

# Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church



## The Second Sunday after Holy Cross

September 27, 2020

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."* *Oriental 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 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 \$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 EPISTLE<sup>1</sup>**

#### **I Corinthians 15: 19-34**

If we hope in the Messiah only in this life, then we are the most pitiable of men, but as it is, the Messiah has risen from *the house of the dead*, the First-Fruits of those who have died.

For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead has also come through

a Man; for as all die in Adam, so all live in the Messiah.

This will take place for each in his turn: the Messiah as the First-Fruits, and after that, when He comes, those who are in the Messiah. Then comes the end, when He hands over the Kingdom to God the Father, after He has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power.

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

For He will rule until He has placed all His enemies beneath His feet, and the final enemy to be destroyed shall be death.

For He has subjected everything under His feet, but when it says, "all things are put in subjection," it is plain that this does not include the One Who put all things in subjection under Him.

When everything has been subjected to Him, then even the Son shall be subjected to Him Who caused all things to be subjected to the Son, so that God shall become all in all.

If this were not so, what are they doing who are baptized for the dead? If the dead do not rise, why be baptized for the dead?

And why are we constantly putting ourselves in danger?

This I swear on your own boastfulness – which I make in Jesus Messiah – that I die daily.

If the dead do not rise, then what did I gain by being thrown to the wild animals in Ephesus?

Let us just eat and drink as we shall die tomorrow!

Do not be deceived, sordid speech corrupts healthy intentions.

Wake up to do what is right, and do not sin!

There are some who do not know God, and this I say to your shame.



*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**

Today we violate taboos; we will use the public forum for a private good, but, in truth, a private good that touches us all. We render thanks to the Good One for the life and health of the parish's beloved *sitoo*: **Dame Marie Fefa Deeb, DSG.**

Today is the anniversary of Dame Marie's entrance into the world – a second taboo violated<sup>3</sup> – ninety-five years ago. ***Happy Birthday!!!***

Fefa is the living archive of the parish and, having been born two years before the parish's founding, its living memory.

There is little in the parish's life that at one time or another has not involved Dame Fefa. Still directing the choir, she remains the voice of our reposed immigrants, rendering the beauty of the Syriac and Arabic hymns in living blessedness.

Professor emerita of Economics, she has been central to the financial management and well-being of the community, and to this day she arrives each week to work with others to count collections, record accounts, pay bills, and file statements.

***Dame Marie's life brings us full circle.*** At the end of the first quarter of the twentieth century, when she was born, there was no liturgical home for the Maronites in Waterville and they received hospitality among the Latin Catholics at the church of the Sacred Heart. Fefa was baptized in the parish church of the Sacred Heart. Now, almost a century later,<sup>4</sup> she has lived to see the beauty of the Maronites reciprocating that original hospitality. In this midst of this present global crisis, Saint Joseph Antiochene Syriac Maronite Catholic Church has become a place of refuge and hospitality to many of our Latin brethren. Her parents and the original immigrants would be proud that the community they founded has become a place of refuge and a harbor of salvation to others.

May the light and beauty of Antioch as found in ***Beit Maroun*** radiate outward for many years to come!

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

<sup>3</sup> mentioning the age of a woman!

<sup>4</sup> although she always says that she has been here *for a century* – *fawevah*

To honor our “birthday girl”, the original plan had been to “kick out the jams” this year at our annual Hafli – the last Saturday of September – but, alas, we all know that the apocalypse took place in March.

Another beloved soul in the parish – the *Chief Baker of Muffins* and *Keeper of the Premises* – has been watching carefully all these months for when muffins and coffee might once again resume after the Mass on Sunday, but this, too ... is sadly not close on the horizon.

So, keeping physically distant, *without gathering* together we shall *celebrate together*. We must celebrate this birthday in pandemic mode. Freshly baked muffins will be the occasion’s “birthday cake”; your charity and your love will have to serve for the candles. May they burn ever more brightly!

Muffins (devotedly and individually wrapped) will be distributed at the end of Mass as you all leave. Enjoy them, pray for Dame Marie, render thanks to the Lord God for all the good He is accomplishing among us and that He wishes to do here in this parish and in the state of Maine, and, finally, ask for the grace that we all might be faithful and fit instruments for His glory – and may each of us do so *for a century!*<sup>5</sup>

Fefa may not *do* everything in the parish, but she has been *central to its life* for many decades. May the God of all consolation grant her an abundance of grace and blessings, good health, well-being, *shlomoh*, and many years to come.

*Mabrouk!*

## 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. All information remains *confidential* to the *parish* and is not transferred to any state agency.
- 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 **Sunday Vigil** Masses are suspended until further notice.
- 7.) All who are retired, or who may have a freer weekday schedule, are asked to consider assisting at Mass during the weekdays, **Tues-Fri, 9:00am**; and on **Saturday at 10:00am**. This would free up more room on Sunday for those who must work during the normal workweek.
- 8.) Please **do not use your hands** to cover sneezes and coughs. Everyone must wear a **face-mask** to safely control and cover all coughs, sneezes, congestion, etc.
- 9.) Hand sanitizers are available at the entrances and at the confessional.
- 10.) Seating at church must be “*first-come-first-served*”. Seating will be closed at “50”.
- 11.) 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.
- 12.) Everyone will need to *charitably assist* one another to sit throughout the entire church, occupying **all** pews while respecting “physical distancing”.
- 13.) To control crowd flow, **doors** will be **locked** at the beginning of each Liturgy.
- 14.) A **six-foot distancing** must be observed by those who approach the Divine Altar and wish to receive the Divine Eucharist in **Holy Communion**.
- 15.) 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*.

<sup>5</sup> Well, for almost a century, but still *fawevalh*.

VOCATION ICON

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

Sun	Sep	27	Chris & Diane Wyder
Sun	Oct	4	Michael & Gayle Misner
Sun	Oct	11	Bruce & Doreen White
Sun	Oct	18	Steve & Allison Crate
Sun	Oct	25	Sue Paré & Lolo Salazar
Sun	Nov	1	Daja Gombojav & Family
Sun	Nov	8	Larry & Lisa Grard
Sat	Nov	15	Jim & Lenore Boles

INTENTIONS FOR THE QOURBONEH (MASSES)

Sun	27	For the Members of the Parish
Mon	28	-----
Tue	29	†Bernard Thomas (Patricia Thomas, Michelle & Nicole)
Wed	30	Catholic Extension Society & Donors
Thu	1	†Maroon Thomas Family (Pam & Dan Casavant)
Fri	2	Private Intention (Abouna James)
Sat	3	†Maroon Thomas Family (Pam & Dan Casavant)
Sun	4	9:00 †Mary Smus (the Smus Family) 11:00 For the Members of the Parish
Mon	5	-----
Tue	6	†Theresa Casavant (Pam & Dan Casavant)
Wed	7	Catholic Extension Society & Donors
Thu	8	Christine Arbour (Suzanne Paré)
Fri	9	Private Intention (Abouna James)
Sat	10	†Maroon Thomas Family (Pam & Dan Casavant)
Sun	11	9:00 For the Members of the Parish 11:00 Catholic Extension Society
Mon	12	-----
Tue	13	†Bernard Thomas (Patricia Thomas, Michelle & Nicole)
Wed	14	Catholic Extension Society & Donors
Thu	15	†Maroon Thomas Family (Pam & Dan Casavant)
Fri	16	Private Intention (Abouna James)

LAST WEEK’S COLLECTIONS

(Budgeted: \$3,100.00)

**Regular Collection: \$4,791.00**

(Deficit 2020: \$43,185.00)

**Collection for the Holy Land: \$224.00**

Today’s second collection Peter’s Pence

**We all get old and worn out.**

In the last month we have had to have repaired the **refrigerator in the parish hall’s kitchen**. It has served well over these decades, but has tired. The **refrigeration unit** had to be replaced and the lines worked on. Our cost: **\$1,126.00**

Anyone who is able and may wish to participate in covering this cost - and getting us ready for when muffins and coffee are restored - is heartily encouraged to do so.

**Second Sunday each month is a second collection to cover our monthly fuel-oil bills.**

Please remember *to sustain the apostolic work of this parish through regular contributions made in the liturgical collection each week, by mail, through the parish website, or through regular bank drafts mailed in.*

# The Second Sunday after Holy Cross

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*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:** Richard Karter, Lolo Salazar, Rosanna Joseph, Doreen Nader, and all those who suffer from disease, want, and depression.

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In two weeks, there will be the first-ever **Eparchy-Wide Virtual Benefit Event** this Thursday, **October 1, 2020 at 7:00PM.**

Please join us. Your participation this year is very important as we raise needed funds for the Eparchy and the education of seminarians. All friends and supporters of the Maronite Church are invited. You may register online at our website ([www.stmaron.org](http://www.stmaron.org)), or obtain a printed invitation for the event by sending an email to [saintmaron@yahoo.com](mailto:saintmaron@yahoo.com), or by calling 718-237-9913.

*There are cards available at both entrances of the church.*

Please consider attending and supporting this important event for the Eparchy.

## SCHEDULE OF READINGS

### THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER HOLY CROSS

Sept 27, 2020

**I Cor 15: 19-34     St. Matthew 24: 1-14**

### THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER HOLY CROSS

Oct 4, 2020

**Phil 3: 17-4: 1     St. Matthew 24: 23-31**

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

**Entrance Hymn:** LB *safreh* 233

**Glory:** SB *glory*

**Qolo/Hymn:** LB *shareero* 234

**Creed** p 748

**PRE-ANAPHORA:**

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

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

**ANAPHORA:**

**The Twelve Apostles:** LB p 754

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

**Communion:** SB *O Lord, I am not worthy; Father of Truth; Praise God from Whom*

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

*Saint  
Romanos,  
aka  
Rouhana,  
the Cantor  
Confessor*

*September  
29<sup>th</sup>*

