



# Our Lady of Purgatory

## Maronite Catholic Church



February 4-5, 2023

### SUNDAY OF THE RIGHTEOUS AND JUST

#### THE OTHER SIDE OF LIFE

A sick man turned to his doctor, as he was leaving the room after paying a visit, and said, "Doctor, I am afraid to die. Tell me what lies on the other side." Very quietly the doctor said, "I don't know." "You don't know?" the man said.

"You, a Christian man, do not know what is on the other side?"

The doctor was holding the handle of the door, on the other side of which came a sound of scratching and whining. As he opened the door, a dog sprang into the room and leaped on him with an eager show of gladness.

Turning to the patient, the doctor said, "Did you notice my dog? He's never been in this room before. He didn't know what was inside. He knew nothing except that his master was here, and when the door opened, he sprang in without fear."

"I know little of what is on the other side of death," the doctor continued, "but I do know one thing: I know my Master is there, and that is enough. And when the door opens, I shall pass through with no fear, but with gladness."

<https://stories4homilies.wordpress.com/2013/06/05/the-other-side-of-life/>

#### SAINT MARON

##### Aspects of Maronite History By Chorbishop Seely Beggiani

It was in this milieu of hermits and ascetics that we learn of St. Maron. Maron decided to leave the world and to seek solitude on top of a mountain, probably somewhere south of Cyrrhus and northwest of Aleppo. He had been a disciple of the hermit Zebinas who was known for his assiduousness in prayer, spending all day and night at it. Our principal historical source on the life of Maron is Theodoret, Bishop of Cyrrhus



(393-466), who wrote the Religious History of Syriac Asceticism. Theodoret tells us that the mountain Maron chose had been sacred to pagans. He converted a pagan temple that he found there into a church which he dedicated to the "true God".

Maron lived an austere life. While he erected a small tent for shelter, he rarely used it and spent most of his time in the open air as a form of mortification. We are told that Maron was not satisfied with the ordinary exercises of piety but added to them. He would often spend the whole night standing in prayer. He practiced numerous other penances and fasted for weeks on end.

Maron became known for the gift of miracles and attracted many people, even from great distances. He accomplished many cures and exorcisms. Theodoret goes on to say: "He cured not only infirmities of the body, but applied suitable treatment to soul as well, healing this man's greed and that man's anger, to this man supplying teaching in self-control and to that providing lessons in

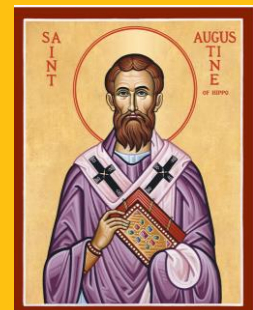
justice, correcting this man's intemperance and shaking up another man's sloth."

Maron attracted a number of disciples for whom he became a spiritual father. Theodoret summarizes the work of Maron in poetic fashion: "By cultivating that spiritual field, he raised in it many wonderful plants in the realm of virtues, cultivating and offering to God this marvelous garden that now flourishes in the region of Cyrrhus."

We are told that after the death of Maron, the people of the various neighboring villages fought over his body. It was the belief that having a holy person buried close by would bring blessings and cures on the inhabitants. Theodoret informs us that the inhabitants of the nearest and largest village came in great numbers,

#### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*"A Christian is: a mind through which Christ thinks, a heart through which Christ loves, a voice through which Christ speaks, and a hand through which Christ helps."*  
Saint Augustine



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

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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.

took possession of the body, and built over it a magnificent church. While we do not know the exact location, it was probably between Aleppo and Cyrrhus. Theodoret tells us that the relics of Maron are venerated with great public solemnity in his day and are the occasion of many miracles.

The other historical source we have about St. Maron is a letter addressed to him by St. John Chrysostom. Chrysostom had been exiled from the Patriarchate of Constantinople to Cucusus in Armenia. From there he wrote to "Maron, priest and solitary", telling him that he is "joined to [him] in the bonds of charity and affection" and is comforted by the news he hears about Maron's holy life. He is concerned about his health and asks for his prayers. We believe that the letter was written around 406.

Based on the writings of Theodoret and Chrysostom, we usually date St. Maron's life from 350-410 (although some have placed his death as late as 423).

<https://www.stmaron.org/marhist/part01>

## WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY

We received the sad news that Charbel Nehmtallah El Khoury passed away in Lebanon this past week. We extend our condolences to his son Dany from New Bedford, his brothers Michel, Maroun, and Tony of New Bedford, and his many brothers and sisters, nieces, and nephews here in the United States and in Lebanon. We ask Almighty God to welcome Charbel into His kingdom and may his soul rest in peace. Allah yerhammo.

## 2022 TAX LETTERS

If you need your contributions for your taxes for 2022, please contact the church office and we will provide you with this as you prepare to file your taxes.

## WINE AND HOST OFFERINGS

The altar bread and wine for the month of February is offered in memory of George and Mary Saba and in memory of Steven Espindola requested by Annemarie Espindola. May Their souls rest in peace.

## THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for a special intention requested by Mariam David and family. 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.



## NAM 2023 NAM Vocations Awareness Poster & Essay Contest

### CONTEST OPTIONS

#### Grade POSTER OPTION:

**K-1:** Draw the story of the Coming of the Holy Spirit Acts of the Apostles, 2:1-12

**2-3** Draw the story of the Healing of the Blind Man John 9:1-12

**4-6** Draw the story of the Miracle at the Marriage Feast at Cana John 2:1-11

**7-9** Draw the story of the Good Samaritan Luke 11:25-37

**10-12** Draw the story of the Walk to Emmaus Luke 24:13-34

#### Grade ESSAY OPTION:

**K-1** In your own words, write a short paragraph telling us what you liked about the story of the Coming of the Holy Spirit.

**2-3** In your own words, write your thoughts about Jesus' healing the blind man. (not to exceed 50 words)

**4-6** In your own words, write your thoughts about the story of Jesus changing water into wine at the Marriage Feast at Cana. (not to exceed 100 words)

**7-9** Analyze the importance of The Story of The Good Samaritan. (not exceed 500 words)

**10-12** What does the story of Jesus and the disciples walk to Emmaus mean to you? (not to exceed 1000 words)

### CONTEST GUIDELINES

- 1) All entries must be the original work of the entrant. Any previously submitted entries or entries that are noticeably not the work of the individual student will be disqualified.
- 2) Each student may only enter in ONE category. No Group entries. This is an individual student competition.
- 3) Each parish may submit up to 3 entries per category/grade level.
- 4) **Posters must be on 14 x 22 Poster Board paper. Any other paper format will be disqualified.**
- 5) Entries must be clearly marked on the back & grouped by age group with a paperclip or divider.
- 6) Individual participants can mail their entries, but must indicate parish affiliation, city and state.
- 7) Entries must have student's name, address, parish, grade level & age. **Clearly written or typed.**
- 8) All entries must be post marked by **May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023**, and mailed to the address below.

**Regina Aune – 10718 Buck Park, San Antonio, TX 78245 or [reginaaune@yahoo.com](mailto:reginaaune@yahoo.com)**

Judges: The judging will be done by a team of volunteer professionals with educational, theological, and technical backgrounds.

All decisions of the judging team are Final. Winners will be featured at the NAM Convention.

**Prizes (1 per grade group/category): 1st Place: \$100, 2nd Place: \$75, 3rd Place: \$50**



Proudly announces  
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#### High School Graduate Scholarships

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Two for High School Seniors \$2000

**Massabki Brothers**  
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**Naomi & Paul Kassouf**  
Two for High School Seniors \$2000

**Abouna Sharbel**  
Three for High School Seniors \$1000

#### Undergraduate Scholarships

**Chagoury Family Undergraduate**  
One for College Student \$2000

**Thomas & Jennie Ayoub**  
One for College Student \$2000

#### Grad & Professional Scholarship

**Chagoury Family Graduate**  
One for Graduate Student \$2000

#### Study Abroad in Lebanon Opportunities

**Notre Dame University-Louaize**  
Up to 10 scholarships total for Fall 2022 or Spring 2023

**The Holy Spirit University of Kaslik**  
Up to 12 students for Summer 2023 Semester

For more information and applications visit [www.namnews.org](http://www.namnews.org), [namscholarships@gmail.com](mailto:namscholarships@gmail.com), or call NAM at 330-212-9207

**Application Deadline: May 31, 2023**



## LITURGY INTENTIONS

**Saturday, February 4, @ 4:30 PM,**  
(Feast of Saint Isidore of Pelusium).  
Liturgy is being offered for the soul of David David (FM) requested by family.  
May his soul rest in peace.

**Sunday, February 5, @ 10:30 AM,**  
(Feast of Saint Aghata). Liturgy is  
being offered for the soul of Louise  
Dupre requested by family. May her  
soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being  
offered for the soul of Richard F. Long  
Sr. for his 1-year anniversary requested  
by Beatrice Long. May his soul rest in  
peace.

**Monday, February 6, @ 9:00 PM,**  
(Feast of Saint Proclus, Bishop of  
Smyrna). Maronite Sisters of Christ the  
Light convent.

**Tuesday, February 7, @ 9:00 AM,**  
(Feast of Pope Anterus I).

**Wednesday, February 8, @ 7:00 PM,**  
(Feast of Saint Maron).

**Thursday, February 9, @ 9:00 AM,**  
(Feast of Saint Maron).

**Saturday, February 11, @ 4:30 PM,**  
(Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes).  
Liturgy is being offered for the souls of  
George and Rose David requested by  
family (FM). May their souls rest in  
peace. Liturgy is being offered for all  
the souls in Purgatory requested by  
Sean, Marie and Keira McLaughlin.  
May all the souls in Purgatory rest in  
peace.

**Sunday, February 12, @ 10:30 AM,**  
(Feast of Saint Meletius of Antioch).  
Liturgy is being offered for the souls of  
Peter and Frozia Thomas requested by  
Hyatt Thomas and family. May their  
souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being  
offered for the souls of Boutros and  
Joseph Bou Ramia 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 FEBRUARY

**Saturday, February 4,**  
Annemarie Espindola  
Intercessions: Annemarie Espindola

**Sunday, February 5,**  
Ann Dupre / Gaby Baroody

**Wednesday, February 8,**  
Mae Dickinson / Hiba Chdid

**Saturday, February 11,**  
Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Smitty Cabral  
**Sunday, February 11,**  
John Barbour / Jano Baroody

**Saturday, February 18,**  
Mae Dickinson

Intercessions: Eric Tavares  
**Sunday, February 19,**  
Rana Choubah / Halim Choubah

**Monday, February 20,**  
12:00PM TBA

7:00 PM Mae Dickinson/ Hiba Chdid

**Saturday, February 25,**  
Rachael Higgins

Intercessions: Anna & Helen Higgins  
**Sunday, February 26,**  
Mae Dickinson / Gaby Baroody

## FINANCE COUNCIL

### MEMBERS:

Jimmy Kalife, Wassim Chedid, Rose  
Dupre, Rana Choubah, Nigel Hitchings,  
and Joseph Barckett.

## PARISH COUNCIL

### MEMBERS:

Fadi Bark, Johnny Kalife, Vicki Thomas  
Marini, Jacques Barbour.

MARONITE RITUALS ONLINE SERIES



# GREAT LENT & PASSION WEEK

PRESENTED BY FR. CLAUDE FRANKLIN,  
PASTOR ST. JOSEPH'S MARONITE CHURCH,  
OLEAN, NY

## VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS

FEB. 16: ASH MONDAY AND BENEDICTION OF THE CROSS	MARCH 2: RITE OF THE LAMP AND THURSDAY OF MYSTERIES
FEB. 23: HOSANNA SUNDAY AND PASSION WEEK	MARCH 9: SIGNING OF THE CHALICE, GREAT FRIDAY OF THE CRUCIFIXION AND SATURDAY OF THE LIGHT



Via Zoom on Thursdays 8:00-9:00PM EST  
To register Scan QR Code or [Click Here](#)

HOSTED BY THE MARONITE SERVANTS OF CHRIST THE LIGHT

## WEEK OF JANUARY

28-29,2023

Sunday Collection	\$ 1,130.00
St. Maron Hafli Donations	\$ 750.00
Ad Book	\$ 800.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 84.00
Lebanese Market	\$ 10.00
Sanctuary Candles	\$ 10.00
Candles	\$ 25.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,809.00</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.

SAINT ANTHONY MARONITE CHURCH  
PRESENTS



**THE STAR GHADA**  
**DERBAS AND ENSEMBLE**

**THE VIOLIN MASTER**  
**LEBNEN**  
**KHALIL**

WITH DJ ROY

**SATURDAY**  
FEB. 18, 2023

MUSIC PERFORMANCE  
**TICKETS 75\$**  
DINNER INCLUDED

DOORS OPEN AT 6 PM

LOCATION: CEDARS OF LEBANON HALL: 145 AMESBURY STREET, LAWRENCE MA

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Friday  
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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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