



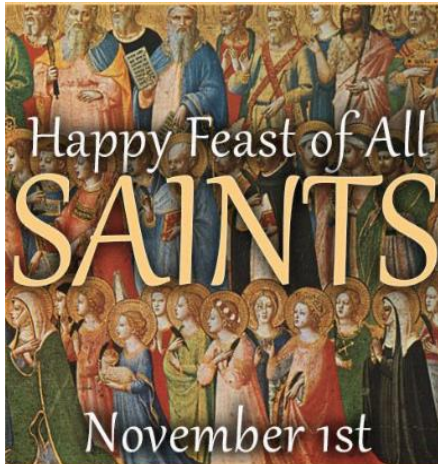
Our Lady of Purgatory

Maronite Catholic Church



November 1-2, 2025

BEGINNING OF THE LITURGICAL YEAR CONSECRATION OF THE CHURCH



FEAST OF ALL SAINTS AND THE CONSECRATION OF THE CHURCH

“Be holy, for I am holy.” (1 Peter 1:16)

As we gather to celebrate the **Feast of All Saints**, we are reminded that holiness is not reserved for a few chosen souls or those whose statues we venerate on our altars. The saints were ordinary men and women who allowed God’s extraordinary grace to work through them. Each of them whether a martyr, a confessor, a monk, a mother, a priest, or a child reflected the light of Christ in their own unique way.

We celebrate this feast because it reminds us that **heaven is our destiny**, and holiness is our calling. The saints show us that it *can* be done, that holiness is not about perfection, but about perseverance, not about greatness in the eyes of the world, but about faithfulness in the small things of God.

Saint Thérèse of Lisieux reminds us, “*Holiness consists simply in doing God’s will, and being just what God wants us to be.*” Saint Francis said, “*Sanctify yourself, and you will sanctify society.*”

SO, HOW CAN WE FOLLOW IN THEIR FOOTSTEPS?

By striving to make our daily lives a prayer. By choosing mercy over judgment, humility over pride, love over indifference. By realizing that sainthood begins not in a monastery, but in our homes, in our marriages, in our workplaces, and in our hearts.

THE CALL TO HOLINESS: THE GOSPEL OF THE BEATITUDES

In today’s Gospel, Jesus stands on the mount and proclaims the Beatitudes — the charter of holiness, the portrait of the saints.

He does not say, “Blessed are the successful, the powerful, or the admired.” Instead, He says,

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, blessed are the merciful, blessed are the peacemakers, blessed are the pure in heart.” These are the attitudes of heaven, the roadmap to sainthood.

The saints are those who lived these words not just with their lips, but with their lives.

They were poor in spirit: humble and dependent on God.

They were meek: choosing love over pride.

They were merciful: forgiving even their enemies.

They were pure in heart: seeking God above all things.

They were peacemakers: building unity where there was division.

And they accepted suffering with hope, trusting that their reward was not of this world, but in heaven. That is why we celebrate them today — not to admire them from afar, but to *follow in their footsteps*.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

The Solemnity of All Saints celebrates all those who are in Heaven, in the light of God’s face—both those recognised by the Church as Saints and those known only to the Lord.

We ask for their intercession and we strive to follow their example, so that we too can fulfill our vocation to be saints.

THE MARONITE CHURCH: A NEW LITURGICAL YEAR— THE CONSECRATION OF THE CHURCH

In the Maronite tradition, the **new liturgical year begins with the Consecration of the Church**. This is profoundly symbolic, because before we journey through the seasons of Christ’s life—from His birth to His resurrection we begin by renewing our identity as the **living Church of Christ**.

We are not only consecrating the building made of stone, wood, and marble—but consecrating *ourselves*—the living stones of God’s temple.

As Saint Paul tells us: “Do you not know that you are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in you?” (1 Corinthians 3:16) This consecration should invite us to start anew with purified hearts, renewed faith, and consecrated lives.

CONSECRATING OUR MOUTH, HEART, AND HANDS

To consecrate the church means to set it apart for God’s glory. To consecrate ourselves means to do the same.

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

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.

Our Mouth: Let our words bless and not curse, heal and not wound. Let our speech proclaim truth, kindness, and encouragement. Each word can be a seed of holiness or a thorn of destruction. This year may our mouths sing God's praise and speak hope into the lives of others.

Our Heart: Let our hearts be purified of resentment, pride, and distraction. May it become a dwelling place where Christ is welcome, where compassion flows freely, and where peace reigns. Like Mary, may our heart say each day, *"Let it be done unto me according to your word."*

Our Hands: Our hands are meant to build, to comfort, to serve. Let us consecrate them to works of mercy by feeding the hungry, comforting the lonely, forgiving those who have hurt us. In consecrating our hands, we make them instruments of God's love in the world.

STARTING THE NEW YEAR ON THE RIGHT PATH

As the Church's liturgical calendar turns a new page, we are invited to begin again—not with resolutions, but with *renewal*. Let us allow God to rebuild His Church within us. The saints remind us that every new beginning starts with a "yes" to grace.

May we, like them, say our daily "yes" to God, so that at the end of our journey, when the Church celebrates the Feast of All Saints again next year, we might be a little closer to joining their company in the heavenly Church—the eternal feast of the saints.

PRAYER:

Lord, on this Feast of All Saints and at the dawn of our new liturgical year, consecrate our hearts to love You more deeply, our mouths to proclaim Your truth more boldly, and our hands to serve You more faithfully. Make us living temples of Your holiness. May the example of the saints guide us, and may Your Spirit renew the face of Your Church. Amen.

MATCHING DONATION FOR PARKING LOT



Cost needed	\$ 18,000.00
Donations to date:	\$ 7,500.00
Donations needed:	\$ 10,500.00

FALL BACK AND CHANGE YOUR CLOCK



This is a friendly reminder to change your clocks for one hour this Sunday, November 2nd, at midnight. You will get an extra hour of sleep so we will see everyone on time at the Church.

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

Our Church will be sponsoring an annual Thanksgiving Food Drive to help families in need in our community. I ask you all to bring **non-Perishable** food or **canned goods** items such as gravy cans, sweet potatoes cans, corn and vegetable cans, mashed potatoes boxes, stuffing boxes, cranberry sauce, pies and frozen turkeys. Your kindness and generosity have helped many families in the past, and I thank each of you once again in these efforts. Please have all items here no later than **Sunday, November 23**, as this will be the day to deliver the food to the needy. God bless you and God bless Our Lady of Purgatory Parish.

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.

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.

BAZAAR PREP DAY

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

ANNUAL 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 NEEDS LIST

**8 Cases Water Bottle
4 Cases Coke
3 Cases Coke Zero
2 Cases Orange Soda
2 Cases Sprite**

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, 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.

Tuesday, November 4, @ 9:00 AM,
(Feast of Saints Vitalis and Agricola). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Joseph Saseen, John, Sophie, Julia, Alex and Nicholas Kalife requested by the family (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

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

Wednesday, November 5, @ 9:00 AM,
(Feast of Saint Asya the Righteous).

Thursday, November 6, @ 9:00 PM,
(Feast of Saint Paul, Patriarch of Constantinople).

Saturday, November 8, @ 4:30 PM,
(Feast of Saint Michael the Archangel). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Ann Schafer Stevenson requested by Father Vincent Farhat. May her soul rest in peace.

Sunday, November 9, @ 10:30 AM,
(Feast of Saint Matrona of Pamphylia). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Yvonne Choubah requested by family. May her soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Daniel and Souad (Keiruz) Yazbeck requested by family. May their souls rest in peace.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for a special intention by Zakhia and Hiba Chdid. 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.

WINE AND HOST OFFERING

The altar bread and wine for the month of November is offered for John, Malvina and Joseph David requested by Joann, Anthony and Lorraine David.

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.

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/>

LECTORS FOR NOVEMBER, 2025

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

Saturday, November 15,

Mae Dickinson

Intercessions: Annemarie Espindola

Sunday, November 16,

Ann Dupre / Gaby Baroody

Saturday, November 22,

Eric Tavares

Intercessions: Smitty David

Sunday, November 23,

Cayla Barbour / Elie Abou Kheir

Saturday, November 29,

Annemarie Espindola

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, November 30,

John Barbour / Hiba Chdid

(If you are unable to read on your given day, please contact Mae Dickinson).

WEEK OF OCTOBER 25-26, 2025

Sunday Collection	\$ 1,210.00
Matching Donations	\$ 1,000.00
Bazaar Donations	\$ 70.00
Bazaar Raffle Tickets	\$ 220.00
Candles	\$ 30.00
Total	\$ 2,530.00

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.

Our Lady of Purgatory Catholic Church

Annual Lebanese Holiday Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, November 15, 2025
10: 00 AM – 6:00 PM

Money & Basket
Raffles

Delicious
Lebanese Food

Caravan &
Silent Auction

Craft Tables

Desserts



Sunday, November 16, 2025
10: 00 AM – 3:00 PM

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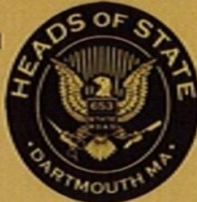


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