



Our Lady of Purgatory

Maronite Catholic Church



January 10-11, 2026

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY



FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Our Baptism: A Call to Live as Children of Light (Maronite Reflection)

In the Maronite Church, the Season of Epiphany is not only about remembering what happened long ago, it is about God revealing Himself today. From the visit of the Magi to the baptism of the Lord, to His first miracles, Christ is made known as the Light who enters our world.

Today, as we reflect on the baptism of Jesus, we hear the Father's voice: "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." In the Syriac and Maronite spiritual tradition, this moment is deeply personal. God does not reveal Himself from a distance rather He comes close. He enters the water, He sanctifies creation, and He restores what was broken by sin.

Baptism: Our New Birth

In the Maronite rite, baptism is called a new birth, a passage from darkness into light. When we were baptized, God placed His seal upon us. He claimed us as His own. Before we achieved anything, before we proved ourselves worthy, God loved

us. This is important, because many people today live as if they must earn God's love. They feel unworthy because of past mistakes, weaknesses, or failures. But Epiphany proclaims the opposite:

God's love comes first.

Faith Lived, Not Just Celebrated. The Maronite Church has always emphasized that faith must be lived daily, not only professed with words. Our ancestors kept the faith alive through persecution, hardship, migration, and suffering, not because life was easy, but because they knew who they belonged to.

Living our baptism means:

Remaining faithful even when it is inconvenient. Choosing forgiveness over resentment

Trusting God during illness, family struggles, and uncertainty. Passing the faith on to our children not only by teaching, but by example. Our homes are meant to be small churches. Our daily lives are meant to reflect the light we received at baptism.

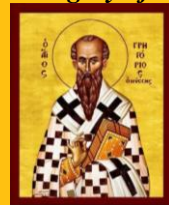
A Call to Return to the Jordan

Epiphany invites us to return spiritually to

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

On purgatory: If a man distinguish in himself what is peculiarly human from that which is irrational, and if he be on the watch for a life of greater urbanity for himself, in this present life he will purify himself of any evil contracted, overcoming the irrational by reason. If he was inclined to the irrational pressure of the passions, using for the passions the cooperating hide of things irrational, he may afterward in a quite different manner be very much interested in what is better. When, after his departure out of the body, he gains knowledge of the difference between virtue and vice and find that is not able to partake of divinity until he has been purged of the fifty contagion in his soul by the purifying fire.

Saint Gregory of Nyssa



the Jordan River to remember who we are. Each time we make the sign of the cross, we renew that identity.

In a world that constantly tells us we are defined by success, wealth, or status, Christ reminds us: You are defined by God's love.

May this First Sunday after Epiphany renew our baptismal promises, strengthen our Maronite identity, and help us walk as true children of the Light faithful, humble, and rooted in Christ.

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.

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

IN OUR PRAYERS

Reggie Thomas, 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, please contact the office.

LECTORS FOR JANUARY,

Saturday, January 10,

Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, January 11,

Ann Dupre / Jano Baroody

Saturday, January 17,

Annemarie Espindola

Intercessions: Smitty Cabral

Sunday, January 18,

Cayla Barbour / Hiba Chdid

Saturday, January 24,

Mae Dickinson

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, January 25,

Rana Choubah / Elie Abou Kheir

Saturday, January 31,

Eric Tavares

Intercessions: Annemarie Espindola

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.



LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 10, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Dan Tavares requested by Lou and Smitty Cabral. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Julia Maroon and her family (FM). May her soul rest in peace.

Sunday, January 11, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Pope Saint Theodosius of Antioch). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Octavia David requested by the family (40- Day Mass). May her soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Walter and Janet Lalor requested by Jimmy Thomas and family. May their souls rest in peace.

Tuesday, January 13, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Jacob of Nisibis). **NO LITURGY.**

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

Wednesday, January 14, @ 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers, Doctor of the Church). **NO LITURGY.**

Thursday, January 15, @ 9:00 PM, (Feast of Our Lady of the Sowing, Feast of Saint John Caly bites). **NO LITURGY.**

Saturday, January 17, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Anthony the Great). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Diana Rahme and Muriel Espinasse requested by their family. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Nancy David (FM). May her soul rest in peace.

Sunday, January 18, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of the Establishment of the Chair of Saint Peter in Rome, Feast of Saint Athanasius of Alexandria, Doctor of the Church, Feast of Saint Cyril of Alexandria, Doctor of the Church). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Samir and Georgette Sawaya requested by Zakhia and Hiba Chdid family. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Joseph Nader requested by Joann Longdon. May his soul rest in peace.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

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



St. Francis Xavier School
Acushnet, MA

SAVE-THE-DATE Open House

JOIN US SUNDAY 1/25 FROM 12-2:00PM!

- Take a tour
- Meet our amazing teachers
- Applications open for new families on Feb. 2nd



WINE AND HOST OFFERING

The altar bread and wine for the month of January is offered for the soul of Mansour Barbour requested by Norma Barbour and family.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for the soul of Samir Sawaya 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.

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.

WEEK OF JANUARY 3-4, 2026

Sunday Collection	\$ 1,703.00
December Online Giving	\$ 1,816.18
New Years Offering	\$ 501.00
Epiphany Offering	\$ 641.00
Dining Books Sale	\$ 1,025.00
Hall Renovation	\$ 800.00
Holy Water Bottles	\$ 54.00
Donations	\$ 200.00
Epiphany Coffee Hour	\$ 120.00
Wine & Host Offering	\$ 75.00
Hafli Ticket Sales	\$ 150.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 39.00
Sanctuary Candles	\$ 10.00
Candles	\$ 162.00
Total	\$ 7,296.18

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

Maronite Catholic Church

2nd Annual Ham & Bean Supper

5:30pm Saturday, January 24th, 2026

OLOP Community Center



Ham, beans, coleslaw, homemade cornbread, beverages and desserts!

Tickets: \$20 Adult, \$5 Children under 10
Please call the office at 508-996-8934 or email the office at officeolop@gmail.com for tickets.

BARBERSHOP x LOUNGE

CHEDID Cuts

EST. 2022



Christophe Chedid

Barbershop Owner

+1 (508) 343 - 0099

chedidcuts@gmail.com

@chedidcuts

578 Dartmouth St.
South Dartmouth, MA 02748

ROUTE 18

GAS & SERVICE

Complete Automotive Repair
Foreign / Domestic
State Inspection Station

Eli Nassif

508-998-3445

Fax 508-998-9549

4227 Acushnet Ave.

New Bedford, MA 02745



We Sell Diesel Fuel

Counseling ASSOCIATES

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

M & S Excavation



Milad Maalouf

Licensed



LAND CLEARING • SITE WORK
ROADS • SEPTIC SYSTEMS

134 Old Westport Road
N. Dartmouth, MA 02747

508-971-0067
Fax 508-991-5631



YOUR LOCAL CLEANING & RESTORATION SPECIALISTS

Whether you need post construction cleaning, carpet or upholstery cleaning, or complete fire and flood clean-up and restoration, Cyclone can take care of it quickly and professionally. A local, family owned business, Cyclone takes special care with each and every project.



Visit www.CycloneCleaning.com to learn more about all our services.

Carpets & Upholstery Cleaning
Floors: Wash/Wax/Strip
Heavy Cleaning • Fire/Flood Rehab



CYCLONE CLEANING & RESTORATION SERVICES

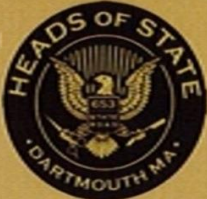
Proudly serving Greater New Bedford for 30 years

508-993-8016 • Anthony David

653 Mt. Pleasant St. • New Bedford • www.CycloneCleaning.com

FULL SERVICE SALON

Wassim Chedid
401-837-0664
Tuesday & Thurs
1-6pm
Saturday
1-5pm



Zakhia Chedid
774-444-3337
Monday,
Wednesday &
Friday
1-6pm

WWW.HEADSOFSTATESALON.COM

North Dartmouth, MA

653 State Road (Route 6) • 508-999-0177

SALON PERSIA

308 THAYER STREET, PROVIDENCE, RI

Wassim Chedid 401-837-0664
Tuesday & Saturday 9-12:30pm
Wednesday & Friday 9-6pm

Zakhia Chedid 774-444-3337
Monday & Friday 9-12:30pm
Tuesday & Thursday 9-6pm
Saturday 9-4pm

401-831-9536 • WWW.SALONPERSIA.COM

God
VIBES
Only

PROVERBS 35

For all your jewelry needs



A & A Jewelers

Your Trusted Jeweler
for over 28 years

508-992-5320

Located: 279 State Rd. Dartmouth, MA 02747

www.aajewelersinc.com



Joseph & Marie Kenyon

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.

Your Loving Children

OVER 75 YEARS OF MASONRY & CONCRETE CRAFTSMANSHIP



DUPRE

BLOCK • BRICK • GLASS BLOCK
BLUESTONE • FIELDSTONE • COBBLESTONE

Cutting and Core Drill • Driveways
Steel Fabrication and Installation
Handicap Access

508-993-8088

369 Nash Rd. • New Bedford

www.duprecontractors.com