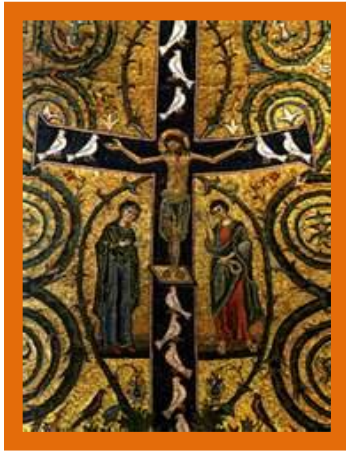


# Third Sunday of the Most Holy Cross

October 1, 2017



## St. Joseph Maronite Catholic Church

3 Appleton Street  
Waterville, ME 04901  
Office Phone: 207-872-8515  
E-Mail: [stjoesinmaine@yahoo.com](mailto:stjoesinmaine@yahoo.com)  
Pastor: Rev. Fr. James Doran  
Subdeacon: Mr. Stephen Crate  
website: <http://www.sjmaronite.org>



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*"The Eastern Rites are the Treasure of the Catholic Church"*

Saint John XXIII, Pope

- Liturgies:** 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 \$25

**Choir Director:** Fefa Deeb    **Sacristan:** Laurie Nale    **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:** Subdeacon Steve Crate; Lenore Boles, Catechism; Shana Page, Rosary Sodality; Larry Mitchell, Knights of Columbus

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**THIS DAY'S GOSPEL:** St. Matthew 24; 23-31

Then if anyone says to you, "Behold, here is the Messiah!" or "There he is!" do not believe it. For false Christs and false prophets will arise and show great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if it were possible, even the elect.

Behold, I have told you beforehand.

So, if they say to you, "Behold, he is in the wilderness," do not go out; if they say, "Behold, he is in the inner rooms," do not believe it. For as the

lightning comes from the east and shines as far as the west, so will be the Coming of the Son of Man. Wherever the body is, there the eagles will be gathered together.

Immediately after the tribulations of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

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

And He will send out His angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

## ABOUNA'S REFLECTIONS

In prophecy, it is often the case that several realities, historical and otherwise, are telescoped. All creation and revelation is that of the ineffable divinity, the Hidden One. All existence both in nature and in grace is meant to communicate the divine reality of the Creator and Origin and all. The Hidden One is made manifest through His actions and creative work. Among intelligent beings, men and angels – the human race and the *watchers* – there is a further and more profound communication. God communicates according to *our* nature and thus speaks to us as it were in an intelligent and rational manner. Because of this, the Syriac Fathers saw all existence, nature and prophetic revelation, to be all one, different modes and lessons, but all one purpose and origin. All was created to manifest and glorify the Divine Goodness and, subsequent to the sinful fall of mankind, to bring redemption, healing and restoration to human beings as they are given to move supernaturally toward the Living One.

In the Old Testament, everything in varying degrees foreshadows in one way or another the Messiah. Jesus of Nazareth is the “Anointed”, the Messiah, or in our Syriac, *m'sheeHo*. As the Divine Word, He is the fullness of God's communication to the world. The Hidden One manifests Himself to the human race in the unique and definitive manner of the Christ. All this lies at the origin of our Syriac love of types and antitypes: foreshadowings to be found in the Sacred Scriptures. This is the poetry of our theology.

And yet in the Gospel, Our Lord speaks of a further manifestation when He will *return* “on the clouds of glory”.<sup>1</sup> This is less about a physical return as if travelling from one place to another and more about unveiling His present reality that is simply hidden to our bodily eyes. It is toward this moment of epiphany and revelation that all history is directed. When the Compassionate One sets to reveal Himself in all the splendor possible for creation to bear, then created time as we know it

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1 St. Mark 13; 26

will end and we will have arrived at the “last day”. This is the meaning of “the powers of the heavens shall be shaken”<sup>2</sup>.

Destruction is not the purpose of the Last Day; it is the effect of a natural world that is not disposed to receive divine life. Our Lord said that He had come to give life and to give it more abundantly.<sup>3</sup> Life will be given whether we wish it or not, however only those disposed to the gracious life of God will be able to enter the Kingdom of Light. As it is, we are told in the Gospel that some (many? most?) elements in creation, and among men in particular, will not be disposed to receive this Life in its full manifestation of the Son of Man's glory; hence the convulsions of that Day when men will call to the mountains “to fall on us”<sup>4</sup> as they attempt tardily to hide from the Life that had been offered to them in mercy all throughout their lives. This will be definitive and cosmic human tragedy with eternal consequences.

We live in the “last days”,<sup>5</sup> the final age of creation awaiting the full glory of the Compassionate One's revelation. Let us each seek this true life of God while it is offered gently, compassionately and with patient mercy. This is, after all, the true intent of God. May we embrace His grace, love Him in return, and allow ourselves to be raised to the transcendent divine Beauty. Although foretold, God's desire is not for wrath and justice; wrath and justice will result from the free choices we make and the dispositions that we create each day. This freedom makes us correspond either to grace and divine love, or to repulse the divine embrace and turn away from the gentle call of grace.

These last weeks of the Holy Cross are meant to serve as a time to consider and pray over the final truths, the “last things”, of death, judgment, heaven and hell. May we reflect wisely and enter freely the divine light and love while we have the time to do so.

***Catechism for the children begins today***  
***Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>***

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2 St. Luke 21; 26

3 St. John 10; 10

4 St. Luke 23; 30

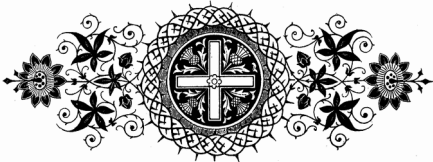
5 I Cor 10; 11

REPOSE AND BURIAL

We mourn the death and repose of our brother **Darrell Mitchell** on Wednesday, September 27.

The funeral Mass and burial will be on **Wednesday, October 4, at 10:00 a.m.**

May Our Lord illuminate his soul, show him mercy and lead him into His Kingdom.



INTENTIONS FOR THE QOORBONO

Sat 30 † Lester Giguere (one year anniversary)  
*(Ann Giguere)*

Sun 1 † Reggie Michaud  
*(Knights of Columbus)*

Mon 2 -----

Tue 3 † Georges T. Abou Sleiman  
*(John Sleiman)*

Wed 4 10:00 Liturgy of the Faithful Departed  
† Darell Mitchell  
*(His family)*  
**NB:** there will be no 9:00 Mass

Thu 5 † Jean Marie Cummingham  
*(John Sleiman)*

Fri 6 † Amin Mikael Saad, wife Hoda Honeine  
*(John Sleiman)*

Sat 7 † Joseph & Marie Smus  
*(Paula, David & Pat Smus)*

Sun 8 † Deceased Members of Rosary the Sodality  
*(Rosary Sodality)*

**Liturgical notes:** † = Deceased, SI = Special Intention, AV = Anniversary, H = Health

**Be sure your cell phone is turned-off and silenced**

VOCATION ICON

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

Sun October 1 Greg & Marianne Gillespie  
Sun October 8 Pearley & Alice Lachance  
Sun October 15 Lowell & Mary Hawes

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Regular Collection: \$1,178.00

Please note that the monthly operating budget is \$8,000

*May God richly reward your wise generosity*

READERS' SCHEDULE

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER HOLY CROSS

Phil 3; 17- 4; 1 St. Matthew 24; 23-31  
October 1 Lila Hallowell

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER HOLY CROSS

I Thes 5; 1-11 St. Matthew 24; 45-51  
October 8 Ruth Lunn

*We pray for the sick:  
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, Albert Joseph, Sierra Lee, Doreen Nader, Tala Poulin, Virginia Poulin, Beverly Rideout, Gordon Webber, Melissa Karter, Maxine Morrisette, Paula Mitchell, Rebecca Bernard and Paul Mitchell

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Tuesday October 3, 6pm in the church hall

**COFFEE SCHEDULE 2017-2018**

**Oct 1** Sharon Crowe & Cindy Elias  
**Oct 8** Larry Mitchell & Gareth

**OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS**

3	Herbert Joseph Sr.	18	Mary Nader
6	Audrey Yotides	18	Lila Hallowell
8	Paula Mitchell	18	Linda Joseph
9	Ruth Joseph	19	Joseph Nale
13	Kadee Ann Joseph	20	John Gallant
11	Robert Mitchell Jr.	24	Alonzo Michaud
15	Brea Williams	24	Lorenzo Michaud
15	Doris Poirier	25	Joseph Sturtevant
16	DJ Constable	25	Alena Swihart
16	Beth Hallowell	27	Stephen Nale
16	Michael Nale	27	Lisa Grard

**OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES**

3 John & Rita Karter  
7 Jeff & Maureen Lee  
9 James & Lenore Boles

**CENTURY 21 - SURETTE REAL ESTATE**

Pam Casavant - Partner/ Associate Broker  
Tel: 207-873-5634 Ext 219  
e-mail: pcasavant@surette-realestate.com  
web: www.surette-realestate.com

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John O. Gallant, Director  
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Lawrence D. Griffin, MBA

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Tel: 207-872-7422 also 888-616-4880

**Third Sunday of the Holy Cross**

**p 606**

**Lighting of the Church: SB\* p 21 #135/LB p 5**  
**Jesus, Christ, O Source of Light**

**Entrance Hymn: LB p 606**  
**Lord, Your Cross was Taken from the Tree**

**Glory: SB p 1 #2**  
**Glory (English)**

**Qolo/Hymn: LB p 611**  
**Your Cross, O Lord**

**Creed p 748**

**Pre-Anaphora:**  
**Transfer of Gifts: LB p**  
**The Lord Reigns**

**Incense Hymn: SB p 3 #8**  
**Ikkal - This Pure Incense**

**Anaphora:**  
**Saint Mark: LB p 835**

**Sign of Peace: SB p 31 #156**  
**Peace is Flowing Like a River**

**Communion: SB p 42 # 179**  
**Your Body is Our Food**

**Recessional: SB p 13 #118**  
**Glorious in Majesty**

**\*LB=Liturgical Book SB=Song Book**