



Our Lady of Purgatory

Maronite Catholic Church



January 25-26, 2025

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

MARCH FOR LIFE 2025

“The Catholic Church proclaims that human life is sacred and that the dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. This belief is the foundation of all the principles of our social teaching. In our society, human life is under direct attack from abortion and euthanasia. The value of human life is being threatened by cloning, embryonic stem cell research, and the use of the death penalty. The intentional targeting of civilians in war or terrorist attacks is always wrong. Catholic teaching also calls on us to work to avoid war. Nations must protect the right to life by finding increasingly effective ways to prevent conflicts and resolve them by peaceful means. We believe that every person is precious, that people are more important than things, and that the measure of every institution is whether it threatens or enhances the life and dignity of the human person.”

<https://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/catholic-social-teaching/life-and-dignity-of-the-human-person>

As hundreds of thousands of people gather for the March for Life in Washington, DC, we are once again reminded of the sanctity of life. This fundamental belief that every human life is sacred, and the dignity of human life must be preserved is what the Church proclaims.

Having had the privilege of attending these marches in the past, I was touched by the thousands of stories from women,

as well as men, who have lived with feelings of guilt and emptiness because of their decision to have an abortion. And we must always remember to treat them with respect and kindness because of the difficult decision they felt they had to make.

As a community of faith, we must also be willing to do our part in helping these women who are faced with making this decision and to provide them other options to bring forth the life of their baby. We can help the mother during her pregnancy, spiritually, emotionally, and financially. We can help by providing options such as adoption, which in turn can relieve them of the feeling of guilt and emptiness so many of them feel after they complete the abortion.

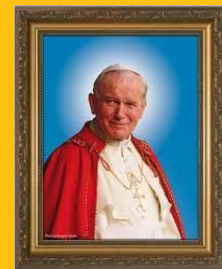
I ask us all to continue to pray for those who have suffered because of abortions. The mothers, the fathers, and the babies who were murdered because of abortion. May we continue to defend the sanctity of life and pray for the healing of all who have been forever changed because of this.

WELCOME BABY CATHERINA DAOU

Congratulations to Rony and Samia (Saliba) Daou on the arrival of your little girl Catherina Daou who was born December 20, 2024. We also congratulate her grandparents Maroun and Wadad Daou, and the entire Daou and Saliba families. May Almighty God cradle Catherina in His loving arms and protect her always. Mabrook Mabrook!

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“America you are beautiful . . . and blessed . . . The ultimate test of your greatness is the way you treat every human being, but especially the weakest and most defenseless. If you want equal justice for all and true freedom and lasting peace, then America, defend life.”
Saint Pope John Paul II



CHURCH ENVELOPES ARE IN FOR 2025

For those who have requested and use the Church envelopes, they are at the entrance door of the Church. If anyone would like to use the envelopes and needs a set, please contact the Church office and we will prepare some for you.

2024 TAX CONTRIBUTION LETTERS

If you would like a letter from the Church for your 2024 tax contributions, please call or email the Church office and we will prepare this letter for your tax records. This can only be done for those who use envelopes and/or pay with checks as these are the only way we can record them in our system. Thank you for your support.

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

Address: 4254 Acushnet Ave, New Bedford, MA 02745

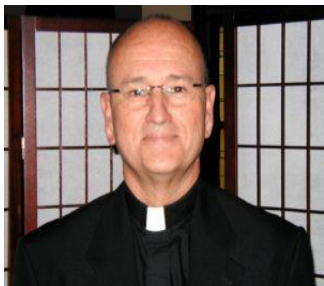
Office: 508-996-8934 | Fax: 774-202-0758 | Evening Emergency Number: 561-371-5316 | Website: www.ourladyofpurgatory.org

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.

WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY



I received the sad news that Fr. Bob Powell passed away this week. Fr. Bob was a friend to me and this parish and was always willing to help us when needed. We extend our condolences to his sisters, friends, and his brother priests in the Diocese of Fall River. His visitation will be held at Saint Julie's Church in Dartmouth on Monday, January 27, from 4-7 PM. His Funeral Mass will be held on Tuesday, January 28, at 11:00 AM. May Almighty God welcome His good and faithful servant with the words, "Job well done my good and faithful servant." Rest in peace Fr. Bob.

WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY

We received the sad news that Frousina Daou, the mother of Nasr (Salma) Daou, Wadad (Maroun) Daou, and Nouhad (Nabih) Moujabber, passed away in Lebanon. I, along with the entire community of OLOP, extend our deepest sympathy to Frousina's family here and in Lebanon. May Almighty God welcome Frousina into His kingdom and may her soul rest in peace. Allah yerhamma.

SECOND COLLECTION

Per the directive of the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn, there will be a second collection this weekend. This collection is taken up for the United States Catholic Bishops' Worldwide Charities. Thank you for your generosity and help.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

Please know that confession is available before liturgies. You may also call to set up an appointment.

SAVE THE DATE SHAWARMA SUNDAY

SHAWARMA SUNDAY will be held on Sunday, February 23, immediately following Divine Liturgy. Tickets will go on sale beginning February 1.

SAINT JOSEPH SODALITY NEWS

Periodically we will be publishing news and coming events from the St. Joseph Sodality. The Sodality is the oldest organization in the Parish, having been founded in 1918. Through their devotion to St. Joseph, Sodality Members seek to emulate the life and faith of St. Joseph, and by doing so, hope to achieve eternal happiness as he did. The Sodality encourages you to consider becoming a member.



SAVE THE DATE SAINT MARON'S DAY HAFLI

will be held on **Saturday, February 1**, at OLOP Church Hall. Of course you can expect great food, live entertainment, a cash bar, and desserts. Tickets are \$75.00 and Dance Floor Tickets are \$100.00. Please mark your calendars and join us for the great annual event. Tickets are now on sale. Please contact Sousou Maalouf or the Church Office.

Our Lady of Purgatory Church Saint Maron's Feast Day Hafli

Saturday, February 1, 2025

at

OLOP Church Hall
4254 Acushnet Ave., New Bedford, MA, 02745



Cash Bar & Mezza
@ 7:00 PM
Dinner Served
@ 8:00 PM

Live Entertainment by

Rami Badr

&

Bachir Khoury Band

Dance Floor Seating: \$100.00 (All Ages)

General Seating: \$75.00

Children (8 -17): \$40.00

Children (under 8yrs.): No Charge

For Ticket Sales Contact:

Church Office: (508) 996-8934

Sousou Maalouf: (508) 916-1523

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 25, @ 4:30 PM, (Conversion of Saint Paul). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Joseph and Marie Kenyon requested by the family. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Barbara Najjar requested by Mariam Chomak and family. May her soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of John Costanzo requested by Father Vincent Farhat. May his soul rest in peace.

Sunday, January 26, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Agnes). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Margueritte Chedid requested by the Family (1 year anniversary). May her soul rest in peace. Remember Me In Your Kingdom Liturgy. Liturgy is being offered for all the souls in the Book of Life. May their souls rest in peace.

Saturday, February 1, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Pionius and His Companions). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Nick and Helena Kenyon requested by Sean, Marie and Keira McLaughlin. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of David David requested by family (FM). May his soul rest in peace.

Sunday, February 2, @ 10:30 AM, (Presentation of Christ in the Temple). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Joseph and Louise Dupre requested by Family. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Anna Thomas requested by the Mello Family. May her soul rest in peace.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

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.

WINE AND HOST OFFERING

The altar bread and wine for the month of January is offered in memory of Mansour Barbour by Norma Barbour and Family.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Nayeli Nassif, Maria Baptista, Ligia Baptista, Sophie Correa, Stephen DaCosta, Kenneth Macedo, Muriel Moline, Patricia Farhat, Ghada Karam, Beverly Parlapiano, Michael Bruce, Debbie Freedenberg, Efrangieh Daou, Sharon Conti, David Techlin, Peter Helmer, Renee Helmer, Octavia David, Jacob Rego, Amal Assaf, Denise Magaletta, Fernanda Thomas, Theresa John, Angela Scorza-Anderson, 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 01/27-02/01/25

Monday:

2 Corinthians 4: 16-5:1-5,10
John 5: 1-16

Tuesday:

2 Corinthians 5: 11-21
John 9: 1-12

Wednesday:

2 Corinthians 6: 1-13
John 9: 13-25

Thursday:

2 Corinthians 6: 14-7:1
John 9: 26-41

Friday:

2 Corinthians 7:2-10
John 7: 40-52

Saturday:

2 Corinthians 7: 11-16
John 19: 38-42

LECTORS FOR JANUARY,

Saturday, January 25,

Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Mae Dickinson

Sunday, January 26,

Cayla Barbour / Joumana Chedid

LECTORS FOR FEBRUARY, 2025

Saturday, February 1,

Eric Tavares

Intercessions: Smitty Cabral

Sunday, February 2,

Ann Dupre / Jano Baroody

Saturday, February 8,

Rachael Higgins

Intercessions: Anna & Helen Higgins

Sunday, February 9,

Rana Choubah / Haljm Choubah

Saturday, February 15,

Mae Dickinson

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, February 16,

Cayla Barbour / Joumana Chedid

Saturday, February 22,

Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, February 23,

Mae Dickinson / Hiba Chdid

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

WEEK OF JANUARY 18-19, 2025

Sunday Collection	\$ 1,541.00
Dining Book Sale	\$ 660.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 156.00
Candles	\$ 117.00
Total	\$ 2,474.00

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.



St. Francis Xavier School
Acushnet, MA

SAVE-TH-DATE Open House

JOIN US SUNDAY 1/26 FROM 12-2:00PM!

- Take a tour
- Meet our amazing teachers
- Applications open for new families on Feb. 3rd!



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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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