

# **Our Lady of Purgatory**

### **Maronite Catholic Church**



November 15-16, 2025

# SEASON OF THE GLORIOUS BIRTH OF OUR LORD ANNOUNCEMENT TO ZECHARIAH



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR MANY YEARS OF SERVICE DEACON JEAN

It is with mixed emotions of sadness and joy that I must announce that Deacon Jean Mattar will be leaving Our Lady of Purgatory Church as of December 3. The reason for this departure will become very clear in this notice.

Deacon Jean has served as our Deacon for over 28 years. He has served with faith, zeal, and love to the community of Our Lady of Purgatory Church. But now, God has a different plan for Deacon Jean and his wife Martha.

Deacon Jean will be assigned to Saint Theresa Maronite Church in Brockton for the next six months, assisting Fr. Christian Hbaiter. During this assignment, he will prepare to be ordained a priest, God willing, after his six-month assignment.

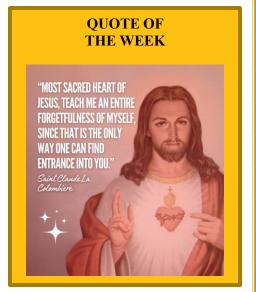
This is a blessing not only for Deacon Jean and Martha and their family, but for this community and other communities he will serve in the future. I know everyone here will miss him greatly. I know that I will miss him tremendously. He has been a wonderful Deacon, a dear friend, and an advocate for the well-being of this community. His deep commitment and great faith in the Maronite Church speak for itself by his actions and zeal for the faith.

Although it is difficult to see Deacon Jean leave, my heart is filled with great joy that now he can continue his journey serving God and His people. And he will do this with conviction and love for the church. We owe him, Martha, and his children, our prayers and well wishes for his new journey.

Deacon Jean and Martha, thank you for all you have done for this Church and for me. Although you will be assigned to Saint Theresa, you will always have a home here at Our Lady of Purgatory. You are loved and appreciated beyond words. And because this moment brings you much joy, I, along with this community, send you off with our best wishes, gratitude, love, and prayers.

May Almighty God bless you and your family as you begin the next chapter of ministry and your new journey of faith. Go in peace and serve the Lord!

"Much will be required of the person entrusted with much, and still more will be demanded of the person entrusted with more."



#### MYO GATHERINGS TO COME

Advisors and parents of the MYO met this week to discuss events and gatherings for the up-coming year. Our first gathering will be on Sunday, December 14, to go and sing Christmas carols to two or three nursing homes in the New Bedford area. We will meet before that to go over the songs. Last year, the residents of these nursing homes were filled with much joy from all of you. I am happy we will be able to bring them more joy this year.

A calendar of events will be published soon. These will be sent to all of you and your parents. I would like to thank Vivian Yazbeck, Jacques Barbour, and Sister Therese who have been instrumental in organizing these events. Looking forward to another exciting and spiritual filled year with all of you.

Fr. Vincent Farhat, Pastor | Rev. Mr. Jean Mattar, Deacon Address: 4254 Acushnet Ave. New Bedford, MA 02745

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.

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY SAYEDNA GREGORY



All of us would like to wish Bishop Gregory a happy and blessed birthday. We are happy that you have not turned retirement age yet. So, with that being said, we wish you many more years filled with God's blessings and good health. Thank you for all you have done for God's people.

# THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

Our Church will be sponsoring an annual Thanksgiving Food Drive to families in need in our help 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.

## ANGEL PROGRAM

Will you consider being an Angel for our Children's Christmas Pageant? The proceeds of the Angel Program will benefit the children's pageant, and the other half will be sent to **Caritas Lebanon and Tele Lumiere**. Please fill out a form that is located at the entrances of the Church. Thank you for your generosity.

# MATCHING DONATION FOR PARKING LOT

Cost needed \$ 18,000.00

Donations to date: \$ 7,500.00

Donations needed: \$ 10,500.00

#### 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 copy 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 the Parish Office contact officeolop@gmail.com or (508)- 996-8934.

## THE MAKING OF CHRISTMAS IOIN 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

#### 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.

#### 2026 OLOP DINING BOOK

Dining Books are now on sale just in time for Christmas. These are great gifts for family and friends. These books contain 6 dinners that are planned over the next few months. They are:

Ham and Bean Supper, Saturday, January 24, beginning at 5:30 PM. Lenten Fish Fry, February 27,

Lenten Fish Fry, February 27, beginning at 5:00 PM.

Lenten Fish Fry, Friday, March 13, beginning at 5:00 PM

Lenten Fish Fry, Friday, March 27, beginning at 5:00 PM

A Taste of Italy, Saturday, April 18, beginning at 5:00 PM

Saj Sunday, May 17, beginning at 11:30 AM

A \$100.00 value all yours for \$85.00. If you would like to purchase these books, please contact the office at 508-996-8934 or email the office at officelop@gmail.com

#### 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/



#### LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 15, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saints Gurias, Samonas, and Habib the Deacon). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Elizabeth Grenier requested by Annie Costa (FM). May her soul rest in peace.

Sunday, November 16, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Matthew Evangelist). Liturgy is being offered for a special intention requested by Zakhia and Hiba Chdid.

Tuesday, November 18, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Romanos (Raymond), Feast of Saint Rose Philippine Duchesne).

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

Wednesday, November 19, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Pope Saint Pontian).

Thursday, November 20, @ 9:00 PM, (Feast of Saint Gregory of the **Decapolis**). Liturgy is being offered for a special intention.

Saturday, November 22, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saints Joachim and Anne. Parents of Our Lady, the Virgin Mary). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Daniel Tavares requested by Mike and Diane LeBlanc. May his soul rest in peace.

Sunday, November 23, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Sassine, Bishop of Cyzicus). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Mark Thomas requested by family. May his soul rest in peace.

#### **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.

#### THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR ....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for a special intention by Smitty Cabral. 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

Beverly Landreth, Dawn Marie Hogan, Michael Morad, David Matos, Gavla Matos, Genevieve Tayeh, Nayeli Nassif, Maria Baptista, Ligia Baptista, Sophie Correa, Stephen DaCosta, Kenneth Muriel Macedo. Moline. Patricia Ghada Karam, Beverly Farhat, 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.

#### LECTORS FOR NOVEMBER, 2025

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).

#### DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF 11/17-11/22/25

#### Monday:

Romans 4: 1-12

John 8: 31-37

#### **Tuesday:**

Romans 2: 1-8

John 8: 38-40

#### Wednesday:

Romans 2: 9-16

John 8: 41-45

#### Thursday:

Romans 2: 17-29

John 8: 46 -50

#### Friday:

Romans 3:1-12

John 8: 51-55

#### Saturday:

Romans 3:21-31

John 8: 56-59

#### WEEK OF NOVEMBER 8-9. 2025

| <b>Sunday Collection</b>     | \$<br>1,531.00 |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Bazaar Food Sales</b>     | \$<br>45.00    |
| <b>Bazaar Raffle Tickets</b> | \$<br>150.00   |
| <b>Memorial Donations</b>    | \$<br>400.00   |
| Donations                    | \$<br>70.00    |
| Coffee Hour                  | \$<br>56.00    |
| Candles                      | \$<br>247.00   |
| Total                        | \$<br>2,499.00 |

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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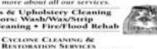
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Zakhia Chedid 774-444-3337 Monday, Wednesday & Friday 1-60m

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152 Dean Street, Taunton, MA 508-837-0790





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

Your Loving Children

