



Our Lady of Purgatory



Maronite Catholic Church

February 13-14, 2021

SUNDAY OF THE ENTRANCE INTO LENT MIRACLE AT CANA IN GALILEE

LET THE LENTEN JOURNEY BEGIN

Over the next several weeks we will reflect upon this quote from Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan and ask ourselves the question how will we, how can we answer God's call to be holy. Is this even possible with all the evil that exists around us; with all the temptations that invade our daily lives; with all the expectations to be perfect? Bishop Gerald Barbarito of the Diocese of Palm Beach once said *"we are not called to be perfect; we are called to be holy."* I recall pondering this remark in great depth and the first thing that came to my mind was isn't that the same thing? So, what does it mean to be holy and how do we achieve this state of grace? *Called to be Holy*, written by Cardinal Timothy Dolan, will be the major reference over the next several weeks. We will take this step by step and by doing so we can begin a new routine in our daily lives that will bring us closer to Jesus Christ: to know Jesus, to love Jesus, to trust Jesus, to obey Jesus, and to serve Jesus. Cardinal William Baum once preached, "The danger...is to know about Jesus without knowing Him, to talk about Jesus but not to Him, to let experts speak of Him without letting Him speak about Himself. **A DEEP, PERSONAL, INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS**

CHRIST IS THE FOUNDATION OF HOLINESS."

We will begin this journey to holiness with daily prayer. In our busy lives we neglect the need to take a moment to speak with Jesus. There may be days that His presence in our lives does not even exist, meaning that although we love Him and honor Him, sometimes we just don't think about Him. I am not saying that we should go about our daily lives calling His name every minute of the day. However, we need to take a moment or two every day to accept His love, offer our petitions, to give Him an opportunity to speak to us, and to give Him thanks and praise. This is how we encounter Jesus and build our deep relationship with Him. This is what He asks of us and this is how we achieve this state of holiness that we are asked to achieve. This coming week, take some time and spend it with Jesus. Whether it is in the Church, in the privacy of our homes, offices, or in the park, sit alone, in silence, and speak to Jesus. Here are some suggestions for us to begin our journey to holiness:

- 1) Go into our room alone, close our eyes and speak to Jesus. Talk to Him about our concerns, our shortcomings, our needs, and let Him answer us.
- 2) Use devotional items such as icons, crucifixes, statues, rosaries, and prayer cards. Sometimes we are not sure how to pray. Know that prayer has many different

ways to communicate with Jesus. These may consist of daily mass and Eucharistic Adoration. They also include quiet time of contemplation and meditation using our own words, using Catholic prayers, or sitting in peace and quiet allowing Jesus to enter our lives and speak to us as we listen.

- 3) Use the daily office (Maronite Daily Office or the Latin Daily Office) and follow each day using the prayers and scripture readings

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Without Him, we can do nothing; with Him, nothing is impossible. Everything we embark upon is for, with, through, and because of Jesus Christ."

Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan



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.

assigned. Those who are ordained to Holy Orders have a duty to follow this practice. It is a way to structure our lives and to take the time we need to renew ourselves spiritually. These books may be purchased at a Catholic book store and the Maronite Daily Office may be purchased through our Eparchy website. This would also be a wonderful way to pray with our families as well.

I hope this new beginning toward holiness will inspire us and help us build a deeper and loving relationship with Jesus Christ. Next week we will focus on growing in virtues. Have a blessed week.

ASH MONDAY SERVICES

Monday, February 15, will mark the beginning of Lent. There will be two services available to attend and receive ashes. There will be Ash Monday services at 12:00 Noon and at 7:00 PM. Please join us as we begin our journey to holiness together. Please be sure to sign up at the time you would like to come.

Please sign up on our website at ourladyofpurgatory@verizon.net



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Tuesday, February 16, 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

IN OUR PRAYERS

Tommy Hatem, 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.

WINE AND HOST OFFERINGS

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.

BISHOPS APPEAL BEGINS

Every year at the beginning of Lent, we are asked to contribute to the Bishops Appeal. The money collected are used for many programs needed to keep our Maronite Church moving in the right direction. Below is a letter from Bishop Gregory outlining where this money is used throughout the year. This year we are once again asked to send a total of \$3,500.00 by April 5, 2021. As of this publication, we have collected \$ 175.00. Throughout Lent, we will be taking a second collection to help meet our stated amount of \$3,500.00. I thank you all in advance for your continued support of our Church and our Eparchial responsibilities as well. God bless all of you.





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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Each year during Lent, I ask you to reflect on God's blessings and to support the Eparchy of Saint Maron with a donation to our Annual Lenten Appeal. Much has happened in the past year – the pandemic and lockdowns, civil unrest, economic and political instability, and unprecedented troubles here and around the world. And yet, God always watches over his children throughout the most challenging times, and our Eparchy is here to serve you. We rely upon your help to give us the resources to serve you and the faithful throughout the Eparchy.

Please consider making a sacrificial gift to this year's Annual Lenten Appeal. Your gift will support:

- **Seminarians:** We currently have five men preparing for the priesthood. Our seminarians are our future priests, and we need to educate and form them well so that they can minister effectively to our faithful in the future. The costs of Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Seminary are about \$400,000 per year. **40% of your contribution to this year's Annual Appeal will go for Seminarians.**
- **Ministries:** Our outreach and services to young people, the elderly, families, and in defense of life from conception to natural death, can help people at the most crucial times in their lives. You can help ensure that the Eparchy can continue this important work. **20% of your contribution will support Ministries.**
- **Retired Priests:** The Eparchy's 15 retired priests served the faithful for over 50 years in total. We help them with a modest pension of \$2,000 per month. **20% of your contribution will support Retired Priests.**
- **Helping in Lebanon and the Middle East:** The Eparchy provided an unprecedented amount of support to holy in Lebanon and the Middle East last year. Our primary focus is on the needs of our own Eparchy, but we can never forget the homeland of our Maronite Church. **40% of your contribution will support Christians in Lebanon and the Middle East.**
- **Endowment:** The Eparchy's Endowment Fund supports needs today and assures the Eparchy will have resources in the future. **30% of your contribution will be deposited into the Eparchy's Endowment.**

Please open your heart once again and make a gift. Your participation in this Appeal can impact the lives of many people, both inside the Eparchy, and outside of it in the Middle East. Any gift will help.

Thank you, and may God bless you for your generosity! I wish you a blessed Lent and Easter.

Graciously yours in Christ,

+ Gregory
+ Gregory J. Maronite

PS: Please also consider re-insuring the Eparchy and your parish in your estate plan, or as the beneficiary of an insurance policy, retirement plan or charitable gift annuity. Thank you.

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 13, @ 4:30 PM, Cana Sunday (Feast of Saint Catherine de Ricci) liturgy is being offered for the soul of Rev. Kevin Harrington requested by the Coury Family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of George and Rose David by their family (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, January 14, @ 10:30 AM, Cana Sunday (Feast of Saint Valentine the Priest) Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Victor Belaire requested by Philip Barody and family. May his soul rest in peace.

Monday, February 15, @ 12:00 Noon, ASH MONDAY SERVICES

Monday, February 15, @ 7:00 PM, ASH MONDAY SERVICES

Tuesday, February 16, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Theodore of Tyrone) Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Elias Damien requested by parishioners of OLOP. May his soul rest in peace.

Wednesday, February 17, @ 6:00 PM, (Feast of Saint Agapitus) liturgy is being offered for the soul of Antoun Saad by family. May his soul rest in peace.

Thursday, February 18, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Leo the Great) Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Mariyln Mooney requested by Ida Farhat. May her soul rest in peace.

Friday, February 19, @ 7:00 PM, Benediction of the Cross/Stations of the Cross

Saturday, February 20, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint James) liturgy is being offered for the souls of Joseph and Mary (Peters) Barckett and Diane Barckett Moses requested by Joe and Cathy Barckett. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Joseph M. Thomas by his children and grandchildren. May his soul rest in peace.

Sunday, February 21, @ 10:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Eustathius, Patriarch of Antioch) liturgy is being offered for the souls of Regis and Marthe Valois by Reggie Thomas. May their souls rest in peace.

SAINT JUDE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL LENTEN DRIVE

Saint Jude's Hospital for Children is no stranger to our community as well as the Lebanese community around the world. The incredible work that Danny Thomas and his daughter Marlo Thomas has made it possible for hundreds of thousands of children and their families to receive treatment for cancer as well as housing for the parents. For those families who cannot afford treatments for their children, they are given these treatments and lodging free of charge. All this made possible by the millions of people who appreciate and believe in the work they do. At the beginning of Lent, OLOP asks for donations for the Saint Jude fund so that we can participate in helping this cause. This year, our goal is set at \$1,200.00. I am appealing to you once again this year, to consider making a donation to this worthy cause. George Saba will be taking on this fundraiser this year with the help of Mae Dickinson who has led these efforts for the past 10 years. We thank Mae for her dedication and we thank George for taking the lead this year. If you have any questions please contact George Saba at 508-993-7229. Donations can also be made online by visiting our website at ourladyofpurgatory.org There will be a category for St. Jude Hospital Donations. Thank you in advance for your help and generosity. And may God bless all of the children and their parents seeking help at Saint Jude Hospital for Children.

WEEKLY COLLECTION FOR

February 6-7, 2021

Sunday Collection	\$ 1,863.00
Memorials	\$ 250.00
Candles	\$ 24.00
Total:	\$ 2,137.00

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.

2021 OLOP CENSUS

We are in the process of updating our Parish Census Records and are asking all Parishioners to complete a 2021 OLOP Parish Census Update Form. It only takes a few minutes to complete and submit the form. The link will be available on the Parish Website beginning Monday, February 8, 2021. You will also be receiving an e-mail with the link to the Census Update Form. If you don't have access to a computer, please contact Fr. Vince and we will make arrangements for you to complete the form. Thank you for helping us keep our Parish records current.

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.

February Lector Schedule:

Saturday, February 13,
Rose David

Sunday, February 14,

Jean Barbour/ Gaby Barody

Ash Monday, February 15,

Carol Ann Maslanka/Jano Barody

Saturday, February 20,

Mae Dickinson

Sunday, February 21,

Ann Dupre/Hiba Chedid

Saturday, February 27,

Smitty Cabral

Sunday, February 28,

Mae Dickinson/Jano Barody

CONFESSION

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

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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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