



Our Lady of Purgatory



Maronite Catholic Church

December 13-14, 2025

SEASON OF THE GLORIOUS BIRTH OF OUR LORD REVELATION TO JOSEPH

REVELATION TO JOSEPH



In the Maronite Church, the Sunday of the Revelation to Joseph stands as a quiet but powerful moment in our Season of the Glorious Birth. If the Annunciation to Mary reveals God's plan through grace, the revelation to Joseph reveals God's plan through trust. Joseph stands at the crossroads of confusion and faith. He is a righteous man, one who desires to do what is right, even when his heart is torn. The Gospel tells us that he "decided to divorce her quietly," not out of anger, but from humility and compassion. In the Maronite tradition, this struggle is not dismissed; it is dignified. God enters Joseph's interior battle and meets him in his silence. Just as the Lord sent Gabriel to Mary, He now sends an angel into Joseph's dream. Heaven bends down to speak to a simple carpenter, reminding us that God's greatest revelations often come in the quiet hours, when we least expect them.

The angel's message is firm, gentle, and transforming:

"Do not be afraid." Joseph must let divine courage replace human fear. "Take Mary your wife." God invites Joseph to embrace not only Mary, but the mystery she carries.

"The child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit." Joseph becomes the first witness to the Incarnation's hidden miracle.

"He will save His people from their sins." The promise given to David now rests in Joseph's hands.

In Maronite spirituality, Joseph's "yes" is not spoken with words rather it is spoken with obedience. He rises from sleep and does what the Lord commanded him. While Mary teaches us how to listen to God, Joseph teaches us how to act upon God's word even when the path is unclear.

Joseph's revelation assures us of three truths:

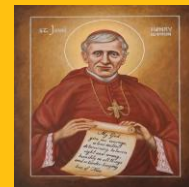
1. God works in the silence of our struggles. Joseph's distress becomes the doorway for divine consolation. God does not avoid our pain; He enters it.
2. Obedience opens the way for salvation. The Incarnation unfolds in time because one man quietly chose God's will over his own plans.
3. Faith is often lived more than spoken.

The Maronite Church honors Joseph as guardian, protector, and head of the Holy Family not through speeches but through steadfast presence.

As we journey toward the Birth of Christ, the Revelation to Joseph invites us to a similar spirit:

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Knowing by experience St. Joseph's astonishing influence with God, I would wish to persuade everyone to honor him with particular devotion. I have always seen those who honored him in a special manner make progress in virtue, for this heavenly protector favors in a striking manner the spiritual advancement of souls who commend themselves to him."
St. John Henry Newman



To trust even when we don't understand. To act with courage when God calls. To love without conditions. To protect what is holy. And to offer our silent "yes" in the ordinary moments of life. Joseph teaches us that holiness is not always dramatic. Sometimes it looks like waking up from a dream, confident that God spoke and simply doing the next right thing. May the quiet strength of Saint Joseph shape our hearts as we prepare to welcome Emmanuel, the God who comes to live with us, in our homes, in our struggles, and in our deepest silence.

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.

WELCOME DEACON NADIME KHALED



Welcome Deacon Nadime to OLOP! You are no stranger to this community, and we are thrilled that we will be with us during this joyous time of the Birth of Our Lord. May God continue to bless you as you prepare for your priestly ordination. Be assured of our prayers for you. Welcome Deacon Nadime!

CHRISTMAS NOVENA

Beginning December 15, we will begin our Christmas Novena. The schedule is posted below. I hope to see you for this beautiful prayer service.

- Monday, December 15,**
Divine liturgy begins at 6:30 PM,
Novena will begin at 7:00 PM
- Tuesday, December 16,**
Divine liturgy begins at 6:30 PM,
Novena will begin at 7:00 PM
- Wednesday, December 17,**
Divine liturgy begins at 6:30 PM,
Novena will begin at 7:00 PM
- Thursday, December 18,**
Divine liturgy begins at 6:30 PM,
Novena will begin at 7:00 PM
- Friday, December 19,**
Divine liturgy begins at 6:30 PM,
Novena will begin at 7:00 PM
- Saturday, December 20,**
Divine liturgy begins at 4:30 PM,
Novena will begin at 5:30 PM
- Sunday, December 21,**
Divine liturgy begins at 10:30 PM,
Novena will begin at 11:30 AM
- Monday, December 22,**
Divine liturgy begins at 6:30 PM,
Novena will begin at 7:00 PM
- Tuesday, December 23,**
Divine liturgy begins at 6:30 PM,
Novena will begin at 7:00 PM

CHRISTMAS DIVINE LITURGIES

Christmas Eve Vigil,
Wednesday, December 24,
Divine Liturgy will begin at 5:00 PM
Christmas Morning,
Thursday, December 25,
Divine Liturgy will begin at 10:30 AM
Friday, December 26,
Praises of the Mother of God
Divine Liturgy will begin @ 12:00 PM
New Year's Eve,
Wednesday, December 31,
Divine Liturgy will begin @ 5:00 PM
New Year's Day
Thursday, January 1, 2026,
Divine Liturgy will begin @ 12:00 PM

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, 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, start 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 officeolop@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE SAINT MARON'S DAY HAFLI

will be held on **Saturday, February 7,** at OLOP Church Hall. Of course you can expect great food, live entertainment, a cash bar, and desserts. Tickets are \$75.00 and Dance Floor Tickets are \$100.00. Please mark your calendars and join us for the great annual event. Tickets are now on sale. Please contact Sousou Maalouf or the Church Office.

Our Lady of Purgatory Church
Saint Maron's Hafli
 Saturday, February 7, 2026
 at
 OLOP Church Hall
 4254 Acushnet Ave, New Bedford, MA 02745



Live Entertainment
by
CHADI NADDAF
&
Bashir EL-Khoury Band

Doors Open
@ 7:00PM
Cash Bar & Mezza
Dinner served
@ 8:00 PM

Dance Floor Seating: \$ 100.00 (All Ages)
General Seating: \$ 75.00
Children (5-17): \$ 40.00
Children (under 5 yrs./general seating):
No Charge

For Ticket Sales Contact:
 Sousou Maalouf:(508)-916-1523
 Church Office:(508)-996-8934

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 13, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Lucy). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Ann Farhat requested by the family. May her soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Daniel Tavares requested by Linda Hirst. May his soul rest in peace.

Sunday, December 14, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Nemtallah El-Hardini). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Joseph and Louise Dupre requested by the family. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Estephan Diab requested by Jacques and Amal Barbour. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Maurice and Nina Daou and Habib and Marie Daou requested by the Daou family. May their souls rest in peace.

Monday, December 15, @ 6:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Eleutherius and His Mother).

Tuesday, December 16, @ 6:30 PM, (Feast of Haggai the Prophet). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Mark Moses requested by the family (FM). May his soul rest in peace.

From 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM, Eucharistic Adoration. NO ADORATION.

Wednesday, December 17, @ 6:30 PM, (Feast of The Three Young Men: Ananias, Azarias, and Misael).

Thursday, December 18, @ 6:30 AM, (Feast of Daniel the Prophet).

Friday, December 19, @ 6:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Athenodorus).

Saturday, December 20, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Ignatius of Antioch). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of John, Malvina David, Joseph David and the living and deceased members of their families requested by Mariam David and family. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Ronald and Mariann Cunha requested by Lou and Smitty Cabral. May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, December 21, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Julian of Tarsus). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Fred Thomas, Joao and Fernanda Baptista, Mena Carvalho, and Edigio Baptista requested by Fernanda Thomas. May their souls rest in peace.

WINE AND HOST OFFERING

The altar bread and wine for the month of December is offered for Estephan Diab requested by Jacques and Amal Barbour.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for a special intention by John and Claire 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.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Beverly Landreth, Dawn Marie Hogan, Michael Morad, David Matos, Gayla Matos, Genevieve Tayeh, Nayeli Nassif, Maria 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, 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.

CONFESSION

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

DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF 12/15-12/20/25

Monday:

Romans 10: 14-21

John 7: 1-10

Tuesday:

Romans 11: 1-12

John 7: 11-18

Wednesday:

Romans 11: 13-24

John 7: 25-30

Thursday:

Romans 11: 25-36

John 7: 31-36

Friday:

Romans 12:1-8

John 7: 37-44

Saturday:

Romans 12: 9-21

John 7: 45-53

2026

YEARLY ENVELOPES

This year we will begin a new system for the contribution envelopes. The weekly envelopes will be mailed out every four months to all the parishioners. Nothing else will change and those who use the envelopes will be able to obtain their tax deduction letters from the church. Thank you for your generosity and understanding.

LECTORS FOR DECEMBER, 2025

Saturday, December 13,
Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, December 14,
Ann Dupre / Jano Baroody

Saturday, December 20,
Eric Tavares

Intercessions: Annemarie Espindola

Sunday, December 21,
Cayla Barbour / Gaby Baroody

Wednesday, December 24,
Christmas Eve,

Jacques Barbour / Jano Baroody

Thursday, December 25,
Christmas Day,

Mae Dickinson / TBA

Saturday, December 27,
Annemarie Espindola

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, December 28,
John Barbour / Elie Abou Kheir

Wednesday, December 31,
New Year's Eve,

Eric Tavares / Elie Abou Kheir

Thursday, January 1, 2026,
New Year's Day

TBA

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

WEEK OF DECEMBER 6-7, 2025

Sunday Collection	\$ 2,188.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 220.00
Bazaar Food Sale	\$ 125.00
Matching Donations	\$ 300.00
Lebanese Market	\$ 15.00
Angel Program	\$ 225.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 249.00
Sanctuary Candle	\$ 25.00
Total	\$ 3,347.00

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.

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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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