



# Our Lady of Purgatory

## Maronite Catholic Church



September 26-27, 2020

### SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

#### WE HAVE BEEN WARNED

Today's gospel reading is a stark reminder as we witness the terrible situations going on around us every day. Situations that threaten the safety and well-being of our families and friends. Situations that have no place in any world but especially a Christian world. And who warned us about these events over 2000 years ago? Jesus!

Each of us must take responsibility for our words and actions. We must realize that there are some injustices in this world towards people that must be faced with sincerity, compassion, and justice. And we must realize that there is a difference between bringing these injustices to light and threatening our neighbors and strangers around us. As Christians, we have an obligation to face these challenges with love and compassion. We cannot accept more hatred placed on innocent bystanders as a new normal and Jesus is warning each of us just that today.

"You will hear of wars and reports of wars; see that you are not alarmed, for these things must happen, but it will not yet be the end. Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be famines and earthquakes from place to place. All these are the beginning of the labor pains. Then they will hand you over to persecution, and

they will kill you. You will be hated by all nations because of my name. And then many will be led into sin; they will betray and hate one another. Many false prophets will arise and deceive many; and because of the increase of evil-doing, the love of many will grow cold." (Matthew 24:6-12)

These are not words that would be used to win the hearts of those seeking to be followers of Christ. That is, if we take these words alone in order to convince ourselves to be Catholics. But when we understand Jesus' perspective and message, these words are the perfect words to bring the minds and hearts of others to Him. But, "these are the beginning of the labor pains," Jesus tells us. We will all have to witness these things in our lives.

But we also have promising news in this gospel reading. Jesus tells us that those who endure to the end will be saved. There is another place where there are no wars, no hatred, no disasters, no evilness, and no sin. But we must do everything we can in this life to be true witnesses of Christ's teachings. The time is now because those who endure to the end will be saved. This is our hope. This is our reward. This is Jesus' truth to us.

#### WINE AND HOST OFFERINGS

*This month of September, the wine and bread offerings are in memory of Joanne Sarkes Yozefek requested by her family. May her soul 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 April, 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.

#### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

**"Let us go forward in peace, our eyes upon heaven, the only one goal of our labors."**

**St. Therese of Lisieux**



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.

## LITURGY INTENTIONS

**Saturday, September 26, @ 5:00 PM,** liturgy is being offered for the souls of Annie Farris and son Thomas Farris requested by Helena Tavares and family. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Abraham and Amelia Sarkes requested by their family. May their souls rest in peace.

**Sunday, September 27, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of St. Vincent De Paul)** Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Helen Yamine requested by her family. May her soul rest in peace. Liturgy is offered for the souls of Peter and Raja Saba Bou Eassey requested by their family (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

**Monday, September 28, @ 6:00 PM,**

**Tuesday, September 29, at 9:00 AM, (Feast of St. Romanos)**

**Wednesday, September 30, at 6:00 PM, (Feast of St. Gregory the Illuminator)**

**Thursday, October 1, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of St. Therese of the Child Jesus)**

**Saturday, October 3, @ 5:00 PM, (Feast of St. Mother Theodore Guerin)** liturgy is being offered in memory of Sarkees and Frousema Peters and deceased members of the Peters family requested by Joanne, Anthony, and Lorraine David. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Joanne Sarkes Yozefek by Mrs. Marcela Steinmetz. May her soul rest in peace.

**Sunday, October 4 @ 10:30 PM, (Feast of St. Francis of Assisi)** liturgy is being offered as a 40 Day Memorial for the soul of Elham Harden requested by Matthew and Cathy Thomas. May her soul rest in peace. **SUNDAY FOR THE ORDER OF SAINT SHARBEL.**

## IMPORTANCE OF SIGN UP FOR LITURGY

Dear Parishioners of OLOP:

I would like to take this time to thank you all for your continued sacrifices and love for this Church. For many of you who are not being able to attend because of health issues and concerns, I know this separation has been most difficult. Hopefully in the near future, this will be behind us.

In the meantime, I want to stress the importance of signing up for Divine Liturgy, if you plan to attend in person. It is my hope that many of you will join me live. That being said, the Commonwealth of MA mandated that we keep all names of attendees in the event of an outbreak of Covid-19. In an effort to show our good will in adhering to this policy, we have devised an easy sign up procedure on our website. I will also include the links in this email.

If there is anyone who is having an issue with signing up, I encourage you to reach out to me or Joe Barckett at 617-803-4087. Just a reminder that the cutoff times for Saturday evening Liturgy is

I do not want to make things more difficult for you to attend Divine Liturgy but I also want to make sure the Commonwealth knows we are doing everything possible to follow the guidelines. I pray you are all doing well and that you will join us in person.

In Christ,  
Fr. Vincent

Saturday 500 PM Liturgy

Reservation Link:

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

Sunday 1030 AM Liturgy

Reservation Link:

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

## BURNT TOAST AND HARSH WORDS

When I was a kid, my Mom liked to cook food & then I remember she used to cook for us.

One night in particular when she had made dinner after a long hard day's work, Mom placed a plate of bread, jam and extremely burnt toast in front of my dad.

I was waiting to see if anyone noticed the burnt toast.

But Dad just ate his toast and asked me how was my day was at school.

I don't remember what I told him that night, but I do remember I heard Mom apologizing to dad for the burnt toast.

And I'll never forget what he said: "Honey, I love burnt toast."

Later that night, I went to kiss Daddy good night and I asked him if he really liked his toast burnt.

He wrapped me in his arms and said, "Your momma put in a long hard day at work today and she was really tired.

And besides...

A burnt toast never hurts anyone but harsh words do!"

"You know son, life is full of imperfect things... & imperfect people.... I'm not the best and am hardly good at anything. I forget birthdays and anniversaries just like everyone else.

What I've learnt over the years is:

To accept each other's faults and choose to celebrate relationship."

Life is too short to wake up with regrets...

Love the people who treat you right and have compassion for the ones who don't...

ENJOY LIFE NOW.

<https://stories4homilies.wordpress.com/2013/06/07/burnt-toast-and-harsh-words/>

## 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.*

## ADULT BIBLE STUDY AT OLOP

Monday, October 4, we will have adult bible study in the rectory basement. This will begin immediately following Divine Liturgy which begins at 6:00 PM. If we have a large number of people attending, we will move to the Church in order to practice social distancing. There will be a sign-up link to follow this week. We ask you to please sign-up as you would for Divine Liturgy. I will send the link to you this week. I hope many of you will be able to join us.

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

**LECTORS FOR AUGUST**  
**Saturday, September 26,**  
Mae Dickinson  
**Sunday, September 27,**  
Joan Mello/Jano 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>

## ORDER OF SAINT SHARBEL SUNDAY

October 11, 2020, is designated as "Order of St. Sharbel Sunday". This year we are blessed to have **six** seminarians studying for the Eparchy of St. Maron of Brooklyn. This order plays an important role in helping to pay for our seminarian expenses as well as retired priests in our Eparchy. We will discuss the importance of what this order does for the Eparchy of St. Maron in the near future. If you have any questions in the meantime, please feel free to contact me at the office. Thank you for your consideration and commitment in this matter. God bless.

## IN OUR PRAYERS

Amal Assaf, Officer Vincent Peters, Peter Helmer, Denise Magaletta, 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.

## ARABIC CLASSES

There has been much interest in offering Arabic classes for children and adults. I have two parishioners who have offered their services for these classes. I would like to know who would be interested in learning Arabic from both the children and the adults.

These classes would most likely be held on Saturday's late morning and will be held every week. There will be a nominal charge to cover materials and books for the program. I am asking you to please send me the names and ages of those who are interested so that we may plan accordingly.

I believe this will be a wonderful addition to our programs here at OLOP and I thank those who have offered their time and talents to teach. You may email me at [ourladyofpurgatory@verizon.net](mailto:ourladyofpurgatory@verizon.net)

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

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


## WEEKLY COLLECTION FOR September 19-20, 2020

Sunday Collection	\$ 1,200.00
Candles	\$ <u>29.00</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 1,324.00</b>

**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.**




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[Sample bulletin block / graphic is optional / In email.]



*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*

*Joseph & Marie Kenyon*

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