

Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church



Consecration of the Church



November 4, 2018

Welcome all visitors to the beautiful heritage of Antioch

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

Pastor: Rev. Fr. James Doran
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

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

Catechists: Lenore Boles, *Director & K-1st*; Shana Page, 3-5th **Choir Director:** Dame Fefa Marie Deeb, DSG **Parish Council President:** Lisa Grard **Ex-officio Council Members:** Subdeacon Steve Crate; Lenore Boles, *Religious Education*; Larry Mitchell, *Knights of Columbus*; Shana Page, *Rosary Sodality*

TODAY'S EPISTLE Heb 9: 1-12

Now even the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly sanctuary. For a tabernacle was constructed, the outer one, in which were the lampstand, the table, and the bread of offering; this is called the **Holy Place**.

Behind the second veil was the tabernacle called the **Holy of Holies**, in which were the gold altar of incense

and the ark of the covenant entirely covered with gold. In this were the gold jar containing the manna, the staff of Aaron that had sprouted, and the tablets of the covenant. Above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the place of expiation. Now is not the time to speak of these in detail.

With these arrangements for worship, the priests, in performing their service, go into the outer tabernacle repeatedly, but the high priest alone goes into the

inner one once a year, not without blood that he offers for himself and for the sins of the people. In this way the holy Spirit shows that the way into the Sanctuary had not yet been revealed while the outer tabernacle still had its place.

This is a symbol of the present time, in which gifts and sacrifices are offered that cannot perfect the worshipper in conscience but only in matters of food and drink and various ritual washings: regulations concerning the flesh, imposed until the time of the new order.

But when the Messiah had come as the High Priest of the Good Things that have come to be, passing through the greater and more perfect Tabernacle *not made by hands*, that is, not belonging to this creation, He entered once for all into the **Sanctuary**, not with the blood of goats and calves but with His own Blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption.



ABOUNA'S REFLECTIONS

The Christian life is presented to the believer as a progressive conquest of his freedom, ... (it) is less a question of breaking of bonds, of purification, than of undergoing a spiritualization; and this is to say that this profound deliverance can derive only from the very Person of the Holy Spirit.¹

Each year begins anew according to the calendar, and the *Consecration of the Church* is that date for Maronites. We take stock where we are at this moment in our lives, from where we have come and, most importantly, where do we desire to go in the light of the Luminous One.

When the virtue of faith is present in the mind it gives "vision", which is why the Fathers refer to it as "light" or "illumination". Faith transforms the way the individual sees and judges the world. Because

vision and judgement are transformed by Faith's presence, so too are the life and actions of that person. We note that faith is seen in actions and what is called "good works" is merely the outward expression of that inner transformation. This is the meaning of "faith without works is dead".² Thus, the life of the Christian is fundamentally changed by grace – both outlook and manner of living in this world are different from unbelievers.

The "progressive conquest" mentioned in the opening citation comes about by the participation in the Sacraments, the Sacred Rozeh. The Mysteries are the fount of grace into which we are plunged by God's goodness, and there the Compassionate One is able to draw forth our freedom by moving us evermore determinedly toward the light. This is "spiritualization". Not done in a day, it is the work of a lifetime, that is, a lifetime of fidelity to God's Work – this is the unfolding of the Divine Economy/the Plan of Salvation.

This freedom of the human mind and spirit originates in God, is sustained by the aid of God and terminates in the Divine Light; for this reason, it can be accomplished only by the Divine Spirit within each of us. So true was this to the early generations of the Catholic Church that it was a fundamental *argument for the divinity of the Spirit*. Only God can save an individual, thus, the reasoning went, the Spirit of God within the believer must also be the one God.

Sadly, this is a work that takes time and there are many who begin well enough, but when the trials of life occur, or the sheer tedium of "monotony" sets in, they fall away and wither, choked by the thorns of life's preoccupations.³

On the other hand, there are those who receive the saving grace of the Lord of goodness – and cherish it. These bear fruit at the time of the Harvest at the end of the world. During their lives, they understood that grace and faith consecrate a man and attach him to God.⁴ Faithful service flows from that loving response of charity, and the love of neighbor is manifested in a religious respect and devotion to the "other".⁵ This is the supreme good of the faithful: love of God and love of neighbor.

¹ From **Charity and Liberty** by Rev. Fr. Ceslaus Spicq, OP

² St. James 2: 14-17

³ St. Luke 8: 5-15

⁴ I St. John 2: 15-16

⁵ Galatians 5: 13

Charity breaks the shackles of sin, purifies and delivers the individual graced by the Good One, and moves him along the path of spiritualization/divinization.

Having been made the children of God by His charity, at the beginning of this new year (liturgically) let's reflect on this great gift, its potential in our individual lives, and then may we respond in gratitude to the workings of the Holy Spirit. The "newness of life" on the Gospel's path is this adherence to the antecedent love of God and the gratitude that this engenders.⁶

Recipients of divine charity, our destiny within the divine economy is, by collaboration, to foster that charity and increase its effects in both our own lives and in the lives of those around us. This is the testimony demanded by our Lord in His disciples.⁷

NOVEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE FOOD BANK

Family sized items: stews, ravioli, jiffy mixes, condiments, toilet paper and personal care items.
Please place these items in the box near the church's Appleton Street entrance.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

Regular Collection: \$1287.00

The upcoming second collection is for the **Maronite Patriarchal Charities** on November 11th.

(All proceeds from this collection will be sent directly to our Patriarch for his charitable works.)

Blessed be the Merciful One Who gives us the ability to sustain this apostolate.

A NOVEMBER INTERCESSION AS THE AMERICAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS PREPARE FOR THEIR BI-ANNUAL MEETING IN WASHINGTON:

Remember, O Lord of goodness, Your holy Church, and have mercy on all her faithful. In Your compassion, heal the wounded and injured among Your Flock. Punish injustice, console hearts and strengthen all our brothers and sisters. Bestow the grace of conversion on all.

With Your indestructible power, strengthen the bishops of the true Faith that they may be upright and courageous in their apostolic office. May they show fidelity as they stand ever before Your eternal justice. Unto Your honor and glory, may they prove themselves upright, dauntless and persevering in the task confided to them: to lead all the faithful into the fullness of Your redeeming light and glory. We pray to You, O Lord.

SCHEDULE OF READINGS

CONSECRATION OF THE CHURCH
(NEW LITURGICAL YEAR)

November 4, 2018

Heb 9: 1-12 St. Matthew 16: 13-20

RENEWAL OF THE CHURCH

November 11, 2018

Heb 9: 11-15 St. John 10: 22-42

VOCATION ICON

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

Sun	Nov 4	Larry & Lisa Grard
Sat	Nov 10	Jim & Lenore Boles
Sun	Nov 18	Bruce & Doreen White
Sun	Nov 25	Larry and Paula Mitchell
Sun	Dec 2	Lowell & Mary Hawes

Coffee Schedule

Nov 4	Jan Bourque, Shana Page	Nov 11 X
Nov 18	Dale Sturtevant, Elizabeth Wilson	
Nov 25	Lauraine Mansur, Ruth Lunn	
Dec 2	Mary Hawes, Mary Nader	
Dec 9	Pam Casavant, Lenore Boles	
Dec 16	Betty Michaud, Jane Lee	

⁶ Romans 4: 4

⁷ St. John 13: 35

Thank You!

A great "thank you" to all who worked toward the success of this year's Bazaar - especially the "new" faces among the teams.

May the Hidden One of compassion lavish His choicest graces upon you and all your families.



CATECHISM

Following the Sunday Mass there will be classes for the youngsters *one half hour each week following the Divine Qoorbonoh.*

Adult Religion Classes are on Wednesdays, 6:30 pm.

There will be a *break* in classes on November 7th.

The *last three classes* will take place on Wednesday, November 14th, 21st and the last on November 28th. Courses will resume at the end of January.

INTENTIONS FOR THE QURBONEH (MASSES)

- | | | |
|-----|----|--|
| Sat | 3 | †Ray & Grace Dougherty
(Alice & Ron Montgomery) |
| Sun | 4 | †Paul Mitchell
(Herbert Joseph, Sr.)
-- For the members of the Parish |
| Mon | 5 | ----- |
| Tue | 6 | Catholic Extension Society & Donors
(the Donors) |
| Wed | 7 | Catholic Extension Society & Donors
(the Donors) |
| Thu | 8 | †John Mitchell
(Stephen Maroon)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors |
| Fri | 9 | †Violet Elhilow
(Stephen Maroon)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors |
| Sat | 10 | For the members of the Parish |
| Sun | 11 | Saliem Family
(Louise Saliem) |
| Mon | 12 | ----- |
| Tue | 13 | Catholic Extension Society & Donors
(the Donors) |
| Wed | 14 | ♦Sumayah Ferris, Fortieth Day
(Steve & Allison Crate) |
| Thu | 15 | †Pam Smiley
(Dan & Pam Casavant)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors |
| Fri | 16 | †Sam & Nimera Maroon
(Stephen Maroon)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors |
| Sat | 17 | For the members of the Parish |
| Sun | 18 | †Paul LaVerdiere
(Audrey Yotides) |
| Mon | 19 | ----- |
| Tue | 20 | Catholic Extension Society & Donors
(the Donors) |
| Wed | 21 | Catholic Extension Society & Donors
(the Donors) |

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, Doreen
Nader, Tala Poulin, Louise Saliem, Virginia Poulin,
and Beverly Rideout.

CONSECRATION OF THE CHURCH

p 7

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

Entrance Hymn: LB *msheeHo natareh* 50A

Glory: SB *al-majdu*

Qolo/Hymn: LB *eto* 51

Creed p 748

PRE-ANAPHORA:

Transfer of Gifts: LB *The Lord Reigns*

Incense Hymn Offertory: SB *ikbal*

ANAPHORA:

St James, Brother of the Lord: LB p 794

Sign of Peace: SB *Gift of Peace*

Communion: SB *Your Body is our Food; Father of Truth*

Recessional: SB *Holy, Holy, Holy*

*LB=Liturgical Book SB=Song Book



Saint Michael the Archangel, November 8th