



Our Lady of Purgatory



Maronite Catholic Church

December 17-18, 2022

SEASON OF THE GLORIOUS BIRTH OF OUR LORD GENEALOGY SUNDAY

THE CARPENTER WHO MADE A BRIDGE

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?"

"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."

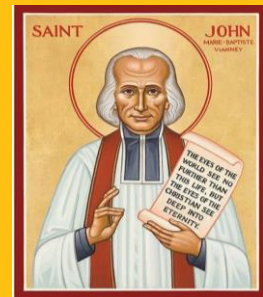
The two brothers stood at each end of the bridge, and then they met in middle, taking each other's hand. They turned to see the carpenter hoist his toolbox onto his shoulder.

"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."

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

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*"The saints did not become saints without many a sacrifice and many a struggle."
Saint John Vianney*



SAVE THE DATES:

- Christmas Novena, beginning Thursday, **December 15 through December 23**, beginning at 7:00 PM, following Divine Liturgy which begins at 6:30 PM.
- Feast of the Epiphany, Thursday, **January 5, 2023**, at 7:00 PM, and Friday, **January 6, 2023**, at 9:00 AM. Divine Liturgies for Holy Day of Obligation.
- Saint Maron's Day Hafli, Saturday, **February 4, 2023**, beginning at 7:30 PM.

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

OLOP CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Our Capital Campaign has just begun, and we are off to a good start. We are at 25% in pledges and donations. I would like to thank those of you who have already responded and pledged towards the move to our new location.

I would also like to clarify the purpose of this Capital Campaign. The purpose of raising this money is to help with the restoration and moving of our treasures from Franklin Street to the new church location. As you are aware, the stained-glass windows are being removed, repaired and installed at the new church property, as well as our beautiful altars and railings. We are also doing renovations to the new property that will suit our needs and beautify the property.

I know it has been many years since OLOP has had such an undertaking. Thank you in advance for your support and commitment for our new journey of faith.



MEDICINE DRIVE FOR THE LEBANON

The MYA is reaching out for your support in an initiative to help get medicine and aid to our home country Lebanon. We have teamed up with the NGO [Medonations](#) to gather medicine and supplies for Lebanon.

Medonations was started by Marina Khawand, a young Maronite that is dedicating her time and work to help provide healthcare access to those in need. She is responsible for starting a brand-new FREE clinic where countless physicians and doctors have pledged to volunteer time at. In order for this organization to continue their amazing work, they need our help.

We are asking Parishes to sponsor a Drop Box at their church where the local community can donate medicine/supplies.

Christophe and Emmanuel Chedid have offered to head this drive. We will have a box at the Church for you to bring these medications. I have listed the list from the MYA Office:
Esomeprazole- Maalox- Lansoprazole-Omeprazole- Pantoprazole- Aspirin 81MG- Naprozen- Loratadine- Fluticasone Nasal- Nasacort Nasal- Cough Syrup for Kids and Adults- Cobalin B12- Calcium- Vitamin D- Kids Vitamins Gummies- Iron- Vitamin B Complex- Vitamin C Glucosamine MSM- Rantidine- Hot and Cold Packs- First Aid Kits- Accu Check- Performa/Guide Strips- Gloves.

Thank you all for your help.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for a special intention requested by John Barbour. 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.

CHRISTMAS NOVENA SCHEDULE

Thursday, December 15,
Divine Liturgy: 6:30 PM,
Novena: 7:00 PM

Friday, December 16,
Divine Liturgy: 6:30 PM,
Novena: 7:00 PM

Saturday, December 17,
Divine Liturgy: 4:30 PM,
Novena: 5:30 PM

Sunday, December 18,
Divine Liturgy: 10:30 AM,
Novena: 11:30 AM

Monday, December 19,
Divine Liturgy: 6:30 PM,
Novena: 7:00 PM

Tuesday, December 20,
Divine Liturgy: 6:30 PM,
Novena: 7:00 PM

Wednesday, December 21,
Divine Liturgy: 6:30 PM,
Novena: 7:00 PM

Thursday, December 22,
Divine Liturgy: 6:30 PM,
Novena: 7:00 PM

Friday, December 23,
Divine Liturgy: 6:30 PM,
Novena: 7:00 PM

DIVINE LITURGY TIMES FOR CHRISTMAS


Saturday, December 24,
5:00 PM

Sunday, December 25,
10:30 AM


Join
BISHOP GREGORY J. MANSOUR
FR. VINCENT FARHAT
&
OUR LADY OF PURGATORY PARISH
to pray the Rosary
for our faithful departed
EVERY THURSDAY
5:00PM - VIA ZOOM

May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace

Meeting ID:
890 3889 9691



Scan the QR code to join the meeting



LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 17, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of The Three Young Men: Ananias, Azarias and Misael). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of John David requested by Mariam David and family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Nazira Saba requested by Annemarie Espindola (FM). May her soul rest in peace.

Sunday, December 18, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Daniel the Prophet). Remember me in your kingdom Liturgy. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Jose DaSilva requested by Fatima DaSilva and family. May his soul rest in peace.

Monday, December 19, @ 6:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Athenodorus).

Tuesday, December 20, @ 6:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Ignatius of Antioch). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of the deceased members of the Progressive Lebanon American Club (FM). May Their souls rest in peace.

Wednesday, December 21, @ 6:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Julian).

Thursday, December 22, @ 6:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Anastasia of the Balkans).

Friday, December 23, @ 6:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Eugenia).

Saturday, December 24, @ 5:00 PM, (Vigil of the Glorious Birth).

Sunday, December 25, @ 10:30 AM, (The Glorious Birth of Our Lord).

WINE AND HOST OFFERINGS

The altar bread and wine for the month of December is offered in memory of Estephan Diab requested by Jacques and Amal Barbour. 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.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Efrangieh Daou, Lisa Mello-Frost, Reggie Thomas, Peter Helmer, Renee Helmer, Natalya Sarkis, Octavia David, Jacob Rego, Amal Assaf, Denise Magaletta, Fernanda Thomas, Angela Scorza-Anderson, 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 DECEMBER

Saturday, December 17,
Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Smitty Cabral

Sunday, December 18,
John Barbour/ Halim Choubah

Saturday, December 24,
Ann Dupre/ Hiba Chdid

Sunday, December 25,
Jano Baroody /TBA

Saturday, December 31,
Annemarie Espindola/Gaby baroody

Sunday, January 1,
Mae Dickinson/ Hiba Chdid
(If you are not able to read on your given day, please contact Mae Dickinson)

DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF 12/19-12/24/22

Monday:

Hebrews 11: 1-6

John 8: 1-11

Tuesday:

Hebrews 11: 7-10

John 8: 12-20

Wednesday:

Hebrews 11: 11-16

John 8: 21-24

Thursday:

Hebrews 11: 17-22

John 8: 25-30

Friday:

Hebrews 11:23-31

John 12: 44-47

Saturday:

Hebrews 11: 32-40

John 12: 48-50

WEEK OF DECEMBER 10-11, 2022

Sunday Collection	\$ 1,769.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 60.00
Memorial	\$ 300.00
Angel program	\$ 75.00
Lebanese Market	\$ 36.00
Candles	\$ 45.00
Total	\$ 2,285.00

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.

Our Lady of Purgatory Church

Saint Maron's Feast Day Hafli

Saturday, February 4, 2023

at

Our Future Home

(Formerly Our Lady of Fatima Church)

4256 Acushnet Ave., New Bedford, MA, 02745

Cash Bar & Mezza

@ 7:30 PM

Dinner Served

@ 8:30 PM

**Live Entertainment by
Ayad Atallah
&
Bachir Khoury Band**

Dance Floor Seating: \$85.00
General Seating: \$75.00
Children (12 -17): \$40.00
Children (under 12yrs.): No Charge

For Ticket Sales Contact:
Church Office: (508) 996-8934
Sousou Maalouf: (508) 916-1523



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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.

Joseph & Marie Kenyon

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