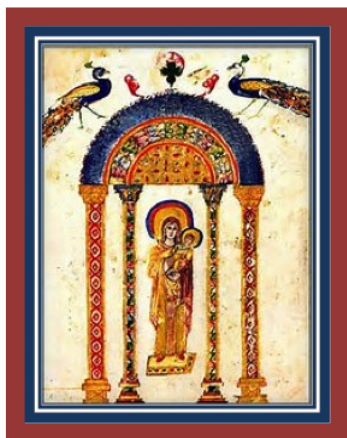


# Fifteenth Sunday of Pentecost

September 10, 2017



## St. Joseph Maronite Catholic Church

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



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*“The Eastern Rites are the Treasure of the Catholic Church”*

St. 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 \$25

**Choir Director:** Fefa Deeb    **Sacristan:** Laurie Nale    **Parish Secretary:** Paula Mitchell

**Catechists:** Lenore Boles, Director & K-1<sup>st</sup>; Jane Lee, 2<sup>nd</sup>; Shana Page, 3-5<sup>th</sup>

**Parish Council:** Sheila Bonenfant, Lisa Grard, Lowell Hawes, Rosanna Joseph, David Lee, Kevin Michaud, Paula Mitchell, Aaron Rowden, Elizabeth Wilson

**Ex-officio:** Subdeacon Steve Crate; Lenore Boles, Catechism; Shana Page, Rosary Sodality; Larry Mitchell, Knights of Columbus

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**THIS DAY'S GOSPEL:** St. Luke 7; 36-50

One of the Pharisees asked Him to eat with him, and He went into the Pharisee's house, and reclined at table. And behold, a woman of the city, who was a sinner, when she learned that He was sitting at table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of ointment, and standing behind Him at His feet, weeping, she began to wet His feet with her tears, and wiped them with the hair of her head, and kissed His feet, and anointed them with the ointment.

Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw it, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, He would have known who and what sort of woman this is who is touching Him, for she is a sinner."

And Jesus answering said to him, "**Simon, I have something to say to you.**" And he answered, "What is it, Rabbi?" "**A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. When they could not pay, he forgave them both. Now which of them will love him more?**" Simon answered, "The one, I suppose, to

whom he forgave more." And He said to him, "You have judged rightly." Then turning toward the woman He said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house, you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has wet My feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. You gave Me no kiss, but from the time she came in she has not ceased to kiss My feet. You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed My feet with ointment. Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she has loved much; but he who is forgiven little, loves little."

And He said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." Then those who were at table with Him began to say among themselves, "Who is this, who even forgives sins?" And He said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

### ABOONA'S WEEKLY REFLECTION

On August 23<sup>rd</sup> we commemorate Saint Isaac Syriani in our Maronite calendar, and although it has been a couple weeks since his feastday it remains a good point of reference when we consider the plight of refugees: there has been an endless flow of them throughout the centuries. In the fifth century, the time of Saint Isaac's move from Syria to Italy, was a devastating period of religious controversy over Christian orthodoxy and expression. The ecclesial splits and schisms over the Holy Councils of Ephesus and Chalcedon remain with us to this day, although happily there were agreements and statements of understanding signed in the 1990s with the Catholic Church. This weekend, September 9<sup>th</sup>, we commemorate the Council of Chalcedon (AD 451). It is this Council that gave rise to the crisis that sent Saint Isaac to the west.

Remembered in two different months, both August 23<sup>rd</sup> and September 9<sup>th</sup> are thus related to one another in our calendar.

In the world of the fifth century, the Aramaic/Syriac Christian people of the Middle East, as a group, went into schism by opposition to the Council of Chalcedon. This religious turmoil caused great difficulty to those who wished to remain faithful to the Catholic Faith. The Maronites, gathered as they were around the religious and monastic establishments of the disciples of Saint Maron, found it somewhat easier than the other Syrians who remained identified

with their village and city churches. It was in this crisis that Isaac left his homeland for Italy. He judged that he could not remain faithful to Catholic doctrine *and* stay among his Syrian compatriots. He relocated to a Catholic country to do so and established himself in the area of Spoleto. As a hermit he became known as a miracle worker especially gifted with clairvoyance. He died in AD 550 and is commemorated in both the eastern and western churches.

Here it can be noted that a major part of the glory of the Antiochene Syriac *Maronite* tradition is that it is a Catholic Church that has remained always faithful to her Syriac roots - remaining both Catholic and Syriac. Many of the Syriac peoples who held fast to the orthodox Catholic Faith later adopted the rites and ceremonies of the Byzantine Church: these are the *Melkites*. They are people who share the same faith and culture as the Maronites but who worship in a "Hellenic" fashion. They are especially close to us as brothers and sisters in the Faith.

Many of our ancestors who came to America in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries would have remembered the civil unrest and modern persecutions committed by the Muslims and Druze, and, perhaps among the older immigrants, the devastating massacres and civic unrest of 1859-1860. It was in these massacres that the Blessed Massabki Brothers were martyred for the Faith in Damascus.

We can understand with difficulty, in our age of easy transport and communication, the effort it took Saint Isaac to immigrate to Italy, but we can look back him and appreciate the fidelity he demonstrated by doing so. It was better for him, he judged, to leave homeland and family rather than renounce the Faith in its orthodoxy, or by leaving himself in a situation where he could lose his faith by being caught up in the religious debates that would have surrounded him. The Church concurs with him in this decision and God Himself confirmed his life and choices through the miracles that surrounded his life as a hermit.

Of course before such an example each of us is asked to examine himself as to how well he cherishes this same Catholic Faith that was taught by the Council of Chalcedon and was exemplified in the heroic sacrifices made by Saint Isaac Syriani. Would we make such sacrifices as to leave family and homeland to preserve it? At this moment in time, in Maine, it is a simple matter to practice our

faith. How well do we live it in integrity day after day? Being in comfort, are we easily duped? Does this easiness become for us a source of complacency or even laxness?

May the devotion and example of Saint Isaac Syriani strengthen us, and may his intercession and prayers before the Hidden and Compassionate One be a rampart to us all.

### PARKING LOT PAVING AND OTHER PROJECTS

Funds are always necessary to accomplish these works and *we rely on everyone's generosity to participate in the repairs necessary to keep St. Joseph's parish plant in good shape.* Buildings do not heal themselves, and maintenance must be constant.

As can be seen, much work has now been finished:

- asphalt cover and finish to the parking, \$10,000;
- fencing, \$6,000;
- painting of church and rectory exteriors, \$9,000.

We continue the work to finish the repairs to both the roofs of the church and that of the rectory.

We hope to get all repairs done before fall sets and another winter of damage.

*Your generosity today will help us to avoid withdrawing from our working investment fund.*

So far, we are not succeeding in avoiding this inevitability; in the last two months only \$2,700 has come in to cover these long overdue, but necessary costs.

No one wishes to worry about money, but it is in this way, mundane and as concrete as it may be, that we all continue to contribute to the apostolic work of St. Joseph's in proclaiming the Kingdom of God in His Sacred Mysteries.

**Be sure your cell  
phone is turned-off  
and silenced**

# Hafli!

## St. Joseph's 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

### September 23: 6pm-12am

Table for ten: \$300

Single Tickets \$40

NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR

### VOCATION ICON

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

Sun September 17 Mr & Mrs Hawes

Please indicate your desire (preferably by e-mail) to take the vocation icon so that we can revise the schedule.

### LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Regular Collection: \$2495.00

Please note that the monthly operating budget is \$8,000

SECOND COLLECTION, September 10:

Catholic University of America

*May God richly reward  
your wise generosity!*

September 16: 5:00 pm

*following Qurban*

A spaghetti supper in the parish hall will be sponsored by the Knights of Columbus on September 16<sup>th</sup>.

This will be *a fundraiser for the building fund.*  
Tickets on sale following Masses this weekend.

There is a meeting of the [Rosary Sodality](#) in the parish hall following the Mass at 10:00 on Sunday

**Parish Council Meeting**  
at 6:00 pm on September 12  
in the parish hall

LITURGY INTENTIONS

- Sat 9 Yolande Genest (*M. Hutchinson*)  
& Rev. Mr. Dunn and family
- Sun 10 Rev. Mr. Dunn and family
- Mon 11 Rev. Mr. Dunn and family
- Tue 12 Prinella Mitchell (*P & S Maroon*)  
& Rev. Mr. Dunn and family
- Wed 13 Rev. Mr. Dunn and family
- Thur 14 Rev. Mr. Dunn and family & Michael  
Sheeran/Neenu James
- Fri 15 Michael Sheeran and Neenu James
- Sat 16 Michael Sheeran and Neenu James
- Sun 17 † Marion Maroon

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

*Heal Thy servants, who are sick,  
O Lord, and send them help  
and comfort from Thy Holy Place*

Those for whom we pray: Jerry Fortin, Albert Joseph, Sierra Lee, Darrell Mitchell, Doreen Nader, Tala Poulin, Virginia Poulin, Beverly Rideout, Gordon Webber, Melissa Karter, Maxine Morrisette, Paula Mitchell, Rebecca Bernard and Paul Mitchell

**READERS' SCHEDULE**

Fifteenth Sunday of Pentecost

I Thes 1; 1-10      St. Luke 7; 36-50  
September 9      Lila Hallowell

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE HOLY CROSS

II Tim 2; 1-10      St. Mark 10; 35-45  
September 16      Ruth Lunn

**Fifteenth Sunday of Pentecost "B"**

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

Entrance Hymn: SB p 31 #155  
Open Our Eyes

Glory: SB p 1 #2  
Glory (English)

Qolo/Hymn: 201A  
Shareero

Creed p 748

Pre-Anaphora:  
Transfer of Gifts: SB p 8 #108  
Blessed Are You Lord

Incense Hymn: SB p 3 #8  
Ikbal - This Pure Incense

Anaphora:  
Twelve Apostles: LB p 754

Sign of Peace:  
TBA

Communion:  
This we Pray

Recessional: SB p 35 #166  
Sing Out Earth and Sky

\*LB=Liturgical Book SB=Song Book







سما سمعنا ونحبها الله