



**St. Michael the Archangel
Maronite Catholic Church**
806 Arsenal Avenue
Fayetteville, NC 28305
Office: 910 - 484 - 1531



Email: stmikeoffice@gmail.com **website:** stmichaelsmaronite.net **October 15, 2023**

5TH SUNDAY AFTER HOLY CROSS



HE IS WORTH THE WAIT

The primary meaning of the parable centers around the importance of waiting. In the traditional allegorical interpretation of the parable, the bridegroom is Jesus, and the church is represented by the waiting maidens who are invited into the wedding feast. Since Matthew may have been written 50 years after the resurrection of Christ, **the church was struggling with the extended time interval between the first coming and the second coming of Christ.** Perhaps some were losing hope. Some suggest that Matthew uses this parable to remind the church that the end will come and it will come suddenly, but it may not necessarily come soon.

While verse 13 offers a concluding warning to “keep awake,” it is interesting to note that sleepiness is not the significant issue in this parable. All the bridesmaids fell asleep, but not all of them were prepared. The parable may be about having enough of what it takes to “hang in there” long enough to be ready to greet Jesus when he comes.

Waiting seems to be one of the central themes of the Christian life. After 2,000 years of waiting for the second coming of Christ, Christians should be experts at it. Just as we have to wait until that final denouement, we have to wait day by day for the presence of the Lord. This emphasis on waiting reminds us that we are not always in control. Sometimes we want what we want, and we want it right now. But our relationship with God doesn’t always work that way. For some of us, waiting is very difficult. Perhaps it is especially difficult for us in a generation like ours with instant gratification and instant access. We are not used to waiting. We don’t like to wait in line, wait for the news, wait for the mail, wait for our food. But the spiritual disciplines of the Christian life emphasize waiting. We are to pray and meditate and wait. For those who “wait for the Lord shall renew their strength.”

Perhaps you have seen people who are good at such waiting. They have amazing strength. People ask, “How did you do it?” “Where did you get all that strength?” “Why don’t you ever get discouraged?” “Why are you so hopeful about the future?” These are the people who know how to wait on God.

This parable reminds us that there are some things we can’t borrow. The maidens wanted to borrow oil, but could not. We can go next door and borrow an egg or a cup of sugar. We can borrow a drill or a saw. We can borrow a car or a tractor. But we can not borrow character or integrity. We can not borrow wisdom or selfless service. And we can not borrow a relationship with God.

Many people get bogged down at this point of the parable. We have to see beyond the contradictions to the deeper meaning, and we all know that there are certain things which cannot be borrowed. (*continue on page 3*)

CLERGY

Fr. Paul Damien, Pastor

Fr. Jack Morrison (retired)

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday, Thursday,
Friday

10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

LITURGY / MASS :

Tues - Fri: 9:00 am

Saturday: 5:00 PM

Sunday: 10:30 AM

Office Email:

stmikeoffice@gmail.com

Facebook:

Saint Michael the
Archangel Maronite
Catholic Church



PRAYER CHAIN

Please contact Lucy Zahran or call church office to **join the prayer chain** or with **prayer requests**

“5TH SUNDAY AFTER HOLY CROSS”

Saturday Oct 14- 5:00 PM: Wayne Nesbitt Sr. By the Wayne, Kim & the family
Sunday Oct. 15- 10:30 AM: for Giakhang Birthday by Thanh & Han Vo

Tuesday	Oct 17	9:00 am	Sts. Cosmas and Damian, M	Joan Wilson Buher (RIP) by MJ Fredette, Warren Hahn & Patti Reynolds & family
Wednesday	Oct 18	9:00 am	St. Luke the Evangelist, Ap	For Kim Ngan Nguyen intentions by Thanh & Han Vo
Thursday	Oct 19	9:00 am	St. Aaron of Antioch, M Sts. John de Brébeuf, Isaac Jorgues and Companions (USA), M	For the intentions of the Sherman's By Mr. & Mrs. Sherman
Friday	Oct 20	9:00 am	St. Shallita (Artemius), M	For the intentions of Thanh & Han Vo by Thanh & Han Vo

“6TH SUNDAY AFTER HOLY CROSS”

Saturday Oct. 21- 5:00 PM: Marshall Howie by MJ & Warren Hahn & Patti Reynolds & family
Sunday Oct. 22- 10:30 AM: (RIP) Anna Hay Pham & Roco An Pham by Mrs. Sherman

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Sign up today, at the church entrance for a Holy Hour!



Every Thursday
9:30 am - 2:00pm
Rosary for Peace @ 9:30 am

CATHOLIC SOCIAL MINISTRIES

Place your donation of Peanut butter & jelly in the basket next to the Confessional.

August: Donations
84 lbs

READERS

10/14	MJ Hahn	10/15	Annika Nesbitt
10/21	Lynn Vaughan	10/22	Marie Catalana
10/28	Christian Lupo	10/29	Ray Miller
11/4	Kathy Criminger	11/5	Chris Cooper

SCRIPTURE

5th Sunday after Holy Cross
Phil 2: 12-18/ Mt 25: 1-13

6th Sunday after Holy Cross
Gal 6: 1-11/ Mt 25: 14-30

Sunday of Christ the King
Rom 12: 9-21/ Mt 25: 31-46



To be listed as Reader, please text Kim Phelan @ 352-317-8529 or email consecrated2021@gmail.com or the church office

GIFTS OF THANKSGIVING

Offer the Incense, Candles and Wine for one month in memory/honor of someone for a \$25 donation.

October

In Thanksgiving

By Jason & Linda Christopher



Collections (50th)	\$ 2721.00
Collections Oct. 8	\$ 1109.00
Candles (2 weeks)	\$ 122.00
Candles Oct 8	\$ 163 .00
September (DEFICIT)	\$ - 1365.00

(page 1 - continue) There are some things others can do for us. They can care. They can share some of their resources. They can encourage us and offer support and inspiration. But they cannot answer to God for us.

And we have the same limits on what we can do for others. We can't make their spiritual choices. We can't answer to God for them. We can't do their spiritual maturing for them. Others have to work with God to cultivate and produce their own spiritual fruit.

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plete list of all available styles, are in the social hall by the Ladies Guild gift counter!

All proceeds benefit the



2nd Collection - REMINDER:

October 22 - World Mission Sunday (91% goes to Society for the Propagation of the Faith and 9% to the Catholic Near East Welfare Association - CNEWA : Help for the Christians in the Middle East)

ONLINE GIVING



VOCATION CHALICE

10/14:
10/15:
10/21:
10/22:

Volunteer
Warren Hahn
Volunteer
Marie Catalana



If your family would like to volunteer to pray for Vocations to Religious Life , please text or email Kimberly P. @ (352) 317-8529 or consecrated2021@gmail.com

Please see Kim Nesbitt after Sunday's Divine Liturgy to choose your child's Saint apparel for the Parade of Saints.

KNIGHTS CORNER



Saturday , October 14 : if no rain ,mowing the grass at the rectory .

Thank you for all who helped, donated and participated in the Pine Derby

FROM THE LADIES GUILD



- We are beginning our Cookie Sale. Please contact Mary Louise or Lynn if you're willing to bake this year.

- "Seven Sisters" are looking for 5 women willing to commit to Pray an hour a week for our Clergy. Please contact the Anchoress if interested or need more information: sferry84@verizon.net



- Please do not read the bulletin in the church.

-**No walking back and forth** during Scripture & Gospel Readings, during the Consecration & Invocation of the Holy Spirit. Wait at the entrance until done then go back to your seat.

- **crossing of legs** is not allowed . This is not a prayerful position. Seated, standing and kneeling are the prayer positions.

- **the Sign of Peace** is not a kiss on the mouth . It comes from the Altar and is shared **by closed hands** among people. The kiss of Peace given on the cheeks is not recommended in our tradition.



We need to set a good example for our children and our guests. Thank You.

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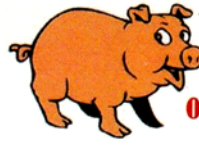


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*Congratulations to St. Michael Archangel
Ladies Guild, established in 2013,
celebrating 11years of service. Committed
to "promoting the work of the Church &
building a spiritual community of faith
within the Parish."* AD BY: **MJ**

Warren Hahn
Cape Fear
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