

Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church



The Fourteenth Sunday of Pentecost

August 30, 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

website: <http://www.sjmaronite.org>

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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 10:00 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 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 \$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 Thess 2: 1-13

You yourselves know, my brethren, that our arrival among you was not in vain. Having previously suffered and been insulted – as you know – in Philippi, and then in a great struggle we proclaimed to you the Gospel of the Messiah in the confidence of our God.

For our message was not from error, from impure motive, or in deceit, but just as we were approved by God that we be entrusted with His Gospel, speaking not according to what pleases men, but God, Who searches our hearts.

For we never used flattering speech, as you yourselves know, nor an occasion for greedy desire; God provides witness.

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

Nor have we sought human glory, either from you or from anyone else, although we could have been regarded as important men as Apostles of the Messiah, but rather we were humble among you.

And like a nurse who cares for her children, so we also love you and desire to give to you not only God's Gospel, but also our very selves because we have loved you.

So do remember, brethren, how we toiled and labored in the work of our hands, day and night, so that we would not be a burden to any of you.

You and God are witnesses of how we proclaimed the Gospel of God to you, purely and justly, and we were without fault in our relationship with all the faithful.

Indeed, you yourselves know how we, as a father to his children, exhorted each one of you and comforted your hearts.

And we testify to you, that you should walk in a manner worthy of God, Who has called you to His Kingdom and His glory.

On account of this we also give thanks constantly to God, because you have received the word of God from us.

You did not receive it as the word of men, but as it truly is: the word of God, which works effectively within you and in all who believe.



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

Purpose and goal stamp morality upon a human action, its goodness or evil, that is, upon every *conscious* action. This means that everything we do in any conscious manner has a morality to it. Only the things that we do unconsciously are "neutral".

What, then, is our purpose? Is it good, or is it selfish? How do we maneuver the hurdles of life to attain those good purposes?

Before all else, we must freely embrace the Life-giving Cross.

Obstacles will always be thrown before the tidings and healing work of the Divine Economy. From before the dawn of creation Satan – "adversary" – has sought to upset the Divine Plan and obscure the work of Divine Charity. It is the nature of the Gospel that hurdles arise and obstacles abound, because men are far too often focused only on themselves. And life comes only through death.

Read the parable of the weeds sown in the field of this world, **St. Matthew 13: 18-30**, and you will understand our present straight. An enemy has done this.

Woe to those who are agents impeding the path of salvation and the healing work of grace. They are, as has been said, dogs at a manger.³

When the Cross is made present in our lives we are called to embrace it, not fight against it, not whine, and certainly not selfishly manipulate it. We are to climb Calvary with the Sacred Heart. This is our task as "learners" – that is, "disciples".

When the Living One manifests Himself on Calvary, we enter with Him so that we might arrive, also with Him, at the glory of His Resurrection in the New Creation. It should be remembered that in the eastern tradition redemption is understood in a less "juridical" way than it is in the West.

The West emphasizes the Death as being "for" us, after which we must try to "join ourselves" to this

² Homily 1.7.8 "on Ezechiel"

³ St. Luke 11: 52; St. Matthew 18: 7 and 23: 13

Death, but the action is done “for us”. This is true as far as it goes, but the Eastern understanding is much more *personalized* in obligation. We must not only join ourselves to the historical Death on Calvary, we must *replicate that Death* in our individual lives. Our Lord insisted that we take up our cross *daily* and follow Him.⁴ This is why the true disciples of Christ cannot – indeed, would not wish to – escape the Mystery of the Cross as it is played out in each generation and in each one individually. This is our imitation of the Sacred Heart. It personalizes the imprint of grace in our lives.

Today, with this temporary “overflow Mass”, we all place foot and step upward onto Calvary’s paths. He who perseveres to the end shall be saved.⁵ All we ask for is the strength to persevere on the blood-stained, but life-giving path upward to the Weaver-of-Crowns. God bless you for embracing this present cross. We trust that your embrace of the Cross will build us up into a more sacred and persistently more faithful parish.

As we climb, we must cast off all selfishness, and quiet all whining, pacify all manipulateness, and extinguish any petty meanness which egocentrism spawns. These things we must leave to the worldly, to those who do not lift their eyes beyond their own limited horizons of purely human concerns.

The crosses we presently meet are intended to be beneficial (in God’s economy, not satan’s) as they strip us of our illusions and orient our spirit to the divine light. *Stripped* and *scoured* clean, we can then be moulded by the hand of God into lamps of His life-giving brilliance. Only when we have been personally illumined can we ever hope to become lamps unto others, lights, as wrote Saint Paul, in a perverse and dark generation.⁶

Now we divide *the Sunday Qourbonoh into two*, until such time as health regulations ameliorate.

We embrace this as a Cross *and* as an investment in the future of this apostolic work. This obstacle may have originated in the dark recesses of human

pettiness, in unenlightened selfishness, but by the hand of God it now becomes permeated with life-giving grace. We see that, do we not?

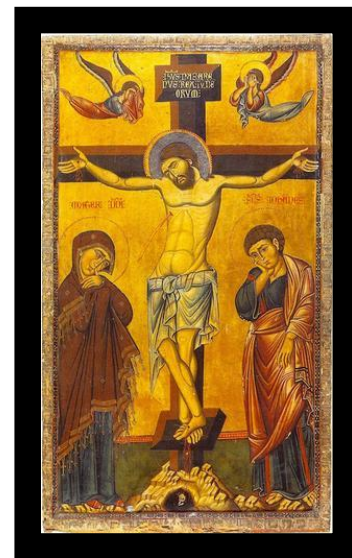
This is an excellent sign that the angel of darkness fears your present fidelity, and trembles at the prospect of a future resplendent with supernatural goodness that you will accomplish as a parish.

أَهْوَيْتَ كَلْبِي!

Thanks be to God that you seek the salvific light of the Divine Mysteries and remain faithful to Them even in this present difficulty. Petty hysteria bears its own punishment, and we wish nothing but grace and light to those in whom it festers.

Take up this Cross and continue to walk the paths of Antioch;
 seek the consolations and strength of grace;
 long for the ever-increasing spread of the light of the Gospel;
 pray for the fire of charity to burn brightly within our hearts;
 and anchor yourselves in hope before the winds of reproach and obstacles.⁸

Everything passes, God alone endures.



Ave, Spes unica!

perverse generation; among whom you shine as lights in the world.

⁷ Tawdee l'moryo! Thanks be to the Lord!

⁸ St. John 15: 19

⁴ St. Luke 9: 23

⁵ St. Matthew 24: 13

⁶ Philippians 2: 15 That you may be blameless, and sincere children of God, without reproach, in the midst of a crooked and

A Daily Morning Offering of our life and our intentions in service to the Most Holy



Splendid Brilliance Whose light never fades, in the morning we hurry to Thee, the Creator of all, and we seek Thy mercy and compassion.

Thou hast taken us from the sleep of error and granted us this morning that we might be filled with radiant joy.

Restore our consciences that have been deformed by sin, dress our wounds, and pour upon us the oil of Thy kindness.

Illumine our souls with the rays of Thy charity.



Radiant Son, Whose beams ever shine, in union with the Immaculate Heart of Mary, we offer Thee, all our thoughts, words, deeds, joys, disappointments, and sufferings of this day in honor of Thy Most Sacred Heart and in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world; for the salvation of souls; in reparation for our sins, and in humble supplication for our temporal and eternal welfare; for the consolation of the reposed, and for all the needs of Holy Mother Church.

Deign to acknowledge us on the Great Morning when, in Thy justice, Thou shalt judge us, for we hope to find refuge in Thee.



Resplendent Sea of Light, illumine our minds this day, heal our souls, and raise us up in all our thoughts and actions.

May Thy luminous presence and the splendor of Thy revelation guide us to eternal happiness.

To Thee – Father, Word, and eternal Spirit – be glory, adoration, honor, and thanksgiving, now and forever. Amen.

The Life-giving Cross

Please, take notice of our present practices:

- 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. All information remains *confidential* to the *parish* and is not transferred to any state agency.
- 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 **Sunday 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**. This would free up more room on Sunday for those who must work during the normal workweek.
- 8.) Please *do not use your hands* to cover sneezes and coughs. Everyone must have a face-mask, *hand-kerchief*, or tissues to safely control and cover all coughs, sneezes, congestion, etc.
- 9.) Hand sanitizers are available at the entrances and at the confessional.
- 10.) Seating at church must be "*first-come-first-served*".
- 11.) Everyone must sit in such a way that there is *no one immediately in front* of them and *no one immediately behind* them.
- 12.) Everyone will need to *charitably assist* one another to sit throughout the entire church, occupying *all* pews while respecting "physical distancing".
- 13.) To control crowd flow, **doors** will be **locked** at the beginning of each Liturgy.
- 14.) A *six-foot distancing* must be observed by those who approach the Divine Altar and wish to receive the Divine Eucharist in **Holy Communion**.
- 15.) 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*. If one wishes to visit, please do so outside the church, being *mindful of the proper physical distancing*.

May their memory be eternal.

The Sanctuary Lamp this month burns
in memory of Subdeacon Deeb & Sumayah Ferris.

Donated by Steve and Allison Crate

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

(Budgeted: \$3,100.00)

Regular Collection: \$1,431.00

(Deficit 2020: \$41,489.00)

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

Please remember to sustain the apostolic work
of this parish through regular contributions made
in the liturgical **collection** each week, by **mail**,
through the parish **website**,
or through **regular bank drafts** mailed in.

- Fri 11 Private Intention
(Abouna James)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Sat 12 †Adolph Veilleux Family
(Pam & Dan Casavant)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Sun 13 For the Members of the Parish
- Mon 14 -----
- Tue 15 Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Wed 16 †Maroon Thomas Family
(Pam & Dan Casavant)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Thu 17 †John & Marietta Thomas
(Pam & Dan Casavant)
- Fri 18 Private Intention
(Abouna James)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors

INTENTIONS FOR THE QOURBONEH (MASSES)

- Sun 30 For the Members of the Parish
- Mon 31 -----
- Tue 1 Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Wed 2 Anna Bearce
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Thu 3 †Justin Schulte
(Dotty Harala)
- Fri 4 Funeral of Peter Maroon
(Scott Maroon and Family)
- Sat 5 †Adolph Veilleux Family
(Pam & Dan Casavant)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Sun 6 †Ferris Ferris, Bennett & Lennon
- Mon 7 -----
- Tue 8 Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Wed 9 Anna Bearce
(Pam & Dan Casavant)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Thu 10 †John & Marietta Thomas
(Pam & Dan Casavant)

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: Richard Karter, Lolo Salazar, Rosanna Joseph, Doreen Nader, and all those who suffer from disease, want, and depression.

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VOCATION ICON

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

- Sun Aug 30 Steve and Allison Crate
- Sun Sep 6 Sue Paré and Lolo Salazar
- Sun Sep 13 Larry & Lisa Grard
- Sat Sep 19 Jim & Lenore Boles
- Sun Sep 27 Chris & Diane Wyder

Sun Oct 4 Michael & Gayle Misner
 Sun Oct 11 Bruce & Doreen White

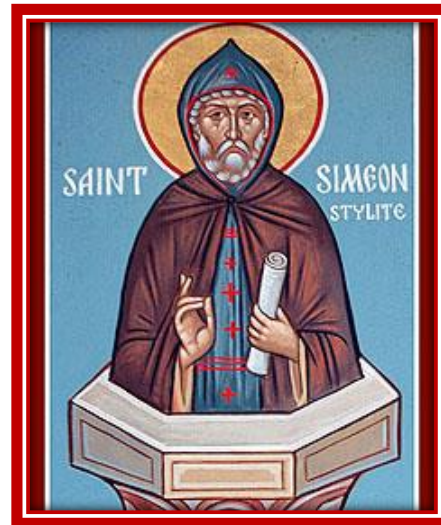
SCHEDULE OF READINGS

THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST
 August 30, 2020

I Thess 2: 1-13 St. Luke 10: 38-42

THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST
 Sept 6, 2020

I Thess 1: 1-10 St. Luke 7: 36-50



Mar Shim'on of the Pillar

Confessor

September 1st

**The fourteenth
 Sunday of Pentecost**
"A"
 p. 425

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

Entrance Hymn: LB *safreh* 178

Glory: SB *al majdu*

Qolo/Hymn: LB *shareero* 179

Creed p 748

PRE-ANAPHORA:

Transfer of Gifts: LB *The Lord Reigns*

Incense Hymn Offertory: SB *V'maryam yoldat*

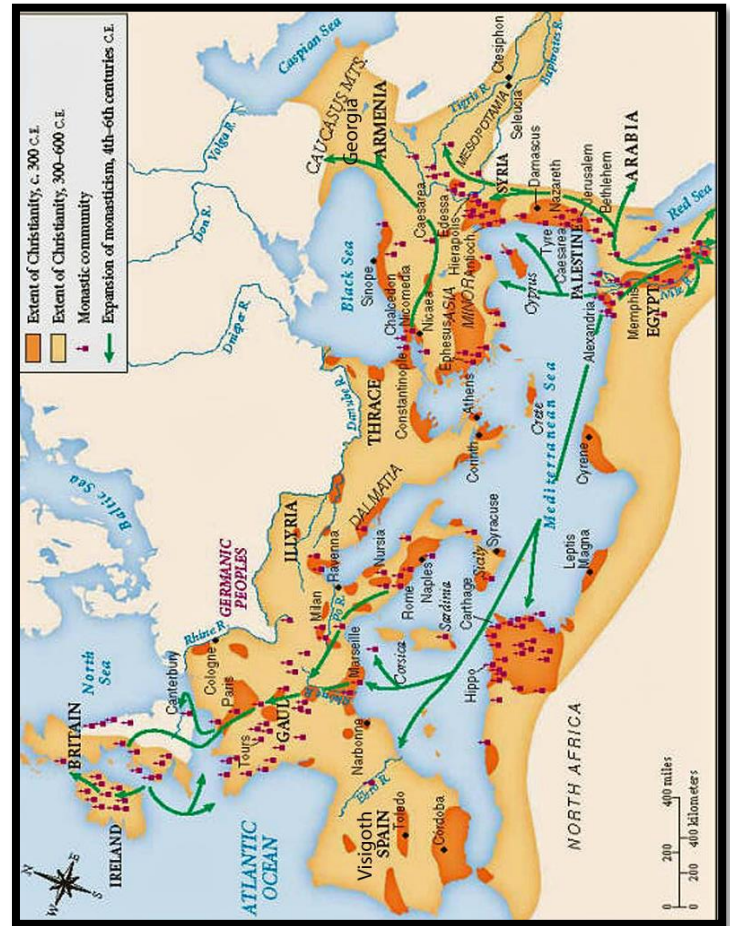
ANAPHORA:

Saint Peter, Chief of the Apostles: LB p 774

Sign of Peace: SB *tou ba*

Communion: SB *O Body of my Savior; Father of Truth; O Mary, we pray*

Recessional: SB *Joyful, joyful*



*LB=Liturgical Book SB=Song Book