



# Our Lady of Purgatory

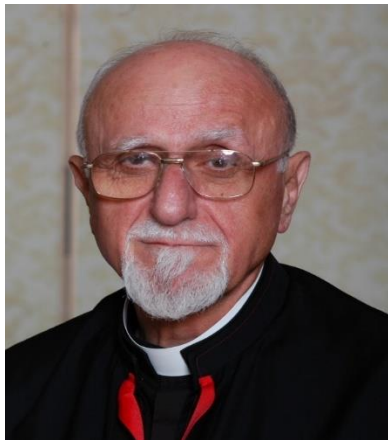
## Maronite Catholic Church



March 1-2, 2025

# SEASON OF THE GREAT LENT MIRACLE AT CANA IN GALILEE

### CHORBISHOP DOMINIC ASHKAR ALLAH YERHAMMO



Yesterday we received the sad news of the passing of Chorbishop Dominic F. Ashkar. He was born in Brumana, Lebanon, the son of a priest, Father Tobia Ashkar and his wife Rachide. He was preceded in death by them, his two brothers, Emil and Faik, and his sister Abla. He is survived by his three sisters, Julie, with whom he lived for many years in the USA, and Nadia, and Caroline, his sister-in-law, Sileya, his nephew, Gergi, his wife Katia and his family.

Chorbishop was educated at the Maronite Seminary in Ghazir, Lebanon and was later sent to do studies in Catechesis in Paris, France at the Institut Catholique. He was asked by Patriarch Peter Paul Meochi to come to the USA to serve the Maronites here. In 1966 he came to Saint Elias Church in Birmingham, Alabama to serve as Assistant Pastor under Chorbishop Joseph Chedid. He was later sent as pastor to Saint Maron Church in Torrington, Connecticut, and then as Vice Rector of

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Seminary in Washington DC.

In 1975 he was sent as pastor to Saint Maron Church in Youngstown, Ohio, where he served for eleven years. During that time, he also served for a brief time as Rector of Our Lady of Lebanon Shrine in North Jackson, Ohio. He authored several books as well as our first Maronite Catechism, which he entitled: Faith of the Mountain, now in its third edition, and soon to be revised again. He earned his doctorate in Islamic Studies from Temple University and authored several videos on Islamic - Christian themes.

In 1986 he was assigned as Pastor at Saint Maron Church in Cleveland, Ohio, and in 1987 as Pastor of Our Lady of Lebanon Church in Washington DC where he served for 31 years and built the parish church, classrooms and hall. Although his assignment there was completed in September 2018, he continued to write and also serve as Chaplain at the Arlington National Cemetery and as Chaplain at National Institute of Health. During his long and fruitful priesthood, he served as Protospesbyter, Director of Religious Education, and served on the Presbyteral Council. He will long be remembered as a priest who put his people first and himself last.

Chorbishop will be buried in Lebanon, but a wake and Divine Liturgy is planned for Our Lady of Lebanon in Washington DC. The Viewing is on Sunday, March 9 from 4:00 – 7:00 PM with Incense Service at 7:30 PM. Funeral Liturgy is on Monday, March 10, at 11:00 AM. Our heartfelt condolences to Julie Ashkar, and his family.

May he rest in God's peace.

### 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 products. Saturdays and Sundays are exempt from fasting and abstaining as are the following feast days: The 40 Martyrs- March 9, St. Joseph- March 19, and the Annunciation- March 25.*

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

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**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.



## ASH MONDAY SERVICES

As we prepare for the Season of Lent, Ash Monday services will **Monday, March 3, 2025**. We will have two Ash Monday Services: one at 11:00 AM, and one at 7:00 PM.

## FISH FRY FRIDAYS

Fish Fry Fridays are here once again. We will begin Friday Lenten Dinners on **Friday, March 7**, beginning at 5:00 PM and ending at 8:00 PM. Tickets are available for purchase by contacting the office at: **508-996-8934** or by email to: [officeolop@gmail.com](mailto:officeolop@gmail.com)

You may join us before or after Stations/Adoration of the cross.

## HOLY ROSARY SUNDAY

Beginning **March 23**, we will pray the Rosary beginning at **10:00 AM**, before Sunday Divine Liturgy. This will be held on the third Sunday of each month. Please join us as we send our prayers through the intercession of our Blessed Mother to our Lord Jesus.

## WELCOME BABY GEORGE JOSEPH BORBAS

Congratulations to Abigail Piva and Mario Borbas on the arrival of your little boy George Joseph Borbas. We also congratulate his grandmother Rose Dupre, and the entire Dupre Family. May Almighty God cradle George Joseph in His loving arms and protect him always. Mabrook, Mabrook!

## SAINT JOSEPH SODALITY NEWS

On Sunday, March 16, we will be celebrating the Feast of St. Joseph. All Saint Joseph Sodality members are asked to attend the Divine Liturgy. After the Liturgy there will be a Breakfast/ Brunch served in the church hall. The cost is \$30.00 per person, 10 and under \$15.00 per child. For tickets, please see any of the Board Members; Jacques Barbour, Rana Choubah, Jano Baroody, George Saba or contact the church office. Looking forward to seeing you there.



## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Tuesday, March 4, we will gather for Eucharistic Adoration from 5-7 PM. This is an opportunity to spend some time with Jesus and ask for His help following by Liturgy at 7 PM. Mark your calendars and please join us for this beautiful service.

## CHANGE THE CLOCKS



This is a friendly reminder to move your clocks forward at 2:00 AM, Sunday, March 9. We do not want you to miss Divine Liturgy. Blessings.

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*"I yearn for your pardon O Lord. Give me tears to repent in this season of Lent. Lord Have Mercy."*  
Oorbono

## 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.

March						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<sup>1</sup> Cana Sunday
<sup>2</sup> Cana Sunday	<sup>3</sup> Ash Monday Services: 11 am 7 pm	<sup>4</sup> Eucharistic Adoration 5-7 pm Divine Liturgy 7 pm	<sup>5</sup> Divine Liturgy 12 Noon	<sup>6</sup> Divine Liturgy 12 Noon	<sup>7</sup> Stations/Adoration of the Cross 12 pm English/Arabic  Fish Fry 5-8PM	<sup>8</sup> Healing of the Leper
<sup>9</sup> Healing of the Leper	<sup>10</sup> X	<sup>11</sup> Eucharistic Adoration 5-7 pm Divine Liturgy 7 pm	<sup>12</sup> Divine Liturgy 12 Noon	<sup>13</sup> Divine Liturgy 12 Noon	<sup>14</sup> Stations/Adoration of the Cross 12 pm English/Arabic  Fish Fry 5-8PM	<sup>15</sup> Hemorrhaging Woman
<sup>16</sup> Hemorrhaging Woman  Saint Joseph Sodality Brunch	<sup>17</sup> X	<sup>18</sup> Eucharistic Adoration 5-7 pm Divine Liturgy 7 pm	<sup>19</sup> Divine Liturgy 12 Noon  Feast of Saint Joseph	<sup>20</sup> Divine Liturgy 12 Noon	<sup>21</sup> Stations/Adoration of the Cross 12 pm English/Arabic  Fish Fry 5-8PM	<sup>22</sup> Prodigal Son
<sup>23</sup> Prodigal Son	<sup>24</sup> Clergy Retreat Florida	<sup>25</sup> Clergy Retreat Florida  Annunciation to the Virgin Mary	<sup>26</sup> Clergy Retreat Florida	<sup>27</sup> Clergy Retreat Florida	<sup>28</sup> Stations/Adoration of the Cross 12 pm English/Arabic  Fish Fry 5-8PM	<sup>29</sup> Healing of the Paralytic  MYO Lenten Retreat Danbury CT
<sup>30</sup> Healing of the Paralytic	<sup>31</sup> X					

## LITURGY INTENTIONS

**Saturday, March 1, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Domnina, Disciple of Saint Maron, Feast of Saint Eudokia (Afdokia) of Baalbek).** 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 soul of Ralph Machado requested by Daniel and Helena Tavares and Family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Joseph Bou Ramia requested by the Family. May his soul rest in peace.

**Sunday, March 2, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint John Maron, First Maronite Patriarch).** Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Florence Dyer requested by the Family (FM). May her soul rest in peace.

**Monday, March 3, @ 11:00 AM, and @ 7:00 PM, Ash Monday Services. (Feast of Saint Thomas Aquinas, Doctor of the Church, Feast of saint Katharine Drexel).**

**Tuesday, March 4, @ 7:00 PM, (Feast of Saint Paul and His Sister, Saint Juliana).**

**Wednesday, March 5, @ 12:00 PM, Ash Wednesday service. (Feast of Saint Albert the Great, Doctor of the Church).**

**Thursday, March 6, @ 12:00 PM, (Feast of Saint Conon of Isauria).**

**Friday, March 7, @ 12:00 PM and @ 7:00 PM, Station/ Adoration of the Cross. (Feast of the 7 Young Men Ephesus).**

**Saturday, March 8, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Frances of Rome).** 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.

**Sunday, March 9, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of the Forty Martyrs).** Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Georgette and Samir Sawaya requested by Zakhia and Hiba Chdid Family. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Theresa Macedo requested by the Family. May her soul rest in peace.

## THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for a special intention. 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.

## 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.

### LECTORS FOR MARCH, 2025

**Saturday, March 1,**

Rachael Higgins

Intercessions: Anna & Helen Higgins

**Sunday, March 2,**

Ann Dupre / Jano Baroody

**Saturday, March 8,**

Mae Dickinson

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

**Sunday, March 9,**

Rana Choubah / Hiba Chdid

**Saturday, March 15,**

Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Annemarie Espindola

**Sunday, March 16,**

Cayla Barbour / Joumana Chedid

**Saturday, March 22,**

Eric Tavares

Intercessions: Smitty Cabral

**Sunday, March 23,**

Mae Dickinson / Gaby Baroody

**Saturday, March 29,**

Annemarie Espindola

Intercessions: Smitty Cabral

**Sunday, March 30,**

Halim Choubah / Elie Bou Kheir

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

### DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF 03/03-03/08/24

**Monday:**

2 Corinthians 5: 20-6:7

Matthew 6: 16-21

**Tuesday:**

Romans 15: 1-13

Matthew 6: 5-15

**Wednesday:**

Romans 15: 14-21

Matthew 6: 1-4

**Thursday:**

1 Timothy 6: 6-12

Matthew 6: 25-35

**Friday:**

2 Thessalonians 3: 6-14

Matthew 7: 13- 27

**Saturday:**

Hebrews 3: 14- 4:4

Luke 18: 9-14



## WINE AND HOST OFFERING

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

### WEEK OF FEBRUARY 22-23, 2025

<b>Sunday Collection</b>	\$ 1,547.00
<b>Bishop Appeal</b>	\$ 370.00
<b>Donations</b>	\$ 40.00
<b>Altar Wine &amp; Host</b>	\$ 75.00
<b>Total</b>	\$ 2,032.00

**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.**

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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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