



# Our Lady of Purgatory

## Maronite Catholic Church



April 3-4, 2021

### GLORIOUS RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD



#### EASTER MESSAGE TO ALL OF YOU

I would like to wish each of you and your families a very blessed and happy Easter. Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen! Every year it seems that the Season of Lent brings out the best in us. Perhaps we draw ourselves closer to Jesus as we hear His teachings and as we walk with Him on His journey to His Passion, Death, and Resurrection. Maybe we realize the incredible suffering He endured for our sake and we go to greater means to better ourselves and others.

Whatever the reason, I only pray that we have taken something from this Season of Lent that we are able to apply in our daily lives. This is the greatest gift we can give back to Jesus. Whether we are struggling with family members, treating people badly, falling into the same sins, or not giving Jesus His due time

at Church, I hope and pray that this season has made a difference in our lives.

We cannot help but be moved every year as we celebrate the Passion and Resurrection of our Lord. This season gives us great hope that one day we will be reunited with our loved ones and with God in a place that is filled with the radiance of His light. This is the centerpiece of our faith. This is what gives us hope and strength to endure the temptations of sin and Satan.

St. Augustine says it perfectly: *“His whole body is displayed for your redemption. Ponder how great these things are. Let all this be rightly weighed in your mind: as he was once fixed to the cross in every part of his body for you, so he may now be fixed in every part of your soul.”*

Have a blessed Easter and may our Lord’s resurrection bring peace,

hope, and love to you and your families.

#### REFLECTION

On Easter Sunday, the Church is recollected in contemplation of the risen Christ. Thus, she relives the primordial experience that lies at the basis of her existence. She feels imbued with the same wonder as Mary Magdalen and the other women who went to Christ's tomb on Easter morning and found it empty. That tomb became the womb of life. Whoever had condemned Jesus, deceived himself that he had buried his cause under an ice-cold tombstone. The disciples themselves gave into the feeling of irreparable failure. We understand their

#### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*“Jesus, a man who was completely innocent, offered himself as a sacrifice for the good of others, including his enemies, and became the ransom of the world. It was a perfect act.”*

Mahatma Gandhi

*“Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song.”*  
Saint Pope John Paul II

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

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Email: [ourladyofpurgatory@verizon.net](mailto: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.

surprise, then, and even their distrust in the news of the empty tomb. But the Risen One did not delay in making himself seen and they yielded to reality. They saw and believed! Two thousand years later, we still sense the unspeakable emotion that overcame them when they heard the Master's greeting: "Peace be with you."....

...Christ's Resurrection is the strength, the secret of Christianity. It is not a question of mythology or of mere symbolism, but of a concrete event. It is confirmed by sure and convincing proofs. The acceptance of this truth, although the fruit of the Holy Spirit's grace, rests at the same time on a solid historical base. On the threshold of the third millennium, the new effort of evangelization can begin only from a renewed experience of this Mystery, accepted in faith and witnessed to in life.... Pope John Paul II

#### **Fact**

Mass is to be celebrated on Easter Day with great solemnity. It is appropriate that the penitential rite on this day take the form of a sprinkling with water blessed at the Vigil, during which the antiphon Vidi aquam, or some other song of baptismal character should be sung. The fonts at the entrance to the church should also be filled with the same water. The tradition of celebrating baptismal Vespers on Easter Day with the singing of psalms during the procession to the font should be maintained where it is still in force, and appropriately, restored. The paschal candle has its proper place either by the ambo or by the altar and should be lit at least in all the more solemn liturgical celebrations of the season until Pentecost Sunday, whether at Mass, or at Morning and Evening Prayer. After the Easter season the candle should be kept with honor in the baptistry, so that in the celebration of Baptism the candles of the baptized

may be lit from them. In the celebration of funerals, the paschal candle should be placed near the coffin to indicate that the death of a Christian is his own Passover. The paschal candle should not otherwise be lit nor placed in the sanctuary outside the Easter season.

#### **Prayer**

*God our Father, creator of all, today is the day of Easter joy. This is the morning on which the Lord appeared to men who had begun to lose their hope and opened their eyes to what the scriptures foretold: that first he must die, and then he would rise and ascend into his Father's glorious presence. May the risen Lord breathe on our minds and open our eyes that we may know him in the breaking of bread, and follow him in his risen life. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

<https://www.ewtn.com/faith/lent/eastersunday.htm>

#### **SAINT CANDLES FOR SALE**

We are offering Saint candles which will be sold after Divine Liturgies and on the website. The candles we are offering are the picture of Our Lady of Purgatory stained glass that is in the sanctuary, Saint Maron, Saint Charbel, Saint Rafka, Saint Rita, and Our Lady of Fatima. These candles come in red or amber. The inserts are removable after they are finished and may be replaced with another insert. As the candle burns down, the pictures are illuminated. These beautiful candles may be viewed in the Church or on the website. The cost of the candles is \$8.00 each. This includes the glass and the candle insert. You may also purchase the insert candles for \$3.00 each or 4 for \$10.00. Please take a look at the different candles we offer by visiting our website at [www.ourladyofpurgatory.org](http://www.ourladyofpurgatory.org) or by visiting the table at the back of the Church.

#### **BISHOPS APPEAL UPDATE**

As of this publication, we have collected \$2,285.00. 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.

#### **WINE AND HOST OFFERINGS**

The altar bread and wine are in loving memory of Boutros and Joseph BouRamia requested by Jacques BouRamia 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 April, 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.

#### **MANY THANKS TO THE EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

Many thanks to the Board Members of the Education Foundation and to all who made our bake sale a success and to all of you who prepared for this event. All of the proceeds will go directly to the foundation so that we may present more scholarships to the youth of our parish. I also thank those who have contributed to this cause. We have received \$75.00 in donations and were able to sell \$795.00 in baked goods. Thank you all so very much for supporting our efforts. God bless each of you.

#### **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)**

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

## LITURGY INTENTIONS

**Saturday, April 3, @ 4:30 PM,**  
**Glorious Resurrection Vigil**  
**Sunday, April 4, @ 10:30 PM,**  
**Glorious Resurrection**

**Monday, April 5, @ 6:00 PM,**  
**Tuesday, April 6, @ 9:00 AM,**  
**Wednesday, April 7, @ 6:00 PM,**  
**Thursday, April 8, @ 9:00 AM,**

**Saturday, April 10, @ 4:30 PM,**  
liturgy is being offered in memory of Michel and Annal Magaletta, Sr., Michel, Jr., and Baldassare Magaletta requested by Joann, Anthony, and Lorraine David. May their souls rest in peace.

**Sunday, April 11, @ 10:30 AM,**  
liturgy is offered for the soul of Fr. George Saad requested by Hyatt Thomas and family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered in memory of Lee Kalife and the deceased members of the Kalife family requested by Louis Kalife. May their souls rest in peace.

## LECTORS FOR APRIL 2021

**Saturday, April 3, 4:30 PM,**  
Carol Ann Maslanka

**Sunday, April 4, 10:30 AM,**  
Ann Dupre and Hiba Chedid

**Saturday, April 10, 4:30 PM,**  
Smitty Cabral

**Sunday, April 11, 10:30 AM,**  
Mae Dickinson/ Jano Barroody

**Saturday, April 17, 4:30 PM,**  
Rachael Higgins

**Intercessions** Anna Higgins

**Sunday, April 18,**  
Joan T. Mello/ Gaby Baroody

**Saturday, April 24,**  
Mae Dickinson

**Sunday, April 25,**  
Jean Barbour/Hiba Chedid

## 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.*

## EASTER EVENT "Rollin' Stones"

## 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.

## WEEKLY COLLECTION FOR March 27-28, 2021

<b>Sunday Collection</b>	<b>\$ 2,101.00</b>
<b>Bishop's Appeal</b>	<b>\$ 246.00</b>
<b>Easter Flowers</b>	<b>\$ 365.00</b>
<b>Saint Candles</b>	<b>\$ 93.00</b>
<b>Candles</b>	<b>\$ 27.00</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 2,832.00</b>

## EDUCATION BAKE SALE

<b>Bake Sale Profit</b>	<b>\$ 795.00</b>
<b>Donations</b>	<b>\$ 75.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 865.00</b>



THE MARONITE YOUTH ORGANIZATION  
PRESENTS

# Rollin' Stones

*an Easter event*

LET US CELEBRATE THE  
GLORIOUS RESURRECTION OF  
OUR LORD

**Friday, April 9, 2021 8PM EST**

REGISTER AT  
[WWW.MARONITEYOUTH.ORG](http://WWW.MARONITEYOUTH.ORG)



Maronite Youth Organization

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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