



Our Lady of Purgatory

Maronite Catholic Church



April 12-13, 2025

HOSANNA SUNDAY

HOLY WEEK SERVICES AND WHAT THEY MEAN TO US



Holy week is a special time to remember Jesus' sacrifice for us. It is time to prepare ourselves to enter into the Pascal Mystery of Great Friday until the Resurrection of our Lord. As we prepare for the Pascal Mystery, the services for the Great Week of Lent become more meaningful and fruitful. So let us look at the meaning of The Rite of the Lamp, also known as Job Wednesday.

As Rev. Elijah Abboud states: "Each and every one of us, the faithful, is invited to personally experience this healing, both body and soul. We are called to be renewed and strengthened, as we await the light of Christ, the New Adam, who calls all to new life.

This celebration is called Job Wednesday, or the Rite of the Lamp, with an emphasis on healing and renewal through anointing and the power of prayer, as shown in the Epistle to James (5:13-18). This theme is echoed in the Gospel of Luke (10:25-37), the account of the Good Samaritan.

We might appear wise and holy, like the Temple priests and Levites. Yet it is the works of love, of charity, the works of the Spirit, that mend the brokenness of our hearts.

Like the friends of Job who could do nothing but judge in his time of suffering, the priest and the Levite in the parable did nothing but condemn the wounded man

to continued suffering by ignoring him. Job suffered yet found consolation in the Lord. The man in the Gospel parable suffered and found healing not in the Samaritan as a person, but in his works of love and mercy, in the works of the Lord. This is what we are called to remember on this day. The Lord calls us to act through His mercy and love, drawing us not only to physical healing but also to spiritual renewal, filled with the Spirit and the light of His eternal life.

This is symbolized in the Rite of the Lamp. The tradition highlights the need, during Passion Week, for healing of our body and soul through oil and dough blessed by the priest. The oil is for the healing of the body, following the ancient tradition of balms and oils used to anoint wounds and those seeking healing from various illnesses.

Yet we must keep in mind that while the physical oil represents bodily healing, we are also called to repentance and contrition. This is the healing of the soul. It fills the lamps of our hearts with oil to light the path of our life's journey as we await the coming of the Bridegroom.

The dough is symbolic of humanity's brokenness: kneaded, folded and shapeless. The dough finds its true meaning and life when bearing the light of wicks placed in it.

These seven lit wicks are not a coincidence; they are images of prophecies. They are the seven eyes of the Lord (Zechariah 4:1-10) keeping watch and leading Creation. They are the branches of the tree of Jesse, springing from the shoot (Messiah) that has the seven-fold Spirit of the Lord resting upon it (Isaiah 11:1-2). They are the lights of the Seven Churches (Revelation 1:12-20), bringing the Light of Christ, His love,

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"We give glory to You, Lord, who raised up Your cross to span the jaws of death like a bridge by which souls might pass from the region of the dead to the land of the living. We give glory to You who put on the body of a single mortal man and made it the source of life for every other mortal man."

St. Ephrem of Edessa



mercy, healing and Resurrection, to the whole world.

The wicks remind us that by abandoning our fallen nature and brokenness to the will of the Lord, we allow Him to re-create us. We become beacons of the Light of Christ, beacons of true life in the darkness of the world.

During the celebration of the Rites in Passion Week, let us always remember the light in the midst of the darkness of suffering, the consolation that Job found which allowed him not to rebuke the Lord. Let us remember our own consolation in Christ, reminding us that even in our brokenness, weakness, and even in death, there is always the light of the Lord, filled with the Spirit who leads and strengthens us.

Let us always look beyond suffering and death, and remember the empty tomb, for the New Adam has liberated creation. He has re-created it out of the darkness of death, giving new and eternal life.

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.

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.

MANY THANKS

I would like to thank all those who came and helped making maamoul this past week. Coming on Saturday and working for hours was quite a sacrifice. Your hard work is greatly appreciated. May God continue to bless you and your families.

GOOD FRIDAY MERCY MEAL

Friday, April 18, 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.

EASTER EGG COLORING



On Saturday, April 19, 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.

NAM CONVENTION REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION

Details for the 2025 NAM Convention have been mailed to each of you. This year, the NAM Convention is being sponsored by Fr. Robert Farrah and the Parishioners of St. Sharbel in Raliegh, North Carolina. The convention will be held on July 3-6, 2025, at the Hilton Raliegh North Hills Hotel. I hope many of you can attend. Please refer to your email for registration details.

PALM SUNDAY BAKE SALE

We will be having our annual Palm Sunday Bakesale on Saturday, **April 12, and Sunday, April 13**, immediately following Divine Liturgy.

CONGRATULATIONS MARIO VIEIRA

Congratulations to Mario Vieira, who received his First Confession this past weekend. As he prepares for his First communion, may Almighty God protect him and always guide towards His love. Mabrook,

PASSION WEEK DIVINE LITURGIES

Monday, April 14, 7:00 PM,

Coming to the Harbor

Tuesday, April 15, 7:00 PM,

Coming to the Harbor

Wednesday, April 16, 7:00 PM,

Rite of the Lamp

Thursday, April 17, 7:00 PM,

Holy Thursday

Friday, April 18, 10:00 AM,

Signing of the Chalice

Friday, April 18, 7:00 PM,

Great Friday of the Crucifixion,

Saturday, April 19, 10:00 AM,

Prayer of Forgiveness

Saturday, April 19, 4:30 PM,

Easter Vigil

Sunday, April 20, 10:30 AM,

The Glorious Resurrection

LECTORS FOR THE HOLY WEEK

Monday, April 14,

Mae Dickinson

Tuesday, April 15,

Rachael Higgins

Wednesday, April 16,

TBA

Thursday, April 17,

Jimmy Kalife/Joumana Chedid

Friday, April 18, @10:00 AM,

Hiba Chdid

Friday, April 18, @7:00 PM,

Matthew Thomas/ Gaby Baroody

Saturday, April 19, @ 10:00 AM,

MYA

Saturday, April 19,

Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, April 20,

Ann Dupre / Elie Abou Kheir

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

MYA GATHERINGS



The MYA are invited to the Saturday of the Light prayer service on Saturday, April 19, at 10:00 AM at the Church. This will be followed by an hour of service to help decorate the church for Easter Sunday.



The MYA are invited to Divine Liturgy followed by a BBQ and Social on Saturday, May 3, 2024, at OLOP. Please RSVP to Abouna Vince by May 1, at 508-996-8934, or email at ourladyofpurgatory@gmail.com. Look forward to seeing you there.

HOLY ROSARY SUNDAY

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

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, April 12, @ 4:30 PM, Lazarus Saturday, (Feast of Saints Mennas, Hermogenes and Euphrasius).

Sunday, April 13, @ 10:30 AM, Hosanna Sunday, (Feast of Saint Zosimas).

Monday, April 14, @ 7:00 PM, (Feast of Saint Hermenegild).

Tuesday, April 15, @ 7:00 PM, (Feast of Pope Saint Soter). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Everett Pittsley, Saseen and Marina Thomas requested by the family (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

Wednesday, April 16, @ 7:00 PM, (Feast of Saint Bernadette Soubirous).

Thursday, April 17, @ 7:00 PM, Thursday of the Mysteries, (Feast of Pope Saint Agapitus).

Friday, April 18, @ 10:00 AM Signing of the Chalice, @ 7:00 PM, Great Friday Burial, (Feast of Saint Thais the Penitent).

Saturday, April 19, Great Saturday of the Light, @ 10:00 AM, Prayer of Forgiveness, @ 4:30 PM, Resurrection of Our Lord Vigil Mass, (Feast of Saint Timon the Deacon).

Sunday, April 20, @ 10:30 AM, The Glorious Resurrection, (Feast of Saint Nathanael the Hermit).

IN OUR PRAYERS

David Matos, Gayla Matos, 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.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for a special thank you for an intention that was answered by Our Lady of Purgatory by Jacques, Amal, Joshua and Rafka Barbour. 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.

LECTORS FOR APRIL, 2025

Saturday, April 12,

Annemarie Espindola

Intercessions: Smitty Cabral

Sunday, April 13,

Mae Dickinson / Hiba Chdid

Saturday, April 19,

Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, April 20,

Ann Dupre / Elie Abou Kheir

Saturday, April 26,

Eric Tavares

Intercessions: Annemarie Espindola

Sunday, April 27,

Rana Choubah / Halim Choubah

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

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

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

WEEK OF APRIL 5-6, 2025

Sunday Collection	\$ 1,465.00
Bishop Appeal	\$ 500.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 115.00
Sanctuary Candle	\$ 40.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 124.00
Total	\$ 2,244.00

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.

APRIL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6 Healing of the Blind Man	7 X	8 Eucharistic Adoration 5-7 PM Divine Liturgy 7 PM	9 Divine Liturgy 12 Noon	10 Divine Liturgy 12 Noon	11 Stations/Adoration of the Cross 12 pm English 7 pm English/Arabic	12 Hosanna Sunday Palm Sunday Bake Sale
13 Hosanna Sunday Palm Sunday Bake Sale	14 Divine Liturgy 7 PM	15 Divine Liturgy 7 PM	16 Divine Liturgy 7 PM Rite of the Lamp Anointing with Holy Oil	17 Holy Thursday The Last Supper 7 PM Adoration 8 PM-10 PM	18 Signing of the Chalice 10 AM Great Friday Burial 7 PM (Second Collection for Holy Land)	19 Resurrection of our Lord Vigil Mass 4:30 PM
20 Resurrection of our Lord 10:30 AM	21 X	22 Eucharistic Adoration 5-7 PM Divine Liturgy 7 PM	23 No Liturgy	24 No Liturgy	25	26 Divine Mercy Sunday St. Theresa Church Hafli
27 Divine Mercy Sunday SAJ Sunday	28 X	29 Eucharistic Adoration 5-7 PM Divine Liturgy 7 PM	30			



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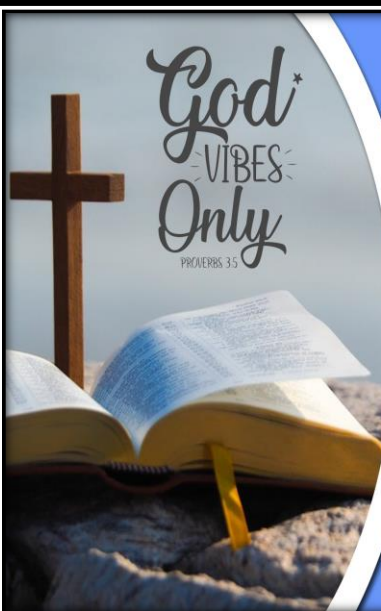
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Eternally in our hearts and in our thoughts. We miss seeing your face, hearing your voice, seeing your smile and hearing your laugh. We cherish the day we will join you in GOD's Heavenly Kingdom. We Love you and miss you even more with each passing day.

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