



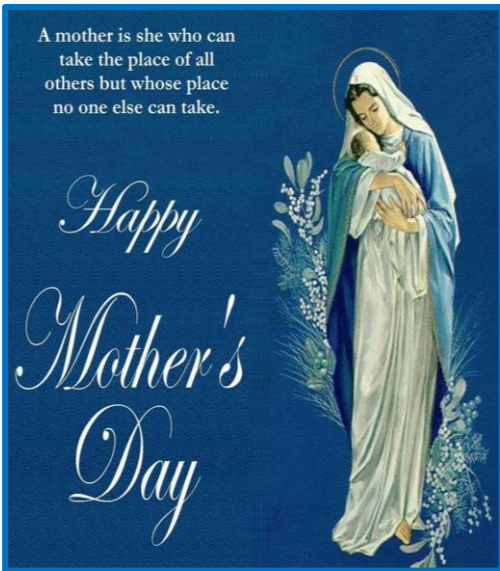
# Our Lady of Purgatory



## Maronite Catholic Church

May 09-10, 2020

# FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY



### HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

I would like to wish all of our Mothers a very happy and blessed Mother's Day. So deserving of our love and admiration not only today but every day. This beautiful day not only belongs to biological mothers either. The gift of a mother goes beyond those boundaries.

In my household, there were many people who played their part in being a mother to me. Not that my mother didn't fulfill her role showering her children with love, encouragement, discipline, and faith. But there were others who also helped in the role of mother. I had aunts who never married and became a mother to me; dear friends who didn't have children who became mothers to me; and even sisters who became mothers to me. To all of these people, and those of you like them, I say Happy Mother's Day.

Every day we should give our mothers the gratitude and love they deserve. They work tirelessly and without recompense to raise their children in a home filled with love and compassion. They work endlessly to keep their children close to their faith, traditions, values, and culture, so that they will pass the same down to their children. Their

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*"The most beautiful word on the lips of mankind is the word "Mother," and the most beautiful call is the call of "My mother." It is a word full of hope and love, a sweet and kind word coming from the depths of the heart. The mother is everything – she is our consolation in sorrow, our hope in misery, and our strength in weakness. She is the source of love, mercy, sympathy, and forgiveness.... And the mother, the prototype of all existence, is the eternal spirit, full of beauty and love."*

*Kahlil Gibran*

*I am a parent Dear Lord;  
I ask of nothing from you for me.  
I pray only that in your mercy  
you would grant my children  
their needs.  
May their lives be long and  
healthy; may they achieve all  
their dreams; may they always  
live in a word that is free; may  
they be who they were born to  
be; and may they know to their  
last days that they were deeply  
loved by me.  
Amen.*

Fr. Vincent Farhat, Pastor | Rev. Mr. Jean Mattar, Deacon | Joseph Abraham, Sub-deacon

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OFFICE HOURS: The Church office will be open Monday through Thursday from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm.

job is never finished. Their work never ends and for this we can never thank them enough.

Loving God, as a mother gives life and nourishment to her children, just as you watch over your Church. Bless these women, that they may be strengthened as Christian mothers. As our Blessed Mother is a mother to us all, may her virtues, love, and strength be an example for all of us to follow. Grant that we, their sons and daughters, may honor them always with a spirit of profound respect. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

I wish each of you a blessed and happy Mother's Day.

## THE BIRDS WILL SING AGAIN

During this Coronavirus pandemic, many are tempted to fear, anxiety and perhaps even despair. Some have lost their precious lives, some have lost those whom they love, some have suffered through the debilitating effects of this illness, some have lost their jobs, their income, and most have encountered much disruption to the normal flow of their daily lives.

Every crisis in life is also an opportunity to turn to our beloved Savior in trust and complete abandonment so as to rest in His merciful hands. To rest in the hands of God means we are secure, despite the uncertainty of life. It means we are free to love God and others; despite the challenges we face. It means we raise our eyes to Heaven, rather than look down in fear.

<https://mycatholic.life/catholic-prayers/a-prayer-for-healing-and-hope/#COVID-19>

Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I know it feels like eternity since we have been together as a community. It may even feel that the circumstances we are faced with now will never end. But we know

that the birds will sing again! In our time of need, we know that Jesus is with us. When we are lost, broken, weary, and filled with despair, we know that Jesus is with us.

There is no question that we have encountered one of the most difficult times in our lives, but we know that the birds will sing again. We know this because our faith is what has sustained us during these difficult moments. We know that when we need Him the most, He is there by our side. This is not a cliché. Rather, it is a knowledge and belief that God loves His people and will protect and guide us, especially when we need that love and protection the most. And how do we know this? We know this because of our suffering Lord. Jesus turned to Our Father and He gave Him the strength and comfort to endure His suffering. And He did all this for us. He strengthens and comforts us in our time of suffering, reminding us that the birds will sing again.

We will understand this more once all is put behind us. Perhaps the outcome of this experience will give us a greater meaning of our Church, our God, and our relationships with others. Yes, this experience has changed all of us and hopefully for the better. Perhaps we have come to realize just how precious life is. Perhaps we have come to realize how important the people in our lives are. And perhaps we will no longer take for granted the importance of His Church and sacraments. I believe all of you and feel your emptiness when you tell me how much you miss your Church and receiving the Body and Blood of Jesus. But I want you all to know that we will come out of this situation one day soon. We will once again reunite at the Church that means so much to us. We will pray more fervently as a community because we have come to realize that what has been taken away from us,

because of the safety for all of you, means more to us now than ever before. And when all is said and done, we know the birds will sing again. All because we have our God that truly loves us. What a gift that is! Stay well and stay strong. Abouna Vince

## COVID-19: A Prayer of Solidarity

*For all who have contracted coronavirus,*

*We pray for care and healing.*

*For those who are particularly vulnerable,*

*We pray for safety and protection.*

*For all who experience fear or anxiety,*

*We pray for peace of mind and spirit.*

*For affected families who are facing difficult decisions between food on the table or public safety,*

*We pray for policies that recognize their plight.*

*For those who do not have adequate health insurance,*

*We pray that no family will face financial burdens alone.*

*For those who are afraid to access care due to immigration status,*

*We pray for recognition of the God-given dignity of all.*

*For our brothers and sisters around the world,*

*We pray for shared solidarity.*

*For public officials and decisionmakers,*

*We pray for wisdom and guidance.*

*Father, during this time may your Church be a sign of hope, comfort and love to all.*

*Grant peace.*

*Grant comfort.*

*Grant healing.*

*Be with us, Lord.*

*Amen.*

<https://mycatholic.life/catholic-prayers/a-prayer-for-healing-and-hope/#COVID-19>

## LITURGY INTENTIONS

**Saturday, May 9, @ 5:00 PM, (Feast of Isaiah the Prophet)** liturgy is being offered for the deceased members of the Kenyon and Daher families requested by their family. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of George and Mary Saba and George Michael Saba requested by Annemarie Espindola. May their souls rest in peace. (FM)

**Sunday, May 10, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of St. Simon the Zealot)** liturgy is being offered for the soul of Mary Madsen requested by Annemarie Espindola. May her soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of JoAnne Yozepek requested by her family. May her soul rest in peace.

**Monday, May 11,**

**Tuesday, May 12,**

**Wednesday, May 13, (Feast of Our Lady of Fatima)**

**Thursday, May 14,**

**Saturday, May 16, @ 5:00 PM,** liturgy is being offered for the souls of Bashara, Helena, and John John requested by Helena Tavares and family. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Peter and Raja Saba Bou Eassey requested by their family. May their souls rest in peace. (FM)

**Sunday, May 17, @ 10:30 PM,**

## IN OUR PRAYERS

Fernanda Thomas, Hiam Cheiab, Leo Roderick, Anthony (Tommy) Thomas, Rose John, Theresa John, Laurette BouRamia, Annie Peter, Jeannie Francis, Mariam David, Norma Thomas, Zita Drouin, Lucienne Rodrigues, Ed DaRocha, Edmond Salameh, and Alice Daher. If anyone is missing from this list please contact the Church office.

## Prayer for Spiritual Communion

*O Divine Ocean of Mercy and Compassion, be with us in our time of trial and difficulties. Today I make an act of spiritual communion with you, the Life-Giving Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. At this time, I am not able to receive the sacred body and blood of my Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ, but I choose to live in union with him and in the unity of the Holy Spirit. I offer my day, my daily life, my joys and sorrows to you, for those around me, and for the whole world. Be with us O life-giving Triune God, for we know that nothing in this world has power over us. O Lover of all people, have mercy on us and on the whole world.*

## ANNUAL BISHOPS CHARITY APPEAL

Each year the Eparchy of St. Maron of Brooklyn appeals to each parish for the annual Bishops Charity Appeal. The money is divided as follows: 30% for priests' retirement, 25% go towards the seminarian's education and boarding, 15% goes toward our endowment fund, 15% goes to Patriarchal liturgical commission and texts, and 15% goes to Lebanon. Each parish in the eparchy is asked to send an amount based on the size of the parish and the ability to raise this money for these much-needed programs. OLOP Church must raise \$3,500.00. All of you have been very generous in the past and I am confident we will raise the amount requested. Thus far we have collected \$1,358.00 toward that amount. I thank you for your continued generosity for this worthy cause.

## WINE AND HOST OFFERINGS

*This month of May, the wine and bread offerings are in memory of Joseph M. Thomas, requested by Thomas Hitchings Family. May his soul rest in peace.*

Anyone who would like to give an offering in memory of a loved one or for a special intention for the month of October, please see Fr. Vincent. The cost for the month is \$75.00, which covers the cost of the communion bread and wine. Thank you and God bless.

**PLEASE REMEMBER THAT ALL LITURGIES WILL BE AVIALABLE THROUGH ZOOM. PLEASE SEE THE SCHEDULE BELOW. I WILL SEND AN INVITATION FOR EACH SERVICE. I WILL ALSO SEND THE TEXT FOR EACH LITURGY SO THAT YOU MAY PARTICIPATE AT HOME.**

**ALSO PLEASE BE SURE YOU PLACE YOUR PHONE OR COMPUTER ON MUTE ONCE YOU LOG INTO THE SERVICE.**

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

Please know that confession is available before liturgies. You may also call to set up an appointment.

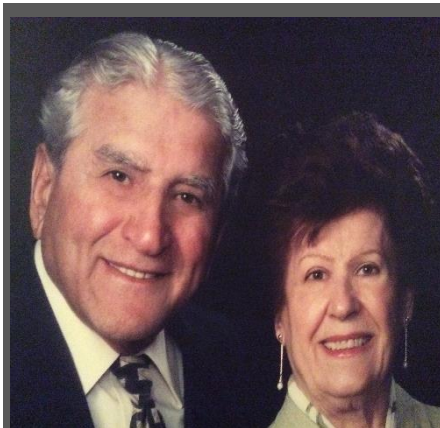
**THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS AND GENEROSITY BY SENDING IN YOUR WEELY COLLECTIONS VIA MAIL. THIS HAS BEEN VERY HELPFUL FOR THE CHURCH. GOD BLESS YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.**

## WEEKLY COLLECTION

FOR

May 2-3, 2020


Sunday Collection \$ 3,205.00  
 Altar Wine and Bread \$ 100.00  
 Donations for Others \$ 215.00  
**Total: \$ 3,520.00**



Joseph & Marie Kenyon

*How empty life is without you. Your Love and Patience has made us into who we are today. Your Guidance has set our path in life. We Miss seeing your face, hearing your voice, seeing your smile and hearing your laugh. We Love you and miss you even more with each passing day*

*Your Loving Children*



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