



Our Lady of Purgatory



Maronite Catholic Church

January 11-12, 2025

SEASON THE GLORIOUS EPIPHANY FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY



What are the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit?

Isaiah foretold that the Holy Spirit would rest upon the promised Messiah, Emmanuel, and that he would possess wisdom and understanding, counsel and fortitude, knowledge, fear of the Lord (Is 11:2), and piety. As Jesus was blessed with these gifts by his Father, every believer is blessed with the same gifts by the Holy Spirit.

Wisdom is first gift of the Holy Spirit. It is the ability to exercise good judgment. It is grounded in common sense and comes from life experience, thoughtful reflection, and learning life's lessons in "The School of Hard Knocks." Wisdom distinguishes between right and wrong, seeks and upholds truth and justice, and balances personal good with the common good. In the Old Testament wisdom is personified in Sophia, the mythical mother of faith, hope, and love; while in the New Testament wisdom is personified in Jesus himself.

Understanding is the gift of intelligence and enlightenment. It is the ability to perceive, comprehend, and interpret information; to have insight and discern meaning.

Counsel is good advice. It is the ability to teach and inform, guide and direct, warn and admonish, recommend and encourage. The Holy Spirit offers this special gift to parents, teachers, coaches, mentors, advisors, supervisors, elders, and the like. Counsel is not only the ability to give good advice, but to receive it as well.

Fortitude is an unwavering commitment to God or a proper course of action, and it shows itself is moral strength, courage, determination, patient endurance, long suffering, a resolute spirit, stamina, and resiliency.

Knowledge is the ability to study and learn; to acquire, retain, and master a wide spectrum of information; and to put it to good use for constructive purposes.

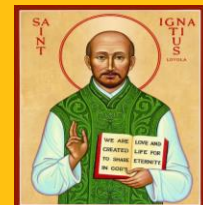
Fear of the Lord is awe, reverence, and respect for God. It downplays human self-

sufficiency and acknowledges that everything comes from God. Consequently, those who "Fear the Lord" gladly offer their praise, worship, and adoration to God alone.

Piety is the only gift not part of Isaiah's original list. Piety is personal holiness, the ability to live a decent life, free of sin, devoted to God, and obedient to God's will.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*"Teach us to give and not count the cost."
St. Ignatius de Loyola*



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 DEEPEST SYMPATHY

Joseph P. David passed away December 29, 2024. We extend our deepest sympathy to his two brothers Peter (Tina) and Douglas (Robin) and their families and to the David Family. The visitation will be held Monday, January 13, 2025 from 4-7 PM with a prayer service at 6:00 PM in the Fairhaven Funeral Home. We ask Almighty God to welcome Joseph into His kingdom and may his soul rest in peace. Allah yerhammo.

WELCOME TO THE FLOCK OF CHRIST

Congratulations to Naya Hiam Abi Rached, who was baptized into the flock of Christ Sunday December 29, 2024. We also congratulate her parents George and Maria Zalloum Abi Rachid, Godparents Charbel Zalloum and Rima Abi Rached Sandroussi, Lea Abi Rached and to the Baroody family. May Almighty God bless Naya and keep her in His loving arms. Mabrook!

Congratulations to Jack Robert Conaty, who was baptized into the flock of Christ last Sunday. We also congratulate his parents John and Jessica Gadbois Conaty, Godparents James Moscatel and Genevieve Davis, and to the Dupre Family. May Almighty God bless Jack and keep him in His loving arms. Mabrook!

Congratulations to Henry Mynro Besse, who was baptized into the flock of Christ last Sunday. We also congratulate his parents Philip and Estelle Hatem Besse, Godparents Jack Hatem and Marie-Claude Daccache Hatem. May Almighty God bless Henry and keep him in His loving arms. Mabrook!

IN OUR PRAYERS

Nayeli Nassif, Maria Baptista, Ligia 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, Reggie Thomas, Peter Helmer, Renee Helmer, Octavia David, 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.

2025 OLOP DINING BOOK

Dining Books are now on sale. These are great gifts for family and friends. These books contain 5 dinners that are planned over the next few months. They are:

Ham and Bean Supper, Saturday, January 18, beginning at 5:30 PM

Shawarma Sunday, February 23, beginning at 11:30 AM

Lenten Fish Fry, Friday, March 7, beginning at 5:00 PM

Lenten Fish Fry, Friday, March 21, beginning at 5:00 PM

Saj Sunday, April 27, beginning at 11:30 AM

A \$70.00 value all yours for \$60.00. If you would like to purchase these books, please contact the office at 508-996-8934 or email the office at officeolop@gmail.com

CHURCH ENVELOPES ARE IN FOR 2025

For those who have requested and use the Church envelopes, they are at the entrance door of the Church. If anyone would like to use the envelopes and needs a set, please contact the Church office and we will prepare some for you.

SAVE THE DATE

SAINT MARON'S DAY HAFLI

will be held on **Saturday, February 1**, 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 Feast Day Hafli

Saturday, February 1, 2025

at

OLOP Church Hall

4254 Acushnet Ave., New Bedford, MA, 02745



Live Entertainment by

Rami Badr

&

Bachir Khoury Band

Dance Floor Seating: \$100.00 (All Ages)

General Seating: \$75.00

Children (8 -17): \$40.00

Children (under 8yrs.): No Charge

Cash Bar & Mezza

@ 7:00 PM

Dinner Served

@ 8:00 PM

For Ticket Sales Contact:

Church Office: (508) 996-8934

Sousou Maalouf: (508) 916-1523

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 11, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Theodosius of Antioch). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Robert and Margaret Lizotte (FM). May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Julia Maroon and her family (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, January 12, @ 10:30 AM, (Vigil of Saint Tatiana of Rome). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Samir and Georgette Sawaya requested by Zakhia and Hiba Chdid and Family. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of the deceased members of the Chomak Family requested by the family. May their souls rest in peace.

Saturday, January 18, @ 4:30 PM, (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 George and Mary Saba requested by the family (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, January 12, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Macarius of Egypt). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Joseph Nader requested by Joann Longdon. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Charbel Baroody, Ivonne Choubah and Laurette Bou Ramia requested by Philip and Jano Baroody. May their souls rest in peace.

WINE AND HOST OFFERING

The altar bread and wine for the month of January is offered in memory of Mansour Barbour by Norma Jean Barbour and Family.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for a special intention by Annemarie Espindola. 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.



LECTORS FOR JANUARY, 2025

Saturday, January 11,

Eric Tavares

Intercessions: Smitty Cabral

Sunday, January 12,

Mae Dickinson / Hiba Chdid

Saturday, January 18,

Annemarie Espindola

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, January 19,

Mae Dickinson/ Jano Baroody

Saturday, January 25,

Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Mae Dickinson

Sunday, January 26,

Cayla Barbour / Joumana Chedid
(If you are not able to read on your given day, please contact Mae Dickinson)

OUR LADY OF PURGATORY
Maronite Catholic Church
1st Annual Ham & Bean Supper
6pm Saturday, January 18th, 2025
OLOP Community Center

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

Tickets: \$15 Adult
Children under 10 free
Please call the office at 508-996-8934 or email the office at officeolop@gmail.com for tickets.

WEEK OF JANUARY 4-5, 2025

Sunday Collection	\$	1,818.00
New Years Offering	\$	610.00
Christmas Donations	\$	750.00
Wine And Host	\$	75.00
Sanctuary Candle	\$	30.00
Total	\$	3,283.00

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.

FUN FAITH FELLOWSHIP

JANUARY 17TH
7-9pm

MYA KICKOFF EVENT 2025!

Calling all Young Adults ages 18 to 39 to come join us at Our Lady of Purgatory Church Hall, 4254 Achusnet Ave New Bedford for an interactive discussion and dinner with Fr. Vince as we brainstorm for future events. To join the MYA or RSVP please contact Fr. Vince at 508-996-8934.

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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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