

Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church



First Sunday after Epiphany

January 12, 2020

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
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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 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* **Choir Director:** Dame Marie Fefa Deeb, DSG **Parish Council President:** Lisa Grard **Ex-officio Council Members:** Lenore Boles, *Religious Education*; Larry Mitchell, *Knights of Columbus*; Ruth Lunn, *Rosary Sodality*

This Day's Gospel¹ St. John 1: 29-34

The following day, John saw Jesus coming toward him and he said,
Behold, the Lamb of God,

*Who takes up the sin of the world! This is the One of Whom I said, "A man is coming after me, and He was ahead of me, because He was before me."
I did not know Him,*

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

*but the reason I came
baptizing with water
is so that He might be made known
to Israel.*

John testified and said,

*I saw the Spirit descending from heaven
like a dove, and rest upon Him.*

*And I did not know Him,
but He Who sent me to baptize with
water had told me,*

*“The One upon Whom you see the Spirit
descending and resting,
this is the One Who baptizes
with the Holy Spirit.”*

*I have seen and have testified
that this is the Son of God.*



*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

Everything -- animate, inanimate, living, and dead -- moves, willy-nilly, toward the great Manifestation! And time herself is a creature, a measurement invented by mankind to quantify the passage and change of contingent, limited creatures. It measures growth and dissolution. Time is a limited, contingent creature just as we all are, along with all the animals, plants, space, planets, and stars. Time will come to its conclusion, as all creatures will be *recapitulated* into the Messiah, at the moment He appears, “rises” / *denho*, in full manifestation on the “last day”: the Parousia.

Time has value as does all creation. Time is to be redeemed. Time is to be lived wisely, as all creatures are to be “possessed” for the honor and glory of the Creator and our own salvation. Creation is to be stewarded, so time is to be so also.

Time has been invested in the two young men to born again today at the spiritual womb of Mother Church. For over two years now, these brothers have been in catechesis week in and week out since almost my arrival among you here in Waterville. It has been a rich and rewarding journey. These two boys have matured notably over these two years and today as they step up to the Divine Font of the Lord, becoming sons of *Mar Maroun*, they also become the pride of the parish. They are the gracious and hopeful face of things to come.

Time has been invested into these young men because they have shown the aptitude, the intelligence, the willingness, and the apostolic zeal to enter into the fullness of the Faith. They are well aware that the world as it is today will offer no support to the Faith, so they will need to battle on their own under the illumination of the Good One. They have spent months disposing themselves to receive the blessing and grace to enter the heritage, and to receive the patrimony, of *Beit Maroun*. Sons and heirs of the martyrs they will become. Plunged into the Spirit and fire, they prepare themselves for of a lifetime of combat.

Not only have they worked to learn, they have simultaneously been apostolic in their desire to communicate all that they were learning. It has been an absolute delight to meet the other young men, classmates of theirs, whom they have brought on occasion to Saint Joseph. All these friends of theirs have also shown good minds and manly spirit. We have had a number of excellent conversations.

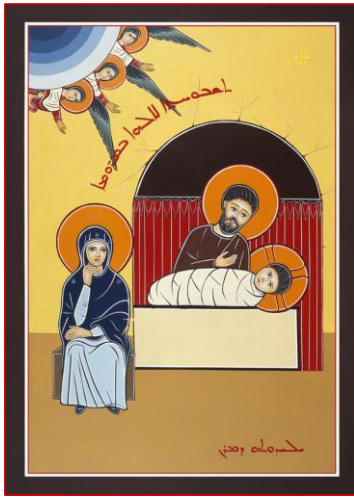
These two brothers' embrace of the Faith has been a beautiful thing to witness and to accompany -- which has made it all the more desirable and easy to invest these many months. In their regard, time has been well stewarded and invested. *Deo gratias!*

In itself, time is short, and eventually we must each quit this terrestrial world -- hopefully for the fullness of the Kingdom.

² Homily 1.7.8 “on Ezechiel”

The grace of God heals and elevates. May we all use our minds, time, and spirit in such a richly invested manner, preparing for the great Epiphany of our Lord and God, while we still have time.

As I have said, the Hidden One is good, and these young men give us hope for the future of the Antiochene Church in Maine, and for the future of our beloved *Beit Maroun* in America!



This year you have outdone yourselves in the gifts, cards, and all around kindness and generosity you have shown to your pastor. **Thank you for such thoughtfulness!**



May the Lord of Wisdom and Light illumine all your days throughout this new year of grace!

SCHEDULE OF READINGS

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
January 12, 2020

II Cor 10: 1-11 St. John 1: 29-34

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
January 19, 2020

II Cor 4: 5-15 St. John 1: 35-42

VOCATION ICON

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

Sun	Jan	12	Sue Paré and Lolo Salazar
Sun	Jan	19	Lowell Hawes
Sun	Jan	26	Larry & Lisa Grard
Sat	Feb	1	Jim & Lenore Boles
Sun	Feb	9	Chris & Diane Wyder
Sun	Feb	16	Bruce & Doreen White
Sun	Feb	23	Steve and Allison Crate

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: Doreen Nader, Louise Saliem, and Virginia Poulin

LAST WEEK’S COLLECTIONS

Regular Collection: \$2187.00

For years we have been short on **Altar Linens**. We have recently ordered a new set for the **Main Altar**, and for those who may wish to assist in the beauty and dignity of the forgiving Altar of the Lord, we have remaining expenses of **\$1,200.00**

Thank you to those who have already generously donated to this purpose!

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

INTENTIONS FOR THE QOURBONEH (MASSES)

- Sat 11 †Charles Owen
(the Parish)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Sun 12 The Michaud Family
- Mon 13 -----
- Tue 14 Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Wed 15 Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Thu 16 †Mary Hawes
(Shirley Thomas)
- Fri 17 Private Intention
(Abouna James)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Sat 18 †Charles Owen
(the Parish)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Sun 19 For the Members of the Parish
- Mon 20 -----
- Tue 21 Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Wed 22 Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Thu 23 †Mary Hawes
(Pam & Dan Casavant)
- Fri 24 Private Intention
(Abouna James)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Sat 25 †Charles Owen
(the Parish)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Sun 26 For the Members of the Parish
- Mon 27 -----
- Tue 28 Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Wed 29 Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Thu 30 †Mary Hawes
(Pearly and Alice Lachance)
- Fri 31 Anna Bearce
(Pam & Dan Casavant)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors

First Sunday after Denho

p 107

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

Entrance Hymn: LB *Msheeho* 81A

Glory: SB *al majdu*

Qolo/Hymn: LB *bashto* 82

Baptismal / Chrismation Rites and Procession

Creed p 748

PRE-ANAPHORA:

Transfer of Gifts: LB *The Lord Reigns (Epiphany)*

Incense Hymn Offertory: SB *l'maryam yoldat*

ANAPHORA:

Saint John Maron: LB p 897

Sign of Peace: SB *tou ba*

Communion: SB *O Bread of Life; O Sanctissima*

Recessional: SB *Majdu Maryam*

*LB=Liturgical Book SB=Song Book



Saint Jacob of Nisibis, Confessor

January 13th