



Our Lady of Purgatory

Maronite Catholic Church



March 11-12, 2023

SUNDAY OF PARABLE OF THE PRODIGAL SON

SAND AND STONE

A story tells that two friends were walking through the desert. During some point of the journey, they had an argument, and one friend slapped the other one in the face. The one who got slapped was hurt, but without saying anything, he wrote in the sand:

Today my best friend slapped me in the face.

They kept on walking, until they found an oasis, where they decided to take a bath. The one who had been slapped got stuck in the mire and started drowning, but his friend saved him. After he recovered from the near drowning, he wrote on a stone:

Today my best friend saved my life.

The friend, who had slapped and saved his best friend, asked him, "After I hurt you, you wrote in the sand, and now, you write on a stone, why?"

The other friend replied: "When someone hurts us, we should write it down in sand, where the winds of forgiveness can erase it away, but when someone does something good for us, we must engrave it in stone where no wind can ever erase it.

Learn to write your hurts in the sand and to carve your blessings in stone.

<http://www.gospelweb.net/Illustrations/SandAndStone.htm>

PALM SUNDAY BAKE SALE

Our Palm Sunday Annual Bake Sale is getting under way. We will be offering mamlouh with dates, walnuts, or pistachios, kaak ma haleeb, biklawas, ghribees, and assorted bake goods. Pre-order slips will be available next week if you choose to pre-order your goodies.

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL HAS BEGUN

Once again, the Bishop's Annual Appeal is under way. A mailing was sent out to each of you so that we can meet our obligation of \$3,500.00, which goes to help educate seminarians, ministry outreach, assist retired priests, and support for Lebanon and the Middle East. As always, your kindness and generosity, which has always helped us achieve our quota, is very much appreciated. God bless you and thank you once again.

CHURCH ENVELOPES ARE HERE

I am happy to inform you that the Church envelopes have finally arrived. These will be available for pickup in the Church beginning this weekend. Thank you for your patience with this delay. If you do not have a number assigned and would like to begin using the envelopes, please contact the office and we will assign a number for you.

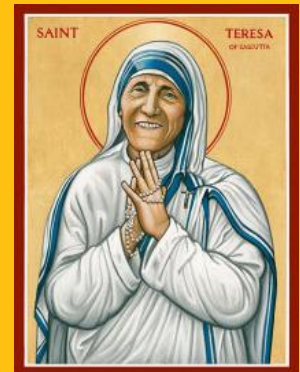
SAINT JOSEPH SODALITY NEWS

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.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"We have to be forgiven in order to be able to forgive. If I do not understand this, it will be very hard for me to say, 'I forgive you' to anyone who comes to me."

Mother Teresa



IN OUR PRAYERS

Efrangieh Daou, Reggie Thomas, Peter Helmer, Renee Helmer, Natalya Sarkis, Octavia David, Jacob Rego, Amal Assaf, Denise Magaletta, Fernanda Thomas, Angela Scorza-Anderson, Theresa John, Laurette Bou Ramia, Annie Peter, Jeannie Francis, Mariam David, Norma Thomas, Zita Drouin, Lucienne Rodrigues, Edmond Salameh, Ed Da Rocha, and Alice Daher. If anyone is missing from this list, please contact the Church office.

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.



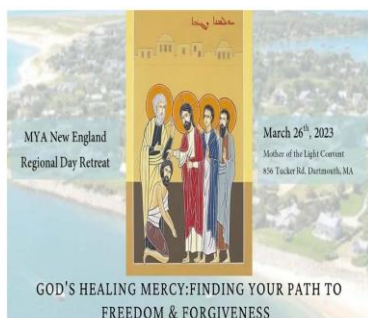
EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS

As we prepare for the Risen Lord on Easter, donations are being accepted to help with the cost of the Easter flowers. If you would like to donate towards the flowers, you may do so in memory of a loved one or special intention. Please write your intention on the envelope and we will remember your intention at a special Liturgy. Thank you for your kindness.

SAVE THE DATE

Maamoul Day:
Tuesday March 28
Starting at 10:00 AM

MYA SAVE THE DATE



Part 1: Registration
12:00 pm - Arrival & Registration
12:15 pm - Welcome (Icebreaker)
12:30 pm - Lunch

Part 2: Mercy & Healing
2:00 pm - Talk 1: Mercy & Healing
2:20 pm - Discussion groups (Guys with Father Vince & Girls with Mother Maria Marie)
3:00 pm - Reconvene (Short Break)

Part 3: Forgiveness
3:30 pm - Talk 2: Forgiveness
3:50 pm - Discussion groups (Guys with Father Vince & Girls with Mother Maria Marie)
4:30 pm - Reconvene (Short Break)

Part 4: Mass & Dinner
5:00 pm - Mass
5:45 pm - Adoration (Benediction & Confession)
6:30 pm - Dinner & Social

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PROGRESS

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.



UPDATE ON THE MOVE TO OLOF

March 2, 2023, OLOP closed on the new property on Acushnet Ave. Plans are being made to remove the stained-glass windows so that they can be repaired and fixed for installation at the new church. We will continue to celebrate Liturgies at our present location until all the work has been completed at the new facility. It is anticipated that the work will take between 2-3 months to complete which would take us to June of 2023. We are waiting for the final construction estimates to send to the Eparchy. Once a construction company is agreed upon, we will begin the necessary renovations to

the church and rectory. Our Capital Campaign is still in progress.

There will be more details coming in the near future which will be relayed to you. When any new developments are received, they will be directed to you immediately. We continue to pray for a seamless and smooth transition, and we ask the intercession of Our Lady of Purgatory and Our Lady of Fatima to continue to lift our prayers to Almighty God that we may always give Him glory.

God bless this community during this transition, and always.

CHANGE THE CLOCKS



This is a friendly reminder to move your clocks forward at 2:00 AM, Sunday, March 12. We do not want you to miss Divine Liturgy.

MYO SAVE THE DATE

Calling all MYO, grades 7-12, for a day of reflection, fun, food and meeting other MYO from the area. We are inviting the MYO group from Lawrence, Boston, Brockton, Fall River, and Cranston, for this special MYO Kick Off. All will be held on Saturday, March 25, from 11:30 AM-5:00 PM. We are looking forward to seeing you all there.



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.

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 11, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Sophronius). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Malvina and Joseph David requested by family. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Joseph, and Marie Kenyon requested by family. May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, March 12, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Pope Saint Gregory the Great). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of all the deceased members of Imad and Moujahed families requested by Jean, Nouhad and Tonia Imad. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of John and Theresa Saba requested by Georges Saba. May their souls rest in peace.

Monday, March 13, @ 9:00 AM. (Feast of Saint Theophanes the Chronicler). Maronite Sisters of Christ the Light convent. **No Liturgy.**

Tuesday, March 14, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Euphrasia). No Liturgy.

Wednesday, March 15, @ 6:00 PM, (Feast of Saint Benedict). No Liturgy.

Thursday, March 16, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of The First Council of Constantinople). No Liturgy.

Friday, March 17, @ 7:00 PM, Benediction/ Station of the Cross. (Feast of Saint Patrick).

Saturday, March 18, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Cyril of Jerusalem). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Joseph Tavares requested by Dan and Helena Tavares and family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of the deceased members of the Saba family requested by Annemarie Espindola. May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, March 19, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Pope Saint Joseph the Virgin, the Spouse of Mary). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Charbel Nehmtallah ElKhoury requested by family (40-day Mass). May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Joseph Chedid requested by family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Walter Chomak requested by family. May his soul rest in peace.

CONFESSION

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

DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF 3/13-3/18/23

Monday:

2 Corinthians 9: 1a,5-15

Luke 9: 37-45

Tuesday:

1 Corinthians 16: 15-24

Mark 8: 22-26

Wednesday:

Romans 14:1-13

Luke 7: 1-10

Thursday:

2 Corinthians 1: 23-2:5

Matthew 15:29-39

Friday:

2 Corinthians 12:21-13:5

Matthew 9:27-35

Saturday:

2 Timothy 4: 9-19

Mark 3: 1-12

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, and Smitty Cabral.

WINE AND HOST OFFERINGS

The altar bread and wine for the month of March is offered in memory of Samir and Georgette Sawaya requested by Zakhia and Hiba Chdid. May Their souls rest in peace.

LECTORS FOR MARCH

Saturday, March 11,

Mae Dickinson

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, March 12,

John Barbour/ Halim Choubah

Saturday, March 18,

Rachael Higgins

Intercessions: Helen & Anna Higgins

Sunday, March 19,

Rana Choubah/ Jano Baroody

Saturday, March 25,

Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, March 26,

Mae Dickinson/ Hiba Chdid

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

WEEK OF MARCH

4-5,2023

Sunday Collection	\$ 2,570.00
February Online Giving	\$ 477.00
Sanctuary Candle	\$ 30.00
Candles	\$ 87.00
Total	\$ 3,164.00

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.

ST. GEORGE MARONITE CATHOLIC CHURCH



SATURDAY MARCH 18 **6:30 PM**

Superstar
Rami Badr

St. Joseph 74th Annual Hafli

DANCING LIVE ENTERTAINMENT GRAND RAFFLE!

VIP Seating:	\$100.00	General Admission:	\$75.00
MYO (Age 12-17) :	\$45.00	Children (12 & Under):	\$25.00

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Counseling ASSOCIATES

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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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