



Our Lady of Purgatory



Maronite Catholic Church

August 7 - 8, 2021

ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

THE OTHER SIDE OF LIFE

A sick man turned to his doctor, as he was leaving the room after paying a visit, and said, "Doctor, I am afraid to die. Tell me what lies on the other side." Very quietly the doctor said, "I don't know." "You don't know?" the man said.

"You, a Christian man, do not know what is on the other side?"

The doctor was holding the handle of the door, on the other side of which came a sound of scratching and whining. As he opened the door, a dog sprang into the room and leaped on him with an eager show of gladness.

Turning to the patient, the doctor said, "Did you notice my dog? He's never been in this room before. He didn't know what was inside. He knew nothing except that his master was here, and when the door opened, he sprang in without fear."

"I know little of what is on the other side of death," the doctor continued, "but I do know one thing: I know my Master is there, and that is enough. And when the door opens, I shall pass through with no fear, but with gladness."

<https://stories4homilies.wordpress.com/2013/06/05/the-other-side-of-life/>

This beautiful reflection says it all. We wonder what our lives will be like after we leave this world and although we know through our faith that God is waiting for us, we still question in our hearts what will it be like.

Preparing ourselves is the most important part of our journey. We pray that we will have enough time for this preparation and to enjoy our loved ones and our Church in the process. Enjoying our Church should mean yearning to come and pray to God with a community that shares the same beliefs, worships the same God, and feels the warmth and love of one another. There is nothing that should separate any of us from the most important hour of our lives. We are here as a community of faith regardless of language, nationality, social status.

THIS CHURCH IS FOR EVERYONE.

If you are not present, you are missed. My mission here is to save souls and to bring you closer to God. That is my main intention serving as your priest. In the process, I strive to make Liturgy a transforming hour in our lives. I hope and pray that you will always feel the love and warmth of this community and to yearn for this personal time with God. He misses you too. God bless!



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Tuesday, August 10, 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

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"One life is all we have and we live it as we believe in living it. But to sacrifice what you are and to live without belief, that is a fate more terrible than dying."

St. Joan of Arc



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

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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.

ملخص العظة

لا بد من أن يكون لكل شخص من بيننا شيء ليحمد الله عليه.

كان يسوع ذاهباً من اليهودية نحو منطقة صور وصيدا، حيث دنت منه امرأة كنعانية وسببت نوعاً من الفوضى. فقد كان الشعب الكنعاني عدواً للشعب اليهودي وكانوا يتجنبون التواجد في مكان واحد.

في ذلك الوقت، لم يتصرف تلاميذ يسوع بمسيحية بل أرادوا من يسوع أن يتخلص منها. لماذا تقربت من يسوع هذه المرأة التي تكره اليهود؟

لقد أنت بسبب حبها لابنتها ولأنها سمعت بكل الأعاجيب التي قام بها يسوع وكانت تعرف أنه إذا وُجد أحد يستطيع مساعدتها فهو يسوع.

رغم أن يسوع أعلن أنه أتى ليخلص خراف إسرائيل الضالة، فقد سجدت على قدميه وتوسلت إليه أن يساعد ابنتها.

ثم نسمع الحوار الذي دار بينها وبين يسوع حيث يقول لها...

"لا يحسن أن يؤخذ خبز البنين، ويُلقى إلى جراء الكلاب!"

لكن المرأة لم تتراجع فقالت ليسوع...

"نعم، يا رب! وجراء الكلاب أيضاً تأكل من الفتات المُتساقط عن مائدة أربابها."

في قراءة الإنجيل هذه، أظهر لنا يسوع أشياء عديدة:

• أظهر لنا كيف يمكن لإيماننا أن يُختبر

• أظهر لنا الرحمة

• كسر الحواجز بين اليهود والوثنيين

في تلك اللحظة، انتشر الخلاص إلى غير أبناء إسرائيل--- فقد امتد إلى كل واحد من بيننا.

يعلمنا يسوع أنه يجب أن نمتد نحو من هو بحاجة، نحو غير المؤمنين، ونحو من لم يتعرفوا على يسوع.

علينا أن نتعلم أمراً واحداً من قراءة الإنجيل؛ لا يمكن أن نتخلى عن إيماننا بل علينا دائماً أن نضع ثقتنا بيسوع. هذا ما أعطانا إياه يسوع اليوم.

علينا جميعاً السعي ليكون إيماننا قوي كل أيام حياتنا كمثل المرأة الكنعانية التي لم يردعها أمر عن الوصول إلى يسوع المسيح لتطلب منه مساعدتها بقوته للشفاء.

هذا هو الإيمان، إخوتي وأخواتي... هذا هو الإيمان.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for a very special intention. Anyone who would like to offer the sanctuary candle for a loved one or special intention, this will be offered each week. An offering of a \$10.00 donation is appreciated.

SAVE THE DATE SUMMER FESTIVAL

I am very happy to announce that we will be having our summer festival this year. As you know, last year we were planning to have a three-day celebration but Covid had other plans for us. Because we did not know what to expect this year, we will begin our festival journey with a one-day festival to be held on Saturday, **September 18**. We will have live entertainment, great food, dancing, and games for the children, all under the BIG TENT.

If you are interested in helping us with this fundraising effort for the Church, I welcome and encourage you to let me know. I look forward to extending the days in 2022 but this will be a great start for our Church. More details will be forthcoming. In the meantime, I hope you will mark your calendars and tell your friends to join us on Saturday, **September 18**, here on the Church grounds. Thank you and God bless you and the parish of OLOP.



FESTIVAL SPONSORSHIPS AND VOLUNTEERS

As we prepare for our festival, you will be receiving in the mail sponsorship forms as well as raffle tickets. Sponsors for the festival help the Church to pay for the many items needed such as food, liquor, publicity, tents, live band, and many other incidentals that will help make this event a successful and enjoyable fundraiser.

We will also be having a cash raffle that will be drawn on Saturday evening. Prizes will be \$1000.00, \$500.00, and \$200.00. Tickets are 1 for \$5.00 or 5 for \$20.00. You will receive a book of five tickets in your mailing. If you have any leftover tickets, perhaps you can help sell them to your friends. If you need additional tickets to sell, please contact Smitty Cabral or Lorraine David and they will make sure you get additional tickets.

We are also looking for volunteers before and during the festival. I am appealing to all of you to offer whatever time and talents you can give. Everyone is vital and important to this community and I invite each of you to help. I pray that this, my first major fundraiser since my arrival, will not only strengthen our financial needs, but also strengthen the unity of our community. Please let us know if you can help by sending an email to Fr. Vincent at ourladyofpurgatory@verizon.net,

Deacon Jean Mattar-
jean.mattar@comcast.net, Gaby Baroody-
gabrielbaroody61@gmail.com, or
Matthew Thomas,
Thomfam5@comcast.net.

CONFESSION

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

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, August 7, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Doumit) liturgy is being offered for the souls of Barbara and Christopher Forde requested by Subdeacon Joseph and Carol Ann Maslanka. May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, August 8, @ 10:30 PM, (Feast of Pope Saint Sixtus II) liturgy is being offered for the soul of Hiam Chaib requested by the Zaknoun family. May her soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of George and Mary Thomas, Joseph Thomas and Joseph Peters by their family (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

Monday, August 9, @ 6:00 PM, (Feast of Saint Matthias)

Tuesday, August 10, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Laurence)

Wednesday, August 11, @ 6:00 PM, (Feast of Saint Clare)

Thursday, August 12, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Shaina)

Saturday, August 14, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Mother) liturgy is being offered for the soul of Norma Richard requested by Nicole Uwanogho and family. May her soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Maria Maspero. May her soul rest in peace.

Sunday, August 15, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Mother) liturgy is being offered for the soul of James Hirst requested by his wife Linda Hirst. May his soul rest in peace.

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED MOTHER

Saturday evening as we celebrate the Feast of Our Blessed Mother, immediately following Divine Liturgy, we will have a pot luck dinner under the grape leave vine. Anyone who is interested in joining for this gathering, please contact Jacques Barbour at 508-725-6705.

DISCONTINUATION OF DISTRIBUTION OF PEACE

Listening to the concerns of many of you and my concern for your comfort and safety, we will discontinue the extending of peace during Divine Liturgy. This, of course, is due to the Delta variant of the Corona Virus. The wearing of masks is an individual preference and I leave that up to each individual. Let us not live fearful but vigilant. Thank you for your understanding.

WINE AND HOST OFFERINGS

The altar bread and wine for the month of August are in memory of the Jean D'arc El-Khoury requested by Jacques and Amal Barbour and family. May her soul 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 September, 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.

LECTORS FOR AUGUST 2021

Saturday, August 7,

Racheal Higgins/Intercessions Anna Higgins

Sunday, August 8,

Mae Dickinson/Jano Baroody

Saturday, August 14,

Mae Dickinson/Intercessions Mariam Uwanogho

Sunday, August 15,

Joan Mello/Hiba Chedid

Saturday, August 21,

Carol Ann Maslanka

Sunday, August 22,

Jean Barbour/Jano Baroody

Saturday, August 28,

Smitty Cabral

Sunday, August 29,

Ann Dupre/Gaby Baroody

(If you are not able to read on your given day, please contact Mae Dickinson)



SAINT ANTHONY OF THE DESERT LEBANESE FESTIVAL

Our brothers and sisters of Saint Anthony of the Desert will be having their summer festival on Friday, August 27-August 29, at their Church grounds located at 300 N. Eastern Ave, Fall River, MA. Festivities begin on Friday from 5 PM-11 PM, Saturday Noon – 11 PM, and Sunday 11 AM-7 PM. Please support Msgr. Jim and our friends in Fall River.

DABKE TROUPE NEEDED FOR LEBANESE FESTIVAL

Joan Thomas-Mello has offered her talents in teaching our children a dabke dance to perform at the Lebanese Festival. I would be thrilled to have many of our children and young adults to participate. We will do two performances on Saturday, September 18, 2021. Please let Joan or the Church office know if your children would like to participate.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Octavia David, Kenza Sellami, Jacob Rego, Amal Assaf, Peter Helmer, Denise Magaletta, Fernanda Thomas, 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.

WEEK OF JULY 31- AUGUST 1, 2021

Sunday Collection	\$ 2,189.00
Monthly Vanco Don.	\$ 278.93
Festival Raffles	\$ 160.00
Festival Sponsorships	\$ 100.00
Donation Memorial	\$ 100.00
Sanctuary Candle	\$ 30.00
Candles	\$ 95.00
Total	\$ 2,952.93

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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