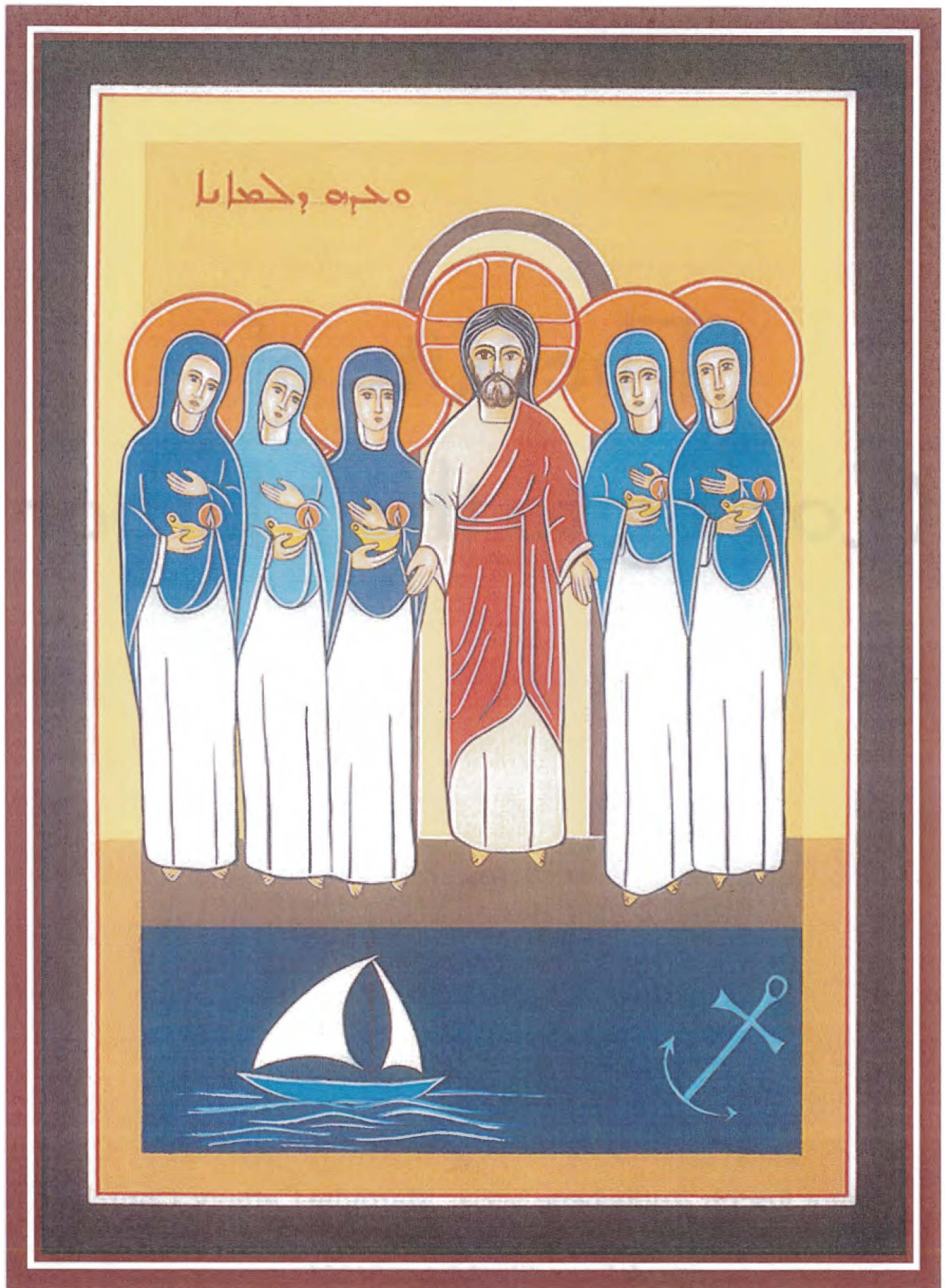


The Rite of Coming to the Harbor

Saint Joseph Antiochene Syriac Maronite Catholic Church
3 Appleton Street
Waterville, Maine 04901



The Rite of Coming to the Harbor

*When all is prepared, the clergy and the faithful
take their places in the vestibule. All hold lighted candles.*

The rite begins:

Doxology

Stand

Celebrant: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit,
now and forever.

Congregation: Amen

Opening Prayer

Celebrant: Make us worthy, O Lord God,
to light the lamp of our souls
with the oil of charity
like the Wise Virgins,
to await You, O heavenly Bridegroom,
anxiously and vigilantly,
and to enter, in Your company,
Your Kingdom, filled of joy.
We will offer glory and thanksgiving
to you, to Your Father, and to Your Holy Spirit,
forever.

Congregation: Amen

Prayer

Reader:

Barekhamor.

Have mercy on us, O Lord, and assist us.
O Harbor of salvation and Port of safety,
You are the Lighthouse that draws us to You
with the radiance of Your light,
above the stormy seas of this world.
Enlighten us with the splendor of Your face,
in Your kingdom to come
where peace and harmony reign.
We offer glory to You, to Your Father
and to Your Holy Spirit, forever.

Congregation: Amen

First Hymn/Qolo

Tune: *Fsheeto*

The congregation alternates the hymn, after the deacon

Deacon: Praise the Lord (*Teshboohto l'Moryo*)

Congregation 1: Today we proclaim:
Blow your sounds, O trumpets,
and you hosts, celebrate:
We have come to the harbor,
we prevailed over the strong winds,
and reached the passion of our Savior,
the Shore of our safety.
Of the beloved Son,
tell us, O Resurrection Day,
tell us of the wonders
of our glorious Lord.

Deacon: Praise the Lord (*Teshboohto l'Moryo*)

Congregation 2 0 Day of the Coming into the Harbor,
how beautiful you are!
A crown, a precious reward,
you are to the just ones.
In you, old and young rejoice;
in you, we meet the Light and Glory,
and Baptism, as a most beautiful bride,
filling our souls with eternal life.

Deacon: Praise the Lord (*Teshboohto l'Moryo*)

Congregation 1: By faith we are justified,
says the Apostle.
As a lasting Covenant
peace we are given.
From strangers to friends,
the blood of the Crucified One
brought nations together.
Praise to the Father
Who is gracious to us,
to the Son Who saves us,
and to the Spirit Who brings life
to our celebrations.

Nuhro

Hymn of Light of Saint Ephrem

The congregation alternates the hymn after the refrain:

Refrain/Deacon: **The Light of the Just
and Joy of the upright
is Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Congregation 1: **Begotten of the Father,
He manifested Himself to us.
He came to rescue us from darkness
and to fill us with the radiance of His Light.**

Refrain

Congregation 2: **Day is dawning upon us;
the power of darkness is fading away.
From the true Light there arises for us
the Light which illumines our darkened eyes.**

Refrain

Congregation 1: **His glory shines upon the world
and enlightens the very depths of the abyss.
Death is annihilated, night has vanished,
and the gates of Sheol are broken.**

Refrain

Congregation 2: **Creatures lying in darkness from ancient times
are clothed in light.
The dead arise from the dust
and sing because they have a Savior.**

Refrain

Congregation 1: He brings salvation and grants us life;
 He ascends to his Father on high.
He will return in glorious splendor
 and shed His light on those gazing upon Him.

Refrain

All together: The Light of the just
 and Joy of the upright
 is in Christ Jesus our Lord

Prayer

Reader: *Barekhmor.*
Have mercy on us, O Lord, and assist us.

O Lord, on the day when we meet You
 do not extinguish the light of our lamps.
O heavenly Bridegroom,
 fill our lamps with the oil of Your divine love,
 that we may remain with You until the end.
You are our Lord and God,
 to You be glory, forever.

Congregation: Amen

Second Hymn/Qolo

Tune: *Fyosto*

The congregation alternates the hymn:

Congregation 1: *Alleluia!*
O all-merciful One, open Your door
 to those who shed their tears,
 as You did for the repenting woman.
Be pleased with our sacrifice
 and accept the penance of our heart

as You accepted the songs of David, the just.

Congregation 2: *Alleluia!*

0 Lord, to Your house we come
to find a refuge, a harbor of safety
from the sea of evil.
0 Lord, keep Your door wide open
in the face of those who knock;
there is no safety for us
besides the safety of Your house.

All:

Alleluia!

0 Lord, with Your Cross
shield Your Church and her children.
Your grace brought them together
in blessed choirs, to praise You.
With the robe of glory, vest them;
from the evil one, deliver them;
and as a true inheritance,
grant them Your eternal kingdom.

Knock at the church entrance with the processional cross

Hymn of Entrance

Psalm 119 (118)

Deacon: *A lamp to my feet is Your word,
a light to my path.*

Congregation: *A lamp to my feet is Your word,
a light to my path.*

Deacon: I resolve and swear
to keep Your just ordinances.

Congregation: *A lamp to my feet is Your word,
a light to my path.*

Deacon: Your decrees are my inheritance forever;
the joy of my heart they are.

Congregation: *A lamp to my feet is Your word,
a light to my path.*

All together: *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.*

Sooghito (Canticle)

Sit

The Congregation alternates the canticle:

Congregation 1: Bring your lamps, brothers and sisters:
the Day of the Lord has dawned on us.
In the shadow of His Eden of Light,
He rewards generously
those who have lived in justice.

Congregation 2: O Lord of Truth, to the just ones
open the door of the Garden of delights.
Let them meet You in a radiance of light,
with their praise and their guitars.

Congregation 1: The light of our Savior has appeared:
blessed are those who awaited Him.
For those who placed their hope in Him,
the Lord of glory prepared a crown of glory.

Congregation 2: He comes to satisfy their thirst;
 yet, they tremble at His encounter:
 Oh, how hard was the night of their awaiting!
 Oh, how they longed for the Name of
 the Coming One!

All together: *On that Day, the greatest of days,
 all secrets of the heart are revealed.
 When You come, O Lord,
 grant us to meet You,
 with the love of a consumed heart.*

Hoosoyo (*Prayer of Forgiveness*)

Deacon: *Stomen kalos (Let us stand in order)*

Stand

Congregation: *Kyrie eleison.*

Proemion (*Doxological Introduction*)

Incense is burned:

Priest: May we be worthy to offer praise, glory, and honor
 to the wise Creator Who, in His grace,
 brought everything into existence;
 to the mighty Savior Who humbled Himself
 for our salvation because of his love for us;
 to the Harbor of Safety in Whom the weary ones
 found rest for their souls;
 to the calming Peace Who liberated people
 from the heavy burdens of the Law;
 to the just One Who assumed our nature of sinners
 in order to save us;

to the Physician Who, in His compassion,
tended the sick and cured them.
To the good One, glory and honor are due
in this moment and all the days of our life, for ever.

Congregation: **Amen.**

Sedro (*Order of Petitions*)

Priest: O God,
You are the Eternal Light Who enlightened all creatures
with the rays of Your revelation.
You created us in Your image;
You filled us with the gift of Your Holy Spirit;
when we had disobeyed Your command,
 we were chased from the abode of life
 and exiled from Your Paradise.
In Your eternal mercies, You had compassion on us
 and sent Your only Son for our salvation.
In His saving and life-giving plan,
 He showed us the way of life to follow.
He became for us a safe Guide to the true Light,
 He handed us a new command, the command of love,
 the yoke of humility and peace of conscience.
In it we found absolute peace for our soul.

0 Lord,
 with joyful hearts and peaceful consciences,
 we walk according to the command you gave us,
 and with illuminated minds, we give you thanks.
We hold our lamps in our hands,
 we take off our old self and, following Your example,
 we put on the new one;
 we radiate with Your illuminating teachings,
 and we cross from darkness to the eternal Light
 You promised us.

With the prophet David, we cry saying:

During the day, we are enlightened by Your teachings,
and at night we walk behind You as a Column of Fire;
our minds and thoughts are enlightened by You;
as we do deeds of justice.

You have made us worthy to accept the life-giving Passion
of Your only Son Who became for us the Harbor of Salvation.

With the Wise Virgins, we meet You with lighted lamps,
filled with the oil of good deeds,
instead of the fading lamps which we hold now in our
hands.

In Your glorious Kingdom,
You will light the lamps of our souls
with oil of love, purity of heart,
serenity of conscience, and complete freedom.

We will offer glory to You, to Your only Son, and to Your Holy
Spirit, now and forever.

Congregation: Amen.

Sit

Qolo (*Hymn of Incense*)

Tune: *Tobayek Idto*

**All: In the radiance of that Day,
in the day of the Lord's Passion,
fasting and prayer
lead their ships to the Harbor.**

**O children of the all-merciful One,
wake up and come forward:
let us cleanse our hearts,
get rid of our sins,
and go to meet our Lord.
Let us live by His saving Passion.**

'Etro (*Prayer of Perfume*)

Celebrant: 0 Sea of Mercy and Compassion,
 in Your abundant generosity and eternal kindness,
 You comfort those who grieve, suffer,
 and seek refuge in You.
 0 Harbor of safety and salvation,
 through this incense we now offer You,
 be a Support and a Savior to all those who came,
 in true faith,
 to the harbor of Your holy Church.
As we commemorate Your saving Passion for us,
we offer glory to You, forever.

Congregation: **Amen**

Hand Candles are extinguished.

Mazmooro (*Psalm of the Readings*)

Tune: *Shoobho lhou, ro'yo*

Congregation: **All things hidden
will be revealed.
All kinds of secrets
will be known.**

Celebrant: What was said in secret
 proclaim it in loud voice
 What was darkness
 will become light for you.

All together: **All days and nights of my life,
I meditate upon
the word of the Lord,
hope for all generations.**

Readings

Letter to the Hebrews 6: 1-9

Reader: A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews
Barekhamor, Aboun

Reader: *The reading is done*

At the conclusion: *Praise be to God always!*

Fetgomo

Stand

Congregation: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Cantor: Behold, the Bridegroom is coming;
let us prepare and come out to meet Him.

Congregation: Alleluia!

Gospel

Saint Matthew 21: 17-27

Deacon/Celebrant: Before the Gospel of our Savior,
announcing life to us all,
let us offer this incense.
O Lord, we ask for Your mercy.

Celebrant: Peace be with you.

Congregation: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: Let us be attentive to the Gospel of life and salvation
of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the Apostle
Matthew

Deacon: Remain silent, O listeners, for the Holy Gospel
is about to be announced to you.
Listen and give glory and thanksgiving
to the living Word of God.

Gospel is proclaimed

Celebrant: This is the truth. + Peace be with you.

Congregation: Praise and blessing to Jesus Christ, our Lord and God, for
giving His living word to us.

Homily

Sit

Hymn/Qolo

Tune: Blessed are the Poor in Spirit

Deacon: O Christ the Bridegroom
We come to meet You.
O Lord, O Lord,
open for us.

Congregation: **Fill our hearts, Lord, with the light of Your kingdom.**

Deacon: We ask You, beg You,
and knock at Your door.
O Lord, O Lord,
open for us.

Congregation: **Fill our hearts, Lord, with the light of Your kingdom.**

Deacon: We heard Your voice, O good Shepherd.
For the lambs of Your flock, You are the Door.
 O Lord, O Lord,
 open for us.

Congregation: **Fill our hearts, Lord, with the light of Your kingdom.**

Celebrant: O Lord, Gate of Mercies,
 open to those who knock
 and ask for Your saving grace;
 lead us to the light of Your eternal Kingdom.
We are the children of Your Church,
 and with our lamps lit, we come to the Church
 as to the harbor of our salvation.
We offer glory to you, forever.

Hymn/Qolo

Tune: Booteh Dhasho

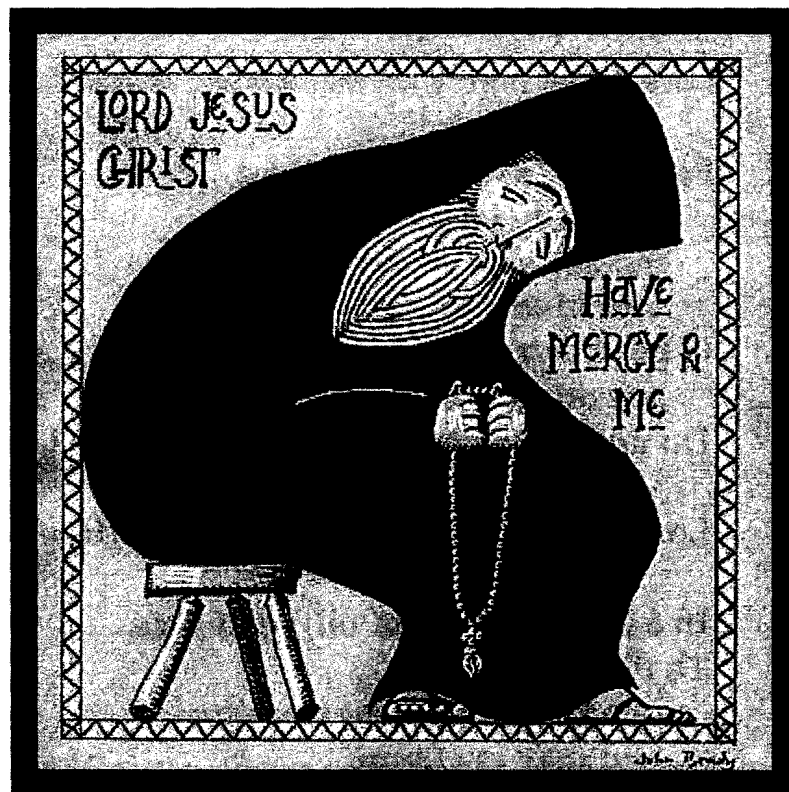
The congregation alternates verses:

Congregation 1: Praise to Him:
 that night He saved us from our burdens.
Trials and pain are over:
 let us come and meet at the Harbor
 the living Treasure, the true Peace.

Congregation 2: That night the light covered earthly beings
 and heavenly ones;
 they all praised the Son of Light,
 the Maker of light;
 in the world, He brings safety to the harbor.

Congregation 1: That night the whole universe
was inundated by light.
Praise to the Sun of Justice Who shines
in his Church.
His spirit generously poured His love
in the harbor.

Congregation 2: Praise to You, O son of the Father, for Your Passion.
Praise to You, O Father of Truth.
Praise to You, O Spirit of Holiness.
You are One God, a Trinity.
You are Light, most exalted
above all lights.



Boo'utho d'Mor Ephraim (*Supplication of Saint Ephrem*)

Stand

The congregation alternates the supplications, after the deacon:

Deacon: Lord, have mercy on us (*Moran, itraHam 'alain*)

Congregation 1: In the middle of the night, they cry:
Wake up, the Bridegroom is coming.
In their hands, they hold lamps filled with oil -
like a warm light is their face
and their heart, like a burning flame.

Deacon: Lord, have mercy on us (*Moran, itraHam 'alain*)

Congregation 2: Foolishness has its own face,
an empty lamp, void of oil;
the heart of the foolish virgins
trembled at the waking call.
O Lord, our night has no end,
nor our foolishness.
Do not let us meet You with an empty lamp.

Deacon: Lord, have mercy on us (*Moran, itraHam 'alain*)

All: In a lamp in need of oil, light dies.
To the needy heart,
open, O Lord, Your treasure,
and may my lamp,
during the night of my life, remain lit
that, immersed in light,
I may praise You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Hootomo (*Concluding Prayers*)

Celebrant: Let us adore (*congregation bozus profoundly*), thank and praise
the most Holy and Glorious Trinity,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen

Congregation: Kyrie eleison; kyrie eleison; kyrie eleison.

Celebrant: Qa-dee-sha(n)t aloha.
Qa-dee-sha(n)t Ha-yel-to-no.
Qa-dee-sha(n)t lo-mo-yoo-to.

Holy are you, 0 God; Holy are you, 0 strong One;
Holy are you, 0 Immortal One. (*Three times with response*)

Congregation: Mshee-Ho deh-tee-led gabroh fain,
it-ra-Ham 'alain.

0 Christ born a man for us,
have mercy on us. (*Three times*)

Celebrant: 0 Lord, Sea of mercy and compassion,
in the abundance of Your grace,
You give rest to the weary,
relief to those who struggle,
and support and protection
to those who seek refuge in You.
0 Harbor of safety and salvation,
save all those who, in true faith,
reached the harbor of Your holy Church.
We offer glory and thanksgiving to You, now and forever.

Congregation: Amen

DISMISSAL

