

Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church



Eleventh Sunday of Pentecost

August 18, 2019

Welcome all visitors to the beautiful heritage of Antioch

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

Pastor: Rev. Fr. James Doran
Subdeacon: Mr. Stephen Crate
website: <http://www.sjmaronite.org>
e-mail: stjoesinmaine@yahoo.com

"For us, the men and women of the East are a symbol of the Lord Who comes again." *Oriental 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 at least **two 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*; Ruth Lunn, *Rosary Sodality*

Today's Gospel¹ St. Luke 19: 1-10

As Jesus entered and passed through Jericho, a man named *Zachai*, who was wealthy and a tax collector, wanted to see who Jesus was, but he could not on account of the crowd, as he was short.
So he ran ahead of Jesus and went up a sycamore tree in order to see Him, because He was going to pass that way.

When Jesus got to that place, He saw him and said to him, "Hurry and come down, *Zachai*, for I must stay at your house today".
So he hurried and came down, and welcomed Him gladly.
When they all saw this, they grumbled and said, "He went in to be guest of a man who is a sinner!"
But *Zachai* stood up and said to Jesus, "Look, my lord – I shall give half my wealth to the poor, and I will repay four times what I owe to anyone I have defrauded".

¹ *The Syriac Peshitta Bible with English Translation*, Gorgias Press, New Jersey, 2012, ed. George A. Kiraz and Andreas Juckel

Jesus said to him, "This day salvation has come to this house, because this man is also a son of Abraham.

For the Son of Man came to seek and to save that which was lost".



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

Close on thirty years ago, when I was first ordained, I was asked to act on a "private adoption" as the intermediary between the adopting family and the young woman who was giving up her child to a good home. In the state where I worked this type of adoption was legal and the process was flawless; it gave the parents concerned the choice to give up their child (for necessary reasons) to a Catholic family where the child would find a solid home. This was "closed" to the adopting parents, meaning that they did not know the birth-parents of the child, but the biological parents did know to whom the child was to be reared. It all worked beautifully, and was simple as relayed through the lawyer. It did not require the constant home visits and expensive red-tape that now so often afflicts good people who are just looking to open their homes to children in need. That child is grown now and has received an excellent Catholic upbringing, to which Faith he remains firmly attached. It was a "win-win" situation where the biological mother also went on, greatly matured by the experience, to later establish her own family where love and the Catholic Faith were cherished.

This week, I note this episode as I think it a good example of how a healthy social network can succeed. Compounding bureaucracy and the red-

tape of state regulations does not necessarily help the children of a state – indeed, often the opposite is true as children get "lost" in the "system". Surely, we can do better than this. It is surprising how much people believe that "the system" can "save" them from all difficulties. In final analysis, we are "the system" and government, especially in modern democracies, is reflective of the population. Government is not a "them", it is "us". The dysfunction of Washington is a clear indicator of the unhealthiness of the nation.

In the Church's thinking there is a principle of **subsidiarity**, which means that each level of society should be able to supply all its own needs – and be left to its own – insofar as each is able. This means that we are to have a communal vision in which mutual help is present to aid weaker members to stand on their own feet; subsidiarity is not about "handouts", but assistance to strengthen all in responsibility. This may be effected by apprenticeships, for example. Centralizing control and government bureaucracy for all social questions is totally foreign to the Catholic mind as laid out by the catechism and the teachings of the popes, especially as laid out over the last two centuries.

Some people may find this ironic, but this is precisely why so many Catholic immigrants of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries were affiliated with the Democratic Party; I say "ironic" as it is almost impossible to see today – without reference to history -- that the Democratic Party was once the political party of small and decentralized control of government. For this reason, historically, the Democratic Party was for generations the party of "the South". How far we have come! These days the party of the "Republic" (with Abraham Lincoln as a founding member) which sought centralized government to the point of a war against secession in the 1860s, is now the "anti-big-government" party, while the decentralizing party of the past century now seems to look to Washington to solve all social ills. We live in a kooky world.

As Catholics, we should know that the Church has a Christian vision for the world and that **there are principles** by which we are to envision the Gospel as it is to be lived in the world. It is a doctrine, and there are principles of thought, which are grounded in the writings of the ancient Fathers of the Church

² Homily 1.7.8 "on Ezechiel"

and matured through centuries of reflection and teaching. It is a much more august body of thought than the slogans spewed out nightly by CNN and FOX.

Communal networks and social support require obtainable shelter (housing). For those children left isolated without parents, a proper system that allows for compassionate care, whether through orphanages or through secure adoption, should be in place. Closing down most all the orphanages and the mental hospitals in the mid-twentieth century does not seem to have resolved any issues, on the contrary, that action seems to have simply cast these unfortunates to the four winds. Children now bounce from foster-home to foster-home and those with psychological illnesses were turned out into the streets. What percentage of the homeless would be better served in what had once been called "asylums"? While those homes and hospitals may have needed reform, we threw out the baby with the bathwater as we cast onto the streets these weaker members of society.

Killing children before birth is not a solution, obviously, and forcing emergency workers and even librarians to act as social workers and care-givers to the mentally ill (now housing in prisons those who should so often be patients) seems socially irresponsible at best and barbaric as a public policy.

As Catholics we should be concerned, and work where possible, to see that housing and medical aid is obtainable by as many as possible within our communities. Lack of housing can often be one of the reasons why families are unable to care for the children that God sends them; in charity, we should have concern to alleviate this stress and where possible have care for the children when they become homeless through ineptitude, perhaps, on the part of the birth-parents. Some of the finest members of this parish once came into our world as adopted members.

Nevertheless, we do all this insofar as we are able, knowing that it will never be possible to heal all poverty; and yet, we should know at the end of our lives that we had done all we could to ameliorate the world that was ours during the brief years that the Good Lord gave to us to follow in His footsteps on the royal way of the Gospel.

SCHEDULE OF READINGS

ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

August 18, 2019

Eph 2: 17-22 St. Luke 19: 1-10

TWELFTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

August 25, 2019

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

VOCATION ICON

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

Sun	Aug 18	Sue Paré and Lolo Salazar
Sun	Aug 25	Lowell & Mary Hawes
Sun	Sept 1	Larry & Lisa Gard
Sat	Sept 7	Jim & Lenore Boles
Sun	Sept 15	Chris & Diane Wyder
Sun	Sept 22	Bruce & Doreen White
Sun	Sept 29	Steve and Allison Crate

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Regular Collection: \$1532.00

Thanks be to the Good One Who allows us to continue this apostolate unto His glory!

*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: Mary Hawes, Doreen Nader, Tala Poulin, Louise Saliem, Virginia Poulin, and Beverly Rideout.

INTENTIONS FOR THE QOURBONEH (MASSES)

- Sat 17 †Charles Owen
(the Parish)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Sun 18 For the members of the Parish
- Mon 19 -----
- Tue 20 †Janet George
(Jean Deeb)
- Wed 21 †Rosalba Russi Saviano
(Marc & Antoinette Jamerson)
- Thu 22 Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Fri 23 Private Intention
(Abouna James)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Sat 24 †Fr. Paul Coury
(the Parish)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Sun 25 For the members of the Parish
- Mon 26 -----
- Tue 27 Evan Beck
- Wed 28 †Monica Walter Lippold
(Marc & Antoinette Jamerson)
- Thu 29 Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Fri 30 Private Intention
(Abouna James)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Sat 31 †Percy George and the Fallen of D-Day
(Richard Karter)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Sun 1 For the members of the Parish
- Mon 2 -----
- Tue 3 David Jamerson
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Wed 4 †De & Rachel Salazar
(Lolo Salazar)
- Thu 5 Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Fri 6 Private Intention
(Abouna James)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors

Autumn Harvest Raffle

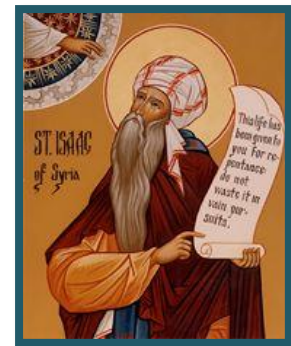
\$10,000 GRAND PRIZE!!!!

Ticket sales will begin on Monday, July 29th.

One in 400 chance to win \$10,000.00!!!

Cost of each ticket is \$100.00, with the winning ticket for the prize to be drawn Tuesday, December 3rd.

*Saint Isaac the
Syrian
August 23rd*



Eleventh Sunday of Pentecost p 492

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

Entrance Hymn: LB *safreh* 200

Glory: SB *al majdu*

Qolo/Hymn: LB *shareero* 201A

Creed p 748

PRE-ANAPHORA:

Transfer of Gifts: LB *The Lord Reigns*

Incense Hymn Offertory: SB *ikbal*

ANAPHORA:

Saint John the Apostle: LB p 815

Sign of Peace: SB *too ba*

Communion: SB *O Bread of Life*

Recessional: SB *The Lamb*

*LB=Liturgical Book SB=Song Book