



# Our Lady of Purgatory

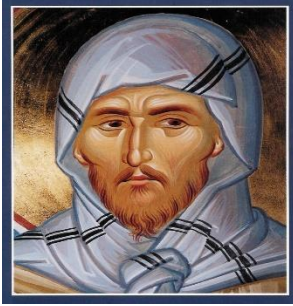
## Maronite Catholic Church



January 27-28, 2024

# SUNDAY OF THE RIGHTEOUS AND JUST

## FEAST OF SAINT EPHREM



Poet, teacher, orator, and defender of the faith, Ephrem is the only Syrian recognized as a doctor of the Church. He took upon himself the special task of opposing the many false doctrines rampant at his time, always remaining a true and forceful defender of the Catholic Church.

Born in Nisibis, Mesopotamia, he was baptized as a young man and became famous as a teacher in his native city. When the Christian emperor had to cede Nisibis to the Persians, Ephrem, along with many Christians, fled as a refugee to Edessa. He is credited with attracting great glory to the biblical school there. He was ordained a deacon but declined becoming a priest (and was said to have avoided episcopal consecration by feigning madness!).

He had a prolific pen, and his writings best illumine his holiness. Although he was not a man of great scholarship, his works reflect deep insight and knowledge of the Scriptures. In writing about the mysteries of humanity's redemption, Ephrem reveals a realistic and humanly sympathetic spirit and a great devotion to the humanity of Jesus. It is said that his poetic account of the Last Judgment inspired Dante.

It is surprising to read that he wrote hymns against the heretics of his day. He would take the popular songs of the heretical groups and, using their melodies, compose beautiful hymns embodying orthodox doctrine. Ephrem became one of the first to introduce song into the Church's public worship as a means of instruction for the faithful. His many hymns have earned him the title "Harp of the Holy Spirit."

He preferred a simple, austere life, living in a small cave overlooking the city of Edessa. It was here he died around 373.

## ASH MONDAY SERVICES/ADORATION & STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Our Lent begins on Monday, **February 12**, just a few weeks away. Our Ash Monday services will be held on **Monday, February 12, at 11:00 AM and at 7:00 PM**. Ashes will be distributed during these times.

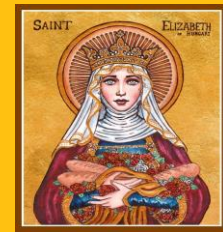
Beginning **Friday, February 16**, and every Friday up to Good Friday, we will have Adoration/Stations of the Cross. These services will be offered on **Fridays at 12:00 Noon in English** and at **7:00 PM in English and Arabic**. I hope you will join us.

## 2023 TAX LETTERS

As we begin the new year, all of you are preparing for your tax returns for 2023. If you would like a copy of your contributions to the Church, please contact the office via email or calling the office. For those who used envelopes or wrote checks, these reports are in our system and a printout will be available upon request. Thank you all for your support and dedication to the Church.

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*"Today, there is an inescapable duty to make ourselves the neighbor of every individual, without exception, and to take positive steps to help a neighbor whom we encounter, whether that neighbor be an elderly person, abandoned by everyone, a foreign worker who suffers the injustice of being despised, a refugee, an illegitimate child wrongly suffering for a sin of which the child is innocent, or a starving human being who awakens our conscience by calling to mind the words of Christ: 'As long as you did it for one of these, the least of my brethren, you did it for me' (Matthew 25:40)"*  
*St. Elizabeth of Hungary*



## WITH THANKS AND GRATITUDE

On behalf of this community of OLOP, I would like to thank Patricia Thomas for donating her grand piano to our Church. It is my hope to move the piano to the choir loft in the near future. This generous gift will be a great addition to aid in making the musical ministry at OLOP even more beautiful. Thank you and God bless you always.

**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](http://www.ourladyofpurgatory.org)

**Email:** [ourladyofpurgatory@gmail.com](mailto:ourladyofpurgatory@gmail.com) | **Facebook Page:** Our Lady of Purgatory Catholic Church - Maronite Rite |

**Office Email:** [officeolop@gmail.com](mailto:officeolop@gmail.com)

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

## OLOP CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Our Capital Campaign is still underway. I am happy to inform you that we are over halfway to our goal. We are continuing the Capital Campaign through June. I thank all of you who have contributed thus far. May God continue to bless Our Lady of Purgatory Church.



## UPCOMING LENTEN EVENTS AT OLOP

**Friday, March 1,** Fish Fry following Stations of the Cross/Adoration of the Cross at 7:30 PM.

**Friday, March 22,** Fish Fry following Stations of the Cross/Adoration of the Cross at 7:30 PM.

**Tickets will be sold in advance for the fish fry dinner.**

**Friday, March 29, GOOD FRIDAY MERCY MEAL:** After the burial of Jesus on Good Friday, we will have a potluck Mercy Meal in the church hall. Everyone is encouraged to bring a meatless dish to pass. Dinner will follow the Good Friday service.

### HAFLI ITEMS NEEDED

Our annual Saint Maron's Day Hafli is approaching quickly. We will be blessed with much better weather than years past. We are in need of the following items for the hafli. If you can help it would be greatly appreciated.

- 3 cases Coke**
- 2 cases Sprite**
- 1 case Orange Crush**
- 2 cases gingerale**
- 5 cases water**

## IN OUR PRAYERS

Patricia Farhat, Ghada Karam, Beverly Parlapiano, Anne Ramundo, Michael Bruce, Magda Moosa, Alice Daher, 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.

## WINE AND HOST OFFERING

The altar bread and wine for the month of January is offered for Mansour Barbour requested by Norma Jean Barbour and family.

## SAINT MARON'S DAY HAFLI

Tickets are 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.

## LECTORS FOR JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2024

**Saturday, January 27,**  
Mae Dickinson

Intercessions: Smitty Cabral

**Sunday, January 28,**

Rana Choubah/ Joumana Chedid

**Sunday, February 4,**

Rana Choubah / Halim Choubah

**Thursday, February 8,**

Mae Dickinson / Hiba Chdid

**Saturday, February 10,**

Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

**Sunday, February 11,**

Ann Dupre / Gaby Baroody

**Monday, February 12,**

11:00 AM: Smitty Cabral / Hiba Chdid

7:00 PM: TBA

**Saturday, February 17,**

Annemarie Espindola

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

**Sunday, February 18,**

John Barbour / Jano Baroody

**Saturday, February 24,**

Rachael Higgins

Intercessions: Anna & Helen Higgins

**Sunday, February 25,**

Mae Dickinson / Hiba Chdid

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

**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 THAYER 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

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CHURCH OFFICE: (508) 996-8934  
SOUSOU: (508) 916-1523



## LITURGY INTENTIONS

**Saturday, January 27, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Paula).** Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Joseph and Marie Kenyon requested by family. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Robert and Margaret Lizotte (FM). May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for all the souls in Purgatory requested by Sean, Marie and Keira McLaughlin. May their souls rest in peace.

**Sunday, January 28, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Ephrem, Bishop of the Church). Remember Me In Your Kingdom Liturgy.** Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Abouna Boutros Nasr requested by Jean and Joumana Chedid and family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Charbel Baroody requested by Charles Baroody. May his soul rest in peace.

**Monday, January 29, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Hippolytus of Antioch).** Maronite Sisters of Christ the Light convent. **NO LITURGY.**

**Tuesday, January 30, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Maximus the Confessor).**

**Wednesday, January 31, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint John Bosco).**

**Thursday, February 1, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Pionius and His Companions).**

**Thursday, February 1, @ 7:00 PM, Presentation of Christ in the Temple.**

**Saturday, February 3, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Simeon the Elder and Saint Anna the Prophetess).** Liturgy is being offered for the soul of David David requested by family (FM). May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of George and Rose David requested by family (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

**Sunday, February 4, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Isidore of Pelusium).** Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Louise Dupre requested by family. May her soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Charbel Baroody requested by Charles Baroody. May his soul 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.

## SAVE THE DATE MYO LENTEN PARTY

Saturday February 10, 2024 | 6pm-9pm

Our Lady Of Purgatory Church Hall

4254 Acushnet Ave New Bedford.



Faith Filled Fun!!!

Ages 12-18 Welcome!

- Lenten Bible Sharing
- Dinner
- Games

RSVP TO FATHER VINCENT  
OR SISTER THERESE

Father Vincent: (561) 371-5316

Sister Therese: +1 (508) 965-6945



## DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF 01/29-02/3/24

### Monday:

Hebrews 12: 1-13

Matthew 5: 1-12

### Tuesday:

Hebrews 12: 14-17

Matthew 5: 13-16

### Wednesday:

Hebrews 12: 25-29

Matthew 5: 17-20

### Thursday:

Hebrews 13: 1-8

Matthew 5: 21-26

### Friday:

Romans 9:30-10:4

Luke 2: 22-35

### Saturday:

Hebrews 13: 17-25

Matthew 5: 38-48

## THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for a special intention by Hiba Chdid. 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.

## WEEK OF JANUARY 20-21, 2024

Sunday Collection	\$	1,351.00
Coffee Hour	\$	119.00
Donations	\$	500.00
Candles	\$	38.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,008.00</b>

**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.**

2024  
REGIONAL EPARCHIAL  
**LENTEN  
RETREATS**

SATURDAY  
**MARCH 2**  
10 AM - 7 PM

**NEW ENGLAND**  
SAINT ANTHONY OF THE  
DESERT - FALL RIVER MA

SATURDAY  
**MARCH 9**  
10 AM - 7 PM

**MID-ATLANTIC**  
SAINT SHARBEL CHURCH  
SOMERSET NEW JERSEY

**COST IS \$30 A PERSON**  
LUNCH & DINNER INCLUDED

REGISTRATION IS OPEN  
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**Zakhia Chedid** 774-444-3337  
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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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