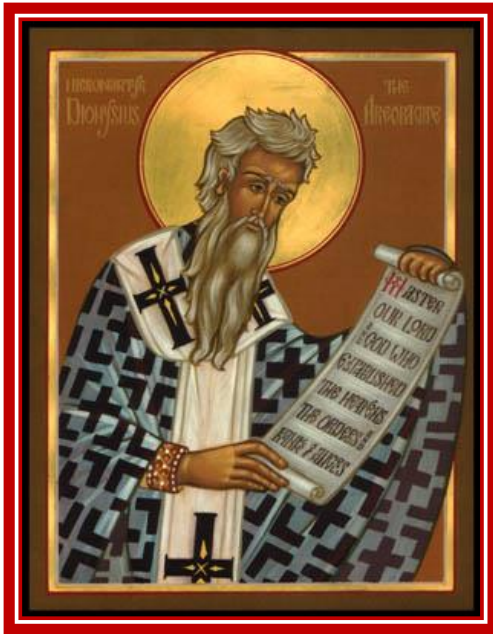


# Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church



## Third Sunday of Holy Cross

October 3, 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](mailto:stjoesinmaine@yahoo.com)

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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

- Qourboneh:** Sunday: (Vigil, Sat. 5:00pm) Sunday Morning 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 the Sunday 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 stipend: \$15  
**Monthly Memorials:** Sanctuary Candles \$35; Altar Bread \$30; Sacramental Wine \$55  
**Catechism:** , *Director* **Choir Director:** Dame Marie Fefa Deeb, DSG **Parish Council President:** Ex-officio Council  
**Members:** , *Religious Education*; Larry Mitchell, *Knights of Columbus*; Ruth Lunn, *Rosary Sodality*

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### **THIS DAY'S GOSPEL<sup>1</sup>** **St. Matthew 24: 23-31**

Then, if any one shall say to you, Lo, the Messiah is here, or, He is there; give no credence.  
For there will arise false Messiahs, and mendacious prophets, who will exhibit great signs, so as to deceive, if possible, even the elect.

Behold, I have told you beforehand.  
If therefore they say to you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not out: or, Behold, he is in a secret chamber; give no credence.  
As the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth unto the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.  
And wherever the carcass may be, there will the eagles be congregated.

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<sup>1</sup> Based on The New Testament, translated from the Syriac Peshitto Version, Gorgias Press, New Jersey, 2001, translated by James Murdock, STD, 1893

And immediately after the distress of those days, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not show her light, and the stars will fall from heaven, and the *armies* of heaven will be agitated.

And then will be seen the sign of the Son of Man in heaven: and then will all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.



*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)<sup>2</sup>

## **ABOUNA'S REFLECTIONS**

Today's the day!

This is the last week that these considerations will be published, as we now begin – liturgically – to reflect the morning of the resurrection audibly in the Divine Mysteries, being mindful that the glorious Lord is ever present among us, past, present, and future, within the Mysteries that enfold and manifest the Hidden Good One.

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The prayerful sounds of our fathers reverberate throughout the Divine Mysteries. The spoken Aramaic and Hebrew of our Lord's day are especially the gift of the Syriac tradition. Throughout the centuries, from generation to

generation, "amen", "hosanna", "shabuoth", "halleluia", "maranatha", and many others have echoed in the House of God. While perhaps not strictly necessary, these words, in themselves, link us audibly to the age of the Apostles as living reminders of our traditions and our heritage. Each of us adds his voice as a unique link in a living chain called "church" that extends from the Resurrection to the Day of Yahweh, at which time will end.

*Thanksgiving* and *gratitude* are the experiences of Paradise. They are the reason for our assembly in the Body of Christ as One People, a royal nation, and that we do so at least each Sunday: the Day of the Resurrection of the conquering Messiah, the Lion of Judah. In the Sacrament of the Eucharist the Church realizes herself as the beginning of the new Paradise as heaven on earth.

When we stand in the Divine Assembly, among all the angels and saints that surround the divine and forgiving altar of the Lord, we are made to ascend to the Throne of our Lord as He now is in glory at the Right Hand of the Hidden Father. Lifted from out of our earthly anxieties and worldly concerns, the Sacraments are moments of transformation into a "return to Paradise".

*Each time (the Eucharist is offered by the Church) it is a manifestation of man to himself, a manifestation of his essence, his place, and calling in the light of the divine countenance, and therefore an act that renews and recreates man.*<sup>3</sup>

**Mankind was created in the Garden, and the Garden is our destiny.** The Christian life is truly a progress to be made in the healing grace of Christ, and a return to the Garden of our Origin. The transformative holiness of the Divine Mysteries – the Alohoyeh Rozeh – unfold to us life in God, bid the cherubim to remove themselves from the Tree of Life, and open to us the unending life to be found in Hidden Divinity. It is true then to say that Paradise is our beginning and our end, and the Church is the path leading to this reality; the path that is the **Kingdom** of God.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Homily 1.7.8 "on Ezechiel"

<sup>3</sup> Fr. Alexander Schmemmann, *The Eucharist*, St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, Crestwood, NY, 1987, p. 185

<sup>4</sup> St. Luke 22: 29-30

Our Lord established the Kingdom in power through His Resurrection, and from that moment the path to Paradise has been opened. While we cannot be present at that *historic* moment (when the Lord of Life stood before His terrified apostles in greeting) we do continually hear that greeting within the Divine Liturgy of the Church: “*Peace be to you!*”. In those words, the morning of the Resurrection continually echoes among us.

*He fills the heirs to His Paradise with joy  
and consoles His Flock  
by His appearance among them.*<sup>5</sup>

It is especially during Holy Mass that these words ring out, and they do so at the key moments in the Divine Sacrifice:

- 1.) at the beginning in the form of “*Peace be to the Church and her children!*” to which we respond with the hymn of the angels or a psalm of joy or repentance depending upon the season of the year;
- 2.) before the Sacred Words of Christ are voiced in the **Gospel**, “Peace be to you!” resounds; and after the Gospel has been proclaimed, we are blessed by the Divine Scriptures themselves, as we sing out our *korozouto*;
- 3.) we receive this divine greeting in solemn form at the **Sign of Peace**, in the form of Trinitarian doxology at the beginning of the Anaphora;
- 4.) having recited the divine prayer that our Lord Himself taught to His disciples, and following its **liturgical Embolism**, this greeting of resurrection, “*Peace be to you!*”, initiates the moment of Holy Communion as we prepare to receive the Life-giving Mysteries of the Good One;
- 5.) and, finally, at the end of the Divine Liturgy, just **before the final prayer of Thanksgiving** that prepares us to leave the Divine Environs of the Sacred Assembly – “Peace be to you!” – in which we are strengthened to return to our place and days in the valley of tears and the shadow of death, but now embracing the *apostolic mandate to take the Gospel of light throughout* the fallen and wounded world,

on a path that leads to a “new heaven and a new earth”.<sup>6</sup>

Clearly we cannot return to a historic moment, but *the Holy Sacraments envelope the past, present, and future in the Divine Economy* as they unfold to us the Plan of Salvation. So, while we cannot be present on the morning of the Resurrection in the Garden with Mary Magdalen, we can hear the words that echo our Lord’s own greeting in that moment of the New Creation:

! مَلْعَمًا حَتَّجْجَهْ : Priest

***Shlomoh l’koulkhoun!***

*(literally: Peace [be] to all you!)*

! هَحْمَرُ وَهَسَا وَكُورُ : People

***W’am rouHoh deelokh!***

*(literally: and with spirit your!)*

To appreciate that Incarnate Voice of the Risen Word once again – the greeting of consolation to the disciples on the morning of the Resurrection – we will restore this liturgical greeting to its original liturgical language of the Syriac Church.

When we have the simple greeting, “Peace be to you”, 1.) before the Gospel, 2.) following the Lord’s Prayer, and 3.) at the end of the Liturgy, we will **use the liturgical Syriac**.

*Let heaven rejoice and earth be glad  
in Thy Spouse, the Church;  
May her children praise Thee  
on the Day of Thy Resurrection.*<sup>7</sup>

Have courage, it may be a bit bumpy at first, but with a small amount of effort we will be echoing our mothers and fathers in the Faith – giving voice to the very words of the Eternal Word Incarnate – doing again what they once did as they sang on the path of grace during their journey to Paradise.

<sup>5</sup> *Proemion*, Sunday Safro

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

<sup>7</sup> *Mazmouro*, Sunday Safro

## SCHEDULE OF READINGS

### THE THIRD SUNDAY OF THE HOLY CROSS

October 3, 2021

Phil 3: 17-4: 1      St. Matthew 24: 23-31

### THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE HOLY CROSS

October 10, 2021

I Thess 5: 1-11      St. Matthew 24: 45-51

## VOCATION ICON

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

Sun	Oct	3	Chris & Diane Wyder
Sun	Oct	10	Michael & Gayle Misner
Sun	Oct	17	Steve & Allison Crate
Sun	Oct	24	Sue Paré & Lolo Salazar
Sun	Oct	31	Daja Gombojav & Family
Sun	Nov	7	Larry & Lisa Grard
Sat	Nov	13	Jim & Lenore Boles

The **wine** set forth to become the Living Blood of our Savior in the Divine Mysteries has been offered by the choir *for the month of October*

*in memory of Rosanna Joseph*

*May her memory be eternal  
and may she receive  
light and joy  
in the fullness of the Kingdom!*



## LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

(Budgeted: \$3,100.00)

**Regular Collection Last Week: \$1,654.00**

(Budget Deficit 2021: \$31,024.00)<sup>8</sup>

The next special collection will be  
on **October 24<sup>th</sup>**: World Mission Sunday

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

The **hafli** brought us not only joy and celebration  
it also brought in **\$2,661.00**

We recently have had to replace the **toilet** in the  
parish offices. Any good soul wishing to help  
with this project -- **\$250.00** came in this week! -  
remaining expense: **\$350.00**.

An additional **\$00.00** has come in this week  
toward the needed collection of **\$39,000.00**.<sup>9</sup>

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

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

## INTENTIONS FOR THE QOURBONEH (MASSES)

Sun	3	9:00am For the Members of the Parish
		11:00am †Joseph & Mary Smus (Paula, David, & Patricia Smus)
Mon	4	-----
Tue	5	†Victor Mathieu (Pam & Dan Casavant)
Wed	6	Robert Riccomini (Rebecca Allen)
Thu	7	†John Joseph (Pam & Dan Casavant)
Fri	8	†Ginnaz for Paul Ferris (Ferris Family)

<sup>8</sup> Deficit 2019: \$72,270.59/Deficit 2020: \$34,473.00

<sup>9</sup> This makes the amount toward our matching Challenge Grant (20k), to be presently **\$14,235.00**. This collection is being

made to cover the needed **building maintenance projects**, estimated at \$60,000.00.



Sat 9 10:00am †Abbot William Driscoll  
**Sunday Vigil 5:00pm Private Intention**

Sun 10 9:00am For the Members of the Parish  
 11:00am †Richard Elias  
*(Cindy Elias)*

Mon 11 -----

Tue 12 Fr. Doran  
*(Catherine & Ira Mandel)*

Wed 13 †Mr. & Mrs. Robert Doran  
*(Pam & Dan Casavant)*

Thu 14 †Antoinette & Fernand Mathieu  
*(Pam & Dan Casavant)*

Fri 15 †John Marietta & Paul Thomas  
*(Pam & Dan Casavant)*

Sat 16 Sarah Grace Misner-Elias  
*(Misner Family)*  
**Sunday Vigil 5:00pm Private Intention**

Sun 17 9:00am †Kathleen Hawes  
*(Lowell Hawes)*  
 11:00am For the Members of the Parish

Mon 18 -----

Tue 19 †Joan Gottardi  
*(Donna-Jo Mitchell)*

Wed 20 †Mr. & Mrs. Robert Doran  
*(Pam & Dan Casavant)*

Thu 21 †Antoinette & Fernand Mathieu  
*(Pam & Dan Casavant)*

Fri 22 Fr. Scott Allen  
*(Rebecca Allen)*

## The Life-giving Cross

Please, take notice of our present protocols:

- 1.) All Catholics, of whichever Ritual Church, are more than welcome at Saint Joseph. We are one Family of God and one Body of Christ.
- 2.) Those who are sick, or carry symptoms of sickness, must remain at home.
- 3.) Wearing a face-mask is optional, but is **recommended** for all those indoors.

- 4.) As discussed in parish council meetings prior to the pandemic, in order to bring greater security and peace of mind, the **doors** will be **locked** at the beginning of each Liturgy.
- 5.) Hand sanitizers remain available at the entrances and at the confessional.
- 6.) The ancient and serious obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and holydays has now been restored for all the Catholics of Maine.
- 7.) And, lastly, at the end of Mass, those who wish to **remain and pray** in the church are welcome to do so, but out of **respect** for the House of God and **charity** to one's neighbor **all are asked *not to linger, socialize, or visit within the church.*** If one wishes to visit, please do so outside or in the parish hall.

This year, **October 10** is designated as **Order of Saint Sharbel Sunday** in our Eparchy. All Maronite parishes will be promoting the Order. The Order of Saint Sharbel is vitaly important in providing financial and spiritual support for our seminarians, who are crucial for the future of our Maronite Church.

This year we have six men studying in Washington and two in Lebanon for our Eparchy.

Please prayerfully consider joining the Order. You may enroll online at [www.orderstsharbel.org](http://www.orderstsharbel.org) or find forms for application at the entrances of the church.

*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:** Evan Domonkos, Sarah Grace Misner-Elias, Catherine Mandel, Cindy Elias, David Bourque, Barbara Joseph, Sally Derosby, Tala Poulin, Richard Karter, Lolo Salazar, Charlotte Iserbyte, Rita Hikel, and all those who may suffer from illness, disease, want, or depression.

**Abouna's other Sermons are now available  
on the parish website**

In addition to the normal website presence of the 9:00am Sunday Liturgies, it is a pleasure to announce that all of Father Doran's sermons – from the weekdays, the Saturdays, and the 11:00am Sunday *Alohoyoh Qourbonoh* – are now being posted the parish website: <https://sjmaronite.org>.

**Volunteers** on some of the days are occasionally needed to help run the recording device.

Please contact **Ira Mandel** at [imandel@aol.com](mailto:imandel@aol.com) or at **207-701-1575** for details.

***SERVERS OF THE DIVINE ALTAR***

**October 3<sup>rd</sup>:**

9:00am: M. Carter/ N. Carter  
11:00am: I. Misner-Elias/ S. Nappi

**October 10<sup>th</sup>:**

9:00am: A. Michaud/ M. Carter  
11:00am: L. Michaud/S. Nappi

**October 17<sup>th</sup>:**

9:00am: M. Carter/ N. Carter  
11:00am: S. Nappi/I. Misner-Elias

**October 24<sup>th</sup>:**

9:00am: A. Michaud/N. Carter  
11:00am: L. Michaud/I. Misner-Elias

**October 31<sup>st</sup>:**

9:00am: M. Carter/ N. Carter  
11:00am: L. Michaud/ S. Nappi

**November 7<sup>th</sup>:**

9:00am: A. Michaud/ M. Carter  
11:00am: I. Misner-Elias/L. Michaud

**Third Sunday of  
the 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 *toubaik 'eedto* 234

**Creed** p 748

**PRE-ANAPHORA:**

**Transfer of Gifts:** LB *The Lord Reigns*  
(*Holy Cross*)

**Incense Hymn Offertory:** SB *l'maryam yoldat*

**ANAPHORA:**

**Saint John Chrysostom:** p 876

**Sign of Peace:** SB *tou ba*

**Communion:** SB *Your Body is our Food; For the Beauty*

**Recessional:** SB *Ha salah*

*Each October, the Eparchy holds a **Benefit Dinner** to raise funds for **educating our seminarians, expanding ministries, and supporting parishes and missions in need** within the Eparchy.*

*In addition, **10% of the proceeds** will be given in **assistance to Lebanon and the Middle East.***

*This year's Benefit Event will be held **virtually (Zoom) on Thursday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.***

*Please visit [www.stmaron.org/eparchial-benefit](http://www.stmaron.org/eparchial-benefit) to register.*



**Saint Pelagia  
of Antioch,  
Confessor**

**October 8<sup>th</sup>**