



Our Lady of Purgatory



Maronite Catholic Church

March 30-31, 2024

THE GLORIOUS RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD CHRIST IS RISEN! MESSIH QAM!



EASTER MESSAGE

Christ is risen! Truly He is risen!
Messih Qam! Hakkan Qam!

I would like to wish you and your family a blessed and joyous Glorious Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. I pray that your Lenten journey has been filled with the many graces our Lord gives if we open our hearts to Him.

I would like to wish each of you and your families a very blessed and happy Easter. Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen! Every year it seems that the Season of Lent brings out the best in us. Perhaps we draw ourselves closer to Jesus as we hear His teachings and as we walk with Him on His journey to His Passion, Death, and Resurrection. Maybe we realize the incredible suffering He endured for our sake, and we go to greater lengths to better ourselves and others.

Whatever the reason, I only pray that we have taken something from this Season of Lent that we are able to apply in our daily

lives. This is the greatest gift we can give back to Jesus. Whether we are struggling with family members, treating people badly, falling into the same sins, or not giving Jesus His due time at Church, I hope and pray that this season has made a difference in our lives.

We cannot help but be moved every year as we celebrate the Passion and Resurrection of our Lord. This season gives us great hope that one day we will be reunited with our loved ones and with God in a place that is filled with the radiance of His light. This is the centerpiece of our faith. This is what gives us hope and strength to endure the temptations of sin and Satan.

St. Augustine says it perfectly: *“His whole body is displayed for your redemption. Ponder how great these things are. Let all this be rightly weighed in your mind: as he was once fixed to the cross in every part of his body for you, so he may now be fixed in every part of your soul.”*

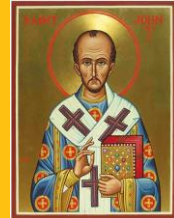
Have a blessed Easter and may our Lord’s resurrection bring peace, hope, and love to you and your families.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Let no one grieve at his poverty, for the universal kingdom has been revealed.

Let no one mourn that he has fallen again and again; for forgiveness has risen from the grave. Let no one fear death, for the Death of our Savior has set us free. He has destroyed it by enduring it.”

St. John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople



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.

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.

NEWEST SAINT JOSEPH SODALITY MEMBERS



St. Joseph Sodality welcomes two new members, Mrs. Hayat Thomas and Mrs. Elaine Barbour. They were inducted on March 17, 2024, during the St. Joseph Feast Day Liturgy. There was a brunch that followed at the Venus de Milo Restaurant. Saint Joseph, pray for us!

Just a friendly reminder our next Sodality Monthly Devotion will be next Sunday, April 17 at 10:00 am. The coffee hour is sponsored by the St. Joseph Sodality please join us.

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.

OFFICE CLOSED UNTIL THURSDAY APRIL 4

The Season of Lent is a special time for me and for many. As you may well be aware, it has been a very busy time for me as well as for you. With that in mind, I will be taking a few days off this week. There will be no daily masses Monday through Wednesday and the office will also **be closed** until **Thursday, April 4, 2024**. For any emergencies, please contact me either by phone or email. Thank you for your understanding. God bless all of you.

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 sign-up 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.

The Grand Opening of the Saint Sharbel Spiritual Life Center in Pittsburgh

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 For more information please email: info@saintsharbelcenter.org

WITH THANKS AND GRATITUDE

Words cannot convey my thanks and gratitude to so many people over the past several weeks. To all our bakers who prepared for **the Palm Sunday Bake Sale**: Hiba Chdid, Amal Barbour, Claire Barbour, Joumana Chedid, Jano Baroody, Jessica Hakeem, Norma Barbour, Joceline Abi Younes, Rose Dupre, Louise Tibbals, Zakhia Chdid, and Boulos Arsanios---thank you for your hard work. To our wonderful up and coming **MYO stars** who prepared bakes goods along with their parents and who worked to help fundraise for their MYO Retreats and activities. Rafeal Yazbeck, Gabriel Yazbeck, Marielaina Thomas, Joey Higgins, Cole Hitchings, Natalia Sarkis, Anna Higgins, and their **advisors** Vivian Yazbeck, Jacques Barbour and Sister Therese. You are making a big difference in this community and I am very proud of each of you.

To our **Fish Fry Volunteers** who prepped, cooked, and cleaned for our two fish fries--- Matthew Thomas, Deacon Jean, Martha Mattar, Kenny Macedo, Cathy Thomas, Paul Moses, Vicki and Branden Marini, Boulos Arsanios, Hiba Chdid, Joe Barckett, and Rana Choubah.

To our **choir** who made Holy Week more special: Bashir El Khoury, Zakhia Chdid, Sousou Maalouf, Joumana Chedid, Mirella Gabriel, Carlos El Khoury, and Matthew Thomas.

To our **designers and sacristans** Gaby Baroody, Matthew Thomas, and Hiba Chdid, who made the new tomb and changed the altar clothes on numerous occasions throughout the Lenten Season.

And to **everyone of you, the parishioners of OLOP**, for being part of this special community and this Lenten journey. This community is so special and we have started this new journey of faith united in our love for Jesus and for each other.

May God continue to bless this community and may we continue to grow for the salvation of our souls.

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

LITURGY INTENTIONS

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).

Monday, April 1, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Mary of Egypt). Maronite Sisters of Christ the Light convent. **NO LITURGY.**

Tuesday, April 2, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Aphian and His Brother Saint Aedesius). **NO LITURGY.**

Wednesday, April 3, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Isaiah and Ezekiel the Prophets). **NO LITURGY.**

Thursday, April 4, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Pope Saint Anicetus). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Bob Robke requested by Ida Farhat. May his soul rest in peace.

Saturday, April 6, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Marcellinus). 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 soul of Antonia Borgess requested by Daniel Tavares and family. May her soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for all the souls in Purgatory. May all the souls in Purgatory rest in peace.

Sunday, April 7, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint John Baptist de la Salle). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Joseph Moses requested by Matthew and Cathy Thomas and family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of George and Kaffa Peter requested by the family (FM). May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Mary David requested by Sophie Correa (FM). May her soul rest in peace.

LECTORS FOR MARCH 2024

Saturday, March 30,
Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Eric Tavares
Sunday, March 31,
Ann Dupre /Jano Baroody

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.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for my children by Amal Baroody. 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.

DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF 04/01-03/06/24

Monday:

1 Corinthians 15: 1-11
Mark 16: 9-14

Tuesday:

Romans 6: 3-11
John 21:1-14

Wednesday:

Colossians 3: 1-11
John 21: 15-25

Thursday:

Ephesians 2: 1-10
Mark 16: 15-18

Friday:

Romans 10:4-12
Luke 24:36-45

Saturday:

Colossians 2: 8-15
John 20: 19-25

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.

WEEK OF MARCH 23-24, 2024

Sunday Collection	\$ 2,046.00
Second Collection	\$ 343.00
Fish Fry	\$ 1,132.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 90.00
Candles	\$ 36.00
Total	\$ 3,649.00

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
Foul 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 yôur Kingdom
For Tickets

Karen Tannous Njeim - 857 222 9777

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.

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