

## **Our Lady of Purgatory Maronite Catholic Church**

October 10, 2023

Dear Parishioners of OLOP:

As you know we will be hosting a weekend long celebration Dedicating our new church at 4254 Acushnet Avenue, New Bedford, MA from Friday, December 8, 2023, through Sunday, December 10, 2023. Through the providence of Our Lord, the Dedication of the new Church will take place 105 years to the date the original Our Lady of Purgatory Church was dedicated by Bishop Daniel Feehan. We'll be providing more information about the Dedication Weekend in the coming weeks.

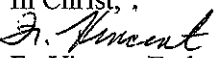
As has been our tradition, the children and young adults of the Parish will be presenting the annual Christmas Pageant on Saturday, December 9, 2023, at 6:00 pm in the Church. This year's program honors our past while celebrating our future. Please encourage your children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews, between the ages of 5 and 18 years old to participate in this year's Christmas Pageant. If your child would like to participate, please let us know – all children of the Parish are welcome. Attached please find the rehearsal schedule. If your child has participated in the Christmas Pageants over the past three years, you'll also be receiving an e-mail with the rehearsal schedule.

As a special treat this year, we are inviting all the alumni of the past Christmas Pageants to join us for a very special presentation of the Christmas favorite, "Do You Hear What I Hear?" If any of your children are Christmas Pageant Alums, please encourage them to join the fellow Alums on this special evening. If you're a Christmas Pageant Alum, please consider participating. There are over 75 Alumni and 15 of these Alumni have already notified us they will be joining us. Vikki Thomas-Marini will be contacting the Christmas Pageant Alums in the coming weeks with more information.

The Children will also be singing at this year's Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, November 11, 2023, at 1:00 PM. Please join the children at the Bazaar, which takes place on Saturday, November 11, 2023, from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM and on Sunday, November 12, 2023, from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the OLOP Parish Center, 4254 Acushnet Avenue, New Bedford, MA 02745.

We'll be having a Christmas Pageant Parents' Meeting during the second week of November to plan for the Reception after the Christmas Pageant. Please contact me at (508) 996-8934 or by email at [ourladyofpurgatory@gmail.com](mailto:ourladyofpurgatory@gmail.com) or contact Matt Thomas at (774) 930-2936 or by e-mail at [mjt@mjthomaslaw.com](mailto:mjt@mjthomaslaw.com) if you have any questions.

Just as the voices of the angels led the shepherds to Bethlehem, the voices of our children lead us to the Manger so that we may celebrate the birth of our Lord.

In Christ,  
  
Fr. Vincent Farhat  
Pastor