

# Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church



## Fourth Sunday of the Resurrection

April 25, 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  
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*"For us, the men and women of the East are a symbol of the Lord Who comes again."* *Oriente 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*

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### THIS DAY'S EPISTLE<sup>1</sup> Hebrews 13: 18-25

Pray for us, for we trust that our conscience is clear and that we desire in everything to act appropriately.

I am particularly asking you to do this so that I may return to you as soon as possible.  
Now may the God of peace – the One Who raised the Great Shepherd of the flock from the dead by the Blood of the Eternal Covenant,

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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

namely *Yeshu' Msheeho Moran* – make you perfect in every good action that you do, so that you may carry out His will, and so that He may perform in us what pleases Him, by means of *Yeshu' Msheeho*, to Whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

For I beg you, my brethren, to bear with me for having written such a short message of encouragement.

You should know that our brother Timothy has been freed, and if he comes here soon then I shall come with him to see you all.

Offer your greetings to all your leaders and to all the saints.

All those from Italy send you their greetings.

Grace be with you all. Amen. ❖.❖.



*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**

*The Lord rested on this Sunday and gave a spiritual rest that never ends to all the faithful departed.*

*This Sunday marks the final abode for the good and for the bad when the week as we know it in this life shall end and a **New Day** begins which is called the **Eighth Day** and will be the first and the last day without night which has no morning nor evening and no repetition until the Lord comes back and appears to us from heaven a second time.<sup>3</sup>*

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

<sup>3</sup> From the *Hoosoyoh* of **New Sunday** as quoted by Patriarch Estephan Al-Duwayhi, (1630-1704, 57<sup>th</sup> Maronite Patriarch 1670-1704) translated from the Arabic by Msgr. Assad Awad, *Treatise on the Intercessions*, 2020. This text was taken by the Patriarch from an older manuscript formula.

While we await the full manifestation of that everlasting Morning, we must move forward; this is the impulse of the Faith. In the New Covenant, the First Day of the week is "new" in the sense that it has been transformed into a sacramental representation of Eternity. Time is continually being renewed in grace, and this is represented in mystery by the weekly presence of Sunday, among the most ancient of Christian institutions dating from the days of the Apostles.<sup>4</sup>

On the morning of the Resurrection it was said to the disciples that "He will meet you in Galilee"<sup>5</sup> and yet He appeared to them immediately, or shortly thereafter, in Jerusalem, apparently before meeting them in Galilee.

The grace of faith is a resurrection of the individual within Christ, and it moves us forward – *not backward* – ultimately directing us beyond time, whether "Galilee" or "Jerusalem", to the Day of Judgement and to the end of all temporal things as we know them. This gracious renewal of all things surrounding us in this life began with the reception of God's grace and the virtue of faith. The light of faith radiates from that morning of the Empty Tomb penetrating present darkness, confusion, and obscurity. It illuminates the path *in front* of us, not the steps that have fallen behind. Faith turns us full-face forward.

On the day of the Ascension the angels asked the Apostles why they were lingering, looking up to the sky, when there were prayers to be made and things to do.

Like the Apostles, we too are under grace and light in order to move forward in our lives as individuals, as families, and as communities. A parish is simply that part of the local human community touched by grace, transformed in faith, and united in the Life of Christ as one body. This is the vehicle of divine life.

Highlights are mine. Patriarch Duwayhi, Servant of God, is in process of canonization.

<sup>4</sup> Revelation 1

<sup>5</sup> Cf. St. Mark 16: 7

Lingering, turned backward, is never the path of God. We must not loiter in “nostalgia”,<sup>6</sup> but must look forward toward our Lord in glory as He is present at the Right Hand of the Father and awaiting His return in time to judge the living and dead. This is the fundamental path of the Church, and the light in which the individual members of that Divine Community find their course and their meaning in life.

Move on; move forward; move upward in grace. *Only the devil moves backward*, resenting the act of creation, working to wound the beauty of the cosmos, upsetting the Divine Economy and the Plan of Salvation; simply put, he resists the movement toward divine glory. He journeys, perversely, in a backward movement filled with animosity, fury, and resentment. We, on the contrary, lifted up as the children of God, must move toward the Final Day of Christ’s full Appearance.

This is why we Maronites within the Syriac tradition look always forward, with great hope, to the Eighth Day, the Morning without setting, and the magnificent Day of Hidden Glory. These are the meanings sacramentally present in **the Lord’s Day**, Sunday. We intensely desire the “end of the world”, not because it will be filled with apprehension and fear, but because it will be the full revelation of the Hidden God, the One Who created us and the One Whom our very nature yearns. Grace and faith elevate our being to the supernatural, and expand our capacities from merely human to those of the children of God. *Maranatha!*

Each day, we must move toward the Day of Judgement, or we are not moving at all, frustrating grace, faith, and renewed time. With this in mind, we will attempt to expand our faith in action and our charity in practice over the summer months, *necessarily working in mutual aid and hospitality.*

**“Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers...”<sup>7</sup>**

We will develop and open up our parochial life as conditions allow and as needs dictate. Starting

with the **Ascension**, we will restore the liturgical vigils for the holydays that most often appear on weekdays such as the Assumption, All Saints, etc., as was done specifically for Christmas and Easter this year. Thus, there will be a **Vigil for the Ascension** on Wednesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, at **6:00pm**. The Feast of the Ascension will be observed at the regular time of **9:00am** on May 13<sup>th</sup>.

Although we had intended to restore the **Friday Catechesis** for all of May, the state infection rates these last weeks have not been encouraging, and we will need to wait for a more opportune moment and follow Providence.

From June onward, as the Hidden God of Light allows, we will continue together on the path of the resurrection with other observances, liturgical and otherwise.

Let us all show **genuine charity** and **hospitality**. We open the doors of our parish and our hearts so that we may share the abundance of beauty that has been graciously given to us, without merit on our part, within the Maronite Church.

Continue to pray these coming months that things calm, and we will be able to open up more. The Lord of Glory will lay out the path for us as we move forward toward the Great Day, we need only follow it.

May the Hidden Father of Majesty enlighten our minds, soften our hearts, as we generously listen to the Voice of the Spirit of Holiness.

<p style="text-align:center"><b><u>SCHEDULE OF READINGS</u></b></p> <p style="text-align:center"><b><u>FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION</u></b> April 25, 2021</p> <p style="text-align:center"><b>Heb 13: 18-25      St. John 21: 1-14</b></p> <p style="text-align:center"><b><u>OUR LADY OF THE LEBANON</u></b> May 2, 2021</p> <p style="text-align:center"><b>St. James 3: 13-18      St. Luke 9: 23-27</b></p>
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<sup>6</sup> remembering the origin of this word has the meaning of a “sickness” – one considered potentially lethal in the classical world

<sup>7</sup> Hebrews 13:1-2 and I Peter 4:9 *Show hospitality one to another without grudge or murmuring.*

VOCATION ICON

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

Sun	April	25	Larry & Lisa Grard
Sat	May	1	Jim & Lenore Boles
Sun	May	9	Chris & Diane Wyder
Sun	May	16	Michael & Gayle Misner
Sun	May	23	Steve & Allison Crate
Sun	May	30	Sue Paré & Lolo Salazar
Sun	June	6	Daja Gombojav & Family

Tue	27	†Darrell Mitchell (Donna-Jo Mitchell)
Wed	28	†Joan Gottardi (Pam & Dan Casavant)
Thu	29	Nicholas Family (Mary Nicholas)
Fri	30	Sarah Awad (Daja Gombojav)
Sat	1	†Joan Gottardi (Paula & Larry Mitchell)
Sun	2	9:00 For the Members of the Parish 11:00 Private Intention
Mon	3	-----
Tue	4	†Tony George (Fefa Deeb)
Wed	5	Philip Nicholas (Mary Nicholas)
Thu	6	The Nicholas Family (Mary Nicholas)
Fri	7	All the Faithful Departed (Misner-Elias Family)
Sat	8	Simon Misner-Elias (Misner-Elias Family)
Sun	9	9:00 For the Members of the Parish 11:00 Private Intention
Mon	10	-----
Tue	11	The Nicholas Family (Mary Nicholas)
Wed	12	9:00am -- Parishioners of Saint Joseph (Misner-Elias Family) 6:00pm -- Vigil of the Ascension For All the Members of the Parish
Thu	13	Misner-Elias Family (same)
Fri	14	Fr. Doran (Catherine & Ira Mandel)

LAST WEEK’S COLLECTIONS

(Budgeted: \$3,100.00)

Regular Collection Last Two Weeks: \$4,545.00

(Budget Deficit 2021: \$11,593.00)<sup>8</sup>

Next Special Collection is for  
the **National Shrine of Our Lady of Lebanon** on  
**May 2<sup>nd</sup>**.

*(All funds collected are sent from the Chancery  
directly to our Basilica in North Jackson, Ohio.)*

An additional **\$130.00** has come in this week for  
the combined collections **\$39,000.00** we need to  
collect to cover the **Bishop’s Appeal (now paid)**  
and the **building maintenance projects** we will  
attempt to do this summer.<sup>9</sup>

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	25	9:00 For the Members of the Parish 11:00 Philomène van Caneghem-Brion (Emilienne E. Brion Wyder)
Mon	26	-----

<sup>8</sup> Deficit 2019: \$72,270.59/Deficit 2020: \$34,473.00

<sup>9</sup> This makes the amount toward our matching Challenge Grant, to be presently \$10,605.00.

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:** Barbara Joseph, Sally Derosby, Tala Poulin, Daja Gombojav, Richard Karter, Lolo Salazar, Charlotte Iserbyte, Rita Hikel, and all those who suffer from disease, want, or depression.

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Many, many thanks for the generous gifts given to the pastor at Easter. Your thoughtfulness was clearly evident.

We have all labored under many stresses this past year, but your kindness, charity, and thoughtfulness have brought much light to the darkness.

As our parish moves forward, your fraternal charity has been a wonderfully good example during these many months of crisis; and it is upon this that the future of Saint Joseph's parish will be built.

From their hidden place beyond the veil, the founders of this parish are certainly overjoyed to see such devotion among you.

Although we may have been, or remain, under stress and pressures throughout this last year, the Good One undoubtedly has lavished His graces upon us in His mercy.

God bless you all for responding to His luminous grace and rising to the occasion!



## 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.) **Everyone is asked to wear a face-mask.**
- 8.) Hand sanitizers are available at the entrances and at the confessional.
- 9.) Seating at church must be "**first-come-first-served**" and will be closed at "**100**".
- 10.) 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.
- 11.) To control crowd flow and bring greater security, **doors** will be **locked** at the beginning of each Liturgy.
- 12.) 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**.

13.) And, lastly, at the end of Mass, those who wish to **remain and pray** in the church are welcome to do so, but **all are asked *not to linger, socialize, or 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 masking and observing proper physical distancing.*



The Sanctuary Lamp burns in April in memory of the **Nancy Joseph** at the request of the Herbert Joseph Family.

The Altar Breads have been donated in memory of **Subdeacon Deeb and Sumayah Ferris** by Steve and Allison Crate

*May their memory be eternal!*

## *SERVERS OF THE DIVINE ALTAR*

### April 25:

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

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

### May 2:

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

11:00am: I. Misner-Elias

### May 9<sup>th</sup>:

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

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

### May 16<sup>th</sup>:

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

11:00am: I. Misner-Elias

### May 23<sup>rd</sup>:

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

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

### May 30<sup>th</sup>:

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

11:00am: I. Misner-Elias

# Fourth Sunday of the Resurrection

p. 315

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

**Entrance Hymn:** LB *fseeto* 145

**Glory:** SB *al majdu*

**Qolo/Hymn:** LB *msheeho* 146A

**Creed** p 748

### PRE-ANAPHORA:

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

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

### ANAPHORA:

**Saint Mark, the Evangelist:** LB p 835

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

**Communion:** SB *O Body of my Savior; Ye Sons and Daughters*

**Recessional:** SB *Joyful, Joyful*



*Saint James,  
Son of  
Zebedee,  
Apostle*

*April 30<sup>th</sup>*