



Our Lady of Purgatory



Maronite Catholic Church

October 16-17, 2021

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER HOLY CROSS

CALLED TO BE HOLY

A bishop once said “We are not called to be perfect; we are called to be holy.” And the way we become closer to holiness is by the virtue of “humility”. Do any of us like to be humiliated either in private or in public? I know it is not on the top of the list for me. To be humiliated means that we are beneath other people; that we have failed in some way or another and that our pride is now at stake. But humility is one of the greatest virtues we can obtain. It is the greatest virtue Jesus Christ exemplified throughout His life and one that he instructed his disciples to embrace. Humility makes us examine ourselves in a way that we see ourselves and all of our defects, our faults, and our shortcomings. Humility requires us to see ourselves as we truly are and to submit ourselves completely and willingly to God. St. Thomas Aquinas defines humility in the Summa. “The virtue of humility”, he says, “Consists in keeping oneself within one’s own bounds, not reaching out to things above one, but submitting to one’s superior.” This is humility at its core. When we empty ourselves to God, we begin to understand more and more the need of forgiveness; the understanding of our faults; and to begin to of knowing ourselves well and to see our defects. As St. Bernard has said “He lacks everything who thinks he lacks nothing.” All of us need to strive for this virtue of humility and by doing so we not only see our own weaknesses and defects but we will be able to understand other people’s defects and

weaknesses as well. And when this happens, we become more compassionate and forgiving to others. Humility is key toward our journey to holiness.

St. Theresa of Avila

Teresa lived in an age of exploration as well as political, social and religious upheaval. It was the 16th century, a time of turmoil and reform. She was born before the Protestant Reformation and died almost 20 years after the closing of the Council of Trent.

The gift of God to Teresa in and through which she became holy and left her mark on the Church and the world is threefold: She was a woman; she was a contemplative; she was an active reformer. As a woman, Teresa stood on her own two feet, even in the man’s world of her time. She was “her own woman,” entering the Carmelites despite strong opposition from her father. She is a person wrapped not so much in silence as in mystery. Beautiful, talented, outgoing, adaptable, affectionate, courageous, enthusiastic, she was totally human. Like Jesus, she was a mystery of paradoxes: wise, yet practical; intelligent, yet much in tune with her experience; a mystic, yet an energetic reformer. A holy woman, a womanly woman. Teresa was a woman “for God,” a woman of prayer, discipline and compassion. Her heart belonged to God. Her ongoing conversion was an arduous lifelong struggle, involving ongoing purification and suffering. She was misunderstood, misjudged, opposed in her efforts at reform. Yet she struggled on,

courageous and faithful; she struggled with her own mediocrity, her illness, her opposition. And in the midst of all this she clung to God in life and in prayer. Her writings on prayer and contemplation are drawn from her experience: powerful, practical and graceful. A woman of prayer; a woman for God. Teresa was a woman “for others.” Though a contemplative, she spent much of her time and energy seeking to reform herself and the Carmelites, to lead them back to the full observance of the primitive Rule. She founded over a half-dozen new monasteries. She traveled, wrote, fought—always to renew, to reform. In herself, in her prayer, in her life, in her efforts to reform, in all the people she touched, she was a woman for others, a woman who inspired and gave life. Her writings, especially the *Way of Perfection* and *The Interior Castle*, have helped generations of believers.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“There is more value in a little study of humility and in a single act of it than in all the knowledge in the world.”

St. Teresa of Avila



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.

In 1970, the Church gave her the title she had long held in the popular mind: Doctor of the Church. She and St. Catherine of Siena were the first women so honored.

"Oh, my Lord! How true it is that whoever works for you is paid in troubles! And what a precious price to those who love you if we understand its value."

WITH PRAYERFUL CONDOLENCES

It is my sad duty to inform you that Farid and Nabila Hawwa passed away in Florida this past week. Farid and Nabila are the parents of Rana Choubah. They are now together in the loving arms of Jesus. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Rana and Halim Choubah and to all of her siblings and family members. We will keep all of them in our prayers. A memorial Liturgy will be scheduled once Rana returns from Florida. May Almighty God welcome Farid and Nabila into His kingdom and may their souls rest in peace. Allah yerhammo.

EDUCATION FOUNDATION MEETING

There will be an in-person Education Foundation meeting on Tuesday, October 19, at 6:30 PM. The meeting will take place in the rectory basement. Please do your best to attend.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR VOLUNTEER MEETING

We will be having a volunteer meeting for the Christmas Bazaar on Wednesday, October 20, at 7:00 PM, in the rectory basement. Anyone who would like to help is asked to come for the meeting. I thank you all in advance for your help.

CONFESSION

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

WINE AND HOST OFFERINGS

The altar bread and wine for the month of October are offered for the souls of George and Annie Abraham and Melanie Abraham Gartin requested by Beatrice Long. May their souls rest in peace.

Our Lady Of Purgatory
**ANNUAL LEBANESE HOLIDAY
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR**
Saturday, November 13, 2021
10:00 AM - 7:00 PM
Sunday, November 14, 2021
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Location:
The Lebanese Center
89 Merrimac Street,
New Bedford, MA 02740
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CHRISTMAS BAZAAR NOVEMBER 13-14, 2021

This year's Lebanese Holiday Bazaar is quickly approaching. We are delighted to invite you along with your family and friends to this festive event, which promises to please all who enjoy delicious Lebanese food, desserts, money raffles, and silent auctions.

This year's bazaar will take place on Saturday, November 13, from 10:00 AM- 7:00 PM and Sunday, November 14, from 10:00 AM- 2:00 PM, at the Lebanese Center located at 89 Merrimac Street, New Bedford, Massachusetts.

We are also looking for specialty gift baskets and silent auction items. If you are interested in making a basket or gifting a silent auction gift, please contact Smitty Cabral or Lorraine David. We welcome donations of new items for our caravan auction such as electronics, housewares, giftware tools, gift cards, sporting event tickets, toys, sporting items, etc. Donations for the cost of food and expenses are also greatly appreciated.

Once again, you may pre-order Kibbee Trays for \$25.00, by calling Hiba Chedid or Fr. Vincent at 508-996-8934. Anyone who would like to volunteer before and during the bazaar, please contact Fr. Vincent, Deacon Jean, or Hiba Chedid. Please pre-order your trays before November 1, 2021.

Please mark your calendars and tell your family and friends to join us on November 13 and 14. May God continue to bless Our lady of Purgatory Church and your families.

SNIP, CLIP, AND PRAY FUNDRAISING SUNDAYS

What better way to pray than to have your hair cut, dried, and styled before or after Sunday Divine Liturgy. Charbel Chedid has offered his talents by offering haircuts to the ladies of Our Lady of Purgatory Church on Sunday, October 10th and October 17th. All proceeds will be donated to OLOP for his services. A donation box will be set to the side for your donation to the Church while you enjoy a cut, dry and style.

Charbel asks that you wash your hair the day of your appointment. This will be done in the rectory before Liturgy or during coffee hour. I will be sending an email with the times available as well as a sheet in the rectory basement.

I would like to thank Charbel for sharing his talents with the Church and for donating the proceeds to the Church. The times of appointments will be 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM and 12:00 Noon to 3:00 PM. For these two Sundays, cuts will be available to the women of the parish and when we schedule the next two sessions, we will also include men who would like to have their hair cut. Thank you.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for the soul of Charbel Baroody requested by Mae Dickinson. 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, 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.

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, October 16, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Theresa of Avila) liturgy is being offered for the souls of Thomas David and Helena and Marianne David requested by Mariam David and family. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the deceased members of the Kenyon and Daher families requested by their family. May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, October 17, @ 10:30 PM, (Feast of Saints Cosmas and Damian) liturgy is offered for the soul of Joseph Chedid requested by his family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of George Moujabber requested by his family. May his soul rest in peace.

Monday, October 18, @ 9:00 AM, Maronite Sisters Convent (Feast of Saint Luke the Evangelist)

Tuesday, October 19, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Aaron of Antioch)

Wednesday, October 20, @ 6:00 PM, (Feast of Saint Shallita)

Thursday, October 21, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Hilarion of Tabatha)
No Liturgy

Saturday, October 23, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Ignatius and Pope Saint John Paul II) liturgy is being offered for the soul of Steven Espindola requested by his wife Annemarie Espindola. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Jose DiSilva requested by his wife Fatima DaSilva and family. May his soul rest in peace.

Sunday, October 24, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Arethas and Companions) liturgy is being offered for the souls of Joseph and Tillie Thomas by their family. May their souls rest in peace.

WELCOME ME INTO YOUR KINGDOM DIVINE LITURGY

We will celebrate Welcome Me Into Your Kingdom Divine Liturgy on **Wednesday, October 20, at 6:00 PM.** Please join us praying for the souls of the faithful departed of our parish and the names in the book of life.



REGIONAL YOUNG ADULT EVENT

Please find attached the flyer for our next **Regional Young Adult Event** will be a **Friendsgiving** hosted by **Saint Anthony Church** in **Lawrence** on **Sunday November 7 from 4-7pm.** Thank you Fr. Elie and the MYA for hosting our next event! We are hoping to continue to bring our young adults in the New England Region together for some fellowship, fun and prayer.

I appreciate if you can personally invite young adults you know to this event and share the flyer in your announcements, and on your social media platforms these coming weeks. Thank you for your ministry and support for our young adults! If you have any questions please reach out. Peace & Blessings, Sr. Therese Maria, MSCJL maroniteservants.org

SAINT JOSEPH SODALITY NEWS

Periodically we will be publishing news and coming events from the St. Joseph Sodality. The Sodality is the oldest organization in the Parish, having been founded in 1918. Through their devotion to St. Joseph, Sodality Members seek to emulate the life and faith of St. Joseph, and by doing so, hope to achieve eternal happiness as he did. The Sodality encourages you to consider becoming a member.

November 5, 2021: 10:00 Monthly Prayer Service followed by Sodality Business Meeting.

December 6, 2021: 10:00 AM Monthly Prayer Service followed by the Communion Breakfast at 11:30 AM after Divine Liturgy.

PASTORAL VISIT FROM BISHOP GREGORY

We are happy to announce that Bishop Gregory will be visiting our parish October 23-24, 2021. We will celebrate Divine Liturgy on Saturday, October 23, at 4:30 PM, and then we will attend the Hafla in Fall River, MA, at Saint Anthony Church.

On Sunday, October 24, we will celebrate Divine Liturgy at 10:30 AM. Immediately following Divine Liturgy, we will host Bishop Gregory at the Wamsutta Club located at 427 County Street,

New Bedford, Massachusetts. There will be no charge for this event, however, if anyone would like to make a donation towards this, that is always appreciated.

I do ask anyone who plans to attend to RSVP to Fr. Vincent at the Church office at 508-996-8934, or via email at ourladyofpurgatory@verizon.net. This way we can plan accordingly. I hope all of you will be able to join us in welcoming Bishop Gregory and to be together as a community of faith. God bless you.

LECTORS FOR OCTOBER 2021

Saturday, October 16,

Mae Dickinson/Intercessions: Mariam Uwanogho

Sunday, October 17,

Ann Dupre/Hiba Chedid

Saturday, October 23,

Rachael Higgins/Intercessions: Anna Higgins

Sunday, October 24,

Mae Dickinson/Gaby Baroody

Saturday, October 30,

Smitty Cabral

Sunday, October 31,

Joan Mello/Jano Baroody

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

WEEK OF OCTOBER 9-10, 2021

Sunday Collection	\$ 2,410.00
Christmas Bazaar	\$ 100.00
Bishop's Visit Donations	\$ 500.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 17.00
Candles	\$ 36.00
Total	\$ 3,063.00

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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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