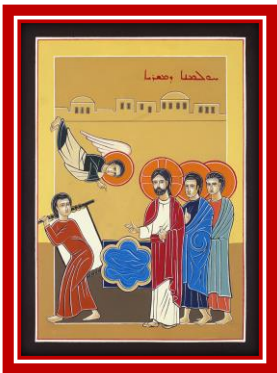
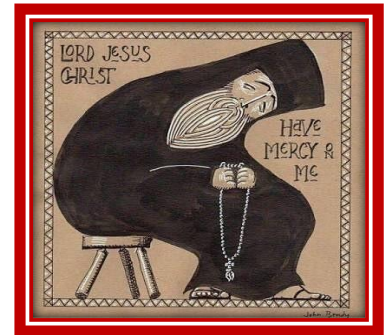


# Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church



## The Healing of the Paralytic

March 31, 2019



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  
Subdeacon: Mr. Stephen Crate  
website: <http://www.sjmaronite.org>  
e-mail: [stjoesinmaine@yahoo.com](mailto:stjoesinmaine@yahoo.com)

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*“For us, the men and women of the East are a symbol of the Lord Who comes again.”* *Orientalis 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 **three months in advance**. Recommended stipends:  
weekday intentions \$10; weekend intentions \$15
- Monthly Memorials:** Sanctuary Candles \$20; Altar Bread \$25; Wine \$45

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**Catechists:** Lenore Boles, *Director & K-1<sup>st</sup>*; Shana Page, 3-5<sup>th</sup> **Choir Director:** Dame Fefa Marie Deeb, DSG **Parish Council President:** Lisa Grard **Ex-officio Council Members:** Subdeacon Steve Crate; Lenore Boles, *Religious Education*; Larry Mitchell, *Knights of Columbus*; Shana Page, *Rosary Sodality*

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### TODAY'S EPISTLE I Timothy 5: 24–6: 5

The sins of some people are conspicuous and precede them to judgment, while the sins of others follow them there. So also good works are conspicuous; and even when they are not, they cannot remain hidden. Those who are under the yoke of slavery must regard their masters as worthy of full respect, so that the name of God and the teaching may not be blasphemed. Those whose masters are believers must not take advantage of them because they are brothers, but they must give better service because those who will profit from their work are believers and are beloved.

Teach and urge these things. Whoever teaches something different and does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the religious teaching is conceited, understanding nothing, and has a morbid disposition for arguments and verbal disputes. From these come envy, rivalry, insults, evil suspicions, and mutual friction among people with corrupted minds, who are deprived of the truth, supposing godliness to be a means of gain.



## ABOUNA'S REFLECTIONS

Children love their Father and seek to please Him....

The freedom which characterizes Christian morality  
is positively *the freedom to love*.

To establish a filial morality,  
deploying itself in function of the God of love,  
is necessarily to establish a morality of charity.<sup>1</sup>

Children imitate their parents willy-nilly. This is a beautiful thing when the characteristics duplicated are good. It is a catastrophe, and an extension of misery, when the copied characteristics are unhealthy or sinful. On a higher plane, of course, Christian morality is first and foremost based on the conscious desire to imitate the goodness and beauty of the infinite God of Compassion. This sense of "learning", "imitation", and "discipleship" is what lies behind the Semitic use of *bnai* or "children".

In imitation there are always two aspects: the model presented and the reception to replicate. For Catholic morality this is the life seen as manifested in Our Lord, the personal revelation of God and the full manifestation of the perfection of human nature. Our morality is not that of the philosophers as merely reasoned out and grounded in the natural law, nor is it the observance of the Law of Mount Sinai. Christian morality is modeled on the life and teaching of the divine rabbi of Nazareth.<sup>2</sup>

The second aspect in moral formation is the reception by the imitator. Children do this by living with and observing their parents. The more intimately one lives with his parents the more he is likely to imitate and replicate them. For the Catholic this come about, after all, through the conscious activity modeled on the infinite God of Goodness, it does not originate in the purely human realm. Nevertheless, it does depend on intimacy, observance, and imitation. One

can know something about Jesus, admire Him even, and still *not* be a Christian. The Christian is the person who is *wholly engaged with the Gospel*, that is, illuminated by faith, baptized (re-generated by grace) and consciously active in following the path of Christ. Catholicism is *a life* to be lived, not merely a belief.

When God works within and grace is healing a person, that person becomes rejuvenated by the spontaneity of charity. We walk on clouds when in love; is there humanly anything more transformative? Likewise, the person freed by grace, following the path of the Gospel, is more inventive, more audacious, more dynamic than the one who is misdirected by desires purely of this world and age, or one who may believe but merely muddles along more or less unconsciously.

Saint Augustine famously stated, *Dilige, et quod vis fac*: "love, and do what you will". This of course did not mean "do whatever you wish" plain and simple, the key word is *dilige*. Love, but in its more elevated Latin form. The love of infinite Goodness and Charity guarantees that one will fundamentally be aligned with that Goodness, and that that alignment is what sustains the human will in wisdom. Thus, true love allows us freely to do "whatever" we choose. In this matter, Saint Augustine also comments succinctly: "The sons of God are not distinct from the sons of the devil except through charity .... Magnificent indication, magnificent separation."<sup>3</sup>

The Word-Incarnate in the Gospels, and Saint Paul throughout his letters, shows us how to live as the sons and daughters of God: "students", "imitators", and "disciples". The Apostle to the Nations also teaches that this new life is rooted in the infusion of grace by the Holy Spirit within the soul.<sup>4</sup> It is not something we can do on our own - and we fast and pray to liberate the spirit's reception - but in receiving grace we are given the ability to think as God thinks, to love as God loves, and act as He acts; we are able to reproduce divinity as "children" - imitators of the Hidden One.

Through this we become the "face of Christ" to others.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> From **Charity and Liberty** by Rev. Fr. Ceslaus Spicq, OP

<sup>2</sup> St. Matthew 5: 48 *Be ye perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect.*

<sup>3</sup> In 1 *Johannis. Tract*, V, 3, 7, PL XXXV, 2016

<sup>4</sup> Romans 13: 10

<sup>5</sup> Galatians 5: 14

## Catechesis

The *Adult Religion Course* will run through to the end of May. **Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.**

### VOCATION ICON

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

Sat	Mar 30	Jim & Lenore Boles
Sun	Apr 7	Bruce & Doreen White
Sun	Apr 14	Lowell & Mary Hawes
Sun	Apr 24	Larry & Lisa Grard
Sat	Apr 30	Jim & Lenore Boles

### SCHEDULE OF READINGS

#### THE HEALING OF THE PARALYTIC

March 31, 2019

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

#### THE HEALING OF THE BLIND MAN

April 7, 2019

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

## UNPLANNED

the Movie

Bishop Gregory has asked all the parishes to put notice in our bulletins of a new film coming out this weekend. It covers the experience of one of the principal directors in Planned Parenthood who came to understand that the "fetus" is as much a baby as the one you have carried in your arms.

Although the drama that surrounds an unexpected pregnancy can be horrendous, and the circumstances warrant individual considerations and serious application to correct socially and financially – and all these corrections must be inspired by supernatural faith and charity – we also know from

the writings of Saint Paul that God's revelation clarifies the great philosophical question about goals: the "end does not justify the means".<sup>6</sup> Situations are not more important than an innocent human life.

This movie, **UNPLANNED**, is the inspiring true story of one woman's journey of transformation. All Abby Johnson ever wanted to do was help women. As one of the youngest Planned Parenthood clinic directors in the nation, she was involved thousands of abortions. Her passion surrounding a woman's "right to choose" even led her to become a spokesperson for Planned Parenthood, fighting to enact legislation for the cause she so deeply believed in until the day she saw something that changed everything, leading her to join her former enemies at 40 Days-For-Life, and become one of the most ardent pro-life speakers in America.

The movie can change hearts and minds. Please view the movie. For more information, tickets, theater reservation, you can check

<https://www.unplannedfilm.com/>

In consideration of the grave difficulties surrounding "'unwanted' pregnancy" – such as the modern collapse of family structure and loss of communal support that once assisted the healthy entrance of babies into the world – we must ever repeat: the baby in question is not the central "problem" and its destruction is not an acceptable "solution". The "termination" of a baby *in utero* is intrinsically evil, completely unacceptable, and a perverse means toward what would then necessarily become a questionable end.

As some seem confused about this, **it is essential to repeat that abortion, the deliberate killing of an unborn child, is *gravely sinful* and remains even today a sin that is cause for *excommunication ipso facto* from the Church.**

Excommunication means that the guilty person is ***severed from the life*** of the Catholic Church and ***can no longer receive the Sacraments or its intercessions*** until such time as the sin is **confessed**, properly **absolved**, and **penance** is received.

Grave turmoil weighing on the parents -- whether of familial collapse, poverty, health, or the inability to

<sup>6</sup> Romans 3: 8, 6: 1 and Catechism of the Catholic Church 1761

rear this specific child – are all *settings* surrounding the life of the child in question. They are *circumstances*, and as such they do not outweigh the intrinsic value of a human life. The considerations may be serious, and they should be dealt with in charitable and fitting ways, but the death of an innocent can *never* be chosen as means to an end.

**All of us should be clear on the gravity of this sin, and the severe penalty imposed on it by the Church.** One *cannot in good conscience* be both a good Christian and *support the killing* of the unborn. A Catholic cannot be what is called “pro-choice”.

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**MARCH CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE FOOD BANK**

Family sized items: stews, ravioli, jiffy mixes, condiments, toilet paper and personal care items. Please place these items in the box near the church’s Appleton Street entrance.

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**INTENTIONS FOR THE QURBONEH (MASSES)**

- Sat 30 †Charles Owen  
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Sun 31 †Paul and Charlene LaVerdiere  
(Audrey Yotides)
- Mon 1 -----
- Tue 2 Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Wed 3 Private intention  
(Badiha Spencer)  
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Thu 4 Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Fri 5 John Scarpa  
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Sat 6 †Charles Owen  
(the Parish)
- Sun 7 For the members of the Parish
- Mon 8 -----
- Tue 9 Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Wed 10 Private intention  
(Badiha Spencer)  
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Thu 11 Catholic Extension Society & Donors

- Fri 12 †Gerald Fortin  
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Sat 13 †Charles Owen  
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Sun 14 †Paul and Charlene LaVerdiere  
(Audrey Yotides)
- Mon 15 -----
- Tue 16 Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Wed 17 †Don Poirier  
(Jeanne Thomas)  
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Thu 18 Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Fri 19 Private intention  
(Abouna James)  
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors

*Coffee Schedule*

- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| Mar 31 | Jan Bourque, Shana Page                    |
| Apr 7  | Dale Sturtevant, Elizabeth Wilson          |
| Apr 14 | <i>Hosanna Sunday</i> , Breads & Pastries  |
| Apr 21 | <i>Sunday of the Glorious Resurrection</i> |
| Apr 28 | Lauraine Mansur, Ruth Lunn                 |

**Specifics for the Great Fast**  
as directed by the Patriarch

- 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 are Days of Fast and Abstinence for all 18-60.
- B.) All from the age of reason onward are obliged to follow the abstinence from all meat products on these fast days even if they are strictly not obliged to fast. On all other weekdays, Monday-Friday, one is encouraged to observe the ancient traditions and fasts.
- C.) All Fridays throughout the year are required days of fast and abstinence from all meat and animal products.

**QUANTITY:** *In our tradition, the fast means no food whatsoever between midnight and noon, only*



*water and medication are permitted. Following noon, only one meal proper is eaten within the next twelve hours, although a second "collation", a "snack", during the remaining time is permitted to sustain strength (this is the equivalent of about two/three ounces of food).*

**QUALITY:** *Also, in our eastern tradition, the days of fast are in practice **vegan**, that is, no animal products, no meat, no seafood, no meat products, no dairy, no eggs, nor dairy products are to be eaten.*

**Parish Council Meeting**  
Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6:30 in the parish hall

### Choir Rehearsals for this Sacred Season:

**Thursdays 6:00 pm.**  
April 4<sup>th</sup> and April 11<sup>th</sup>

## **MARCH DEVOTIONS**

**The Sanctuary Lamp** (representing all the parish before Our Hidden Lord) will burn for the month of March *in memory of George Deeb*. Donated in his name by Dame Marie Fefa, DSG

*May he be brought into the fullness of the light and joy of the Kingdom.*



We announce with sadness the passing of our sister **Blanche Boles**, who fell asleep on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Funeral Liturgy will be held, by request of the family, on **Thursday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m.**

With condolences to all her family and the assurance of our prayers.

May the eternal Good One bring her into the fullness of the Kingdom in light and joy.

### LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

**Regular Collection:** \$1651.00

Please remember that our *Lenten Assessment* is **\$4000.00**. (\$1620 has been contributed thus far, halfway through Great Lent)

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

## **Sharin' of the Green Winners!**

Jeanne **Thomas**, \$25; Geraldine **Nimon**, \$50; Fay **Richards**, \$75; Betty **Whitney**, \$100; Dame **Fefa**, \$50; Rita **Hikel**, \$25; Jody **Veilleux**, \$75; Jody **Boulanger**, \$100; Mike **White**, \$75; Stephany **Sherman**, \$25; Fr. **Jim Roy**, \$75; and Norman **Mathieu**, \$50.

*Congratulations to all the winners, and thanks to all who contributed to this springtime fundraiser.*

*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 the 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, Tala Poulin, Louise Saliem, Virginia Poulin, and Beverly Rideout.

## **BENEDICTION OF THE CROSS**

preceded by Stations,  
will take place on **Fridays** of Lent at **6:30 pm.**

# The Healing of the Paralytic

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

**Entrance Hymn:** LB *shareero* 120

**Glory:** SB *al rahmna*

**Qolo/Hymn:** LB *bo'outho* 121A (*learn*)

**Creed** p 748

**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 *tba*

**Communion:** SB *Lamb of God; Seek ye first*

**Recessional:** SB *Ha Salah*

\*LB=Liturgical Book SB=Song Book

