



# Our Lady of Purgatory



## Maronite Catholic Church

May 30-31, 2026

# SUNDAY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY



Pentecost is the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles. In the Maronite Church, the journey from the Season of the Resurrection to Pentecost is not simply a movement of dates on a calendar. It is the journey of the human soul from fear into fire, from the empty tomb into mission, from grief into divine intimacy. The Resurrection season begins with astonishment. Yet the Resurrection is only the beginning.

The disciples saw the risen Christ, but they were still afraid. They loved Him, but they did not yet fully understand Him. They believed, but they still hid behind locked doors. That is why the liturgical calendar slowly moves us toward Pentecost. The Resurrection proves that Christ conquered death. Pentecost proves that Christ now lives within His people. **This movement is deeply human.**

That is exactly where the Apostles were between Easter and Pentecost. The Maronite Church beautifully emphasizes this transition. The readings during these weeks are filled with appearances of the risen Christ, promises of the Holy Spirit, teachings about faith, unity, love, and endurance. Christ is preparing His disciples for something greater than comfort: He is preparing them to become His living Body in the world.

Then comes the Ascension.

To human eyes, the Ascension almost feels painful. Christ departs visibly from the earth. The disciples who walked with Him can no longer hold Him physically. **But the Ascension is not abandonment. It is transformation.**

Christ ascends so He can become present everywhere.

Before the Ascension, Jesus walked beside the disciples. After Pentecost, He lives inside them. That is the mystery. Pentecost is the fulfillment of the Resurrection.

**What is Pentecost?** Pentecost is the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles. The frightened disciples become fearless witnesses. The weak become strong. The confusion becomes wise. The hidden become visible. A small group in an upper room becomes the beginning of the universal Church. The Holy Spirit is not merely a “force” or emotion. In Christian faith, the Holy Spirit is God Himself the breath of God, the fire of divine love, the One who sanctifies, heals, guides, convicts, strengthens, and transforms.

At Pentecost, Christianity stops being merely something remembered and becomes something lived. This is why Pentecost matters so deeply. **Without Pentecost:**

the Gospel remains words on a page, faith becomes dry obligation, prayer becomes routine, the Church becomes only an institution.

**But with the Holy Spirit:** Scripture becomes alive, prayer burns, forgiveness becomes possible, courage appears in weakness, holiness becomes attainable. **Pentecost teaches us that God does not simply want admirers. He wants transformed hearts.**

In the Maronite tradition especially, there is a profound awareness that the Christian

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*“I vow and consecrate to God all that is in me: My memory and my actions to God the Father; My understanding and my words to God the Son; My will and my thoughts to God the Holy Spirit.”*  
**St. Francis de Sales**



life is not lived by human strength alone. We cannot carry our crosses, forgive enemies, remain faithful, or love deeply without the Spirit of God working within us.

Pentecost is not only about miraculous tongues of fire long ago. It asks us: What doors are still locked inside me? The Apostles locked doors because of fear. We lock doors too: fear of the future, fear of loss, fear of rejection, fear of surrender, fear of trusting God completely. The Holy Spirit enters locked rooms. Sometimes quietly. Sometimes through suffering. Sometimes through prayer. Sometimes through tears.

The Spirit does not always remove our struggles immediately, but He changes how we carry them. A person filled with the Holy Spirit may still suffer, but they no longer suffer alone. There is strength in them that was not there before. The movement from Resurrection to Pentecost also teaches patience. God often reveals Himself gradually.

**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](http://www.ourladyofpurgatory.org)

**Email:** [ourladyofpurgatory@gmail.com](mailto:ourladyofpurgatory@gmail.com) | **Facebook Page:** Our Lady of Purgatory Catholic Church - Maronite Rite |

**Office Email:** [officeolop@gmail.com](mailto:officeolop@gmail.com)

**OFFICE HOURS:** The Church office will be open Monday through Thursday from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm.

The Apostles did not become saints overnight. They walked with Christ, failed Him, doubted, wept, waited, prayed, and slowly transformed. The liturgical calendar mirrors our own spiritual growth. God does not rush souls. He forms them season by season. **And perhaps one of the most emotional truths of Pentecost is this:** The same frightened Peter who denied Christ became the Peter who preached fearlessly to the world. That means our weaknesses do not have the final word. The Holy Spirit specializes in transforming broken people into living witnesses.

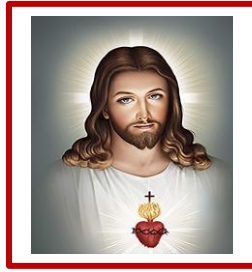
**A wounded mother can become a source of peace. A tired father can become a pillar of faith. A grieving person can still radiate hope. A sinner can become a saint.** This is Pentecost. The Maronite liturgy carries this mystery with deep beauty. Its prayers often feel like longing mixed with fire, heaven touching earth. The Church is reminding us that Christianity is not merely inherited tradition; it is divine life flowing through human hearts. So as the Church moves from Resurrection toward Pentecost, **she is asking every believer: Christ rose from the dead but has His Spirit truly risen within you?** And perhaps the prayer of this season can simply be: "Come, Holy Spirit. Enter the locked rooms of my heart. Turn my fear into faith, my weakness into strength, my wounds into wisdom, and my ordinary life into a living testimony of Your presence."

### **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.

## **SACRED HEART OF JESUS PRAYER SERVICE**



Beginning Wednesday, June 3, we will have a prayer service **every Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM** during the month of June for the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Please join us for this special service as we thank our Lord for His mercy and forgiveness.

### **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.

### **DAILY LITURGIES CANCELLED**

There will be **only no daily liturgies** next week as Fr. Vincent will be out of town. Thank you for your understanding.

We will have the **Eucharistic Adoration on Tuesday, from 5:00 PM to on 7:00 PM and Wednesday, 7:00 PM** The Sacred Heart of Jesus Prayer service.

### **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.

## **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.

### **SECOND COLLECTION**

Per the directive of the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn, there will be a second collection this weekend. This collection is taken up for the Catholic Communications Campaign. Thank you for your generosity and help. Following the norms established by the USCCB, 50% of this collection is sent to them for national Catholic television, radio, and other media, and 50% is retained by our Eparchy for the Maronite Voice and any other communications needs we may have. Thank you for your generosity.

### **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.

## LITURGY INTENTIONS

**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.

**Tuesday, June 2, 9:00 AM, (Feast of The Four Evangelists). NO LITURGY.** From 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM, Eucharistic Adoration.

**Wednesday, June 3, 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Awtel). NO LITURGY.**

**Thursday, June 4, 9:00 AM, Thursday of the Body of Christ, (Feast of Saint Erasmus) NO LITURGY.**

**Saturday, June 6, 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Dorotheus, Bishop of Tyre, Feast of Saint Marcellin Champagnat).** Liturgy is offered for the soul of MaryLou Viveiros requested by Joann David. May her soul rest in peace. Liturgy is offered for the souls of Susan, Amy and Butch Cabral requested by Lou and Smitty Cabral. May their souls rest in peace.

**Sunday, June 7, 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Susanna the Judean).** Liturgy is offered for the souls of the deceased members of Abi Semaan, Mattar and Thomas Families requested by Deacon Jean and Martha Mattar Family. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is offered for the souls of Abraham and Amelia Sarkes requested by Family. May their souls rest in peace.

## THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for a special intention by Mariam David and 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.

## 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.

## 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.

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

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

## LECTORS FOR MAY/ JUNE, 2026

**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).**

**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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Scan QR Code to Register  
Camp open to Grades K-6  
Cost: \$75 per child

## WEEK OF MAY 23-24, 2026

<b>Sunday Collection</b>	<b>\$ 2,032.00</b>
<b>Donation</b>	<b>\$ 2,000.00</b>
<b>Father's Day Raffle</b>	<b>\$ 170.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 4,202.00</b>

**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 Capo 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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*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.*

Your Loving Children

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