



Our Lady of Purgatory



Maronite Catholic Church

December 18-19, 2021

SEASON OF THE GLORIOUS BIRTH OF OUR LORD GENEALOGY SUNDAY

MERRY CHRISTMAS

I would like to wish all of you a very blessed and joyous Christmas. This special time of the year is a time to thank Almighty God for the greatest gift given to mankind. It is a time to reflect on the infinite wisdom and love that God has bestowed upon us by unfolding before us His great plan of salvation. We have heard over the past several weeks how God chose His people to fulfill this greatest love story with the birth of His only begotten Son Jesus Christ. This is the reason for this occasion; to welcome our Savior into this world. People say to me that this is their favorite time of the year because people are joyous, happy, giving, caring, and at peace. People are busy preparing for parties, shopping for gifts, and gathering with family and friends which are all part of this joyous time of the year. Although these realities are fun and exciting for families, there has to be an underlying reason why people are the way they are during this special time of the year. And the underlying reason can only be the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ---the Prince of Peace, the Savior of the World.

It is when we lose sight of this Glorious Birth that we lose the true meaning of Christmas. Giving of ourselves to those who are in need is to celebrate the birth of Christ. It is when we begin to mend peace with our loved ones that we celebrate the true meaning of the birth of Christ. It is when we unite as a community of faith with mutual love and respect for one another that we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is when we pay homage to the Holy Family in thanks and gratitude that we celebrate the meaning of Christmas.

That being said, as I look back over the past two years at Our Lady of Purgatory, we have grown in the true spirit for which we celebrate the greatest gift to us---Christ's birth. We have united as a family working toward the common goal of building up this community in faith. We see that with our youth in the special activities they participate in; we see that in the dedication of the parents who send their children to catechism classes so that they may further learn the love of Jesus Christ and the Maronite traditions and spirituality; we see that with the dedication of the CCD team who work diligently to bring the love of Christ to our children; we see that with the talents of our choir; we see that with those who serve the altar with respect and

honor; we see that with the different councils and committees working together for the good of our community; and we see that in each of you by your dedication, commitment, and faith to this Church.

All of these wonderful things that are happening in our community are not the effort of one person. It is the effort of this entire community. And all of this happens because of one Person---Jesus Christ.

I pray that each of you will be blessed by the love of Jesus Christ--

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Jesus is happy to come with us, as truth is happy to be spoken, as life to be lived, as light to be lit, as love is to be loved, as joy to be given, as peace to be spread.”

Saint Francis of Assisi



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.

-by His unconditional love, His sacrifice for us, His grace of forgiveness, His example of tolerance and His promise of eternal life with Him. I wish all of you a very blessed and joyous "Christ's Birth" and may we continue to celebrate His birth in the true meaning---God among us. God bless all of you.
Fr. Vincent

GENEALOGY SUNDAY

Today we celebrate Genealogy Sunday. In the gospel reading we hear many names, which at first, may seem a bit daunting and confusing. However, the importance and significance of this reading is the important take away for us today. First, if you were to do some background checks on the relatives of Jesus Christ, you would know that He had some very colorful and sinful relatives. Why would one want to include such sinful people in their lineage? The answer to that question would be we are all sinful, and yet, we can all be redeemed and to be part of God's plan of salvation to others.

In addition to this, we had been told by the prophets of the Old Testament about the coming of the Messiah---the One who would save the world from their sins. Genealogy Sunday gives us the proof of Jesus' lineage, and more importantly, confirms that the Truth has come into this world as the descendent of the house of David. So, when we listen to this gospel reading, we should not focus on the repetition of the names listed, rather, we should focus on the family tree of Jesus Christ which confirms what the prophets had conveyed in the Old Testament for the coming of Jesus Christ.

As we prepare for the birth of Christ, we prepare ourselves for the One who will come and save us from our sins; to prepare ourselves for the One who will reveal God the Father; to

prepare ourselves for the One who will give us eternal life to those who believe in Him. We prepare ourselves for the greatest gift given to mankind---the Son of God---coming to this world to save His people.

We prepare ourselves for the greatest love story ever told, the gift of the Son of God. There is no greater love than this. There is nothing that can compare to the gift of Christ's birth. And it is through this gift that we are able to love one another by the example of our Lord Jesus' love for us and His Father.

As we celebrate the birth of Christ the King, may each of us embrace this gift of Love that He radiates. It is through this gift of love that we truly know God and begin our journey to enjoy everlasting life with Him. May the greatest gift of all fill you and your families with peace, hope, and most importantly Love.

2021 CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Congratulations to everyone on this year's Christmas Pageant. I am so very proud of our children who brought the birth of our Lord to us. Subdeacon Joe shared his talents with us as well as Bashir Khoury. Thank you to the parents for bringing their children and to Matthew Thomas and his little elves for taking care of the Children. May God bless you and keep you in His loving arms. Mabrook!



LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 18, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Daniel the Prophet)

liturgy is being offered for the souls of the Thomas family, Beshara, Helen, Emily, and Amelia, requested by Subdeacon Joseph Abraham and Carol Ann Maslanka. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Nazira Saba requested by Annemaire Espindola. May her soul rest in peace.

Sunday, December 19, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Athenodorus)

Liturgy is being offered for the parishioners of OLOP.

Monday, December 20, @ 6:15 PM, (Feast of Saint Ignatius of Antioch)

Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Ruth Duncanson requested by Ida Farhat. May her soul rest in peace.

Tuesday, December 21, @ 6:10 PM, OLOP (Feast of Saint Julian)

Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Lisa Fata requested by Ida Farhat. May her soul rest in peace.

Wednesday, December 22, @ 6:15 PM, (Feast of Saint Anastasia)

WELCOME ME INTO YOUR KINGDOM LITURGY

Thursday, December 23, @ 6:15 PM, (Feast of Saint Eugenia)

Friday, December 24, @ 5:30 PM, CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL

Saturday, December 25, @ 10:30 AM, CHRISTMAS MORNING LITURGY

Sunday, December 26, @ 10:30 PM, (Feast of Felicitations of the Virgin Mary)

Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Nan Farhat requested by her brothers and sisters. May her soul rest in peace.

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, February 5, 2022, we will be having our Saint Maron Hafli which will be held at Saint Anthony of the Desert Church Hall in Fall River. A full course meal, cash bar and live entertainment with singer Chady Neddef from Canada. More information will be forthcoming in the near future. Spread the word to your family and friends.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

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

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for a special intention requested by Rose David.

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.

LECTORS FOR NOVEMBER 2021

Saturday, December 18,

Rachael Higgins/Intercessions Anna Higgins

Sunday, December 19,

Jean Barbour/Jano Baroudi

Friday, December 24,

Christmas Eve, Rachael Higgins/Gaby Baroody

Saturday, December 25,

Christmas Day, Carol Ann Maslanka/Jano Baroody

Sunday, December 26,

Mae Dickinson/Hiba Chedid

Friday, December 31,

New Year's Eve, Joan Mello/Rose David

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

WINE AND HOST OFFERINGS

The altar bread and wine for the month of December is offered for the soul of Estephane Diab requested by Jacques and Amal Barbour and family. May his soul rest in peace.

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.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Joe Reid, 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.

WEEK OF DECEMBER 11-12, 2021

Sunday Collection	\$ 1,509.00
Candles	\$ 28.00
Education Donation	\$ 200.00
Angel Program	\$ 25.00
Total	\$ 1,562.00

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.

Olive Harvest LLC

Importers and Makers of Fine Olive Oil and Wines

Chafic Maalouf
Founder

43 Broad Street
Suite B306
Hudson, MA 01749
P: 978-261-5119
C: 508-269-0801
chafic@oliveharvest.com
www.oliveharvest.com



CYCLONE CLEANING & RESTORATION SERVICES

- ◆ Carpets & Upholstery
- ◆ Commercial/Residential Cleaning
- ◆ Smoke/Water Damage
- ◆ Washing/Waxing/Stripping Floors

Call the company you've counted on for years - CALL CYCLONE!

Anthony David • (508) 995-8816
833 Mount Pleasant St. • New Bedford, MA 02745
www.CycloneCleaning.com

Counseling ASSOCIATES

152 Dean Street, Taunton, MA
508-837-0790

M & S Excavation



Milad Maalouf

Licensed



LAND CLEARING • SITE WORK
ROADS • SEPTIC SYSTEMS

134 Old Westport Road
N. Dartmouth, MA 02747

508-971-0067
Fax 508-991-5631

CATHOLIC RADIO
88.5 FM
NEW BEDFORD



TIRED OF FALSE NEWS? TUNE INTO THE TRUTH!
88.5 FM WMPW your local Catholic Radio Station.
Listen online - wpmw.org
NEWS- Rosary - Mass- Scripture- Education
Get the 411 on your Faith.

[Sample bulletin block / graphic is optional / In email.]

SALON PERSIA
308 THAYER STREET, PROVIDENCE, RI
Wassim Chedid 401-837-0664
Tuesday & Saturday, 9-12:30pm
Wednesday & Friday, 9-6pm
Zakhia Chedid 774-444-3337
Monday & Friday, 9-12:30pm
Tuesday & Thursday, 9-6pm
Saturday, 9-4pm

401-831-9536 • WWW.SALONPERSIA.COM

FULL SERVICE SALON

Wassim Chedid
401-837-0664
Tuesday & Thurs
1-6pm
Saturday
1-5pm



Zakhia Chedid
774-444-3337
Monday,
Wednesday &
Friday
1-6pm

CHARBEL CHDID

508-315-2688

WWW.HEADSOFSATESALON.COM

North Dartmouth, MA
653 State Road (Route 6) • 508-999-0177

Leonardo chdid
774 503 2935



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

OVER 75 YEARS OF MASONRY & CONCRETE CRAFTSMANSHIP



DUPRE
INC.

BLOCK • BRICK • GLASS BLOCK
BLUESTONE • FIELDSTONE • COBBLESTONE

Cutting and Core Drill • Driveways
Steel Fabrication and Installation
Handicap Access

508-993-8088

369 Nash Rd. • New Bedford

www.duprecontractors.com