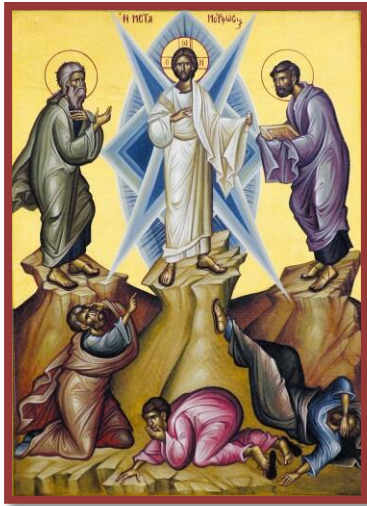


# Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church



## Ninth Sunday of Pentecost

August 4, 2019

Welcome all visitors to the beautiful heritage of Antioch

3 Appleton St.  
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)

---

*“For us, the men and women of the East are a symbol of the Lord Who comes again.”* Orientale 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 at least **two months in advance**. Recommended stipends: weekday intentions \$10; weekend intentions \$15

**Monthly Memorials:** Sanctuary Candles \$20; Altar Bread \$25; Wine \$45

---

**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 Gard **Ex-officio Council Members:** Subdeacon Steve Crate; Lenore Boles, *Religious Education*; Larry Mitchell, *Knights of Columbus*; Ruth Lunn, *Rosary Sodality*

---

### **Today's Gospel<sup>1</sup> St. Luke 4: 14-21**

Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about Him went out into all the surrounding country.

He was teaching in their synagogues and being praised by everyone.

He came to Nazareth, where He had been reared, and on the Sabbath Day He entered the synagogue, as was His custom.

He stood to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to Him. Jesus opened the scroll, and found the place where it is written:

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
and for this reason he has anointed me  
to proclaim good tidings to the poor;  
He sent me to heal the broken-hearted,  
to announce release for the captives  
and sight to the blind;  
to strengthen the oppressed  
with forgiveness;*

---

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

*and to announce the acceptable year of the Lord.<sup>2</sup>*

He rolled up the scroll, gave it to the attendant, and went and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on Him. He began saying to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."



*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>3</sup>

## **ABOUNA'S REFLECTIONS**

A child is not a possession or a piece of property. He does not exist for the sake of the parents, rather parents exist for the nurturing and education of the child. Children do not exist for the sake of adults; adults exist for the sake of bringing a new generation of human beings into existence. It is disappointing that today so many people approach "having a child" as if it were a decision similar to when one might decide to buy a house, begin a 401(k), or buy a dog. It is this type of "vision" that has brought about all too often the degradation of family and social life. We act according to our goals, and if children are seen serving the purposes of adults, for whatever reason, then the whole family structure is inverted.

The fundamental beauty of human creation is that a man and a woman<sup>4</sup> are given the possibility of participating with the Creator of all in the appearance of another human being on the earth. Children are not possessions of the parents, nor do

they belong to the State; they are not organs of the mother's womb, nor disposable parts in her "health care"; they are not possessions of the parents, nor forms of entertainment for the pleasure of adults. Children are gifts granted to an adult couple as an act of trust and confidence from God, the Source of all life. They are each uniquely individual persons created in the divine image, who must be respected, cherished, nurtured, loved, and educated into maturity.

Note that all this is purely the nature of things – the *natural law* – and does not include the additional considerations proper to Christians. Nevertheless, anything less than this fundamental approach to the birth and formation of children cheapens human life overall, because it violates the nature of things. The modern view of the child as a type of commodity (something one does for oneself) has led to the degradation of parents, the dissolution of family life, and the disintegration of social responsibility.

When we consider the reality of easily-obtained abortion in modern society it must first be kept in mind that *two* people have generated the child. Bring children into the world and rearing them are not essentially something that the mother does with the father as some type of throwaway accessory. Fathers are more than sperm donors, regardless of what is presented by modern propaganda.

The child is not the property of either parent, and he does not "belong" to either of them. From the moment of his creation, the human child is a unique person and existentially a free being – from the point of view of his creation as the *image of God*, the child is fully human from the first moment of his existence and fully *equal* to his parents. He may be dependent on them and the rest of his family for care and nurturing as he matures, but he is not a possession of the parents. He is certainly not a mere "body part" to be discussed as a share of the "health care" of his mother. To view the child before birth as somehow less than human is both wrong philosophically and

partnered effort be present to lead and educate the immature human being/child/adolescent to maturity and wisdom. This natural bond was elevated by our Lord to the level of a Divine Mystery where the very union and relationship between the man and the woman becomes a source of honor to God, and a place of holiness to the couple, and a source of radiant sanctity to their children and the community.

<sup>2</sup> Isaiah 61: 1, 2; 58: 6

<sup>3</sup> Homily 1.7.8 "on Ezechiel"

<sup>4</sup> We should note from the outset that even the law of nature requires that the male and female be established in a stable relationship. Because the human offspring remain helpless and immature for so many years, it is only in a stable relationship (usually decades-long) that a predictable, constant, and

morally abhorrent – no matter how often we hear this pronounced in the media.

Until the baby (before and after birth) and the child are respected as being fully human, family and society will continue to crumble. As *Mother Theresa* once stated, “as long as a mother can kill the child in her womb, there will never be peace on earth”.

Human parents are also to be considered as equals in the generation of the child. The mother has no superior claim to the infant. Although nurtured in the womb of the mother, the child belongs in no way “more” to the mother than to the father. From the viewpoint of human life’s creation, both have an equal say in the life of their child – and equal responsibility!

The modern conversation about a “woman’s right to her body” is equally unacceptable as it makes of the child a “thing”. The child is not part of a woman’s body even though he is nurtured *in* her body. While each person’s own organs have all the same genetic plan, scientifically, we know today that the child, from the moment of conception, has his own unique genetic code and form, independent from both the mother and the father.

There are two parents involved in the creation of a human child. As parents are more than just donors of gametes, the *father* must also be considered in all discussions concerning abortion. It is not exclusively a “women’s issue”. We should not allow ourselves to be misled by this propaganda tactic.

*Family structure* and *family support* are central to the abortion question. Human beings are not mere animals, a type of barnyard creature that goes into heat once a year and breeds, dropping offspring, nurturing it for a moment, and then walking away. For this reason, the report in the *Morning Sentinel* of a 26%-increase of child abuse cases reported<sup>5</sup> in Maine for last year is horrifying. And even if it may only be the fact that more cases have been accurately reported, the previous years’ statistics indicate that abusive households are increasing numerically in our community.

---

<sup>5</sup> Wednesday, July 31, 2019.

<sup>6</sup> It should be noted here that “family” is not merely what has been called for the last fifty years the “nuclear family”. “Family” is what once was known in the Head-of-Falls neighborhood:

The *basic social unit* of a community is the family. As long as *family*<sup>6</sup> is not a consciously cherished part of our community, one that is nurtured by society and its laws, we will continue to have the increased frequency of abortion, child abuse, mental illness, and social disintegration; all these so often find their origins in unstable home life and in unhealthy family relations.

It is not by chance that the legalization of abortion, the Woodstock generation’s public collapse of sexual behavior, and the increase of divorce all arrived contemporaneously in the 1960s and ‘70s. They are all intertwined in causality and in effect.

We might also add another element to this modern disorientation and upheaval – the prevalence of *artificial contraception*. While this has always infected some families throughout the ages, it became increasingly prevalent and destabilizing to families from the 1930s onward. This we leave for another consideration.

**Two** parents: male and female;  
the existential autonomy and **equality** of the human child from conception;  
the necessity of the **family’s extended support**, and all the other healthy structures for our well-being -- these are the fundamental and minimal things required for the rearing and education of children. When all or some of these necessary things are missing, one is tempted to get rid of the central “complication”: the child. In this way abortion is born.

The absence of these things are all symptoms of much deeper diseases within the human heart.

### LAST WEEK’S COLLECTION

**Regular Collection: \$2010.00**

*Thanks be to the Good One Who allows us to continue this apostolate unto His glory!*

djidoo, sitoo, parents, children, aunts, uncles, cousins, and, well, just about anyone else whom we loved, and who loved us, and who worked together for the good of the community.

**VOCATION ICON**

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

Sun	Aug 4	Bruce & Doreen White
Sun	Aug 11	Steve and Allison Crate
Sun	Aug 18	Sue Paré and Lolo Salazar
Sun	Aug 25	Lowell & Mary Hawes
Sun	Sept 1	Larry & Lisa Grard
Sat	Sept 7	Jim & Lenore Boles
Sun	Sept 15	Chris & Diane Wyder

**SCHEDULE OF READINGS**

**NINTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST**

August 4, 2019

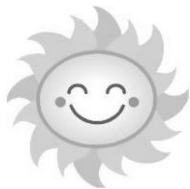
**II Cor 5: 20-6: 10      St. Luke 4: 14-21**

**NINTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST**

August 4, 2019

**II Cor 5: 20-6: 10      St. Luke 4: 14-21**

*Summer Break*



There will be no coffee and muffins for July and August.

It would seem that everyone is at camp, and, most importantly, the workers have well merited their rest. See you all at *Café Larrie* in September!

*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:** Mary Hawes, Doreen Nader, Tala Poulin, Louise Saliem, Virginia Poulin, and Beverly Rideout.

**INTENTIONS FOR THE QOURBONEH (MASSES)**

Sat	3	†Charles Owen <i>(the Parish)</i> -- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
Sun	4	For the members of the Parish
Mon	5	-----
Tue	6	Catholic Extension Society & Donors
Wed	7	†Janet George, 10:00 am funeral
Thu	8	†Marietta & John Thomas -- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
Fri	9	Private Intention <i>(Abouna James)</i> -- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
Sat	10	†Charles Owen <i>(the Parish)</i> -- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
Sun	11	For the members of the Parish
Mon	12	-----
Tue	13	Catholic Extension Society & Donors
Wed	14	9:00 am †David Bourgoin <i>(Dan &amp; Pam Casavant)</i> 6:00 pm For the members of the Parish
Thu	15	Catholic Extension Society & Donors
Fri	16	Private Intention <i>(Abouna James)</i> -- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
Sat	17	†Charles Owen <i>(the Parish)</i> -- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
Sun	18	For the members of the Parish
Mon	19	-----
Tue	20	†Janet George <i>(Jean Deeb)</i>
Wed	21	†Rosalba Russi Saviano <i>(Marc &amp; Antoinette Jamerson)</i>
Thu	22	Catholic Extension Society & Donors
Fri	23	Private Intention <i>(Abouna James)</i> -- Catholic Extension Society & Donors

# Autumn Harvest Raffle

**\$10,000 GRAND PRIZE!!!!**

Ticket sales will begin on Monday, July 29th.

**One in 400 chance to win \$10,000.00!!!**

Cost of each ticket is \$100.00, with the winning ticket for the prize to be drawn Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## *The Fast of the Dormition*

*The Assumption of the Ever-Virgin Mary into Heaven, body and soul (August 15<sup>th</sup>)*

As we were reminded by our Patriarch in his recent Lenten Letter, it is our tradition to fast in preparation for the great feasts, and all are encouraged to do so faithfully, *par.* 24:

*This fast is known as "The Fast of the Virgin", during which the faithful abstain from eating meat, dairy products, and eggs, from August 7<sup>th</sup> until August 14<sup>th</sup> inclusively.*

We are reminded in *paragraph 21* of the same letter that "a fast" is to go without all foods from midnight to noon, after which we abstain from all animal flesh and animal products - this is most similar to a "vegan" diet as one would call it these days.

When a fast day falls on a Saturday or a Sunday (as will be the case on August 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> this year) one can eat as they wish, but should still abstain from all animal flesh and animal products.

These observances are for all who have attained the age of the use of reason, *par.* 22.



*Saint Lawrence, Martyr  
August 10<sup>th</sup>*

## *Ninth Sunday of Pentecost* p 492 "B"

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

**Entrance Hymn:** LB *safreh* 200

**Glory:** SB *al majdu*

**Qolo/Hymn:** LB *shareero* 201A

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 *too ba*

**Communion:** SB *O Bread of Life; Holy Ground*

**Recessional:** SB *Alleluia #1*

\*LB=Liturgical Book SB=Song Book