



Our Lady of Purgatory

Maronite Catholic Church



June 3-4, 2023

SEASON OF THE GLORIOUS PENTECOST SUNDAY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

IF YOU WANT TO LEARN THEOLOGY, HAVE A DISCUSSION WITH A KID!

Children generally start asking questions at the age of 4-5 and go deeper into their questions at the age of 8. The “why” stage is characterized by an abundance of questions as children strive to make sense of their environment and expand their knowledge. They may ask about various topics such as the nature of different things or phenomena. In 2019, I was teaching CCD and one of the kids asked a very theological and deep question. He asked about the Trinity and how we can have three gods that are one God at the same time. I did not have the answer to explain it right at that moment, so I thanked him for his important question and promised to answer him the next session.

I went home and did some research on how I can describe such a complicated topic to an 8-year-old kid, and the next week I came back with an answer!

I used an orange to demonstrate the concept of the Trinity. The orange has three parts: the skin, the flesh, and the core. The three parts are not different oranges, they are all still one orange, yet they are all uniquely different. Each part of the orange has a different function, yet they are all an orange. The Trinity, the three persons of God: God the Father, the Son Jesus, and the

Holy Spirit are not three gods. They are one, but each one has his own function. The skin of the orange is like God the Father because He protects. The flesh is like the Son because Jesus took on human flesh, came to earth, and resurrected to give us new life. The core of the orange contains seeds that grow if placed into fertile ground. These seeds are like the Holy Spirit because, through the power of God, we will grow in faith.

Trinitarian Theology is one of the most complex topics to talk about and understand. It is often described as a mystery because it attempts to explain the nature of God, which is beyond human comprehension. It involves the simultaneous existence of three distinct persons who are each fully God, yet there is only one God.

On this Sunday gospel, Jesus sent His disciples into the world to preach the good news, and to baptize people in the name of the Father and of the Son and the Holy Spirit. As we read the gospel, we think that the message delivered is to be like the disciples to teach about Jesus and be His witnesses, but behind the text, a deep theological truth is hidden. The Trinity!

Jesus reminds us in this gospel that unless we change and become like children, we will never enter the kingdom of heaven. We are called to become humble like children and always seek and ask for the truth.

Keep your hearts as children but have a mature mind!

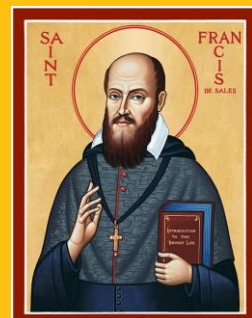
As I prepare to leave for Lebanon this week, I would like to thank you for all your love, care, and support during the last five weeks of my assignment in your Church. The place where you search for truth and the only truth which is Jesus Christ.

Lector Nadim Khaled

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“I vow and consecrate to God all that is in me: My memory and my actions to God the Father; My understanding and my words to God the Son; My will and my thoughts to God the Holy Spirit.”

St. Francis de Sales



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.

CALLING ALL GRADUATES

Please inform the office if your child(ren) are graduating from High School or College this year. We would like to acknowledge them and offer a special Liturgy in their honor. Please let me know what High School they graduated from and what college they will be attending. Congratulations to all of our graduates.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2023 GRADUATES

•**Christophe Chedid** received a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from UMASS Dartmouth.

•**Emmanuel Chedid** received an Associates Degree in advanced automotive and high performance from The New England Institute of Technology.

•**Dylan Barbour** received a B.A. in Biology and a Minor in Economics from UMASS Amherst.

•**Samuel Abi Younes** received a B.A. in Finance Economics from UMASS Amherst.

•**Michael Mello** graduated from Bristol Community College with his Associates Degree in Liberal Arts and is continuing on to UMASS Dartmouth where he will major in Communications, with a Minor in Music.

OLOP COOKBOOKS

The Education Foundation is still selling our beautiful cookbooks. All the proceeds go to the foundation for scholarships for your youth. With our children graduating and moving on their own, this would be a beautiful gift and at the same time you would be helping our future children with their education. The cookbooks are \$25.00 each and you may order these cookbooks online or by calling the Church office. Thank you for your support.

2023 OUR LADY OF PURGATORY SCHOLARSHIPS

This year we did not have any applications for the 2023 Scholarship Program. Therefore, there will be no awards given out this year. We will continue to fundraise for next year.

CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION 2023

The Franciscan Friars of the Immaculate at Our Lady's Chapel will be holding their annual Corpus Christi Procession on June 11, 2023. The procession begins at 2:00 pm at Our Lady's Chapel (600 Pleasant Street) and will stop at three stations for Eucharistic Benediction- Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church. This year, rather than return and finish at Our Lady's Chapel, the procession will conclude after Benediction at the final station (Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church) where refreshments will follow. Return transportation to Our Lady's Chapel will be available for those needing it. You are warmly invited to join in celebrating this public witness of our faith.

IN OUR PRAYERS

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.

SAINT JOSEPH SODALITY NEWS

.Our Monthly Devotion will be on Sunday, June 4, at 10:00 am. All are welcome to join us.

.This Sunday we are planning on taking a picture near the St. Joseph Statue with all members.

.Last week's mini practice for the prayers went well and thank you to all who were able to attend.

.The Sodality is sponsoring the coffee hour this week, if you would like to bring something please feel free to do so. Keep in mind the warm weather and keep things simple.

.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.

.Starting Sunday, May 28th, we will be meeting at 10:00 am to rehearse hymns that we use during the monthly devotions. Hope to see you there.

.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.

.The women of the parish, along with the help of the St. Joseph Sodality members, will be sponsoring the coffee hour on Father's Day. If you would like to help, please reach out to Jacques Barbour or Abouna Vincent.

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

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, June 3, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Awtel). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of MaryLou Viveiros requested by Joann David. May her soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for all the souls of the Daher families requested by family (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, June 4, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Erasmus). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Abouna Boutros Nasr requested by family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Charles Crane II requested by Ida Farhat. May his soul rest in peace.

Saturday, June 10, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Barnabas, One of the 72 Disciples). Liturgy is being offered for a special intention requested by Mariam David and family. 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, June 11, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Bartholomew, one of the 12 Disciples). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Hiam Chaib requested by Amal and Gaby Baroody. May her soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Alfred and his Mother Afeefe (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.

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.

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.

LECTORS FOR JUNE

Saturday, June 3,

Racheal Higgins

Intercessions: Anna & Helen Higgins

Sunday, June 4,

Ann Dupre /Jano Baroody

Saturday, June 10,

Annemarie Espindola

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, June 11,

Rana Choubah / Gaby Baroody

Saturday, June 17,

Mae Dickinson

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, June 18,

John Barbour /Halim Choubah

Saturday, June 24,

Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, June 25,

Mae Dickinson /Hiba Chdid

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

DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF 6/5-6/10/23

Monday:

Acts of the Apostles 4:5-12

John 15: 1-8

Tuesday:

Acts of the Apostles 4: 13-22

John 15: 9-14

Wednesday:

Acts of the Apostles 4: 23-31

John 15: 15- 17

Thursday:

1 Corinthians 10: 14-21

John 6: 47-63

Friday:

Acts of the Apostles 5: 12-21a

John 15: 22-27

Saturday:

Acts of the Apostles 5: 21b-33

John 16: 1-4

WEEK OF MAY

27-28, 2023

Sunday Collection	\$ 1,185.00
May Online Giving	\$ 807.31
Coffee Hour	\$ 80.00
Candles	\$ 39.00
Total	\$ 2,111.31

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.

SAVE THE DATE

OCTOBER 5, 2023



Eparchy of Saint Maron

14th Annual Benefit Dinner in New York

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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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