



Our Lady of Purgatory



Maronite Catholic Church

JUNE 6-7, 2026

THIRD SUNDAY OF PENTECOST



GOD IS THE BOOK, WE ARE THE FOOTNOTE AND THE SACRED HEART IS THE REASON WE MATTER

The more we reflect on this statement, the more we realize that it is not a statement about our insignificance, it is a statement about God's greatness and His love. God is the Book because He is the beginning and the end. He is the Author of creation, the source of every heartbeat, every sunrise, every grace, and every soul. As the Lord says: "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." Without God, there is no story. Without God, there is no meaning. Without God, there is no life. And yet, if God is the Book, why would He concern Himself with a footnote? The answer is found in the Sacred Heart of Jesus Christ. The Sacred Heart reveals that God is not merely the Author of the story He loves every character in it. The Heart of Jesus is God's declaration that His greatness does not make Him distant. His greatness makes His love even more astonishing.

The infinite God looked upon humanity and did not remain in heaven. He entered the story. He took flesh. He walked our roads. He shared our tears. He carried our crosses.

And His Heart was pierced for us. When the soldier opened the side of Christ on the Cross, blood and water flowed from His Heart (John 19:34). The Church has always seen this as a sign that the Heart of Jesus remains forever open to humanity.

THINK ABOUT THAT

The Author of the Book allowed His own Heart to be wounded by the very people He came to save. **Why?** Because love does not remain distant. Love enters the story. Love suffers with the beloved. Love gives itself completely.

The Sacred Heart tells us that although we are only a small part of God's vast creation, we are never a small part of His love.

A footnote may seem small, but if it is written by the Author Himself, it becomes precious.

The Sacred Heart teaches us that God knows every line of our story. He knows the chapter of joy. He knows the chapter of grief. He knows the chapter we wish had never been written. He knows the pages stained by tears. And He loves us through them all. Many people spend their lives trying to become the entire book. They want to control every page, predict every ending, and write every chapter themselves. Yet peace comes when we stop trying to be the author and allow ourselves to be loved by the Author. The Sacred Heart invites us to place our lives where they belong inside the Heart of Christ. When life is confusing, the Heart of Jesus says: "Trust Me. I see the whole story." When we feel forgotten, the Heart of Jesus says: "I have engraved you on My Heart." When we fail, the Heart of Jesus says: "My mercy is greater than your weakness." When we suffer, the Heart of Jesus says: "I have carried suffering before you."

And when death approaches, the Heart of

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"It is such a folly to pass one's time fretting, instead of resting quietly in the heart of Jesus".

Saint Therese of Lisieux

Jesus says: "I have prepared a place for you."

This is why devotion to the Sacred Heart is so important. It is not merely devotion to an image. It is devotion to the very love of God revealed in Jesus Christ. The Heart crowned with thorns reminds us that God's love is willing to suffer. The flame above the Heart reminds us that God's love never grows cold. The Cross upon the Heart reminds us that God's love is sacrificial. The open Heart reminds us that God's love is accessible to every sinner and every saint.

Perhaps the deepest reflection is this: If God is the Book and we are the footnote, then the Sacred Heart is the reason the footnote is written at all. Before you were born, the Heart of Christ loved you. Before your first breath, the Heart of Christ desired you. Before your first sin, the Heart of Christ knew He would forgive you. Before your last day on earth, the Heart of Christ had already prepared eternal life for you. **The goal of life is not to become the whole story.** The goal of life is to become a beautiful sentence in God's story—a sentence written in faith, hope, and love. And one day, when the final page of our earthly life is turned, we will discover that every chapter, every joy, every suffering, every unanswered prayer, and every hidden grace was leading us toward the same destination: **The Sacred Heart of Jesus, where every faithful footnote finds its place in the eternal Book of God's love. Amen.**

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

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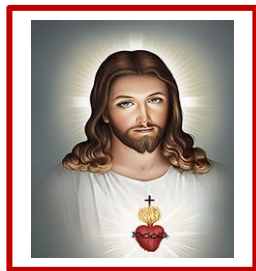
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Office Email: officeolop@gmail.com

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

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.

BAPTIZED IN CHRIST

We welcome Owen Sharbel Nobrega to the flock of Christ as he was baptized on Saturday, May 30, 2026. Congratulations to his parents Patrick and Molly Nobrega, his Godparents Annemarie Espindola and Peter Schmalzried, and to his entire family. May Almighty God keep Owen in His loving arms and protect him always. Mabrook!!

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.

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.

A BIG THANK YOU

As we are preparing to unveil the new hall next week, I would like to thank the following people for their many hours of painting and help. Deacon Jean Mattar, Judy David, Paul Moses, Boulos Arsanios, Dan Barbour, Fouzi Sarkis, Branden Marini, Vicki Thomas Marini, Joe Barckett, Eric Tavares, Matthew Thomas, Rick Towmney, Hiba Chdid, and Gaby Baroody. This was quite an undertaking, and I appreciate all your hard work. God bless you.

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.

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.

👉 Young Adult Workshop & Networking

MEN AND WOMEN MADE FOR LOVE

Discovering God's Design for Love...

Exploring the deepest longing of the human heart - to love and to be loved through:

- Theology of the Body
- The Song of Songs
- Wholeness & Healing in Christ
- Masculine and feminine spirituality
- Christ's model of sacrificial love
- Ignatian meditation & imaginative prayer

Participants will discover:

- What it means to love authentically
- How divine love restores and heals the human heart
- The beauty of communion and self-giving love
- The call to become fully alive in love



Speaker:
Adeline Khouri

10 July, 2026
7:00 - 8:00 PM - Workshop
8:00 - 9:00 PM - Fellowship

📍 St Anthony of Desert Maronite
Catholic Church, 300 N Eastern Ave
Fall River MA 02723

👤 Ages 18+

[REGISTER HERE](#)

"Arise, my beloved, my beautiful one, and come."
Song of Songs 2:10

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, June 6, 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Dorotheus, Bishop of Tyre, Feast of Saint Marcellin Champagnat). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of MaryLou Viveiros requested by Joann David. May her soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being 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 being 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 being offered for the souls of Abraham and Amelia Sarkes requested by Family. May their souls rest in peace.

Tuesday, June 9, 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Pelagia). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Charles and Anna Lizotte (FM). May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Alfred and Afeefy Nasr requested by the Family (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

From 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM, Eucharistic Adoration.

Wednesday, June 10, 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Barnabas, one of the 72 Disciples). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of the Daher family requested by the Family (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

Thursday, June 11, 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Bartholome, one of the 12 Disciples). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of the deceased members of the David, Daher, Faris and Abi Ramia families requested by Mariam David and Family. May their souls rest in peace.

Saturday, June 13, 4:30 PM, (Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Feast of Saint Aquilina of Jbeil, Feast of Saint Anthony of Padua, Doctor of the Church). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Alfred Dellaire requested by Norma Jean Barbour and Family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of the deceased members of the Kenyon and Daher Families. May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, June 14, 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Elisha the Prophet). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Hiam Cheaib requested by the Family. May her soul rest in peace.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for Abraham and Amelia Sarkes by 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 June is offered in memory of Abraham and Amelia Sarkes and Joann Sarkes Yozfek 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.

CONFESSION

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

LECTORS FOR JUNE,

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
 300 N Eastern Ave Fall River MA

WHAT TO EXPECT:

- Interactive Bible Stories
- Lessons on the Creed
- Exciting Games & Activities
- Creative Crafts & Snacks
- Music & Singing
- Friendship & Fun

PRESENTED BY THE MARONITE SERVANTS OF CHRIST THE LIGHT

Scan QR Code to Register

Camp open to Grades K-6
 Cost: \$75 per child

WEEK OF MAY 30-31, 2026

Sunday Collection	\$ 1,323.00
Donation	\$ 1,200.00
May Online Giving	\$ 674.33
Second Collection	\$ 230.00
Lebanese Market	\$ 60.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 143.00
Sanctuary Candle	\$ 30.00
Candles	\$ 171.00
Total	\$ 3,831.33

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.

Save the Date

October 2, 2026

2ND ANNUAL BENEFIT DINNER FOR THE MARONITE SERVANTS OF CHRIST THE LIGHT

LOCATION:
 ST. ANTHONY OF THE DESERT IN FALL RIVER, MA

WITH BISHOP GREGORY MANSOUR IN ATTENDANCE.

MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW.
 MARONITESERVANTS.ORG

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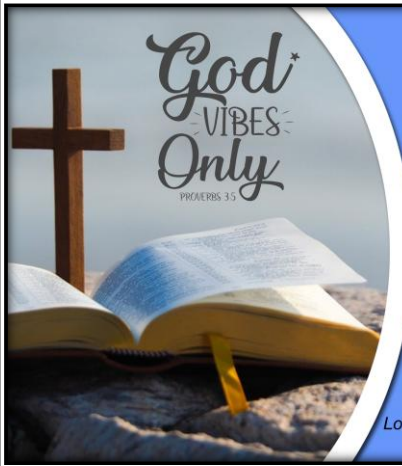


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Joseph & Marie Kenyon

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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