



Our Lady of Purgatory

Maronite Catholic Church



December 24-25, 2022

SEASON OF THE GLORIOUS BIRTH OF OUR LORD THE GLORIOUS BIRTH OF OUR LORD



make every effort to believe that “With God all things are possible.” Let us begin a new journey to make peace with those we are at odds with. Let us begin to extend mercy to those who need it. Let us begin to forgive those who need to be forgiven. This is how we truly celebrate Christ’s birth. This is how we show the world that although we may have been hurt, disappointed, or targeted; we can find in our hearts the capacity to celebrate Jesus’ birth.

I pray that these words are not just that--- words. I pray that we may all find in our hearts the joy, peace, and love that the birth of Jesus brings this day; to begin another year with compassion, hope, and love; the same promises that Jesus brings us this day. I wish each of you and your families a most blessed and joyous Christmas. May this moment remain in our hearts and minds all throughout the year. Merry Christmas!

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FOR YOU

My Dear Parishioners and Friends of OLOP:

Today we have been given the greatest gift known to man---our Savior Jesus Christ! Our gift does not come wrapped with bows and ribbons but rather in swaddling clothes. He is not born in a palace but in a manger surrounded by grazing animals. The King of Peace! There is so much we can gain in our daily lives if we really absorb the magnitude of this beautiful day.

You have heard over the past several weeks how God had chosen certain people to carry out His plan of salvation. These people had something in common---they all said yes to God’s call. They all played their part in God’s plan to bring forth our Savior Jesus Christ and they placed their trust and love in Almighty God. They understood that “all things are possible with Him.” And even in the genealogy of Jesus, God used both saints and sinners, the relatives of Jesus, in this plan.

So where does this put us in the scheme of

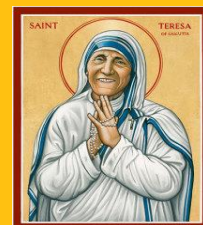
our daily lives? How far will we go to place our trust and love in God? To what extent will we go to promote peace with our families, friends, co-workers, and perfect strangers? Our Lord, The Prince of Peace, permeated the world with peace and love for the whole world to follow.

How can this Season of the Glorious Birth of our Lord transform our lives? How can we put aside the commercialized, secular element that this world promotes and focus on the greatest gift which is our Lord’s birth? As I have said numerous times, when we live our lives by Jesus’ teachings, we are celebrating Christmas. When we are forgiving to one another we are celebrating Christmas. When we show mercy to others, we are celebrating Christmas. When we work for peace among our families, friends, and strangers, we are celebrating Christmas. Jesus’ entrance into this world was not easy; His life among those He lived with was not easy; and his suffering and passion that He gave for us was not easy. As we reflect on this glorious day let us

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“We desire to be able to welcome Jesus at Christmas-time, not in a cold manger of our heart, but in a heart full of love and humility, in a heart so pure, so immaculate, so warm with love for one another.”

*Saint Mother Theresa
of Calcutta*



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.

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.

DIVINE LITURGY TIMES FOR CHRISTMAS

Saturday, December 24,

5:00 PM

Sunday, December 25,

10:30 AM

SAVE THE DATES:

. 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.

JOB WELL DONE CHILDREN

I am so proud of our children who performed for this year's Christmas Pageant. Their hard work and love in bringing the story of Jesus' birth was enjoyed by all who came. Thank you to the parents who brought their children for rehearsals and for helping make this evening a great success. I also want to thank the Angel Sponsors for their support and assistance. We were able to send to Bishop Aoun for the people of Jbeil \$400.00. And to Matthew Thomas and Ymane Galotti, thank you for teaching the children their lines and songs and organized this pageant. Our children are a blessing.



SAINT MARON ANNUAL HAFLI

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

CONFESSION

Please know that confession is available before liturgies. You may also call to set up an appointment.

LITURGY INTENTIONS

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

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

Monday, December 26, @ 6:00 PM,
(Felicitations to the Virgin Mary).

Liturgy is being offered for the soul of
Nan Farhat requested by family. May her
soul rest in peace.

Tuesday, December 27, @ 9:00 AM,
(Feast of Saint Stephen, the First
Deacon).

**Wednesday, December 28, @ 6:00
PM, (Feast of Saint Marina**
(Margaret) in Pisidia). Liturgy is being
offered for the souls of Samir Abi
Rached and Hiam Chaib requested by
George and Maria Abi Rached. May
their Souls rest in peace.

Thursday, December 29, @ 9:00 AM,
(The Massacre of the Children of
Bethlehem).

Saturday, December 31, @ 4:30 PM,
(Feast of Saint Zoticus). Liturgy is
being offered for the souls of Fred
Thomas, Joao and Fernanda Baptista,
Mena Carvalho and Edigio Baptista
requested by Fernanda Thomas. May
their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, January 1, @ 10:30 AM,
New Year's Day, (Feast of Saints
Basil and Gregory, Doctors of the
Church).

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.

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.

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.

LECTORS FOR DECEMBER

Saturday, December 24,

Ann Dupre / Hiba Chdid

Sunday, December 25,

Jano Baroody /TBA

Saturday, December 31,

Annemarie Espindola /Gaby Baroody

LECTORS FOR JANUARY

Sunday, January 1,

Mae Dickinson / Hiba Chdid

Saturday, January 7,

Rachael Higgins

Intercessions: Anna & Helen Higgins

Sunday, January 8,

Ann Dupre /Gaby Baroody

Saturday, January 14,

Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Smitty Cabral

Sunday, January 15,

John Barbour / Halim Choubah

Saturday, January 21,

Mae Dickinson

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, January 22,

Ann Dupre / Gaby Baroody

Saturday, January 28,

Annmarie Espindola

Intercessions: Annmarie Espindola

Sunday, January 29,

Mae Dickinson / Rana Choubah

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

DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF 12/26-12/31/22

Monday:

Ephesians 1: 3-14

Luke 1: 46-55

Tuesday:

2 Corinthians 11: 1-9

Matthew 23: 29-34:2

Wednesday:

Book of Revelations 21: 9-10, 21-27

Matthew 2: 1-12

Thursday:

Hebrews 11: 23-31

Matthew 2: 13-18

Friday:

Acts of the Apostles 7:2,30-37

Matthew 2: 19-23

Saturday:

Colossians 1: 9b-20

John 1: 1-18



WEEK OF DECEMBER 17-18, 2022


Sunday Collection	\$ 2,477.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 70.00
Lebanese Market	\$ 293.00
Candles	\$ 27.00
Total	\$ 2,867.00

**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.**


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



SOLAVIE

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BSN RN

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Zakhia Chedid 774-444-3337

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Saturday..... 9-4pm

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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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