



# Our Lady of Purgatory

## Maronite Catholic Church



March 9-10, 2024

# HEALING OF THE PARALYTIC

### WHAT MATTERS IS NOT WINNING BUT HELPING OTHERS TO WIN

A few years ago, at the Seattle Special Olympics, nine contestants, all physically or mentally disabled, assembled at the starting line for the 100-yard dash. At the gun, they all started out, not exactly in a dash, but with a relish to run the race to the finish and win. All, that is, except one boy who stumbled on the asphalt, tumbled over a couple of times, and began to cry. The other eight heard the boy. They slowed down and looked back. They all turned around and went back. Every one of them. One girl with Down's Syndrome bent down and kissed him and said, "This will make it better." All nine linked arms and walked across the finish line together. Everyone in the stadium stood, and the cheering went on for several minutes.

People who were there are still telling the story. Why? Because deep down we know one thing. What matters most in this life is more than winning for ourselves. What truly matters in this life is helping others win, even if it means slowing down and changing our course. <https://stories4homilies.wordpress.com/2012/09/05/what-matters-is-not-winning-but-helping-others-to-win/>

### DAILY LITURGIES CANCELLED

Daily Liturgies during the week of March 11-14, will be cancelled as Fr. Vincent will be out of town for the clergy retreat. Thank you for your understanding.

### ANNUAL CLERGY RETREAT

Fr. Vincent will be away Sunday through Saturday of this week as he will be attending the annual clergy retreat in Lutz, Florida. Please keep your priests and Bishop Gregory in your prayers. The office will remain open during the week. For any emergencies, please contact the office or Deacon Jean. Have a blessed week.

### SAINT JOSEPH SODALITY BRUNCH

Join us on Sunday, March 17, after the 10:30 Liturgy as we celebrate the Feast of St. Joseph.

Brunch will be held at the **Venus de Milo Restaurant, 75 Gar Hwy, Swansea, MA, at 12:00 noon**, cost is \$40 per person and \$20 for Children. You can either call **the office** or contact: **Amal Barbour at 508-801-9685, Jacques Barbour at 508-725-6705, or Rana Choubah at 269-352-5253.** This brunch is open to all parishioners who would like to join. Hope to see you there.

If anyone wants to become a member of the St. Joseph Sodality, please see Fr. Vincent we will be inducting new members on Sunday, March 17 during Liturgy. Hope to see you there.

### ADORATION &

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

**Friday, March 15, 2024, Adoration/Stations of the Cross, 12:00 Noon in English and at 7:00 PM in English and Arabic.** I hope you will join us.

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*"You will be consoled according to the greatness of your sorrow and affliction; the greater the suffering, the greater will be the reward."*

*St. Mary Magdalen de'Pazzi*



### MYO/OLOP PALM SUNDAY BAKE SALE PRE-ORDERS

The MYO along with parishioners of OLOP are preparing for the Palm Sunday Bake Sale. This will feature maamoul with dates, walnuts, or pistachios, kaak ma haleeb, biklaw, ghreybee, as well as assorted bake goods and pies by the MYO.

Half of the proceeds will benefit the children with the cost of attending the National MYO Retreat in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Please support our youth in this endeavor. Pre-order sheets are available online or in the church.

### SAVE THE DATE

**Maamoul Days:  
Tuesday March 19,  
Wednesday March 20,  
Starting at 10:00 AM**

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.

## 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.

## FISH FRY WITH GRATITUDE

Thank you to all who worked so hard for the Fish Fry last Friday. Your dedication is very much appreciated. Even with the malfunction of our fryer, we were able to continue cooking everything in our kitchen with a slight wait. Thank you all for your patience. We also thank Matthew and Cathy Thomas for sponsoring the Fish Fry, buying the fresh fish and all the trimmings. Everyone enjoyed the delicious fish and clam chowder. Reserve your tickets for our next Fish Fry on Friday, March 22, immediately following Adoration/Stations of the Cross.

## FISH FRY TICKETS ON SALE

Our Fish Fry will be held on Friday, March 22, 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](mailto: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.

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION



Tuesday, March 19, we will gather for Eucharistic Adoration at 6:00 PM. This is an opportunity to spend some time with Jesus and ask for His help. Mark your calendars and please join us for this beautiful service.

## UPCOMING LENTEN EVENTS AT OLOP

**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.**

**Saturday, March 23, Sunday, March 24**, MYO/OLOP 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.

## FISH FRY

### INCOME/EXPENSE REPORT

#### INCOME:

Ticket/Food Sales	\$ 1,809.00
Donations	\$ 500.00
Fish Donation	\$ 476.00
Total Income	\$ 2,785.00

#### EXPENSE:

Food Supplies	\$ 484.93
Total Expenses:	\$ 484.93
<b>Net Income:</b>	<b>\$ 2,300.07</b>

## 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.

## 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.

## 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.

## MCF CLASS SCHEDULE

### MARONITE

### CHRISTIAN/FORMATION SESSIONS

February - May 2024 at the Church Hall

**Tuesdays:**

**March: 19**

**April: 2; 9; 23**

**May: 7 last class**

**First Communion: May 5, 2024**

## LITURGY INTENTIONS

**Saturday, March 9, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of The Forty Martyrs).** Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Malvina and Joseph J. David requested by the family. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Joseph and Marie Kenyon requested by family. May their souls rest in peace.

**Saturday, March 9, @ 5:30 PM.** Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Margueritte Chedid requested by family (40-Day Mass). May her soul rest in peace.

**(Sunday, March 10, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Auxentius).** Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Georgette and Samir Sawaya requested by Zakhia and Hiba Chdid. May their souls rest in peace.

**Monday, March 11, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Sophronius, Bishop of the Church).** Maronite Sisters of Christ the Light convent. **NO LITURGY.**

**Tuesday, March 12, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Pope Saint Gregory the Great, Doctor of the Church).** **NO LITURGY.**

**Wednesday, March 13, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Theophanes the Chronicler).** **NO LITURGY.**

**Thursday, March 14, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Euphrasia).** **NO LITURGY.**

**Saturday, March 16, @ 4:30 PM, (The First Council of Constantinople, Feast of Saint Pappas).** Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Joseph Tavares requested by Dan and Helena Tavares. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of the deceased members of the Saba family requested by Annemarie Espindola. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for all the souls in Purgatory requested by Sean, Marie and Keira McLaughlin. May all the souls in Purgatory rest in peace.

**(Sunday, March 17, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Patrick).** Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Joseph Chedid requested by family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Walter Chomak requested by family. May his soul rest in peace.

## FINANCE COUNCIL

### MEMBERS:

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

## WINE AND HOST OFFERING

The altar bread and wine for the month of February is offered for Samir and Georgette Sawaya requested by Zakhia and Hiba Chdid.

## THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for the soul of Pierre Sawaya 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.

## IN OUR PRAYERS

Abouna Tanios Abi Ramia, Kenneth Macedo, Muriel Moline, Patricia Farhat, Ghada Karam, Beverly Parlapiano, 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.

## DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF 03/11-03/16/24

### Monday:

Ephesians 5: 3-13  
Mark 5: 1- 20

### Tuesday:

1 Timothy 1: 1-8  
Mark 6:47-56

### Wednesday:

Ephesians 6: 1-9  
Luke 7: 11-17

### Thursday:

2 Timothy 1: 6-14  
Mark 4: 33-41

### Friday:

Philippians 2:12-19  
Luke 4: 31-44

### Saturday:

Colossians 3: 23-4:7  
Mark 7: 31-37

## PARISH COUNCIL

### MEMBERS:

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

## THE GRAND OPENING OF THE SAINT SHARBEL SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER IN PITTSBURGH APRIL 13, 2024

The Grand Opening of the Saint Sharbel Spiritual Life Center in Pittsburgh will take place on **Saturday, April 13, 2024!** The Center is located in the former Epiphany Center, which is the work of the late Father Adrian Van Kaam and Doctor Susan Muto. The Center was recently acquired by and is operated under the direction of the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn. Doctor Anne Borik serves as Director and Subdeacon Vincent Michael as Assistant Director.

To register online for the Open House, Dedication, or to purchase tickets for the Dinner and Concert (\$50 per person), please visit [www.saintsharbelcenter.org](http://www.saintsharbelcenter.org) For more information please email: [info@saintsharbelcenter.org](mailto:info@saintsharbelcenter.org)

## LECTORS FOR MARCH 2024

**Saturday, March 9,**

Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Annemarie Espindola

**Sunday, March 10,**

Rana Choubah / Hiba Chdid

**Saturday, March 16,**

Mae Dickinson

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

**Sunday, March 17,**

Halim Choubah / Jano Baroody

**Saturday, March 23,**

Annemarie Espindola

Intercessions: Smitty Cabral

**Sunday, March 24,**

Mae Dickinson / Hiba Chdid

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

## WEEK OF MARCH 02-03, 2024

Sunday Collection	\$ 2,135.00
Bishop's Appeal	\$ 1,587.00
Online Giving	\$ 1,717.87
Wine And Host	\$ 150.00
Donations	\$ 500.00
Sanctuary Candle	\$ 70.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 63.00
Candles	\$ 73.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 6,295.87</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.**

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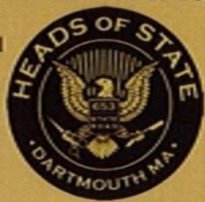
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*Eternally in our hearts and in our thoughts. We miss seeing your face, hearing your voice, seeing your smile and hearing your laugh. We cherish the day we will join you in GOD's Heavenly Kingdom. We Love you and miss you even more with each passing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

**Joseph & Marie Kenyon** **Your Loving Children**

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