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**Office Hours**

**Tuesday to Friday: 10:00AM to 2:00PM.**

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EPARCHIE SAINT MARON  
CANADA

*Saint Charbel's Parish*  
*Maronite Catholic Church - Established 1983*



**Weekly Bulletin**

**January 21 2024**

**Third Sunday of Epiphany, الأحد الثالث بعد الدنح،  
Revelation of Christ Mystery to Nicodemus & Jewish People,  
إعلان سرّ المسيح لنيقوديمس وللشعب اليهودي**

**Book of Numbers: 21: 4-9**

**Epistle: Ga 3: 23-29**

**Gospel: St Jn 3: 1-16**

Nicodemus was a logical and reasonable man; he devoted time to examine what Jesus said. Yet the idea of a new birth disturbed him: he did not see how he could achieve what Jesus suggested. But Jesus did not offer him to do anything! Just as a baby is not born of his own efforts, Jesus invited him - and we too - to relax and realize that we are supported by God. Our origin is in God, it is God who gives us life, it is by responding to God's call that we will find Life. Jesus opens the door of mystery, Nicodemus does not let himself be stopped by the rejection and hatred that his compatriots carry to Christ. He seeks to understand. Jesus' answer is to be born a second time. To be reborn from the water and the Spirit. The water of Baptism that washes away all sins by giving us a new heart and the gift of his Holy Spirit who makes us share in the life of God, awakened to God and docile to his unpredictable newness.

## Ministries of Sacraments

### Anointing of the Sick:

Please call the Church Office :(506) 444-6023

### Confessions:

Available upon Request & 30 minutes prior to mass

### Baptism:

Please call the Church Office, One month prior

### Marriage:

Please call Church Office, Six months prior

### Office Hours:

Tuesday to Friday 10:00AM-2:00PM



## تفسير أيقونة "الدبح المجيد"

أيقونة الإشراف هذه، عناصرها موجودة في معظم أيقونات الدبح لدى كل التقاليد الإيقونوغرافية. العنصر الثالثي، الأب بظهور اليد (خيروفانيا)، رمز للخالق ولصوته الذي سمعناه ولم نره إلا بصورة الإبن المتجسد، المعتمد في الأردن على يد سابقه وصابغه. الروح بشكل حمامة تنحدر من الأعلى، فوق رأس الإبن. الملائكة هرعوا حاملين المناديل لتتشفيف الجمرمة المعتمدة والتي يُرمز لها بشعلة النار الطافية على المياه. إنها ميزة خاصة بتقليدنا السرياني الماروني، إذ أن جمع النار والماء هو صورة لجمع اللاهوت والناسوت، بشخص ابن الله المتأنس، بكمال ألوهيته وإنسانيته.



## Our Sacred Stories by Father John Jennings

### God's Reign for Humanity and All Creation

Some ten years ago, a movie with the title, *Warhorse* came out in theaters. It was a movie that presented a striking approach to the portrayal of World War I. Normally, we view war and its impact from a human perspective. We see nation pitted against nation, people fighting people, army against army. This film in a way that takes us wider. While the battle at the front plays a significant role, the destruction, dislocation and impact presented in *Warhorse* helps us to see that war reaches much further. It has its impact on the countryside, the animals, people who are combatants and non-combatants – war is truly a universal tragedy affecting humanity and all of creation. Counter to this image of war and violence is the image of the kingdom or the reign of God that we hear Jesus proclaim as he begins his ministry. Mark presents this proclamation: *Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. "The time has come," he said "and the reign of God is close at hand."* (Mark 1:14-15). What is this reign of God all about? What does Jesus proclaim through his message and his mission to the world? The idea of the reign of God finds its roots in the Old Testament. The Jewish People recognized that their God was personally present and active among them as a People. The God of Israel intervened and acted in their story, their history. Perhaps the best example of this, one which they often recalled, was the Exodus event. They saw this liberation from slavery as a work of God among them through Moses. In addition, the Jewish Scriptures acknowledge that God is also present in all of creation around them. At the very beginning of the Old Testament, this sense of God's presence acting in all creation appears in the stories of creation in the Book of Genesis. Jesus' proclamation that the reign of God is close at hand grows out of this way of seeing God as present in our history, our present, our future and in all of creation. As Jesus begins his ministry he announces that God is about to break into our world in a new and powerful way. He will announce this reign time and again in his words and he will reveal it in his actions of healing, reconciling and bringing people together in peace. It will be this completed, fulfilled reign of God that will bring peace and harmony to humanity and healing and wholeness to creation. Our call as disciples of Jesus is to be part of building this reign. We are to cooperate with God to make this reign more fully present in our midst. We cooperate by our outreach those in need and our care for the creation we share. In God's own time this reign will reach its fullness. Dermot Lane expresses this future promise of the reign of God: *The future reign of God is about the gathering up by God into a condition of fulfilment and transformation of all the human efforts in this life which are directed towards the creation of peace and justice in the world around us.... The reign of God is ultimately about re-establishing right relationships between God and humanity, between humanity and the individual, between humanity and the whole of creation.* (Lane. *Christ at the Centre* 21)

## Divine Liturgy Time

## جدول توقيت الذبيحة

**Sunday:** 11:30 AM (English & Arabic)

**Wednesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday**

See schedule below (English & Arabic)

**Monday & Tuesday:** (No Mass)



**الأحد:** 11:30 ظ (عربي و إنجليزي)

**الأربعاء، الخميس، الجمعة والسبت**

(عربي و إنجليزي)

**الأثنين والثلاثاء** (لا قداس)

## Sunday January 21 Mass Intentions



**Sunday, January 21, 2024. Mass 11:30 AM**

(Commemoration of priests)

**Monthly Commemoration of Saint Charbel.**

Mass in Memory of the late Antonios and Bernadette Gerges and their children Georges and Youssef Gerges, requested by the family.

**Monday 22/01 No Mass**

**Tuesday 23/01, Mass 11:30 AM**

**Wednesday 24/01, Mass 6:30 PM**

**Thursday 25/01, Mass 11:30 AM**

**Friday 26/01, Mass 6:30 PM**

**Sunday, January 27, 2024. Mass 11:30 AM**

(Commemoration of righteous and just)

**For the Parishioners of Saint Charbel**

### تأمل

في هذا الأحد الثالث من زمن الدنح، دعوة لتجديد إيماننا بالمسيح الذي يُريد الخير لكل إنسان.

• في الرّسالة، مع القديس بولس، نتذكّر العماد المقدس الذي به لبسنا المسيح وأصبحنا خليفة جديدة تعكس ضيائه وبهائه.

• في الإنجيل، مع نيقوديمس نعرف أنّ المسيح هو ملكوت الله.

• الملكوت يصبح حاضرًا فيما بيننا في كلّ مرة نعكس المسيح. كلّ لحظة وكلّ دقيقة هي دعوة إلى التعمّق بالمسيح.



### **Saint Charbel oil LAMP**

**Saint Charbel Oil Lamp light for a week** is Available in memory of a loved one or for a special intention. Suggested donation \$10.00. See Msgr. Azzi to select a week.

## Offertory January 14

Collection: Mass Jan 7: \$ 685.00  
Mass Jan 14: \$ 580.00  
New year party: \$ 980.00



Donations to St. Charbel's Parish Use-E-Transfer: to BMO Direct Deposit Via Email: [fredericton.stcharbel@gmail.com](mailto:fredericton.stcharbel@gmail.com)  
Thank you in Advance, God Bless.

## Miscellaneous



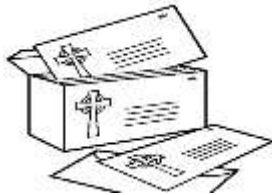
Dear parishioners, as you know, February 2<sup>nd</sup> is the feast of the presentation of the Lord in the Temple. On Sunday Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> I would like to bless all babies 2 years old and younger during mass at 11:30 am.

Parents who would like to have their baby/babies blessed, please contact Maria David at (506) 897 1091 or [m.david146434@gmail.com](mailto:m.david146434@gmail.com) by Feb 1<sup>st</sup> to collect all information needed:

a) child name, b) date of birth, c) full name of parents, d) picture of the child, So, we can have enough time to create a slide for each child. Thank you and God bless.



**Saint Charbel Parish** is seeking new members to its Parish Pastoral and Administrative Councils for the year 2024 starting in January. we encourage you to take an active role in helping build and vision our Parish into the future. Please contact in person Msgr Pierre Azzi.



**The 2024 Offertory Envelopes** are now available at the entrance of the church. Please advise the office of any change to your address. There are envelopes for the new users, please verify the number. Thank you for your kind generosity



Family Prayers Sunday Mass

### Reflection on the Presentation of Christ to the Temple February 2nd



This feast commemorates how Jesus, as a baby, was presented to God in the Temple in Jerusalem. This presentation finds its complete and perfect fulfillment in the mystery of the passion, death and Resurrection of the Lord. Simeon, upon seeing the Messiah, gave thanks to the Lord, Singing: Lord, now you let your servant go in peace, your word has been fulfilled. It has been revealed to Simeon by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah.



- Saint Maron, February 9
- Ash Monday Feb 12  
(lent season start)
- Saint Valentine Feb 14

### A Prayer for Inner Strength

Dear God,  
Please give me the strength to endure this situation, and to find the blessings and lessons that it contains.

Please give me the endurance to continue ahead.

Please guide my thoughts, words and actions, so that I walk your path of peace and love.

*Amen*

WEEK of  
**PRAYER**  
for CHRISTIAN UNITY  
2024



SEMAINE de  
**PRIERE**  
pour L'UNITE DES CHRETIENS  
2024

"You shall love the Lord your God...and your neighbour as yourself" (Luke 10:27)

[weekofprayer.ca](http://weekofprayer.ca)

« Tu aimeras le Seigneur ton Dieu... et ton prochain comme toi-même » (Luc 10,27)

[semainedepriere.ca](http://semainedepriere.ca)



January 18 to January 25