



Our Lady of Purgatory



Maronite Catholic Church

April 30- May 1, 2022

SEASON OF THE GLORIOUS RESURRECTION OUR LADY OF LEBANON



TOGETHER THE WINDING ROAD LEADS TO A STRAIGHTER PATH TO GOD

Last week you heard me speak about St. Thomas and how he isolated himself from the other disciples and those he knew after Jesus' death. Isolation is a lonely world, and a world that will make one miss out on important and life changing events. It also leads one on long and winding roads that leads to loneliness and a feeling of rejection. This may be caused by different events in our lives. Perhaps a family rift, or a friendship that has led to a misunderstanding, or a community that has made us feel that we are not needed or wanted, or words that have been said to us that were untrue and unkind.

Trying to make amends or repairing the damage caused by such conflicts can be a challenge for many of us. We either think we are right or justified for harboring anger, to proud to make that first move, unable to hear each other's side of the story, or not sure where to go for help. God puts people in our lives for reason. In the story that follows, God

worked through this carpenter to dispel the misunderstanding that both brothers perhaps felt or interpreted from their dispute. The outcome is poignant. All of us are able to have this same outcome if we allow ourselves to understand the other side and to come to the people God puts in our lives to help mend the wounds and repair the bonds once shared with family and friends.

For all of you, the person God put in your lives is your priest. There is nothing more rewarding for me than to bring this community together as one. To let each of you know that your presence and your talents are welcomed. To make you feel that sense of belonging. To let your children be a part of this Church where they can learn about God's love, our faith, and to share with other children the joys of growing up in a Church family based on love and respect. And to let you know that I am here for every member of this community so that we can travel this path together in unity and love.

No one can control or erase the past--- we can only learn from the past and move on. I am here to help us move on in the true spirit of Christ. This is where we find peace. This is where we find Christ.

Once upon a time, two brothers who lived on adjoining farms fell into conflict. It was the first serious rift in 40 years of farming side-by-side, sharing machinery and trading labor and goods as needed without a hitch. Then the long collaboration fell apart. It began with a small misunderstanding and it grew into a major difference and

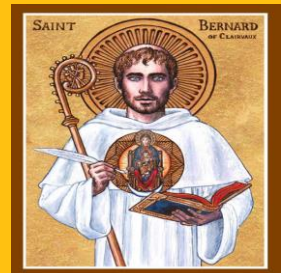
finally, it exploded into an exchange of bitter words followed by weeks of silence.

One morning there was a knock on John's door. He opened it to find a man with a carpenter's toolbox. "I 'm looking for a few days' work," he said. "Perhaps you would have a few small jobs here and there I could help with? Could I help you?"

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"In dangers, in doubts, in difficulties, think of Mary, call upon Mary. Let not her name depart from your lips, never suffer it to leave your heart. And that you may obtain the assistance of her prayer, neglect not to walk in her footsteps. With her for guide, you shall never go astray; while invoking her, you shall never lose heart; so long as she is in your mind, you are safe from deception; while she holds your hand, you cannot fall; under her protection you have nothing to fear; if she walks before you, you shall not grow weary; if she shows you favor, you shall reach the goal."

Saint Bernard of Clairvaux, Father and Doctor of the Church



Fr. Vincent Farhat, Pastor | Rev. Mr. Jean Mattar, Deacon | Joseph Abraham, Sub-deacon

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Email: 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.

“Yes,” said the older brother. “I do have a job for you. Look across the creek at that farm. That’s my neighbor. In fact, it’s my younger brother! Last week there was a meadow between us. He recently took his bulldozer to the river levee and now there is a creek between us. Well, he may have done this to spite me, but I’ll do him one better. See that pile of lumber by the barn? I want you to build me a fence an 8-foot fence — so I won’t need to see his place or his face anymore.”

The carpenter said, “I think I understand the situation. Show me the nails and the post-hole digger and I’ll be able to do a job that pleases you.”

The older brother had to go to town, so he helped the carpenter get the materials ready and then he was off for the day. The carpenter worked hard all that day — measuring, sawing and nailing. About sunset when the farmer returned, the carpenter had just finished his job. **The farmer’s eyes opened wide, his jaw dropped. There was no fence there at all. It was a bridge! A bridge that stretched from one side of the creek to the other! A fine piece of work, handrails and all! And the neighbor, his younger brother, was coming toward them, his hand outstretched.**

“You are quite a fellow to build this bridge after all I’ve said and done. “The two brothers stood at each end of the bridge, and then they met in middle, taking each other’s hand. They turned to see the carpenter hoist his toolbox onto his shoulder. “No, wait! Stay a few days. I’ve a lot of other projects for you,” said the older brother. “I’d love to stay on,” the carpenter said, “but I have many more bridges to build.”

Remember This...

God won’t ask what kind of car you drove, but He’ll ask how many people you helped get where they needed to go. God won’t ask the square footage of your house, but He’ll ask how many people you welcomed into your home. God won’t ask about the clothes you had in your closet, but He’ll ask how many you helped to clothe.

God won’t ask how many friends you had, but He’ll ask how many people to whom you were a friend.

God won’t ask in what neighborhood you lived, but He’ll ask how you treated your neighbors.

God won’t ask about the color of your skin, but He’ll ask about the content of your character.

God won’t ask why it took you so long to seek Salvation, but He’ll lovingly take you to your mansion in Heaven, and not to the gates of hell.

“And be kind to one another, compassionate, forgiving one another as God has forgiven you in Christ.” (Ephesians 4:32)

<https://stories4homilies.wordpress.com/2012/09/24/the-carpenter-who-made-bridge/>

MYO PLANNING GATHERING

Dear Parents & Youth of OLOP, Wishing you and your families a blessed and joyous Easter! During the Easter season we would like to meet with the parents and Youth of Our Lady of Purgatory Church to discuss planning MYO activities for our youth. We would like your input and appreciate your time to join us on Saturday, May 14, at 4:30pm, for Divine Liturgy followed by dinner, icebreakers and a MYO planning discussion for the fall of 2022. Please reach out if you have any questions. We appreciate if you can RSVP before May 10.

Thank you.

Fr. Vince & Sr. Therese



WINE AND HOST OFFERINGS

The altar bread and wine for the month of May is offered in memory of Anthony and marguerite Thomas requested by family. May her soul rest in peace.

WISH LIST EQUIPMENT FOR FESTIVAL

Dear Parishioners of OLOP:

Last year’s festival was a great success for our Church, both financially and communally. As you may know, we were very fortunate to have Msgr. Jim Root and the parishioners of Saint Anthony of the Desert, who were so gracious and helpful by allowing us to use many pieces of equipment that was needed to make our festival a success.

In an effort to continue the success of our festival, we have come up with a wish list of equipment that will be of great help for the festival and other events we are planning throughout the year. You have all been so generous to the Church and as I share with you our wish list, I want to stress that it is exactly that--- a wish list.

If anyone would like to donate towards any of these items, it would be a great help and very much appreciated. All of this is to assist in making our events more successful. Once again, I thank you in advance for all your support and I pray that this year’s festival will be filled with much success and pride.

Dough Sheeter for Minooshe	\$ 2,200.00
Bain Marie for Sandwich Station	\$ 600.00
Food Cart	\$ 200.00
(1) Table Top Food Warmers(each)	\$ 200.00
(2) 6 Ft Gas Grills (each)	\$ 500.00
Falafel Fryer	\$ 250.00
Food Warmer	\$ 1,500.00
Food Warmer Trays	\$ 400.00

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR MAHRAJAN

Dear Parishioners of OLOP:

The date is set for our Annual Mahrajan. We will begin the summer festivities in the New England area on Friday, June 24 and Saturday, June 25, 2022 pm, on the grounds of OLOP. By having the festival at the beginning of the summer, we are hoping that more people will be ready to get out and enjoy our food, entertainment, and culture. Schools are getting out this week which will also add to the celebration of the beginning of Summer break. Please mark your calendars. May this festival continue to grow bigger and better every year.

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, April 30, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint James, son of Zebedee). Liturgy is being offered for living and deceased members of Joseph Semaan Dawood and family requested by family (FM). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Janet and ray Charron requested by Sean, Marie and Keira McLaughlin. May their soul rest in peace.

Sunday, May 1, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Our Lady of Lebanon). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Walter Chomak requested by family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Theresa Touma requested buy OLOP. May her soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Anthony G. and Josephine Thomas requested by family. May their soul rest in peace.

Monday, May 2, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Athanasius the Bishop). Maronite Sisters of Christ the Light convent.

Tuesday, May 3, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of saint Timothy and His Wife Saint Maura).

Wednesday, May 4, @ 6:00 PM, (Feast of Saint Monica).

Thursday, April 28, @ 7:00 PM, Arabic Liturgy (Feast of Saint Irene).

Saturday May 7, @ 4:30 PM (Feast of Saint Antonino). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of George J. and Marie C. Saba requested by Ann Marie Espindola. May their soul rest in peace Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Joseph and Marie Kenyon requested by family. May their soul rest in peace.

Sunday May 8, @10:30 AM (Feast of Saint John the Evangelist). Liturgy is being offered for All Mothers living and deceased.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for Hiam Chaib requested by Mae Dickinson. 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.

10th LIGHT OF LIFE BIBLE CAMP AUGUST 1ST - 5TH

Dear Parents:

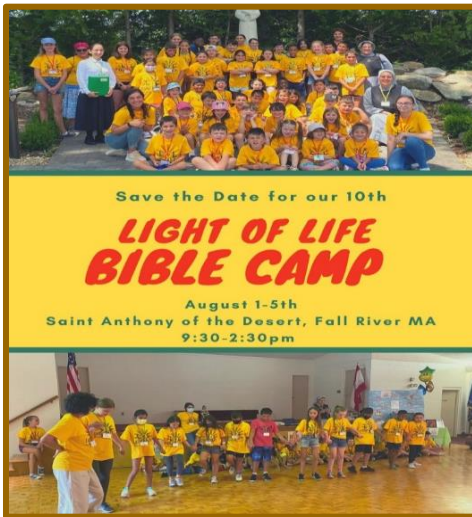
Wishing you a blessed Palm/Hosanna Sunday and Glorious Easter!

Please find attached our **Save the Date flyer for our 10th Light of Life Bible Camp.** It will be held at **Saint Anthony of the Desert in Fall River, MA** during the week of **August 1-5th.** Mark these dates in your calendars. We hope that your child(ren) can join us!

We appreciate you helping us to also spread the word with other families you know... If you have any youth ages 13+ and they would like to volunteer for the camp please reach out to us. The camp fee per child will be \$50. Stay tuned for more details regarding online registration. The sisters and I will be keeping you and your loved ones in our prayers.

Peace in Christ,

Sr. Therese Maria & Sisters Maronite Servants of Christ the Light
maroniteservants.org



IN OUR PRAYERS

Angela Scorza-Anderson, Terry Amsden, Lisa Mello-Frost, Ziad Al-Ghoubry, Natalya Sarkis, Joe Reid, Octavia David, Jacob Rego, Amal Assaf, Peter Helmer, Denise Magaletta, Fernanda Thomas, Leo Rodrick, Theresa John, Laurette Bou Ramia, 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.

LECTORS FOR May 2022

Saturday, April 30,

Carol Ann Maslanka

Sunday, April 1,

Ann Dupre/Hiba Chdid

Saturday, April 7,

Smitty Cabral

Sunday, May 8,

Joan Mello/Gaby Baroody

Saturday, May 14,

Carol Ann Maslanka

Sunday, May 15,

Mae Dickinson/Jano Baroody

Saturday, May 21,

Rachel Higgins

Sunday, May 22,

Joan Mello/Rana Choubah

Sunday, May 28,

Mae Dickinson

Saturday, May 29,

Jean Barbour/Halim Choubah

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

DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF 5/2-5/7/22

Monday:

1 Peter 2:18-25

Luke 24:44-49

Tuesday:

1 Peter 3:1-12

John 6:28-33

Wednesday:

1 Peter 3:13-22

Matthew 28:11-15

Thursday:

1 Peter 4:1-11

John 6:41-47

Friday:

1 Peter 4:12-19

John 6:48-59

Saturday:

1 Peter 5:1-14

John 6:60-71

WEEK OF APRIL 16-17, 2022

Sunday Collection	\$ 1807.00
Bake Sale	\$ 55.00
Second Collection	\$ 120.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 69.00
Donations	\$ 200.00
Sanctuary candle	\$ 10.00
Candles	\$ 41.00
Total	\$ 2302.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS AND GENEROSITY BY SENDING IN YOUR WEEKLY COLLECTIONS VIA MAIL.

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

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Joseph & Marie Kenyon

Eternally in our hearts and in our thoughts. We miss seeing your face, hearing your voice, seeing your smile and hearing your laugh. We cherish the day we will join you in GOD's Heavenly Kingdom. We Love you and miss you even more with each passing day.

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