



Our Lady of Purgatory

Maronite Catholic Church



April 5-6, 2025

HEALING OF THE BLIND MAN

THE WINDOW

Two men, both seriously ill, occupied the same hospital room. One man was allowed to sit up in his bed for an hour each afternoon to help drain the fluid from his lungs. His bed was next to the room's only window. The other man had to spend all his time flat on his back. The men talked for hours on end. They spoke of their wives and families, their homes, their jobs, their involvement in the military service, where they had been on vacation.

And every afternoon when the man in the bed by the window could sit up, he would pass the time by describing to his roommate all the things he could see outside the window. The man in the other bed began to live for those one-hour periods where his world would be broadened and enlivened by all the activity and color of the world outside.

The window overlooked a park with a lovely lake. Ducks and swans played on the water while children sailed their model boats. Young lovers walked arm in arm amidst flowers of every color of the rainbow. Grand old trees graced the landscape, and a fine view of the city skyline could be seen in the distance. As the man by the window described all this in exquisite detail, the man on the other side of the room would close his eyes and imagine the picturesque scene.

One warm afternoon the man by the window described a parade passing by. Although the other man couldn't hear the band – he could see it in his mind's eye as the gentleman by the window portrayed it with descriptive words.

Days and weeks passed. One morning, the day nurse arrived to bring water for their baths only to find the lifeless body of

the man by the window, who had died peacefully in his sleep. She was saddened and called the hospital attendants to take the body away. As soon as it seemed appropriate, the other man asked if he could be moved next to the window. The nurse was happy to make the switch, and after making sure he was comfortable, she left him alone.

Slowly, painfully, he propped himself up on one elbow to take his first look at the world outside. Finally, he would have the joy of seeing it for himself. He strained to slowly turn to look out the window beside the bed. It faced a blank wall.

The man asked the nurse what could have compelled his deceased roommate who had described such wonderful things outside this window. The nurse responded that the man was blind and could not even see the wall. She said, "Perhaps he just wanted to encourage you."

Epilogue. . . There is tremendous happiness in making others happy, despite our own situations. Shared grief is half the sorrow, but happiness when shared, is doubled. If you want to feel rich, just count all the things you have that money can't buy. "Today is a gift, that's why it is called the PRESENT".

<http://gatewaytojesus.com/inspirationalstoriespage1.html>

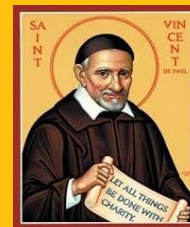
GOOD FRIDAY MERCY MEAL

Friday, April 18, GOOD FRIDAY MERCY MEAL: After the burial of Jesus on Good Friday, we will have a potluck Mercy Meal in the church hall. Everyone is encouraged to bring a meatless dish to pass. Dinner will follow the Good Friday service.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Extend your mercy towards others, so that there can be no one in need whom you meet without helping. For what hope is there for us if God should withdraw His Mercy from us?"

Saint Vincent de Paul



PASSION WEEK DIVINE LITURGIES

Monday, April 14, 7:00 PM,

Coming to the Harbor

Tuesday, April 15, 7:00 PM,

Coming to the Harbor

Wednesday, April 16, 7:00 PM,

Rite of the Lamp

Thursday, April 17, 7:00 PM,

Holy Thursday

Friday, April 18, 10:00 AM,

Signing of the Chalice

Friday, April 18, 7:00 PM,

Great Friday of the Crucifixion,

Saturday, April 19, 10:00 AM,

Prayer of Forgiveness

Saturday, April 19, 4:30 PM,

Easter Vigil

Sunday, April 20, 10:30 AM,

The Glorious Resurrection

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.

EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS



As we prepare for the Risen Lord on Easter, donations are being accepted to help with the cost of the Easter flowers. If you would like to donate towards the flowers, you may do so in memory of a loved one or special intention. Please write your intention on the envelope and we will remember your intention at a special Liturgy. Thank you for your kindness.

EASTER EGG COLORING



On **Saturday, April 19**, we will have Easter Egg Coloring and pizza for the children of OLOP. This will take place in the Church Hall from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Bring all the children for this special gathering of fun and unity.

MYO YOUTH NIGHT APRIL 11, 2025

Saint Anthony's in Fall River will be hosting the MYO on Friday, April 11, 2025, from 6:00 PM-8:00PM, at the Church Hall. Please RSVP to the WhatsApp group or call the office. Thank you, Msgr. James and the MYO Advisors.

NAM CONVENTION REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION

Details for the 2025 NAM Convention have been mailed to each of you. This year, the NAM Convention is being sponsored by Fr. Robert Farrah and the Parishioners of St. Sharbel in Raliegh, North Carolina. The convention will be held on July 3-6, 2025, at the Hilton Raliegh North Hills Hotel. I hope many of you can attend. Please refer to your email for registration detail.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for our grandson Brady by Gaby and Amal Baroody. 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.

PALM SUNDAY CANDLES



The Education Foundation is sponsoring Palm Sunday Candles. You can now buy decorated and blessed Palm Sunday candles. 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 these efforts. God bless.

10" candle: \$15.00

12" candle: \$20.00

15" candle: \$25.00

FISH FRY FRIDAYS

Fish Fry Fridays are here once again. We will begin Friday Lenten Dinners on **Friday, March 7**, beginning at 5:00 PM and ending at 8:00 PM. Tickets are available for purchase by contacting the office at: **508-996-8934** or by email to: officeolop@gmail.com. You may join us before or after Stations/Adoration of the cross.

MYA GATHERINGS

Save the date:
Saturday April 19 | 10am to 12noon

MYA

Prayer & Service

We welcome our Maronite Young Adults (ages 18-39) to join us on Holy Saturday at 10am for the Prayer of Forgiveness at 10 AM in the Church followed by an hour of service to help decorate for Easter Sunday at Our Lady Of Purgatory Church. RSVP to Abouna Vince if you plan to join us.

The MYA are invited to the Saturday of the Light prayer service on Saturday, April 19, at 10:00 AM at the Church. This will be followed by an hour of service to help decorate the church for Easter Sunday.

PALM SUNDAY BAKE SALE

Our Lady Of Purgatory Church

Palm Sunday Bake Sale

Saturday, April 12 – Sunday, April 13
AFTER LITURGIES







And Assorted Pastries

4254 Acushnet Ave, New Bedford, MA 02745

We will be having our annual Palm Sunday Bakesale on **Saturday, April 12, and Sunday, April 13**, immediately following Divine Liturgy. Pre-order forms are now available.

HOLY ROSARY SUNDAY

Beginning **March 23**, we will pray the Rosary beginning at **10:00 AM**, before Sunday Divine Liturgy. This will be held on the **third Sunday** of each month. Please join us as we send our prayers through the intercession of our Blessed Mother to our Lord Jesus.

MYA GATHERINGS

MYA

BBQ

GATHERING & MASS

4:30 PM LITURGY
5:30 PM BBQ & SOCIAL

05/03/2025

OUR LADY OF PURGATORY
CHURCH NEW BEDFORD MA

RSVP to Abouna Vince @ 508-996-8934 by May 1st.

The MYA are invited to Divine Liturgy followed by a BBQ and Social on Saturday, May 3, 2024, at OLOP. Please RSVP to Abouna Vince by May 1, at 508-996-8934, or email at ourladyofpurgatory@gmail.com. Look forward to seeing you there.

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, April 5, @ 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Robert of Molesme). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Michele Sr. and Jr., Anna and Baldassare Magaletta requested by Joann, Anthony and Lorraine David. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Joseph and Marie Kenyon requested by the Family. May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, April 6, @ 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Marcellinus of Carthage). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Christine David requested by the Family. May her soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Fred, Joao and Fernanda Baptista, Mema Carvelho and Edigio Baptista requested by Fernanda Thomas. May their soul rest in peace.

Tuesday, April 8, @ 7:00 PM, (Feast of Saint Barlaam, Feast of the Second Council of Nicaea). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Mary David requested by Sophie Correa (FM). May her soul rest in peace.

Wednesday, April 9, @ 12:00 PM, (Feast of Saint Hermas). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of James and Catherine Graham (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

Thursday, April 10, @ 12:00 PM, (Feast of Saint Agabus, Feast of the Miracle of the Icon of Christ in Beirut). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of the American Lebanese Veterans Auxiliary (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

Friday, April 11, @ 12:00 PM and @ 7:00 PM, Station/ Adoration of the Cross.

Saturday, April 12, @ 4:30 PM, Lazarus Saturday, (Feast of Saints Mennas, Hermogenes and Euphrasius).

Sunday, April 13, @ 10:30 AM, Hosanna Sunday, (Feast of Saint Zosimas).

IN OUR PRAYERS

David Matos, Gayla Matos, Genevieve Tayeh, 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, 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.

LECTORS FOR APRIL, 2025

Saturday, April 5,
Rachael Higgins

Intercessions: Anna & Helen Higgins

Sunday, April 6,

Cayla Barbour / Jano Baroody

Saturday, April 12,

Annemarie Espindola

Intercessions: Smitty Cabral

Sunday, April 13,

Mae Dickinson / Hiba Chdid

Saturday, April 19,

Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, April 20,

Ann Dupre / Elie Abou Kheir

Saturday, April 26,

Eric Tavares

Intercessions: Annemarie Espindola

Sunday, April 27,

Rana Choubah / Halim Choubah

(If you are not able to read on your given day, please contact Mae Dickinson)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

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

WEEK OF MARCH 29-30, 2025

Sunday Collection	\$ 1,098.00
Online Giving	\$ 1,167.90
Bishop Appeal	\$ 300.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 110.00
Sanctuary Candle	\$ 10.00
Donation	\$ 100.00
Total	\$ 2,785.90

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.

APRIL						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		April 1	2 Divine Liturgy 12 Noon	3 Divine Liturgy 12 Noon	4 Stations/Adoration of the Cross 12 pm English 7 pm English/Arabic Fish Fry 5-8:30 PM	5 Healing of the Blind Man MYA Retreat Lawrence MA Saint Antony Church
6 Healing of the Blind Man	7 X	8 Eucharistic Adoration 5-7 PM Divine Liturgy 7 PM	9 Divine Liturgy 12 Noon	10 Divine Liturgy 12 Noon	11 Stations/Adoration of the Cross 12 pm English 7 pm English/Arabic	12 Hosanna Sunday Palm Sunday Bake Sale
13 Hosanna Sunday Palm Sunday Bake Sale	14 Divine Liturgy 7 PM	15 Divine Liturgy 7 PM	16 Divine Liturgy 7 PM Rite of the Lamp Anointing with Holy Oil	17 Holy Thursday The Last Supper 7 PM Adoration 8PM-10PM	18 Signing of the Chalice 10 AM Great Friday Burial 7 PM (Second Collection for Holy Land)	19 Resurrection of our Lord Vigil Mass 4:30 PM
20 Resurrection of our Lord 10:30 AM	21 X	22 Eucharistic Adoration 5-7 PM Divine Liturgy 7 PM	23 No Liturgy	24 No Liturgy	25	26 Divine Mercy Sunday St. Theresa Church Haffi
27 Divine Mercy Sunday SAJ Sunday	28 X	29 Eucharistic Adoration 5-7 PM Divine Liturgy 7 PM	30			



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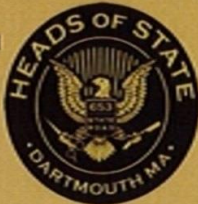
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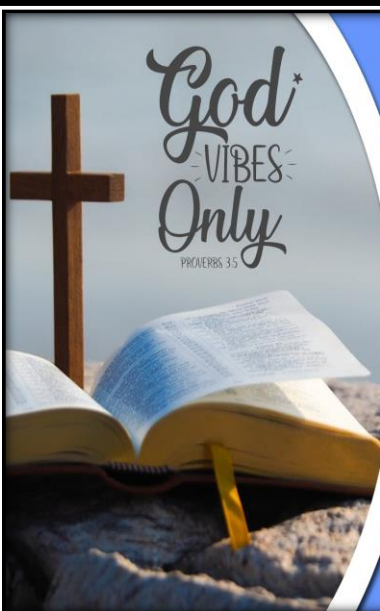
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