



# Our Lady of Purgatory Maronite Catholic Church

November 12, 2019

Dear Parishioners of Our Lady of Purgatory Church:

As you probably know, since the early 1960's our Parish has had a policy of trying to purchase properties adjacent to the Church and Rectory if they become available. As part of this process we purchased the property on the corner of Merrimac and Pleasant, and later purchased the adjacent property. In 2005, we purchased the property at 1227-1229 Pleasant Street. The Parish's goal in purchasing these properties was to increase off street parking in the short term and provide flexibility and options to the parish in the long run for either expansion or sale. This would allow us to provide the best facilities we could within the confines of our financial abilities.

As you may know, we have retired the debt on 1227-1229 Pleasant Street and are now completing the application process with the City of New Bedford to obtain a demolition permit. Bishop Gregory had previously given his permission to demolish the building and recently confirmed that permission upon my arrival as your new pastor.

Before we demolish the building, we are removing any appliances, furnaces, electrical boxes, etc., that may have value and be reused. If you are interested in obtaining any of these items, please contact me. They are being made available at no cost, but a donation would be welcome.

We anticipate demolition taking place during the beginning of December. Once the property has been demolished, we can begin a parish conversation regarding the various options for the future use of the property and the adjacent parcels.

It is my hope that one day in the near future, we will be able to utilize the property connected to the Church to secure a bright future for this dedicated and hard-working community. A future that will ensure generations to come a safe place to call home and to learn and grow in the true spirit of our faith. Together, as a community, we can achieve this goal, always working for the greater glory of God.

I ask for your prayers for me and this entire community, and that the Holy Spirit fill us with the love and zeal for a brighter future for Our Lady of Purgatory.

I remain yours in Christ,

Rev. Vincent W. Farhat  
Pastor