



Our Lady of Purgatory

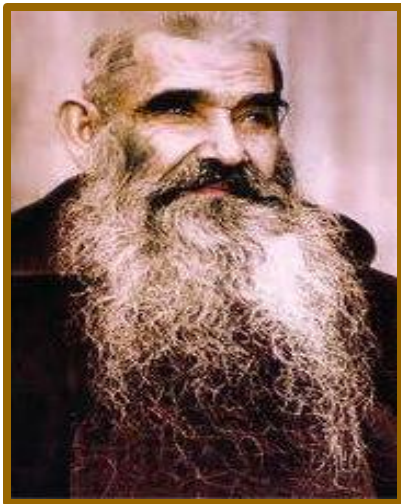
Maronite Catholic Church



June 24-25, 2023

FIFTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST FEAST OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL

FEAST OF BLESSED YAACUB HADDAD THE CAPUCHIN



Yaaqub El-Haddad, the third off eight children in the family of Boutros Haddad and Shams Haddad, was born in Ghazir, Lebanon on the outskirts of Beirut on 1st February 1875. He was baptised in the Maronite church in Ghazir on 21st February 1875 and received the name Khalil. At the age of sixteen, after a high school education in Beirut, he emigrated to Alexandria where he was touched by the death of a Capuchin Friar. In the novitiate he received the name Jacques. He was ordained a priest on 1st November 1901 in Beirut. The Eucharist and the Cross were the sources of his intense apostolic and charitable activity. As an itinerant preacher from 1903 to 1914 he walked all over Lebanon proclaiming the Word of God and was given the name “the Apostle of Lebanon”. He was also seen preaching in Syria, Palestine, Iraq, and

Turkey. Brother Jacques was tireless. He would help anyone in need following in the footsteps of Saint Francis of Assisi. In 1920, to assist him in this mission to help the sick and the poor, he founded the Franciscan Sisters of the Holy Cross of Lebanon. In 1933 he opened the House of the Sacred Heart in Deir el-Kamar, a girls’ orphanage, which later became an asylum for the chronically ill. In 1948 he opened the Hospital of Our Lady for the aged, the chronically ill, and the paralyzed. In 1949 Saint Joseph’s Hospital became one of the most important medical centers of the capital. It was followed in 1950 by Saint Anthony’s House in Beirut for beggars and vagabonds whom the police found on the streets, and Providence House for homeless girls. Even though Brother Jacques was very busy with the hospital mission, he and his sisters carried on the important work of education and opened several schools as well as an orphanage for 200 girls. Brother Jacques was worn out by vigils, fatigue, and travel. Although he suffered from numerous illnesses, became almost completely blind, and was stricken with leukemia, he did not stop blessing God and working. He was lucid to the end. His last hours were an uninterrupted series of prayers invoking the Cross and the Virgin Mary until he died on 26th June 1954 in Lebanon. On Sunday 22nd June 2008, he was beatified during a special Mass in Beirut by Cardinal José Saraiva Martins C.M.F., Prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Grant, we pray, O Lord our God, that we may be sustained by the intercession of the blessed Apostles Peter and Paul, that as through them you gave your Church the foundations of her heavenly office, so through them you may help her to eternal salvation. Through our Lord Jesus Christ Your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God forever and ever. Amen

FEAST OF SAINTS ZECHARIAH AND ELIZABETH

Zachariah (first century) The father of St. John the Baptist, also listed as Zachary. He was a priest in the temple of Jerusalem, the husband of St. Elizabeth, a cousin of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Receiving a vision from an angel, Zachariah was told that Elizabeth would bear a son named John. Zachariah was struck dumb until John was born. The birth of John the Baptist was recorded in Luke, chapter one. A minor tradition states that Zachariah was slain in the temple when he refused to tell King Herod where St. John the Baptist could be found.

What we know of St. Elizabeth comes from the Gospel, the book of Luke, in particular. In Luke, Elizabeth, a

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

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OFFICE HOURS: The Church office will be open Monday through Thursday from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm.

daughter of the line of Aaron, and the wife of Zechariah, was "righteous before God" and was "blameless" but childless. Elizabeth is also a cousin to the Virgin Mary.

Zechariah, desiring a child, went to pray in the temple and was told by the angel Gabriel, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John. He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even before he is born." (Luke 1:13-15). Zechariah was skeptical because both himself and his wife were elderly. For his skepticism, Zechariah was rendered mute until the prophecy had been fulfilled.

Elizabeth became pregnant shortly thereafter and she rejoiced.

Gabriel then visited the Virgin Mary at Nazareth, telling her that she would conceive of the Holy Spirit and become the mother of Jesus.

Mary then visited Elizabeth, and her baby leapt in her womb. Filled with the Holy Spirit, Elizabeth proclaimed to Mary, Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!" (Luke 1:41-45).

Mary visited with Elizabeth for three months, both women pregnant with child. After Mary returned home, Elizabeth gave birth to a son and named him John. This child was chosen by God to be John the Baptist. John would baptize Christ as an example to all, that all must be reborn of water and spirit.

Although Elizabeth's neighbors assumed the child would be named Zechariah, her husband insisted that John be his name. This astonished the neighbors for there were no men named John in Elizabeth's family, but Zechariah's insistence ended the debate. At the moment, Zechariah insisted that they obey the will of God, and name him John, his speech returned.

After this, there is no more mention in the Bible about Elizabeth.

https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=344

SECOND COLLECTION

As per the directive of the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn and in honor of the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul, there will be a second collection. The entire collection is sent to the Holy Father to assist him with emergency financial assistance to aid the neediest throughout the world. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

SAINT JOSEPH SODALITY NEWS

. This is a friendly reminder that Sodality dues for members were due in March. If you have not paid your annual dues of \$25.00, you can give it to George Saba, Fr. Vincent or place it in the collection basket in a marked enveloped for Sodality.

. The St. Joseph Sodality will be having a display table at the NAM Convention on July 6th, 7th, and 8th. We are planning a display that will include the history of the St. Joseph Sodality and what we do as a sodality. If you would like to help on any of those days, please see Jacques Barbour for more information.

. SAVE the date for the NAM Convention July 7 to July 9.

NEW RECTORY AND CHURCH ADDRESS

As you may know, the rectory has moved to the new location. The address for the rectory/office will now be: 4254 Acushnet Avenue, New Bedford, MA, 02745. We will have the same phone number and email address.

THANK YOU

I would like to thank all those who came to help me pack, clean, unpack, and donated their time in getting the rectory prepared for our recent move. I could not have done this on my own. On behalf of the entire community a big THANK YOU. God bless you and this community always.

ANNUAL LEBANESE FESTIVAL - SAVE THE DATES

September may sound like a long time away but as we prepare for our Annual Lebanese Festival, it is never too early to begin preparations. The festival will be held on Friday, September 8, and Saturday, September 9, at our new property on Acushnet Avenue.

In the next few weeks, I will be sending out information and asking you to volunteer for what I expect will be a warm and exciting welcome to our new home. For this major fundraiser to be a success, your help is needed. I ask you in advance to think about how you can help make this festival a great success. Younger and older alike, your participation will make a great difference.



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- sister@maroniteservants.org

Dates & Address

- Friday July 7 & Saturday July 8 9:30-12 Noon
- Rhode Island Convention Center Providence RI

Registration

- Open to children ages 5-12
- [Click here to Register](#)
- Register by no later than June 26

The poster features a bright blue sky with a smiling sun, a yellow rocket, and three cartoon children (a boy and two girls) playing on a green field with a soccer ball and a colorful box.

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, June 24, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of the Birth of Saint John the Baptist). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Butch, Susan and Amy Cabral requested by Lou and Smitty Cabral. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Raymond Boutros Roupheal Gabriel requested by Joann, Anthony and Lorraine David. May his soul rest in peace.

Sunday, June 25, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saints Peter and Paul, Feast of Saints Zachariah and Elizabeth, Parents of Saint John the Baptist). Remember Me In Your Kingdom Liturgy. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Samira Al- Daif (40- Day Mass). May her soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for Abraham and Amelia Sarkis requested by family. May their souls rest in peace.

Saturday, July 1, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Pope Saint Gregory X, Feast of Saint Junipero Serra). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Alfred LeBeau requested by Smitty and Lou Cabral. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Anne Abraham requested by the Kenyon family. May her soul rest in peace.

Sunday, July 2, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of the Visitation of Our Lady to Her Cousin, Elizabeth). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Sam Akeek and Najebe Kazen (FM). May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Saba Mike Barckett and for the souls of Joseph and Mary Courry (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

WINE AND HOST OFFERINGS

The altar bread and wine for the month of June is offered in memory of Abraham and Amelia Sarkis and for Joann Yozfek requested by family. 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.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Sharon Conti, David Techlin, Debbie Freedenberg, Josephine Chedid, 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.

LECTORS FOR JUNE

Saturday, June 24,

Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, June 25,

Mae Dickinson /Hiba Chdid

LECTORS FOR JULY

Saturday, July 1,

Mae Dickinson

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, July 2,

Ann Dupre /Jano Baroudi

Saturday, July 8,

Annmarie Espindola

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, July 9,

John Barbour /Halim Choubah

Saturday, July 15,

Rachael Higgins

Intercessions: Helen and Anna Higgins

Sunday, July 16,

Rana Choubah /Gaby Baroody

Saturday, July 22,

Mae Dickinson

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, July 23,

Ann Dupre / Hiba Chdid

Saturday, July 29,

Smitty David

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, July 30,

Mae Dickinson /Gaby Baroody

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

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.

DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF 6/26-7/1/23

Monday:

Acts of the Apostles 9:19b-30

Matthew 10: 8-15

Tuesday:

Acts of the Apostles 9: 31-43

Matthew 16: 12-15

Wednesday:

Acts of the Apostles 10: 1-10,19-23a

Matthew 10: 21- 26

Thursday:

Acts of the Apostles 10: 1-10,19-23a

Matthew 10: 21-26

Friday:

2 Corinthians 11: 21-30

Matthew 16: 13-20

Saturday:

Acts of the Apostles 11: 19-30

Matthew 10: 40-11:1

WEEK OF JUNE

17-18, 2023

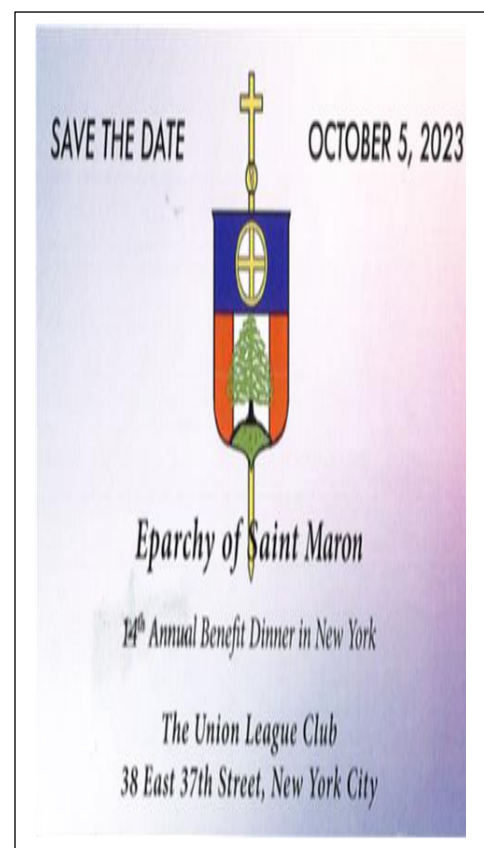
Sunday Collection \$ 1,076.00

Coffee Hour \$ 110.00

Candles \$ 63.00

Total \$ 1,249.00

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.



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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.

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