



Our Lady of Purgatory



Maronite Catholic Church

April 17-18, 2021

THIRD SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION



disciples invite him to join them for their evening meal. As he blessed and broke the bread, they recognized Jesus in this familiar and intimate gesture and knew at once who sat with them. As this new recognition dawned, Christ the messenger disappeared. The two returned to Jerusalem to witness the resurrection of Jesus and share how the empty tomb was not a

A REFLECTION ON THE ROAD TO EMMAUS FOR THE EASTER SEASON

(This reflection is offered as a companion to the video The Road to Emmaus, which is part of CHA's ministry formation offerings. The video is available at www.chausa.org/ministryformation)

Consider the famous quote from an iconic 1980s movie, "Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it." At first glance, the parting words of Ferris Bueller may not have much to do with the Road to Emmaus or Easter, but the underlying lesson about awareness, presence and perspective are all there. Two disciples walk from Jerusalem after

the events of Jesus' trial, conviction and death.

Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday were fast days for the disciples. Trauma followed tragedy with no time to process or make sense of what happened. In shock, overcome with grief, the pair are soon joined by a stranger who to their amazement, seems not to know what has transpired. As they walk, the two explain the situation of confusion, torture and loss.

The stranger, who is the risen Jesus unrecognized, tells them the story from a new lens and a larger perspective. Beginning with the foundations of faith in Moses and the prophets witness, the hidden Christ unpacks all the promises of God to show how they point to the paschal mystery of death and resurrection.

Comforted and amazed by their new companion's perspective, the

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Prayer is an aspiration of the heart, it is a simple glance directed to heaven, it is a cry of gratitude and love in the midst of trial as well as joy; finally, it is something great, supernatural, which expands my soul and unites me to Jesus."

St. Therese of Lisieux



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.

disappointment, but a promise kept, the covenant fulfilled.

The walk on the road to Emmaus was very likely the first time they could “stop and look around.” In stepping away, the disciples could explore the meaning of the events with greater clarity. This bit of distance gave them a new perspective. When Jesus reminded Reflection ©The Catholic Health Association of the United States them of the bigger story of God’s work in the world and the broader picture of salvation, they were able to see what beauty God makes of the world’s brutality. Life in health care is fast on the slowest days, and it is hard to see the bigger picture when we are hustling to make it to lunch. This second account of the resurrection on a nondescript road outside Jerusalem speaks to us in our busyness, amid everything overstuffed into our days. Every day, every moment, we are called to open our eyes to the broader story of grace, accompaniment and love happening all around us.

To make meaning of our experience, we take the long view and see how goodness, hope and love are resurrected again and again in our lives. Resurrection, the joy and hope of Easter, indeed the person of Jesus, can find us anywhere. In the hallways, bedsides and boardrooms and at our home offices or shared workstations. Our celebrations and grief can all be opportunities to stop, look around and see the sacred in our midst. We must notice and respond when our hearts burn within us and ask: Where is God accompanying me on my journey? Who is the hidden Christ in our midst? Where is the resurrection playing out now and always?

https://www.chausa.org/docs/default-source/default-document-library/easter-road-to-emmaus-reflection_final-2.pdf?sfvrsn=0

DOES GOD EXIST REFLECTION

A man went to a barber shop to have his hair and his beard cut as always. He started to have a good conversation with the barber who attended him. They talked about so many things and various subjects. Suddenly, they touched the subject of God. The barber said:

“Look man, I don’t believe that God exists as you say so.”

“Why do you say that?” asked the client. “Well, it’s so easy, you just have to go out in the street to realize that God does not exist. Tell me, if God exists, would there be so many sick people? Would there be abandoned children? If God exists, there would be no suffering nor pain. I can’t think of a God who permits all of these things.”

The client stopped for a moment thinking but he didn’t want to respond so as to prevent an argument. The barber finished his job and the client went out of the shop. Just after he left the barber shop, he saw a man in the street with a long hair and beard (it seems that it had been a long time since he had his hair cut and he looked so untidy). Then the client again entered the barber shop and he said to the barber: “know what? Barbers do not exist.” “How come they don’t exist?”-asked the barber. “Well I am here and I am a barber.”

“No!” the client exclaimed. “They don’t exist because if they did there would be no people with long hair and beards like that man who walks in the street.”

“Ah, barbers do exist, what happens is that people do not come to us.”

“Exactly!”- affirmed the client. “That’s the point. God does exist, what happens is people don’t go to Him and do not look for Him that’s why there’s so much pain and suffering in the world.”

<https://stories4homilies.wordpress.com/2012/06/02/does-god-exist/>

EASTER FLOWER DONATION 2021

Memory of Victor Belaire and deceased members of the Baroody family by family.

Memory of Joe Nader and deceased members of the Nader family by Joann Longden

Memory of Tanios and Marie Arsanios by Boulos Arsanios

Memory of the deceased members of the Baroody and Cheaib family by Gaby and Amal Baroody.

Lou and Smitty Cabral

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 Joseph, Saint Maron, Saint Charbel, Saint Rafka, Saint Rita, and Our Lady of Fatima. These candles come in clear 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 or by visiting the table at the back of the Church.

NO DAILY LITURGIES

Please note that there will be no daily liturgies from Monday, April 19- April 24. Thank you for your understanding.

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, April 17, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Agapitus) liturgy is being offered for the souls of the McAllister and Maslanka Families, and Nancy Calder requested by Subdeacon Joseph Abraham and Carol Ann Maslanka. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Arthur and Annie Thomas and Edouard Matter requested by their family (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, April 18, @ 10:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Thais) liturgy is being offered for the souls of Edward and Bertha Baroodly requested by Gaby and Amal Baroodly and family. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Chris David requested by her family. May her soul rest in peace.

Monday, April 19, @ 6:00 PM, NO LITURGY

Tuesday, April 20, @ 9:00 AM, NO LITURGY

Wednesday, April 21, @ 6:00 PM, NO LITURGY

Thursday, April 22, @ 9:00 AM, NO LITURGY

Saturday, April 24, @ 4:30 PM, Palm Sunday Vigil, (Feast of Saint Saba) liturgy is being offered for the soul of Hanne Guibril requested by Billy and Jessica Hakim and family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Nan Farhat requested by Annemarie Espindola. May her soul rest in peace.

Sunday, April 25, @ 10:30 AM, Palm Sunday, (Feast of Saint Mark the Evangelist) liturgy is offered for the souls of Fred Thomas, Joao and Fernanda

Baptista, Mena Carvalho, and Edigio Baptista requested by Fernanda Thomas. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered as a 40 Day memorial for the soul of Hanna Yezbeck requested by Hyatt Thomas and family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of George and Kaffa Peter requested by their family (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

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 June, 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.

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.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

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

LECTORS FOR APRIL 2021

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

Intercessions Anna Higgins
Sunday, April 18,
Mae Dickinson / Gaby Baroodly

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.

WEEKLY COLLECTION FOR April 10-11, 2021

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Sunday Collection | \$ 1,277.00 |
| Donations | \$ 50.00 |
| Saint Candles | \$ 100.00 |
| Candles | \$ 27.00 |
| Total: | \$ 1,454.00 |

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.

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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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