



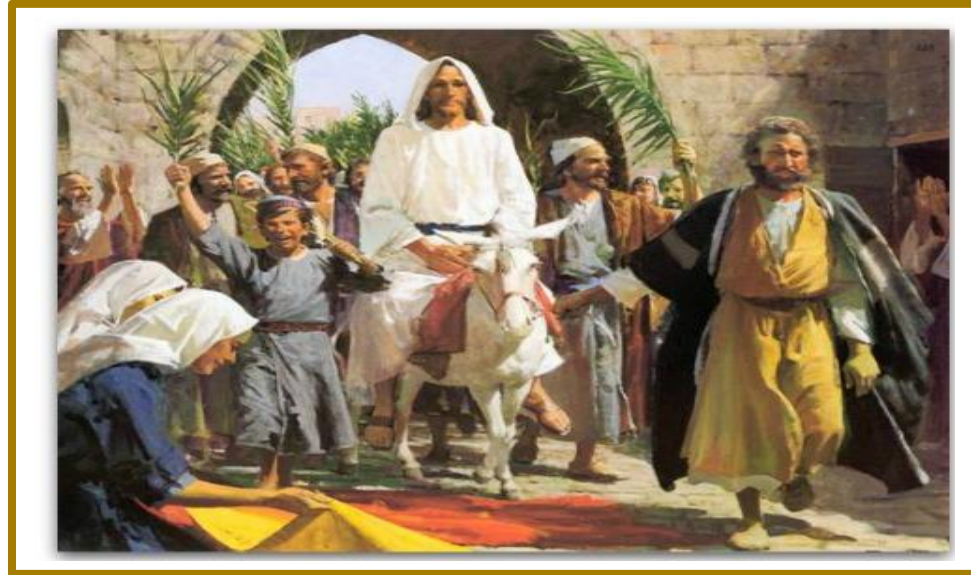
Our Lady of Purgatory

Maronite Catholic Church



March 23-24, 2024

HOSANNA SUNDAY



ABOUT WHAT ARE THESE SERVICES DURING THE WEEK OF GREAT LENT?

I'm happy you asked. During Lent, we celebrate the traditions of the Universal Catholic Church, remembering the passion of Jesus Christ. However, the last week of Lent, known as "Great Lent," in the Maronite tradition, gives us the chance for a final approach toward our conversion. This week belongs to the Maronite "Book of Passion" of Holy Week and reflects our estrangement from God and our need for conversion. Every one of us needs this conversion, thus we walk together in prayer, fasting, and forgiveness.

The Rite of the Lamp "is our plead to the Lord to receive the contrition of the faithful repentant and to grant health to the sick according to the letters of the Apostle, St. James (5:13-15). The anointing on this day of the Rite of the Lamp is not given to those who are sick. Rather it is meant for every one of the

faithful as a sign of healing and repentance during the final week of Holy Lent.

This anointing differs from the Anointing of the Sick and Dying in many ways.

1) The Anointing is a mystery, the fifth of the seven mysteries of the Church. The Rite of the Lamp, on the other hand, is a plea to the Lord on behalf of those who repent.

2) The Rite of the Lamp is administered by the Eastern Churches and is not obligatory or necessary.

3) The oil used for the Rite of the Lamp is not a consecration of oil as is the case for the Anointing Mysteries that the bishop performs. It is a blessing by the priest specific to the week of Holy Lent.

4) The Anointing with sacred oil is used only to those who are very ill or in danger of death and is not given to anyone else. The oil blessed during the Rite of the Lamp is administered to those who are sick as well as to those who are well. It is designed to be a healing of body and soul

on our final journey to the way of the cross of Jesus Christ.

I pray that all of us may walk this week in the same tradition that we celebrate---for the finishing touches for our own personal inner conversion and healing of body and soul.

(Taken from **The Passion Week: According to the Antiochene Syriac Maronite Church**, +Stephen Hector Doueih, STD, Bishop Emeritus of the Eparchy of St. Maron of Brooklyn)

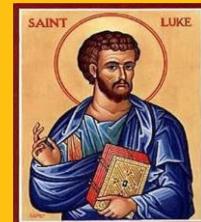
WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY

I received the sad news that Paul Bou Ramia, the brother of the late Boutros Bou Ramia passed away in England this past week. We extend our deepest sympathy to Laurette Bou Ramia and her family. We ask Almighty God to welcome Paul into His kingdom and may his soul rest in peace. Allah yerhammo.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Jesus, however, called the children to himself and said, "Let the children come to me and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Amen, I say to you, whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it."

Luke 18:16-17



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

Address: 4254 Acushnet Ave, New Bedford, MA 02745

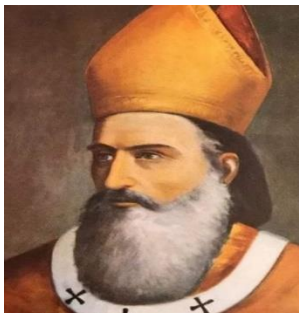
Office: 508-996-8934 | **Fax:** 774-202-0758 | **Evening Emergency Number:** 561-371-5316 | **Website:** www.ourladyofpurgatory.org

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.

THE VENERABLE ESTEPHAN EL DOUAIHY



Our Maronite Church received joyful news. His Holiness Pope Francis has authorized the Dicastery for the Causes of Saints to promulgate the decree regarding the miracle attributed to the intercession of the Venerable Servant of God Estephan El Douaihy, Patriarch of Antioch of the Maronite Church (1670-1704). This decree will pave the way to his beatification which will be held in Lebanon sometime in the upcoming months.

Through his intercession, may our loving God shower His choicest blessings upon our Maronite Church in Lebanon and the world.

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, biklawas, 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.

EASTER EGG COLORING FOR OUR CHILDREN



On **Saturday, March 30**, we will have Easter Egg Coloring and pizza for the children of OLOP. This will take place in the Church Hall from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Bring all the children for this special gathering of fun and unity.

EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS



As we prepare for the Risen Lord on Easter, donations are being accepted to help with the cost of the Easter flowers. If you would like to donate towards the flowers, you may do so in memory of a loved one or special intention. Please write your intention on the envelope and we will remember your intention at a special Liturgy. Thank you for your kindness.

UPCOMING LENTEN EVENTS AT OLOP

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.

PASSION WEEK DIVINE LITURGIES

Monday, March 25, 7:00 PM,
Feast of the Annunciation
Tuesday, March 26, 7:00 PM,
Coming to the Harbor
Wednesday, March 27, 7:00 PM,
Rite of the Lamp
Thursday, March 28, 7:00 PM,
Holy Thursday
Friday, March 29, 10:00 AM,
Signing of the Chalice
Friday, March 29, 7:00 PM,
Great Friday of the Crucifixion,
Saturday, March 30, 10:00 AM,
Saturday of the Light
Prayer of Forgiveness service
Saturday, March 30, 4:30 PM,
Easter Vigil
Sunday, March 31, 10:30 AM,
The Glorious Resurrection

MCF CLASS SCHEDULE MARONITE CHRISTIAN/ FORMATION SESSIONS

February - May 2024 at the Church Hall

Tuesdays:

April: 2; 9; 23

May: 7 last class

First Communion: May 5, 2024

WEEKLY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION



Beginning **Monday, April 8**, Eucharistic Adoration will be available every Monday evening from 5:00 PM – 9:00 PM. This is a beautiful time to spend with Jesus Christ in prayer and reflection. If you would like to be offer an hour with Jesus each week, please contact Fr. Vincent. We will have the changing of the guards every hour between 5:00 PM – 9:00 PM.

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION

As per the directive of the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn, the collection on Good Friday is sent through the USCCB to the Holy Land and to the Maronite Eparchy of Haifa. Thank you for your generosity.

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.

WINE AND HOST OFFERING

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

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 23, @ 4:30 PM, (Lazarus Saturday, Feast of Saint Rafka). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Walter Chomak requested by family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Joseph and Marie Kenyon requested by Sean, Marie, and Keira McLaughlin. May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, March 24, @ 10:30 AM, (Hosanna Sunday, Feast of Saint Artemon, Bishop of Saleucia). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Marie Gabriel and her son John requested by Connie Hayes. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Paul Bou Ramia requested by Laurette Bou Ramia and family. May his soul rest in peace.

Monday, March 25, @ 7:00 PM, (Feast of The Annunciation of the Virgin Mary).

Tuesday, March 26, @ 7:00 PM, (Feast of Saint Gabriel the Archangel).

Wednesday, March 27, @ 7:00 PM, Rite of The Lamp. (Feast of Saint Matrona of Thessalonica).

Thursday, March 28, @ 7:00 PM, Thursday of the Mysteries, Washing of the Feet. (Feast of Saint Philetus and His Wife Saint Lydia, and Their Children).

Friday, March 29, @ 10:00 AM, Signing of the Chalice, and @ 7:00 PM Great Friday of The Crucifixion. (Feast of Saint Cyril of Baalbek).

Saturday, March 30, @ 4:30 PM, Great Saturday of the Light. (Feast of Saint John Climacus).

Sunday, March 31, @ 10:30 AM, The Glorious Resurrection. (Feast of Pope Saint Lucius).

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for Anibal Tavares by family. 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.

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS:

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

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 03/25-03/30/24

Monday:

Galatians 3: 15-22

Luke 1: 26 - 38

Tuesday:

Thessalonians 2: 13-17

Luke 13:22-30

Wednesday:

Hebrews 2: 5-12

John 11: 47-54

Thursday:

1 Corinthians 11: 23-32

John 13: 1-20

Friday:

Hebrews 12:12-21

John 19:31-37

Saturday:

Romans 5: 1-11

Matthew 27: 62-66

LECTORS FOR MARCH

2024

Saturday, March 23,

Annemarie Espindola

Intercessions: Smitty Cabral

Sunday, March 24,

Mae Dickinson / Hiba Chdid

LECTORS FOR THE HOLY WEEK

Tuesday, March 26,

Rana Choubah/ Halim Choubah

Thursday, March 28,

Mae Dickinson/Joumana Chedid

Friday, March 29,

Matthew Thomas/ Gaby Baroody

Saturday, March 30,

Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, March 31,

Ann Dupre /Jano Baroody

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

WEEK OF MARCH

016-17, 2024

Sunday Collection	\$ 3,502.00
Second Collection	\$ 295.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 95.00
Sanctuary Candle	\$ 10.00
Candles	\$ 39.00
Total	\$ 3,941.00

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.



Christ is Truly Risen!

Please join us on the occasion of the Feast of the Resurrection of our Lord.

Sunday, April 14, 2024

Our Lady of Purgatory Maronite Catholic Church
4254 Acushent Avenue, New Bedford, MA



Full Lavish Breakfast will be served
Fowl Mdammas, Labneh, Cheese Baladeh, Zaatar & Meat Pies, Boiled Eggs, Veggies, Croissants, Deli Platter, Fruits, Desserts, Coffee, Juice and More.

After the 10:30 am Liturgy

Donation - Adults \$20 - Children under 12 - \$15

All proceeds to benefit the Ministry of Friends of Remember me in yur Kingdom
For Tickets

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Zeina Freiha - 781 789 0432

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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

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