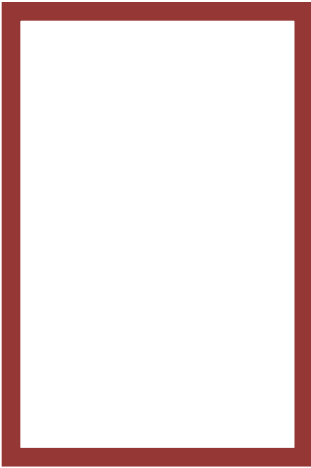


# Second Sunday of the Most Holy Cross

September 24, 2017



## St. Joseph Maronite Catholic Church

3 Appleton Street  
Waterville, ME 04901  
Office Phone: 207-872-8515  
E-Mail: [stjoesinmaine@yahoo.com](mailto:stjoesinmaine@yahoo.com)  
Pastor: Rev. Fr. James Doran  
Subdeacon: Mr. Stephen Crate  
website: <http://www.sjmaronite.org>



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*“The Eastern Rites are the Treasure of the Catholic Church”*

Saint John XXIII, Pope

- Liturgies:** 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 \$25

**Choir Director:** Fefa Deeb    **Sacristan:** Laurie Nale    **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:** Subdeacon Steve Crate; Lenore Boles, Catechism; Shana Page, Rosary Sodality; Larry Mitchell, Knights of Columbus

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**THIS DAY’S GOSPEL:** St. Matthew 24; 1-14

Jesus left the Temple and was going away, when His disciples came to point out to Him the buildings of the Temple. But He answered them, “You see all these, do you not? Amen, I say to you, there will not be left here one stone upon another, that will not be thrown down.”

As He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, “Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign of Your coming and of the close of the age?”

And Jesus answered them, “Take heed that no one leads you astray. For many will come in My Names, saying, ‘I am the Messiah,’ and they will lead many astray. And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars; see that you are not alarmed; for this must take place, but the end is not yet.

For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places: all this is but the beginning of the sufferings.

Then they will deliver you up to tribulation, and put you to death; and you will be hated by all nations for My Name’s sake.

And then many shall fall away, and betray one another, and hate one another. And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. And because wickedness is multiplied, most men's love shall grow cold. But he who endures to the end will be saved.

And this Gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached throughout the whole world, as a testimony to all nations; and then the end will come.

### ABOUNA'S REFLECTIONS

Just under forty years following Our Lord's Ascension into Heaven, the Holy Temple of God in Jerusalem was destroyed. The Temple of Herod that had taken almost fifty years to build up to the time of our Lord's apostolate was laid waste in AD 70. At the time of the destruction, the Jewish people had been in rebellion against the Roman Empire for years; the obliteration of Jerusalem was the final act in the long-drawn-out drama that had been their pursuit of political freedom. Although the Roman authorities had ordered that the temple complex be preserved for the sake of its architectural and artistic beauty, it was nevertheless destroyed completely in the fury and hatred that resulted from so many years of fighting against rebellion and insurrection. The only thing remaining to this day is the so-called "Wailing Wall," and that is not even a part of the actual temple; it is only one of the retaining walls of the esplanade above that once supported the temple. Subsequently, the Jews were expelled from the city, forbidden to return, and the place of the temple was destroyed.

It has never been rebuilt.

Jerusalem was renamed *Aelia Capitolina* by the Romans and refashioned as a thoroughly pagan city. On top of the ruins of the Temple, a pagan temple dedicated to Jupiter was constructed. It is interesting to note that to the Romans saw the Christians as simply another sect of the Jews, thus over the place of the Tomb of Our Lord's Resurrection they also destroyed the existing memorial and erected a temple dedicated to Adonis. While this was a devastating result for the Jewish people, the Christians for the most part were already gone from the Holy City following years of persecution by the Jews who had not accepted Jesus as the Messiah, and, of course, by the fact that they had heeded Our Lord's prophecy that Jerusalem

and its temple would be destroyed. This is today's Gospel reading.

As an aside, the building of the temple of Adonis is the reason that we are completely certain of the placement of Our Lord's Tomb: this temple stood there for two and a half centuries unwittingly marking the place. The mother of Constantine, Saint Helena, merely had to return to the city empowered by the authority of her imperial son and have the pagan temple razed. To this day parts of the Church of the Holy Sepulcher include sections of this structure.

As events have played out over the centuries, and most especially today, the Jews wish to rebuild the temple – two thousand years later. For the Fathers of the Church, nevertheless, the construction of this building will be one of the signs of the advent of the Anti-Christ and the coming Day of Judgment, the end of time, the *Day of the Lord*.

In the Gospel, our Lord responds to the Apostles glorying in the Temple of Herod by foretelling its doom that "no stone should be left upon a stone." They are dumbfounded by His reply. When they ask about when this will all take place they link it to the return of the Son of Man. Our Lord thus speaks simultaneously of both His Return at the end of time and the impending destruction of Jerusalem. They are, in a sense, both the same. There are in fact three things involved here: 1.) the destruction of Jerusalem; 2.) the return of the Son of Man in judgment; and, 3.) the end of the world and the initiation of the "new heaven and new earth".<sup>1</sup> At first these three things may seem unrelated, at least not directly, but they do all possess one quality: they exist only for a purpose. In our Lord's reply these three realities are telescoped as it were.

The Temple in Jerusalem existed to receive the Messiah.<sup>2</sup> This was accomplished when our divine Lord was presented there forty days after His glorious birth. He of course returns there numerous times during His lifetime. The Church exists to receive all those predestined to eternal glory, the children of God who are to be gathered into the vision of the Hidden One,<sup>3</sup> that is, those who are called the "elect".<sup>4</sup> Lastly, all creation was

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1 II Peter 3; 13

2 Malachi 3; 1

3 St. John 11; 52

4 II Tim 2; 10

brought into existence for the sake of God's glory. It is an manifestation of His Goodness. So it is that when each of these three realities fulfills its *raison d'être* and serves it purpose it will no longer be of use and will be brought to an end.

Thus the telescoping of events:

- a.) the **temple** will now be destroyed because the Christ has arrived;
- b.) the divine Savior will return in glory and **justice** when the last of the elect has been born into the world; and,
- c.) all creation itself will be "rolled up"<sup>5</sup> and "dissolved by fire"<sup>6</sup> as an end is brought to its natural state and it enters into the eternal transformation of the New Heaven and New Earth: the descent of the perfect **Eternal Jerusalem**<sup>7</sup> from the Compassionate One.

What was initiated in goodness many, many centuries ago, presently being healed and restored in mercy, will be perfected and purified in justice bringing an end to this age.

So it is, that the liturgical season of the Holy Cross is dedicated to consideration of the end-times and the eschatological truths of creation, and our individual lives within that reality. We now have seven weeks to consider goodness, mercy, justice, time, the shortness of life, death, heaven, purgation and damnation, and how these things come to influence and transform each individual human life.

Whether we wish it or not, we are actors all in this true drama. May the Compassionate One strengthen us in all our endeavors toward His honor and glory.

***Catechism for the children begins on  
Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>***

**VOCATION ICON**

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

Sun	September 24	Larry & Lisa Grard
Sun	October 1	Greg & Marianne Gillespie
Sun	October 8	Pearley & Alice Lachance
Sun	October 15	Lowell & Mary Hawes

**By e-mail, please indicate your desire to take the vocation icon so that we can revise the schedule.**

**LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION**

**Regular Collection: \$1,235.00**

Please note that the monthly operating budget is \$8,000

***May God richly reward  
your wise generosity!***

**OCTOBER CLEAN-UP**

St. Francis Catholic Cemetery would like to give notice, to all burial right holders, that beginning October 1<sup>st</sup> the cemetery crew will start the annual fall cleanup for the winter season. Flowers (real and artificial), vases, baskets, etc. will be gathered and discarded.

Remove any items that you wish to keep before **October 1<sup>st</sup>**. Concrete urns may be left but should be emptied and turned over to avoid breakage.

**READERS' SCHEDULE**

**SECOND SUNDAY AFTER HOLY CROSS**

I Cor 15; 19-34	St. Matthew 24; 1-14
September 23	Leonore Boles

**THIRD SUNDAY AFTER HOLY CROSS**

Phil 3; 17- 4; 1	St. Matthew 24; 23-31
September 30	Lila Hallowell

**Be sure your cell  
phone is turned-off and  
silenced**

<sup>5</sup> Isaiah 34; 4

<sup>6</sup> II Peter 3; 10-12

<sup>7</sup> Apocalypse 21; 1-5

LITURGY INTENTIONS

- Sat 23 † Roy, Elaine & John Scott Joseph  
*(The Family)*
- Sun 24 † Mary Bellamah Maroon  
*(Paul & Stephen Maroon)*
- Mon 25 -----
- Tue 26 † Alfred Joseph  
*(Dan & Pam Cassavant)*
- Wed 27 † John Hachey  
*(Dan & Pam Cassavant)*
- Thu 28 † Lorraine Thibodeau  
*(Dan & Pam Cassavant)*
- Fri 29 † Carolyn Nale  
*(Carol Levine)*
- Sat 30 † Lester Giguere (one year anniversary)  
*(Ann Giguere)*
- Sun 1 † Reggie Michaud  
*(Knights of Columbus)*

Liturgical notes: † = Deceased, SI = Special Intention, AV = Anniversary, H = Health

**COFFEE SCHEDULE 2017-2018**

- Sept 24 Lenore Boles & Pam Casavant
- Oct 1 Sharon Crowe & Cindy Elias
- Oct 8 Larry Mitchell & Gareth

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- |                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 3 Herbert Joseph Sr.   | 18 Mary Nader        |
| 6 Audrey Yotides       | 18 Lila Hallowell    |
| 8 Paula Mitchell       | 18 Linda Joseph      |
| 9 Ruth Joseph          | 18 Cecile Nadeau     |
| 13 Kadee Ann Joseph    | 19 Joseph Nale       |
| 11 Robert Mitchell Jr. | 20 John Gallant      |
| 15 Brea Williams       | 24 Alonzo Michaud    |
| 15 Doris Poirier       | 24 Lorenzo Michaud   |
| 16 DJ Constable        | 25 Joseph Sturtevant |
| 16 Beth Hallowell      | 25 Alena Swihart     |
| 16 Michael Nale        | 27 Stephen Nale      |
|                        | 27 Lisa Gard         |

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 John & Rita Karter
- 7 Jeff & Maureen Lee
- 9 James & Lenore Boles

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

With the blessing of Chorbishop Michael G. Thomas, you are invited to walk in the footsteps of Our Savior on a Holy Land pilgrimage trip.

On this tour, you will embark on a spiritual journey with your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. Experience the lifetime blessings of a Holy Land pilgrimage!

This will be an exclusive, group, that will be in the Holy Land from April 27<sup>th</sup> - May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018. You will experience a comprehensive 10-day tour of the holy sites. Come and join us and make new friends. This inaugural tour is limited to 50 people. Hurry and reserve your spots today.

Departure will be from Miami Florida (transportation to Miami is not included)  
Date: April 27<sup>th</sup> - May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
Price: \$3,900 pre-paid all-inclusive  
Deposit: \$1,000 (payable to Heart of Jesus Church)  
Deposit must be paid by: December 10, 2017  
Contact: Ferial/ Youakim, (954) 328-2732 or [ferial@byferial.com](mailto:ferial@byferial.com)

*We pray for the sick:  
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, Albert Joseph, Sierra Lee, Darrell Mitchell, Doreen Nader, Tala Poulin, Virginia Poulin, Beverly Rideout, Gordon Webber, Melissa Karter, Maxine Morrisette, Paula Mitchell, Rebecca Bernard and Paul Mitchell

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday October 3, 6pm in the church hall

**CENTURY 21 - SURETTE REAL ESTATE**  
Pam Casavant - Partner/ Associate Broker  
Tel: 207-873-5634 Ext 219  
e-mail: [pcasavant@surette-realestate.com](mailto:pcasavant@surette-realestate.com)  
web: [www.surette-realestate.com](http://www.surette-realestate.com)

**LEBANESE CUISINE**  
34 Temple Street \* Waterville, ME 04901  
207-873-7813

**GALLANT FUNERAL HOME INC.**  
Dana R. McInnis, Owner  
John O. Gallant, Director  
10 Elm Street \* Waterville, ME 04901  
Tel 873-3393 \* Website: [gallantfh.com](http://gallantfh.com)

**GHM Insurance Agency**  
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51 Main Street - Downtown Waterville  
Tel: 207-873-5101 [www.ghmagency.com](http://www.ghmagency.com)

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[www.heritagejewelersfnc.com/religious-jewelry.html](http://www.heritagejewelersfnc.com/religious-jewelry.html)

**SII Investments, Inc.**  
29 Mt. Merici Ave. - Tel: 207-872-8689  
Lawrence D. Griffin, MBA

**Waterville Florist**  
Thank you for your weekly flower donations  
287 Upper Main Street  
Tel: 207-872-7422 also 888-616-4880

## Second Sunday of the Holy Cross p 606

Lighting of the Church: SB\* p 21 #135/LB p 5  
Jesus, Christ, O Source of Light

Entrance Hymn: LB p 606  
Lord, Your Cross was Taken from the Tree

Glory: SB p 1 #2  
Glory (English)

Qolo/Hymn: LB p 611  
Your Cross, O Lord

Creed p 748

Pre-Anaphora:  
Transfer of Gifts: LB p  
The Lord Reigns

Incense Hymn: SB p 3 #8  
*Ikbal* - This Pure Incense

Anaphora:  
Saint Mark: LB p 835

Sign of Peace:  
TBA

Communion: SB p 15 # 124  
Here I Am, Lord

Recessional: SB p 21 #136  
Joyful, Joyful, We Adore The

*\*LB=Liturgical Book SB=Song Book*

Second Prayer from *Safro* (the Morning Office)  
of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

O Christ Jesus our Lord,  
Thy Cross did appear resplendent in the sky  
and will appear again at the end of time,  
when Thou shalt return to judge the universe with justice.

May it appear over us today,  
and shine its light on our hearts and spirits.

In this way, we shall see Thy Glory  
and desire to encounter Thee  
carrying Thy Cross.

And thus we shall enter  
into the procession of Light  
in order to praise Thee, forever.

Amen

