

# Saint Joseph Maronite Catholic Church



## Third Sunday of Pentecost

June 23, 2019

Welcome all visitors to the beautiful heritage of Antioch

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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

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

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### Today's Gospel<sup>1</sup> St. John 14: 21-27

Whoever has My commands and keeps them, that person loves Me. And they who love Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love them and show Myself to them.

Judah (not Iscariot) said to Him, "My Lord, why are You going to show Yourself to us and not to the world?"

Jesus answered him, "Whoever loves Me keeps My word. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling place with him.

But the one who does not love Me does not keep My word; and this word that you hear is not Mine, but belongs to the Father Who sent Me.

I have spoken these things with you while I am with you. But the Comforter, the Holy Spirit Whom My Father will send in My Name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you.

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

Peace I leave with you; My peace I give you.  
I do not give to you as the world gives.  
Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not be  
afraid."



## **ABOUNA'S REFLECTIONS**

Love is a mystery in many ways. We don't know what we don't know. Only when we know someone can we "fall in love". The young lady who works down the hall is just another woman until you meet her. One has to know someone in order to love him.

Ignorance never fosters love, which is why ignorance never fosters holiness. Hence, Our Lord can say that *if you love Me you will listen and follow My directives.*

There can be no knowledge of the divine without a relation between the knower and God. In natural knowledge – what the human mind can know by its purely natural intellectual powers – the Origin of all things, the Creator, can be known *indirectly*, that is, through the things that exist around us, one can reason to, and know through *causality*, that there is a God; but a natural knowledge of God is not love for Him. Neither Aristotle nor Socrates ever erected a temple dedicated to the Origin of All, the First Unmoved Mover, or Transcendent Beauty.

As we considered last Sunday: hearing, presence, listening, and *reciprocated* communication are all necessary for love to flourish – whether that love be human or divine. But in the latter case, it must also be a question of "grace": the knowledge of the Hidden One Who wishes to be known. As God is transcendent and infinitely distant in every way from us, this knowledge and charity must begin with Him. He must choose to reveal Himself to one who is disposed to see and love. (Note that this disposition is also His work.)

This is a great mystery: all originates in God, He has invited all to His love and charity, He has disposed all in one way or another to seek Him, but has

*revealed Himself only to those who choose freely to respond* in order to know and love. This exceeds our understanding because these fundamental things all lie within the sovereign will of the Hidden Divinity, and within the unique free-will and mind of each man. Both realities escape our direct experience, and are thus fundamentally unknowable.

Presence to the beloved is key. Knowledge gives us reasons to love, but it is in being present that charity flourishes. Knowledge may draw us to the beloved, but it is only reciprocated communication that engenders love. We love because we have discovered the goodness in another, and the more we know the other the more likely we are to love. The more we know of the goodness of another, the more we are drawn further into love, and deepening love makes us desire to know more of the loved one. Love and knowledge turn around one another. As the Anaphoras state, "those who are far" necessarily grow cold in their love of God because they neglect the eternal goodness and loveliness of the Hidden Good One by their absence. Camp may be lovely at this time of year, but camp will never bring us into the presence of the Divine Kingdom. The farther we are from the Divine Mysteries, the farther we wander from the God of Salvation.

We must remember that the Church is "expansionist" in her existence. She is meant to radiate out from the morning of the Resurrection to all the peoples of the earth. When that life is not fruitful – being communicated through us to others – it will often die even in the first possessor of the life of grace. As the Fathers wrote, there are no plateaus in the Christian life and so there none either for the Church – the Body of believers. In the evening Office, *Ramsho* of Thursday, during the Sedro, we pray that the Life of Christ expand outward to others and that we who already now believe be spared from falling into false doctrine or that we leave the practice of the Faith:

*Exalt Thy Church and lead her to those  
who are strangers, to those who remain  
far from Thy Mysteries,  
and to those who do not believe in Thee.  
Let there be no heresies to draw us away  
from Thee, and may only true faith be  
proclaimed in Thy Church  
until the end of time.*

In the *Paradiso* of Dante,<sup>2</sup> Beatrice says to the Pilgrim that the knowledge of God “is buried from the eyes of everyone whose intellect has not matured within the flame of love”.

Those “who are far” manifest their coldness in self-centeredness and the immaturity of their ways. All too often they chose the world and its goods over the Good Lord of all. Thus they are worldly, and by definition “far”. The worldly prove their infidelity by trying to live lives where God is an addendum, and not the center of their existence as the law of charity requires. *He who loves father, mother, ... or son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.*<sup>3</sup>

So let us open ourselves in daily prayer to that primordial Divine Love, which created all things in goodness, so that we might share in that eternal charity. Faithful to every Sunday, may we be assiduous to gather at the forgiving altar of the Lord on day of the Resurrection.

It is most especially in the Divine Mysteries that the Hidden One reveals His Love in Person.

<b><u>SCHEDULE OF READINGS</u></b>	
<b><u>THIRD SUNDAY OF PENTECOST</u></b>	
June 23, 2019	
<b>I Cor 2: 1-10</b>	<b>St. John 14: 21-27</b>
<b><u>SOLEMNITY OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL</u></b>	
June 30, 2019	
<b>II Cor 11: 21-30</b>	<b>St. Matthew 16: 13-20</b>

**VOCATION ICON**

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

Sun	June 23	Bruce & Doreen White
Sun	June 30	Steve and Allison Crate
Sun	July 7	Lowell & Mary Hawes
Sun	July 14	Larry & Lisa Grard
Sat	July 20	Jim & Lenore Boles
Sun	July 28	Chris & Diane Wyder

<b><u>LAST WEEK’S COLLECTIONS</u></b>
<b>Regular Collection: \$1450.00</b>
Upcoming Second Collection, June 30 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Peter’s Pence</b>
<i>(The entire collection is sent to the Holy Father to assist with emergency financial assistance to the neediest throughout the world.)</i>
<b><i>Blessed be the Merciful One Who gives us the ability to sustain this apostolate.</i></b>

**INTENTIONS FOR THE QOURBONEH (MASSES)**

<b>Sat</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>†Charles Owen</b> <i>(the Parish)</i> -- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
<b>Sun</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>For the members of the Parish</b>
<b>Mon</b>	<b>24</b>	-----
<b>Tue</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>Catholic Extension Society &amp; Donors</b>
<b>Wed</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>†Marietta &amp; John Thomas</b> <i>(Pam &amp; Dan Casavant)</i> -- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
<b>Thu</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>Catholic Extension Society &amp; Donors</b>
<b>Fri</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>Private Intention</b> <i>(Abouna James)</i> -- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
<b>Sat</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>60<sup>th</sup> Anniv. of Bunny and Herb Karter</b> <i>(Barbara Gosselin)</i>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>†Edward DeVito</b>
<b>Mon</b>	<b>1</b>	-----
<b>Tue</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Catholic Extension Society &amp; Donors</b>
<b>Wed</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>†Marietta &amp; John Thomas</b> <i>(Pam &amp; Dan Casavant)</i> -- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
<b>Thu</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Catholic Extension Society &amp; Donors</b>
<b>Fri</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Private Intention</b> <i>(Abouna James)</i> -- Catholic Extension Society & Donors
<b>Sat</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>†Charles Owen</b> <i>(the Parish)</i> -- Catholic Extension Society & Donors

<sup>2</sup> Cant. 7: 59-60

<sup>3</sup> St. Matthew 10: 37

Sun 7 For the members of the Parish  
 Mon 8 -----  
 Tue 9 Catholic Extension Society & Donors  
 Wed 10 †Roland Carter  
 (Pam & Dan Casavant)  
 -- Catholic Extension Society & Donors  
 Thu 11 Catholic Extension Society & Donors  
 Fri 12 Private Intention  
 (Abouna James)  
 -- Catholic Extension Society & Donors

abstain from all animal flesh and animal products.

*This year, there is no fast or otherwise on the Feast of the Sacred Heart, June 28<sup>th</sup>.*

This binds all who have attained the age of the use of reason, *par.* 22.



Birth of John the Precursor  
 June 24<sup>th</sup>

## Third Sunday of Pentecost p 492

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

**Entrance Hymn:** LB *imsheeho* 175B

**Glory:** SB *al majdu*

**Qolo/Hymn:** LB *h'daow* 179

**Creed** p 748

**PRE-ANAPHORA:**

**Transfer of Gifts:** LB *The Lord Reigns*

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

**ANAPHORA:**

**Saint James, Brother of the Lord:** LB p 794

**Sign of Peace:** SB *too ba*

**Communion:** SB *O Lord, I am not worthy*

**Recessional:** SB *Joyful, joyful*

\*LB=Liturgical Book SB=Song Book

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.

## The Fast of the holy Apostles

*Saints Peter and Paul (June 29<sup>th</sup>)  
 and the Twelve Apostles (June 30<sup>th</sup>)*

As we were reminded by our Patriarch in his recent Lenten Letter, it is our tradition to fast in preparation for the great feasts of Saints Peter and Paul, and all are encouraged to do so faithfully, *par.* 23:

*This fast is known as "The Apostles' Fast, during which the faithful abstain from eating meat, dairy products and eggs, from June 17<sup>th</sup> -- 28<sup>th</sup>.*

We are reminded in *paragraph 21* of the same letter that "a fast" is to go without all foods from midnight to noon, after which we abstain from all animal flesh and animal products - "vegan" as they would call it these days.

When a fast day falls on a Saturday or a Sunday (as will be the case on June 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> this year) one can eat as they wish, but must still