



# Our Lady of Purgatory



## Maronite Catholic Church

March 26-27, 2022

### SEASON OF GREAT LENT

### Sunday of the Healing of the Paralytic

#### LOVE AND FORGIVENESS IN GOVERNANCE: EXEMPLARS: POPE JOHN PAUL II

by Ernest Ogbozor

Pope John Paul II is often described as "a true believer of forgiveness and compassion." He did not only preach about forgiveness, but he lived a life of forgiveness until his death. In the article "Radical Forgiveness" Mike Hayes noted that John Paul gave us a moment that we need to remember when he visited his would-be assassin, Mehmet Ali Agca in Rebibbia prison in Rome, to forgive him for shooting him. Agca reciprocated in February 2005 when the Pope was hospitalized at Gamelli Polyclinic with Flu; he sent the Pope a message, wishing him a speedy recovery. Pope John Paul II was unafraid of the vulnerability that he created by living in forgiveness, sitting in love with his enemy; his need for God was greater than his need for security. Pope John Paul II personally intervened to gain the release of Turkish terrorist, Mehmet Ali Agca who sought to kill him in 1981. He said that the teaching of Christ instructed him to forgive Agca for shooting him. The last book written by Pope John Paul II in 2005, *Memory and Identity*, recounts a historic forgiveness visit of the Pope to Mehmet Ali Agca in prison after he survived the fatal assassin attack by the Turkish terrorist. According to Pope John Paul II, "We talked for a long time. Ali Agca is, as everyone says, a

professional assassin. Which means that the assassination was not his initiative, someone else thought of it, someone else gave the order." Probably, Agca migrated to Italy after he killed a newspaper editor, Abdi Ipekci in 1978 in Turkey. The attack on Pope John Paul took place in St. Peter Square, Rome on May 13, 1981 when the Pope was on motorcade. Agca shot the Pope six times at a close range, twice in the stomach, once in the right arm and on the left arm. The Pope bled in open after the attack. As the Pope recounts the moment of the attack, he said, "I had a feeling that I would survive. I was in pain, I had reason to be afraid, but I had this strange feeling of confidence...Oh, my Lord! This was a difficult experience." Pope John Paul II survived the attack after an emergency surgery.

The threat to Pope John Paul II's life did not change his belief in forgiveness; these were his motivation to meet with his would-be assassin, Mehmet Ali Agca in Christmas period of December 27, 1983, two years after his assassination attempt. According to Lewis Smedes, "Forgiveness happens inside the person doing the forgiving. It heals our pain and resentment before it does anything for the person we forgive; they might never know about it." Pope John Paul II said, "Forgiving from the Heart can sometimes be heroic... Thanks to the healing power of love, even the most wounded heart can experience the liberating encounter with forgiveness." As the Pope arrived at the Agca's cell in Rebibbia Prison in Italy,

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

*"People are often unreasonable and self-centered. Forgive them anyway.*

*If you are kind, people may accuse you of ulterior motives. Be kind anyway.*

*If you are honest, people may cheat you. Be honest anyway.*


*If you find happiness, people may be jealous. Be happy anyway.*

*The good you do today may be forgotten tomorrow. Do good anyway.*

*Give the world the best you have and it may never be enough. Give your best anyway.*

*For you see, in the end, it is between you and God. It was never between you and them anyway."*

**Mother Teresa**



he looked at his would-be killer in the eye, shook his hand, and Agca kissed John Paul II's hand. The two talked quietly for 21 minutes. John Paul said, "What we talked about will have to remain a secret between him and me, I spoke to him as brother whom I have pardoned, and who has my complete trust." After the meeting, the two shook

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](http://www.ourladyofpurgatory.org)

Email: [ourladyofpurgatory@gmail.com](mailto:ourladyofpurgatory@gmail.com) | 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.

hands and the Pope gave Agca a small gift in a white box, a rosary in silver and mother-of-pearl. "Real peace is not just a matter of structures and mechanisms. It rests above all on the adoption of a style of human coexistence marked by mutual acceptance and a capacity to forgive from the heart. We all need to be forgiven by others, so we must all be ready to forgive. Asking and granting forgiveness is something profoundly worthy of every one of us," said Pope John Paul II. According to Senator Carlo Bo, "The Pope intends to say that, 'If we really want peace, we must make the first step, we must forget offenses and offer the bread of love and charity.'" <https://www.beyondintractability.org/lfg/exemplars/jpaul>

### Forgiveness

A common error in talking about forgiveness is the challenge to "forgive and forget." To forgive is to give up any desire for recrimination or revenge. It is possible to do that, but what is not possible is to let go of the memory of hurt caused by others. Jesus never commanded us to do what is impossible, and what he wants us to do is control the memory so that it will not control us. Another common error is to portray forgiveness as an easy task. Consider Jesus' dying words of forgiveness aimed at his executioners. Those words are left out of many of the oldest manuscripts. Biblical scholars are rather certain that Jesus actually said the words, and they wonder if perhaps the copyists left the words out because they were having trouble themselves forgiving the people responsible for the death of Jesus. Real forgiveness is hard. It requires lots of help from God.

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/scripture-and-tradition/church-leadership/pope-john-paul-ii-and-his-message-of-forgiveness/>

### PALM SUNDAY BAKESALE

We will have our annual Palm Sunday Bake Sale on April 9-10, following Divine Liturgies. Homemade Maamoul with dates, walnuts, or pistachios, Biklawas, Ghribee, and Kaak maa haleeb with or without dates will be for sale. Thank you for your support.

### EASTER FLOWER DONATION



We will be accepting donations for the Easter flowers for the week of Great Lent. If you would like to donate in memory of a loved one or a special intention, please include that intention on the envelope so that we may have a special Liturgy for these intentions. Thank you for your generosity

### "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!

**IT IS VERY IMPROTANT THAT WE RECEIVE THESE RECIPES BY APRIL 15, SO THAT WE CAN HAVE THEM READY FOR THE MAHRAJAN!**

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 Mahrajan, Christmas Bazaar, and throughout the 2022 holiday season. Sahtain and thank you.

### THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for Charbel Barody by family. 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.

### SAINT JUDE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL APPEAL

Once again it is time to support Saint Jude's Hospital as we have been doing for the past 12 years. Last year, due to your generosity, we were able to send almost \$1,000.00 to help the children who are suffering with cancer. If we set a goal this year of \$1,200.00, will you help us meet it? Please see either Mae Dickinson or George Saba with your donation. We will continue to collect donations for the next three weeks. You can also make your donation at our website by Vanco. There is a tab for Saint Jude's Hospital on the link. Thank you for all your support, both past and present. The need continues. God bless you and God bless these children.

### PASSION WEEK DIVINE LITURGIES

**Monday, April 11, 7:00 PM,** Coming to the Harbor

**Tuesday, April 12, 7:00 PM,** Coming to the Harbor

**Wednesday, April 13, 7:00 PM,** Rite of the Lamp

**Thursday, April 14, 7:00 PM,** Holy Thursday

**Friday, April 15, 10:00 AM,** Signing of the Chalice

**Friday, April 15, 7:00 PM,** Great Friday of the Crucifixion,

**Saturday, April 16, 10:00 AM,** Prayer of Forgiveness

**Saturday, April 16, 5:00 PM,** Easter Vigil

**Sunday, April 17, 10:30 AM,** The Glorious Resurrection

### EASTER FLOWER MEMORIALS

**In memory of:** The deceased members of the Dupre family, Hawa and Choubah families, Samir and Georgette Sawaya, Milad Chedid, Helen and Fouad Assaf, Hiam Chaib, for the living and deceased family members of Mariam David.

### SAVE THE DATE

**Maamoul Day:**

Tuesday April 5<sup>th</sup>  
Starting at 10:00 AM

**Kaak Day:**

Wednesday April 6<sup>th</sup>  
Starting at 10:00 AM

## LITURGY INTENTIONS

**Saturday March 26, @ 4:30 PM (Feast of Saint Gabriel the Archangel).** Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Joseph, Matilda and George Attallah requested by family. May their soul rest in peace.

**Sunday March 27, @10:30 AM Healing of The Paralytic (Feast of Saint Matrona).** Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Robert M. Thomas (40-day mass) requested by family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of James and Catherine Graham requested by family (FM). May their soul rest in peace.

**Monday, March 28, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Philetus and His Wife Saint Lydia, and Their Children).** Maronite Sisters of Christ the Light Convent. **NO LITURGY**

**Tuesday, March 29, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of saint Cyril of Baalbek).** **NO LITURGY**

**Wednesday, March 30, @ 6:00 PM, (Feast of Saint John Climacus).** **NO LITURGY**

**Thursday, March 31, @ 7:00 PM, Arabic Liturgy (Feast of Saint Lucius I).** Liturgy is being offered for the soul of George Abraham requested by family (FM). May his soul rest in peace.

**Friday, APRIL 1, @ 7:00PM, (Saint Mary of Egypt).** Benediction/Stations of the Cross

**Saturday, April 2, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Aphian and His Brother Saint Aedesius).** Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Michel and Anna Mgaletta Sr. and Michel Jr. and Baldassare Mgaletta requested by Joanne, Anthony and Loraine David. May their soul rest in peace.

**Sunday, April 3, @ 10:30 AM, Healing of the Blind Man (Feast of Saint Isaiah and Ezekiel the Prophets).** Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Roy El-Khoury (40 -day mass) requested by family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Edward Baroody requested by family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Mary David requested by Sophie and Andy Correa (FM). May her soul rest in peace.

## IN OUR PRAYERS

Angela Scorza-Anderson, Terry Amsden, Lisa Mello-Frost, Ziad Al-Ghoubry, Nicholas Awad, Natalya 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.

## 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.

We are happy to welcome the newest members of the Saint Joseph Sodality. Jimmy Kalife, John Kalife, Danielle Kalife, Salim Khalife, and Boutros Arsanios.

## DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF 3/28-4/2/22

### Monday:

Ephesians 5:3-13  
Mark 5:1-20

### Tuesday:

1 Timothy 1:1-8  
Mark 6:47-56

### Wednesday:

Ephesians 6:1-9  
Luke 7:11-17

### Thursday:

2 Timothy 1:6-14  
Mark 4:33-41

### Friday:

Philippians 2:12-19  
Luke 4:31-44

### Saturday:

Colossians 3:23-4:7  
Mark 7:31-37

## LECTORS FOR MARCH 2022

**Saturday, March 26**

Smitty Cabral/intercessions: Mariam Uwanogho

**Sunday, March 27**

Jean Barbour/Halim Choubah

**LECTORS FOR April 2022**

**Saturday, April 2,**

Carol Ann Maslanka

**Sunday, April 3,**

Khoury family

Intercessions: Khoury family

**Saturday, April 9,**

Rachel Higgins/Intercession: Anna Higgins

**Sunday, April 10,**

Mae Dickinson /Jano Baroody

**Saturday, April 16,**

Carol Maslanka

**Sunday, April 17,**

Ann Dupre /Gaby Baroody

**Saturday, April 23**

Mae Dickinson /intercessions: Mariam Uwanogho

**Sunday, April 24**

Jean Barbour/ Rana Choubah

## WINE AND HOST OFFERINGS

The altar bread and wine for the month of March is offered in memory of James Hirst requested by Linda Hirst. May his soul rest in peace.

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

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

## WEEK OF March 19-20, 2022.

<b>Sunday Collection</b>	<b>\$ 765.00</b>
<b>Easter flowers</b>	<b>\$ 510.00</b>
<b>Sanctuary Candle</b>	<b>\$ 10.00</b>
<b>Bishop's Appeal</b>	<b>\$ 260.00</b>
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	<b>\$ 45.00</b>
<b>Candles</b>	<b>\$ 45.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1635.00</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.**



# 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, . . . . . 9-6 pm

**Zakhia Chedid** 774-444-3337  
Monday & Friday, . . . . . 9-12:30pm  
Tuesday & Thursday, . . . . . 9-6 pm  
Saturday . . . . . 9-4 pm

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.HEADSOFSTATESALON.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



**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