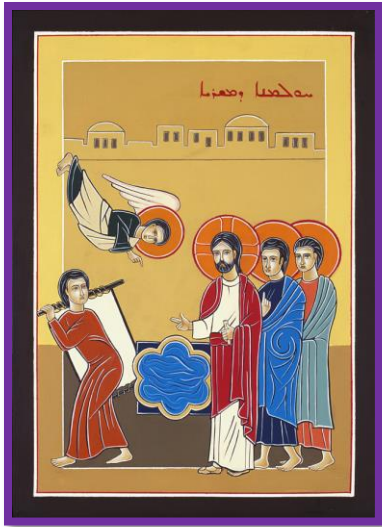


Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church



The Healing of the Paralytic

Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast

March 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

"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 the 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 stipend: \$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*

THIS DAY'S EPISTLE¹

I Timothy 5: 24 – 6: 5

There are sons of men whose sins are well known, and these precede them to the place of judgement, but there are others (whose sins) follow them.

So also are good deeds known, and those that are otherwise cannot be hidden.

Those who are under the yoke of slavery should hold their masters in all honor, lest the Name of God and His doctrine be dishonored.

As for those who have believers as masters, these should not show contempt for them because they are brothers; instead, they should serve them all the more because those who benefit from your service are beloved believers. Teach these things and appeal to them. But if there is anyone who provides a different teaching and does not adhere to the sound words of our Lord *Yeshu' Msheeho* and the teaching of the fear of God, this man is arrogant.

Although he knows nothing, he has a sick obsession with argument and wordy disputations.

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

These result only in envy, contention, blasphemy, an evil mindset, and quarreling among men, whose minds are corrupted and stripped of the truth. These think that godliness is a source of profit! But as for you, stay far away from such things.



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

*O Good One, the Lover of all,
 make Thy glorious light shine upon us
 so that we may come to Thee
 with a childlike confidence.*

*Do not leave us alone to fight the enemy,
 who spies on us in order to suffocate
 the word of life within us,
 but be with us this morning,
 and all the days of our lives,
 and we shall praise Thee forever.³*

Ah!, the glories of tax season. This time of the year is an excellent reminder of how we are all encumbered on the path in this valley of tears. Stuff surrounds us, but the Christian heart longs to be free! This longing is the inevitable effect of the presence of grace in human life. Like babies, the strength of grace moves us to be weaned from our disordered attachments and free us from the "stuff" to which we cling so readily. Unpleasant and painful at times, but the holiness of the Good

One, in touching our lives, always moves us toward liberation.

As work was done in the parish office these last taxing months, making out the forms and filling out the letters, to collaborate with the things of Caesar, it became clear that there were a number of individuals who wished "tax letters" but for whom we had no name, and thus no account on record from which to work. We take this occasion then to let everyone know that it is good for you to sign up to the parish if you wish the angels of the office to issue you regular or annual acknowledgements of your generosity.

On this point it is good to note (I have remarked a bit of confusion on the matter when conversing with some) that when you sign up to the parish you do not become a Maronite, so one need not worry that in assisting regularly at the *Alohojo Qourbonoh* and in setting up a manner of accounting with Saint Joseph that one is "leaving the Latin Church". Not at all. The process is more involved for those who wish *to transfer from* the Latin Catholic Church *to* the Maronite Catholic Church. One does not become a Maronite by osmosis, so fear not! In fact, any request to be adopted by Saint Maron into *Beit Maroun* really is done only after one has been in contact and regularly attending a Maronite church for three or four years minimally, who may feel moved to do so freely, and on their own initiative.

So, if you have discovered a treasure from out of Antioch on this corner of Front and Appleton in Waterville, know that you are heartily welcome, received with the open arms of brothers and sisters, and in the warmth of an Oriental embrace -

أَهْلًا وَسَهْلًا
 أَهْلًا وَسَهْلًا

- *ahlan wa sahlán!* In Arabic, this "welcome" in literal translation means something along the lines of "(*ahlan*) our family (*wa*) and (*sahlán*) ease". This bears the sense, more or less, of "our family into

² Homily 1.7.8 "on Ezechiel"

³ *First Prayer, Safro* on Wednesdays in Great Lent.

which you step with ease". *Our home is yours, welcome.* You honor us with your trust and confidence as we all form together the unique Body of Christ!

In the Kingdom as received friends and beloved brethren, one need not fear that this presence is somehow "leaving" one Church for another simply by being here, and one can then, with good conscience and generous heart, *sign up with your info* so that the office can more easily regulate fiscal matters for 2021.

The doors of the House of God are open, the embrace is wide, and one is free to do as she chooses in the Lord.

May the God of all consolation strengthen each of our hearts, enlighten our minds, open our spirits, and fortify our bodies that we may ever serve more faithfully, see more clearly, and love more ardently in the divine charity granted to us in these days of grace in the Great Fast.



o thee, O blessed Joseph, do we come in our tribulation, and having implored the help of thy most holy Spouse, we confidently invoke thy patronage also.



hrough that charity which bound thee to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God and through the paternal love with which thou didst embrace the Child Jesus, we humbly beseech thee graciously to regard the inheritance which Jesus Christ has purchased by His Blood, and with thy power and strength to aid us in our necessities.



ost watchful guardian of the Holy Family, defend the chosen people of Jesus Christ;

O most loving father, ward off from us every contagion of error and corrupting influence; show pity to us, O most mighty protector, and assist us from heaven in our daily struggle with the power of darkness.



s once thou didst rescue the Child Jesus from the supreme peril of His life, so now protect God's Holy Church from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity; shield each one of us by thy constant protection, so that, supported by thine example and strengthened by thine aid, we may be able to live a holy life, die a happy death, and obtain eternal joy in Heaven. Amen.⁴



The Sanctuaries Lamp burns in March in memory of the *deceased of the Maroon Joseph Family* at the request of Barbara Joseph.

⁴ This prayer was composed by **Pope Leo XIII** and introduced in his encyclical, *Quamquam pluries*, in **1889**. He asked that it be added to the end of the Rosary, especially following its

recitation during the month of October (dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary).

The Altar Breads have been donated in memory of
George Deeb by Dame Fefa, DSG

May their memory be eternal!



SCHEDULE OF READINGS

THE HEALING OF THE PARALYTIC

March 14, 2021

I Tim 5: 24--6: 5 St. Mark 2: 1-12

THE HEALING OF THE BLIND MAN

March 21, 2021

II Cor 10: 1-7 St. Mark 10: 46-52

VOCATION ICON

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

Sun	Mar	14	Chris & Diane Wyder
Sun	Mar	21	Michael & Gayle Misner
Sun	Mar	28	Bruce & Doreen White
Sun	April	4	Steve & Allison Crate
Sun	April	11	Sue Paré & Lolo Salazar
Sun	April	18	Daja Gombojav & Family
Sun	April	25	Larry & Lisa Grard
Sat	May	1	Jim & Lenore Boles

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

(Budgeted: \$3,100.00)

Regular Collection Last Week: \$2,348.00

(Budget Deficit 2021: \$7,256.00)⁵

Upcoming Special Collection combining the Bishop's Appeal⁶ and this year's maintenance projects: **March 28th**

An additional **\$725.00** has come in this week for the Lenten collections - the combined **\$39,000.00** we need to collect to cover the **Bishop's Appeal** and the **building maintenance projects** we will attempt to do this summer.⁷

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.

INTENTIONS FOR THE QOURBONEH (MASSES)

Sun 14 9:00 For the Members of the Parish
 11:00 Private Intention

Mon 15 -----

Tue 16 Dana & Linda Hayes
 (Misner-Elias Family)

Wed 17 †Patricia Thomas
 (Dan & Pam Casavant)

Thu 18 †Joan Gottardi
 (Donna-Jo Mitchell)

Fri 19 †Joseph & Rachel Salazar
 (Peter & Kim Paré)

Sat 20 Fr. Doran
 (Ira & Catherine Mandel)

Sun 21 9:00 For the Members of the Parish
 11:00 Karen Misner

Mon 22 -----

Tue 23 †Rachel Salazar
 (Suzanne Paré)

Wed 24 †Paul Ferris
 (Steve & Allison Crate)

Thu 25 Private Intention
 (Abouna James)

⁵ Deficit 2019: \$72,270.59/Deficit 2020: \$34,473.00

⁶ Assessed at \$4,000.00; the first stage of the building projects will cost around \$55,000.00

⁷ This makes the amount toward our matching Challenge Grant, to be presently \$6,225.00. Only \$29,000.00 to go to achieve the 55k we need for the first stage of our building works.

- Fri 26 †Elsie Chapman
(Allison & Steve Crate)
- Sat 27 Darrell Mitchell
(Donna-Jo Mitchell)
- Sun 28 9:00 For the Members of the Parish
11:00 Private Intention
- Mon 29 -----
- Tue 30 †Elsie Chapman
- Wed 31 The Nicholas Family
(Mary Nicholas)
- Thu 1 Private Intention
(Abouna James)
- Fri 2 †Preston Porter
(Antoinette Jamerson)

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*.

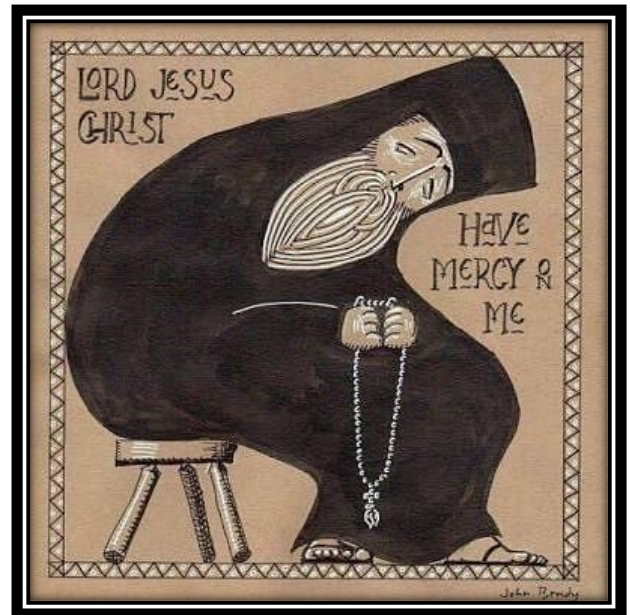
Prayer for the Gift of Tears

Almighty and merciful God,
Who for Thy thirsting people didst bring forth
from the rock a fountain of living water:
draw forth, we beseech Thee,
from the hardness of our hearts
the waters of compunction, that we may weep
for our sins, and by Thy bounty may merit
to obtain their forgiveness.

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*



From February 17th through March 28th, you are invited to join other Christians for **40 Days for Life** – forty days of prayer and fasting
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

PRE-ANAPHORA:

Transfer of Gifts: LB *The Lord Reigns*

Incense Hymn Offertory: SB *l'maryam yoldat*

ANAPHORA:

Saint Peter, Chief of the Apostles: LB p 774

Sign of Peace: SB *tou ba*

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

Recessional: SB *Hasalah*

*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: Sally Derosby, 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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The Healing of the Paralytic p. 237

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

Entrance Hymn: LB *enono nouhro shareero* 120

Glory: SB *irhamni*

Qolo/Hymn: LB *soogheeto (leelyo)* 121

Creed p 748

SERVERS OF THE DIVINE ALTAR

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

Glorious Resurrection, April 4:

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

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

New Sunday, April 11:

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

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

April 18:

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

11:00am: I. Misner-Elias

Choir Practices For Great and Holy Week

Mondays 4:30pm

March 15, 22, and 29th

**Preparation for the Glorious
Resurrection – thorough and deep
church cleaning – a Jamboree for
all of generous heart and good will
to beautify the House of God
(bring your buckets)**

**Saturday, March 20th, following the Mass, and
organized by our indomitable sacristans**

The Supplication of Evening Prayer in Fridays of Great Lent

*O Son, by Thy Fast Thou didst save the
Church from error; hear our supplications
and have mercy on us.*

*Thou didst reconcile heaven and earth,
grant peace to Thy Church and keep her
children in the light of the Cross.*

*The evil one hates our fasting,
and in his perversity would like to see
our offering rejected by Thee.*

*Protect our fasting
from the deceit of the devil.
Let us turn away his deceit
from these holy matters.*

*Let us cleanse our fasting and our mouths
from all duplicity.*

*Have mercy on us, O First-Born,
and aid us to expel the greediness
that lies within our thoughts.*

*Have no faith in the sly one,
who deceives the one who fasts.
When he sees someone deprived of bread,
he feeds him with jealousy;
when he sees someone praying,
he suggests to him distraction after
distraction, and steals from his heart
and the prayer from his lips.
O Lord, allow us to see how he fools us
and seeks to snatch reality away from us.*

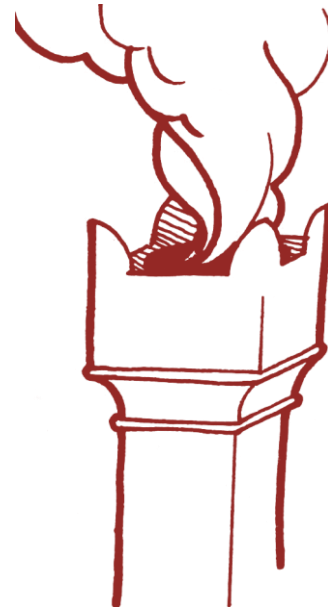
*Blessed the one who accepts his trials;
he shall triumph and be crowned.
Ocean of Compassion,
give unto us an abundance of mercy.
Open our eyes and grant us to see clearly.
Cursed be the evil one,
and may all bless Thee, O Lord.*

*May Christ,
Who accepted the fasting of our ancestors,
accept our fasting and our prayers,
and have mercy upon us.*

*Exalt, O Lord, the memory of Thy Mother
and Thy saints;*

*Through their prayers grant pardon to us
and to our deceased.*

*Through the prayers of Thy Mother,
the prophets, apostles, and martyrs,
watch over the living, and in Thy mercy
forgive those who have died.⁸*



The Traditional and Patriarchal Norms for the Great Fast

- 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 tradition.
- B.) *For all, as a minimum requirement according to law, we must fast on Ash Monday and on Good Friday. Abstinence, minimally, must be observed on all Fridays of Great Lent. The days of fast are strictly to be meatless.*

⁸ *Bo'outho*, Friday Ramsho in Great Lent

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.

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 are exempted from fasting and abstinence, especially those who under medical care for chronic illnesses.

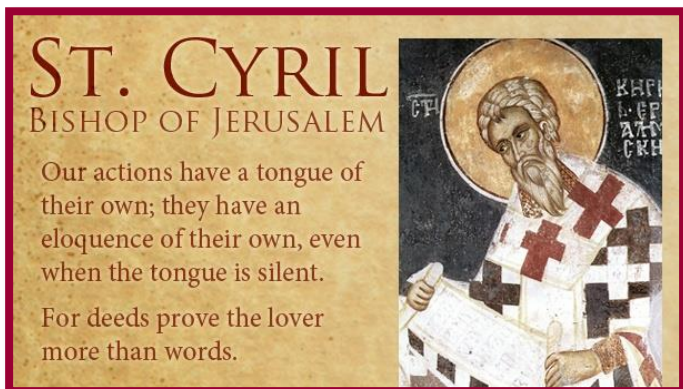
F.) Still observing the quality of food stuffs, Saturdays and Sunday are not, in the eastern tradition, days of fasting.

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 (March 17th);
- 4.) Saint Joseph (March 19th); and,
- 5.) The Annunciation (March 25th).

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

QUALITY: Also, in our traditional 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 eaten.



*Saint Cyril of Jerusalem,
Doctor of the Church*

March 18th