



Our Lady of Purgatory



Maronite Catholic Church

July 11-12, 2020

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST



The Massabki brothers: Francis, Abdel Moati, & Raphael

(Maronite martyrs, who offered up their lives a burning offering of love to Christ in Damascus in the year 1860). Francis, Abdel Moati and Rafael were brothers, who lived in Damascus, Syria, in a devout Maronite family, known for its piety, wealth, nobility, and compassion towards the poor and the needy. In the year 1860, when the Muslims in Damascus and the Druze in Mount and South Lebanon attacked and massacred the Christians, our martyrs, along with a large crowd of Christians, took refuge in the Franciscan monastery in Damascus, after the Muslims had set the fire in

the Christian neighbourhood. In the monastery, they were praying and celebrating the mysteries of Reconciliation (confession) and Eucharist for the last time.

While Francis stayed alone in the Church, kneeling down before the statue of Our Lady of Sorrow and praying, he was filled with hope. After midnight a band of armed Muslim rioters broke into the monastery. Christians were terrified and confused, some managed to run away, and others hid themselves. The rioters shouted: "where is Francis Massabki? We are after him". At that, Francis approached them audaciously, saying: "I am Francis Massabki, how can I help you?" They told him, that we have come to save you and your family, under one condition, that you become Muslims, or we will kill you all. He answered them: "We are Christians and faithful to Christ we live and die. We do not fear those who can kill the body, as the Lord Jesus said."

Then, he looked at his brothers and said to them: "have courage and stand firm in your faith, because the crown of victory is already ready in heaven for those who persevere till the end." At that, his two brothers confessed publicly their faith in the Lord Jesus saying: "We are Christians, and we want to live and die as Christians." Thus, their

persecutors attacked them, beating them with their sticks, knives and axes. In this manner they were killed, preferring death over denying their faith in Christ, who crowned them as martyrs. That happened in July 10th in the year 1860. His holiness Pope Pius XI had declared them blessed in October 10th, 1926, thanks to the efforts of bishop Bechara Al'Shemali, the Maronite Archbishop of Damascus. May their prayers be with us. Amen.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"You will be consoled according to the greatness of your sorrow and affliction; the greater the suffering, the greater will be the reward."

*St. Mary Magdalen
de'Pazzi*



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.

ملخص العظة

زمن العنصرة: إرسال التلاميذ الإثني عشر
هذه الفقرة من الإنجيل تتحدث عن الرسل
الإثني عشر الذين أرسلهم يسوع ليبشروا
العالم. مهمة التلاميذ مشابهة تمامًا لمهمة
يسوع. إذهبوا واشفوا المرضى، وقولوا لهم
"ملكوت الله قد اقترب".

أوصاهم يسوع أن يكون سفرهم خفيف. ماذا
يعني هذا؟ هل يطبق هذا في الوقت الحاضر؟
كم من أشياء عديمة الجدوى نجد في منازلنا؟
كم من ثقلٍ نحمل في حياتنا؟ قلق وضغط
وخوف. لكلِّ منا حملة، وأحياناً ما تتشابه
أحمالنا مع أشخاص آخرين. عندما نسبح
لأنفسنا أن نستسلم للقلق والخوف، ننسى أن
يسوع هو القائد. عندما نسمح للغضب أن
يسيطر علينا، ننسى صانع السلام. أحياناً
تكون مشاعرنا مرتبكة، لكن هذا لا يعني أنه
يجب أن تقبى كذلك. الله يريد أن يكون هو من
يقيم في داخلنا، وإذا سمحنا لتلك الأمور
أخرى أن تستقر فينا، لن يبقى ليسوع مكاناً
ليعمل فينا. فهل تساءلتم يوماً ما معنى
"مساكين في الروح"؟ انها تتحدث عن عدم
وجود حملٍ داخلي أو هوية مرتبطة بالأمور
المادية والدينيوية المعارضة لتعاليم الله؛ حينئذٍ
فقط يكون ملكوت الله قريب.

نَبِّه يسوع التلاميذ ألا يعلنوا رسالتهم الخاصة
وألا يضعوا برنامجهم الخاص، ألا ينشروا
أفكارهم الخاصة وألا يطالبوا بأي شيء؛ بل
أن تكون رسالتهم رسالة سلام. أوصاهم ألا
يميزوا ويختاروا بين الناس بل أن يبشروا
عن سبل الله.

"إنَّ الحصاد كثير" هذا الأمر صحيح، أنه
نفسه في اليوم الحاضر كما كان في زمن
يسوع. الحضور في الكنيسة قليل،
وخصوصاً من الجيل الشاب. إحدى ظواهر
الإيمان الحالية أن الناس باتت تبتكر عقائدها
الخاصة. نسمعهم يقولون: أنا أو من بالله
ولكني لست ملتزم دينياً؛ لا أذكر آخر مرة
ذهبت بها إلى الكنيسة لكن أنا إنسان صالح لا
أسئ للآخرين أطبق الوصايا العشرة!!!!
ممممم أليست إحدى الوصايا تنص بوضوح
"قدس يوم الرب"؟ يذكرني هذا بقصة الكاهن
الذي كان يحيي أبناء الرعية بعد قداس الأحد
ورأى شخصاً كان غائباً لفترة طويلة، فأخذه
جانباً وسأله "سيدي، هل تريد أن تنضم إلي
جيش الرب؟"، أجابه الرجل "أنا منتم من قبل
إلى جيش الرب"، فسأله الكاهن "كيف ذلك
ولا أراك سوى خلال عيدي الميلاد

والفصح؟" همس الرجل في أذن الكاهن
"لأنني من شعبة المخبرات".

أندرس يسوع تلاميذه من مقاومة ورفض الناس
لهم، هذا ما يحدث اليوم، لم يتغير شيء.
الكثير من المسيحيين يُتهضون اليوم بسبب
إيمانهم أكثر من أي وقت مضى.

أوصى يسوع تلاميذه بالأمور التي يجب أن
يفعلوها ولكنه لم يحدد لهم كيف يقاس
نجاحهم. قال لهم: إن لم يقبل الناس رسالتكم،
أنفضوا الغبار عن أرجلكم وامضوا في
طريقكم. في مهنتنا وحياتنا اليومية من
الصعب تجنب قياس نجاحاتنا. نعيش في
زمن الإنتماء وتحديد الدرجات ووضع
الميزانيات والمحاضر وكل ما يحدد مراتب
الأشخاص. هذه الأمور تسهل علينا قياس
النجاح، فيستند عليها البعض لتحديد رعايتنا.
هذا الأمر يتعارض مع رسالة يسوع في
إنجيل اليوم. علينا أن نتكل على تقييم يسوع
لنا ونأمل أن يقول لنا "هنيئاً لك أيها العبد
الصالح الأمين".

يقول يسوع للتلاميذ الإثني وسبعون "إذهبوا.
ها إني أرسلكم كالحملان بين الذئاب".
يريدهم أن يتقوا بالله ويريدنا أن نقوم بالمثل.
أرسلهم في طرق خطيرة وأرادهم أن يتكلموا
على حماية ومعونة الله فقال لهم "لا تحمّلوا
كيساً، ولا زاداً، ولا جِداً، ولا تسلموا على
أحدٍ في الطريق".

الرسالة لا تزال مستمر اليوم، حيث يرسل
يسوع رجالاً ونساء، اثنين اثنين، ولكن الفعلة
قليلون. فلنصلي من أجل المزيد من الفعلة
لخدمة الله الذي هو وحده مخلصنا من خلال
ابنه الوحيد يسوع المسيح. آمين



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Tuesday, July 14, we will gather
for Eucharistic Adoration at 6:00
PM. This is an opportunity to
spend some time with Jesus and
ask for His help. Mark your
calendars and please join us for
this beautiful service.

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.*

RESERVATIONS FOR DIVINE LITURGIES

As foreign as this may be to all of us,
it is imperative, in order to keep
within the guidelines of the
Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to
go to the following links to reserve
your seat for Divine Liturgy. We are
allowed to have 75 people for each
liturgy. You have all received the
guidelines and procedures that need
to be taken during the Phase One
opening

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/SaturdayMass>

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/SundayMass>

IN OUR PRAYERS

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

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, July 11, @ 5:00 PM, Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Mary Collins requested by Ida Farhat. May her soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Michael David by his wife Ann (FM). May his soul rest in peace.

Sunday, July 12, @ 10:30 PM, liturgy is being offered for the soul of Anthony "Tommy" Thomas requested by Philip and Jano Baroudi. May his soul rest in peace.

Saturday, July 18, @ 5:00 PM, liturgy is being offered for the soul of Michael J. David by Robert Macedo (FM). May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Nacklie and Marie Nessralla requested by their children. May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, July 19, @ 10:30 AM, Liturgy is being offered for the souls George and Mary Saba requested by their family (FM). May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Christine David requested by Michael and Joan Mello and family. May her soul rest in peace.

LECTORS FOR JULY

Saturday, July 11,

Carol Ann Maslanka

Sunday, July 12,

Jean Barbour/Rena Choubah

Saturday, July 18,

Smitty Cabral

Sunday, July 19,

Joan Mello/Hiba Chedid

Saturday, July 25,

Carol Ann Maslanka

Sunday, July 26,

Mae Dickinson/Gaby Baroody

Dear Parishioners of OLOP:

We pray that you are healthy and staying safe in these trying times. God willing this will end as soon as possible and we can all safely assemble together again.

As you may know, for the last few months, we have been preparing to demolish the house on Pleasant Street. We have finally obtained all the permits, passed all the necessary inspections and have disconnected all the utilities. We are now able to knock the building down. The cost of demolition has been quoted at between \$10,000 and \$15,000 and we have hired a company to begin in the next week or so. This year has been a difficult year for our church. We were unable to have our annual Hafli and now our summer festival has been postponed, and we may have to cancel it. For years we have relied on our fundraisers to help pay our monthly bills. Without them our savings get depleted.

While we consider ourselves a wealthy parish when it comes to our parishioners, you are all aware that we are not as monetarily wealthy as we would like. We have money in both our building fund and our general fund but to withdraw the amount needed for the demolition will certainly leave us in a weakened position. We understand that this is also a very difficult time for all of our parishioners, but we, as OLOP's Financial Council and an advisory board for Fr. Vincent, have an obligation to ask if you could find some donations to help offset the cost of the demolition.

Any amount you can donate will help us maintain our savings for emergencies.

We have recently implemented an on-line donation system, so in addition to the traditional ways to donate, you can now donate via the internet. Please visit the website at www.ourladyofpurgatory.org for instructions.

God bless you and stay safe and healthy. In Christ,
The OLOP Financial Council and Fr. Vincent

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT ALL LITURGIES WILL BE AVIALABLE THROUGH ZOOM AND FACEBOOK. 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.

WINE AND HOST OFFERINGS

This month of July, the wine and bread offerings are for Mariam David and the living and deceased members of the David and Daher Families. Anyone who would like to give an offering in memory of a loved one or for a special intention for the month of January, 2021, 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.

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.

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.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

FOR

July 4-5, 2020

Sunday Collection \$ 1,360.00
 Candles \$ 61.00
 Total: \$ 1,421.00



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

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