



Our Lady of Purgatory

Maronite Catholic Church



August 21-22, 2021

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

JUDGMENT

After living a “decent” life, my time on earth came to an end. The first thing I remember is sitting on a bench in the waiting room of what I thought to be a courthouse. The doors opened and I was instructed to come in and have a seat by the defense table. As I looked around, I saw the “prosecutor”, he was a villainous looking gent who snarled as he stared at me, he definitely was the most evil person I have ever seen. I sat down and looked to my left and there sat my lawyer, a kind and gentle looking man whose appearance seemed very familiar to me.

The corner door flew open and there appeared the judge in full flowing robes. He commanded an awesome presence as he moved across the room and I couldn't take my eyes off of him. As he took his seat behind the bench he said, “Let us begin.” The prosecutor rose and said, “My name is Satan and I am here to show you why this man belongs in Hell.” He proceeded to tell of lies that I told, things that I stole and in the past when I cheated others. Satan told of other horrible perversions that were once in my life and the more he spoke, the further down in my seat I sank. I was so embarrassed that I couldn't look at anyone, even my own lawyer, as the Devil told of sins

that even I had completely forgotten about.

As upset as I was at Satan for telling all these things about me, I was equally upset at my representative who sat there silently, not offering any form of defense at all. I know I had been guilty of those things, but I had done some good in my life – couldn't that at least equal out part of the harm I've done?

Satan finished with a fury and said “This man belongs in Hell; he is guilty of all that I have charged and there is not a person who can prove otherwise.”

When it was his turn, my lawyer first asked if he might approach the bench. The judge allowed this, over the strong objection of Satan, and beckoned him to come forward. As he got up and started walking, I was able to see him now in his full splendor and majesty. Now I realized why he seemed so familiar, this was Jesus representing me, my Lord and my Savior. He stopped at the bench and softly said to the judge “Hi Dad” and then he turned to address the court.

“Satan was correct in saying that this man had sinned, I won't deny any of these allegations. And yes, the wage of sins is death and this man deserves to be punished.” Jesus took a deep breath and turned to his Father with outstretched arms and proclaimed, “However, I died on the cross so that this person might have eternal life

and he has accepted me as his Savior, so he is mine.”

My Lord continued with “His name is written in the Book of Life and no one can snatch him from me. Satan still does not understand yet, this man is not to be given justice, but rather mercy.” As Jesus sat down, he quietly paused, looked at his Father and replied, “There is nothing else that needs to be done, I've done it all.” The Judge lifted his mighty hand and slammed the gavel down

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Humility does not disturb or disquiet or agitate, however great it may be; it comes with peace, delight, and calm. The pain of genuine humility doesn't agitate or afflict the soul; rather, this humility expands it and enables it to serve God more.”

St Teresa of Avila



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.

and the following words bellowed from his lips, "This man is free – the penalty for him has already been paid in full, case dismissed."

As my Lord led me away, I could hear Satan ranting and raving, "I won't give up, I'll win the next one!" I asked Jesus as he gave me my instructions on where to go next, "Have you ever lost a case?" Christ lovingly smiled and said, "Everyone that has come to me and asked me to represent them has received the same verdict as you...Paid in Full."

In this world of trials and tribulation, there are times when logic, thought, and discussion, seem to do nothing at all. It is in these times that I have learned that I have only one place to turn in which to ease the pain

Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. (Romans 14:10)

<https://stories4homilies.wordpress.com/2012/09/16/judgment/>

NEW CANDLE STAND

We now have our new candle stand in the prayer shrine at the back of the Church. Candle offering is \$1.00 dollar for each candle intention. I ask you to please be careful if you have small children. Please do not let them light the candles or be unaccompanied in that area. I do not want any of them to get hurt. Thank you.



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 Barody-gabrielbarody61@gmail.com, or Matthew Thomas, Thomfam5@comcast.net.

WINE AND HOST OFFERINGS

The altar bread and wine for the month of September are offered for the soul of Jean D'Arc El-Khoury by Jacques and Amal Barbour and Family. May her soul rest in peace.

BACK TO SCHOOL ICE CREAM SOCIAL

The Education Scholarship Foundation Committee will be sponsoring a "BACK TO SCHOOL ICE CREAM SOCIAL" on Saturday, September 11, following 4:30 PM Divine Liturgy. Please bring your children for Liturgy and Ice Cream to celebrate our children going to back to school. Raffles for two back packs filled with all the essentials will be sold, with proceeds going to the Education Scholarship Foundation. Of course, the adults are welcome to indulge as well.



LECTORS FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

Saturday, September 4,
Mae Dickinson
Sunday, September 5,
Joan Mello/Gaby Barody
Saturday, September 11,
Rachael Higgins/ Intercessions-
Mariam Uwanogho
Sunday, September 12,
Ann Dupre/Hiba Chedid
Saturday, September 18,
Carol Ann Maslanka
Sunday, September 19,
Jean Barbour/Gaby Barody
Saturday, September 25,
Smitty Cabral
Sunday, September 26,
Mae Dickinson/Jano Baroudi
(If you are not able to read on your given day, please contact Mae Dickinson)

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, September 4, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Babylas) liturgy is being offered for the souls of George and Mary Saba requested by their family (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, September 5, @ 10:30 PM, (Feast Saint Theresa of Calcutta) Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Isaac and Kaffe Abraham by their family. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Jose De Silva requested by his wife Fatima Di Silva and family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Joseph T. Daher and deceased members of the Daher family requested by his wife Alice Daher (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

Monday, September 6, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Michael the Archangel) NO LITURGY

Tuesday, September 7, @ 6:00 PM, (FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED MOTHER)

Wednesday, September 8, @ 6:00 PM, NO LITURGY

Thursday, September 9, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saints Joachim and Anne) NO LITURGY

Saturday, September 11, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Theodora of Alexandria) liturgy is being offered for the souls of Judy Amaral and Saade Saade requested by Helena and Dany Tavares. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is in memory of all the victims and their families on the 20th anniversary of 9/11. May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, September 12, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Cornelius the Centurion) liturgy is being offered for the souls of George and Mary Saba by family (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for the soul of Joseph Daher requested by Alice Daher. May his soul rest in peace.

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.

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.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

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

NEEDS LIST FOR FESTIVAL

6 Cases Coke
4 Cases Diet Coke
4 Cases Sprite
6 Bottles Cranberry Juice
4 Gallons Orange Juice
6 Large Bottles Tonic
4 Large Bottles Club Soda
20 Cases 16 oz Bottled Water

Anyone who would like to donate any of these items, you may bring them to the rectory basement the week of the festival. Thank you for your help and generosity.

Food . Bar . Live Music . Saja . Hookas . Raffles . Dancing

Our Lady Of Purgatory Church

Summer Lebanese Festival

Saturday, September 18, 2021
12:00PM – 11:00PM

Live Entertainment

George Maalouf and Band



Money Raffles Prizes
\$1,000 - \$500 - \$200

Drawing
Saturday, September 18, 2021
10:30PM

11 Franklin Street, New Bedford, MA 02740

**WEEK OF AUGUST 21-22,
2021**

Sunday Collection	\$ 1,162.00
August Online Giving	\$ 3,149.14
Memorials	\$ 150.00
Festival Raffles	\$ 200.00
Special 2nd Collection	\$ 572.00
Festival Sponsorships	\$ 4,450.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 13.00
Sanctuary Candle	\$ 80.00
Candles	\$ 92.00
Total	\$ 9,868.14

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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