



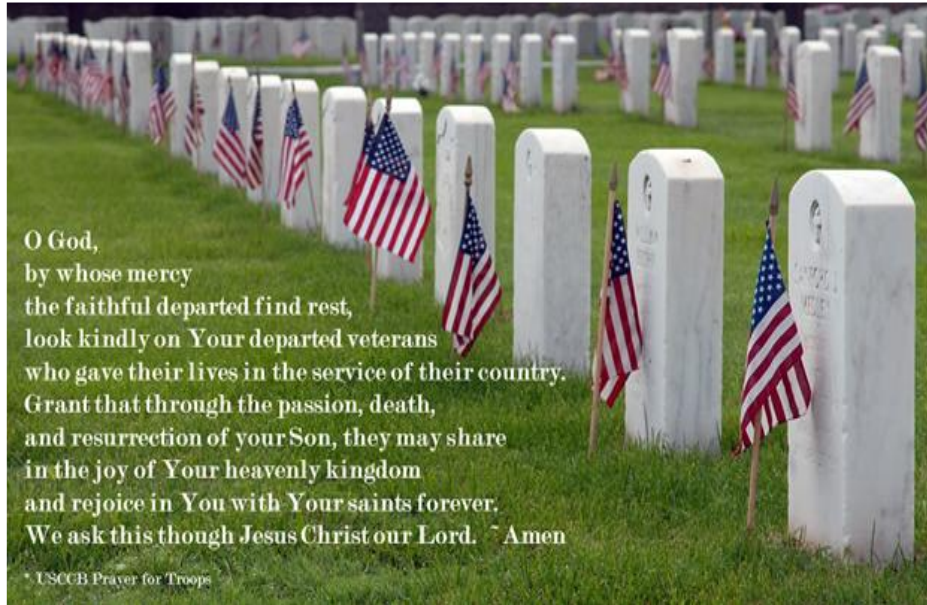
Our Lady of Purgatory

Maronite Catholic Church



May 23-24, 2026

PENTECOST SUNDAY



O God,
 by whose mercy
 the faithful departed find rest,
 look kindly on Your departed veterans
 who gave their lives in the service of their country.
 Grant that through the passion, death,
 and resurrection of your Son, they may share
 in the joy of Your heavenly kingdom
 and rejoice in You with Your saints forever.
 We ask this though Jesus Christ our Lord. ~ Amen

* USCCB Prayer for Troops

MEMORIAL DAY WHY WE REMEMBER

At its heart, Memorial Day calls us to honor the men and women of our Armed Forces who gave their lives in service to this country. Their sacrifice echoes the words of Christ: *“Greater love has no one than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends”* (John 15:13). These fallen heroes remind us that true freedom is not free, it is paid for in courage, in blood, and too often, in youth.

For Catholics, remembering the dead is an act of mercy and love. In every Mass, we recall the faithful departed, asking God to grant them eternal rest. On Memorial Day, we extend this sacred duty especially to those who died defending our freedoms. We not only remember them—we pray for them.

How We Can Honor Their Memory

We begin by lifting them up in prayer. Consider offering a Rosary or attending Mass for the repose of the souls of our

fallen soldiers. Visit a cemetery, if possible, especially a military one and offer prayers for those buried there. If you see their names, speak to them aloud. As Catholics, we know the power of intercession and the communion of saints—perhaps one day, these heroes may intercede for us in turn.

Teach your children not just about barbecues and parades, but about the meaning behind the day. Tell them about sacrifice. Tell them that faith and freedom are gifts worth protecting. Tell them that courage, when rooted in love and justice, is a virtue.

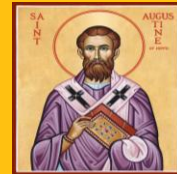
We can also serve the living. Many families carry the heavy burden of loss—widows, widowers, children without parents. Memorial Day is a time to comfort the brokenhearted. Reach out to a veteran, a Gold Star family, or someone who has lost a loved one to war. Let them know they are not forgotten.

What This Day Calls Us Toward

Memorial Day is not a glorification of

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*Breathe in me O Holy Spirit that my thoughts may all be holy;
 Act in me O Holy Spirit that my works, too, may be holy;
 Draw my heart O Holy spirit that I love but what is holy;
 Strengthen me O Holy Spirit to defend that is holy;
 Guard me then O Holy Spirit that I always may be holy.
 Saint Augustine of Hippo*



war, but a witness to love. It reminds us that true peace must be built on justice, that freedom must be protected by virtue, and that the soul of a nation depends on its memory.

As Catholics, we look to Christ, who conquered death, and we know that those who have died in the service of others are not lost—they await the Resurrection. We entrust them to the mercy of God and ask that He bless our country with peace, integrity, and leaders who serve with humility and wisdom.

Let us carry forward the memory of our fallen, not just in words, but in lives of holiness, gratitude, and faithful citizenship. And may this Memorial Day be not only a moment of national pause—but a day of deep, reverent prayer.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

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.

CALLING 2026 GRADUATES

As we come closer to graduation day, I would like to congratulate our 2026 graduates. I am asking for this year's list of graduates to be sent to me by email so that we may offer liturgy and acknowledge you.

Parents, please send the name of your children who are graduating from High School, the school they graduated from and the college they will be attending in the fall. College and/or Graduate students, please tell me where you graduated from, your major, and what your future plans hold for you.

We are very proud of all our young adults and wish you all the best in the future. May God continue to bless you and hold you in His loving arms.

HALL RENOVATION SCHEDULE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The dates are set to begin the work at the hall. I am asking for volunteers to help do the painting. Please let me know if you can assist with the painting. Below is the schedule for the work to be done.

- May 26 10:00 AM:**
Priming of walls and painting of hallway and classrooms
- May 27 10:00 AM:**
Painting of the hall
- May 28 10:00 AM:**
Painting of the hall
- May 29 10:00 AM:**
Painting of the hall and cleanup

Although we will begin painting at 10:00 AM, we will be working in there throughout the day and early evening. Thank you for your help and assistance.

FATHER'S DAY RAFFLE

The Education Foundation is sponsoring **Father's Day Raffle**. You can enjoy a **bottle of Jameson's 18-year-old Irish Whiskey (\$150.00 value) or \$150.00 Lowe's gift certificate**. Tickets are **\$20.00/each- 3 for \$50.00**. All the proceeds will benefit the Education Foundation Scholarship program. This will allow this foundation to continue to offer scholarships to our high school seniors and undergraduate college students to help with their education. Please support their effort. God bless.

FATHER'S DAY BRUNCH

Calling all women, mothers, wives, daughters and sons who would like to help. We will have a special Father's Day Brunch on **Sunday, June 21**, immediately following Divine Liturgy. This is our way of saying thank you to all the men in our lives. I hope you will join us on this special day honoring our Fathers.

2026 EDUCATION FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Applications for the 2026 Education Foundation Scholarships will be emailed this week. The Education Foundation Members have worked very hard to replenish monies needed to award our young men and women a scholarship to help in their education.

Any High School Senior who will be attending college in the fall, and any Undergraduate College student are encouraged to apply for these scholarships. There will be 2 scholarships awarded for the 2026 school year. These scholarships will be emailed and must be completed by and returned by **Sunday, May 31, 2026**. Please follow the instructions and supply the necessary documents to be considered for these scholarships. If you have any questions, please reach out to any of the foundation members or Fr. Vincent.

SAJ SUNDAY TO BE RESCHEDULED

Saj Sunday has been postponed and will be rescheduled at a later date. I apologize for the inconvenience and appreciate your understanding. We will inform you when we reschedule.

GET READY FOR THE 2026 ANNUAL LEBANESE FESTIVAL

It may seem like it is too early to even think about the Lebanese Festival, but we are not! Every year our festival keeps getting bigger and better and that is because of you! After Mother's Day, we will begin preparing for this event and I am calling upon all of you. It is my hope that many of you will help in different ways, including our youth and young people. I ask you to think about how you can assist in making this festival the best one ever. The tents have been reserved and the stage is set.

The festival will take place on:
Friday, September 11,
from 5-11 PM,
Saturday, September 12,
from 12-11PM,
and Sunday, September 13,
from 12-5PM.

I hope you are as excited as I am to host our brothers and sisters from around the area and beyond. I thank you in advance for your help and commitment to our Church. Blessings.

SUMMER

"We Believe"

BIBLE CAMP

Join us for our Light of Life Bible Camp

AUGUST 18-21 | 10AM TO 2PM

Saint Anthony of the Desert Maronite Church
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- Lessons on the Creed
- Exciting Games & Activities
- Creative Crafts & Snacks
- Music & Singing
- Friendship & Fun

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Scan QR Code to Register

Camp open to Grades K-6
Cost: \$75 per child

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, May 23, 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Tobit the Righteous). Liturgy is offered for the souls of Roufael and Shoushlia Gabriel and the deceased members of their family requested by Joann, Anthony and Lorraine David. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is offered for the soul of Norma Thomas requested by Mariam David and Family. May her soul rest in peace.

Sunday, May 24, 10:30 AM, Pentecost Sunday, (Feast of Saint Simeon the Stylite, Disciple of Saint Maron). Liturgy is offered for the souls of Youssef and Semaan ElKhoury requested by Family. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is offered for the soul of Abouna Boutros Nasr requested by the Family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is offered for the souls of Anthony and Margaret Abraham Thomas requested by the Family. May their souls rest in peace.

Tuesday, May 26, 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Carpus, Disciple of Saint Paul). NO LITURGY.

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

Wednesday, May 27, 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saints Theodora and Didymus).

Thursday, May 28, 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Heliconis). NO LITURGY.

Saturday, May 30, 4:30 PM, (Feast of Pope Saint Felix I). Liturgy is offered for the souls of Olivia and Harold Smith and Alfred LeBeau requested by Lou and Smitty Cabral. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is offered for the soul of Sue Spears requested by Ida Farhat. May her soul rest in peace.

Sunday, May 31, 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Petronilla, Feast of Saint Hermias). Remember Me In Your Kingdom Liturgy. Liturgy is offered for all souls in the Book of Life. May they rest in peace. Liturgy is offered for the soul of David Dickinson requested by Mae Dickinson and Family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is offered for the soul of Tarek Souaiby requested by Norma Jean Barbour and Family. 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.

WINE AND HOST OFFERING

The altar bread and wine for the month of May is offered in memory of Anthony and Margaret Thomas requested by the Family.

LECTORS FOR MAY/ JUNE, 2026

Saturday, May 23,

Annemarie Espindola

Intercessions: Smitty Cabral

Sunday, May 24,

Halim Choubah / Joumana Chedid

Saturday, May 30,

Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Annemarie Espindola

Sunday, May 31,

Mae Dickinson / Hiba Chdid

Saturday, June 6,

Eric Tavares

Intercessions: Smitty Cabral

Sunday, June 7,

Rana Choubah / Gaby Baroody

Saturday, June 13,

Annemarie Espindola

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, June 14,

Ann Dupre / Elie Abou Kheir

Saturday, June 20,

Rachael Higgins

Intercessions: Anna & Helen Higgins

Sunday, June 21,

John Barbour / Jano Baroody

Saturday, June 27,

Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, June 28,

Mae Dickinson / Hiba Chdid

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

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for Shirley Azar Roy by 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.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Theresa Saab, Reggie Thomas, Beverly Landreth, 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, Zita Drouin, Lucienne Rodrigues and Edmond Salameh. If anyone is missing, please contact the office.

WEEK OF MAY 16-17, 2026

Sunday Collection	\$ 1,692.00
Second Collection	\$ 232.00
Lebanese Market	\$ 25.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 73.00
Total	\$ 2,022.00

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.

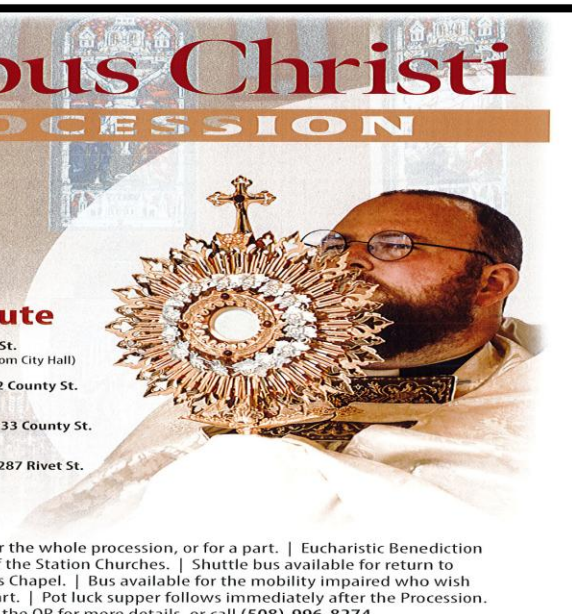
Corpus Christi

PROCESSION

Date
Sunday, June 7, 2026

Time
Begins 2:00 pm
Ends 5:00 pm

Procession Route
Our Lady's Chapel - 600 Pleasant St.
(across from the Library, kitty-corner from City Hall)
St. Lawrence Martyr Church - 562 County St.
(between Hillman St. and North St.)
Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish - 233 County St.
(between Fair St. and Rockland St.)
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church - 287 Rivet St.
(between Crapo St. and Bonney St.)



Join us for the whole procession, or for a part. | Eucharistic Benediction at each of the Station Churches. | Shuttle bus available for return to Our Lady's Chapel. | Bus available for the mobility impaired who wish to take part. | Pot luck supper follows immediately after the Procession. Scan the QR for more details, or call (508)-996-8274.

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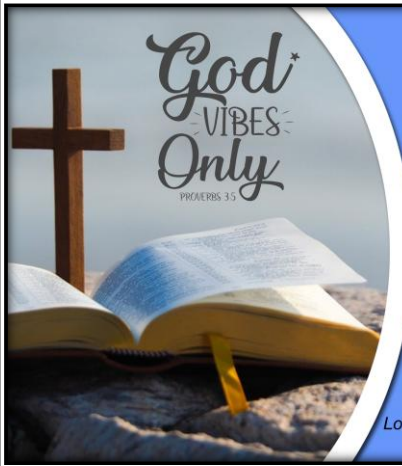


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Joseph & Marie Kenyon

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.

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