



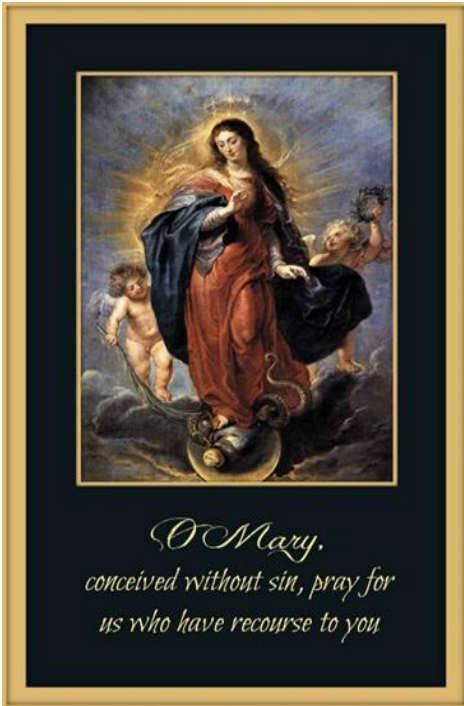
Our Lady of Purgatory

Maronite Catholic Church



December 9-10, 2023

SEASON OF THE GLORIOUS BIRTH OF OUR LORD BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



WELCOME TO THE DEDICATION OF OUR LADY OF PURGATORY CHURCH

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception will always be a special day in the life of Our Lady of Purgatory Church. This is because on December 8, 1918, Bishop Daniel F. Feehan, the Bishop of the Diocese of Fall River dedicated the original Our Lady of Purgatory Church. Now, 105 years later to the date, the Most. Reverend Gregory John Mansour, Bishop of the Eparchy of St. Maron of Brooklyn, will dedicate our new church to Our Lady of Purgatory.

Our recent journey here has been a bittersweet journey. All the parishioners hold very special memories on Franklin Street, but most believe in their heart that this was the best opportunity for our Church to grow and to continue the great legacy of their ancestors who had a vision to begin a Maronite Community in New Bedford, Massachusetts, over 100 years ago.

It is with this faith that we now begin another chapter in the life of OLOP. This comes during the time of the Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. His birth brings to us His great love, peace, joy, and hope. I know that He will always surround us with his love and continue to guide us with His Holy Spirit because he told us that He will never abandon us, no matter where we are. The Holy Trinity has led the way for this new journey of faith and the Holy Trinity will continue to lead us as we embark on our next chapter.

I welcome Bishop Gregory Mansour, who has set aside this day to consecrate our new home. We thank him for his guidance, support, and belief in this humble community. I also thank my brother priests from the Maronite Church, the Melkite Church, and the Latin Church from near and far. Your presence and support have been an anchor for me and this community.

And I thank this community and friends of OLOP, for your input, support, commitment, and respect during the different phases of this journey. This

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Thou alone and thy Mother are in all things fair, there is no flaw in thee and no stain in thy Mother.”
St Ephraem

community has certainly endured many things over the past 100 years and your perseverance and trust in God is a testament to the great legacy entrusted to you.

I pray this new journey of faith will strengthen all that binds us together and that through the intercession of Our Lady of Purgatory and Our Lady of Fatima, we will be remembered for our vision in continuing our Maronite faith that will last for many more generations.

WINE AND HOST OFFERING

The altar bread and wine for the month of December is offered for Estephan Diab requested by Jacques and Amal Barbour.

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 Email: officeolop@gmail.com

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

BISHOP GREGORY CALLING ALL MYO

Bishop Gregory would like to meet with the MYO on Saturday, December 9, following the dinner after the Christmas Pageant. I hope all of you will be able to attend. He would love to hear from all of you.

WELCOME SEMINARIAN NADIME KHALED



I am happy to announce that Seminarian Nadime Khaled will be assigned to our parish for Christmas while he is on break from Catholic University of America. He will arrive on December 14, and will be helping us throughout the Season of the Glorious Birth of our Lord. We welcome Nadime back home to New Bedford and we are very grateful for his help and talents. Welcome Nadime.

GOD BLESS YOU SISTER MARLA MARIE ON YOUR 40TH ANNIVERSARY



The community of Our Lady of Purgatory Church wishes Sister Marla Marie a blessed and joyous anniversary. As you celebrate this milestone of your ministry, may you be assured of our appreciation and admiration for your service to the Lord. May Almighty God bless you with many more years of service. OLOP has certainly reaped the benefits of your dedication and love. God bless you Sister Marla.

CHRISTMAS LITURGY SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 24,
Christmas Vigil is at 5:00 PM
Monday, December 25,
Christmas Liturgy will be held at
10:30 AM

CHRISTMAS NOVENA SCHEDULE

Friday, December 15,
Christmas Novena begins at
7:00 PM

Saturday, December 16,
Christmas Novena following
4:30 PM Divine Liturgy

Sunday, December 17,
Christmas Novena following
10:30 AM Divine Liturgy

Monday, December 18,
Christmas Novena begins at
7:00 PM

Tuesday, December 19,
Christmas Novena begins at
7:00 PM

Wednesday, December 20,
Christmas Novena begins at
7:00 PM

Thursday, December 21,
Christmas Novena begins at
7:00 PM

Friday, December 22,
Christmas Novena begins at
7:00 PM

Saturday, December 23,
Christmas Novena following
4:30 PM Divine Liturgy

SAINT JOSEPH SODALITY NEWS

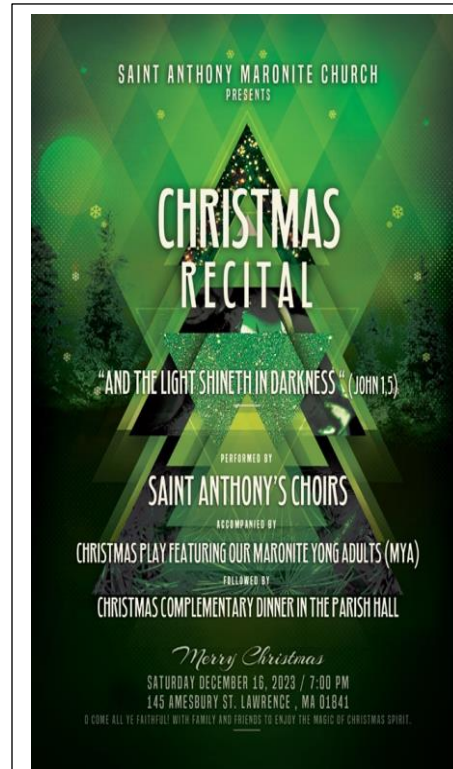
Periodically we will be publishing news and coming events from the St. Joseph Sodality. The Sodality is the oldest organization in the Parish, having been founded in 1918. Through their devotion to St. Joseph, Sodality Members seek to emulate the life and faith of St. Joseph, and by doing so, hope to achieve eternal happiness as he did. The Sodality encourages you to consider becoming a member.

Giving Tree - The Giving Tree is available to assist Birthright of Taunton, which is part of the Fall River Diocese which helps young mothers. Please be sure to have all gifts returned no later than Sunday, December 17. Thank you very much in advance.

MEN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY



Saint Anthony of the Desert Church has invited all the men of Our Lady of Purgatory Church to their Men's Christmas Party. This will be held on Monday, December 18, at 7:00 PM, at the Cove Restaurant, in Fall River. Dinner will be \$50.00 per person, and they will also have a cash bar. Appetizers will begin at 7:00 PM. This will be a great opportunity for the men of the two parishes to get to know each other better. If you are interested in attending, please contact the office at 508-996-8934, or Saint Anthony of the Desert office at 508-672-4540.



LITURGY INTENTIONS

Friday, December 8, @ 7:00 PM, (Feast of The Immaculate Conception). Liturgy is being offered for the Parishioners of Our Lady of Purgatory, living and deceased.

Saturday, December 9, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Pope Saint Francis of Paola). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Daniel P. David, Gerry Sheerin and their deceased family members requested by Mariam David and family. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Saeed, Mantaha and Steve Morad and Claire Branco requested by family (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, December 10, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Pope Saint Miltiades). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Estephan Diab requested by Jacques and Amal Barbour. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Ann Farhat requested by family. May her soul rest in peace.

Saturday, December 16, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Haggai the Prophet). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Michele, and Anna David Mageletta and for Mike Mageletta requested by Mariam David and family. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Marc Moses requested by family (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, December 17, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of The 3 Young Men: Ananias, Azarias, and Misael). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Fred Thomas, Joao and Fernanda Baptista, Mena Carvalho and Edigio Baptista requested by Fernanda Thomas. May their souls rest in peace.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for Mariam David and family and the living and deceased members of her family by Rose David. 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.

FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Jimmy Kalife, Wassim Chedid, Rose Dupre, Rana Choubah, Nigel Hitchings, and Joseph Barckett.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Beverly Parlapiano, Anne Ramundo, 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.

LECTORS FOR DECEMBER 2023

Friday, December 8,

Ann Dupre/ Hiba Chdid

Saturday, December 9,

Rachael Higgins

Intercessions: Anna & Helen Higgins

Sunday, December 10,

Matthew Thomas/ Gaby Baroody

Saturday, December 16,

Mae Dickinson

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, December 17,

Ann Dupre / Jano Baroody

Saturday, December 23,

Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, December 24,

@ 10:30 AM:

Rana Choubah/ Halim Choubah

Christmas Eve @ 5:00 PM

Annemarie Espindola/ Hiba Chdid

Monday, December 25,

TBA

Saturday, December 30,

Rachael Higgins

Intercessions: Anna and Helen Higgins

Sunday, December 31,

@ 10:30 TBA

New Year's Eve @ 5:00 PM

Mae Dickinson/ Jano Baroody

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

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Fadi Bark, Johnny Kalife, Vicki Thomas Marini, Jacques Barbour, and Smitty Cabral.

DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF 12/11-12/16/23

Monday:

Romans 9: 1-5

Luke 1: 67-80

Tuesday:

Romans 9: 6-13

Matthew 11: 11-15

Wednesday:

Romans 9: 14-18

Matthew 17: 9-13

Thursday:

Romans 9: 19-29

Matthew 21: 23-27

Friday:

Romans 9:30-33

Matthew 11: 16-19

Saturday:

Romans 10:1-13

John 5: 31-36

WEEK OF DECEMBER 2-3, 2023

Sunday Collection	\$ 2,596.00
Online Giving	\$ 891.81
Dedication Ad Book	\$ 1,175.00
Dedication Donations	\$ 100.00
Lebanese Market	\$ 261.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 80.00
Sanctuary Candle	\$ 10.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 96.00
Candles	\$ 28.00
Total	\$ 5,237.81

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.

OPEN TO ALL YOUNG ADULTS 18-35!

THEOLOGY ON TAP APPETIZERS PROVIDED!

7PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

110 GRILL - LOUNGE

500 WILLIAM S. CANNING BOULEVARD, FALL RIVER, MA

WEAR YOUR CHRISTMAS SWEATER

TOPIC: KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS THE CHRISTIAN ROOTS OF MODERN CHRISTMAS SYMBOLS

PLEASE RSVP TO OFFICE (508) 672-7653 / OFFICE@CANTO-FR.ORG OR TEXT FR. CHRISTIAN @ (978) 857-4815

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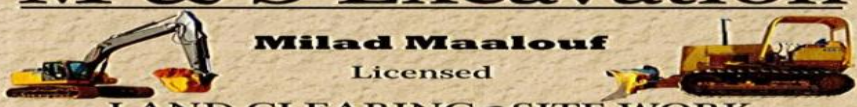
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Eternally in our hearts and in our thoughts. We miss seeing your face, hearing your voice, seeing your smile and hearing your laugh. We cherish the day we will join you in GOD's Heavenly Kingdom. We Love you and miss you even more with each passing day.

Joseph & Marie Kenyon **Your Loving Children**

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