



Our Lady of Purgatory



Maronite Catholic Church

August 13-14, 2022

ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST THE ASSUMPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY



THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY: A BELIEF SINCE APOSTOLIC TIMES

The Assumption is the oldest feast day of Our Lady, but we don't know how it first came to be celebrated.

Its origin is lost in those days when Jerusalem was restored as a sacred city, at the time of the Roman Emperor Constantine (c. 285-337). By then it had been a pagan city for two centuries, ever since Emperor Hadrian (76-138) had leveled it around the year 135 and rebuilt it as <Aelia Capitolina> in honor of Jupiter.

For 200 years, every memory of Jesus was obliterated from the city, and the sites made holy by His life, death and Resurrection became pagan temples. After the building of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in 336, the sacred sites began to be restored and memories of the life of Our Lord began to be celebrated by the people of Jerusalem. One of the memories about his mother centered around the "Tomb of Mary,"

close to Mount Zion, where the early Christian community had lived.

On the hill itself was the "Place of Dormition," the spot of Mary's "falling asleep," where she had died. The "Tomb of Mary" was where she was buried.

At this time, the "Memory of Mary" was being celebrated. Later it was to become our feast of the Assumption.

For a time, the "Memory of Mary" was marked only in Palestine, but then it was extended by the emperor to all the churches of the East. In the seventh century, it began to be celebrated in Rome under the title of the "Falling Asleep" ("Dormitio") of the Mother of God.

Soon the name was changed to the "Assumption of Mary," since there was more to the feast than her dying. It also proclaimed that she had been taken up, body and soul, into heaven.

That belief was ancient, dating back to the apostles themselves. What was clear from the beginning was that there were no relics of Mary to be venerated, and that an empty tomb stood on the edge of Jerusalem near the site of her death. That location also soon became a place of pilgrimage. (Today, the Benedictine Abbey of the Dormition of Mary stands on the spot.)

At the Council of Chalcedon in 451, when bishops from throughout the Mediterranean world gathered in Constantinople, Emperor Marcian asked the Patriarch of Jerusalem to bring the relics of Mary to Constantinople to be enshrined in the capitol. The patriarch explained to the emperor that there were no relics of Mary in Jerusalem, that "Mary had died

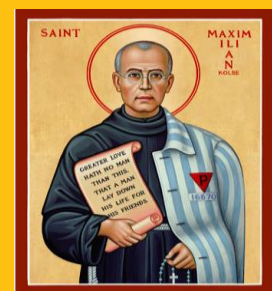
in the presence of the apostles, but her tomb, when opened later . . . was found empty and so the apostles concluded that the body was taken up into heaven." In the eighth century, St. John Damascene was known for giving sermons at the holy places in Jerusalem. At the Tomb of Mary, he expressed the belief of the Church on the meaning of the feast: "Although the body was duly buried, it did not remain in the state of death, neither was it dissolved by decay. You were transferred to your heavenly home, O Lady, Queen and Mother of God in truth."

All the feast days of Mary mark the great mysteries of her life and her part in the work of redemption. The central mystery of her life and person is her divine motherhood, celebrated both at

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Jesus honored her before all ages and will honor her for all ages. No one comes to Him, nor even near Him, no one is saved or sanctified, if he too will not honor her. This is the lot of Angels and of men."

Saint Maximilian Mary Kolbe, Martyr



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@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.

Christmas and a week later (Jan. 1) on the feast of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. The Immaculate Conception (Dec. 8) marks the preparation for that motherhood, so that she had the fullness of grace from the first moment of her existence, completely untouched by sin. Her whole being throbbled with divine life from the very beginning, readying her for the exalted role of mother of the Savior.

The Assumption completes God's work in her since it was not fitting that the flesh that had given life to God himself should ever undergo corruption. The Assumption is God's crowning of His work as Mary ends her earthly life and enters eternity. The feast turns our eyes in that direction, where we will follow when our earthly life is over.

The feast days of the Church are not just the commemoration of historical events; they do not look only to the past. They look to the present and to the future and give us an insight into our own relationship with God. The Assumption looks to eternity and gives us hope that we, too, will follow Our Lady when our life is ended.

The prayer for the feast reads: "All-powerful and ever-living God: You raised the sinless Virgin Mary, mother of your Son, body and soul, to the glory of heaven. May we see heaven as our final goal and come to share her glory." In 1950, in the Apostolic Constitution <Munificentissimus Deus>, Pope Pius XII proclaimed the Assumption of Mary a dogma of the Catholic Church in these words: "The Immaculate Mother of God, the ever-virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heaven."

With that, an ancient belief became Catholic doctrine, and the Assumption was declared a truth revealed by God.

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION - ASSUMPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY

Divine Liturgy for the Assumption of the Virgin Mary will be held on Monday, August 15, at 7:00 PM. Please make sure you attend this Holy Day of Obligation as we honor our Mother on this special commemoration.

CCD REGISTRATION TO BEGIN

As we enjoy the summer break with our families and friends, it is also time to prepare for the beginning of our CCD Program this Fall. We have begun to prepare a wonderful program for our children. As we begin to transition to our new home, our CCD program can now be offered in a facility that will entice this program to flourish and to offer our children the tools that will help them understand the importance of having God in their lives and to understand His great love for us.

CCD classes will revert to Sunday mornings after 10:30 AM Divine Liturgy. The Church Hall will provide all the necessary ingredients to allow the parents to gather for coffee and pastries while their children are having classes. The children will also be able to gather to enjoy other children in the parish. We will also provide snacks for the children during their class.

I am sure that I need not inform the parents of the importance of our CCD program. In this ever-changing secular world, it is the Churches obligation and priority to help our children understand and implement the teachings of Jesus. These teachings begin with you and we, the Church, are here to support and guide your efforts.

I pray that all of you who have children will take advantage of this opportunity. This is a commitment on your part, but a commitment that is vital and necessary in educating our children in the faith. Please be sure to sign your children up for our program. Blessings to all of you.

SAVE THE DATE MYO GATHERING

MARONITE YOUTH ORGANIZATION



Parents and youth are invited to the MYO Kickoff on Saturday, August 20, after 4:30 Divine Liturgy. We will have a BBQ as well as talks with the youth and parents so that we may plan special events for our children throughout the year.

These events will encircle religious talks, social events, invitations with other parishes MYO groups, out-reach programs, and movie nights, just to name a few. The MYO/MYA organizations have held a special place in my heart, and it is my hope that we can begin to build these organizations, so our children and young adults never feel that they are lost in the shuffle. Please RSVP to the office email at ourladyofpurgatory@gmail.com

MARBOOK MABROOK

Congratulations to the newlyweds Elias and Lynn (Abi Elias) Chedid, who were married in Lebanon on July 31, 2022. We congratulate his parents Jean and Rola Chedid and his siblings, Tete Josephine Chedid, and the entire Chedid and Abi Elias families. May God grant you many years of happiness. Mabrook, Mabrook!!!!

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, August 13, @ 4:30 PM (Feast of Saint Hippolytus of Rome). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Boutros Bou Ramia requested by Subdeacon Joe Abraham and Carol Ann Maslanka. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Mary Jane Walsh requested by Diane and Michael LeBlanc. May her soul rest in peace.

Sunday, August 14, @10:30 AM (Feast of Micah the Prophet). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Charbel Baroody requested by his parents Jano and Philip Baroody. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of George and Mary Thomas, Joseph Thomas and Joseph Peter requested by family (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

Monday, August 15, @ 7:00 PM, (Feast of The Assumption of The Virgin Mary). Holy Day of Obligation.

Tuesday, August 16, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Roch).

Wednesday, August 17, @ 6:00 PM, (Feast of Saint Myron of Cyzicus). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Alphonso Gabello, Nassr and Mariam Joseph requested by family (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

Thursday, August 18, @ 7:00 PM, (Feast of The Letter of King Abgar to Christ). Arabic Liturgy. No Liturgy.

Saturday, August 20, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Bernard, Doctor of the Church). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of John, and Sofie Kalife, and for the souls of Thomas, and Christine David requested by Rafic Abi Ramia. May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, August 21, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Samuel the Prophet). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Alphonzo, and Mabel Gabello (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

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 Charbel Baroody requested by his parents Jano and Philip Baroody. 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

Angela Scorza-Anderson, Renee Helmer, 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 AUGUST 2022

Saturday, August 13,

Rachel Higgins

Intercessions: Anna & Helen Higgins

Sunday, August 14,

Joan Mello/Gaby Baroody

Saturday, August 20,

Carol Ann Maslanka

Sunday, August 21,

Ann Dupre/Hiba Chdid

Saturday, August 27,

Mae Dickinson

Sunday, August 28,

John Barbour / Rana Choubah

(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 August is offered in memory of Mansour Barbour requested by family. May their souls rest in peace.

DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF 8/15-8/20/22

Monday:

Romans 12:9-15

Luke 1:46-55 or 10:38-42

Tuesday:

Acts of the Apostles 23:23-35

Luke 12: 22-31

Wednesday:

Acts of the Apostles 21:1-2a,5-6b,
9-13,17-21

Luke 12:32-34

Thursday:

Acts of the Apostles 24:27-25:12

Luke 12: 35-40

Friday:

Acts of the Apostles 25: 13-14a,22-27

Luke 12: 42-48

Saturday:

Acts of the Apostles 26:1-2a,6-10,12-19

Luke 12: 49-53

WEEK OF AUGUST 6-7, 2022

Sunday Collection	\$ 964.00
Memorial	\$ 550.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 9.00
Sanctuary Candle	\$ 10.00
Candles	\$ 43.00
Total	\$ 1,576.00

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.

SAVE THE DATE

OCTOBER 6, 2022

Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn

13th Annual Benefit Dinner in Manhattan

The Water Club

Details to follow

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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.

Your Loving Children

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