



Our Lady of Purgatory Maronite Catholic Church



December 30-31, 2023

THE FINDING OF OUR LORD IN THE TEMPLE



A BLESSED AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

My Dear Parishioners and Friends of Our Lady of Purgatory Church: Happy New Year!!! And what a year it has been. I truly thank God for giving us a year to remember filled with much joy and filled with some sorrows. Yet through it all, He has blessed us with His love and mercy. We have much to be thankful for. This year has graced us with a new Church, Parish Center, and Rectory, where our community can thrive and host many different functions that can bring us closer as a community of faith. We have already begun to see the potential of what we have and to prepare for a brighter future. The excitement and promise have lit a flame within this community that looks forward to a brighter future, and for this I thank God.

Although we will never forget the past and the memories we had on Franklin Street, we will always carry with us the hope and promise of our ancestors to continue to build a brighter future for our children and grandchildren. There is so much to be grateful for. Sometimes it is difficult to see all the wonderful things that are happening in our community because of one reason or another but when we look at the whole picture, we can't help but realize that we truly are blessed. I pray that each of us will take time to enjoy all the wonderful gifts God has given us and to enjoy every moment with your family and friends. May this New Year bring us peace, happiness, good health, and the strength to live out this "Year of Prayer" to its fullest. Wishing all of you a very blessed and happy New Year.
Fr. Vincent

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Every baptized person should consider that it is in the womb of the Church where he is transformed from a child of Adam to a child of God."
St. Vincent Ferrer



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

WITH THANKS AND GRATITUDE

I would like to thank all of you for your kindness and warm wishes this Christmas. I especially thank you all for making this Glorious Season of the Birth of Our Lord a very special and joyous occasion. God has certainly blessed me with such a wonderful community. I wish you all much joy and happiness.

NEW YEAR'S DAY

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Divine Liturgy for New Year's Day will be held on Sunday, December 31, at 5:00 PM. This is a Holy Day of Obligation celebrating the Circumcision of Jesus and World Peace Day. Please join us as we begin our new year. Blessings to all of you.

FEAST OF EPIPHANY

The Feast of Epiphany will be held on **Friday, January 5, at 7:00 PM**, followed by coffee hour and zalabia. Water will be blessed and available to you to take home.

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.

WINE AND HOST OFFERING

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

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for a special intention by John and Claire 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.

SAINT MARON'S DAY HAFLI

Tickets are not on sale for our annual Saint Maron's Day Hafli which will be held on Saturday, February 3, 2024, at our Parish Center. Come and enjoy great food, music, dancing, and more. The flyer is attached with all the information. Thank you for your support.

OUR LADY OF PURGATORY MARONITE CHURCH

ST. MARON'S HAFLI

FEB 3, 2024

4254 ACUSHNET AVE,
NEW BEDFORD, MA 02745

**CASH BAR
&
MEZZA
7:30 PM**

**DINNER SERVED
8:30 PM**

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT BY
THAER MALKO
&
BACHIR EL KHOURY BAND**

DANCE FLOOR SEATING: \$100 FOR ALL AGES
GENERAL SEATING: \$75
CHILDREN (12-17): \$40
CHILDREN UNDER 12 YEARS: NO CHARGE

FOR TICKET SALES CONTACT:
☎ CHURCH OFFICE: (508) 996-8934
☎ SOUSOU: (508) 916-1523

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

Saturday, December 30,
Rachael Higgins

Intercessions: Anna and Helen
Higgins

Sunday, December 31, @ 10:30

Mae Dickinson / Hiba Chdid

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).**

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 30, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Anysia). Liturgy is being offered for Mariam David and the living and deceased members of her family requested by family.

Sunday, December 31, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Zoticus). Remember Me In Your Kingdom Liturgy. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Thomas David requested by Family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Nan Farhat requested by her family. May her soul rest in peace.

Sunday, December 31, @ 5:00 PM, Circumcision of Jesus, Holy Day of Obligation, New Year's Eve Liturgy.

(Feast of Saints Basil and Gregory). Friday, January 5, 2024 @ 7:00 PM, Vigil of the Glorious Epiphany.

Saturday, January 6, 2024 @ 4:30 PM. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Julia Maroon and her family (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, January 7 2024, @ 10:30 AM, (Praises of Saint John the Baptist). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Samir and Georgette Sawaya requested by Zakhia and Hiba Chdid. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of the deceased members of the Chomak Family requested by the family. May their souls rest in peace.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

Please know that confession is available before liturgies. You may also call to set up an appointment.

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.

LECTORS FOR JANUARY 2024

Saturday, January 6,
Rachael Higgins

Intercessions: Anna & Helen Higgins

Sunday, January 7,

John Barbour/ Hiba Chdid

Saturday, January 13,
Eric Tavares

Intercessions: Smitty Cabral

Sunday, January 14,

Mae Dickinson/ Gaby Baroody

Saturday, January 20,

Annemarie Espindola

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, January 21,

Ann Dupre/ Jano Baroody

Saturday, January 27,
Mae Dickinson

Intercessions: Smitty Cabral

Sunday, January 28,

Rana Choubah/ Joumana Chedid

MYO EPIPHANY PARTY

Calling all MYO and parents! To kick off the new year, we will be having a special evening for the MYO of OLOP. All youth aged 12-18 are invited to come for dinner, discussion, and games on Saturday, January 13. Our gatherings are going to be geared to you and the things that you may be going through. I encourage you to come and see what is in store for the MYO in the future. Mark your calendars and join us.

DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF 01/01-01/06/24

Monday:

Ephesians 2: 11-22

Luke 2: 21

Tuesday:

Hebrews 7: 1-10

Luke 2: 22-24

Wednesday:

Hebrews 7: 20-28

Luke 2: 25-35

Thursday:

Hebrews 6: 9-12

Luke 2: 36-40

Friday:

Romans 5:1-11

Luke 3: 1-14

Saturday:

Titus 2: 11-3:7

Luke 3: 15-22

WEEK OF DECEMBER 23-24, 2023

Sunday Collection	\$ 1,368.00
Christmas Collection	\$ 4,944.00
Donations	\$ 750.00
Dedication Ad Book	\$ 3350.00
Candles	\$ 52.00
Total	\$ 10,464.00

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.

Save the date



Myo Epiphany Party

Open to Teens & Parents

January 13, 2024 | 6:00-9:00pm

Our Lady of Purgatory Church Hall
4254 Achusnet Ave New Bedford.

Dinner | Games | Discussion

RSVP to Fr. Vince or Sr. Therese by January 10

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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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