



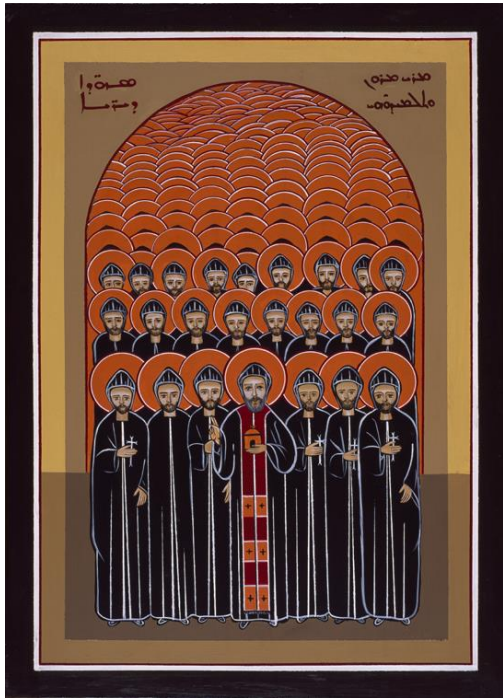
# Our Lady of Purgatory

## Maronite Catholic Church



July 25-26, 2020

# NINTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST



### Martyrdom of 350 Martyrs, Disciples of St Maron – 31 July

After St Maroun died, many were inspired by his teachings and his ascetic way of life. By the fifth century a monastery was built near where he lived known as Bet Maroun. The monastery became very significant in the region. Also, in the fifth century a debate had emerged about the nature of Jesus. The debate centered on whether Jesus was divine, human or both and exactly what that meant. Some, like the Nestorians, argued that Jesus was separately divine and

human and that the two natures were independent. Others such as the Jacobites taught that Jesus was only divine and his divinity absorbed his human nature.

In 451, The Council of Chalcedon dealt with the debate once and for all, declaring that Christ was both divine and human, but one person.

The Maronites upheld the proclamation of the Council of Chalcedon. The monks of Saint Maroun led the way preaching the true doctrine and opposing heresy. We learn of the martyrdom of the 350 Monks in a letter from the monks to Pope Hormisdas in the year 517. They described the suffering and attacks they are enduring, particularly from the Antiochian Patriarchs Severus and Peter who opposed the teachings of the Council of Chalcedon. They described that they were mocked for their support of the Council and were suffering afflictions. The described how the Emperor Anastasius had sent an army that had marched through the district of Apamea closing monasteries and expelling the monks. Some monks had been beaten and others had been thrown into prison. While on their way to St. Simon Stylite, the Maronites had been ambushed and 350 monks

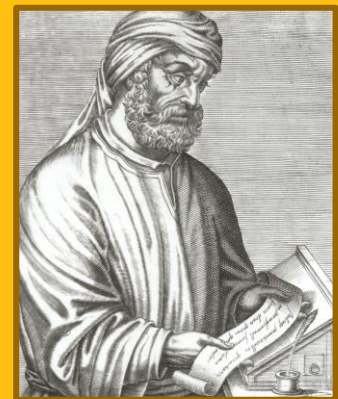
were killed, even though some of them had taken refuge at the altar. The monastery was burned. The letter was signed by Alexander, priest and archimandrite and over 200 other signatures followed, of other archimandrites, priests and deacons.

We pray that like the 350 Martyrs we are always obedient to the teachings of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. May their prayers be with us always. Amen

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*“The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church,”*

*Tertullian of Carthage*



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

أنت قراءة إنجيل اليوم في الوقت المناسب. مع كل الإضطرابات وكل الإضطهادات في عالمنا اليوم، هذه القراءة هي تذكير لنا من قبل يسوع المسيح. تذكير لكل ما يحصل مع كل مسيحيي العالم؛ كيف تُستهدف الكنائس مع إجوتنا وأخواتنا المسيحيين وكيف هم مهذدون ومضطهدون وكيف تُدمر الكنائس بسبب اسم يسوع المسيح.

يسألني الكثير من العالم عن سبب قراءتنا للعهد القديم. إنه طويل، مُربك، ويقولون أن كل ما نريده هو العهد الجديد لأنه يتمم العهد القديم.

العهد القديم مهم لنا لأنه يخبرنا عن مجيء يسوع المسيح وما سيفعله لشعبه. ويخبرنا أيضاً عن المشقات التي سيتحملها شعبه من أجل اسمه. يخبرنا لماذا أرسل الله ابنه الوحيد إلى العالم—ليخلصنا من خطيئتنا، ليحررنا من عبودية الشيطان ومن الموت الأبدي.

خطيئة الإنسان وأفعاله جلبت الشر إلى العالم. وأتى يسوع إلينا ليتألم عنا ويخلصنا فننتعم بالملكوت الأبدي.

يحدثنا بولس الرسول في رسالته إلى أهل كورنثوس من أمور عدة. أخبرنا يسوع، كما تنبأ العهد القديم، عن أمور عدة بأنه يجب نكون مستعدين لنصبح من أتباع يسوع المسيح.

المسيحيين الذين يواجهون الإضطهاد يفهمون كلام بولس الرسول في رسالته. هذه الكلمات تقويهم وتحميهم من التردد فتدخل هذه الكلمات قلوبهم وتساعدهم على تحمل المصائب والضيق والمعاناة التي يواجهونها.

بعد 2000 سنة، لا تزال نواجه الإضطهادات نفسها كما واجهها الرسل وآباء الكنيسة الأولى. بعد 2000 سنة، نستمر بالتراجع عوضاً عن التقدم بسبب شرّ وأناية هذا العالم.

في نهاية رسالته يعطينا بولس الرسول السلام والأمل: "نُحَسَبُ كَأَنَّنا مُضَلُونَ وَنَحْنُ صَادِقُونَ! كَأَنَّنا مَجْهُولُونَ وَنَحْنُ مَعْرُوفُونَ! كَأَنَّنا مَاتُونَ وَهَما نَحْنُ أَحْيَاءُ! كَأَنَّنا مَعاقِبُونَ وَنَحْنُ لا نَمُوتُ؛ كَأَنَّنا مَحْرُوفُونَ وَنَحْنُ دائِمًا فَرِحُونَ! كَأَنَّنا فُقراءٌ وَنَحْنُ نُغني الكَثِيرين! كَأَنَّنا لا شَيْءَ عِنْدنا، وَنَحْنُ نَمْلِكُ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ!" جميعنا متحدون مع إخواننا وأخواتنا المعذنين، أينما كانوا. مع سماعنا كلمات بولس الرسول، فلننتسبث معهم لأننا واثقون أن

يسوع يهبنا القوة والأمل لمواجهة الشدائد. فبسبب حب يسوع المسيح لنا وتألمه وموته وقيامته من أجل حياتنا الأبدية، نحن نملك كل شيء.

## POPE FRANCIS ON HUMILITY

The "failure" of the cross reveals the "victory of God's love", Pope Francis said during his homily yesterday, where he insisted that God builds upon our weaknesses and uses them for good.

Speaking at Holy Mass in the Chapel of Santa Marta in Rome, the pontiff said the "story of love between God and his people...seems to be a story of failure." Humanity has consistently rejected God, even rejecting Jesus to the point of his crucifixion on the cross, he added, according to Vatican Radio. "The path of our redemption is a path marked by failure," Francis told those gathered.

"This story that begins with a dream of love, that seems to be a love story, but ends up looking like a story of failures, ends with the great love of God who offers Salvation through the rejection of his Son who saves us all".

It is at the cross that God turns upside down our understanding of failure. Love triumphs at the cross; a place that would otherwise appear to one of defeat. "It is a scandal...but here is where love wins."

However, he also stressed that Christians will fail many times in their own journey, which "is a rough road".

"If each of us examines his conscience, he will see how many times...he has banished the prophets; how many times he has said to Jesus: 'Go away; how many times he has wanted to save

himself. How many times we have thought we were the righteous ones," Francis said. But God uses us in our weakness, just as Christ was brutally murdered on the cross and yet rose in glory three days later. "The Son, His last envoy, was seized, killed and thrown out. He became the cornerstone."

It is important, therefore, for Christians to practice the same humility that Jesus did. "We do well to remember this love story that seems to fail, but in the end triumphs," Francis concluded.

"And to remember in story of our lives, the seed of love that God has sown in us and how it went, and doing the same thing that Jesus did on our behalf: he humbled himself."

[http://www.christiantoday.com/article/the\\_story\\_of\\_salvation\\_is\\_a\\_story\\_of\\_failure.but\\_love\\_wins.says.pope.francis/55216.htm](http://www.christiantoday.com/article/the_story_of_salvation_is_a_story_of_failure.but_love_wins.says.pope.francis/55216.htm)

## 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.*

## CONFESSION

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

## LITURGY INTENTIONS

**Saturday, July 25, @ 5:00 PM,** Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Mike and Emily Nemer requested by their daughter Kathy Nemer. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Theresa Cordeiro requested by OLOP. May her soul rest in peace.

**Sunday, July 26, @ 10:30 PM,** liturgy is being offered for the soul of George F. Thomas requested by his family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered as a 40 Day memorial for the soul of David Dickinson requested by his family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the deceased members of the Victoria Lahood family (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

**Monday, July 27, @ 6:00 PM,** liturgy is being offered for the soul of Leo Farhat requested by his children. May his soul rest in peace.

**Tuesday, July 28, at 12:00 Noon,**  
**Wednesday, July 29, at 6:00 PM**  
**Thursday, July 30, @ 12:00 AM,** liturgy is being offered for the soul of Dolores Nouhan requested by her family. May her soul rest in peace.

**Saturday, August 1, @ 5:00 PM,** liturgy is being offered for the soul of Anthony "Tommy" Thomas requested by Annemarie Espindola. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Allan Claypool requested by Ida Farhat. May his soul rest in peace.

**Sunday, August 2, @ 10:30 AM,** Liturgy is being offered for the soul of David Dickinson requested by Philip and Jano Baroody. May his soul rest in peace.

## SECOND COLLECTION

As per the directive of the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn, there will be a second collection for Catholic Communications Campaign. Thank you for your generosity.

## LEASING OF THE LEBANESE CENTER

Effective August 1, 2020, the Lebanese Center will be leased to the Youth-Build Program of PACE, Inc. This opportunity presented itself a few months ago and a lease was approved by the Chancery and signed and approved by PACE this past week. Stated in the lease is the weekend use of the hall for our coffee hour events. This relationship with PACE will be a great opportunity for our parish in many ways.

## WELCOME TO THE FLOCK OF CHRIST MAC JOSEPH DAVIS

We welcome to the flock of Jesus Christ, Mac Davis, the son of Genevieve and Jackson Davis, and the grandson of Ann Dupre and Michael Robotham. Mac Joseph was baptized and confirmed on Saturday, July 18. May Almighty God protect and guide him all the days of his life. Congratulations.

## 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.

## LECTORS FOR JULY

**Saturday, July 25**

Carol Ann Maslanka

**Sunday, July 26**

Mae Dickinson/Gaby Baroody

## 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>

## 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 WEEKLY COLLECTIONS VIA MAIL. THIS HAS BEEN VERY HELPFUL FOR THE CHURCH. GOD BLESS YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.**



**WEEKLY COLLECTION  
FOR  
July 18-19, 2020**

**Sunday Collection \$ 1,669.00**  
**Demolition Donations \$ 1,100.00**  
**Donations \$ 300.00**  
**OLOL Shrine \$ 10.00**  
**Candles \$ 24.00**  
**Total: \$ 3,103.00**



*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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