



Our Lady of Purgatory



Maronite Catholic Church

March 15-16, 2025

HEALING OF THE HEMORRHAGING WOMAN



BLESSED FEAST DAY OF SAINT JOSEPH

Saint Joseph is the husband of Mary and the earthly father of Jesus. He was a humble carpenter and was always said to be a protector of his family. Even though he was a humble and simple man, Saint Joseph comes from a royal lineage. According to Luke and Matthew's Gospels, Saint Joseph's origin can be traced back to King David.

When Saint Joseph found out about Mary's pregnancy, he immediately knew the child was not his but was still unconscious that she was carrying Jesus, the son of God, he wanted to divorce her silently. This decision to divorce Mary silently is something to be noted as very kind and caring. During those times, if a woman is pregnant with another man who is not her husband, it is customary to be stoned to death. He then also became an excellent father to Jesus as he treated Jesus as his own son. Saint Joseph is also known as someone who always obeyed

God's commands and lived a life faithful to Him.

In 2016, Pope Francis popularized the image of the Sleeping Saint Joseph. The Pope spoke about his devotion to him during his visit to the Philippines. He shared that he has an image of the Sleeping Saint Joseph on his desk for decades and that he places notes of some of his difficulties underneath it and asks him to intercede for his intentions.

You might be wondering what's so significant of an image of Saint Joseph sleeping. This has a powerful implication. In the Bible, God often spoke to Saint Joseph through his dreams. Here are the three particular times that it has happened. The first time was when he was thinking of silently divorcing Mary, and the angel appeared to him through his dreams. (Matthew 1:19-25)

The second time God spoke to him through a dream was when He told him to save Jesus from Herod. (Matthew 2:12-14)

Lastly, God spoke to Saint Joseph while

he was sleeping during the time Herod had died, and He wanted him to take Jesus to Israel. (Matthew 2:19-21)

Saint Joseph is the patron saint of many things. For one, he is the patron saint for a happy death, as his death is something that was not mentioned during Jesus' public life. It was implied that he had a happy death since he was in Jesus and Mary's close presence when it happened.

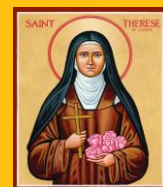
He is also the patron saint of craftsmen, engineers, house sellers, and working people. This is because Saint Joseph was a hardworking, honest man. He was a skilled carpenter who had much respect for his work.

Lastly, Saint Joseph is also the Universal Church's patron saint, fathers, expectant mothers, and families. We all know that he was the head of the Holy Family and was the guardian of Jesus and Our Lady's husband.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"I want to suffer and even rejoice for love, for this is my way of scattering flowers. Never a flower shall I find but its petals shall be scattered for you; and all the while I will sing; yes, always sing, even when gathering roses in the midst of thorns; and the longer and sharper the thorns may be, the sweeter shall be my song!"

*St. Therese of Lisieux,
The Story of a Soul*



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.

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.

CONGRATULATIONS CYLUS SHIDELL

Congratulations to Cylus who received his First Confession at OLOP. This is an exciting moment as he prepares for his First Communion on May 4. May Cylus always know of God's mercy and forgiveness and may he always draw closer to Christ. Congratulations Cylus!

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.

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**

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

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.

THE ROMERO'S JOIN US IN PRAYER

The Romero's will be at Our Lady of Purgatory Church on Saturday, April 5, at 11:15 AM. Please join us in prayer and witness the beauty and faith of these faithful disciples of Christ.



Remember Me in Your Kingdom
Would like to invite you to a Day Retreat
On Saturday March 29, 2025
9 AM to 3 PM at
Our Lady of the Annunciation Cathedral
7 VFW Parkway, West Roxbury, MA, 02132

The Day Retreat Schedule:

9:00 Mass
9:45 Coffee break
10:15 First talk & discussion
12:15 Lunch
1:00 Second talk & discussion
3:00 Final prayer

For more information and to register contact Zeina at 781-789-0432 or Karen 857-222-9777

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.

March						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Hemorrhaging Woman		Eucharistic Adoration 5-7 pm	Divine Liturgy 12 Noon	Divine Liturgy 12 Noon	Stations/Adoration of the Cross 12 pm English 7 pm English/Arabic	Prodigal Son
Saint Joseph Sodality Brunch	X	Divine Liturgy 7 pm	Feast of Saint Joseph		Fish Fry 5-8PM	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Prodigal Son	Clergy Retreat Florida	Clergy Retreat Florida	Clergy Retreat Florida	Clergy Retreat Florida	Stations/Adoration of the Cross 12 pm English 7 pm English/Arabic	Healing of the Paralytic
		Annunciation to the Virgin Mary			Fish Fry 5-8PM	MYO Lenten Retreat Danbury CT
30	31					
Healing of the Paralytic	X					

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 15, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Benedict, Founder of Monastic Life in the West). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Joseph Tavares requested by Dan and Helena Tavares and Family. 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.

Sunday, March 16, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of The First Council of Constantinople, Feast of Saint Pappas). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Joseph and Marguerite Chedid requested by the Family. May their souls rest in peace.

Tuesday, March 18, @ 7:00 PM, (Feast of Saint Cyril of Jerusalem).

Wednesday, March 19, @ 12:00 PM, (Feast of Pope Saint Joseph the Virgin, the Spouse of Mary).

Thursday, March 20, @ 12:00 PM, (Feast of Saint Photina the Samaritan Woman).

Friday, March 21, @ 12:00 PM and @ 7:00 PM, Station/ Adoration of the Cross. (Feast of Saint James, Bishop of Catania).

Saturday, March 22, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Sergius Paulus). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Marie Gabriel requested by the Gabriel Family. May her soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Nicholas Nobrega requested by Annemarie Espindola. May his soul rest in peace.

Sunday, March 23, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of The First Council of Constantinople, Feast of Saint Pappas). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Walter Chomak requested by Mary Ann Chomak and Family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Joann Yozefek requested by the Family. May her soul rest in peace.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for Mariam David and the living and deceased members of her family by Mariam David and 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.

CONFESSION

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



IN OUR PRAYERS

Genevieve Tayeh, 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 03/17-03/22/24

Monday:

2 Timothy 4: 9-16
John 8: 21-27

Tuesday:

2 Corinthians 8: 1-9
Matthew 23: 1-12

Wednesday:

Ephesians 3: 1-13
Matthew 1: 18-25

Thursday:

Galatians 1: 1-10
Luke 17: 20-37

Friday:

Romans 3: 1-7
Luke 12: 16-21

Saturday:

2 Timothy 3: 1-9
Matthew 12: 1-14

LECTORS FOR MARCH, 2025

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)

WEEK OF MARCH 8-9, 2025

Sunday Collection	\$ 1,910.00
Bishop Appeal	\$ 1,150.00
Memorial Donation	\$ 200.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 20.00
Sanctuary Candle	\$ 45.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 82.00
Candles	\$ 134.00
Total	\$ 3,541.00

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.

SAINT THERESA CHURCH
OF BROCKTON, MA Presents

APRIL 26

SPRING HAFTI

FEATURING STAR SINGER **GEORGE DEEB**

COCKTAIL HOUR 7PM | DINNER 8PM | NO TICKETS SOLD AT DOOR
TICKET DONATION \$100 | DANCE FLOOR SEATING \$125 | KIDS MENU (6-12YRS) \$50
VENUE: ST. SHARBEL MARONITE CENTER, 300 N EASTERN AVE, FALL RIVER, MA 02723
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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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