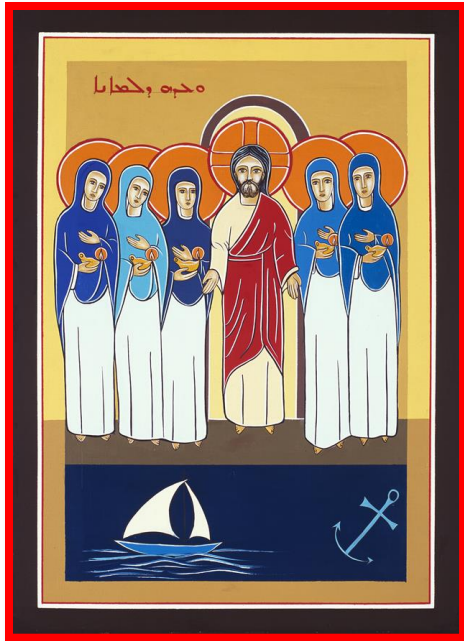


Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church



Joanna Sunday

Great and Holy Week of the Passion

Seventh Sunday of the Great Lent

March 28, 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." *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*

THIS DAY'S EPISTLE¹ Philippians 1: 1-13

Paul and Timothy, slaves of Yeshu' Msheeho, to all the consecrated ones who are in Yeshu' Msheeho in Philippi, along with the bishops and deacons:

Grace and peace be with you from God our Father and our Lord Yeshu' Msheeho.

I give thanks to God, remembering you constantly in all my petitions on your behalf. With joy I also entreat (God) concerning your fellowship, which has remained in the gospel

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

from the very first day until now, because I am confident of this:

that the One Who began good works in you shall work to complete them until the Day of our Lord *Yeshu' Msheeho*.

For it is right for me to think in this manner about you, because you are fixed in my heart, and you are partners with me by grace in my imprisonment, and in my defense of the truth of the Gospel.

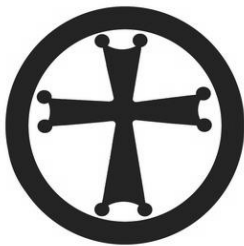
For God is my witness of how I love you with the compassion of *Yeshu' Msheeho*.

And this is what I pray: that your charity may increase and abound even more in knowledge and in all spiritual understanding;

that you will be discerning of those things that are fitting;

that you will be pure and without fault on the Day of the Messiah.

I wish you to know, my brethren, that my own situation is bringing about even more progress in the gospel, in such a manner that even my imprisonment for the Messiah has been revealed throughout the household-guard, and to all the others as well.



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

It was a beautiful thing to witness and one that filled all participants with joyful hope. Thank you to all the volunteers, and an especial thanks to

Mark, Suzanne, and the others for having organized last Saturday's cleaning crews. It was heartening to see the many who came forward and volunteered to "spring clean" the church. The participation, and enthusiasm, in the deep cleaning of the church exceeded expectations, and this encourages us to look to do this again. It can be said that when our sweat is in the building we become part of her and she becomes part of us – and we form a better and stronger community, with greater hope toward the future.

Friday last commemorated our Lord's fast in the desert that opened His public ministry. It signified the fortieth day of *our* fasting observances in union with His.

This weekend is of messianic joy and triumph – we call this day "Shanini", "hosanna" in Arabic – and it is a pause in the heavy and mindful labors to which we have dedicated ourselves these last weeks. We now celebrate, surrounding the children with joy in the Syrian tradition, but this Messianic hope quickly transitions to another liturgical "season", one that is only one week long. This one week may be brief in time, but it is majestic and weighty in its importance for the healing of the human race and the restoration of *Adam*, in the New Adam, the Word Incarnate.

We now gear up and gird our loins for the marathon of grace that is Holy Week, or, as we call it in the Maronite Church: **Great and Holy Week of the Passion of our Lord: "Passion Week"** for short.

This evening we open the "Great Week" that is central to all Christianity and foundational to the entire liturgical year by **The Rite of Coming into the Harbor**. This is a prayer ceremony, turned toward the final Day of Judgment of the Lord, candles in hand, knocking, praying, repenting, and entering into the strength and consolation of the Lord, Who is to those who believe "the Harbor of Salvation". We enter with Him in *anamnesis* – "participatory remembrance" – of His works of redemptive healing this Week.

On Wednesday evening there will be another liturgy unique to the Syriac Church, and that is the

² Homily 1.7.8 "on Ezechiel"

Rite of the Lamp. This is a ceremony of conversion and healing that brings grace to our spirits, healing our hearts after this long fast (indeed, this will be the last moment when we look to our own hearts in conversion) as we come to the edge of entering into the **Great Days of the Sacred Triduum:** Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Great Saturday of the Light, in which all focus is on our Lord and Savior. The Rite of the Lamp is a Liturgy of prayer, listening, repentance, and healing with the anointing of the sacred oil that brings consolation to wounded human hearts.

On Good Friday there are two Liturgies, and please note that there will be a **collection for the Holy Land** at both Liturgies. These collections will be divided up for transfer to the USCCB, and another part sent directly to our Maronite brethren in the Eparchy of Haifa.

Midday there will be the **Signing of the Chalice.** This is also commonly known as a “Mass of the Pre-Sanctified”. In the Maronite Church its Anaphora is known also as *Sharar*, the first word of the ancient anaphora used uniquely on this day each year. This anaphora is thought to be the most ancient liturgical text of which we have record in any Church. To many it will look like a Mass, but it is uniquely different. Holy Communion is distributed in this Liturgy to those who wish to join themselves to our Lord sacramentally on the “good” day of His redemptive death.

Before this Liturgy, and before the one in the evening, you are encouraged to *bring flowers* and place them on the trays at the front of the church. These bouquets and flowers will be placed around the Tomb of our Lord that is used in the evening of Good Friday for the liturgy of the **Death and Burial of our Lord.** In this liturgy, in a normal year without public health crisis, we process with the Sacred Body and return to our places “ducking under” the Sacred Shroud, thereby entering with Our Lord into His Tomb. With tomb closed, we end the day in penitential mourning.

Great Saturday of the Light is also uniquely different to what many will know of Holy Saturday in the Roman Church. Midday there is the **Rite of Forgiveness.** This is a final moment *to go to confession*, and in the Liturgy we address our Lord Who, in *His Descent into Sheol*, worked the

salvation of the world – past, present, and future – including us, today. This is a beautiful and somber prayer ceremony that begins in repentance but which finishes in the joy and glory of the Resurrection. It is beautifully simple, but powerful and consoling to those who have faithfully followed our Lord during the Great Lent. After this liturgy we are “officially” in the beauty of **Peschoh** – Easter.

At the Divine Qourbonoh at **9:00 am** on the morning of the Glorious Resurrection we will celebrate the **Rite of Peace.** This is the “opening of the tomb” and the triumphant celebration of the Life-giving Cross that is identified in the Syriac tradition with our Savior. The ceremony this year will be simplified with no adoration of the Luminous Cross, but the blessing and consoling prayers will be the same. The flowers that have adorned our Lord’s Tomb will be distributed as you leave the church. Perfect mementos for perfect joy.

Finally, after both Masses on Sunday morning there will be the **Blessing of the Paschal Foods.** These are special blessings for the foods used to end the Lenten Fast. Traditionally, lamb, bread, and eggs have special blessings (as is also true in the Latin Church) but any and all foods can be brought in – yes, that includes chocolates in Easter baskets. This is an ancient tradition, historically observed in all the Churches, and it is a shame that it has fallen out of memory for so many. It is a perfect manner, in the joyous light of our redemption and in the transforming jubilation of our Lord’s Triumph, that we open our celebration of the Paschal Season in the Lord by breaking the fast with family and friends, and with foods consecrated in the conquering Light of all life.

May this Week’s joyfully somber days fill your hearts with all “joyful sorrow” and consolation, and may they fully exult in the majesty of the restorative work of God healing His first creation.

May we all find therein conversion, luminosity of heart, sober joy, and then finish the Great and Holy Week in jubilant rejoicing in the Sacred Heart of our God and Savior in Whom we find all life and grace from the Hidden Father, transfigured in the Spirit of Holiness.



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

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

May their memory be eternal!



SCHEDULE OF READINGS

HOSANNA SUNDAY

March 28, 2021

Phil 1: 1-13 St. John 12: 12-22

THE GLORIOUS RESURRECTION

April 4, 2021

Phil 2: 1-11 St. Matthew 28: 1-10

VOCATION ICON

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

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
Sun	May	9	Chris & Diane Wyder
Sun	May	16	Michael & Gayle Misner

³ Deficit 2019: \$72,270.59/Deficit 2020: \$34,473.00

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

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

(Budgeted: \$3,100.00)

Regular Collection Last Week: \$2,903.00

(Budget Deficit 2021: \$7,878.00)³

This Sunday's Special Collection combining the
Bishop's Appeal⁴ and this year's maintenance
projects: **March 28th**

An additional **\$2,350.00** 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.⁵

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.*



⁵ This makes the amount toward our matching Challenge
Grant, to be presently **\$8,695.00**. Only \$30,000.00 to go to
achieve the 59k we need for the first stage of our building
works.

INTENTIONS FOR THE QOURBONEH (MASSES)

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)	
Sat	3	†Dana Alen Chapman	
Sun	4	9:00	For the Members of the Parish
		11:00	Private Intention
Mon	5	-----	
Tue	6	†Philip Chapman	
Wed	7	All the Faithful Departed (Mary Nicholas)	
Thu	8	†Joan Gottardi (Dan & Pam Cassavant)	
Fri	9	†Preston Porter (Antoinette Jamerson)	
Sat	10	The Nicholas Family (Mary Nicholas)	
Sun	11	9:00	For the Members of the Parish
		11:00	Private Intention
Mon	12	-----	
Tue	13	†Darrell Mitchell (Donna-Jo Mitchell)	
Wed	14	All the Faithful Departed (Mary Nicholas)	
Thu	15	Gayle Misner-Elias (Misner Family)	
Fri	16	Fr. Doran (Catherine & Ira Mandel)	

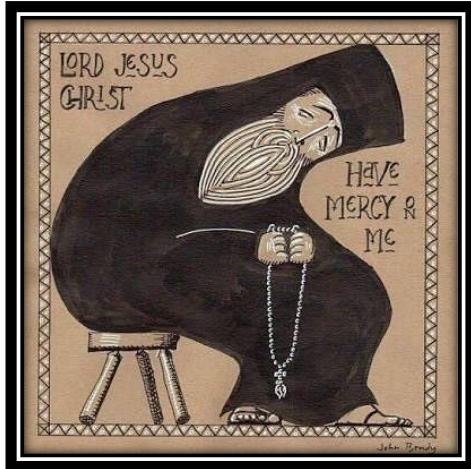
The Life-giving Cross

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 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.



Schedule for the Great and Holy Week of the Passion of our Lord and God

Lazarus Saturday

Saturday, March 27th

Divine Qourbonoh: 10:00 am

Hosanna Sunday

Sunday, March 28th

Blessing of Palms and Entrance of our Lord
into the Holy City

Divine Qourbonoh and Liturgy: 9:00 am

Divine Qourbonoh: 11:00 am

Coming into the Harbor: 6:00 pm

Great and Holy Tuesday

Tuesday, March 30th

Divine Qourbonoh: 9:00 am

Great and Holy Wednesday

(Spy Wednesday)

Wednesday, March 31st

Divine Qourbonoh: 9:00 am

The Rite of the Lamp: 6:00 pm

Great and Holy Thursday of the Divine Mysteries

(Maundy Thursday)

Thursday, April 1st

Divine Qourbonoh and Liturgy: 6:00 pm

Great and Good Friday of the Crucifixion

Friday, April 2nd

(remember to bring flowers
either at midday or in the evening)

Liturgy of the Signing of the Chalice: 11:00 am

Collection for the Holy Land

Passion and Death of our Lord and God: 6:00 pm

Collection for the Holy Land

Great and Holy Saturday of the Light

Saturday, April 3rd

Rite of Forgiveness: 11:30 am (Confessions at 10:30)

Vigil of the Glorious Resurrection: 5:00 pm

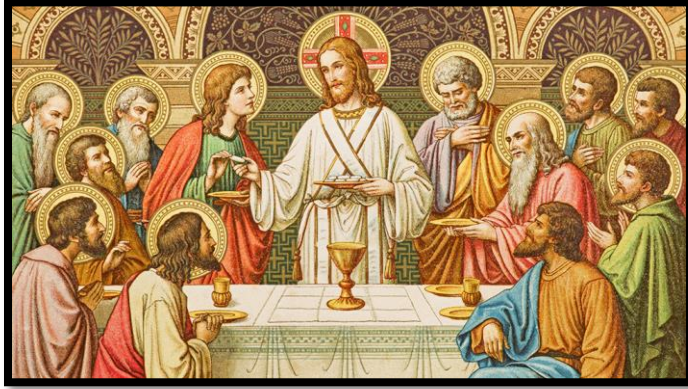
The Glorious Resurrection of our Lord and God

Sunday, April 4th

Divine Qourbonoh and the Rite of Peace: 9:00 am

Divine Qourbonoh: 11:00 am

Blessing of Paschal/Easter Foods after each Mass



The Mystic Supper

Great and Holy Thursday of the Mysteries
April 1st

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, Father
Chris Piselli, 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.

❖ ܕܥܠܝܢ ܕܡܪܝܡ ܕܡܝܨܢܝܐ ܕܡܝܨܢܝܐ

Hosanna Sunday

p. 284

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

Entrance Hymn: LB *Msheeho natareh l'eedtokh*
135B

Glory: SB *irhamni*

Qolo/Hymn: LB *bo'outho d'moryo ya'qoub*
(Zechariah) 136

Procession: *Glorious in Majesty*
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 *tou ba*

Communion: SB *O Body of my Savior; Father of Truth*

Recessional: SB *The Lord is with us*

Servers of the Divine Altar

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

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

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.*

The Traditional and Patriarchal Norms for the Great Fast

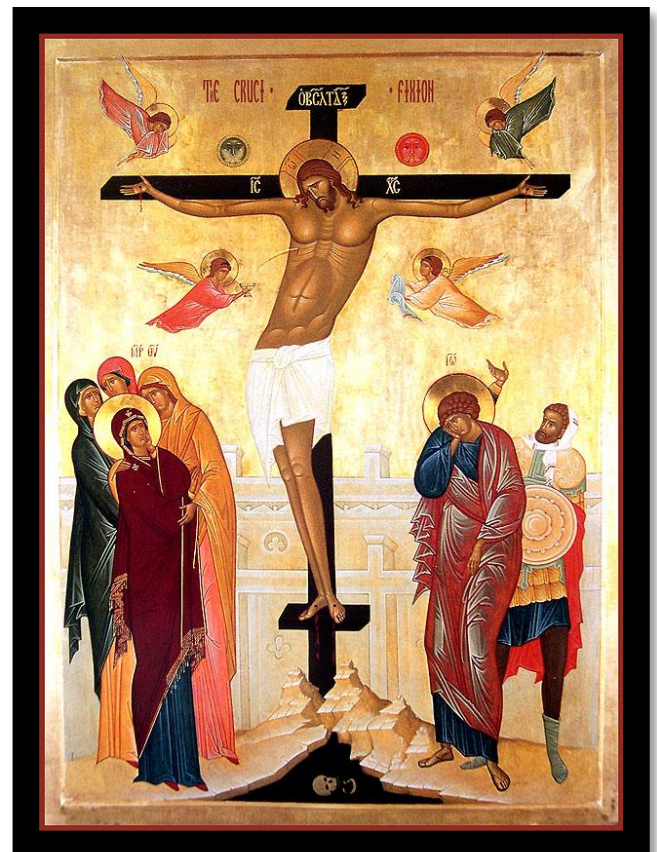
A.) Ash Monday and the First Week of Great Lent and **Great Week of the Passion and especially Great and Holy Friday of the Crucifixion through to noon on Saturday of the Great Light** are Days of Fast and Abstinence according to our tradition.

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.*

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.*



Great Friday of the Crucifixion

April 2nd