

Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church



Sixth Sunday after Holy Cross

October 20, 2019

Welcome all visitors to the beautiful heritage of Antioch

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Waterville, ME
04901
Office Phone:
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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 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-1st; Shana Page, 3-5th **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 Gospel¹ St. Matthew 25: 14-30

For it is just like a man who went away on a journey, and he called his servants and delivered his property to them. To one he gave he gave five talents, to another two, and to another, one. Then he went on the journey at once. The one who had received five talents went and *traded with them*, gaining five more. Similarly, the one with two talents put them to work, gaining two more.

But the one who had received one talent went and dug a hole in the ground, hiding his *lord's* money.

After a long while, the servants' lord came and settled accounts with them.

The one who had received five talents came to him, bringing five more. He said, "My lord, you gave me five talents, yet I *traded with them for five more*." His lord said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful

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

ABOUNA'S REFLECTIONS

with a little; I will set you over much. Enter your lord's joy!"

The one who had two talents came to him, saying, "My lord, you gave me two talents, yet I traded with them for two more." His master told him, "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a little; I will set you over much. Enter your lord's joy!"

But the one who had received one talent also came to him, saying, "My lord, I knew you - that you are a hard man, that you reap where you have not sown and gather where you have not scattered seed. I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Yet here you have what is yours."

His lord said to him in reply, "Evil and lazy servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? You should have *cast my money on the table*, and I would have come and demanded what is mine, along with its interest.

Therefore, take the talent from him and give it to the one who has ten talents.

For to the one who has, it shall be given, and they shall have more.

But the one who does not have, even that which they do have shall be taken away from them.

And cast the idle servant into outer darkness, where there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."



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)²

Close on thirty years ago, when I was first ordained, I was asked to act on a "private adoption" as the intermediary between the adopting family and the young woman who was giving up her child to a good home. In the state where I worked this type of adoption was legal and the process was flawless; it gave the parents concerned the choice to give up their child (for necessary reasons) to a Catholic family where the child would find a solid home. This was "closed" to the adopting parents, meaning that they did not know the birth-parents of the child, but the biological parents did know to whom the child was to be reared. It all worked beautifully, and was simply relayed through a lawyer. It did not require the constant home visits and expensive red-tape that now so often afflicts good people who are just looking to open their homes to children in need. That child is grown now and has received an excellent Catholic upbringing, to which Faith he remains firmly attached. It was a "win-win" situation where the biological mother also went on, greatly matured by the experience, to later establish her own family where love and the Catholic Faith were cherished.

This week, I put before you this apostolic episode as I think it a good example of how a healthy social network can succeed. Compounding bureaucracy and the red-tape of state regulations does not necessarily help the children - indeed, often the opposite is true as children get "lost" in the "system". Surely, we can do better than this. It is surprising how much people believe that "the system" can "save" them from all difficulties. In final analysis, we ourselves create "the system" and the government, especially in modern democracies, and bureaucracies are reflective of the population. Government is not a "them", it is an "us". The dysfunction of Washington is a clear indicator of the deep unhealthiness of the nation.

In the Church's thinking there is a principle of **subsidiarity**, which means that each level of society should supply its own needs - and be left to its own to do so - insofar as each is able. This means that we are to have a communal vision in which mutual help is present to aid weaker members to stand on their own feet. Subsidiarity is not about "handouts", but

² Homily 1.7.8 "on Ezechiel"

assistance to strengthen all in their responsibilities. An example of this would be apprenticeships, where young people are helped to establish themselves for future sufficiency and security. Centralizing control and government bureaucracy for all social questions is totally foreign to the Catholic mind as laid out by the catechism and the teachings of the popes, especially as laid out during the last two centuries of revolution.

Some people may find this ironic, but this is precisely why so many Catholic immigrants of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries were affiliated with the Democratic Party; I say "ironic" as it is almost impossible to see today - without reference to history -- that the Democratic Party was once the political party of small and decentralized control of government. For this reason, historically, the Democratic Party was for generations the party of "the South". How far we have come! These days the party of the "Republic" (with Abraham Lincoln as a founding member) which sought centralized government to the point of a war against secession in the 1860s, is now considered the "anti-big-government" party, while the decentralizing party of the past century now looks to Washington to solve all social ills. We live in a kooky world.

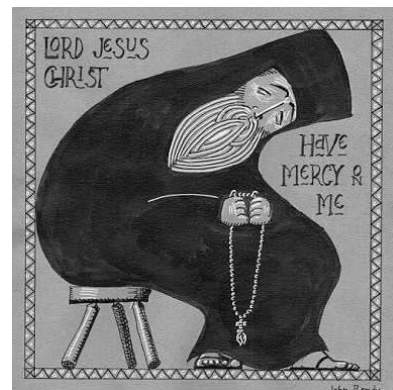
As Catholics, we should know that the Church has a Christian vision for the world and that *there are principles* by which we are to envision the Gospel as it is to be lived in the world. It is a doctrine, and there are principles of thought, which are grounded in the writings of the Sacred Scriptures and the ancient Fathers of the Church, whose teachings have matured through centuries of reflection and application. This is a much more august body of thought than the slogans spewed out nightly by CNN and FOX.

Communal networks and social support require obtainable shelter (housing). For those children left isolated without parents, a proper system that allows for compassionate care, whether through orphanages or through secure adoption, should be in place. Closing down most all the orphanages and the mental hospitals in the mid-twentieth century does not seem to have resolved any issues, on the contrary, those actions seems to have simply cast these unfortunates onto the streets and into the four winds. Children now bounce from foster-home to foster-home and those with psychological illnesses

have been turned out into the streets. What percentage of the homeless would be better served in what had once been called "asylums"? Properly run, those types of institutions provided secure communal assistance to the less fortunate. While those homes and hospitals may have needed reform, we threw out the baby with the bathwater as we closed them all down, and cast onto the streets those weaker members of society. And, clearly, to force emergency workers, and even librarians, to act as social workers and care-givers to the mentally ill (now often housed in prisons, when once they would have been patients under care) seems socially irresponsible at best and barbaric as a public policy. And the contemporary crisis of family should also raise concern. Abortion is used far too often as a manner of resolving difficulties resulting from poverty, irresponsibility, immaturity, or housing issues, but the killing children before birth is certainly not a solution.

As Catholics we should be concerned, and work where possible, to see that housing and medical aid is obtainable by as many as possible within our communities. Lack of housing can often be one of the reasons why families are unable to care for the children that God sends them. In charity, we should have concern to alleviate this stress, and where possible have care for the children when they become homeless through ineptitude, perhaps, on the part of the birth-parents. Some of the finest members of this parish once came into our world as adopted members.

Nevertheless, we do all this insofar as we are able, knowing that it will never be possible to heal all poverty; and yet, we should know at the end of our lives that we had done all we could to ameliorate the world that was ours during the brief years that the Good Lord gave to us to follow in His footsteps on the royal way of the Gospel.



SCHEDULE OF READINGS

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

October 20, 2019

Gal 6: 1-10 St. Matthew 25: 14-30

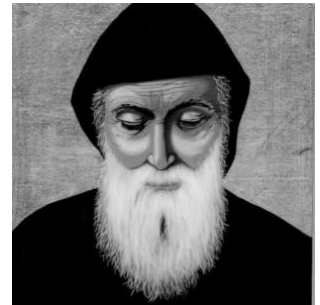
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This year, October 13 was designated as *Order of Saint Sharbel Sunday* in our Eparchy, and all Maronite parishes will be promoting the Order.

The Order of Saint Sharbel is vitally important in providing financial and spiritual support for our seminarians, who are crucial for the future of our Maronite Church.



Please prayerfully consider joining the Order. You may enroll online at www.orderstsharbel.org, or ask for more information.

VOCATION ICON

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

Sun	Oct	20	Larry & Lisa Grard
Sat	Oct	26	Jim & Lenore Boles
Sun	Nov	3	Chris & Diane Wyder
Sun	Nov	10	Bruce & Doreen White
Sun	Nov	17	Steve and Allison Crate
Sun	Nov	23	Sue Paré and Lolo Salazar
Sun	Nov	30	Lowell Hawes

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

LAST WEEK’S COLLECTION

Regular Collection: \$----.00

Today’s second collection: World Mission Sunday

As established by the USCCB, 91% of this collection goes to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, and 9% to the **Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA)**

Thanks be to the Good One Who allows to continue this apostolate unto His glory and our salvation!

INTENTIONS FOR THE QOURBONEH (MASSES)

Sat	19	†Charles Owen (the Parish) -- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
Sun	20	†Mary Hawes, Fortieth Day (Lowell Hawes)
Mon	21	-----
Tue	22	†Peter & Emma Peters (Ghaphery Family)

Wed 23 Catholic Extension Society & Donors

Thu 24 †Carmen Welch
(Robert Welch)

Fri 25 Private Intention
(Abouna James)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors

Sat 26 †Charles Owen
(the Parish)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors

Sun 27 For the members of the Parish

Mon 28 -----

Tue 29 †Elias & Gabrielle George
(Ghaphery Family)

Wed 30 Catholic Extension Society & Donors

Thu 31 †Janet George
(Nicholas Ghaphery)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors

Fri 1 9:00 For the members of the Parish
6:00 †Paul Laverdiere
(Audrey Yotides)

Sat 2 †Charles Owen
(the Parish)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors

Sun 3 For the members of the Parish

Mon 4 -----


Tue 5 †Fred & Rita John
(Ghaphery Family)

Wed 6 Catholic Extension Society & Donors

Thu 7 †Nicholas & Nimnoon Ghaphery
(Nicholas Ghaphery)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors

Fri 8 Private Intention
(Abouna James)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors

Memory Eternal



In memory of Janet George, the Altar Breads for October have been contributed by Dame Fefa.

*May the All Holy One shine
His light and grace upon her,
and may He bring her into the fullness
of the Kingdom.*

Autumn Harvest Raffle

\$10,000 GRAND PRIZE!!!!

One in 400 chance
maximum – odds may even be better!!
to win \$10,000.00!!!!!!

**RAFFLE TICKETS
AND TICKETS TO THE HAFLI
ARE NOW ON SALE
AFTER EACH MASS EVERY WEEKEND!**

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

Let's show true devotion to our Lebanese heritage and game heartily! Buy a raffle ticket today.
What would djidoo say?



Sixth Sunday after Holy Cross

p 606

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

Entrance Hymn: LB *fsheeto* 233

Glory: SB *glory*

Qolo/Hymn: LB *etow* 234

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 *Gift of Peace*

Communion: SB *Here I am Lord; The Lamb*

Recessional: SB *Joyful, joyful*

*LB=Liturgical Book SB=Song Book



Saint Demetrios, Martyr
October 26th