



Our Lady of Purgatory

Maronite Catholic Church



January 18-19, 2025

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY



FEAST OF SAINT ANTHONY THE GREAT

Saint Anthony, the father of monks, was born in Egypt in 251 of pious parents who departed this life while he was yet young. On hearing the words of the Gospel: “If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell what thou hast, and give to the poor” (Matt. 19:21), he immediately put it into action. Distributing to the poor all he had, and fleeing from all the turmoil of the world, he departed to the desert. The manifold temptations he endured continually for the span of twenty years are incredible. His ascetic struggles by day and by night, whereby he mortified the uprisings of the passions and attained to the height of dispassion, surpass the bounds of nature; and the report of his deeds of virtue drew such a multitude to follow him that the desert was transformed into a city, while he became, so to speak, the governor, lawgiver, and master-trainer of all the citizens of this newly-formed city. The cities of the world also enjoyed the fruit of his virtue. When the Christians were being persecuted and put to death

under Maximinus in 312, he hastened to their aid and consolation. When the Church was troubled by the Arians, he went with zeal to Alexandria in 335 and struggled against them on behalf of Orthodoxy. During this time, by the grace of his words, he also turned many unbelievers to Christ.

Saint Anthony began his ascetic life outside his village of Coma in Upper Egypt, studying the ways of the ascetics and holy men there, and perfecting himself in the virtues of each until he surpassed them all. Desiring to increase his labors, he departed into the desert, and finding an abandoned fortress in the mountain, he made his dwelling in it, training himself in extreme fasting, unceasing prayer, and fierce conflicts with the demons. Here he remained, as mentioned above, for about twenty years. Saint Athanasius the Great, who knew him personally and wrote his life, says that he came forth from that fortress initiated in the mysteries and filled with “the Spirit of God.” Afterwards, because of the press of the faithful, who deprived

him of his solitude, he was enlightened by God to journey with certain Bedouins, until he came to a mountain in the desert near the Red Sea, where he passed the remaining part of his life.

Saint Athanasius says of him that “His countenance had a great and wonderful grace. This gift also he had from the Savior. For if he were present in a great company of monks, and anyone who did not know him previously wished to see him, immediately coming forward he passed by the rest, and hurried to Anthony, as though attracted by his appearance. Yet neither in height nor breadth was he conspicuous above others, but in the serenity of his manner and the purity of his soul.”

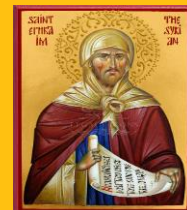
Passing his life and becoming an example of virtue and a rule for monastics, he reposed on January 17 in the year 356, having lived altogether some 105 years.

<https://www.saintanthonyreno.org/st-anthony-the-great/>

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“O Lord, we cannot go to the pool of Siloe to which you sent the blind man. But we have the chalice of Your Precious Blood, filled with life and light. The purer we are, the more we receive.”

St. Ephraem



Fr. Vincent Farhat, Pastor | Rev. Mr. Jean Mattar, Deacon

Address: 4254 Acushnet Ave, New Bedford, MA 02745

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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.



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

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.

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.

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.

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

For Ticket Sales Contact:

Church Office: (508) 996-8934
 Sousou Maalouf: (508) 916-1523

Cash Bar & Mezza
 @ 7:00 PM
Dinner Served
 @ 8:00 PM

LITURGY INTENTIONS

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 19, @ 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, Yvonne Choubah and Laurette Bou Ramia requested by Philip and Jano Baroody. May their souls rest in peace.

Saturday, January 25, @ 4:30 PM, (Conversion of Saint Paul). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Joseph and Marie Kenyon requested by the family. May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, January 26, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Agnes). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Margueritte Chedid requested by the Family (1 year anniversary). May her soul rest in peace. Remember Me In Your Kingdom Liturgy. Liturgy is being offered for all the souls in the Book of Life. May their souls rest in peace.

LECTORS FOR JANUARY, 2025

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)

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.



St. Francis Xavier School
Acushnet, MA

SAVE-THE-DATE Open House

JOIN US SUNDAY 1/26 FROM 12-2:00PM!

- Take a tour
- Meet our amazing teachers
- Applications open for new families on Feb. 3rd!



DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF 01/20-01/25/24

Monday:

2 Corinthians 1: 1-11

John 1: 43-51

Tuesday:

2 Corinthians 1: 12-24

Luke 5: 1-11

Wednesday:

2 Corinthians 2: 1-11

Matthew 4: 18-25

Thursday:

2 Corinthians 2: 12-17

Matthew 9: 9-13

Friday:

2 Corinthians 12:17-13:4

Matthew 9: 35-38

Saturday:

2 Corinthians 13: 5-13

Matthew 10: 1-6

WINE AND HOST OFFERING

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

WEEK OF JANUARY 11-12, 2025

Sunday Collection	\$ 1,494.00
Epiphany Collection	\$ 120.00
Dining Book Sale	\$ 900.00
Ham And Bean	\$ 90.00
Donations	\$ 500.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 123.00
Total	\$ 3,227.00

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.



MIAMI LEBANESE FESTIVAL

FRIDAY 01/24/25 FROM 6PM TO 1AM SATURDAY 01/25/25 FROM 6PM TO 1AM SUNDAY 01/26/25 FROM 12PM TO 10PM

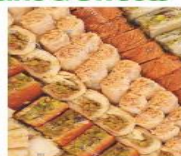
Folkloric Dances



Lebanese Cuisine & Sweets



Entertainment



Admission: \$10 Adults • \$5 Kids (12 and under)



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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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