such, in itself it is not what is called “Last Rites” – which are rather the Holy Viaticum and Apostolic Blessing – and it should not be postponed until the last minute when the person is actually dying. This would be inappropriate and not allow the person to

⁴ Ephesians 4; 13

⁵ Originally a Persian word for the directives of the Shah, this was adopted by the Churches of the East as an apt expression for the Mysteries of Grace that reveal to us the great workings of the true King of Heaven. Thus we use three terms for the divine Channels of Grace instituted by our God and Savior, they each highlight an aspect of the redemptive work of the Church: *Sacrament* (Latin), refers to the outer sacredness of the ceremony; *Mystery* (Greek) emphasizes the inner invisible grace conferred in the ceremony; and, *Rozo* (Persian) indicates that these channels of grace are individual revelations of God’s providence and His divine touch within the souls of each person.

consciously participate in the sacred rite. Also, it should be noted, the secondary purpose of this Sacrament is to restore physical health to the one who receives it if God’s Providence deems a further extension of time beneficial to the person’s well-being and spiritual health. For all these reasons, there is no mention of “death” in the administration of this sacred Rozo.

The sacred oil (“oil of the sick”) used in this sacrament is made solely from olives. Anointing is of course the fundamental notion in the title we give to the Savior of the world: *Messiah, Christ* – “the Anointed”; and through baptism and anointing we are made members of the Body of Christ and are individually conformed to Him in character and image. Once a year, near end of Lent, the eparchial bishop blesses the sacred oil used for the Sacred Rozo of Anointing. Thus, a single holy oil throughout the eparchy, in each of the parishes, is used to anoint us all into the one Mystical Christ.

This divine Mystery wipes away spiritual scars and purifies us for the future vision of divine Light. In this Rozo, each of the senses is anointed in order to purify them of past sins and dispose them to receive the Light of God should it be our time to leave this valley of tears. Grace in this Sacrament is to restore the garment of paradise and prepare the person for immortality. It fulfills the prayer of the Sedro in Sunday Morning Safro:

*O Skillful One, by Thy grace renew our features marred
by the corruption of sin
and sculpt us as Thine image ...
adorn our bodies with immortality;
clothe us with the raiment of glory
that we may see Thee in the Light.
We beseech Thee, O true Spouse,
prepare us for the joy of the Heavenly Kingdom along
with our fathers and mothers,
brothers and sisters, our teachers and all
who have died in the Faith*

The remote preparation to receive this Sacrament was mentioned above – fidelity to the Catholic life in general, in the Sacraments and in the Liturgical Year – but the immediate preparation for this Mystery is done by properly setting up the person’s

room where the Sacrament is to be received. Even more importantly, the invalid person should dispose himself well to grace by a good confession in the Mystery of Penance.

The physical arrangement and preparation was described in a previous bulletin about a month ago. Next week, in the fourth part of this series, the bulletin will reprint that previous description, along with the further particulars to be had at hand for the correct and dignified reception of this great Mystery.

May the eternally Compassionate One grant that each of us be able to receive all the divine Mysteries of His Charity. May each of us have the time, will, and determination to collaborate with grace - while there is still time - and then to receive all that His Mercy has foreseen to strengthen us along this path as disciples.



LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Regular Collection: \$1,408.00

SECOND COLLECTION TODAY IS FOR
THE MARONITE EPARCHIAL CHARITIES

*All proceeds are sent directly to the patriarch
for his charitable works*

*Blessed be the Hidden One Who gives us the ability
to sustain the apostolate of our Savior*

Between **November 1-8th**, each day one may gain a *plenary indulgence for the dead* by visiting a cemetery and praying for their repose, even if only mentally.

A plenary indulgence is able to be gained under the usual conditions:

- 1.) receive **Holy Communion**,
- 2.) **confession of one's sins** made up to eight days before or after the date on which one prays; and,
- 3.) to pray for the **intentions of the Holy Father** (Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be)

THIRD PRAYER FROM WEDNESDAY SAFRO

O Lord, grant peace to the world.
 May wars and battles cease throughout the earth,
 protect the churches and monasteries;
 unite them in the unity of the true Faith.
 Support and care for the people You have
 acquired through Your precious blood.
 Thus, strengthened by Your calm and peace,
 we shall render glory and thanksgiving to You, now
 and forever. Amen

VOCATION ICON

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

Sat	November 4	Lenore Boles
Sat	November 11	Audrey Yotides
Sun	November 19	Greg Gillespie
Sun	November 26	Larry & Paula Mitchell
Sun	December 3	Lowell & Mary Hawes
Sun	December 10	Jodi Veilleux
Sun	December 17	Mary Joe Hodgkin

READERS' SCHEDULE

CONSECRATION OF THE CHURCH

Heb 9; 1-12	St. Matthew 16; 13-20
November 4	Lenore Boles

RENEWAL OF THE CHURCH

Heb 9; 11-15	St. John 10; 22-42
November 11	Lila Hallowell

INTENTIONS FOR THE QURBONEH (MASSES)

- Sat 4 †Andrea Nasr, Fortieth Day**
(Saliem Nasr)
--- Catholic Extension & Donors
- Sun 5 For the Parish Members**
--†Darrell Mitchell, Fortieth Day
(Donna-Jo Mitchell)
- Mon 6 -----**
- Tue 7 †Souls in Purgatory**
(M/M Mark Camarano)
- Wed 8 †Lester Giguere**
(Ann Giguere)
-- Catholic Extension & Donors
- Thu 9 Charlotte Jones**
(M/M Scott Jones)
- Fri 10 †Maxine Pantaliono**
(Antoinette Jameson)
- Sat 11 For the Parish Members**
- Sun 12 †Alfred Joseph**
(Sandra Stevens)

Liturgical notes: † = Deceased, SI = Special Intention, AV = Anniversary, H = Health

BIRTHDAYS FOR NOVEMBER

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Matthew Nale | 19 Bernadette Karter |
| 4 Kyle Joseph | 19 Corey Elias |
| 5 Richard Nale | 20 Justin Jabar |
| 9 Anthony Elias | 20 Carole Levine |
| 10 Joe Nader | 20 Luke Williams |
| 10 John M. Thomas | 21 Mark Nale |
| 10 Danny Hoag | 23 Mary Joseph |
| 12 Pam Casavant | 26 Ryan Bard |
| 15 Theresa Lee | 26 Heather Clark |
| 15 Zachary Mills | 27 Richard Lee, Jr. |
| 17 Jody Elias | 28 Carol George |
| 18 William Mitchell | 29 Richard Elias, Jr. |

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The parish council will meet on Tuesday, November 7, at 6:00 p.m. in the hall.

COFFEE SCHEDULE 2017-2018

- | | |
|---------------|--------------------------------|
| Nov 5 | MJ Hodgkin & Lauraine Mansur |
| Nov 12 | Larry Mitchell & Gareth Belton |
| Nov 19 | April Mitchell & Mary Nader |
| Nov 26 | Shana Page & Dale Sturtevant |
| Dec 3 | J. Veilleux & Elizabeth Wilson |

ANNIVERSARIES FOR NOVEMBER

- | | |
|----|--------------------------|
| 5 | Joe & Mary Nader |
| 26 | Robert & Judy Mitchell |
| 30 | Daniel & Katrina Plourde |

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, Rebecca Bernard and Paul Mitchell

CENTURY 21 - SURETTE REAL ESTATE
 Pam Casavant - Partner/ Associate Broker
 Tel: 207-873-5634 Ext 219
 e-mail: pcasavant@surette-realestate.com

LEBANESE CUISINE
 34 Temple Street * Waterville, ME 04901
 207-873-7813

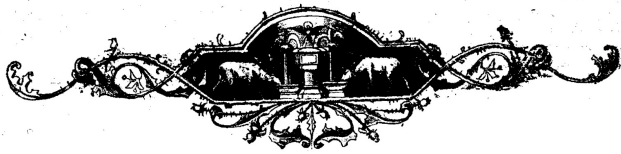
GALLANT FUNERAL HOME INC.
 Dana R. McInnis, Owner
 John O. Gallant, Director
 10 Elm Street * Waterville, ME 04901
 Tel 873-3393 * Website: gallantfh.com

GHM Insurance Agency
 Auto * Home* Business * Life * Benefits
 51 Main Street - Downtown Waterville
 Tel: 207-873-5101 www.ghmagency.com

GRONDIN'S CERTIFIED DRY CLEANERS
259 Main Street - Waterville, ME 04901 tel. 207-872-8132

SII Investments, Inc.
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Waterville Florist
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287 Upper Main Street
Tel: 207-872-7422 also 888-616-4880



Consecration of the Church

p 7

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

Entrance Hymn: LB p 7 Come and Shine in Purity

Glory: SB p 1 #1 Glory (Arabic)

Qolo/Hymn: LB p 12 Blessed Are You, Holy and Most Faithful Church

Creed p 748

Pre-Anaphora:

Transfer of Gifts: LB p 750 The Lord Reigns

Incense Hymn: SB p 3 #8 *Ikbal*

Anaphora:

Twelve Apostles: LB p 754

Sign of Peace: SB p 12 #117 Gift of Peace

Communion: SB p 12 # 116 Gift of Finest Wheat

Recessional: SB p 13 #118 Glorious in Majesty

*LB=Liturgical Book SB=Song Book

