



Our Lady of Purgatory



Maronite Catholic Church

January 16-17, 2021

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY



FEAST OF SAINT ANTHONY THE GREAT

“Wherever you find yourself, do not go forth from that place too quickly. Try to be patient and learn to stay in one place.” – St. Anthony the Great
Saint Anthony was a Christian monk from Egypt. He was known as the “Father of All Monks”. Anthony’s parents both died when he was only eight-teen years old. They were wealthy and left all their money and possessions to Anthony. Not long after they died Anthony heard a reading from the book of Matthew that changed his life. The passage he heard was where Jesus tells a man who is rich, “If you want to be perfect, go and sell everything you have and give the money to the

poor.” Anthony felt God speaking to him through this passage, and went to do what God instructed. He sold about 300 acres of land, and gave most of his money to the poor keeping very little for his sister. He sent his sister to live with a community of virgins so he could be free to learn about spirituality, prayer, and fasting.

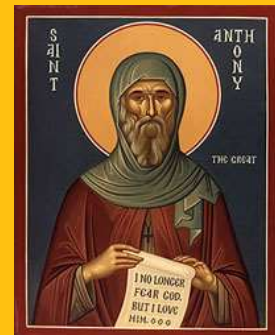
He eventually set out on his own into the western desert. His task was to become a lover of God by resisting the Devil and being submissive only to Christ. Anthony lived in a tomb in boredom where he was continuously attacked by demons physically and mentally. He learned that he had to keep his hands busy with work to escape temptations. The demons left when God’s presence came forth. Anthony asked God why he left him to fight the battle alone and God said although he was there the whole time, he waited to see the saint fight. The next time Anthony fled, he went and lived in an abandoned Roman fort and stayed there for twenty years fighting a solitary battle. When he surfaced from the fort he became a symbol of strength and wisdom. People came to him from all parts of the world seeking relief for the body, mind and soul. Monks came to him for his sympathy and advice and at age fifty-five he founded his first monastery for the monks. It consisted of scattered cells where the monks lived in isolation. He

established more monasteries but did not stay at any of them for a long period of time. To keep from having interruptions in his life of solitude, he only visited them occasionally. Saint Anthony died at the age of one hundred and five. Before his death, he ordered his companions to bury his body without a marker and never reveal his burial spot. His life encourages all Christians to resist temptation and not let their hands be

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“If a man loves God with all his heart, all his thoughts, all his will, and all his strength, he will gain the fear of God; the fear will produce tears, tears will produce strength; by the perfection of this the soul will bear all kinds of fruits.”

Saint Anthony the Great



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.

idle. To have a strong work ethic by having a strong faith. Anthony became the patron saint of amputees, animals, basket makers, butchers, cemetery workers, and domestic animals.

A few quotes recorded to have been said by Saint Anthony: "A time is coming when men will go mad, and when they see someone who is not mad, they will attack him, saying, "You are mad; you are not like us." "God, in his mercy, reminds every one of the means of the grace given to him. So never lose heart or be lazy, my children, in crying to the Lord night and day, that you may force the Father's benevolence to grant you aid from above."

"Who sits in solitude and is quiet hath escaped from three wars; hearing, speaking, seeing: yet against one thing shall he continually battle: that is, his own heart."

MANY THANKS

I would like to take the time to thanks all of you for your Christmas well wishes, cards, and gifts. Your kindness and beautiful words meant so much to me and I thank you for making me part of your family. God bless each of you.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY AT OLOP

Bible Study will be held on **Monday, January 25, at 6:45**, in the rectory basement. Please remember to sign up or call the office. We look forward to seeing you all there.

2021 CALENDARS COMING SOON

Due to a delay with the calendar company, our 2021 calendars will be here within the next week or so. I will have them available in the Church as soon as they arrive. Thank you for your patience.

WINE AND HOST OFFERINGS

This month of January, the wine and bread offerings are in memory of Georgette and Samir Sawaya requested by Zakhia and Hiba Chedid 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 August 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.

CHURCH ENVELOPES ARE IN

Church envelopes are in the Church for those of you who have used them in the past. If you would like envelopes, please contact the office and I will have a set ready for you. These are available to anyone, especially to those who would like a record at the end of the year for your taxes. Thank you for your generosity.



EPARCHY OF SAINT MARON OF BROOKLYN
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13 January 2021

Prot No. 027/1/21
Circ No. 21.02

Dear Brother and Sisters in Christ,

On December 8, 2020, Pope Francis declared a "Year of Saint Joseph", so that we may reflect on the spiritual value of the Saint who is called "Patron of the Universal Church".

Our first Maronite parish in the United States, established in New York in 1890, came under the name of Saint Joseph. We have parishes named after Saint Joseph in Olean, New York; Atlanta, Georgia; and Waterville, Maine. Some of our parishes also have Saint Joseph Societies. Saint Joseph always has a place in every Maronite heart.

Saint Joseph, the "foster father" of Jesus and the "chaste spouse" of the Virgin, also has two feasts to his honor in the Maronite Church: the Fifth Sunday of the Season of the Glorious Birth, just before Christmas, as well as March 19th. These feasts bring attention to different aspects of Joseph's role as the "Virgin who cared for the Virgin", and the Patron of the Universal Church.

What a grace for us to honor Saint Joseph. The Holy Father has granted plenary indulgences for those who honor the Saint. On the website of the Diocese of Charlotte a description of this, as well as the Holy Father's Decree, can be found [here](#).

A visit to any one of our parishes named for Saint Joseph, as well as those parishes hosting a Saint Joseph Sodality, would be included in this indulgence.

There are so many treasures hidden in the person of Saint Joseph; we can only begin to explore. Who else could have loved and cared for the Virgin Mary and the Christ Child with such tender and masculine love, such obedience to the Heavenly Father, and such fidelity to his noble mission?

O Saint Joseph, foster father, faithful spouse, guide to the troubled, and true patron of believers, pray for us!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Gregory John Mansour

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 16, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of the Memorial of the Chains of Saint Peter) liturgy is being offered for the souls of Edward and Theresa Coury requested by their grandchildren. May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, January 17 @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Anthony the Great) Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Georges El-Khoury MouJabber and Alia Koury MouJabber requested by their family. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Joseph Nader requested by Joann Longden. May his soul rest in peace.

Monday, January 18, @ 6:00 PM, NO LITURGY

Tuesday, January 19, @ 9:00 AM, NO LITURGY

Wednesday, January 20, @ 6:00 PM, NO LITURGY

Thursday, January 21, @ 9:00 AM, NO LITURGY

Saturday, January 23, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Sts. Pope St. Sergius and St. Marianne Cope) liturgy is being offered for the soul of Joseph, Marie, and Peter Kenyon requested by their family. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of George J. and Mary C. Saba requested by their family (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, January 24, @ 10:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Francis de Sales) liturgy is being offered for the soul of Nancy David requested by her family (FM). May her soul rest in peace.

PLEASE NOTE THAT DAILY LITURGIES WILL RESUME ON FEBRUARY 1, 2021.

TAX CONTRIBUTION LETTERS

For anyone who may need a letter from OLOP for your tax returns with your contributions, please contact the office and I will send you those records. Please email the office or call the office at 508-996-8934.

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.

FR. VINCENT OUT OF TOWN

Please note that I will be out of town next week to celebrate my nephew's wedding in Florida. I will be back the week of January 25. Msgr. Jim Root will be on call for any emergencies and you can also contact Deacon Jean. Thank you for your understanding of my absence during the past month and next week. God willing things will get back to normal soon where we can all gather once again as a community and give thanks to God for all He has given us. Stay well and safe.

JANUARY LECTOR SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 16,
Carol Ann Maslanka
Sunday, January 17,
Jean Barbour/Hiba Chedid

Saturday, January 23,
Mae Dickinson
Sunday, January 24,
Ann Dupre/Gaby Baroody

Saturday, January 30,
Rose David
Sunday, January 31,
Mae Dickinson/Jano Baroody

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

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

IN OUR PRAYERS

Leigh Smith, Jacob Rego, Amal Assaf, 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 January 9-10, 2021

Sunday Collection	\$ 5,581.00
Memorials	\$ 35.00
Candles	\$ 19.00
Total:	\$ 5,635.00

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.

Counseling ASSOCIATES

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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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