



Our Lady of Purgatory

Maronite Catholic Church



October 25 -26, 2025

SUNDAY OF THE CHRIST THE KING



Christ the King a title so majestic, so divine, yet one that reveals a mystery far beyond the crowns and thrones of this world. When we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King, we do not behold a ruler seated upon a golden throne, draped in fine linen, surrounded by power and might. Instead, our King reigns from a wooden cross. His crown is made not of gold, but of thorns. His throne is lifted not in glory before men, but in humiliation before sinners. And yet, it is precisely from this paradox that the greatest truth of our faith shines forth that true kingship is found in love, and true glory is revealed in sacrifice.

When Jesus stood before Pilate, the governor asked Him, "Are you the King of Jews?" And Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world." That statement alone redefined forever what it means to rule, to govern, and to reign. Pilate could not understand it — for in his world, kings commanded armies, collected taxes, and exercised authority through fear.

But Christ's authority came from another realm, from the realm of truth and mercy. He did not conquer lands; He conquered hearts. He did not demand allegiance through force; He invited it through love. On the cross, when soldiers mocked Him, when passersby ridiculed Him, when even one thief cursed Him, He remained silent a King reigning through forgiveness. And when the other thief turned to Him and whispered, "Jesus, remember me when

you come into your kingdom," that criminal saw what no one else could see — that the cross was not the end, but the very gate of the Kingdom.

The cross, therefore, becomes the royal standard of our King. It is the banner under which we march as His disciples. In ancient times, kings would ride into battle carrying their standard, their emblem of victory. For us, that emblem is the cross. Every time we make the sign of the cross, we proclaim this is the throne of our King, and I belong to Him. When we face suffering, when we endure injustice, when we forgive rather than retaliate, we too bear that cross and share in His kingship.

There is a story told of a missionary who was preaching the Gospel in a remote village. He had erected a simple wooden cross outside his small chapel. One day, a local ruler came to him, dressed in splendor, and asked, "Why do you worship a God who died in weakness? Our gods stand tall and victorious". The missionary gently replied, "Our God chose to die so that we might live. He chose the cross not because He lacked power, but because love has no need to prove itself through might. It is in giving that love shows its power." The ruler left in silence, but months later returned, humbled, saying, "I have many servants, but none love me enough to die for me. Your King must be the true King."

That is the heart of Christ the King. A reign founded not on domination, but on service, not on coercion, but on compassion. His authority is not measured in wealth or power, but in the depth of His mercy. When we forgive our enemies, when we lift the broken, when we live not for ourselves but for others, we make His kingdom visible on earth. And just as He turned the instrument of death into the

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"To maintain a joyful family requires much from both the parents and the children. Each member of the family has to become, in a special way, the servant of the others."
Pope Saint John Paul II

sign of eternal life, He invites us to turn our own crosses into thrones of grace to let our pain become a place of love, and our trials a witness to faith.

Think of the Blessed Virgin Mary at the foot of the cross. She saw her Son, her King, suffering and dying, and yet she did not flee. She stood, steadfast in faith, knowing that this apparent defeat was divine victory. In her silence, she proclaimed what all creation would soon come to know that through the cross, Christ conquers. And when He rose, His crown of thorns became the crown of glory, His wounds the marks of triumph. So, when we honor Christ the King, we do not merely look upward to a distant ruler; we look inward to a Lord who reigns from the heart. The cross teaches us that power without love is tyranny but love that bears the cross is true kingship. Christ does not ask us to build palaces for Him, but to prepare our hearts as His throne. He does not seek to rule over us with force, but to reign within us through grace.

In the end, every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. Yet that confession will not be out of fear, but out of love for we will see the King who bore our pain, who forgave our sins, and who turned death itself into life. The throne of Calvary will shine brighter than all the thrones of history, for it is the throne of love.

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.

And so, as we gaze upon the cross, let us remember this is our King. The one who reigns not by taking life, but by giving it. The one whose greatest victory was won with open arms. The one whose crown was woven from suffering and whose kingdom is built on mercy. To follow Him is to carry our cross with dignity, to love when it hurts, to forgive when it costs, and to believe that in the shadow of the cross, the light of the Kingdom already shines.

PARKING LOT WORK

The parking lot will be repaired on October 28-31. No one will be able to drive or park in the parking lot during that week. If you need to come to the office, please park in my driveway or on Tobey Street. Thank you for your understanding.

MATCHING DONATION FOR PARKING LOT

Cost needed **\$ 18,000.00**
Donations to date: **\$ 6,500.00**
Donations needed: **\$ 11,500.00**

LEBANON 2026 ELECTIONS

The Lebanese government is now seeking all Lebanese abroad to register to vote in the upcoming 2026 parliamentary election. The registration process began on October 2, 2025, and will close on November 20, 2025. A link is issued by the Lebanese government that allows Lebanese expats to log in and input their data to register. I have emailed this information to all of you and have included it in this announcement. If you are eligible to vote, I hope you will take this opportunity to register.

<https://diasporavote.mfa.gov.lb/>

NEEDED GIFTS FOR THE CARAVAN AUCTION, BASKET RAFFLES, SILENT AUCTION AND THE KID'S ZONE GAMES FOR THE CHILDREN

Items needed include: Electronics, giftware, tools, housewares, gift cards, gift baskets, sporting event tickets, jewelry, toys, sporting goods etc. We also need small children's gifts for the game tables such as: Books, coloring books and crayons or markers, small cars and trucks, dolls, stuffed toys, puzzles models, games etc. We need gifts of various values from \$2-\$25, \$25-\$50 and \$50 and up. If you wish to donate but have no time to shop, you can donate the money and we will shop for you. All help in any amount is greatly appreciated.

BLUE MASS AND DINNER

I would like to thank the Social Committee, local restaurants, and all the volunteers who helped make our First Annual Blue Mass a great success. There were just under 100 police, fire, and first responders who attended the dinner. All of them were so grateful to our community and the local restaurants for showing them gratitude and thanks for all they do for our communities. Through the intercession of Saint Michael the Archangel, may Almighty God continue to protect them and bless them every day.



ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Our Annual Christmas Bazaar will be held on **Saturday, November 15, and Sunday, November 16**, in the Church Hall. Mark your calendars so that you can join us for these 2 days. Great food, raffles, vendors, and performances from your children will make this event truly special.

THE MAKING OF CHRISTMAS JOIN US ON THE RED CARPET!

Please join us on Saturday, November 22, 2025 at 6:00 PM as the OLOP Parish Center will be transformed into a Dinner Theater for a special screening of "The Making of Christmas", the new film by Jim Hamon featuring our children who participated in the 2021 OLOP Christmas Pageant. The Making of Christmas is a warm, witty, and poignant exploration of the Christmas story, reflecting on what it means for Jesus to be born not only in a manger but also in our hearts. While the film is being shown all over New England, this will be the only Greater New Bedford Screening. Jim Hamon will also be joining us to make the evening even more special. A buffet dinner will be served and then the movie will be shown. For more information, please contact the Parish Office at officeolop@gmail.com or (508) 996-8934.

CALLING ALL CHILDREN – THE 2025 OLOP CHRISTMAS PAGEANT!

Calling all children between the ages of 2 and 16 years old! It's time to start preparing for the 2025 OLOP Christmas Pageant. We'll begin practices for the 2025 OLOP Christmas Pageant on Sunday, October 19, 2025 at 11:45 in the Church. Practices will last approximately 1 hour and so it's a great opportunity for the children to have some fun while Mom & Dad are having a cup of coffee and some tasty treats at the Coffee Hour. This year's Christmas Pageant will be presented on Saturday, December 6, 2025 at 6:00 pm in the Church followed by a reception in the Parish Center. The Children will also be singing at the OLOP Christmas/Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, November 15, 2025. For more information, please contact the Parish Office at officeolop@gmail.com or (508) 996-8934.

BAZAAR PREP DAYS

**October 30: Grape leaves day
Starting @ 10:30 AM**

**November 6, Maamool day
Starting @ 10:30 AM**

DELICIOUS KNAFE TRAYS

We have knafe for sale. Full tray with kaak and syrup are for sale for \$ 60.00. If you would like to purchase a tray, please contact the office.

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, October 25, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Chrysanthus and His Wife Daria). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Daniel Tavares requested by the family (40-Day Mass). May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Joseph Saba requested by Annemarie Espindola. May his soul rest in peace.

Sunday, October 26, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Demetrius). Remember Me In Your Kingdom Liturgy. Liturgy is being offered for all the souls in the Book of Life. May all the soul in the Book of Life rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Joe, Tillie and Bobby Thomas requested by the family. May their souls rest in peace.

Tuesday, October 28, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Terence and His Companions).

From 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM, Eucharistic Adoration.

Wednesday, October 29, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Anastasia of Rome).

Thursday, October 30, @ 9:00 PM, (Feast of Saint Macarius, Bishop of Jerusalem). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of George and Sultana Sadek, Peter, Julia and Rose Thomas requested by the family (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

Saturday, November 1, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of All Saints, Feast of Saints Cosmas and Damian). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Virginia Farhat requested by the family. May her soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Daniel Tavares requested by Zakhia and Hiba Chdid. May his soul rest in peace.

Sunday, November 2, @ 10:30 AM, (Commemoration of the Faithful Departed). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Fouad and Helen Yamine requested by Sousou and Milad Maalouf. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Mansour Barbour requested by Norma Barbour and family. May his soul rest in peace.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for our family by Gaby and 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.

WINE AND HOST OFFERING

The altar bread and wine for the month of October is offered for Joe and Tillie Thomas requested by the family.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Beverly Landreth, Dawn Marie Hogan, Michael Morad, 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.

COME & SEE RETREAT WEEKEND FOR YOUNG ADULT WOMEN, DARTMOUTH MA

Is Jesus calling you to *Come and See*? Are you seeking to grow in your love for Christ and to learn more about the gift of religious life? The Maronite Servants of Christ the Light located in Dartmouth MA, invite single young adult women (ages 18-39) to prayerfully consider joining them for a **Come & See Retreat Weekend, October 31 - November 2, 2025.** The weekend is designed to give young adult women a glimpse into their prayer and communal life and to enjoy fellowship with other young adult women seeking to go deeper in their relationship with Christ our Light. If you have any questions or are interested in exploring the gift of religious life, please contact Vocation Director, Sister Therese Maria, vocations@maroniteservants.org.



LECTORS FOR OCTOBER/ NOVEMBER, 2025

Saturday, October 25,
Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Mae Dickinson

Sunday, October 26,

Cayla Barbour / Jano Baroody

Saturday, November 1,

Rachael Higgins

Intercessions: Anna & Helen Higgins

Sunday, November 2,

Mae Dickinson / Hiba Chdid

Saturday, November 8,

Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, November 9,

Rana Choubah / Halim Choubah

WEEK OF OCTOBER 18-19, 2025

Sunday Collection	\$ 1,537.00
Second Collection	\$ 254.00
Donations	\$ 200.00
Lebanese Market	\$ 30.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 59.00
Sanctuary Candle	\$ 25.00
Bazaar Raffle Tickets	\$ 330.00
Total	\$ 2,435.00

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.

Friends of Remember Me In Your Kingdom
Would like you to join us as we celebrate

Our 13th Year Anniversary

When: November 1, 2025

Where: St. Theresa Maronite Catholic Church

343 N. Main Street, Brockton, MA

- 10:30 AM - Welcome & Registration
- 11:00 AM - Opening Prayer & Welcoming Remarks
- 11:30 AM - "Praying for Souls of the Faithful Departed"
By: Fr. Vincent Farhat followed by small group discussion
- 12:30 PM - Eucharistic Adoration and Confession
- 1:30 PM - Lunch will be provided.
- 2:30 PM - "An Understanding of Eternal life"
By: Fr. Christian Hbaiter followed by small group discussion.
- 3:30 PM - Closing Prayer
- 4:00 PM - Memorial Mass for Our Deceased



Remember Me in Your Kingdom was started in Lebanon, with a mission to pray for the Faithful Departed. 13 years ago, people started to gather and pray for the Faithful Departed in the Boston Area. Since then there are 9 churches that hold monthly memorial masses in Remember Me in Your Kingdom Memory. There are no fees to become a member, if you would like to join please see contact information below.

Friends of Remember Me in Your Kingdom is recognized by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as nonprofit group (IRS nonprofit pending)

There is no admission fee for this event, however pre-registration is appreciated for space and food planning. We fundraise twice a year to help defray cost of events, donations are always accepted. For more information you may contact Zeina 781.789.0432 - Karen 857.222.9777

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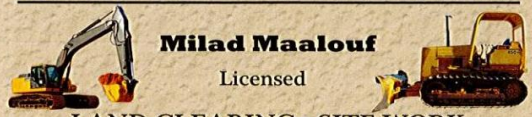
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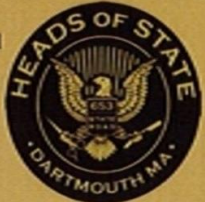
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Eternally in our hearts and in our thoughts. We miss seeing your face, hearing your voice, seeing your smile and hearing your laugh. We cherish the day we will join you in GOD's Heavenly Kingdom. We Love you and miss you even more with each passing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

Joseph & Marie Kenyon

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