



Our Lady of Purgatory

Maronite Catholic Church



February 24-25, 2024

HEALING OF THE HEMORRHAGING WOMAN

TABLE TALK

Do we absorb and think about the scripture readings we listen to day after day or week after week? How do we allow these words of Jesus Christ to penetrate our minds and our actions? Do we even think about the scriptures we listen to after we leave Sunday liturgy? I ask these questions not to pass judgment but to ask all of you, as well as myself, to think about what we listen to when we are present at liturgy. Do we apply those teachings to our everyday lives?

During our weekday liturgies, we listen to so many wonderful gospel readings that are deserving of discussion. They are a magnificent reminder for me as I strive to do the work entrusted to me by shepherding this community of faith. And they should be the same for all of you. If we don't strive to implement these teachings in our daily lives, then these sacred words become meaningless. If we don't believe that this is what is expected of us as followers of Jesus, then there is no point in listening to these sacred words. But if we truly believe that these teachings of Jesus are the way to the kingdom of heaven, then we must take these sacred words and imprint them in our hearts and do our best everyday to live our faith.

I ask you to look at the following passage from St. Matthew's gospel; a passage we are all very much familiar with; a reading that we recite time and time again. I ask you to read this passage several times, slowly with your family, and to ask yourselves what did Jesus mean? This is a prayer we recite from memory. It may also be a prayer we never really think twice about when it comes to the importance or the meaning.

MATTHEW 6:5-15

5 "When you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, who love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on street corners so that others may see them. Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward. 6 But when you pray, go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you. 7 In praying, do not babble like the pagans, who think that they will be heard because of their many words. 8 Do not be like them. Your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

The Lord's Prayer

9 "This is how you are to pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, 10 your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. 11 Give us today our daily bread; 12 and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; 13 and do not subject us to the final test, but deliver us from the evil one. 14 If you forgive others their transgressions, your heavenly Father will forgive you. 15 But if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your transgressions.

Questions for discussion:

- 1) How do we interpret these words that Jesus taught us?
- 2) How do we implement these words in our daily lives?
- 3) If we take this gospel reading line by line, what does Jesus ask us to do?
- 4) If we make these words our own, what do we need to do to fulfill this teaching?
- 5) I WANT YOU TO ASK THIS QUESTION: "Am I ever in need of forgiveness from others? Do I receive that forgiveness from them? Are we willing to do the same for others?"

May these words to "Our Father" bring us to a better understanding of tolerance, love, peace, and forgiveness, especially during the Season of Lent. May these words penetrate our hearts and give us a better understanding of what we need to do to forgive and to ask for forgiveness from others.

POPE FRANCIS HAS OPENED THE YEAR OF PRAYER JANUARY 21, 2024

On Sunday, 21 January, on the fifth annual celebration of the 'Sunday of the Word of God', the Holy Father Pope Francis officially opened the Year of Prayer during the recitation of the Angelus. The Pope said: "Dear brothers and sisters, the next few months will lead us to the opening of the Holy Door, with which we will begin the Jubilee. I ask you to intensify your prayer to prepare us to live this event of grace well and experience the strength of God's hope. Today we begin the Year of Prayer, that is, a year dedicated to rediscovering the great value and the absolute need for prayer in personal life, in the life of the Church and of the world."

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"If God sends you many sufferings, it is a sign that He has great plans for you and certainly wants to make you a saint."

St. Ignatius Loyola



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.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

The Vocations Team for the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn has printed these beautiful prayer cards for each family. Vocations take on different ways of life such as a priest, religious brother or sister, deacons, subdeacons, holy married couples, parents, and generous single people. In all these vocations does the beauty of our Catholic Faith shine and draws us closer to Christ, to know Him, love Him, and serve Him more.

We ask that you take a copy of these prayer cards home with you and pray this prayer with your family every night. We also have an icon of the Holy Family that we ask each family to take home with them for the week and pray this prayer before it. A signup sheet will be provided for each week. Our Lord listens to our prayers. May the fire and zeal for our Lord foster vocations worthy to serve Him.

ANNUAL BISHOP'S APPEAL

The Annual Bishop's Appeal has now begun. Every year our Parish is asked to raise \$3,500.00 to the Bishop's Appeal. This money assists in educating our Seminarians, helping the retired clergy of our Eparchy, sending funds to Lebanon, and to replenish the Eparchy's Endowment Fund.

You have been generous throughout the years in reaching our goal. I thank you in advance for your help this year. There will also be a second collection in during Lent to help us reach this goal. Thank you for your generosity and kindness.

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.

Sunday, March 24, MYO Palm Sunday Bake Sale

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.

LENTEN FASTING OBSERVANCES

The Most Reverend Bishops Gregory Mansour and Elias Zaidan have issued the following Lenten guidelines for the Maronites of the U.S.:

. All Maronites who are physically capable are to abstain from meat on Ash Monday and all Fridays of Lent.

. Ash Monday and Great Friday of the Crucifixion are also days of fasting. Fasting in the Maronite Church involves eating and drinking nothing at all (except water and medicine) from midnight until noon. The rest of the day normal meals can be taken, but without meat. All Maronites who are physically capable are to fast on these two days.

Personal Devotion

Clergy, religious, and laity who wish to observe the more traditional Maronite practice of fasting and abstinence are encouraged to do so. That practice is summarized in the following, taken from the Synod of Mt. Lebanon (1736):

Every weekday of Lent (Monday through Friday) is a day of fasting and abstinence from meat and dairy products (eggs, butter, milk, etc.) Fasting involves eating and drinking nothing at all (except water and medicine) from midnight until noon. The rest of the day normal meals can be taken, but without meat or dairy products. Dairy products are excluded because they are animal byproducts. Saturdays and Sundays are exempt from fasting and abstaining as are the following feast days: St. Maron-February 9, The 40 Martyrs- March 9, St. Joseph- March 19, and the Annunciation- March 25.

MCF CLASS SCHEDULE MARONITE CHRISTIAN/FORMATION SESSIONS

February - May 2024 at the Church Hall
Tuesdays:

February: 6; 13; 27

March: 5; 19

April: 2; 9; 23

May: 7 last class

First Penance: February 27, 2024

First Communion: May 5, 2024

WINE AND HOST OFFERING

The altar bread and wine for the month of February is offered for Jean and Danielle Hojeily requested by Adele Hojeily.

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.

ADORATION

&

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

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.

FISH FRY TICKETS ON SALE

Our first Fish Fry will be held on Friday, March 1, immediately following Adoration/Stations of the Cross. Tickets are now on sale by calling the office at 508-996-8934 or by emailing the office at officeolop@gmail.com.

Tickets are \$15.00 for the fish dinner. Please specify your preference of baked fish or fried fish.

Dinners come with French fries, Cole slaw, fresh baked or fried fish, tartar sauce, and dessert.

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 24, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Margaret the Penitent). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Betty Grenier requested by Annie Costa (FM). May her soul 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, February 25, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Pope Saint Felix II). Remember Me In Your Kingdom Liturgy. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Nancy Klcó requested by Ida Farhat. May her soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Toros Moushigian requested by Deacon Jean and Martha Mattar. May his soul rest in peace.

Monday, February 26, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Alexander, Patriarch of Alexandria). Maronite Sisters of Christ the Light convent.

Tuesday, February 27, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Thalaleus, Disciple of Saint Maron).

Wednesday, February 28, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saints Koura and Marana, Disciples of Saint Maron).

Thursday, February 29, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Pope Saint Leo the Great, Doctor of the Church).

Saturday, March 2, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint John Maron). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Susan and Amy Cabral requested by Lou and Smitty Cabral. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Daoud and Rahme Youssef Saad 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 Coury and Zilah family (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, March 3, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Thomas Aquinas, Doctor of the Church, Feast of Saint Katharine Drexel).

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.

SAINT GEORGE

MARONITE CHURCH HAFLI

St. George Maronite Church in Cranston, RI, will be hosting their annual St. Joseph Hafli on **Saturday, March 16, at 7:00 PM.** This event will be held at: Envision Hotel Grand Ballroom located at: 31 Hampshire St., Mansfield, MA 02048.

Please contact:

Jihane Ayoub 401-714-6200, George Thomas 401-480-8812, or Michael Saker 401-323-7409. Tickets are \$150.00 VIP and \$100.00 General. Mezza and Dinner will be served, live entertainment and dancing, and a cash bar. I hope many of you will be able to attend and support our friends from St. George Church.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Abouna Tanios Abi Ramia, Kenneth Macedo, Muriel Moline, Patricia Farhat, Ghada Karam, Beverly Parlapiano, Anne Ramundo, Michael Bruce, Magda Moosa, Sharon Conti, David Techlin, Debbie Freedenberg, Josephine Chedid, Efrangieh Daou, Reggie Thomas, Peter Helmer, Renee Helmer, 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, Ed Da Rocha, and Edmond Salameh. If anyone is missing from this list, please contact the Church office.

LECTORS FOR FEBRUARY 2024

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).

DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF 02/26-03/02/24

Monday:

1 Timothy 4: 9-16
John 8: 21-27

Tuesday:

2 Corinthians 8: 1-19
Matthew 23:1-12

Wednesday:

Galatians 17: 1-7
Matthew 17: 10-13

Thursday:

Galatians 1: 1-10
Luke 17: 20-37

Friday:

Romans 3:1-7
Luke 12: 16-21

Saturday:

Philippians 1: 21-30
Matthew 5: 13-17

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.

WEEK OF FEBRUARY

17-18, 2024

Sunday Collection	\$ 1,361.00
Second Collection	\$ 299.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 54.00
Candles	\$ 83.00
Total	\$ 1,797.00

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.

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
MYOEPARCHYSTMARON.ORG

BARBERSHOP x LOUNGE

CHEDID Cuts

EST. 2022




ROUTE 18
GAS & SERVICE

Complete Automotive Repair
Foreign / Domestic
State Inspection Station

Eli Nassif
508-998-3445
Fax 508-998-9549
4227 Acushnet Ave.
New Bedford, MA 02745



We Sell Diesel Fuel

CHRISTOPHE CHEDID
Business Owner



100 State Rd
Dartmouth, MA 02747

774.255.0099
@ : Chedidcuts



SCAN ME

CAPTURE YOUR SPECIAL MOMENTS WITH OUR PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEOGRAPHY SERVICES




PARTIES PRODUCTION
WE PROVIDE

- PHOTOGRAPHY
- VIDEOGRAPHY
- LIGHTING
- SOUND

FASHION - MODEL / WEDDING
EVENT / PRODUCT / FAMILY AND
MANY MORE OCCASION

+1 (774) 400 7320
www.partiesproduction.com

CYCLONE CLEANING & RESTORATION SERVICES

- ◆ Carpets & Upholstery
- ◆ Commercial/Residential Cleaning
- ◆ Smoke/Water Damage
- ◆ Washing/Waxing/Stripping Floors

Call the company you've counted on for years - CALL CYCLONE!

Anthony David • (508) 995-8816
833 Mount Pleasant St. • New Bedford, MA 02745
www.CycloneCleaning.com

M & S Excavation



Milad Maalouf
Licensed

LAND CLEARING • SITE WORK
ROADS • SEPTIC SYSTEMS

134 Old Westport Road
N. Dartmouth, MA 02747

508-971-0067
Fax 508-991-5631

Counseling ASSOCIATES

152 Dean Street, Taunton, MA
508-837-0790


FULL SERVICE SALON



Wassim Chedid
401-837-0664
Tuesday & Thurs
1-6pm
Saturday
1-5pm

Zakhia Chedid
774-444-3337
Monday,
Wednesday &
Friday
1-6pm

WWW.HEADSOFSTATESALON.COM
North Dartmouth, MA
653 State Road (Route 6) • 508-999-0177



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**

SALON PERSIA

308 THAYER STREET, PROVIDENCE, RI

Wassim Chedid 401-837-0664
Tuesday & Saturday 9-12:30pm
Wednesday & Friday 9-6pm

Zakhia Chedid 774-444-3337
Monday & Friday 9-12:30pm
Tuesday & Thursday 9-6pm
Saturday 9-4pm

401-831-9536 • WWW.SALONPERSIA.COM

OVER 75 YEARS OF MASONRY & CONCRETE CRAFTSMANSHIP



DUPRE
INC.

BLOCK • BRICK • GLASS BLOCK
BLUESTONE • FIELDSTONE • COBBLESTONE
Cutting and Core Drill • Driveways
Steel Fabrication and Installation
Handicap Access

508-993-8088
369 Nash Rd. • New Bedford

www.duprecontractors.com