



Our Lady of Purgatory



Maronite Catholic Church

November 21-22, 2020

SEASON OF THE GLORIOUS BIRTH OF OUR LORD ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE VIRGIN MARY



soil on April 30, 1598 in Texas when Don Juan de Oñate declared a day of Thanksgiving to be commemorated by the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. The Catholic origins of Thanksgiving don't stop there. [Squanto](#), the beloved hero of

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL OF YOU

I would like to wish you and your family a blessed and happy Thanksgiving. A time where we gather as a family and give thanks to Almighty God for all the gifts He has bestowed upon us. A time to give help to those who are less fortunate than us. A time to recognize that the goodness of humanity has no boundaries and is true. We have shown this to be the case over the past year since I have been at OLOP. Each of us has given what we can to assist those who are in need and less fortunate that we are. This is a true sign of Christian charity. May we never lose this beautiful virtue. I pray that as you gather with your families this year, especially under

these difficult circumstances, each of us will draw from the meaning of Thanksgiving the importance of family, love, and faith. This is the centerpiece of the holiday and should remain the focus when we gather every week as a community. Happy Thanksgiving to you and may we praise Almighty God today, tomorrow, and always.

THE CATHOLIC ORIGINS OF THANKSGIVING

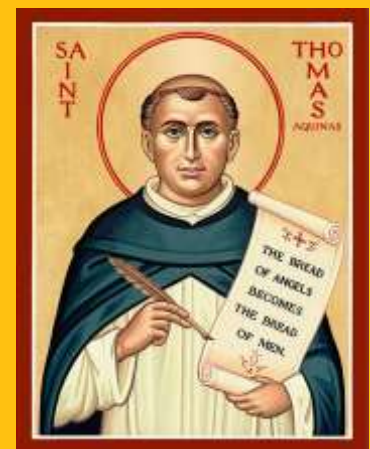
An interesting bit of trivia is that the first American Thanksgiving was actually celebrated on September 8, 1565 in St. Augustine, Florida. The Native Americans and Spanish settlers held a feast and the Holy Mass was offered.

A second similar "Thanksgiving" celebration occurred on American

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“O God, grant that whatever good things I have, I may share generously with those who have not, and whatever good things I do not have, I may request humbly from those who do.”

St. Thomas Aquinas



Fr. Vincent Farhat, Pastor | Rev. Mr. Jean Mattar, Deacon | Joseph Abraham, Sub-deacon

Address: 11 Franklin Street, New Bedford, MA 02740

Office: 508-996-8934 | Fax: 774-202-0758 | Evening Emergency Number: 561-371-5316 | Website: www.ourladyofpurgatory.org

Email: ourladyofpurgatory@verizon.net | Facebook Page: Our Lady of Purgatory Catholic Church - Maronite Rite

OFFICE HOURS: The Church office will be open Monday through Thursday from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm.

Thanksgiving, was the Native American man who mediated between the Puritan Pilgrims and the Native Americans. Squanto had been enslaved by the English but he was freed by Spanish Franciscans. Squanto thus received baptism and became a Catholic. So it was a baptized Catholic Native American who orchestrated what became known as Thanksgiving. All that being said, Thanksgiving is traditional Protestant and marks the tradition of religious toleration (something in which the Puritan pilgrims did not actually believe -- they set up a "theocracy").

My wife once taught at a high church Episcopalian/Anglican classical school in Philadelphia. The school consciously played down the significance of Thanksgiving. Why? The reason is simple. At root, Thanksgiving commemorates the good fortune of political and ecclesiastical rebels against the Church of England and the Anglican tradition as a whole.

It all started with Richard Clyfton who was a Church of England parson in Nottinghamshire in the early 1600s. Clifton sympathized with the Separatists of that era. Separatists were Calvinistic non-conformists to the doctrine and liturgy of the Church of England. The Hampton Court Conference held by King James I (1604) condemned those who would not conform to the more outwardly Catholic usages in the Church of England (e.g. robes, candles, bowing the head at the name of Christ, processions). The result was that Richard Clyfton was "defrocked" and stripped of his clerical status in the Church of England. Shortly thereafter Richard Clyfton went to Amsterdam and was followed by his disciples: the Pilgrims.

These Pilgrims moved around a bit until finally coming to America in 1620. An interesting bit of trivia is

that one child was born on board the Mayflower while at sea. The child was given the rather lame name: "Oceanus". Poor child.

In 1621, the Pilgrims allegedly celebrated a happy meal with the Native Americans and the rest is history. So why would an Anglican school be against Thanksgiving? It celebrates those who defied the Church of England and the Crown of England.

Now that I'm no longer an Anglican and now a Catholic, things are a bit different. The penal laws of England regarding non-conformists affected not only the rigorous Calvinistic Puritans in England, but also the English Catholic recusants. The Pilgrims shared the same lot as the Catholic faithful of England. Interestingly enough, the Catholics who lived in Nottinghamshire where the Pilgrims originated were persecuted mercilessly.

So while Thanksgiving may celebrate the Calvinists Separatists who fled England, Catholics might remember the same unjust laws that granted the crown of martyrdom to Thomas More, John Fisher, Edmund Campion, et al. are the same injustices that led the Pilgrims to Plymouth.

Another bit of trivia is that the truly "First Thanksgiving" celebration occurred on American soil on April 30, 1598 in Texas when Don Juan de Oñate declared a day of Thanksgiving to be commemorated by the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

And let everyone remember that "Thanksgiving" in Greek is *Eucharistia*. Thus, the Body and Blood of Christ is the true "Thanksgiving Meal".

<https://www.catholiceducation.org/en/controversy/common-misconceptions/the-catholic-origins-of-thanksgiving.html>



WELCOME MSGR. MICHAEL THOMAS

We welcome Msgr. Michael back to his home in New Bedford and to OLOP. I know I leave you in great hands while I am away visiting family. I am grateful that Msgr. Michael has offered to celebrate Divine Liturgy with you his family. This will always be by your home and are most welcome anytime. Merci Beaucoup.

WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY

On behalf of the entire community of OLOP, we extend our condolences to the family of Ghaleb T. Saade who passed away October 23. Our prayers go out to his wife May, his son Tannous, brothers John (Theresa), Saade (Evette), sisters Houda Saadi, and Mona Sadaka, and his many brothers and sisters in Lebanon. May Almighty God welcome Ghaleb into His kingdom and may his soul rest in peace. Allah yerhammo.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

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

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 21, @ 4:30 PM, (Presentation of the Virgin Mary in the Temple) Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Saba and Anne Ramia by their family. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Rose John requested by Mike and Diane LeBlanc and Family. May her soul rest in peace.

Sunday, November 22, @ 10:30 AM, (Announcement to Mary) Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Mark Thomas requested by his family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Milad Chedid requested by his family. May his soul rest in peace.

Monday, November 23, @ 6:00 PM, NO LITURGY

Tuesday, November 24, at 9:00 AM, NO LITURGY

Wednesday, November 25, at 6:00 PM, NO LITURGY

Thursday, November 26, @ 9:00 AM, NO LITURGY

Saturday, November 28, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of St. Philip the Apostle) liturgy is being offered for the soul of John J. David requested by his family. May his soul rest in peace.

Sunday, November 29, @ 10:30 PM, (Visitation of the Virgin to Elizabeth) liturgy is being offered for the soul of Joseph Thomas requested by his family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of David Dickinson requested by Mike and Diane LeBlanc and family. May his soul rest in peace.

PLEASE NOTE THAT DAILY DIVINE LITURGIES WILL RESUME ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30.

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.

December Lector Schedule:

Saturday, December 5,
Rose David

Sunday, December 6,
Joan Mello/Gaby Baroody

Saturday, December 12,
Carol Ann Maslanka

Sunday, December 13,
Ann Dupre/Jano Baroody

Saturday, December 19,
Rose David
Sunday, December 20,
Jean Barbour/Gaby Baroody

Thursday, December 24,
Joan Mello/Hiba Chedid
Friday, December 25,
Mae Dickinson/ Gaby Baroody

Saturday, December 26,
Smitty Cabral
Sunday December 27,
Mae Dickinson/Hiba Chedid

ADULT BIBLE STUDY AT OLOP

Monday, November 30, we will have adult bible study in the rectory basement. This will begin at 6:30 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>

WINE AND HOST OFFERINGS

This month of November, the wine and bread offerings are in memory of John, Malvina, and Joseph David requested by their 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 June 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.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Amal Assaf, Officer Vincent Peters, Peter Helmer, Denise Magaletta, Fernanda Thomas, Hiam Cheiab, Leo and Ida 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.

WEEKLY COLLECTION FOR November 14-15, 2020

Sunday Collection	\$ 4,259.00
Online Giving	\$ 60.00
Candles	\$ 22.00
Total:	\$ 4,341.00

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.

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



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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