

Our Lady of Purgatory

Maronite Catholic Church



November 23-24, 2024

SEASON OF THE GLORIOUS BIRTH OF OUR LORD ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE VIRGIN MARY

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Thanksgiving Day brings back many memories and wonderful moments to my mind. A day when it seems as if the world stops, and all Americans join with their families and give thanks to God for what they have. This is how Thanksgiving began here in the United States of America.

When the first pilgrims came to Plymouth Rock in 1621, they arrived in the late fall. More than half of them died that winter but as soon as spring arrived, they planted their crops and grew enough for them to survive during the next winter. The pilgrims as well as the Indians (as it is recognized), would give thanks to God for their gifts of food and family. It wasn't until Abraham Lincoln declared this a National Holiday in 1683 and this holiday has been with us ever since.

This is a time for all of us to gather with our families and loved ones and to give thanks to God for the wonderful gifts He as blessed us with. It is a time to reminisce about our loved ones, who have gone before us, who sacrificed so much for us to be a part of this great nation. It is a time to give thanks for this great land where opportunity is abundant and freedom is a right for each one of us. This is a time where we honor the great men and women who protect our freedoms.

I wish for each of you a very blessed and Happy Thanksgiving with your families and loved ones. May it be filled with the memories of our ancestors who travelled here to give us what this great country stands for---freedom, liberty, and justice for all. Happy Thanksgiving.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Devotion to you, O Blessed Virgin, is a means of salvation which God gives to those whom he wishes to save." Saint John Damascene



WE ARE ALMOST THERE

As we approach the end of 2024, we must look back on our journey with pride and awe. December 8 will mark our one-year anniversary at our new home, and I am so proud of what we have accomplished as a community.

We have sold the Lebanese Center, the former rectory, and will be closing on the former Church on Franklin Street on December 12. That will leave us with 2 parking lots to sell. After the sale of the Church, we will still owe the Diocese of Fall River \$240,000.00 of the original \$1.6 million purchase price for the property. We will continue to pay our monthly loan to the Knights of Columbus. Our Capital Campaign is now at \$390,000.00, which is still \$260,000.00 of our Goal. If we can raise this \$260,000.00 by December 31, we will be able to pay off the Fall River Diocese, which will

allow them to waive the accrued interest from the past 20 months. This will mean that the loan from Fall River will have been interest free. As you can see, our goal is to pay them off by the end of the year.

Many of you have contributed to the Capital Campaign and I thank you all for your generosity towards our goal. Now I am asking those who have not contributed, who are willing and, in a position to do so, to please consider helping us reach our goal. There are many items in the Church which can be dedicated in memory of a loved one for your donation.

Over the past year, your comments and enthusiasm have reinforced my belief that this move was for the future good of this community



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.

GRATITUDE TO THE ANTHONY ABRAHAM FOUNDATION

Our thanks and gratitude go out to Thomas Abraham, Norma Jean Abraham, and the Members of the Anthony Abraham Foundation for their generous donation of \$25,000.00 to OLOP. We remember their parents Anthony and Genevieve Abraham as well as their children and foundation in our prayers. May God bless them abundtly.

FR. VINCENT OUT OF TOWN

I will be away for the week of Thanksgiving visiting my family in Michigan. In case of an emergency, please call my cell number or you may call Hiba at 508-617-3888. Please note that the office will be closed Wednesday, November 27 and will re-open on Monday, December 2. Thank you for your understanding.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Our Annual Christmas Pageant will be held on **December 7, 2024, at 6:00 PM,** immediately following our 4:30 Divine Liturgy. A reception will be held in the Church Hall immediately following the pageant. Come and support our children as they reenact the Nativity of our Lord and lead us in Christmas Carols.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT 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**. Please fill out a form that is located at the entrances of the Church. Thank you for your generosity.

PREPARATION FOR FIRST PENANCE & FIRST COMMUNION

Tuesdays, 6:30-7:30pm, at the Maronite Servants of Christ the Light Convent at 856 Tucker Road, Dartmouth, MA. Sr. Mary Emily will instruct the children, and at least one parent is requested to stay and will be with one of the Sisters for the session. Reach out to register at-sister@maroniteservants.org or call Mother Marla Marie 202-213-7700.

Fall 2024 Dates Tuesdays

November: 26 December: 3/10/17

MABROOK MABROOK

I would like to thank the Chairpersons of the Bazaar, Smitty Cabral and Lorraine David, along with all the volunteers, for a successful and wonderful Christmas Bazaar. Many parishioners worked so hard preparing food, desserts, raffle baskets, caravan gifts, items for the Lebanese Market, cashiering, cleaning, setting up, etc. There are too many to name, so I offer my thanks to all of you. The weekend was filled with much joy and compliments, especially from our neighbors. Your hard work is greatly appreciated. God bless you for this wonderful event.

Total Income from Bazaar: \$19,382.22 Total Expense for Bazaar: \$3,230.71 Net Income: \$16,151.51

WINE AND HOST OFFERING

The altar bread and wine for the month of November is offered in memory of John, Malvina and Joseph David by Joann, Anthony and Lorraine David.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Sophie Correa, Stephen DaCosta, Kenneth Macedo, Muriel Moline, Patricia Farhat. Ghada Karam. Beverly Parlapiano, Michael Bruce, Debbie Freedenberg, Efrangieh Daou, Sharon Conti, David Techlin, Reggie Thomas, Peter Helmer, Renee Helmer, Octavia David, Jacob Rego, Amal Assaf, Denise Magaletta, Fernanda Thomas, Angela Scorza-Anderson, Theresa John, Laurette Bou Ramia, 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.

SAINT ANTHONY OF THE DESERT CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saint Anthony of the Desert in Fall River will be having their Annual Christmas Bazaar this weekend. This will take place on Saturday, November 23, from 9AM-4PM, and on Sunday, November 24, from 9AM-4PM. Please stop by and support our brothers and sisters at 300 North Eastern Ave, Fall River, MA.



LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 23, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Sassine, Bishop of Cyzicus). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Mary David requested by Family (40- Day Mass). May her soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Karen Murphy requested by Sean, Marie and Keira McLaughlin. May her soul rest in peace.

Sunday, November 24, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast Saint Catherine of Alexandria). Remember Me In Your Kingdom Liturgy. May all the souls in the book of life rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Joseph M. Thomas requested by Family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Margueritte Chedid requested by Milad and Sousou Maalouf. May her soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Laurette Bou Ramia requested by Family. May her soul rest in peace.

Saturday, November 30, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Andrew, Feast of Saint Bishoy). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of John David requested by Family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Victoria Lahoud requested by Family (FM). May her soul rest in peace.

Sunday, December 1, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Nahum the Prophet). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Milad Chedid requested by Family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Moses and Annie Moses (FM). May her soul rest in peace.

DISCERNMENT AT MARONITE SERVANTS OF CHRIST THE LIGHT

Come & See Retreat Weekend for Women Fiat: "I am the servant of the Lord"-Luke 1:38

Is Jesus calling you to *Come and See*? Are you seeking to learn more about prayer, discerning God's voice and the gift of religious life. The Maronite Servants of Christ the Light located in Dartmouth MA, invite young adult women (ages 18-39) to prayerfully consider joining them for a Come & See Retreat Weekend, **November 29 - December 1, 2024.** The weekend is designed to give young adult women a glimpse into our prayer and communal life and to enjoy some adoration time with Jesus, our Eucharistic Lord.

To register visit:maroniteservants.org.

LECTORS FOR NOVEMBER/ DECEMBER, 2024

Saturday, November 23,

Annemarie Espindola Intercessions: Smitty Cabral

Sunday, November 24, Mae Dickinson / Hiba Chdid

Saturday, November 30,

Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Annemarie Espindola

Sunday, December 1,

Cayla Barbour / Hiba Chdid Saturday, December 7,

Annemarie Espindola

Intercessions: Mae Dickinson

Sunday, December 8,

Ann Dupre / Gaby Baroody

Saturday, December 14,

Eric Tavares

Intercessions: Smitty Cabral

Sunday, December 15,

Mae Dickinson / Jano Baroody

Saturday, December 21,

Rachael Higgins

Intercessions: Anna and Helen Higgins

Sunday, December 22,

John Barbour / Joumana Chedid

Saturday, December 28,

Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Eric Tavares Sunday, December 29,

Rana Choubah / Halim Choubah

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for the deceased members of the Chedid Family by Charbel Chedid. 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.

FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Jimmy Kalife, Wassim Chedid, Rose Dupre, Rana Choubah, Nigel Hitchings, and Joseph Barckett.

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Fadi Bark, Johnny Kalife, Vicki Thomas Marini, Jacques Barbour, and Smitty Cabral.

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 16-17, 2024

| Sunday Collection | \$ | 1,249.00 |
|---------------------------|-----|----------|
| Second Collection | \$ | 174.00 |
| Angel Program | \$ | 50.00 |
| Memorial Donations | \$ | 250.00 |
| Candles | \$_ | 21.00 |
| Total | \$ | 1,744.00 |

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.



Remember Me in Your Kingdom Would like to invite you to a Memorial Mass on Saturday, November 30, 2024 4:00 O'clock in the afternoon at St. Theresa Church, Brockton, MA

Immediately after the Memorial Mass please join us to Celebrate 12th Anniversary of the Boston Chapter of Remember Me in Your Kingdom. There will be a meal served after the Mass in the church hall

There is no fee to attend, this is a free event.

Our mission is to pray for the faithful departed so that they may
be remembered when entering the Kingdom of God.

We celebrate monthly prayers throughout 9 New England Churches
including all faiths - Melkite, Maronite, Greek Orthodox, Roman Catholic, Catholic



Friends of Remember Me in Your Kingdom is recognized by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a nonprofit group (RRS nonprofit pending)
We fundraise twice a year to help defray cost of events and donations are accepted.
For more information you may contact Zeina 781 789 0432 - Karen 857 222-977

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

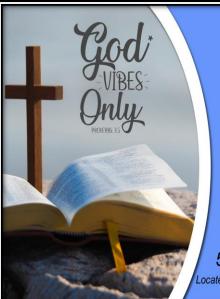
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Eternally in our hearts and in our thoughts. We miss seeing your face, hearing your voice, seeing your smile and hearing your laugh. We cherish the day we will join you in GOD's Heavenly Kingdom. We Love you and miss you even more with each passing day.

Joseph & Marie Kenyon

Your Loving Children

