



Our Lady of Purgatory



Maronite Catholic Church

September 3-4, 2022

FOURTEEN SUNDAY OF PENTECOST



The Catholic Church celebrates today the birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary on its traditional fixed date of September 8, nine months after the December 8 celebration of her Immaculate Conception as the child of Saints Joachim and Anne.

The circumstances of the Virgin Mary's infancy and early life are not directly recorded in the Bible, but other documents and traditions describing the circumstances of her birth are cited by some of the earliest Christian writers from the first centuries of the Church.

These accounts, although not considered authoritative in the same manner as the Bible, outline some of the Church's traditional beliefs about the birth of Mary.

The "Protoevangelium of James," which was probably put into its final written form in the early second century, describes Mary's father Joachim as a wealthy member of one of the Twelve Tribes of Israel. Joachim was deeply grieved, along with his wife Anne, by their childlessness. "He called to mind Abraham," the early Christian writing

says, "that in the last day God gave him a son Isaac."

Joachim and Anne began to devote themselves extensively and rigorously to prayer and fasting, initially wondering whether their inability to conceive a child might signify God's displeasure with them.

As it turned out, however, the couple were to be blessed even more abundantly than Abraham and Sarah, as an angel revealed to Anne when he appeared to her and prophesied that all generations would honor their future child: "The Lord has heard your prayer, and you shall conceive, and shall bring forth, and your seed shall be spoken of in all the world."

After Mary's birth, according to the Protoevangelium of James, Anne "made a sanctuary" in the infant girl's room, and "allowed nothing common or unclean" on account of the special holiness of the child. The same writing records that when she was one year old, her father "made a great feast, and invited the priests, and the scribes, and the elders, and all the people of Israel."

"And Joachim brought the child to the priests," the account continues, "and they blessed her, saying: 'O God of our fathers, bless this child, and give her an everlasting name to be named in all generations' . . . And he brought her to the chief priests, and they blessed her, saying: 'O God most high, look upon this child, and bless her with the utmost blessing, which shall be forever.'"

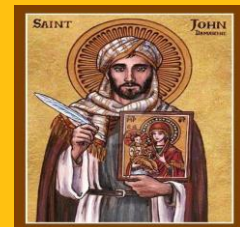
The protoevangelium goes on to describe how Mary's parents, along with the temple priests, subsequently decided that she would be offered to God as a consecrated Virgin for the rest of her life and enter a chaste marriage with the carpenter Joseph.

Saint Augustine described the birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary as an event of cosmic and historic significance, and an appropriate prelude to the birth of Jesus Christ. "She is the flower of the field

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"The day of the Nativity of the Mother of God is a day of universal joy, because through the Mother of God, the entire human race was renewed, and the sorrow of the first mother, Eve, was transformed into joy."

*Saint John Damascene,
Father and Doctor of the Church*



Fr. Vincent Farhat, Pastor | Rev. Mr. Jean Mattar, 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.

from whom bloomed the precious lily of the valley," he said.

The fourth-century bishop, whose theology profoundly shaped the Western Church's understanding of sin and human nature, affirmed that "through her birth, the nature inherited from our first parents is changed."

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/saint/the-birth-of-the-blessed-virgin-mary-357>

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

This is the third 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.

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.

FEAST OF SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL



Saint Michael the Archangel isn't a saint, but rather he is an angel, and the leader of all angels and of the army of God. This is what the title "Archangel" means, that he is above all the others in rank.

St. Michael has four main responsibilities or offices, as we know from scripture and Christian tradition.

- The first is to combat Satan.
- The second is to escort the faithful to heaven at their hour of death.
- The third is to be a champion of all Christians, and the Church itself.
- And the fourth is to call men from life on Earth to their heavenly judgment.

Very little is known about St Michael other than what we know from scriptures, which themselves are sparse. In Daniel, St. Michael is mentioned twice. The first time as one who helped Daniel, and the second time he is mentioned with regard to the end times of the world when he will stand for the "children of thy people."

His next mention comes in the Epistle of St. Jude, where St. Michael is said to guard the tombs of Moses and Eve and has contended with Satan over the body of Moses.

The final mention is in Revelation, where St. Michael and his angels, do battle with the dragon.

There are other scriptures where St. Michael is implied, but not mentioned by name, such as the angel, who defends the gate to Paradise, who defends against Balaam, and "who routed the army of Sennacherib."

Today, St. Michel is invoked for protection, especially from lethal enemies. He is also the patron of soldiers, police and doctors.

Saint Michael the Archangel is referenced in the Old Testament and has been part of Christian teachings since the earliest times.^[1] In Catholic writings and traditions he acts as the defender of the Church and chief opponent of Satan and assists people at the hour of death. A widely used "Prayer to Saint Michael" was brought into official use by Pope Leo XIII in 1886 and was recommended by Pope John Paul II in 1994.

<https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint>

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.

Saint Anthony Maronite Church

Lebanese Mahrajan

TH Anniversary

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

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

LITURGY INTENTIONS

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). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Peter and Mary David and the deceased members of their family requested by Mariam David and family. May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, September 4, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Babylas, Patriarch of Antioch).

Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Nora Ellis requested by Ida Farhat (40- Day mas). 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. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Jose DaSilva requested by Fatima DaSilva and family. May his soul rest in peace.

Monday, September 5, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Sharbel of Raha and His Sister, feast of Saint Teresa of Calcutta). Maronite Sisters of Christ the Light convent. **No Liturgy.**

Tuesday, September 6, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Michael the Archangel).

Wednesday, September 7, @ 6:00 PM, (Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary).

Thursday, September 8, @ 7:00 PM, (Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary).

Arabic Liturgy.

Saturday, September 10, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Pulcheria the Queen).

Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Rouhana Rouhana requested by Diane and Michael LeBlanc. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Patricia Mansour Moran requested by Mariam David and Family. May her soul rest in peace.

Sunday, September 11, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Theodora of Alexandria).

Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Charbel Baroody requested by Charles Baroody. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Mary Ann Zeady requested by Matthew and Cathy Thomas and family. May her soul rest in peace.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Reggie Thomas, Helena Tavares, Angela Scorza-Anderson, Renee Helmer, Terry Amsden, Natalya Sarkis, 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 SEPTEMBER 2022

Saturday, September 3,

Mae Dickinson

Intercessions: Mae Dickinson

Sunday, September 4,

Ann Dupre /Hiba Chdid

Saturday, September 10,

Rachel Higgins

Intercessions: Anna & Helen Higgins

Sunday, September 11,

Matt Thomas /Gaby Baroody

Saturday, September 17,

Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Smitty Cabral

Sunday, September 18,

John Barbour / Halim Choubah

Saturday, September 24,

Rachel Higgins

Intercessions: Anna & Helen Higgins

Sunday, September 25,

Mae Dickinson / Jano Baroody

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

DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF 9/5-9/10/22

Monday:

1 John 3: 23-4:6

Luke 15: 1-7

Tuesday:

1 John 4: 7-21

Luke 15: 8-10

Wednesday:

1 John 5: 1-12,

Luke 16: 1-8

Thursday:

2 Corinthians 4: 1-6

Luke 8: 16-21

Friday:

2 John 1-13

Luke 16: 13-17

Saturday:

3 John 1-15

Luke 17: 1-4

WINE AND HOST OFFERINGS

The altar bread and wine for the month of September is offered in memory of Jean D'arc ElKhoury requested by Jacques and Amal Barbour. May her soul rest in peace.

WEEK OF AUGUST 27-28, 2022

Sunday Collection	\$	873.00
Donations	\$	1,000.00
Coffee Hour	\$	46.00
Candles	\$	30.00
Total	\$	1,949.00

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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