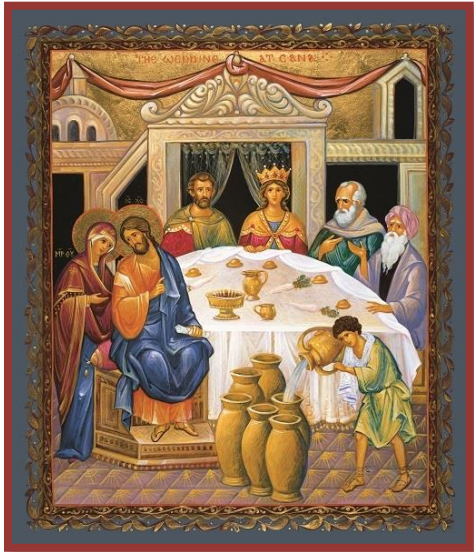


# Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church



## Entrance into the Great Fast The Miracle of Cana in Galilee

February 14, 2021

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, KHS  
Subdeacon: Mr. Stephen Crate  
website: <http://www.sjmaronite.org>  
e-mail: [stjoesinmaine@yahoo.com](mailto:stjoesinmaine@yahoo.com)

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*"For us, the men and women of the East are a symbol of the Lord Who comes again."* *Oriental Lumen*, John Paul II

- Qourboneh:** Masses: Sunday 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.; Tues. – Fr. 9:00 a.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 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 stipends: weekday intentions \$10; weekend intentions \$15  
**Monthly Memorials:** Sanctuary Candles \$30; Altar Bread \$25; Sacramental Wine \$45  
**Catechism:** Lenore Boles, *Director* **Choir Director:** Dame Marie Fefa Deeb, DSG **Parish Council President:** Ex-officio  
**Council Members:** Lenore Boles, *Religious Education*; Larry Mitchell, *Knights of Columbus*; Ruth Lunn, *Rosary Sodality*

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### **THIS DAY'S EPISTLE<sup>1</sup> Romans 14: 14-23**

For I am certain in the Lord Jesus that nothing which comes from Him is impure, but if something seems unclean to someone, then it is so to him.

If you cause your brother distress on account of food, then you no longer walk in charity. Do not destroy a man for whom the Messiah has died because of some meat.

Do not allow anyone to speak ill of what good things we have, for the Kingdom of God does not consist in food and drink, but in justice, peace, and joy in the Spirit of Holiness. Whoever serves the Messiah in these matters is pleasing to God and wins the approval of men. Let us then strive to be at peace and edify one another. Let us not destroy the work of God for the sake of some meat, for although everything is

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<sup>1</sup> Based on The Syriac Peshitta Bible with English Translation, Gorgias Press, New Jersey, 2012, ed. George A. Kiraz and Andreas Juckel

indeed clean, it would be wrong for one to eat it if it were to make another fall.

It is good not to eat meat or drink wine, and thereby avoid doing anything that might cause your brother to stumble.

If you have faith, keep it between God and yourself.

Blessed are those who do not condemn themselves in making subtle distinction; if someone is uncertain about a matter, and eats, then he condemns himself, because this is not done in faith.

For whatever does not proceed from faith is sin.



*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)<sup>2</sup>

## ABOUNA'S REFLECTIONS

We enter the Great Fast of Lent. There are many pressing concerns on everyone's mind, but we take refuge in the Sacred Heart, where radiant and eternal Peace is to be found. As Saint Augustine taught, we turn within to hear the voice of God through His grace. It is not to listen to our idle thoughts that we turn inward – who cares about one's own opinions or, even less, "my' truth" – but to be attentive to the still, small voice that speaks in the light of grace of theological faith. This is "repentance"; we turn to the God of consolation in Whom we find health, well-being, and peace.

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<sup>2</sup> Homily 1.7.8 "on Ezechiel"

**Ash Monday** this year will have only a single Liturgy, at **6:00pm**. Although it is originally a Latin ceremony, it beautifully symbolizes the fragility of life (from that perspective, the pandemic has been a wonderful meditation of "ashes") and that time is short. The wise man uses his gifts well, and he uses them *now*. Continually putting off things to the constant "tomorrow" is as deadly as it is foolish. Look up the legend of **Saint Expeditus**.

Minds illuminated, and inner ears attentive, we have hope to move forward in the healing and integration that is the Gospel. This is the meaning of Lent.<sup>3</sup> We set aside these weeks to seriously listen to our Lord and follow His promptings.

We remember that "fast" has the meaning of "strengthening" (as in "steadfast") and it is for this purpose that we set ourselves to prayer, the works of compassion, and to our dietary restrictions and conscious temperance which we call simply, "fasting".

The opening of the Great Lent is also time for us to think of the annual Bishop's Appeal, which is assessed to our parish at \$4,000.00. This must be paid as is, there is no haggling as some might wish, but it goes to the excellent purposes of building up the fundamental strength and stability of our Maronite church, our Eparchy. Attached, you will find the annual letter from the bishop to this end.

We also have now to begin to gather together our strength in order to replace our oldest furnace in the church. This is an enormous project, and costly. The estimated expense will be around \$50,000.00, which is a bit overwhelming at first sight. Our tiny community may be small, but it is valiant in the faith of our fathers, and it is this type of regular maintenance and upkeep that shows well our devotion to this faith of Antioch. Without regular maintenance and upkeep, we will never be able to hand the faith and her liturgical observances to our children and our children's children.

There are actually many more projects that need immediate attention in structural masonry work and window maintenance (resealing them) along with this furnace replacement – about \$150,000.00

<sup>3</sup> "lent" is from the Old English word for "springtime". In this understanding, Lent is not only a calendrical time, but one of great supernatural hope in *shlomoh* to those who are faithful.

total. It is necessary for us to do this in stages, biting off the projects we can as monies come in. For now, the replacement of the furnace is our first priority.

Now, the positive element in all this, beyond its use as an excellent Lenten observance as alms, is that there has been a **\$20,000.00 Challenge Grant** proposed to the parish from an anonymous donor. This is an excellent and charitable aid to motivate the rest of us to contribute to these necessary costs. We will be setting up a "thermometer" at the entrances of the church to track our goal. Once we have the **initial \$20,000.00** in place the grant will come into play, leaving us only ten thousand more to top off.

To cover the Lenten Eparchial Appeal, there will be **two special second collections done on the fourth Sunday of these next two months: February, 28<sup>th</sup>, and on March, 28<sup>th</sup>.** We must pay this assessment by April 1<sup>st</sup>. A clearly marked envelope placed in the collections at any time can also be added.

Please note that anything contributed that might take us over and above what is due will be set aside toward the necessary furnace replacement.

May the luminous and fortifying silence of the Great Fast deepen our attachment to the faith, enflame our charity and devotion, and move us to the supernatural and transcendent hope that maintains our trust, and builds generously for the future.

### SCHEDULE OF READINGS

#### THE MIRACLE OF CANA IN GALILEE

February 14, 2021

**Rom 14: 14-23      St. John 2: 1-11**

#### THE HEALING OF THE LEPER

February 21, 2021

**Rom 6: 12-23      St. Mark 1: 35-43**



The Sanctuary Lamp burns in February *in memory of Patricia Thomas* at the request of Barbara Poulin.

*May her memory be eternal!*



### VOCATION ICON

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

Sun	Feb	<b>14</b>	Sue Paré & Lolo Salazar
Sun	Feb	<b>21</b>	Daja Gombojav & Family
Sun	Feb	<b>28</b>	Larry & Lisa Grard
Sat	Mar	<b>6</b>	Jim & Lenore Boles
Sun	Mar	<b>14</b>	Chris & Diane Wyder
Sun	Mar	<b>21</b>	Michael & Gayle Misner
Sun	Mar	<b>28</b>	Bruce & Doreen White
Sun	April	<b>4</b>	Steve & Allison Crate

### LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

(Budgeted: \$3,100.00)

**Regular Collection Last Week: \$2,146.00**

**(Budget Deficit 2021: \$3,889.00)<sup>4</sup>**

#### Today's Second Collection

is for our fuel-oil and heating costs.

**Second Sunday each month** is a second collection to cover our **monthly fuel-oil costs.**

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

<sup>4</sup> Deficit 2019: \$72,270.59 / Deficit 2020: \$34,473.00

INTENTIONS FOR THE QOURBONEH (MASSES)

Sun 14 9:00 For the Members of the Parish  
11:00 Mike and Gayle Misner-Elias  
(Isaac)

Mon 15 6:00 pm Private Intention  
(Mary Nicholas)

Tue 16 Fr. Doran  
(Catherine & Ira Mandel)

Wed 17 Dana & Linda Hayes  
(Misner-Elias Family)

Thu 18 Pilar Elias  
(Misner-Elias Family)

Fri 19 Mike and Gayle Misner-Elias  
(Isaac)

Sat 20 Wayne Grenier  
(Misner Family)

Sun 21 9:00 For the Members of the Parish  
11:00 Private Intention

Mon 22 -----

Tue 23 David Nicholas  
(Mary Nicholas)

Wed 24 Philip Nicholas  
(Mary Nicholas)

Thu 25 Orozovich Family thanksgiving  
(Mary Nicholas)

Fri 26 Benjamin Misner-Elias  
(Misner Family)

Sat 27 Fortieth Day of Joan Gottardi  
(Steve & Allison Crate)

Sun 28 9:00 For the Members of the Parish  
11:00 Private Intention

Mon 1 -----

Tue 2 †Preston Smith  
(Mary Nicholas)

Wed 3 All the Faithful Reposed  
(Mary Nicholas)

Thu 4 Nicholas Family  
(Mary Nicholas)

Fri 5 Michael Misner-Elias  
(Misner Family)

## The Life-giving Cross

Please, take notice of our present protocols:

- 1.) All Catholics, of whatever Ritual Church, are more than welcome at Saint Joseph. We are all one Body of Christ.
- 2.) During this pandemic, there is no obligation to assist at the Divine Sacrifice.
- 3.) Those who are sick, or carry symptoms of sickness, must remain at home.
- 4.) All are recommended to give contact information (a list is provided at the door) in order to inform you if need arise from a case of the virus.
- 5.) All vulnerable, elderly, and at-risk individuals should remain at home and follow the Liturgies as posted on the parish's website.
- 6.) The **Vigil** Masses are suspended until further notice.
- 7.) All who are retired, or who may have a freer weekday schedule, are asked to consider assisting at Mass during the weekdays, **Tues-Fri, 9:00am**; and on **Saturday at 10:00am**.
- 8.) **Everyone is asked to wear a face-mask.**
- 9.) Hand sanitizers are available at the entrances and at the confessional.
- 10.) Seating at church must be "**first-come-first-served**" and will be closed at "50".
- 11.) Everyone must sit in such a way that there is **no one immediately in front** of them and **no one immediately behind** them. The pews have been blocked off for this purpose.
- 12.) To control crowd flow and bring greater security, **doors** will be **locked** at the beginning of each Liturgy.
- 13.) A **six-foot distancing** is to be observed by those who approach the Divine Altar and wish to receive the Divine Eucharist in **Holy Communion**.
- 14.) And, lastly, at the end of Mass, those who wish to **remain and pray** in the church are welcome to do so, but all others are asked **not to linger and visit within the church**. Please exit through the Appleton Street doorway. If one wishes to visit, please do so outside the church, being **mindful of the proper physical distancing**.

## Disinfecting Crews' Schedule

With deep gratitude to those who have stepped forward to aid in the health and security of our parish by disinfecting and cleaning the church and the restrooms each Saturday. **Crew A:** **Crew B:** **Crew C:** **Crew D:**

Following Saturday morning:  
Following the Sunday Vigil:

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From February 17<sup>th</sup> through March 28<sup>th</sup>, you are invited to join other Christians for **40 Days for Life** – forty days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion.

[www.40daysforlife.com/augusta-maine](http://www.40daysforlife.com/augusta-maine)

You are invited also to stand and peacefully pray during a 40-day vigil in the public right-of-way outside *Maine Family Planning* in Augusta. Please spread the word about this important community outreach.

For more information and to volunteer: contact Judy Iceenogle, 207-872-6558/  
[ricejuice@twc.com](mailto:ricejuice@twc.com)

## The Miracle at Cana in Galilee

p. 176

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

**Entrance Hymn:** LB *foosoyoh* 102

**Glory:** SB *irhamni*

**Qolo/Hymn:** LB *ectoh* 103

**Creed** p 748

**PRE-ANAPHORA:**

**Transfer of Gifts:** LB *The Lord Reigns*

**Incense Hymn Offertory:** SB *l'maryam yoldat*

**ANAPHORA:**

**Saint John, the Apostle:** LB p 815

**Sign of Peace:** SB *tou ba*

**Communion:** SB *O Body of my Savior; Seek ye first*

**Recessional:** SB *Wa Habibi*

*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:** Tala Poulin, Daja Gombojav, Anne El-Habre, Richard Karter, Lolo Salazar, Charlotte Iserbyte, Rita Hikel, and all those who suffer from disease, want, or depression.

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### *SERVERS OF THE DIVINE ALTAR*

**February 21:**

9:00am: A. Michaud/M. Carter

11:00am: I. Misner-Elias

**February 28:**

9:00am: M. Carter/ N. Carter

11:00am: L. Michaud/ I. Misner-Elias

**March 7:**

9:00am: A. Michaud/ N. Carter

11:00am: I. Misner-Elias

**March 14:**

9:00am: M. Carter/ N. Carter

11:00am: L. Michaud/ I. Misner-Elias

**March 21:**

9:00am: A. Michaud/ M. Carter

11:00am: I. Misner-Elias

**Hosanna Sunday, March 28:**

9:00am: A. Michaud/ N. Carter

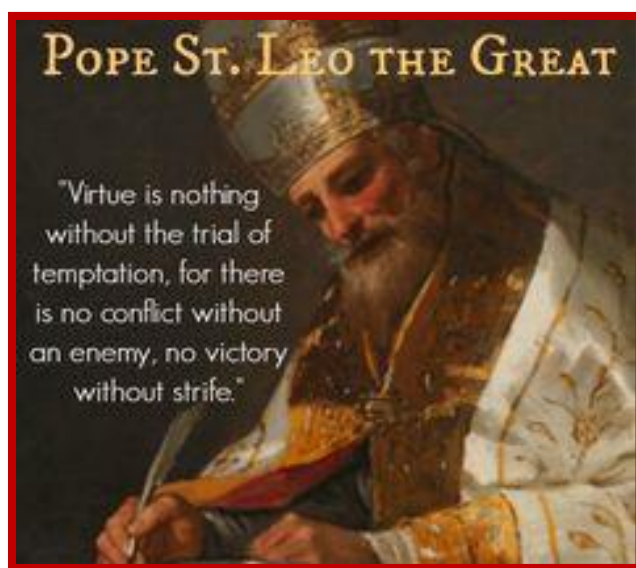
11:00am: L. Michaud/ I. Misner-Elias

# The Traditional and Patriarchal Norms for the Great Fast

**QUANTITY:** *In our tradition, the fast means no food whatsoever between midnight and noon, only water and medication are permitted.*

**QUALITY:** *Also, in our eastern tradition, the days of fast are in practice more or less vegan, that is, no meat, no seafood, no meat products, no dairy products and no eggs are to be eaten.*

- A.) Ash Monday and the First Week of Great Lent and Great Week of the Passion and especially Great and Holy Friday of the Crucifixion through to noon on Saturday of the Great Light are Days of Fast and Abstinence according to our patriarchal tradition. cf. par. 22
- B.) *For all, as a minimum requirement according to law, we must fast on Ash Monday and on Good Friday. Abstinence is to be observed on all Fridays of Lent. These days of fast are strictly to be meatless.*
- C.) *From the age of reason onward, all are obliged to follow the abstinence from all meat, meat products, and dairy products on these fast days even if they are strictly not obliged to fast.*
- D.) All Fridays throughout the year are traditional days of fast and abstinence from all meat and dairy products.
- E.) *In general, the sick, expectant mothers, and the elderly who need to eat regularly should be exempted from fasting and abstinence, especially those who are taking medications associated with chronic illnesses.*
- F.) *Saturdays and Sunday, although abstaining in the quality of foods, are not, in the eastern tradition, days of fasting.*
- G.) *Breaking the Fast is permitted also on the following feastdays:*
- 1.) Saint John Maron (March 2);
  - 2.) The Forty Martyrs (March 9);
  - 3.) Saint Patrick (USA) (March 17<sup>th</sup>);
  - 4.) Saint Joseph (March 19<sup>th</sup>); and,
  - 5.) The Annunciation (March 25<sup>th</sup>).



## Saint Leo, the Great

Doctor of the Church

February 18<sup>th</sup>