



Our Lady of Purgatory

Maronite Catholic Church



July 18-19, 2026

NINETH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST



WHAT IS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE HUMAN BODY AND THE SEVEN SACRAMENTS?

Let us focus on the first four sacraments and we will finish in the following week reflection the other three sacraments and a conclusion.

The human body is a masterpiece of God's creation. Every organ has a purpose. The heart pumps blood, the lungs provide breath, the brain directs the body, the eyes give sight, the ears receive sound, and the hands carry out our work. If even one vital organ stops functioning, the entire body suffers. We instinctively understand this. No one would say, "I don't need my heart," or "I can live without my lungs." We care for our bodies because we recognize that every part is essential to life.

The same is true of our spiritual life.

Our soul has its own "organs," given to us by Christ Himself. These are the Seven Sacraments. They are not merely religious ceremonies or beautiful traditions. They are the living means by which God nourishes, heals, strengthens, and saves

us. Just as our physical body cannot flourish without its vital organs, our soul cannot reach its fullness without the grace that flows through the Sacraments.

Baptism is the birth of the soul. Just as a newborn takes its first breath, Baptism gives the soul supernatural life. Original sin is washed away, and we become children of God. Without birth, there is no earthly life; without Baptism, there is no supernatural life.

Confirmation is the lungs of the soul. The Holy Spirit fills us with His divine breath, just as God breathed life into Adam and Christ breathed the Spirit upon His Apostles. Confirmation strengthens us to breathe the air of faith, courage, and witness. A Christian who neglects the gifts of the Holy Spirit often struggles to live boldly for Christ.

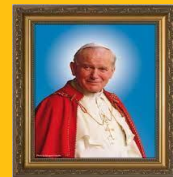
The Holy Eucharist is the heart of the soul.

The heart continually pumps life through every part of the body. The Eucharist continually pours divine life into every part of our spiritual being. Every heartbeat sustains the body; every worthy Holy Communion strengthens the soul. Without food the body weakens; without the Bread

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"There is no evil to be faced that Christ does not face with us. There is no enemy that Christ has not already conquered. There is no cross to bear that Christ has not already borne for us, and does not now bear with us."

Pope Saint Jean Paul II



of Life, the soul slowly becomes spiritually malnourished.

Reconciliation (Confession) is the healing immune system of the soul.

The body constantly fights infection and removes harmful toxins. When it cannot, illness spreads. Sin is the disease of the soul. Confession removes the poison of sin before it destroys our relationship with God. Through the words of absolution, Christ restores what sin has damaged. Just as no physician would tell us to ignore an infection, Christ never intended us to ignore the wounds of our soul.

PREP DAY FOR DEACON JEAN ORDINATION DINNER

We will be preparing for the banquet dinner for Deacon Jean reception on **Thursday, Friday and Saturday, July 23-24 and 25**, in the Church Hall starting at **10:30 AM**. Your help is greatly appreciated.

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.

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY (EID ALSAYDEE)

We will celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary on **Friday, August 14, at 7:00 PM.** Weather permitting, we will celebrate this Divine Liturgy outside in the Saint Sharbel Shrine. There will be dinner immediately following Divine Liturgy. The Social Committee is organizing this dinner which will be "bring a dish to pass." Please see Deacon Jean or Hiba Chdid if you would like to bring a dish to pass. Drinks and Coffee will be provided

FEAST OF SAINT SHARBEL PICNIC



The Feast of Saint Sharbel will be celebrated on Sunday, July 19. Weather permitting, we will celebrate Divine Liturgy at the shrine. Immediately following Divine Liturgy, we will have brunch. This year, we are asking people to bring a dish to pass as the following weekend we will celebrate Deacon Jean's Ordination to the Priesthood. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Church or you may contact the church office. Saint Sharbel, pray for us!

LUMINARIES FOR THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED MOTHER MARY

Our parish is pleased to continue the beautiful tradition of Luminaries for Mary for a second year. You are invited to purchase a luminary in honor of someone special or in memory of a loved one. The luminaries will be displayed near the St. Charbel Shrine during the **Vigil Liturgy** on **August 14**, serving as a beautiful tribute to Our Blessed Mother and to those who hold a special place in our hearts.

Cost: \$10.00 per luminary

To purchase a luminary or for more information, please contact:

Jacques Barbour – (508) 725-6705

Amal Barbour – (508) 801-9685

Parish Office – (508) 996-8934

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to sharing this meaningful tradition with our parish family once again.

FESTIVAL BASKET RAFFLE DONATIONS

Once again, we will be having our Basket Raffle at the festival this year. This has been a great success for us and every year, because of you, our basket selection increases. If you can donate any theme baskets this year, please let Smitty Cabral or Lorraine David know. If you are unable to make one but would like to donate to have one made, we can do this as well. Once again, thank you for your generosity.

SAVE THE DATES FESTIVAL PREP DAYS

We will be preparing grape leave and maamoul for the festival in the Church Hall. Your help is needed and greatly appreciated.

Tuesday, August 4,
Grape leave day
starting @ 10:30 AM.
Thursday, September 3
Maamoul day
Starting @ 10:30 AM

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! 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.

OUR LADY OF PURGATORY CHURCH JET SKI RAFFLE!

2019
85 HOURS

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LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, July 18, 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Symphorosa and Her Seven Sons). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of George Wehbe Wehbe and Rfaa Abi Ramia requested by Rafic Abi Ramia and Family. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the souls of George and Mary Saba requested by the Family (FM). May their souls rest in peace.

Sunday, July 19, 10:30 AM, (Celebration of Saint Sharbel Feast, Feast of Saint Margaret of Antioch).

Tuesday, July 21, 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Simeon Salus and His Friend Saint John).

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

Wednesday, July 22, 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Mary Magdalene, Feast of Saint Nohra).

Thursday, July 23, 9:00 AM, (Actual Feast of Saint Sharbel). Liturgy is being offered in Thanksgiving of Mariam David and the living and deceased members of the David and Daher Families requested by Family.

Saturday, July 25, 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Anne, Mother of Our Lady, the Virgin Mary). Liturgy is being offered for Deacon Jean and his family.

Sunday, July 26, 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Bridget of Sweden). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of the deceased members of the Mattar and Thomas Families. May their souls rest in peace. **Remember Me In Your Kingdom Liturgy.** Liturgy is being offered for all the souls in the Book of Life. May all the souls in the Book of life rest in peace.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Denise Denault, 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.

WINE AND HOST OFFERING

The altar bread and wine for the month of July is offered for the living and deceased members of the Daher and David Families requested by Mariam David and Family.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns in Thanksgiving 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.

CONFESSION

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

LECTORS FOR JULY/AUGUST, 2026

Saturday, July 18,
Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, July 19,

Rana Choubah / Halim Choubah

Saturday, July 25,
TBA

Sunday, July 26,

Hiba Chdid / Elie Abou Kheir

Saturday, August 1,
Racheal Higgins

Intercessions: Anna & Helen Higgins

Sunday, August 2,

Ann Dupre / Joumana Chedid

Saturday, August 8,
Mae Dickinson

Intercessions: Smitty Cabral

Sunday, August 9,

John Barbour / Elie Abou Kheir

Friday, August 14,

Vigil of the Assumption

Mae Dickinson / Hiba Chdid

Saturday, August 15,
Eric Tavares

Intercessions: Annemarie Espindola

Sunday, August 16,

Cayla Barbour / Jano Baroody

Saturday, August 22,
Smitty Cabral

Intercessions: Eric Tavares

Sunday, August 23,

Mae Dickinson / Hiba Chdid

Saturday, August 29,

Annemarie Espindola

Intercessions: Mae Dickinson

Sunday, August 30,

Rana Choubah / Halim Choubah

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SUMMER
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BIBLE CAMP

Join us for our Light of Life Bible Camp
AUGUST 18-21 | 10AM TO 2PM
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Cost: \$75 per child

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WEEK OF JULY 11-12, 2026

Sunday Collection	\$ 1,101.00
June Online Giving	\$ 2,498.72
Hall Donations	\$ 1,400.00
Festival Sponsorship	\$ 700.00
Festival Raffle Tickets	\$ 120.00
Jet Ski Raffle Sale	\$ 200.00
Donations	\$ 500.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 44.00
Total	\$ 6,563.72

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.

All are invited to come and join us
Festivities will go on come rain or shine!
Under the tents or in the open air!

Lebanese Mahrajan Food Festival

St. Anthony of the Desert Church, 300 N. Eastern Avenue, Fall River, MA

Fri, Aug 7th ~ 5pm to 10pm
Sat, Aug 8th ~ Noon to 11pm
Sun, Aug 9th ~ 11am to 5pm

Authentic Lebanese Food and Pastry

Alcoholic Beverages

MITCHELL KALTSUNAS AND ENSEMBLE
Fri. 6pm-7:30pm & 7:45pm-10pm
Sat. 7pm-8pm & 8:15pm-11pm

MYO DANCE TROUPE
Fri. 7:30pm-7:45pm
Sat. 6:15pm-6:30pm & 8pm-8:15pm
Sun. 1pm-1:15pm

THROWBACK
Fri. 5pm-6pm
Sat. 4pm-6pm
Sun. 11am-1pm & 1:15pm-4pm

THROWBACK
Sat. 12:30pm-3:30pm

Hookah

Dancing and so much more!

Facebook: St Anthony of the Desert Maronite Catholic Church
Website: <https://saotd-fr.org/> Phone: 508-672-7653

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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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