

# Sixteenth Sunday of Pentecost

September 2, 2018



## Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church



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Pastor: Rev. Fr. James Doran  
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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

- 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:** Dame Marie Fefa Deeb, DSG **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 EPISTLE Ro 8: 18-27

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory to be revealed for us.  
For creation waits with eager expectation the revelation of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own accord but by the will of the one who subjected it – in hope that creation itself will be set free from its bondage

to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

We know that the whole of creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we await adoption, the redemption of our bodies.  
For in hope we were saved.

Now hope that sees for itself is not hope, for who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with endurance.

In the same way, the Spirit too helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And the One Who searches the heart knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the holy ones according to the will of God.



### ABOUNA'S REFLECTIONS

*Agapé is made still more specific by its stability and its duration.... It is the only reality of the earth which will remain as it is in the other world.<sup>1</sup>*

Divine Love grounds and establishes all things that exist both in their origin (the act of creation) and in their goal – the definitive Epiphany and revelation (the day of judgement). Charity penetrates all, and when responded to freely in our lives it purifies and elevates everything.

All earthly things perish and we are but dust and ashes: “thou art dust, and unto dust thou shalt return”. Death is a classic reflection that all generations of men have pondered – whether Christian or not. When the Hidden One definitively manifests Himself in the radiance of His Just and Merciful Love all creation will be engulfed in the transformation of “fire,” ending time as we know it.<sup>2</sup>

The theological virtue of charity is the guarantee of hope and the illumination that enlarges the vision of faith. Charity is the building force in human life that constructs solidly.<sup>3</sup> This supernatural love,

established by grace, is like a foundation or a deep root upon which the stability, the health and entire structure of the Catholic life is built.<sup>4</sup>

We make great efforts in life, but we work diligently and slave away for things that we will never fully possess. So what is it that we truly love? For what things or people do we sacrifice and strain, making great efforts to achieve our goals? It is these things that hold the prime place in our hearts; it is there that our treasure lies. The primacy of earthly objects will prove God to have been loved only in a subordinate way to creatures so that for many, sadly, their love will be found wanting. And on the day of our death it is only charity that will have value before the Just One.

We lay up our treasures in the beauty of our houses, our cars, our clothing and our “position” in the world, but it is all doomed to wither away. Affluence and power will be empty at the moment of death.

Even the theological virtues of faith and hope will dissipate after this earthly life. For the just, these virtues will be transformed into vision and joyous possession of the Divine One; but for the unfaithful, these unfruitful virtues will perish into the endless self-centeredness that is hell. They will evaporate in the obliteration of damnation. Charity, however, is imperishable.

Divine love is the only reality on earth that will continue into eternity. It is the only thing that we can fully possess both in this life and in the life to come. This charity is reflected in the longing of all creation (spoken of in today’s epistle) for the Day of Eternal Glory. Charity is a grace given by God, but one that we can develop, and is meant to develop, during the days we are given on earth.

Charity from God is rooted in the Divinity. Love returned for love is all that God asks from us. Nothing could be easier. For this reason it will be

<sup>1</sup> From Charity and Liberty by Rev. Fr. Ceslaus Spicq, OP

<sup>2</sup> II Peter 3: 10

<sup>3</sup> Ephesians 4: 16

<sup>4</sup> I Thess 3: 12-13

the basis of our judgement at the hour of death. Only supernatural charity is incorruptible.<sup>5</sup>

What do we love first and foremost, supremely, in our lives? *How* do we love? Is charity the inspiration for all that we do?

Being the spark of divinity in this world, it is charity alone that gives lasting value to the ephemeral realities of our passing existence. Only it can give transcendent value to human life.

**SCHEDULE OF READINGS**

**SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST**  
September 2, 2018

Ro 8: 18-27      St. Luke 18: 9-14

**SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST**  
September 9, 2018

Ro 13: 8-14      St. Luke 10: 25-37

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 There will be **no muffins** and coffee today  
 We will **resume** these social activities next week,  
**September 9<sup>th</sup>**



The parish celebration of Dame Fefa Deeb's investiture into the Order of Saint Gregory the Great will be on **Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup>** following the Divine Qurban at 10:00.

**VOCATION ICON**

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

Sat	Sept 1	Jim & Lenore Boles
Sun	Sept 9	Bruce & Doreen White
Sun	Sept 16	Larry and Paula Mitchell
Sun	Sept 23	Lowell & Mary Hawes
Sun	Sept 30	Larry & Lisa Grard
Sun	Oct 7	Chris & Diane Wyder

**INTENTIONS FOR THE QURBONEH (MASSES)**

Sat	1	†Charles Owen (the parish) -- For the members of the Parish
Sun	2	†Ferris Ferris / Lennon & Bennet (the Ferris Family)
Mon	3	-----
Tue	4	†Reginald J. Michaud (Kevin Michaud and Family)
Wed	5	Catholic Extension Society & Donors
Thu	6	Robert Welch -- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
Fri	7	Gregory & Mary Jamerson (Antoinette Jamerson) -- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
Sat	8	†Charles Owen (the parish)
Sun	9	†Fortieth Day of Paul LaVerdiere -- For the members of the Parish
Mon	10	-----
Tue	11	†Jean Hamil (Jeanne & John Thomas) -- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
Wed	12	Catholic Extension Society & Donors
Thu	13	Jacob Eberlein & Family -- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
Fri	14	†John Mitchell (Peter Maroon, Sr) -- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
Sat	15	†Charles Owen (the parish)
Sun	16	For the members of the Parish
Mon	17	-----

<sup>5</sup> Wisdom 13: 1

## Days of Parish Reflection and Prayer

Our Maronite Sisters, Servants of Christ the Light, will be with us for the weekend of **September 28-30** to present considerations on our *Syriac musical patrimony*.

*A more precise schedule for those days will be published in the next weeks.*

### SEPTEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE FOOD BANK

Family sized items: stews, ravioli, jiffy mixes, condiments, toilet paper and personal care items.

*Please place these items in the box near the church's Appleton Street entrance*

### LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

**Regular Collection:** \$1189.00

Upcoming Second Collection September 9<sup>th</sup>:

**Catholic University of America**

*(This collection provides funding for academic scholarships at CUA. Our own seminarians are given a 50% discount in tuition.)*

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

*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, Louise Saliem, Virginia Poulin, Beverly Rideout, and Marie Lessard.

## Sixteenth Sunday of Pentecost "A"

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

**Entrance Hymn:** LB *imsheeHo* 178A

**Glory:** SB *glory*

**Qolo/Hymn:** LB *had-zad* 179A

**Creed** p 748

**PRE-ANAPHORA:**

**Transfer of Gifts:** LB *The Lord Reigns*  
**Incense Hymn:** SB p 3 #8 *ikbal*

**ANAPHORA:**

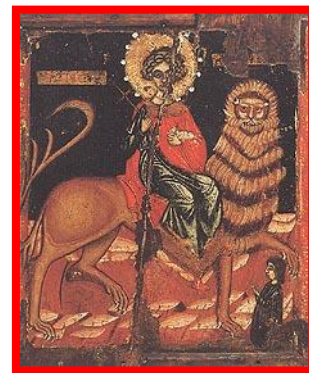
**The Twelve Apostles:** LB p 754

**Sign of Peace:** SB *America the Beautiful*

**Communion:** SB *O Holy Mary, Salatouki* (English)

**Recessional:** SB *God bless America*

\*LB=Liturgical Book SB=Song Book



*Saint Mammias the Great, Martyr  
September 2*