



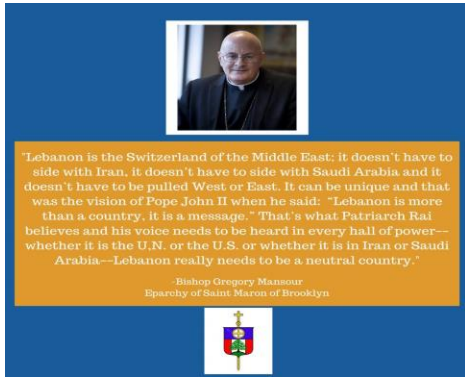
Our Lady of Purgatory



Maronite Catholic Church

August 1-2, 2020

TENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST



"Lebanon is the Switzerland of the Middle East: it doesn't have to side with Iran, it doesn't have to side with Saudi Arabia and it doesn't have to be pulled West or East. It can be unique and that was the vision of Pope John II when he said: "Lebanon is more than a country, it is a message." That's what Patriarch Rai believes and his voice needs to be heard in every hall of power—whether it is the U.N. or the U.S. or whether it is in Iran or Saudi Arabia—Lebanon really needs to be a neutral country."

Bishop Gregory Mansour
Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
The world is going through a difficult time due to the coronavirus pandemic, civil unrest, and political divisiveness which impact the various aspects of our lives. The Church, like a mother, loves her children and cares for each one of them. We realize many are facing hardships and economic uncertainty. We assure you of our spiritual closeness with each one of you. We call on every person to support the less fortunate and suffering, and we stand in solidarity, as did the early Christian community. The situation of our brothers and sisters in Lebanon is critical and getting worse. Governmental corruption, hegemony of the political system, financial hardships from the banking crisis, the devaluation of the Lebanese pound, government debt, high unemployment, and financial sanctions threaten to bring more than half of the population under the poverty line. Moving forward will bring Lebanon to the brink of a failed state that threatens the lives and hopes

of people, the fragile stability of the region, and the face of the Lebanon we know and love.

We actively support the positions of our beloved Patriarch, His Eminence and Beatitude Bechara Peter Rai, in his call to safeguard Lebanon as independent state, sovereign over all its territory, free from any political hegemony and corruption, neutral in order to build proper relationships with the world, and initiate a constructive dialogue among the various factions. We hear the cry of the people who are demonstrating peacefully for justice, for fundamental rights. We applaud the efforts of the Church and many nonprofit organizations that provide the basic needs of those less fortunate and in need of help on a daily basis.

In view of this crisis, we have redoubled our efforts in support of our brothers and sisters in Lebanon. We work with different organizations to lobby the U.S. government in support of the sovereignty of Lebanon, and to provide much needed humanitarian aid. We also work closely with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops so that our voices will be stronger and more efficient.

We thus appeal for your help and support in these different areas:

- Let us increase our financial aid to our own families and relatives. They truly need this help now.
- We are in an election year. Bring the plight of Lebanon to all government leaders, and to all candidates for

public office so that they can support the sovereignty and continued strength of Lebanon and help its people and Catholic institutions. Facebook pages make your donation online:

O Caritas Lebanon:
www.caritaslebanon.org

You can also visit our respective Eparchy websites and Facebook to

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"In the face of so many wounds that hurt us and could lead to a hardness of heart, we are called to dive into the sea of prayer, which is the sea of the boundless love of God, in order to experience his tenderness."

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.

make an online donation with the memo: charity/support Lebanon: o Eparchy of St. Maron of Brooklyn: www.stmaron.org/donate-1 and @eparchyofstmaron. You can also make your donations through your local Churches.

• Pray for peace in Lebanon and the region, asking our loving God to provide the necessary needs for the suffering and less fortunate.

We thank you for your heartfelt support and all your endeavors. We remember the words of Christ in Matthew 25:40 “Whatever you do to the least of my brothers and sisters, you have done to me.”

Yours in Christ,

+ Bishop Gregory J. Mansour +
Bishop A. Elias Zaidan

FOOD FOR THOUGHT REFLECTION

John 13: 31 – 35

The Apostle John says: When Judas the Iscariot had gone out, Jesus said to his disciples,

“Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Love is the greatest commandment Jesus gave us because it is through love that we are bound to God. We hear about the NEW COMMANDMENT that Jesus gives us. Jesus tells us “I give you a New Commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.” What does Jesus mean by this new commandment? To understand this new commandment, we must look at

the love Jesus had for His disciples. How did He love them? There was nothing selfish about His love. All we need to do is to look at His disciples. He loved them as He loves all of us. With all of our shortcomings, sinfulness, downfalls--- with all of our doubts, questions and weaknesses Jesus still loves us. He loves us so much so that He died on the cross so that we may live forever.

Most of us probably think that love should bring us nothing but happiness---isn't that what love is all about---to feel good and to be happy? For those of us who are older and wiser, we know that this is not the case. **We know that with great love comes great pain.** Jesus knew and understood His disciples and with this understanding He still loved them.” It is similar to when a couple first starts dating and everything is perfect and he or she says this is the one of my dreams...Then they marry and live together and all of a sudden they begin to see each other's weaknesses, their moods, their bad habits and irritabilities and they no longer see each other at their best. This is what we call humanity. We are not perfect. We are not immune from bad moments that reveal our human shortcomings. If we were perfect, there would be no need for God and it is this that we must remember. It is when we see ourselves for who we are---the good and the bad---we realize that we make mistakes along the road. After all is not every day a learning experience? And when we see our bad side don't we say to ourselves “I hope that person will forgive me? I hope that person still loves me?” This is why this New Commandment is so important why Jesus demands this commandment be followed by each of His disciples and followers.

Jesus lived with His disciples- He knew who would betray Him, who would deny Him, and who would leave Him alone on His way to Golgotha. And yet with all of this

knowledge Jesus continued to love them.

Jesus showed us that we must love not for what we want people to be or what we imagine them to be but for whom they are. Jesus loved with forgiveness. How many of us had arguments with those we love or have been victims of insults, gossip, or unjust remarks? **Jesus taught us that in order for love to endure, it must be built on forgiveness or else love is nothing.**

No one ever said being a follower of Jesus would be an easy road. No one ever said that the teachings and lessons Jesus gives us would not be difficult. But what we have been told is that if we do take these teachings, follow through with them and we make them our own, our reward will be great with God. May we all strive for this love that Jesus speaks about. May we practice this New Commandment of love to others so that we will be afforded the joy that God will one day give to us. May we look at the crucifix and say to ourselves “I love you Jesus; help me to be like you to forgive and to love

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.

LITURGY INTENTIONS

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.

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

Monday, August 3, @ 6:00 PM,

Tuesday, August 4, at 12:00 Noon, (Feast of St. John Vianney) Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Allan Claypool requested by Ida Farhat. May his soul rest in peace.

Wednesday, August 5, at 6:00 PM, (Transfiguration of Our Lord)

Thursday, August 6, @ 12:00 AM, (Transfiguration of Our Lord)

Saturday, August 8, @ 5:00 PM, (Feast of St. Pope Sixtus II and St. Dominic) Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Joseph and Rachel David and the deceased members of their family requested by Joann, Anthony, and Lorraine David.

Sunday, August 9, @ 10:30 PM, (Feast of St. Matthias) liturgy is being offered for the soul of Anthony "Tommy" Thomas requested by George Saba. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of George and Mary Thomas Tekla, Joseph Thomas, and Joseph Peters by their family (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Tuesday, August 11, 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.

ملخص العظة

من هو الروح القدس؟ معظمنا نختار بالروح القدس لأسباب عدة؛ منها عدم إمكانيتنا لرؤيته ولاستيعاب قوته. ولكن، نحن نعرف أنه العنصر الثالث من الثالوث الأقدس وأنه يعمل فينا في كل يوم من الأيام. يهبنا الروح القدس كل ما نحتاجه لنعرف ونتبع يسوع المسيح. مواهب الروح القدس السبعة هي: الحكمة، الفهم، المشورة، القوة، العلم، التقوى، مخافة الله التي تنشأ من المحبة. هذه المواهب يعطينا إياها الروح القدس. في قراءة الإنجيل يحذرنا يسوع أن "مَنْ قَالَ كَلِمَةً عَلَى ابْنِ الْإِنْسَانِ سَيُعَقَّرُ لَهُ. أَمَا مَنْ قَالَ عَلَى الرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ فَلَنْ يُعَقَّرَ لَهُ". إنه كلام عنيف ليس سبع مرات فقط بل سبع مرات سبعين مرة. يجب أن يكون هذا بمسابة تحذير لنا أنه رغم صعوبة إمكانيتنا لفهم قوة الروح القدس، يُنذرننا الله أننا مُعدومون إذا لم يعمل الروح القدس في حياتنا. "مَنْ لَيْسَ مَعِيَ فَهُوَ ضَدِّي وَمَنْ لَا يَجْمَعُ مَعِيَ فَهُوَ يَفْرَقُ". إنها مسؤوليتنا جميعاً أن نطبق إيماننا بالأعمال.

نحن نجتمع عندما نكون مثلاً للآخرين؛ نحن نجتمع عندما نُظهر محبتنا وعطفنا للآخرين؛ نحن نجتمع عندما نقبل مواهب الروح القدس ونعمل بها؛

نحن نجتمع عندما نحرس على سلامة الجماعة. من المستحيل أن نكون مسيحيين إذا عملنا ضد وحدة الكنيسة التي نحن مؤتمنون عليها من قبل يسوع. تضعف الكنيسة إن لم يكن وجودنا لتقويتها، ويسوع يحذرنا من ذلك الخطر. ببساطة: علينا أن نحاكم على أنفسنا بصرامة وعلى الآخرين بتسامح. عندها نستطيع أن نجتمع وأن نعطي مواهب الروح القدس للآخرين. لا يجب أن نستخف بقوة الروح القدس. عندما نشعر أننا غير قادرين على عيش الحياة المسيحية كما أرادها يسوع علينا أن نعتمد على الروح القدس. فلنكن دائماً مندفعين للقيام بالأمر الحقة وإختيار الأمور الأخلاقية لأننا نعرف أن هذا يجعلنا متّحدين بعمل الله. ما من أمر جيّد يأتي عندما يكون البيت أو المدينة أو الكنيسة منقسمة. فلنقوي بعضنا البعض باتحادنا كما أراد يسوع.

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 AUGUST

Saturday, August 1

Carol Ann Maslanka

Sunday, August 2

Ann Dupre/Jano Baroody

Saturday, August 8

Mae Dickinson

Sunday, August 9

Jean Barbour/Halim Choubah

Saturday, August 15

Smitty Cabral

Sunday, August 16

Joan Mello/ Jano Baroody

Saturday, August 22

Carol Ann Mas

Sunday, August 23

Mae Dickinson/Gaby Baroody

Saturday, August 29

Rose David

Sunday, August 30

Ann Dupre/Jano Baroody

WELCOME TO THE FLOCK OF CHRIST MAC JOSEPH DAVIS

We welcome to the flock of Jesus Christ, Michael Anthony Sarkis, the son of Charbel and Elise Sarkis. Michael Anthony was baptized and confirmed on Saturday, July 26. May Almighty God protect and guide him all the days of his life. Congratulations.

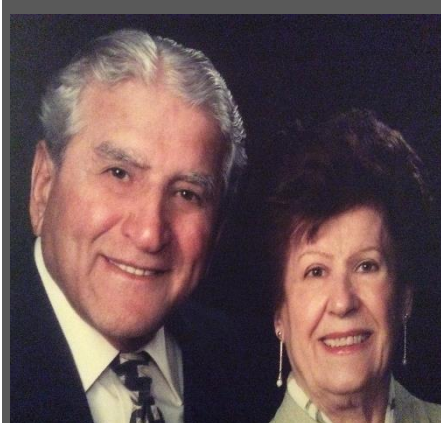
WINE AND HOST OFFERINGS

This month of August, the wine and bread offerings are in memory of 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 February, 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.

WEEKLY COLLECTION FOR

July 25-26, 2020

Sunday Collection	\$ 1,578.00
Second Collection	\$ 10.00
Demolition Donation	\$ 500.00
Donations	\$ 600.00
Memorial Donation	\$ 100.00
Candles	\$ 26.00
Total:	\$ 2,814.00



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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