



Our Lady of Purgatory

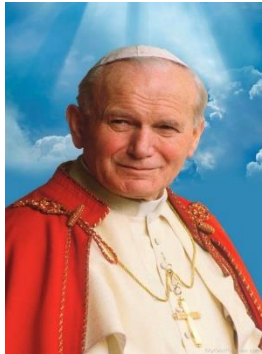


Maronite Catholic Church

October 21-22, 2023

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

FEAST OF POPE SAINT JOHN PAUL II



Legacy

“The answer to the fear which darkens human existence at the end of the twentieth century is the common effort to build the civilization of love.... With the help of God’s grace, we can build in the next century and the next millennium a civilization worthy of the human person, a true culture of freedom. We can and must do so!” — Pope John Paul II in his address to the United Nations

John Paul II’s doctrinal legacy is one of the richest in the history of the Church. He tirelessly guarded the deposit of faith and the tradition of the Church from errors, promoting authentic theological, moral and spiritual doctrine.

St. John Paul II was also a prolific writer; among his principal documents are many treasures of the Church. His writings included 14 encyclicals, 15 apostolic exhortations, 11 apostolic constitutions and 45 apostolic letters in addition to the catechesis delivered in the general audiences, lectures and homilies given during his many travels.

With his emphasis on the universal call to holiness, he beatified 1,338 people and canonized 482 saints, more than all the popes in the last 500 years combined.

Death and Beatification



“Death itself is anything but an event without hope. It is the door which opens wide on eternity and, for those who live in Christ, an experience of participation in the mystery of his Death and Resurrection.” — Pope John Paul II
Suffering from the debilitating effects of Parkinson’s disease, the aftereffects of the wounds from the attempted assassination, multiple surgeries, and the loss of his voice, Pope John Paul II expressed in his last days the mystery of the Crucified Lord.

With hundreds of thousands of young people beneath the window of the papal apartment keeping candlelight vigil during the pope’s final agony, John Paul II whispered in response, “I have looked for you and you have come to me. Thank you.” Pope John Paul II died during the first vespers of Divine Mercy Sunday, April 2, 2005, at 9:37 p.m., soon after he had uttered his final audible words, “Let me go to my Father’s house.”

More than three million pilgrims traveled to Rome to pay homage to the pope, some standing in line for over 24 hours to pray in thanksgiving for their beloved Holy Father.

On April 28, 2005, Pope Benedict XVI announced that the normal five-year waiting period before beginning the cause of beatification and canonization would be waived for John Paul II. On May 1,

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Let us remember the past with gratitude, live the present with enthusiasm, and look forward to the future with confidence.”
Pope Saint John Paul II



2011, Pope Benedict XVI beatified Pope John Paul II, and Pope Francis canonized Saint John Paul II alongside Saint John XXIII on April 27, 2014.

“We can be sure that our beloved Pope is standing today at the window of the Father’s house, that he sees us and blesses us.” — Pope Benedict XVI, at the Funeral Mass for Pope John Paul II, April 8, 2005.

PLANNING FOR THE MOVE

As we begin to complete the renovations at the new church, we have put together a schedule to transition to the property on Acushnet. After meeting with the contractors this past week, we will be celebrating our final Divine Liturgy on Franklin Street the weekend of October 28th and 29th.

The following week, the remaining sacred vessels and treasures of the Church will be moved, and we will celebrate the Consecration and Renewal of the Church at our new Church the weekend of November 4th and 5th.

We will never forget the beautiful memories that have been made over the many years on Franklin Street. I hope and pray that we can begin this new journey of faith filled with many beautiful new memories while maintaining those that will always be in our hearts.

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

Address: 4254 Acushnet Ave, New Bedford, MA 02745

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.

MEN'S GATHERING IN FALL RIVER

Msgr. James Root and Fr. Christian Hbaiter have graciously invited the men of Our Lady of Purgatory Church to join the Saint Joseph Society Men's Club of Fall River, for an evening of reflection and fellowship. There will be a 15-minute reflection, followed by discussions. Dinner will also be served as well as game night.

The festivities will be held on Thursday, October 26, 2023, at 6:00 PM, at Saint Sharbel Maronite Center in Fall River. Please RSVP to Saint Anthony Church at 508-672-7653 or email the office at SAOTD@verizon.net

I hope many of you will be able to attend and we thank Msgr. Jim, Fr. Christian, and the Men's Club for inviting us.

VETERANS DAY REMEMBRANCE

On November 5, the Consecration and Renewal of the Church, we will celebrate Divine Liturgy in honor of our veterans who have served from our parish. The new plaques that were updated and restored with the names of those men and women who served from Our Lady of Purgatory will be displayed in the new Church Hall. There will also be a breakfast immediately following Divine Liturgy.

Veterans Day pays tribute to all American veterans—living or dead—but especially gives thanks to living veterans who served their country honorably during war or peacetime. We thank our veterans for their honorable service, and we pray for the fallen heroes who have served to uphold peace, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for others.

KIBBEE DAY

We will be preparing Kibbee for the Christmas Bazaar on Wednesday, October 25, from 10:00 AM till 6:00 PM, in the church hall. Your help is appreciated. Please join us for as long as you can. Thank you.

MAAMOUL DAY

We will be preparing Maamoul for the Christmas Bazaar on Thursday, November 2, 2023, from 10:00 AM till 6:00 PM. If anyone can come and help with these, it would be greatly appreciated. Please join us for as long as you can. Thank you.

FAMILY PICTURES FOR DEDICATION PROGRAM

As we move closer to completion of the new Church construction, Bishop Gregory has set aside December 8-10, for the dedication of the new Church and Church grounds. That weekend will be filled with many activities and functions, including a Commemorative Church Dedication Program.

Along with many pages of the history of OLOP, it will also include family pictures for each family in the parish. I am asking each of you to please email me a very good quality picture of you and your family to include in this program book. We need to have these pictures by Sunday, November 5, 2023.

For those of you who do not have a current picture, Bruce David and Beth David have offered their services to take your family picture after the Divine Liturgy on Saturday, November 4, after the 4:30 PM Liturgy, as well as on Sunday, November 5, after the 10:30 AM Liturgy. I thank both of them in advance for their talents and help. I am hoping that every family will send a picture for this special booklet. Should you have any questions, please contact me at the office.

2023 CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

The Christmas Bazaar is now underway for planning. This year our bazaar will be held on Saturday, November 11, from 10AM- 6PM, and Sunday, November 12, from 10AM- 3PM. Baked Kibbee presale is now available online or by using the order forms. **The kibbee trays are \$35.00 each. All presale orders for kibbee must be in the office by Sunday, October 22, 2023,** so that we can prepare accordingly. You may order online, or contact:

Smitty Cabral (508-961-8599), Hiba Chdid (508-617-3888), or the Church office (508-996-8934).

If anyone would like to donate Holiday raffle baskets, items for the Caravan Auction, or monetary donations for the food, we would certainly appreciate this. More details will follow next week. Please mark your calendars and join us for this beautiful celebration.

SAINT JOSEPH SODALITY NEWS

Sodality will sponsor the Festival of Trees during the Christmas Bazaar, if you would like to help please see Amal Barbour.

SECOND COLLECTION

As per the directive of the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn, there will be a second collection this weekend. This collection is for World Mission Sunday which helps missions around the world the continue to spread the word of Christ. Thank you for your generosity.

2023 CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

It is that time of year as we begin to prepare for the 2023 Children's Christmas Pageant which will be held on **December 9, 2023.** Children of all ages are encouraged to participate in this beautiful expression of love and dedication. Please register your children for this special event in the life of the Church. This year will be performed for Bishop Gregory and our invited guests as we celebrate our dedication that weekend. I look forward to seeing all of our children participate, spreading the joy of Christ's birth to our community and beyond. For more information, please contact Fr. Vincent or Matthew Thomas.

NEEDED GIFTS FOR THE CARAVAN AUCTION, BASKET RAFFLES, SILENT AUCTION AND THE KID'S ZONE GAMES FOR THE CHILDREN



Items needed include:

Electronics, housewares, giftware, tools, gift cards, gift baskets, sporting event tickets, jewelry, toys, sporting goods etc. We also need small children's gifts for the game tables such as:

Books, coloring books and crayons or markers, small cars and trucks, dolls, stuffed toys, puzzles models, games etc.

We need gifts of various values from \$2-\$25, \$25-\$50 and \$50 and up.

If you wish to donate but have no time to shop, you can donate the money and we will shop for you.

All help in any amount is greatly appreciated.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for a special intention by Norma Barbour. 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, October 21, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Hilarion of Tabatha). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Anne Abraham requested by Michael and Diane LeBlanc. May her soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Charlie Murray requested by Lou and Smitty Cabral. May his soul rest in peace.

Sunday, October 22, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Pope Saint John Paul II). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Atty. George M. Thomas requested by Reggie Thomas and family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for Boutros Bou Ramia requested by family. May his soul rest in peace.

Saturday, October 28, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Terence and His Companions). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Joseph Saba requested by Annemarie Espindola. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Sarkees and Frousena Peters and the deceased members of their family requested by Joann, Anthony, and Lorraine David. May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, 29 October, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Anastasia of Rome). Remember Me In Your Kingdom Liturgy. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Charlie Murray requested by family (40-Day Mass). May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Joe, Tillie, and Bobby Thomas requested by family. May their souls rest in peace.

WINE AND HOST OFFERING

The altar bread and wine for the month of October is offered for Joe and Tillie Thomas requested by family.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Michael Bruce, Magda Moosa, Alice Daher, Sister Juanita Marie, 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, 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.

ARABIC CLASSES TO BEGIN IN OCTOBER

I am happy to inform our community that we will begin Arabic classes for beginners on October 24, at 6:30 PM for the adults and on October 26, at 6:30 PM for the youth. This class will include writing, reading, and speaking the Arabic language.

If you are interested in taking these classes, please fill out the registration forms and return them back to the Church office. contact the church office via email at: ourladyofpurgatory@gmail.com or drop them in the collection basket. Thank you.

LECTORS FOR OCTOBER 2023

Saturday, October 21,

Rachel Higgins

Intercessions: Anna and Helen Higgins

Sunday, October 22,

Mae Dickinson / Jano Baroody

Saturday, October 28,

Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, October 29,

Ann Dupre / Hiba Chdid

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 10/23-10/28/23

Monday:

1 Corinthians 6: 1-11

Matthew 13: 1-9

Tuesday:

1 Corinthians 6: 12-20

Matthew 13: 10-17

Wednesday:

1 Corinthians 7: 1-3,8-14, 17,24

Matthew 13: 18-23

Thursday:

1 Corinthians 7: 25-35

Matthew 13: 24-30

Friday:

1 Corinthians 9: 13-18

Matthew 13: 31-35

Saturday:

1 Corinthians 9:19-27

Matthew 13: 36-43

WEEK OF OCTOBER 14-15, 2023

Sunday Collection	\$ 1,319.00
September Online Giving	\$ 913.61
Bazaar Raffle	\$ 340.00
Bazaar Food Donations	\$ 240.00
Donations	\$ 300.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 80.00
Candles	\$ 40.00
Total	\$ 3,232.61

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.

Our Lady Of Purgatory

ANNUAL LEBANESE HOLIDAY CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saturday, November 11, 2023
10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Sunday, November 12, 2023
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

MONEY & BASKET RAFFLES
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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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SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

READINGS

FIRST READING: Galatians 6:1 – 10

Brothers and Sisters:

If anyone is detected in a transgression, you who have received the Spirit should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness. Take care that you yourselves are not tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. For if those who are nothing think they are something, they deceive themselves. All must test their own work; then that work, rather than their neighbor's work, will become a cause for pride. For all must carry their own loads. Those who are taught the word must share in all good things with their teacher. Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 25: 14 – 30

The Lord Jesus Says:

“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ”

الأحد السادس بعد عيد الصليب: مثل الوزنات

قرأ ة من رسالة القديس بولس إلى أهل غلاطية وبارك يا سيد. 10-6:1
يا إخوتي،

إِنْ أَخَذَ إِنْسَانٌ بِرَّزَلَةً، فَأَصْلِحُوهُ أَنْتُمْ الرُّوحِيَّيْنَ بِرُوحِ الْوَدَاعَةِ، وَأَحْذَرْ أَنْتَ لِنَفْسِكَ لِنَلَّا تُجَرَّبَ أَيْضًا. إِحْمِلُوا بَعْضُكُمْ أَنْفَالَ بَعْضٍ، وَهَكَذَا أَمْتُوا شَرِيعَةَ الْمَسِيحِ. إِنْ ظَنَّ أَحَدٌ أَنَّهُ شَيْءٌ، وَهُوَ لَا شَيْءٌ، فَقَدْ خَدَعَ نَفْسَهُ. فَلْيَمْتَحِنْ كُلُّ وَاحِدٍ عَمَلَهُ، وَحِينَئِذٍ يَكُونُ افْتِحَارُهُ فِي نَفْسِهِ فَقَطْ لَا فِي غَيْرِهِ. فَإِنَّ كُلَّ وَاحِدٍ سَيَحْمِلُ حِمْلَهُ الْخَاصَّ. مَنْ يَتَعَلَّمُ كَلِمَةَ الْإِيمَانِ، فَلْيُشَارِكْ مُعَلِّمَهُ فِي جَمِيعِ الْخَيْرَاتِ. لَا تَضِلُّوا! فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُسْتَهْزَأُ بِهِ. فَكُلُّ مَا يَزْرَعُهُ الْإِنْسَانُ، فَإِيَّاهُ يَحْصُدُ أَيْضًا. فَالَّذِي يَزْرَعُ فِي جَسَدِهِ، يَحْصُدُ مِنَ الْجَسَدِ فَسَادًا؛ وَالَّذِي يَزْرَعُ فِي الرُّوحِ، يَحْصُدُ مِنَ الرُّوحِ حَيَاةً أَبَدِيَّةً. فَلَا نَمَلَّ عَمَلَ الْخَيْرِ، وَلَا نَكِلَّ، لِأَنَّنا سَنَحْصُدُهُ فِي أَوَانِهِ. إِذَا فَمَا دَامَ لَنَا مُتَسَعٌّ مِنَ الْوَقْتِ، فَلْنَصْنَعِ الْخَيْرَ إِلَى جَمِيعِ النَّاسِ، وَخُصُوصًا إِلَى أَهْلِ الْإِيمَانِ.

والتسبيح لله دائما.

إنجيل القديس متى. 30-25:14

قال الرب يسوع: «يُشْبِهُ مَلَكُوتُ السَّمَاوَاتِ رَجُلًا أَرَادَ السَّفَرَ، فَذَعَا عَبِيدَهُ، وَسَلَّمَهُمْ أَمْوَالَهُ. فَأَعْطَى وَاحِدًا خَمْسَ وَزَنَاتٍ، وَآخَرَ وَزَنْتَيْنِ، وَآخَرَ وَزَنَةً وَاحِدَةً، كُلًّا عَلَى قَدْرِ طَاقَتِهِ، وَسَافَرَ. وَفِي الْحَالِ مَضَى الَّذِي أَخَذَ الْوَزَنَاتِ الْخَمْسَ، وَتَاجَرَ بِهَا فَرَبِحَ خَمْسَ وَزَنَاتٍ أُخْرَى. وَكَذَلِكَ الَّذِي أَخَذَ الْوَزَنْتَيْنِ رِبْحَ وَزَنْتَيْنِ أُخْرَيَيْنِ. أَمَّا الَّذِي أَخَذَ الْوَزَنَةَ الْوَاحِدَةَ فَمَضَى وَحَفَرَ فِي الْأَرْضِ، وَأَخْفَى فِضَّةَ سَيِّدِهِ. وَبَعْدَ زَمَانٍ طَوِيلٍ، عَادَ سَيِّدُ أَوْلِيَاكِ الْعَبِيدِ، وَحَاسَبَهُمْ. وَدَنَا الَّذِي أَخَذَ الْوَزَنَاتِ الْخَمْسَ، فَقَدَّمَ خَمْسَ وَزَنَاتٍ أُخْرَى قَائِلًا: يَا سَيِّدِي، سَلِّمْتَنِي خَمْسَ وَزَنَاتٍ، وَهَذِهِ خَمْسُ وَزَنَاتٍ أُخْرَى قَدْ رَبِحْتُهَا! قَالَ لَهُ سَيِّدُهُ: يَا لَكَ عَبْدًا صَالِحًا وَأَمِينًا! كُنْتَ أَمِينًا عَلَى الْقَلِيلِ، سَأُقِيمُكَ عَلَى الْكَثِيرِ: ادْخُلْ إِلَى فَرْحِ سَيِّدِكَ! وَدَنَا الَّذِي أَخَذَ الْوَزَنْتَيْنِ فَقَالَ: يَا سَيِّدِي، سَلِّمْتَنِي وَزَنْتَيْنِ، وَهَاتَانِ وَزَنْتَانِ أُخْرَيَانِ قَدْ رَبِحْتُهُمَا. قَالَ لَهُ سَيِّدُهُ: يَا لَكَ عَبْدًا صَالِحًا وَأَمِينًا! كُنْتَ أَمِينًا عَلَى الْقَلِيلِ، سَأُقِيمُكَ عَلَى الْكَثِيرِ: ادْخُلْ إِلَى فَرْحِ سَيِّدِكَ! ثُمَّ دَنَا الَّذِي أَخَذَ الْوَزَنَةَ الْوَاحِدَةَ وَقَالَ: يَا سَيِّدِي، عَرَفْتُكَ رَجُلًا قَاسِيًا، تَحْصُدُ مِنْ حَيْثُ لَمْ تَزْرَعْ، وَتَجْمَعُ مِنْ حَيْثُ لَمْ تَبْدُرْ. فَخَفْتُ وَذَهَبْتُ وَأَخْفَيْتُ وَزَنْتَكَ فِي الْأَرْضِ، فَهَا هُوَ مَا لَكَ! فَأَجَابَ سَيِّدُهُ وَقَالَ لَهُ: «يَا عَبْدًا شَرِيرًا كَسَلَانَ، عَرَفْتَ أَنِّي أَحْصُدُ مِنْ حَيْثُ لَمْ أزرَعْ، وَأَجْمَعُ مِنْ حَيْثُ لَمْ أَبْدُرْ، فَكَانَ عَلَيْكَ أَنْ تَضَعَ فِضَّتِي عَلَى طَاوِلَةِ الصَّيَّارِفَةِ، حَتَّى إِذَا عُدْتُ، أَسْتَرْجِعْتُ مَا لِي مَعَ فَائِدَتِهِ. فَخُذُوا مِنْهُ الْوَزَنَةَ وَأَعْطُوهَا لِمَنْ لَهُ الْوَزَنَاتُ الْعَشْرُ. فَكُلُّ مَنْ لَهُ يُعْطَى وَيُزَادُ، وَمَنْ لَيْسَ لَهُ يُؤْخَذُ مِنْهُ حَتَّى مَا هُوَ لَهُ. وَهَذَا الْعَبْدُ الَّذِي لَا نَفْعَ مِنْهُ أُخْرِجُوهُ وَالْفُوهُ فِي الظُّلْمَةِ الْبَرَانِيَّةِ. هُنَاكَ يَكُونُ الْبُكَاءُ وَصَرِيْفُ الْأَسْنَانِ.»