



# Our Lady of Purgatory



## Maronite Catholic Church

February 27-28, 2021

### HEALING OF THE HEMORRHAGING WOMAN

#### LET THE LENTEN JOURNEY BEGIN

As we continue our Lenten journey, this week we will reflect on the virtue of faith. What is faith? What does it mean to have faith?

In the Epistle to the Hebrews from St. Paul, we are told that “Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.” How do we obtain this faith that says it is the assurance of things hoped for and the conviction of things not seen? Catholicism has been given to us from God through faith and through revelation. Much of our faith has been revealed to us from God by sending His Only Begotten Son to us in His human nature. Jesus Christ revealed to us who God the Father is and He also revealed to us the precepts and teachings so that we may be His followers. This was achieved through His ministry which was passed on to the apostles. It was through his suffering, his death, and His resurrection that we have been assured of this Truth. Most of our belief in God has been revealed.

Now what about faith? It is through what has been revealed to us by Jesus Christ that we are able to obtain the faith we need to understand those things that cannot be explained because of our human limitations. “Faith, of course, has as its object not propositions and doctrines directly, but a person, namely Jesus the Christ. We believe in Him, and thence flows

our belief in what He and His Church have taught.” (Cardinal Timothy Dolan)

An example of faith would be that of children. As Cardinal Dolan has beautifully exemplified, the faith that children have in their parents as infants or older is not rational but spontaneous and natural, part of their being. When they cry, you will come; when they are scared, you will hold them; when they are hungry, you will feed them; when they are lonely, you will hold them. In short, faith is part of our being and it is a grace that is given to us freely from God if we allow it to penetrate our lives.

Most people who have faith really don’t think about it on a daily basis. This usually happens when life is going well, the family is healthy, the children are doing well in school, and life just seems to be going well. But the minute something tragic happens or life becomes so overwhelming for us, we fall back on our faith with much passion and much conviction. Sometimes this faith is questioned; sometimes we may ask ourselves do we really have faith if we are thinking this way or that way? Do we really have faith when we question God where He was or why we may feel abandoned?

Thomas Merton, a Trappist Monk, at probably a very trying moment in his life wrote the following:

“My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know where it

will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road though I may know nothing about it. Therefore, I will trust you always though I may seem to be lost in the

#### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*“The soul’s true greatness is in loving God and in humbling oneself in His presence, completely forgetting oneself and believing oneself to be nothing; because the Lord is great, but He is well-pleased only with the humble; He always opposes the proud.”*

*St Faustina,  
Divine Mercy in my Soul*



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](http://www.ourladyofpurgatory.org)

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

shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face the perils alone.”

With faith we are people of prayer; people who rely on the grace of God in times of trials and tribulations; people who are passionate and kind to others; people who have peace and joy. St. Augustine had said “when our faith sleeps, we are in danger.” That is why we need prayer, we need the sacraments, we need sacred scriptures, and we need Jesus Christ.

### ACT OF FAITH

O my God, I firmly believe that thou are one God in three divine persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. I believe that thy divine Son became man, and died for our sins and the He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe these and all the truths which the Holy Catholic Church teaches because thou hast revealed them, who can neither deceive nor be deceived. Amen.

### BIBLE STUDY

On Monday, March 1, at 6:45 PM, we will have bible study in the rectory basement. I ask you to sign up online or call the office if you are planning to attend. We look forward to seeing you there.

### IN OUR PRAYERS

Michael Ellis, Kenza Sellami, 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.

### 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.

### GUIDELINES FOR FASTING DURING LENT

Great Lent is a season of fasting and abstinence. Abstinence from the consumption of meat and meat products is required for all persons over 14 years of age on all Fridays of Great Lent. Fasting from all food and beverages (except for water and medicine) from midnight until noon is obligatory for all persons between 14 and 60 years of age on the following two important days: Ash Monday (February 15th) Great Friday of the Crucifixion (April 2nd).

Please note: Women who are pregnant and persons who are sick are not required to fast. Also, anyone who has a medical condition are also not required to follow these guidelines.

### WINE AND HOST OFFERINGS

The altar bread and wine are in loving memory of Joseph and Marie Kenyon and deceased members of the Kenyon and Daher families 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 January 2022, 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.





**EPARCHY OF SAINT MARON OF BROOKLYN**  
Office of the Bishop  
100 Madison Street  
Brooklyn, New York 11201-4212  
Tel: (718) 377-0613 Fax: (718) 377-0614  
[www.maronite.org](http://www.maronite.org)

Lent 2021 Pub. No. 0133/21

Dear Brethren 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, oil prices, monetary and political instability, and unprecedented weather here and around the world. And yet, God always watches over his children through the most challenging times, and our Eparchy is here to serve you. We rely upon your help to grow as the sacraments 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 so that they can minister effectively to our faithful in the future. The costs of Our Lady of Lebanon Seminary Semesters are about \$40,000 per year. 40% of your contribution to this year's Annual Appeal will go to the Seminarians.
- **Ministries:** Our outreach and services to young people, the elderly, disabled, and in decline of life from occupations to natural death, can help provide the most critical times to those lives. You can help ensure that the Eparchy can continue this important work. 10% of your contribution will go to support Ministries.
- **Retired Priests:** The Eparchy's 15 retired priests serve the faithful for over 100 years in total. We help them with a modest pension of \$2,000 per month. 10% of your contribution will support Retired Priests.
- **Helping in Lebanon and the Middle East:** The Eparchy provides an unprecedented amount of support to help in Lebanon and the Middle East last year. The primary focus is on the needs of our own Eparchy, but we still must bring the Seminary of Our Maronite Church. 10% of your contribution will support Christians in Lebanon and the Middle East.
- **Endowment:** The Eparchy's Endowment Fund supports needs today and ensure the Eparchy will have resources in the future. 10% 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.

Travailly yours in Christ,

+   
Gregory I. Marone

Pl. Please also consider contributing the Eparchy and your parish in your future plan, or in the Seminary of our maronite priests, seminarians plus a charitable gift annuity. Thank you.

## LITURGY INTENTIONS

**Saturday, February 27, @ 4:30 PM, Cana Sunday (Feast of Saint Thalaleus)** liturgy is being offered for the soul of Nan Farhat requested by Mariam David and family. May her soul rest in peace.

**Sunday, February 28, @ 10:30 AM, Healing of the Hemorrhaging Woman, (Feast of Saints Koura and Marana, Disciples of Saint Maron)** Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Samir Abi Rached requested by Berta Baroody. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Imad Barbouch requested by Cosette Gabriel and family. May his soul rest in peace.

**Monday, March 1, @ 6:00 PM, (Feast of Saint John Maron)**

**Tuesday, March 2, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint John Maron)**

**Wednesday, March 3, @ 6:00 PM, (Feast of Saint Thomas Aquinas)**

**Thursday, March 4, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Paul and His Sister Juliana)**

**Friday, March 5, @ 7:00 PM, Benediction of the Cross/Stations of the Cross**

**Saturday, March 6, @ 4:30 PM, Healing of the Leper, (Feast of Saint Conan)** liturgy is being offered for the souls of Joseph and Marie Kenyon and Peter Kenyon requested by their family. May their souls rest in peace.

**Sunday, March 7, @ 10:30 PM, (Feast of the 7 Young Men of Ephesus)** liturgy is being offered for the soul of Joanne Sarkes Yozefek requested by her family. May her soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for a special intention.

## CONFESSION

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

## 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](http://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.

## 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.*

## March Lector Schedule:

**Saturday, March 6,**

Carol Ann Maslanka

**Sunday, March 7,**

Joan Mello/Gaby Baroody

**Saturday, March 13,**

Rose David

**Sunday, March 14,**

Ann Dupre/Jano Baroody

**Saturday, March 20,**

Smitty Cabral

**Sunday, March 21,**

Jean Barbour/Hiba Chedid

**Saturday, March 27,**

Rachel Higgins –

Intercession: Anna Higgins

**Sunday, March 28,**

Joan Mello/Gaby Baroody

## WEEKLY COLLECTION FOR February 20-21, 2021

<b>Sunday Collection</b>	<b>\$ 2,180.00</b>
<b>Bishop's Appeal</b>	<b>\$ 62.00</b>
<b>Candles</b>	<b>\$ 31.00</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 2,373.00</b>

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.

# 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*

*Your Loving Children*

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