



Our Lady of Purgatory



Maronite Catholic Church

August 27-28, 2022

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

WITH GRATITUDE AND THANKS TO SUBDEACON JOSEPH ABRAHAM



The announcement of Subdeacon Joe's retirement brings many mixed emotions for the community of Our Lady of Purgatory. Subdeacon Joe and his wife Carol Ann have dedicated their lives for the service of God's Church and for that I, along with Deacon Jean, and the entire community of OLOP, thank them both for their many years of love and dedication.

The memories that have been made are endless, and I know that this community shares in those memories that will forever be ingrained in the hearts of so many.

Their presence has always been felt in this community especially among the Saturday evening Church goers as well as the special Feast Days and Holy Days. Subdeacon Joe's commitment to this Church was not limited to serving inside the four walls of this church, but also spending many hours visiting the shut-ins, making trips to Rhodes Island making sure we had all the items for

worship, helping with the Christmas Bazaar, summer festivals, planting flowers, and decorating the Church for Christmas.

On behalf of the entire community of Our Lady of Purgatory, we wish Subdeacon Joe and Carol Ann good health, happiness, and peace as they begin this new chapter in their lives.

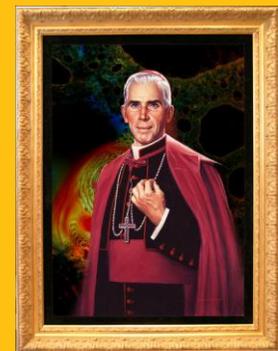


We thank you for all you have done for this Church and for all the beautiful memories that you have given and received by all of us who love you. God bless you both always.



QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Moral principles do not depend on a majority vote. Wrong is wrong, even if everybody is wrong. Right is right, even if nobody is right."
Fulton J. Sheen



BANNS OF MARRIAGE

This is the second Banns of Marriage for Brandon Marini and Victoria Thomas who will be married September 10, 2022. If anyone knows of any reason that these two should not be married speak now or forever hold your 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.

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

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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.

SOWER AND THE SEED REFLECTION

By Hannah Brockhaus Vatican City

On Sunday, Pope Francis said that in the parable of the seed and the sower Jesus invites us to reclaim the 'soil' of our hearts by bringing to him, in prayer and Confession, the stones and thorns in need of healing.

"Jesus invites us today to look inward: to give thanks for our good ground and to work on the ground not yet good," he said July 16.

"Let us ask ourselves if our heart is open to welcome with faith the seed of the Word of God. Let us ask ourselves if the rocks of laziness are still large and numerous within us; we identify and we call by name the brambles of our vices."

"We find the courage to make a beautiful reclamation of the land, bringing to the Lord in Confession and in prayer our stones and our stumps. In doing so, Jesus, a good Sower, will be happy to do an extra work: to purify our hearts, removing the stones and thorns that stifle his Word."

Pope Francis addressed the crowds in St. Peter's Square before leading the Angelus Sunday, reflecting on the day's Gospel of the Parable of the Sower and the Seeds.

When Jesus used parables, he noted, as in today's Gospel, he uses simple language and imagery from everyday life to help explain the mystery of the Kingdom of God in terms that can "easily be understood by everyone."

"That's why they listened willingly and appreciated his message that came straight to their heart."

In the parable, we know that Jesus is the Sower, and in this image, he doesn't impose, but proposes, the Pope said. He throws the seed, attracting us not by conquering us, but by giving himself to us.

And this seed, "how can it bear fruit?" he asked. "If we welcome him."

"Therefore, the parable concerns above all us: it speaks, in fact, of the soil rather than of the Sower. Jesus performs, so to speak, a 'spiritual radiography' of our heart, which is the ground upon which the seed of the Word falls."

"Our heart, like soil, can be good and then the Word brings so much fruit, but

it can also be hard, impermeable. This happens when we hear the Word, but it bounces off us just like on a road: it does not enter," he said.

He pointed out that between the good soil and the road of asphalt or 'sanpietrini' – the name of the rounded cobblestones that can be found in St. Peter's Square and around Rome – there are two intermediate terrains: the stony and the thorny.

In the stony ground the seed germinates, but doesn't put down deep roots, the Pope said.

"So is the superficial heart that welcomes the Lord, wants to pray, love and testify, but does not persevere, tends to wear and never "takes off". It is a thick heart, where the rocks of laziness prevail over the good land, where love is inconsistent and passable."

What do the thorns in the thorny ground represent? "The world's concern and the seduction of wealth', so Jesus says explicitly," he said.

We all have these brambles in our hearts, such as making idols out of worldly wealth or power, or only living for ourselves. "You need to tear them away, otherwise the Word will not bear fruit, Francis emphasized.

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/jesus-not-only-sows-the-seed-hell-pull-the-thorns-pope-francis-says-78267>

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for Beatrice Daher Howe requested by Alice Daher. 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.

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.

All are invited to come and join us.
Festivities will go on come rain or shine!
Under the tents or in our climate controlled hall!

SAVE THE DATE

St. Anthony of the Desert Church
300 N. Eastern Avenue, Fall River, MA 02723

Lebanese Mahrajan Food Festival

Friday, August 26th ~ 5pm to 11pm
Saturday, August 27th ~ Noon to 11pm
Sunday, August 28th ~ 11am to 7pm

Hookah Live Entertainment Alcoholic Beverages

Authentic Lebanese Food and Pastry Children Area

St. Anthony of the Desert Maronite Catholic Church
Website: <http://sauschurch/>
Phone: 508-278-7072

Visa Mastercard American Express

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, August 27, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Biyameen the Hermit). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Patricia A. (Mansour) Moran requested by Diane and Michael LeBlanc. May her soul rest in peace.

Sunday, August 28, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Moses the Ethiopian, feast of Saint Augustine, Doctor of the Church). Remember Me Into Your Kingdom Liturgy Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Rouhana Rouhana requested by OLOP (40- Day mass). May his soul rest in peace.

Monday, August 29, @ 9:00 AM, (Beheading of Saint John the Baptist). Maronite Sisters of Christ the Light convent.

Tuesday, August 30, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of the Blessed Brother Estephan Ne'mee).

Wednesday, August 31, @ 6:00 PM, (Feast of Saint Zakhia (Nicholas), feast of Saint Aegidius, feast of Saint Abda).

Thursday, September 1, @ 7:00 PM, (Feast of Saint Simeon the Stylite).

Arabic Liturgy. No liturgy.

Saturday, September 3, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Theodore the Great). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of George J. and Mary C. Saba requested by family (FM). May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Patricia A. (Mansour) Moran requested by Mariam David and family. May her soul rest in peace.

Sunday, September 4, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Babylas, Patriarch of Antioch). Liturgy is being offered for the soul Jose DaSilva requested by Fatima DaSilva and family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Nora Ellis requested by Ida Farhat. May her soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Joseph T. Daher and the deceased members of the Daher family requested by Alice Daher (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

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 his soul rest in peace.

The Lebanese Mahrajan features **LIVE ENTERTAINMENT** including:

- Folkloric Dance & Belly Dancing
- Homemade Lebanese & American Cuisine & Pastries
- Children's Games & Activities
- Raffles, Hookah, and Souvenirs
- Free Cooking and Belly Dancing Classes!

LABOR DAY WEEKEND
145 Amesbury Street Lawrence, MA 01841

Friday 9 / 2 from 6PM to 1AM featuring Michel Rmeih
Saturday 9 / 3 from 5PM to 2AM featuring Salah Elkurdi
Sunday 9 / 4 from 12PM to 12AM featuring Chris Hawat

for more info: 978-685-7233
www.stAnthonyLawrence.org | Facebook: Saint Anthony Lawrence

DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF 8/29-9/3/22

Monday:

1 John 1: 1-10
Luke 13: 31-35

Tuesday:

1 John 2: 1-11
Luke 14: 1-6

Wednesday:

1 John 2: 12-20,
Luke 14: 7-11

Thursday:

1 John 2: 21-29
Luke 14: 12-15

Friday:

1 John 3: 1-10
Luke 14: 16-24

Saturday:

1 John 3: 11-22
Luke 14: 25-35

LECTORS FOR AUGUST 2022

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)

IN OUR PRAYERS

Reggie Thomas, Helena Tavares, Angela Scorza-Anderson, Renee Helmer, Terry Amsden, Lisa Mello-Frost, 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

WEEK OF AUGUST 20-21, 2022

Sunday Collection	\$ 1,597.00
Donations	\$ 200.00
Sanctuary Candle	\$ 20.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 32.00
Candles	\$ 70.00
Total	\$ 1,919.00

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.

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