

# New Sunday

April 8, 2018

## Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church



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."* Orientale Lumen, John Paul II

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**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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**Choir Director:** Fefa Deeb **Parish Secretary:** Paula Mitchell **Catechists:** Lenore Boles, Director & K-1<sup>st</sup>; Jane Lee, 2<sup>nd</sup>; Shana Page, 3-5<sup>th</sup> **Parish Council:** Sheila Bonenfant, Lisa Grard, Lowell Hawes, Rosanna Joseph, David Lee, Ruth Lunn, Kevin Michaud, Paula Mitchell, Elizabeth Wilson **Ex-officio council members:** Subdeacon Steve Crate; Lenore Boles, Catechism; Shana Page, Rosary Sodality; Larry Mitchell, Knights of Columbus

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### THIS DAY'S GOSPEL St. John 20: 26-31

Eight days later, His disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said, "Peace be with you."

Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out you hand, and place it in My side. Do not be faithless, but believing."

Thomas answered to Him, "My Lord and my God!"

Jesus said to him, "you have believed because you have seen Me. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these have been written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His Name.



### ABOUNA'S REFLECTIONS

For this is the reason why we are not  
all in ease of heart and of soul:  
we seek here to rest in this thing that is so little  
and where no rest is in,  
we do not know our God that is almighty,  
all-wise and all-good.  
For He alone is truly Rest.<sup>1</sup>

It is sad that in the modern world we have become  
all too often the slaves of schedules, places, time  
and "stuff". We have lost our way as a culture. We  
run and run and run and run – but for what?

The perennial meaning of Shabbat is to celebrate  
and honor *time* rather than place. Genesis places  
the old shabbat as the moment that transcends  
creation, the seventh day of creation, the moment  
in which the Hidden Creator "rested" or "ceased"  
to bring forth creation, that is, divinity existed in  
the fullness of eternity: the Hidden God in perfect  
transcendent self-existence. This Shabbat is not  
time, but immutable and infinite existence,  
"eternity".

On earth, the ancient seventh day was "shabbat" –  
meaning "repose, cessation" – to remind us that we  
were not created for here-below, but rather that our  
destiny and human purpose transcend the  
limitedness of things in this world. Man is the only  
creature that was brought forth for God Himself;  
all others find their purpose and nature in the  
world created "for 'adom'". It is said that the  
seraphim in the vision of the Prophet Isaiah have  
six wings<sup>2</sup> in that they sing the praises of the  
Creator – one for each "day" of Genesis' creation –  
but that on the Shabbat they stand awe-filled and

silent, visage hidden, before the unchanging Silence  
of eternity.

For this reason we say that the Shabbat is to  
celebrate and honor time rather than place. The  
third "word" of the Mosaic Commandments of  
Mount Sinai is that we honor the "shabbat"; this  
has of course been changed to the first day of the  
week for Christians.<sup>3</sup> Sinai was a reminder to Israel  
that *the whole day* was to be set aside, observed  
and dedicated to God, not for any benefit that God  
derived from this action but as a teaching – *torah* –  
to the people of Israel that they must honor time  
and use it firstly for God from Whom all has  
originated.

Even to this day, the doctrine of the Church is that  
we must honor the "*day* of the Lord" and not see  
this directive as accomplished by simply "clocking  
in" sixty minutes on a Sunday morning. (Sadly,  
most Catholics these days don't even do this much,  
popping into Mass once or twice a month – if even  
that much.) This honorable *day* is to be revered and  
sanctified by correct observance, of which only  
one detail is the serious obligation to attend weekly  
Mass.

The Divine Mysteries encompass and celebrate  
*things*, or, more properly, the Work of Salvation  
that was accomplished through creatures, by  
incarnation, space and time. By the Incarnation of  
the divine Word in the Person of the Messiah, all  
the rest of created things was radically transformed  
and elevated by the presence of that divine  
Holiness. Time, too, itself a creature, was  
expanded by the entrance of the Eternal One  
through historical birth by the Holy Mother of God.

The six days recounted in Genesis are framed in  
space, even if that space is cosmic in scope. The  
Seventh Day recalls the Eternal Now that is simply  
the Divinity. It is a reminder of the holiness that  
should permeate *created time*. A new Shabbat has  
been established even as the Resurrection of the  
Messiah opened a new and definitive salvific path  
to God.

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<sup>1</sup> Julian of Norwich from *The Revelations of Divine Love*

<sup>2</sup> Isaiah 6

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<sup>3</sup> St. Matthew 12: 8

**New Sunday**, then, in our Syriac tradition is to commemorate the holiness and *renovation of time* even as we honor and celebrate the New Creation that was initiated by the glorious Resurrection of the Son of God. Both the world and time were radically transformed by the glorious triumph of the Messiah's historic resurrection. This is known as the Mystery of the "Eighth Day", that is the transformation of the ancient "Shabbat" of the Old Testament into the *Dies Dominica*, the "Lord's Day" on the first day of the week.

*Eighth Day?* This is known to the Fathers of the Church in its Greek term concerning "eighth": the *Ogdoad*.

This New Day results from the Redemption that heals and elevates the wounded first creation of nature. Initiated in a historical moment, it is an on-going process. This New Time of Redemption thus follows upon the Old Dispensation of Moses and the Patriarchs. One former Testament and Covenant passes to Another freshly renewed. As Death and Resurrection in the Messiah opened for mankind the Access to the Hidden Divine Holiness, and as new follows old, this new Shabbat follows the ancient "seventh day".

Thus, the first day in the week – "of the sun" – on which light was created as told in Genesis, has become the reinvigorated day now symbolizing the new and eternal Light of the Beatific Vision: the fullness of the luminous Kingdom that has been opened to all mankind by our Lord's victory on Calvary. Sunday has been made the *sacramental day* that reminds, represents, and directs us to the primordial creation of light, the Resurrection of the Christ, the Day of Pentecost and the future possibility opened to all the baptized of entering the unchanging and eternal Divine Light of Heaven.

In short, the first day of the week has become by the Resurrection of Christ the sacramental "eighth day" – the *ogdoad* – symbolizing the eternal "Eighth Day" that is God Himself, our eternal salvation and restoration in eternal divine Light.

But we note, it is the entire *d-a-y* that is recognized as holy, not just a puny part of it slivered off each

week. The Risen Christ should not be "clocked" as if He were worth only sixty minutes of our time per week.

The Christian observance of Sunday is not just that we celebrate time, we celebrate and honor the glorious triumph that has allowed us to find healing within the Creator Himself, and in so doing we indicate that we have come to know the meaning of time, its transfiguration in Christ, its proper use, and ultimately through this to recognize our own transcendent destiny as the *children of the Light*.<sup>4</sup>

This is the honor and meaning of that which we call "New Sunday".

How do you observe the "eighth day" each week?

### Maronite formation Classes

The **Maronite Formation Classes** for adults, delayed by the impressive snowstorms, now will begin on Wednesday, **April 11<sup>th</sup>**, at **6:30 p.m.** in the parish hall. This should be an enjoyable moment as we explore and develop the understanding of our faith and Antiochene heritage. We ask that no children (under 18) be brought, as this is "adults free night out".

We will be using as a text Captivated by Your Teachings by Fr. Anthony Salim, pastor of our Maronite parish in Olean, New York. Although it is out of print, you may find copies on-line.

Thank you for the generous response to the parish's March appeal letter for both the eparchial Lenten Appeal and for our hefty annual fuel costs for heating.

Additional heartfelt thanks for all the gifts that came in for the pastor at Easter. Your generosity is edifying and your kindness beautiful.

*May the God of all Consolation  
bless all our donors in the triumphant light  
of the New Creation  
through the Glorious Resurrection of His Son!*

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<sup>4</sup> I Thess 5: 5

### LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

**Regular Collection:** \$2501.00

**Lenten Appeal to date:** \$4685.00

**Holy Land Collection from Good Friday:** \$90.00

Second Collection *April 15, 2018:*

**Catholic Home Missions Appeal**

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

### **COFFEE SCHEDULE 2018**

<b>April 8</b>	Laya Joseph & Rosanna Joseph
<b>April 15</b>	Alice Lachance & Jane Lee
<b>April 22</b>	Lauraine Mansur & Marie McMahon
<b>April 29</b>	Dale Sturtevant & Jody Veilleux
<b>May 6</b>	Elizabeth Wilson & Mary Bard
<b>May 13</b>	Jan Bourque & Lenore Boles
<b>May 20</b>	Pam Casavant & Sharon Crowe

### **SCHEDULE OF READINGS**

#### NEW SUNDAY

April 8, 2018

**II Cor 5: 11-21      St. John 20: 26-31**

#### THIRD SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION

April 15, 2018

**II Tim 2: 8-13      St. Luke 24: 13-35**

### **Prayer of Resurrection**

O Lord, the Fragrant Sea,  
the women carried perfume to the tomb  
in order to embalm Your holy body.  
You are the sweet Aroma for the life of every soul.  
Accept our prayers and grant that,  
like the blessed women, we may hasten to You,  
and be refreshed by Your life-giving fragrance.  
Make us worthy to rise spiritually  
in the company of the wise virgins,  
and enter Your Kingdom,  
so that we may together glorify and praise You,  
now and forever. Amen

### INTENTIONS FOR THE QURBONEH (MASSES)

<b>Sat</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Peggy Jamerson</b> (Steve and Elena Dailey) -- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
<b>Sun</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>†Richard Elias</b> (Cynthia Elias) -- For the members of the Parish
<b>Mon</b>	<b>9</b>	-----
<b>Tue</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Catholic Extension Society &amp; Donors</b>
<b>Wed</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>†For all the Faithful Departed</b> (Deacon Andre)
<b>Thu</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>†Prinella Mitchell</b> (Stephen Maroon) -- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
<b>Fri</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>†Rick Charest</b> (Suzanne Paré)
<b>Sat</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>Catholic Extension Society &amp; Donors</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>For the members of the Parish</b>

### VOCATION ICON

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

<b>Sat</b>	<b>April 7</b>	Jim & Lenore Boles
<b>Sun</b>	<b>April 15</b>	Larry and Paula Mitchell
<b>Sun</b>	<b>April 22</b>	Lowell & Mary Hawes
<b>Sun</b>	<b>April 29</b>	Larry & Lisa Grard
<b>Sun</b>	<b>May 6</b>	Chris & Diane Wyder
<b>Sat</b>	<b>May 12</b>	Jim & Lenore Boles



*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:** Jerry Fortin, Doreen Nader, Tala Poulin, Virginia Poulin, Beverly Rideout, Gordon Webber, Paul Laverdiere, Marie Hessard and Mary Nader.

## New Sunday

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**Lighting of the Church:** LB\* p 5

Jesus Christ, O Source of Light

**Entrance Hymn:** LB msheeho #145

**Glory:** SB al majdu

**Qolo/Hymn:** LB imsheeha #146A

Creed p 748

### PRE-ANAPHORA:

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

**Incense Hymn:** SB p 3 #8 ikbal

### ANAPHORA:

**St. James, Brother of the Lord:** LB p 794

**Sign of Peace:** SB too ba

**Communion:** SB O Body of our Savior, O Holy Mary

**Recessional:** SB Christ is Risen

\*LB=Liturgical Book SB=Song Book

### APRIL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE FOOD BANK

Stews, ravioli, jiffy mixes and personal care items.  
Please place these items in the box near the church entrance.

*God bless you for your generosity  
to His "little ones"*

#### CENTURY 21 - SURETTE REAL ESTATE

Pam Casavant -- Partner/ Associate Broker

Tel: 207-873-5634 Ext 219

e-mail: pcasavant@surette-realestate.com

#### LEBANESE CUISINE

34 Temple Street \* Waterville, ME 04901

207-873-7813

#### GALLANT FUNERAL HOME INC.

10 Elm Street \* Tel 873-3393 \* Website: gallantfh.com

#### GHM Insurance Agency

Auto \* Home\* Business \* Life \* Benefits

51 Main Street - Downtown Waterville

Tel: 207-873-5101 www.ghmagency.com

#### GRONDIN'S CERTIFIED DRY CLEANERS

259 Main Street - Waterville, ME 04901 tel. 207-872-8132

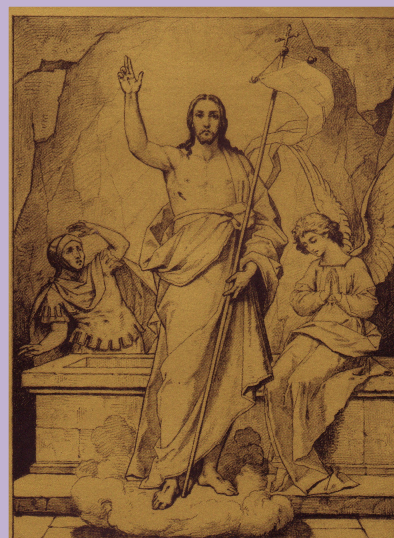
#### SII Investments, Inc.

29 Mt. Merici Ave. - Tel: 207-872-8689

#### Waterville Florist

287 Upper Main Street

Tel: 207-872-7422 also 888-616-4880



*"The Earth trembled and was still,  
when God arose in judgement, alleluia"*

OFFERTORY PSALM  
EASTER SUNDAY MASS