



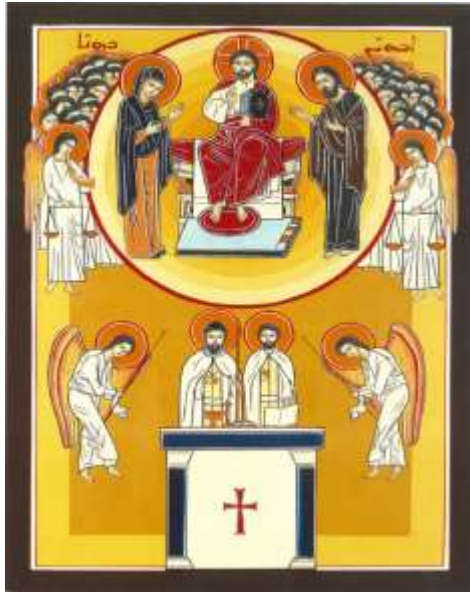
# Our Lady of Purgatory



## Maronite Catholic Church

February 5-6, 2022

### SUNDAY OF THE PRIESTS



#### The Commemoration of Deceased Priests

To anticipate, this feast is not only about remembering deceased priests, it is just as much a reminder that the Christian priesthood is a participation in the eternal priesthood of Our Jesus Christ, the High Priest. The work of priests is for our eternal salvation, and although we only see the body of their hieratic work in this world, its roots and its highest fruit are in the Kingdom of Heaven. Our Christian life today is for our Christian life in eternity.

Of this icon, Fr Badwi wrote: “Our fathers, the priests, who preceded us to eternity continue their celebration there and preach the Bible upon the altar of the luminous world,

surrounded by worshipping angels. All this happens in an eschatological scene, presenting the All-Powerful with the two eternal suppliants, the Virgin Mary and St John the Forerunner, surrounded by a crowd of saints and angels who carry trumpets and scales.” Let us unpack this.

First of all, we are shown in heaven, and even in that divine world there are levels. Enthroned in glory at the top, is the Lord. To His right is His blessed mother, and to His left, St John the Baptist, His cousin and forerunner. They are interceding for humanity. This is an important detail, because it links their action to the prayers of the faithful at each and every divine liturgy, and in the sacraments. Think of this icon when you next approach the sacrament of confession, and you will make the connection – just as you present your sins to the Lord through the priest, so too in the court of heaven you have powerful advocates joining their prayers to yours.

Next, in the lower level, but still in heaven, there is what Fr Badwi calls a “luminous altar,” perhaps because it is the color of the evening sky. Standing upright at it, are two deceased priests who have been admitted into heaven (note the haloes around their heads) celebrating the divine liturgy. We know that the liturgy is celebrated in heaven because of the revelation to

St John the Divine (see chapter 4 of the Apocalypse). They are concelebrating the service. One has the Gospel before him for the Liturgy of the Word, while the other – who is a bishop as his staff shows – has the chalice and paten for the Liturgy of the Eucharist. The bishop may also be a monk, but since all Maronite bishops wear the monastic cowl, one cannot be sure. This bishop and priest stand for all bishops and priests.

The angels who are bending in reverence towards the altar hold the

#### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*“Priest of God, say this Mass as if it were your first Mass, your last Mass, your only Mass. People of God, celebrate this Mass as if it were your first Mass, your last Mass, your only Mass.”*

*Saint Mother Theresa of Calcutta*



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.

staves of messengers (the word *mal'ak* or "angel" once denoted "messenger", being literally "the one who goes.") They represent the fact that the Divine liturgy is celebrated as a result of and for the Word of God, and that angels are present whenever it is celebrated – even on earth. The default Maronite communion hymn reads: "The hosts of angels have come to stand with us at the holy altar ..."

Fr Badwi says that the icon presents an "eschatological scene." Eschatology is the study of the final days, the end of the world, the judgment, and the eternal life. The angels with the trumpets and scales are angels from the Book of the Apocalypse, heralding the last days with trumpets: they have scales in Revelation 6:5. These old-fashioned scales or balances are unknown today, on one side would be a placed a specific weight, e.g. two ounces, and on the other side, an object (often a precious object such as gold or silver). If the gold weighed less than two ounces, the weight would sink lower than the gold. When the two sides of the scales were balanced, then by measuring the weight, you knew how heavy the gold was. The gold in this case is our souls, and the weight is truth.

The priest is a mediator, a bridge, a channel, a conduit. But, and this is often forgotten, he is specifically a mediator, a bridge, a channel, a conduit for Our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and not for some vague heavenly power. From that perspective, the priest is also a representative. This leads to my final point: the upper portion of the picture, at the throne of God, is reflected in the second half: Jesus is present on His throne, Jesus is present under the sacred oblations on His altar; Our Lady and St John intercede for us in heaven, and the bishop and priest do the same at the altar. This is one of the central truths

of our faith – and a comforting and consoling one, if we could but meditate upon it.

<http://www.fryuhanna.com/2021/01/22/the-sunday-of-deceased-priests/>

## SYNODAL COMMITTEE UPDATE

As you know, the Synodal Committee has met twice to discuss the present concerns and suggest ideas that may reflect those concerns. It was a very productive gathering and I thank all who participated in these discussions.

I also emailed the entire community for their input. I will need any responses by Wednesday, February 2. Once these are received, we will put together a summary of what was discussed and how we can proceed in the future. You can also access these discussions on our website at [www.ourladyofpurgatory.org](http://www.ourladyofpurgatory.org) May God bless and protect His Holy Church now and forever. Amen

## NEW EMAIL ADDRESS FOR CHURCH

We will be moving our email address to a Gmail account. At the present time, all emails sent to the current email address will be forwarded to the new Gmail address. Our new Email address will be [ourladyofpurgatory@gmail.com](mailto:ourladyofpurgatory@gmail.com) Thank you for your attention in this matter.

## THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for the well-being and good health of Natalya, Ziad, and Nicholas requested by John and Claire Barbour.

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.

## 2021 CONTRIBUTION LETTERS

Please notify the Church office if you need a contribution letter from the Church for your 2021 taxes. I will prepare the statement and send it to you via email or hard copy. Thank you and God bless.

## "CALLING ALL RECIPES!!!"

Please help us display our beautiful parishes "Legacy Through Food" cookbook. If you have a recipe (or ten) you would like to share, OLOP Education Foundation would love to hear from you!

We are hoping to include your favorite Lebanese, American, and children's cherished dishes as well. We would appreciate if you attach any stories and pictures about your family's recipes or traditions to be included with your recipe.

Any format will do. You may email Leilah Moses Silveira at [leelee8878@comcast.net](mailto:leelee8878@comcast.net) or Annemarie Espindola at [saba.ase@comcast.net](mailto:saba.ase@comcast.net) or Sarah Thomas Hitchings at [sa.thomas@me.com](mailto:sa.thomas@me.com) with any recipes, stories, pictures, or questions. All proceeds benefit the OLOP Education Foundation. Cookbooks are planning to be sold at the 2022 Maharhan, Christmas Bazaar, and throughout the 2022 holiday season. Sahtain and thank you.

## 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.

## LITURGY INTENTIONS

**Saturday, February 5, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Agatha)** Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Sally Perry requested by Sean and Marie McLaughlin and Keira. May her soul rest in peace. Liturgy is offered for the soul of David David by his family (FM). May his soul rest in peace.

**Sunday, February 6, @ 10:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Proclus)** Liturgy is being offered for the soul Louise Dupre requested by her family. May her soul rest in peace.

**Monday, February 7, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Pope Saint Anterus I)** Maronite Sisters of Christ the Light Convent

**Tuesday, February 8, @ 7:00 PM, (Feast of Saint Maron) Holy Day of Obligation**

**Wednesday, February 9, @ 6:00 PM, Welcome Me Into Your Kingdom**

**Thursday, February 10, @ 7:00 PM, Arabic Liturgy (Feast of Saint Apollonia)**

**Saturday, February 12, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Meletius of Antioch)** liturgy is being offered for the soul of Shirley Roy requested by her family. May her soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Georges and Rose David by their family (FM) May their souls rest in peace.

**Sunday, February 13, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Maximus)** Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Jose DaSilva requested by his wife Fatima DaSilva and Family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is offered as a 40 Day Memorial for the soul of Shirley Roy requested by her family. May her soul rest in peace.

## OLOP ONLINE SHOPPING NOW AVAILABLE

OLOP now has online shopping found on our website at [www.ourladyofpurgatory.org](http://www.ourladyofpurgatory.org).

At the present time, you may purchase tickets for the Saint Maron Day Hafli. In a short while, we will be having other items that you may enjoy and can order online. I would like to thank Joe Barckett for setting this up and Rob Macedo for taking care of our website. Below is the link to the online shopping for your future reference.

<https://www.ourladyofpurgatory.org/2022/01/13/olop-hafli-tickets-available-online/>

## WINE AND HOST OFFERINGS

The altar bread and wine for the month of February is offered in memory of George and Mary Saba requested by Annemarie Espindola. May their souls rest in peace.

## CONFESSION

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

## LIVE IN NANNY NEEDED

There is an opportunity for a Live-In nanny in the Dartmouth area. If you or someone you know is interested please contact the Church office. Preferably 40-64 years old. This will be a full-time position beginning immediately. Thank you.

## IN OUR PRAYERS

Ziad Al-Ghoubry, Lesleigh Farhat, Nicholas Awad, Natalayal Sarkis, 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.

## DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF 2/7-2/12/22

**Monday:**

2 Timothy 1:1-11/Matthew 16:24-28

**Tuesday:**

2 Timothy 2:1-13/Matthew 18:1-5

**Wednesday:**

2 Timothy 3:10-17/John 12:23-30

**Thursday:**

2 Timothy 3:10-17/Luke 17:7-10

**Friday:**

2 Timothy 4:1-8/Luke 22:24-30

**Saturday:**

Titus 1:1-9/John 13:13-17

## LECTORS FOR FEBRUARY 2022

**Saturday, February 5,**  
Rose David

**Sunday, February 6,**

Joan Mello/Hiba Chedid

**Saturday, February 12,**

Carol Ann Maslanka/ Intercessions:

Mariam Uwanogho

**Sunday, February 13,**

Mae Dickinson/Gaby Baroody

**Saturday, February 19,**

Smitty Cabral

**Sunday, February 20,**

Ann Dupre/Rana Choubah

**Saturday, February 26,**

Rachael Higgins/Intercession: Anna Higgins

**Sunday, February 27,**

Jean Barbour/Jano Baroody

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

## WEEK OF January 22-23, 2022

<b>Sunday Collection</b>	\$	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Advertisements</b>	\$	<b>400.00</b>
<b>Candles</b>	\$	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	\$	<b>400.00</b>

**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.]

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*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  
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