



St. Joseph Maronite Catholic Church

1102 Walnut St., Olean, NY 14760-1359



Phone: 716-379-8436 / 2nd Line & Fax: 716-379-8437

Email: stjosepholean@roadrunner.com

Web site: www.stjosepholean.org

Office Hours: Monday to Friday, 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Weekend Liturgies: Saturday, 4:00 pm; Sunday, 10:00 am

Weekday Liturgies: Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 9:00 am; and Wednesday at 12:00 noon

Holy Day, 6:30 pm on the day of the feast, unless specified differently in the Bulletin.

Mystery of Penance (Confessions): Saturday from 3:15 to 3:45 pm or by request

Baptism / Chrismation (Confirmation): Please notify the priest a month ahead for preparations

Crownings (Weddings): Please contact the Office six (6) months in advance of the wedding for pre-wedding preparation and necessary paperwork.

Religious Education Classes: Sundays, from the end of Liturgy until noon

DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN ITEMS: THURSDAY AT 12:00 NOON

Season of the Glorious Birth of Our Lord

Revelation to Joseph

Dec. 15 & 16, 2018

INTENTIONS AND BIBLE READINGS FOR THE DIVINE LITURGY

Sat., 15 Dec., 4:00 pm 5:00 pm Christmas Novena in Church Daytime Readings: Rom 10:1-13; Jn 5:31-36 ◆ 4:00 pm Vigil & Sunday Readings: Is 56:1-8; Mt 1:18-25	Repose of Linda Sue Sawaya & Michael Sawaya	By Peter & Norma Sawaya Family
Sun., 16 Dec., 10:00 am 11:00 am Christmas Novena in Church Revelation to Joseph Is 56:1-8; Mt 1:18-25	Birthday Remembrance of Mary Lemon	By Family
Mon., 17 Dec., No 9:00 am Liturgy 7:00 pm Christmas Novena in Chapel Rom 10:14-21; Jn 7:1-10	None	
Tue., 18 Dec., 9:00 am 7:00 pm Christmas Novena in Chapel Rom 11:1-12; Jn 7:11-18	Donors of the Catholic Extension Society	
Wed., 19, Dec., 12:00 pm 7:00 pm Christmas Novena in Chapel Rom 11:13-24; Jn 7:25-30	Donors of the Catholic Extension Society	
Thu., 20 Dec., 9:00 am 7:00 pm Christmas Novena in Chapel St. Ignatius of Antioch, Martyr Rom 8:31-39; Jn 12:23-30	Donors of the Catholic Extension Society	
Fri., 21 Dec., 9:00 am 7:00 pm Christmas Novena in Chapel Rom 12:1-8; Jn 7:37-44	Donors of the Catholic Extension Society	

Sat., 22 Dec., 4:00 pm 5:00 pm Christmas Novena in Church Daytime Readings: Rom 12:9-21; Jn 7:45-53 ❖ 4:00 pm Vigil & Sunday Readings: Rom 1:1-12; Mt 1:1-17	Repose of Madge Ash	By Kathy Peterson
Sun., 23 Dec., 10:00 am 11:00 am Christmas Novena in Church Rom 1:1-12; Mt 1:1-17	Repose of Aaron Ash & Madge Ash	By Peter & Norma Sawaya Family

Lector Schedule

Sat., 12/15/18	4:00 pm	Mike Gibbons	Is 56:1-8
Sun., 12/16/18	10:00 am	Lisa Zlockie	Is 56:1-8
Sat., 12/22/18	4:00 pm	Joe Hollister	Rom 1:1-12
Sun., 12/23/18	10:00 am	Mike Gibbons	Rom 1:1-12

WKLY. COLLECTION DEC. 08 & 09, 2018

REGULAR: \$760; 2nd COLLECTION (IMMACULATE CONCEPTION): \$223;

FLOWERS: \$130; TOTAL \$1121

YEAR END CONTRIBUTION: Please prayerfully consider making a tax-deductible year-end contribution to the church.

DAILY WORSHIP REMINDER: During this Glorious Season of the Birth of our Lord, please be reminded that we have daily worship and welcome your attendance and participation (see schedule above).

CHRISTMAS NOVENA: The traditional Christmas Novena will be prayed beginning 12/15 and ending 12/23 as noted above. Please join us as we pray and prepare for the birthday of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.



SANCTUARY LAMP FOR DECEMBER: The Sanctuary Lamp for December burns in the memory of the Zemer and Snyder families by Phil & JoAnn Snyder. "In the same way, let your light shine before others that they may see your charitable deeds and glorify your Father in heaven".



PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND HOMEBOUND: Eileen Lump and Jennie Dahar (at the Pines, Olean), Roberta Mahar and John Sawaya (at Eden Heights) and Fr. Greg Dobson. Please keep these people in your prayers.

FLOWER DONATIONS: If you would like to donate to help offset the cost of the poinsettias you see on the altar, please find envelopes on the table in the entrance to the church. Your donations are greatly appreciated!

2019 OFFERING ENVELOPE UPDATE: In an effort to be more cost-effective and efficient, we have updated and renumbered our offering envelopes for the coming year. Your offering envelopes are now available – please check the table on the entrance to the church for your packet. Note that you may be assigned a different envelope number than you had in past years. If you do not currently have offering envelopes and would like them, please contact the office.

2019 CALENDARS: Thank you to Brad Spink of Letro-McIntosh-Spink Funeral Homes for providing the Liturgical Calendars. Calendars are available on the table in the entrance to the church – please feel to take yours.

WARMTH FOR THE WINTER MONTHS: You don't have to fly south for the winter to stay warm and enjoy good friends and the comfort of caring service. Eden Heights of Olean Assisted Living is offering a **Winter Stay Special**. Stay as little or as long as you like; they offer monthly rates with resident activities and no commitments. Call 716-372-4466 for more information or check out their web site at www.edenheights.com

DINNER/CONCERT AT OLEAN FIRST BAPTIST on 12/15/18. The Women’s Ministry is excited to offer this event which features a ham or turkey dinner at 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall and an inspiring concert in the Sanctuary at 7:00 pm with the Allen Scott band, an up-and-coming group. Allen has a powerful testimony to share along with their original music. Pre-sale tickets are available; email: oleanfbc@outlook.com or call 716-372-5151 and leave a complete message.

GENESIS HOUSE COLLECTION: During this season of giving, the Genesis House is collecting hygiene products. Deodorant, shampoo, soap, toilet paper, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and feminine products are some of the immediate needs. There is a collection bin located in the entrance to the church. Your donations will be accepted throughout the month of December.

FUNDRAISER: The Genesis House is again offering luminaries to be lit on the night of Dec. 20th to show support for those without shelter. The kits are \$10 each. Please contact Lauren Caya at 716-373-3354 or by email: laurenw3682@yahoo.com.

GREAT JOY A-COMIN’: St. Elizabeth Motherhouse Chapel in Allegany is offering a Christmas Concert with Marcia Wymer & Friends on December 16th @ 2:00 pm. Light refreshments and craft sale to follow. Free will donation.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE: 7:00 pm on 12/19/18, Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels, Olean, NY

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER: The Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels is hosting the annual Community Christmas Dinner. Cash donations and Volunteers are needed: Please call 716-372-4841, Ext. 25 for more details.

SPAGHETTI DINNER: Looking ahead, our annual Spaghetti Dinner will be held on 1/26/19 from 4:00-7:00 pm. Tickets are available by calling the office (716-379-8436) or contacting Ann Marie Wright (716-560-5421) or Don Hamed (716-307-7736)

UPCOMING EVENTS:

11/24 - 12/19/18	Genesis House Luminary Fundraiser
12/15 – 12/23/18	Christmas Novenas, here: 11:00 am (After Liturgy) in the Church on weekends; At 7:00 pm in Transfiguration Chapel during week nights
12/15/18	Dinner/Concert @ First Baptist in Olean
12/16/18	St. Elizabeth Motherhouse Chapel Christmas Concert
12/19/18	Advent Penance Service at Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels
12/20/18	Genesis House “Light the Night” support for those without shelter
12/24/18	Christmas Eve Liturgy @ 4:00 pm
12/25/18	Christmas Liturgy @ 10:00 am
12/25/18	Community Christmas Dinner @ the Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels
12/31/18	New Year’s Eve Liturgy @ 4:00 pm
01/01/19	New Year’s Day Liturgy @ 10:00 am
01/26/19	St. Joseph’s Annual Spaghetti Dinner



From the Pastor’s Desk.....

This week I want to call your attention to several things leading up to the great Feast of the Lord’s Birthday.

Inserted in today’s bulletin is a nice article by the late Fr. Raymond E. Brown about why the Infancy Narratives of Matthew and Luke were written. Fr. Brown was one of the leading Catholic bible scholars of the 20th century. The article is informative and easy to read, and I really encourage you to read this as soon as possible as we draw closer to Christmas.

I am looking forward to praying the Christmas Novena with as many as possible. These lovely prayers lift up our minds to contemplate the simple birth of Jesus. Please note the schedule of times and places that we will pray, because not all of them will be done in the Chapel. In addition, as I said last week, it is traditional to do some fasting during these 9 days and I encourage you to join me in fasting at least next Wednesday and Friday. This does not have to be severe fasting; just something small to focus our thoughts on the meaning of Christmas.

We have printed our Christmas and New Year’s schedule above. I am hoping, as always, that you will arrange with your families to come and worship here at St. Joseph’s for the Christmas Feast.

I have learned that Fr. Greg is back in Olean and doing better after his recent surgery

With this week's Gospel celebration of the dream of St. Joseph, we recognize this commemoration as a kind of parish patronal feast day (the actual Feast of St. Joseph is March 19th, and we hope to do something special on that day). Please ask St. Joseph to take your needs and intentions to Jesus. Please note the altar cloth with the image of St. Joseph on our altar. Just a reminder that this special cloth was donated by parishioners in honor of our Patron Saint. Great St. Joseph, pray for us!

KNOW YOUR FAITH

Topic: The Psalms



For Our Enlightenment (Teachings)

- ❖ The 150 Psalms comprise one whole Old Testament book of the Bible
 - The Psalms are liturgical poems with a Hebrew rhyming structure and metered form and are meant to be sung according to what we call "psalmody"
- ❖ The Psalms are Israel's worship songs, traditionally attributed to King David¹
- ❖ The Book of Psalms is subdivided into five books, to imitate the five Books of the Torah.
- ❖ The beauty and attraction of the Psalms lies in the fact that they express the whole range of human emotion and prayer. This is why the Psalms are a basic and rich source of the Church's prayer life, such as these well known and loved examples:
 - Psalm 1: "Happy the man who follows not . . ."
 - Psalm 23: "The Lord is my Shepherd . . ."
 - Psalm 51: "Have mercy on me, O God, . . ."
- ❖ In Christian tradition, the Psalms are the foundation of the Divine Office, the prayer system that is prayed each day by monks, nuns, ordained clergy and (ideally) all Christians. The form of the Divine Office varies from Tradition to Tradition within the Universal Church (e.g., Syriac, Latin, Greek, et. al.)
- ❖ *The Mazmooro verses (before the First Reading) in the Syriac-Maronite liturgical tradition are translated as the "Psalm of Glory." These verses are composed of a metrical form of Syriac liturgical poetry known as and midrashe and are patterned after the structure of the Psalms*

