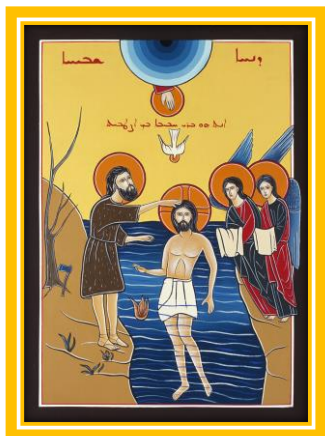


Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church



The GLORIOUS Epiphany of OUR LORD



January 6, 2019

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
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

- 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

Catechists: Lenore Boles, *Director & K-1st*; Shana Page, 3-5th **Choir Director:** Dame Fefa Marie Deeb, DSG **Parish Council President:** Lisa Grand **Ex-officio Council Members:** Subdeacon Steve Crate; Lenore Boles, *Religious Education*; Larry Mitchell, *Knights of Columbus*; Shana Page, *Rosary Sodality*

TODAY'S EPISTLE Titus 2: 11 - 3: 7

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly desires, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and devoutly; while we await the blessed hope and the appearance of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

He it is Who gave Himself for us that He might redeem us from all iniquity and cleanse for Himself a people of His own, eager to do what is good.
Declare these things. Exhort and correct with all authority. Let no one look down on you. Remind them to be subject to magistrates and authorities, to be obedient, to be open to every good enterprise.

They are to slander no one, to peaceable, considerate, exercising all graciousness toward everyone.

For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, deluded, slaves to various desires and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hateful ourselves and hating one another.

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to His mercy, He saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

This Spirit He richly poured out upon us through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.



ABOUNA'S REFLECTIONS

Israel was born of a liberation. ... They defined salvation as the deliverance from a yoke, the redemption from oppression, a freedom.¹

Joy is a new year of grace! The original meaning of the word "salvation" in the Scriptures is "deliverance". Salvation breaks bonds, shatters weights that bear down on shoulders and agitate hearts with anxiety.

While deliverance was historically set in cultural or political context for the Israel of old, its true meaning only came to full light with the arrival of the Messiah. Fifteen centuries were spent under the Mosaic Law in order to instruct and form a people in ethical and moral behavior that they might receive the Christ. At first this understanding was almost purely external, and only gradually did the prophets

appear on the scene, able to develop a better and more interior understanding of "right and wrong". With the coming of the Messiah the Law was brought to perfection, that is, it was completed in understanding and achievement through the good tidings of the Messianic Kingdom of grace.

Our Lord adopted the prophecies of Isaiah in order to emphasize His mission: "The Lord has anointed me ... to announce to the captives deliverance and to the prisoners freedom."² The "Kingdom" which is spoken of by our fathers and in the prayers of our Liturgical tradition is the divine presence in human lives. The Kingdom orients us toward the eternal Light, by clarifying the mind and strengthening the will, inclining them to the divine model as originally intended in Paradise.

Not everyone is politically or economically oppressed, but every one of us falls short of the beauty, nobility, grace and purpose for which we were created. This shortcoming is called "sin", the old Saxon word for "mistake". Big mistakes bring great damage and fundamental mistakes bring permanent ruin. Grace heals and repairs.

The world makes much of "new year's resolutions", but they are useless without a goal and reason for making them. It is often this absence that causes them to be empty of any meaning and they drop away almost as soon as they have been made. On the contrary, Catholics are to be illuminated by the Kingdom, and in that grace to "see" more clearly – why we are here and for what purpose we exist.

Underlying the Scriptures' admonitions to moral reform is the constant appeal to the divine appearance in Our Lord and the epiphany of grace that is always present those who see. When these things are perceived, our resolutions are easy to make: *which deficient or insufficient moral choices shackle me most often or most easily?* Knowing this honestly, we arrive at the necessary self-knowledge to progress along the path of the Gospel.

By establishing the exclusive sovereignty of God in each soul, our Lord frees it from sin and from the tyranny of Satan; indeed, to the degree that the Kingdom comes to strengthen us in our weakness³

¹ From **Charity and Liberty** by Rev. Fr. Ceslaus Spicq, OP

² Isaiah 61: 1 / St. Luke 4: 18

³ "By Your grace, make us worthy, that Your glorious Name be made holy in us, that Your Kingdom come to assist us in our

we are made the *freed* children of God, *delivered* by the most pernicious nets binding us.

This is the joy of starting anew. It is knowing that change is possible because the strength does not lie within us, but from the Divine Light that wishes to free us from the darkest fetters that restrict us and hem us in. This implies the *gift* of spiritual and interior freedom, of course, but it also means that our human freedom must freely engage with that divine strength. This is *conversion*, a turning toward the Lord; not only kneeling for a moment before the Crib of Bethlehem, but turning in a persevering manner to His outstretched Hand.

Conversion in the Gospel makes the sinner (that “mistaken” aspect in each one of us) into a free being. It moves us from being a slave to sin⁴ and turns us into a beloved child of the One True God, Creator, Sustainer and Deliverer.

Joy is a new year of grace – ever new and ever renewing!

LAST WEEK’S COLLECTIONS

Regular Collection: \$1579.00

Upcoming Second Collection, January 27th: *United States Catholic Bishops’ Worldwide Charities*

(This collection combines the four USCCB collections: Central and Eastern Europe, Latin America, Catholic Relief Services and Operation Rice Bowl.)

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

VOCATION ICON

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

Sun	Jan	6	Lowell & Mary Hawes
Sun	Jan	13	Larry & Lisa Grard
Sat	Jan	19	Jim & Lenore Boles
Sun	Jan	27	Bruce & Doreen White
Sun	Feb	3	Larry and Paula Mitchell

SCHEDULE OF READINGS

FEAST OF THE GLORIOUS EPIPHANY
January 6, 2019

Titus 2: 11-3: 7 St. Luke 3: 15-22

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
January 13, 2019

II Cor 10: 1-11 St. John 1: 29-34

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
January 20, 2019

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

INTENTIONS FOR THE QURBONEH (MASSES)

Sat	5	†Charles Owen <i>(the Parish)</i> -- For the members of the Parish
Sun	6	Sr. Teresa Joseph Cerny, OP
Mon	7	-----
Tue	8	Catholic Extension Society <i>(the Donors)</i>
Wed	9	Catholic Extension Society & Donors <i>(the Donors)</i>
Thu	10	†John Mitchell <i>(Neal & Martha Patterson)</i> -- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
Fri	11	†Paul LaVerdiere <i>(Neal & Martha Patterson)</i> -- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
Sat	12	†Malcolm Spencer <i>(Badiha Spencer)</i>
Sun	13	For the members of the Parish
Mon	14	-----
Tue	15	Catholic Extension Society <i>(the Donors)</i>
Wed	16	Catholic Extension Society & Donors <i>(the Donors)</i>

weakness, and that Your Will dwell within us” *Embolism* from the Anaphora of Saint John Chrysostom, p 890

⁴ St. John 8: 34 “Jesus answered them: Amen, amen I say unto you: that whosoever committeth sin, is the slave of sin.”

- Thu 17 †Paul Mitchell
(Neal & Martha Patterson)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Fri 18 †Sumayah Ferris
(Neal & Martha Patterson)
-- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
- Sat 19 †Charles Owen
(the Parish)
- Sun 20 For the members of the Parish
- Mon 21 -----
- Tue 22 Bob & Nancy Sturtevant
(Karla Sturtevant)
- Wed 23 Catholic Extension Society & Donors
(the Donors)

The **January Parish Council** Meeting
will be 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, **January 8th**.

*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 April Mitchell.

Coffee Schedule

- Jan 6 April Mitchell, Mary-Jo Hodgkin
Jan 13 Elaine Hoag, Cindy Elias
Jan 20 Jan Bourque, Shana Page
Jan 27 Dale Sturtevant & Elizabeth Wilson
Feb 2 Lauraine Mansur & Ruth Lunn
Feb 10 Mary Jo Hodgkin & Jody Veilleux
Feb 17 Pam Casavant & Shana Page
Feb 24 Betty Michaud, Jane Lee

The Glorious Epiphany of Our Lord

p 107

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

Entrance Hymn: LB *msheeho* 81A

Glory: SB *al majdu*

Qolo/Hymn: LB *bo'outho* #82

Creed p 748

PRE-ANAPHORA:

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

Incense Hymn Offertory: SB *l'maryam yoldat*

ANAPHORA:

Saint John Chrysostom: LB p 876

Sign of Peace: SB *Peace like a river*

Communion: SB *Your Body is our Food; Angel Carol*

Recessional: SB *Joy to the World*

*LB=Liturgical Book SB=Song Book



Many, many thanks for your generosity in these last weeks in Christmas gifts to the pastor, in generous donations to the parish and pledge fulfilments coming in for the endowment. You show yourselves ever generous.

May the Bright One lavish His choicest graces upon you all and fill you with the riches of His grace and love throughout a blessed and light-filled new year, 2019!