



Our Lady of Purgatory

Maronite Catholic Church



December 20-21, 2025

SEASON OF THE GLORIOUS BIRTH OF OUR LORD GENEALOGY SUNDAY



MY CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO ALL OF YOU

As we prepare for the Birth of Our Lord, I would like to wish all of you a blessed and joyous Christmas filled with Christ's love and peace.

This time of the year reminds us how much God loves each of us by sending God incarnate. The one who will save His people. The Lord of Lords, the Prince of Peace.

In this joyful feast of Christmas, we are reminded of God's abundant love for us in the coming among us of Jesus, the light of the world. He comes in the darkest time of the year so that our lives can be brightened by his message of love.

In His coming among us, Jesus reconciled us with God. By his very life, Jesus shows us that God wants his love to spread to the world. We have a part to play in the message of Christmas as we are called to be instruments of that love for others. May we as Catholics extend that kindness to

others and restore hope in our world, not just at Christmas, but all year.

May we welcome Jesus with great joy. I hope that you and your loved ones have a wonderful Christmas and experience God's boundless love in the year ahead.

Merry Christmas.

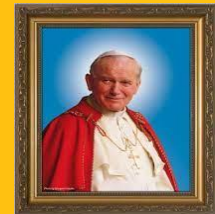
Fr. Vincent Farhat

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

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"On this night God answers the ceaseless cry of the peoples: Come, Lord, save us! His eternal Word of love has taken on our mortal flesh. 'Your Word, O Lord, came down from his royal throne.' The Word has entered into time: Emmanuel, God-with-us, is born."
Pope John Paul II



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.

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

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.

WITH GRATITUDE AND THANKS

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to our beloved pastor and to every member of our parish for the beautiful farewell celebration. Your kindness, your presence, and the overwhelming generosity you showed touched me more than I can express. To all who contributed in any way, for the food, those who prepared it, those who served, organized, decorated, and worked quietly behind the scenes, please know how humbled and grateful I am. I am not worthy of such love and generosity. I have only tried to serve as any deacon should, yet you embraced me far beyond anything I deserve.

To those who offered gifts, tokens of affection, and especially to our pastor who presented me with the two beautiful Waterford gifts on behalf of the community, thank you. These are reminders not of things, but of the love, faith, and friendship we share. Most of all, to the wonderful people of this parish: you will always be with me. You welcomed me, supported me, and became my family. I carry you in my heart and in my prayers. May God bless you for your goodness, your faith, and the witness you give to His love. With humility and gratitude,
Deacon Jean

MABROOK MABROOK

Congratulations to Jacob and Jillian Barbour on the arrival of their baby boy Tanios Jacques Barbour. We also congratulate Tete and Jido Jacques and Amal Barbour, Great Tete and Jido Tony and Elaine Barbour, and all the Barbour and Faria family. May Almighty God protect and keep Tanios in His loving arms. Mabrook!

Congratulations to Leonardo and Emily Chedid on the arrival of their baby boy Charbel Chedid. We also congratulate Tete and Jido Charbel and Antoinette Chedid, and the entire family. May Almighty God protect and keep Charbel in His loving arms. Mabrook!

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 by email at officeolop@gmail.com

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for a John David by Mariam David and family. 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.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT BLESSING

The children of Our Lady of Purgatory Church presented once again a beautiful and heartfelt Christmas Pageant under the direction of Mathew Thomas and Vicki Thomas Marini. We are so proud of our children for bringing the true meaning of Christmas to us. We thank Jacques Barbour and Louise Tibbals for their artistic contributions. God bless our children and community. Merry Christmas to all of you.



LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 20, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Ignatius of Antioch). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of John and 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.

Monday, December 22, @ 6:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Anastasia of the Balkans). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of the deceased members of the Progressive Lebanese – American Club (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

Tuesday, December 23, @ 6:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Eugenia). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Vincent Termini. May his soul rest in peace.

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

Wednesday, December 24, @ 5:00 PM, (Vigil of the Glorious Birth). Liturgy is offered for all the Parishioners and Friends of Our Lady of Purgatory.

Thursday, December 25, @ 10:30 AM, (The Glorious Birth of Our Lord).

Friday, December 26, @ 12:00 PM, (Praises of the Mother of God). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Nan Farhat requested by the family. May her soul rest in peace.

Saturday, December 27, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Stephen, the First Martyr, the First Deacon). Liturgy is being offered for Mariam David and the living and deceased members of her family requested by Mariam David and family. Liturgy is being offered for the good health of Janet Hesketh requested by James and Lisa House.

Sunday, December 28, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Marina (Margaret) in Pisidia). Remember Me In Your Kingdom Liturgy. Liturgy is being offered for all souls in the Book of Life. May they rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Thomas and Octavia David requested by the family. May their souls rest in peace.

LECTORS FOR DECEMBER, 2025

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 / TBA

Thursday, January 1, 2026,

New Year's Day

TBA

(If you are unable 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.

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.

WEEK OF DECEMBER 13-14, 2025

Sunday Collection	\$ 1,381.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 80.00
Food Sale	\$ 160.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 13.00
Sanctuary Candle	\$ 40.00
Total	\$ 1,674.00

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 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

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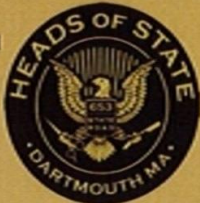
401-837-0664

Tuesday & Thurs

1-6pm

Saturday

1-5pm



Zakhia Chedid

774-444-3337

Monday,

Wednesday &

Friday

1-6pm

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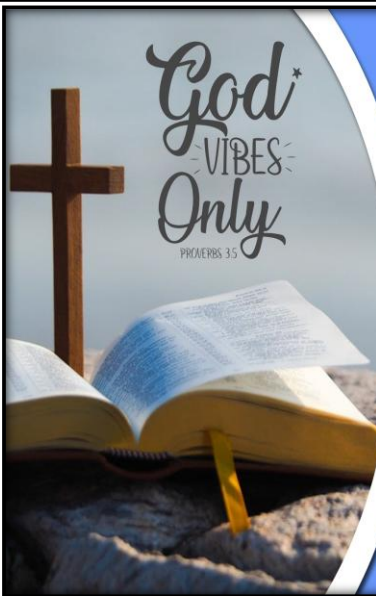
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Tuesday & Thursday..... 9-6pm

Saturday..... 9-4pm

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