



# Our Lady of Purgatory

## Maronite Catholic Church



January 7-8, 2023

### SEASON OF THE GLORIOUS EPIPHANY FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

#### FEAST OF SAINT JOHN NEUMANN



This American saint was born in Bohemia in 1811. He was looking forward to being ordained in 1835 when the bishop decided there would be no more ordinations. It is difficult for us to imagine now, but Bohemia was overstocked with priests. John wrote to bishops all over Europe but the story was the same everywhere no one wanted any more priests. John was sure he was called to be a priest but all the doors to follow that vocation seemed to close in his face.

But John didn't give up. He had learned English by working in a factory with English-speaking workers, so he wrote to the bishops in America. Finally, the bishop in New York agreed to ordain him. In order to follow God's call to the priesthood John would have to leave his home forever and travel across the ocean to a new and rugged land. In New York, John was one of 36 priests for 200,000 Catholics.

John's parish in western New York stretched from Lake Ontario to Pennsylvania. His church had no steeple or floor but that didn't matter because John spent most of his time traveling from village to village, climbing mountains to visit the sick, staying in garrets and taverns to teach, and celebrating the Mass at kitchen tables.

Because of the work and the isolation of his parish, John longed for community and so joined the Redemptorists, a congregation of priests and brothers dedicated to helping the poor and most abandoned.

John was appointed bishop of Philadelphia in 1852. As bishop, he was the first to organize a diocesan Catholic school system. A founder of Catholic education in this country, he increased the number of Catholic schools in his diocese from two to 100.

John never lost his love and concern for the people -- something that may have bothered the elite of Philadelphia. On one visit to a rural parish, the parish priest picked him up in a manure wagon. Seated on a plank stretched over the wagon's contents, John joked, "Have you ever seen such an entourage for a bishop!"

The ability to learn languages that had brought him to America led him to learn Spanish, French, Italian, and Dutch so he could hear confessions in at least six languages. When Irish immigration started, he learned Gaelic so well that one Irish woman remarked, "Isn't it grand that we have an Irish bishop!"

Once on a visit to Germany, he came back to the house he was staying in soaked by rain. When his host suggested he change his shoes, John remarked, "The only way I could change my shoes is by putting the one on the right foot and the right one on the left foot. This is the only pair I own." John died on January 5, 1860, at the age of 48.

#### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*"Everyone who breathes, high and low, educated and ignorant, young and old, man and woman, has a mission, has a work. We are not sent into this world for nothing; we are not born at random; we are not here, that we may go to bed at night, and get up in the morning, toil for our bread, eat and drink, laugh and joke, sin when we have a mind, and reform when we are tired of sinning, rear a family and die. God sees every one of us; He creates every soul, . . . for a purpose. He needs, He deigns to need, every one of us. He has an end for each of us; we are all equal in His sight, and we are placed in our different ranks and stations, not to get what we can out of them for ourselves, but to labor in them for Him. As Christ has His work, we too have ours; as He rejoiced to do His work, we must rejoice in ours also."*

*St. John Neumann*

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

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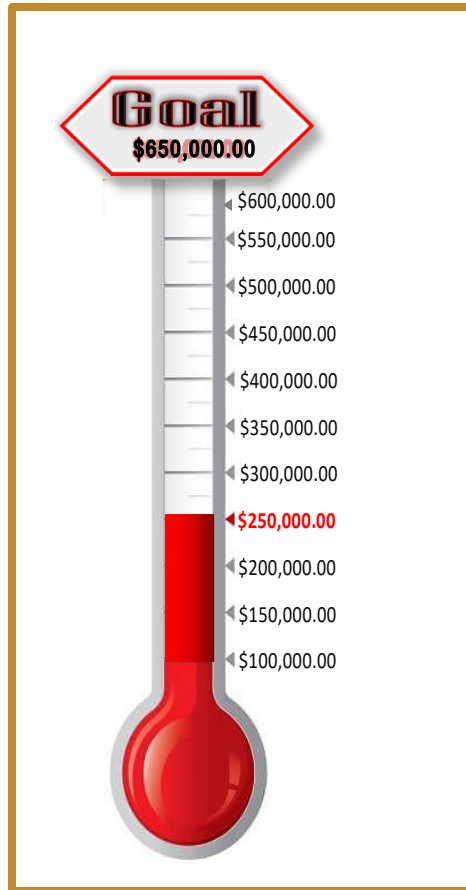
**Office:** 508-996-8934 | **Fax:** 774-202-0758 | **Evening Emergency Number:** 561-371-5316 | **Website:** [www.ourladyofpurgatory.org](http://www.ourladyofpurgatory.org)

**Email:** [ourladyofpurgatory@gmail.com](mailto: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.

## PROGRESS STATUS OF CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

I would like to thank those who have contributed to the Capital Campaign which will assist in moving our treasures and remodel the Church to suit our needs. The following pledges have been received.



We have also received an update which was announced last week in Church that I would like to share with those who may not have heard or present at Divine Liturgy. The Attorney General approved for the title to be signed by the judge and has been sent for the judge's signature. This should be completed by this week. Once it is signed, it will have to be placed on a hold for 30 days. After the 30 days, we will be able to close on the Church and begin our work there. This is progress thanks be to God.

## THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for a special intention requested by Annemarie Espindola. 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.



## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Tuesday, January 10, we will gather for Eucharistic Adoration at 6:00 PM. This is an opportunity to spend some time with Jesus and ask for His help. Mark your calendars and please join us for this beautiful service.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS THIS WEEK

**.Tuesday, January 10,** Social Committee held at 7:00 PM, in the rectory basement.

**.Wednesday, January 11,** Finance Council Meeting held at 7:00 PM, in the rectory basement.

**.Thursday, January 12,** Parish Council Meeting held at 6:30 PM, in the rectory basement.

## SAINT MARON HAFLI

The Saint Maron Hafli tickets are on sale now. Please reserve yours by calling:

**The Church Office @ 508-996-8934**

Or

**Sousou Maalouf @ 508-916-1523**

## MAY THEIR SOULS REST IN PEACE

This past week, I received the sad news of the passing of two brother priests, Fr. Paul Mouawad and Fr. Len Basinow. Both of these brother priests served their people with great love and zeal. We send our condolences to their families and former parishioners and we ask Almighty God to welcome Fr. Len and Fr. Paul into His kingdom and may their souls rest in peace. Allah yerhammon.

## 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.

## WINE AND HOST OFFERINGS

The altar bread and wine for the month of January is offered in memory of Mansour Barbour requested by Norma Barbour and family. May his soul rest in peace.

## Our Lady of Purgatory Church

# Saint Maron's Feast Day Hafli

**Saturday, February 4, 2023**

at

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@ 7:30 PM

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Children (under 12yrs.): No Charge

**For Ticket Sales Contact:**

Church Office: (508) 996-8934

Sousou Maalouf: (508) 916-1523



## LITURGY INTENTIONS

**Saturday, January 7, @ 4:30 PM, (Praises of Saint John the Baptist).** Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Walter and Janet Lalor requested by Jim Thomas and family. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Janies Robertson requested by friends. May her soul rest in peace.

**Sunday, January 8, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Carterius the Priest).** Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Samir and Georgette Sawaya requested by Zakhia and Hiba Chdid. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of the Chomak family requested by Mary Ann Chomak and family. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Mansour Youssef (Abouna Tony Youssef father) 40- Day Mass requested by OLOP. May his soul rest in peace.

**Monday, January 9, @ 9:00 PM, (Feast of Saint Eustratius).** Maronite Sisters of Christ the Light convent.

**Tuesday, January 10, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa).**

**Wednesday, January 11, @ 6:00 PM, (Feast of Saint Theodosius of Antioch).**

**Thursday, January 12, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Tatiana, The Council of Trent).** Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Karl Chidiac requested by Mariam David and family. May his soul rest in peace.

**Saturday, January 14, @ 4:30 PM, (Praises of Saint Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers).** Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Janet Kellish requested by Lou and Smitty Cabral. May her soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for all the souls in Purgatory requested by Sean, Marie and Keira McLaughlin. May their souls rest in peace.

**Sunday, January 15, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Carterius the Priest).** Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Mansour Barbour requested by family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of John and Theresa Samia, and for the souls Necklie and Marie Nassrallah requested by family. May their souls rest in peace.

## 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 JANUARY

**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 1/9-1/14/23

**Monday:**

2 Corinthians 10: 12-18

Mark 1: 1-8

**Tuesday:**

2 Corinthians 11: 1-6

John 1: 19-28

**Wednesday:**

2 Corinthians 11: 7-15

John 3: 22-30

**Thursday:**

2 Corinthians 11: 18,22-30

John 3: 31-36

**Friday:**

2 Corinthians 12:1-10

Matthew 14: 1-12

**Saturday:**

2 Corinthians 12: 11-16

John 10: 40-42

## WEEK OF DECEMBER 31,2022

**January 1,2023**

<b>Sunday Collection</b>	\$	<b>958.00</b>
<b>Sanctuary Candles</b>	\$	<b>20.00</b>
<b>Candles</b>	\$	<b>66.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	\$	<b>1,044.00</b>

**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.**

WONDERING IF THE LORD IS CALLING YOU TO THE MARONITE PRIESTHOOD? MEN AGED 18-40 ARE INVITED FOR A WEEKEND OF FELLOWSHIP, PRAYER & DISCUSSION .

**SPEAK, LORD,  
FOR YOUR  
SERVANT IS  
LISTENING.**

(1 SAM. 3:10)

**MARCH 24-26  
2023**

MARONITE SEMINARY  
WASHINGTON, DC

OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS PROVIDED  
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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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