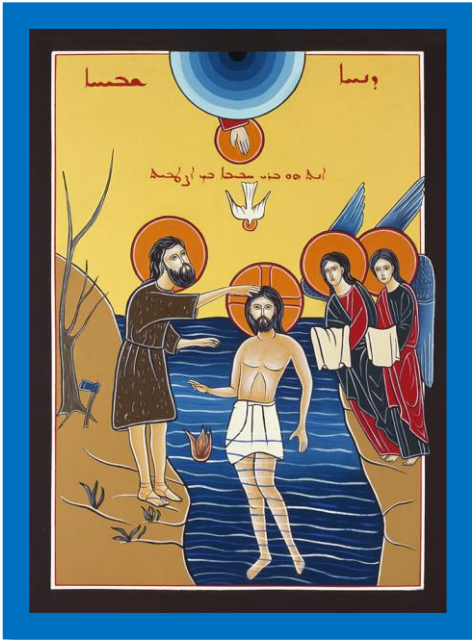


Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church



The Second Sunday of the Epiphany

January 17, 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." *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 EPISTLE¹

II Corinthians 4: 5-15

For we do not proclaim ourselves, but our Lord Jesus the Messiah, and ourselves as your servants because of Jesus.

For God Who said, "let light shine from the darkness",² has shone in our hearts to enlighten us with the knowledge of God's glory in the Person of Jesus the Messiah. We possess this treasure, however, in an earthen pot, so that the extent of its strength would be from God rather than from ourselves;

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

² Genesis 1: 3

for in everything we are hemmed in yet
without being overwhelmed, under attack
without being overcome;
we are persecuted, yet without being
abandoned;
knocked down, without being destroyed.
We always carry within our bodies the death of
Jesus that in our bodies the life of Jesus might
be revealed as well.

Even if we actually live, we are being given up
to death for the sake of Jesus, such that in this
mortal body of ours the life of Jesus might be
revealed also.

At the moment death is working in us, and life
in you.

We too, then, have a single Spirit of faith, as it
is written, "I have believed and for this reason
I also have spoken".³

We have believed and for this reason we also
speak.

And we know that the One Who raised our
Lord Jesus shall raise us also by means of
Jesus, and He will draw us near to Him,
together with yourselves.

Everything is done on your account, so that as
grace expands through many people, so
thanksgiving shall expand also to the glory of
God.



*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)⁴*

ABOUNA'S REFLECTIONS

Moving from the light of Denho, we turn our
minds to the three weeks beginning next week
which commemorate the deceased, and then we
move on to the Great Fast, Lent. This is a transition
from the Glorious Nativity to a new liturgical
season.

FAST OF THE NINEVITES

Within the Syriac tradition, both east and west,
during the first days of the final week following the
Epiphany, and coming just before the weeks
commemorating the dead, we observe *The
Supplication of the Ninevites*. This is a transitional
fast on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday that
moves us from the festivities surrounding the
Nativity and Denho toward to the Great Lenten
Fast that approaches. This fast was first instituted
in the seventh century by **Mar Sabrisho**, bishop of
Beit Garmai, who ordered the three days of prayer
and fasting as a result of a plague which had
ravaged his eparchy. Later, these days became a
universal practice throughout the Syriac Churches.

These days of fasting and prayer are training and
discipline of the mind and will, along with
reparation made for our past sins and sensuality. It
fosters a healthy spirit of repentance and calls
down upon us the grace of God.

Fasting elevates the spirit and purifies the mind, as
well as purifying the body. It requires a focused
mind that looks first to the things of God, and
which places the concerns of this earth in their
proper place – subordinated to the things of God.
Although in the Gospel our Lord is speaking to
Nicodemus about baptism, He does state that if we
do not understand correctly the things here below,
how will we ever understand celestial things. A
clouded intellect is never disposed to know the
things of God, and worldly ignorance blinds the
mind to divine realities.

Fasting norms:

We are reminded by our Patriarch
that "a fast" is **to go without all foods
from midnight to noon,**

³ Psalm 116: 10

⁴ Homily 1.7.8 "on Ezechiel"

after which we abstain from animal flesh and almost all animal products – this is most similar to a “vegan” diet as one would call it these days.

These traditional observances are **for all who have attained the age of the use of reason.**

A NEW VIGIL TO EXTOLL AND EXPAND THE GLORY OF GOD

We move forward and are now enrolling those who can commit themselves to our cleaning crews for Saturdays, so that we might re-establish the Sunday Vigil.

Those who might be interested in this work of charity are invited to speak with either Suzanne Paré or Gayle Misner.

Once we have these crews in place we will be able to expand our liturgical observances.

We *fast* because it makes us stronger, not because it “hurts”; and we *labor* in fraternal charity because it spreads the light of the Sacred Heart. Peace and tranquility of soul must always be our goal.

We seek light, not pain; and we look to establish ourselves on the path of learning (*disciplina*) that opens our minds to the realities of the Kingdom. We seek healing and well-being, not affliction.

May the Luminous and Mighty One dispose us to such sentiments and give us resolve to follow the path of our ancestors in the Faith. May the Hidden One make us generously heroic!

A heartfelt “thank you” for your generosity to the pastor this Christmas season – all the more outstanding in these difficult times.



May the Divine Dawn console your days and raise your spirits in His radiant light all throughout this new year of grace!



The Sanctuary Lamp burns in January in memory of **Bernard Thomas** at the request of his daughters.

May his memory be eternal!



VOCATION ICON

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

Sun	Jan	17	Chris & Diane Wyder
Sun	Jan	24	Michael & Gayle Misner
Sun	Jan	31	Bruce & Doreen White
Sun	Feb	7	Steve & Allison Crate
Sun	Feb	14	Sue Paré & Lolo Salazar
Sun	Feb	21	Daja Gombojav & Family
Sun	Feb	28	Larry & Lisa Grard
Sat	Mar	6	Jim & Lenore Boles

SCHEDULE OF READINGS

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 17, 2021

II Cor 4: 5-15 St. John 1: 35-42

COMMEMORATION OF ALL DECEASED PRIESTS

January 24, 2021

I Tim 4: 6-16 St. Luke 12: 42-48

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

(Budgeted: \$3,100.00)

Regular Collection Last Week: \$2486.00

(Deficit 2021: \$818.00)⁵

Next **Second** Collection is for
the *United States Catholic Bishops' Worldwide
Charities: January 24th*

(This collection combines **five** collections:
*Central and Eastern Europe, the Church in Latin
America, the Church in Africa, Catholic Relief Services,
and Operation Rice Bowl.*)

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

In November, we had to replace the **hot water
heater for the bathrooms** in the parish hall. After a
generous contribution of \$250.00 the cost remaining
to us **\$346.40**. God bless you for your generosity.

*Please remember to sustain the apostolic work of this
parish through regular contributions.*

INTENTIONS FOR THE QOURBONEH (MASSES)

Sun 17 9:00 For the Members of the Parish

11:00 Gladys Avcollie
(Cynthia Namer)

Mon 18 -----

Tue 19 †Paul Nicholas
(Mary Nicholas)

Wed 20 †Madeleine Tondreau
(Suzanne Paré)

Thu 21 †John Nicholas
(Mary Nicholas)

Fri 22 Private Intention
(Abouna James)

Sat 23 †Arthur Paré
(Suzanne Paré)

Sun 24 9:00 For the Members of the Parish

11:00 Private Intention
(Abouna James)

Mon 25 -----

Tue 26 Dana & Linda Hayes
(Misner-Elias Family)

Wed 27 †Barbara Nicholas
(Mary Nicholas)

Thu 28 †Daisy Johnston
(Mary Nicholas)

Fri 29 †Eva Hakim
(Alexis Dragatsi)

Sat 30 †Sr. Stanislaus
(Mary Nicholas)

Sun 31 9:00 For the Members of the Parish

11:00 †Bernard Thomas
(Nicole & Michelle)

Mon 1 -----

Tue 2 Fr. Doran
(Misner-Elias Family)

Wed 3 †Judith Kelley
(Dan & Pam Casavant)

Thu 4 The Bryck Family
(Mary Nicholas)

Fri 5 Mike & Gayle Misner-Elias
(Isaac)

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

- 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.) 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**.
- 8.) **Everyone is asked to wear a face-mask.**
- 9.) Hand sanitizers are available at the entrances and at the confessional.
- 10.) Seating at church must be "*first-come-first-served*" and 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.) To control crowd flow and bring greater security, **doors** will be **locked** at the beginning of each Liturgy.
- 13.) 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**.
- 14.) 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*.

We still have available Chorbishop Eid's wonderful introduction to **Saint Sharbel**, now updated and in its fourth edition. This book is available online at the **parish website** and from the **sacristy** directly after Mass.



Beautiful brand-new hardcover edition, with dust jacket, only \$25

*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: Tala Poulin, Daja Gombojav, Anne El-Habre, Richard Karter, Lolo Salazar, and all those who suffer from disease, want, or depression.

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The Second Sunday of the Epiphany

p. 107

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

Entrance Hymn: LB *msheeho* 81B

Glory: SB *glory*

Qolo/Hymn: LB *bo'outho* 82

Creed p 748

Members of the **Rosary Sodality** wish to express their gratitude to the members of Saint Joseph's Maronite Catholic church for their generosity for this year's Giving Tree. A check for **\$900.00** was sent to the **Family Violence Project** to help provide financial support to those families in need of a safe, supportive and stable environment.

***Christmas Giving opportunities
(still these weeks of the Epiphany)!***

Make known to your friends and family the wonders of the Maronite tradition through her saints.

PRE-ANAPHORA:

Transfer of Gifts: LB *The Lord Reigns (Epiphany)*

Incense Hymn Offertory: SB *l'maryam yoldat*

ANAPHORA:

Saint John, the Evangelist: LB p 815

Sign of Peace: SB *tou ba*

Communion: SB *Your Body is our Food; Father of Truth*

Recessional: SB *Alleluya #1*



**EPARCHY OF SAINT MARON
OF BROOKLYN**

**OFFICE OF THE BISHOP
109 Remsen Street
Brooklyn, New York 11201-
4212**

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13 January 2021

Dear Brother and Sisters in Christ,

On December 8, 2020, Pope Francis declared a “Year of Saint Joseph”, so that we may reflect on the spiritual value of the Saint who is called “Patron of the Universal Church”.

Our first Maronite parish in the United States, established in New York in 1890, came under the name of Saint Joseph. We have parishes named after Saint Joseph in Olean, New York; Atlanta, Georgia; and Waterville, Maine. Some of our parishes also have Saint Joseph Societies. Saint Joseph always has a place in every Maronite heart.

Saint Joseph, the “foster father” of Jesus and the “chaste spouse” of the Virgin, also has two feasts to his honor in the Maronite Church: the Fifth Sunday of the Season of the Glorious Birth, just before Christmas, as well as March 19th. These feasts bring attention to different aspects of Joseph’s role as the

“Virgin who cared for the Virgin”, and the Patron of the Universal Church.

What a grace for us to honor Saint Joseph. The Holy Father has granted plenary indulgences for those who honor the Saint. On the website of the Diocese of Charlotte a description of this, as well as the Holy Father’s Decree, can be found [here](#).

A visit to any one of our parishes named for Saint Joseph, as well as those parishes hosting a Saint Joseph Sodality, would be included in this indulgence.

There are so many treasures hidden in the person of Saint Joseph; we can only begin to explore. Who else could have loved and cared for the Virgin Mary and the Christ Child with such tender and masculine love, such obedience to the Heavenly Father, and such fidelity to his noble mission?

O Saint Joseph, foster father, faithful spouse, guide to the troubled, and true patron of believers, pray for us!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Gregory John Mansour

**Saint
Euthymius
the Great,
Confessor**

January 20th

