



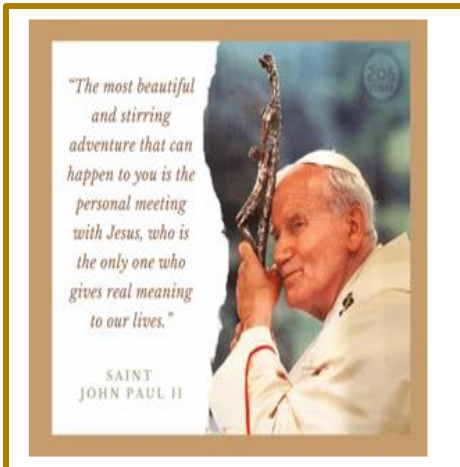
Our Lady of Purgatory

Maronite Catholic Church



July 25-26, 2026

TENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST



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

In last week's bulletin we discussed the first four relationships between the human Body and the Sacraments? This week we will conclude with the remaining three Sacraments.

The Anointing of the Sick is the healing balm and strength of the soul. When the body becomes weak through illness, it needs medicine and care. When the soul is burdened by suffering, serious illness, or the approach of death, Christ Himself comes through this sacrament to strengthen, forgive, comfort, and prepare His children. It is spiritual medicine administered by the Divine Physician.

Holy Orders are the hands and voice of Christ on earth.

The body needs hands to serve and a voice to communicate. Through ordained bishops, priests, and deacons, Christ continues to teach, forgive sins, celebrate the Eucharist, baptize, bless, and shepherd His people. The ordained minister is not the source of grace; he is the instrument through whom Christ acts. If we become

disappointed with the weaknesses of a priest or deacon, we should remember that the grace of the Sacraments comes from Christ, not from the personal holiness of the minister. Just as a surgeon's scalpel remains an instrument in the surgeon's hand, the ordained minister remains an instrument in the hands of Christ.

Holy Matrimony is the family heartbeat of the Church.

Just as the family is the basic cell of the human body called society; marriage is the living cell of the Church. Through the covenant of husband and wife, new life is welcomed, children are formed in faith, and Christ's faithful love is reflected to the world. Healthy families strengthen the entire Body of Christ.

Every Sacrament is connected. None exists in isolation. Just as every organ depends upon the others, the Sacraments work together throughout the different stages of our lives. Baptism begins the journey. Confirmation strengthens it. The Eucharist nourishes it. Confession restores it. Anointing heals it. Holy Orders and Matrimony build up the Church and serve God's people.

Many people today care more about annual physical checkups than annual spiritual examinations. They schedule doctor's appointments without hesitation but postpone Confession for years. They would never willingly starve their body for weeks, yet many go months without receiving the Eucharist. They rush to the emergency room when physically ill but often ignore the spiritual illnesses of pride, resentment, impurity, or unforgiveness.

Our Lord never established the Sacraments as burdens or obligations. He gave them as gifts of love because He knows what the human soul needs. He knows we are weak. He knows we will

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you."
Saint Martha



fall. He knows we need nourishment, forgiveness, strength, healing, and guidance.

As St. Augustine wrote, "God provides the wind, but man must raise the sails." The Sacraments are the sails that allow the grace of God to carry us toward holiness. And St. Thomas Aquinas beautifully reminded us that "The Sacraments are signs that effect what they signify." They do not merely symbolize grace—they actually communicate the life of God.

The Church is often compared to a body, with Christ as its Head. But each Christian can also ask a personal question: *How healthy is the body of my soul?* Am I feeding it? Am I allowing it to be healed? Am I strengthening it with the gifts Christ has provided? Or have I neglected the very means that lead to eternal life?

God has not left us to survive on our own. He has given us everything we need through the Seven Sacraments. They are the heartbeat of the Church, the lifeblood of the Christian, and the surest path to union with Christ. If we care for our bodies every day, how much more should we care for the eternal life of our souls.

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

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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.

WELCOME SAYEDNA GREGORY

This weekend we welcome Sayedna Gregory Mansour to Our Lady of Purgatory Church. This visit is a special one as he will elevate Deacon Jean Mattar to the order of priesthood. We offer our prayers for soon to be Abouna Jean and for Bishop Gregory as he continues to strengthen and build our Maronite Church in the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn. God bless him, Deacon Jean, and his family.

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 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

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.

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 rest in peace.

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.

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LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, July 25, 5:00 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.

Tuesday, July 28, 9:00 AM, (Feast of the Third Council of Constantinople, Feast of Saint Anthusa, Feast of the Blessed Stanley Rother).

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

Wednesday, July 29, 9:00 AM, (Feast of Ezekiel the Prophet, Feast of Saint Martha, the Sister of Lazarus).

Thursday, July 30, 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saints Abdon and Sennen, Feast of the Blessed Solanus Casey).

Saturday, August 1, 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Shmouni and Her Seven Sons). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Steven Espindola requested by Annemarie Espindola. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Michael David requested by Robert Macedo (FM). May his soul rest in peace.

Sunday, July 26, 10:30 AM, (Feast of the Translation of the Relics of Saint Stephen, the First Martyr). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Charbel Baroody requested of Charles Baroody. May his soul

IN OUR PRAYERS

Denise Denault, Theresa Saab, Reggie Thomas, Beverly Landreth, Michael Morad, David Matos, Gayla Matos, Genevieve Tayeh, Nayeli Nassif, Maria Baptista, 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.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for a Blessed Ordination. 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.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (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 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
(If you are unable to read on your given day, please contact Mae Dickinson).

WEEK OF JULY 18-19, 2026

Sunday Collection	\$ 2,216.00
Hall Donations	\$ 1,850.00
Festival Sponsorship	\$ 3,350.00
Festival Raffle Tickets	\$ 720.00
Donations	\$ 160.00
Coffee Hour	\$ 106.00
Sanctuary Candle	\$ 10.00
Lebanese Market	\$ 20.00
Candles	\$ 215.00
Total	\$ 8,647.00

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.

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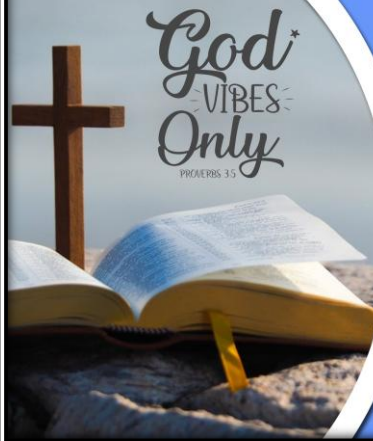
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Joseph & Marie Kenyon

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.

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