



# Our Lady of Purgatory

## Maronite Catholic Church



June 20-21, 2020

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST



fathers have an experience that is timeless and it is with this experience that a father's authority and discipline must be respected.

A father's role in the spiritual life of his family defines the kind of man he

### HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

This weekend we celebrate Father's Day and we honor and thank our father's both living and deceased for the special care they give us and have given us throughout our lives. Today, I speak about the wonderful gift of our father's.

In God's infinite wisdom, He created men and women, each with their special attributes and specific roles in the lives of their children and family. We can never take for granted the men in our lives. Each of them, in their own ways, shape and mold our lives as a family and as a community of faithful in Jesus Christ. This responsibility is a very daunting task; a task that father's, who take this role seriously, can help define who we are.

A father gives his life by working hard in order to provide for his family. He provides shelter, food, education, discipline, and love. He uses his authority as head of the family---an authority that may not always be what we want as children; however, it is usually what is best for us. Many times, when we begin to have our own families is when we realize this more than ever. The role as father, if taken seriously, is one of the defining roles that children rely on in times of need. With age comes wisdom is what children need to remember. We as children must remember that our fathers have experience in the world. They have walked in our shoes as children. Even though the world constantly changes with new technology, new fashion, and new challenges that children have at their disposal, our

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*“Without father figures, young people often feel ‘orphaned,’ left adrift at a critical moment in their growth and development... fathers are necessary as examples and guides for our children in wisdom and virtue.”*

*Pope Francis*



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.

is. It is in the context of a family that a father's role as spiritual leader is one that Jesus requires of the men in our lives. Beginning with Genesis with the Prophet Abraham and all throughout the Old Testament, we hear the word of God outlining the role of the father. We see this in Exodus with the prophet Moses and his descendants and we see this in the New Testament with the fulfillment of God's Word through Jesus Christ.

One passage in the New Testament that comes to mind is St. Paul's letter to the Colossians, chapters 3-4. This passage, which is usually misunderstood by many, especially in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, gives us a complete model as to what Jesus tells us about the Christian family.

***The Christian Family: Wives, be subordinate to your husbands, as is proper in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and avoid any bitterness toward them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is pleasing to the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, so they may not become discouraged. Slaves, obey your human masters in everything, not only when being watched, as currying favor, but in simplicity of heart, fearing the Lord. Whatever you do, do from the heart, as for the Lord and not for others, knowing that you will receive from the Lord the due payment of the inheritance; be slaves of the Lord Christ. For the wrongdoer will receive recompense for the wrong he committed, and there is no partiality. Masters, treat your slaves justly and fairly, realizing that you too have a Master in heaven. (Colossians 3:18-4:1)***

St. Paul's letter is not meant to be degrading to women by appealing to their submissiveness to men; a point taken out of context by many and a point that makes St. Paul an easy

target by equal rights groups. What St. Paul is saying to us is that each of us, men, women, children, and servants, have a role to play and each of us are equally responsible by giving mutual respect to each other. This letter stresses the importance of respect for one another based on love and compassion. These relationships are given conditions of the actions of the subordinates (wives, children, slave), as well as conditions of what is expected of the master (husband, father, master). These conditions are based on the love of Christ and all that is pleasing to the Lord. The meaning behind this is service to the Lord. St. Paul wants to keep the focus on being subordinate to the Lord as it is through this submission that the natural order of human beings keep love as the basis of one's relationship in the world.

St. Paul explains what is expected of husbands towards their wives. There is a strict code in which husbands are to respect their wives. They are to love their wives in a manner that is expected for all Christians to love one another. This love based on Jesus' teachings, keeps in mind the well-being of both husband and wife--- a strong bond with each other and with God the Father. Through mutual respect and love, order and respect in the household can achieve fruitful results. St. John Chrysostom expressed this during his homily by saying, "To love, therefore, is the husband's part, to yield pertains to the other side. If, then, each one contributes his own part, all stand firm. From being loved, the wife too becomes loving; and from her being submissive, the husband learns to yield."

Children are to be obedient to their parents. Obedience that was established with the Ten Commandments. It has always been pleasing to God in giving respect and love to one's parents. Jesus shows by

His life of obedience to His Father the magnitude of this command.

And although obedience is expected through the commands of God, St. Paul also tells us that Fathers have a responsibility not to provoke their children so that they may become discouraged. St. Paul outlines the father's actions to his children. Fathers are not to abuse their authority to their children just as they are not to abuse their authority to their wives. By nurturing love and care for one's children, in return, the children are to love and obey their fathers. This includes an understanding to parents as well, in that, they are instructed "to do nothing which would alienate their children."

St. Paul has conditions for each family member in the full Christian structure of the family. And although there is a sense of hierarchy of the Christian family unit, each one of those members are expected to act out of love for one another. With mutual love and respect in the family unit we all participate in the submission to the love of Jesus Christ. St. Paul's instructions to submit oneself in pleasing the Lord serves as a goal to mankind to act with the motive of love to one another and knowing that each person is subject to God. One will conclude through St. Paul's letter that one is judged ultimately by God and that all are subject, regardless of social class, to the same Master, Jesus Christ.

By sharing this passage with you on Father's Day, it is my hope that we as faithful Catholics understand the responsibilities that are placed on our father's and to appreciate their role in our lives. Father's, we thank you and we ask almighty God to bless you and give you the strength to continue your role in the true Christian spirit

## LITURGY INTENTIONS

**Saturday, June 20, @ 5:00 PM,** liturgy is being offered for the soul of Joanne Yozefek requested by Rose David and family. May her soul rest in peace.

**Sunday, June 21, @ 10:30 AM,** Liturgy is offered for our fathers in honor of Father's Day. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Georgette and Samir Sawaya requested by Hiba nad Zakhia Chedid and family. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Charles and Ann Lizotte by their family (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

**Monday, June 22, 6:00 PM,** Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Tufeek P. David by his wife Mary and children. May his soul rest in peace (FM).

**Tuesday, June 23, 12:00 Noon,**

**Wednesday, June 24, 6:00 PM,**

**Thursday, June 25, 12:00 Noon,**

**Saturday, June 27, @ 5:00 PM,** liturgy is being offered for the souls of Radha David and her father Peter David by their family (FM). May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Ruth David by Anne Costa (FM). May her soul rest in peace.

**Sunday, June 28, @ 10:30 PM,** liturgy is being offered as a 40 Day Memorial for the soul of Anthony "Tommy" Thomas requested by his family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Helen and Anthony Buaiz and Grandson Josph Ribeiro by family (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

## 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.

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

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

**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 June, the wine and bread offerings are in memory of John Thomas and Peter and Frozia Thomas requested by Hyatt Thomas and Family. May their souls rest in peace.*

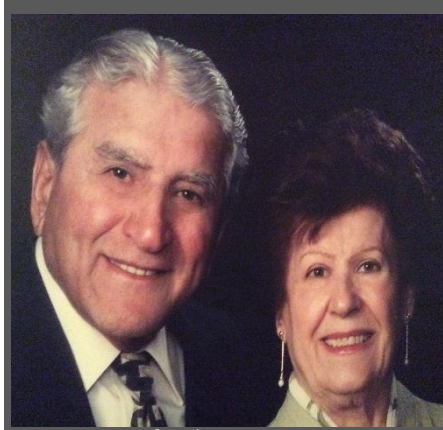
Anyone who would like to give an offering in memory of a loved one or for a special intention for the month of October, please see Fr. Vincent. The cost for the month is \$75.00, which covers the cost of the communion bread and wine. Thank you and God bless.

**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**

**June 13-14, 2020**

**Sunday Collection** \$ 1,472.00  
**Donations** \$ 1,250.00  
**Memorial Donations** \$ 400.00  
**Total:** \$ 3,122.00



*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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