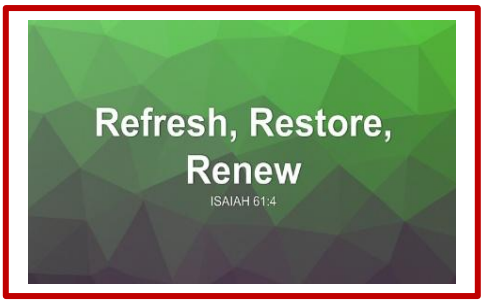


Our Lady of Purgatory

Maronite Catholic Church

November 07- 08, 2026

RENEWAL OF THE CHURCH



WHAT IS THE RENEWAL OF THE CHURCH?

The renewal of the Church **is not simply repairing** a building, changing programs, or bringing more people to Mass. It is allowing Jesus Christ to renew the hearts of His people so that His Church can become what He intended it to be: a living home where everyone encounters the love of God.

The Church needs renewal because people need to come home. Think about a beautiful church. Its walls may be strong, its altar may be adorned with gold, its candles may shine brightly, and its choir may sing beautifully. But what happens when the pews are empty? What happens when families slowly drift away, when children grow up without knowing the faith, when people carry wounds, they are afraid to share, and when someone who once prayed every Sunday no longer feels that God has a place in their life? Does the building stop being holy? No. But perhaps the Church is calling us to ask ourselves: Have we done everything we can to help people encounter the holiness, mercy, and love of Jesus? Renewal begins when we stop asking only, "How can we get more people into church?" and start asking, "How can we help people rediscover the God who has never stopped loving them?" That is the heart of renewal.

Renewal begins with us, not with everyone else. It is easy to say that young people no longer attend church, families too busy, and society has lost its faith. But genuine renewal asks a more personal question:

Lord, what needs to change in me?

Do I come to church to encounter Jesus, or simply because it is my weekly obligation?

Do I welcome the person sitting alone, or do I remain comfortable with the people I already know?

Do I forgive those who have hurt me, or do I carry resentment into the house of God?

Do my children and grandchildren see Christ in the way I live, or do they only hear me speak about religion?

Does someone who meets me leave feeling more loved, more hopeful, and closer to God?

The Church is renewed every time a hardened heart becomes gentle, every time someone forgives, every time a family prays together, and every time a person who has been away from God finds the courage to return.

As St. Paul reminds us: "Be transformed by the renewal of your mind." Romans 12:2. The renewal of the Church begins with the renewal of each one of us.

Renewal means returning to the heart of Jesus. Jesus did not establish His Church merely to preserve traditions. He established it to continue His mission: to proclaim the Good News, forgive sins, heal wounds, serve the poor, welcome sinners, and lead people to the Father.

Renewal means opening the doors and saying, "Come home." Imagine someone who has not entered a church in ten years. Perhaps that person feels unworthy. Perhaps there was a painful experience. Perhaps life became overwhelming. Perhaps faith slowly disappeared beneath the demands of work, family, disappointment, and daily responsibilities. And perhaps, deep down, that person still misses God.

What does renewal look like in our Maronite Church? Renewal becomes real through small, faithful actions:

Renew our worship: Attend the Divine Liturgy not merely out of habit, but with a desire to encounter Jesus in the Eucharist.

Renew our families: Teach our children and grandchildren that faith is not just something inherited; it is a relationship with God that must be lived.

Renew our community: Welcome newcomers, listen to those who are hurting, visit the lonely, and reconcile with those from whom we have become distant.

Renew our service: Use our gifts and resources to care for those who are struggling.

Renew our mission: Reach beyond the church doors, inviting those who have drifted away to rediscover their spiritual home.

And we must remember that renewal is not the responsibility of the priest alone. The priest can preach, celebrate the sacraments, guide, encourage, and shepherd. But every baptized person is called to participate in the life and mission of the Church. The Church is renewed when each of us becomes a living witness to Christ.

May this be the renewal we seek in our Maronite Church: not simply a renewed building, but renewed hearts; not simply fuller pews, but deeper faith; not simply the preservation of our heritage, but the transmission of a living relationship with Jesus Christ.

Come home. Come back to the Eucharist. Come back to prayer. Come back to the family of God. The door is open, and the Father is waiting.

Rev. Vincent Farhat, Pastor | **Rev. Jean Mattar Email:** aboonajean@gmail.com
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.

WELCOME TO THE FLOCK OF CHRIST

Congratulations to Margot Evelyn L'HommeDieu Thomas who received Baptism and Confirmation last weekend. We congratulate her parents Sam and Ana Thomas, Godparents David Thomas and Victoria Marrini, her grandparents Matthew and Catherine Thomas and the L'HommeDieu Family.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Elias and Lynn Chedid on the arrival of their baby boy Jean. We also congratulate Jean and Rola Chedid and their family as well as Lynn's parents and family in Lebanon. May Almighty God keep Jean in His loving arms and protect him always. Mabrook!

CALLING ALL CHILDREN – THE 2026 OLOP CHRISTMAS PAGEANT!

Calling all children between the ages of 2 and 16 years old! It's time to start preparing for the 2026 OLOP Christmas Pageant. **We'll begin practices** for the 2026 OLOP Christmas Pageant on **Sunday, October 18, 2026, at 11:45 am in the Church.** Practices will last approximately 1 hour and so it's a great opportunity for the children to have some fun while Mom & Dad are having a cup of coffee and some tasty treats at the Coffee Hour. This year's Christmas Pageant will be presented on **Saturday, December 12, 2026 at 6:00 pm** in the Church followed by a reception in the Parish Center. The Children will also be singing at the **OLOP Christmas Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, November 14, 2026**. For more information, please contact **the Parish Office** at officeolop@gmail.com or **(508) 996-8934.**

ANGEL PROGRAM

Will you consider being an Angel for our Children's Christmas Pageant? The proceeds of the Angel Program will benefit the children's pageant, and the other half will be sent to **Caritas Lebanon and Tele Lumiere**. Please fill out a form that is located at the entrances of the Church. Thank you for your generosity

UPCOMING MARONITE HERITAGE MEETINGS

Saint Anthony of the Desert, Fall River
Saturday, December 5,
from 3-7PM

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

As per the directive of the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn, there will be a second collection this weekend for the Maronite Patriarchal Charities. This money is sent to the Patriarchal and is used for his charitable work. Thank you for your generosity.

INTERESTED IN LEARNING LEBANESE CONVERSATIONAL ARABIC?

We are considering offering informal Lebanese Conversational Arabic classes for parishioners who would like to learn how to speak and understand some of the beautiful language of our Maronite heritage. The classes would focus on everyday conversation and practical expressions such as greetings, family, food, church, travel, and common phrases you can use in daily life. No previous knowledge of Arabic is necessary!

Whether you are Lebanese, married into a Lebanese family, have Lebanese roots, or simply want to learn more about our language and culture, everyone is welcome. If you are interested, please contact the parish office or speak with Father Jean so we can determine interest and plan a convenient day and time. Come learn the language and connect more deeply with our Lebanese heritage!

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

Our Church will be sponsoring an annual Thanksgiving Food Drive to help families in need in our community. I ask you all to bring **non-Perishable** food or **canned goods** items such as gravy cans, sweet potatoes cans, corn and vegetable cans, mashed potatoes boxes, stuffing boxes, cranberry sauce, pies and frozen turkeys. Your kindness and generosity have helped many families in the past, and I thank each of you once again in these efforts. Please have all items here no later than **Sunday, November 22**, as this will be the day to deliver the food to the needy. God bless you and God bless Our Lady of Purgatory Parish.

FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES

The following dates are for First Communion Classes to be held at the Convent:

November 17, December 15,
January 12,
First Penance: February 6.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"The Saints have always been the source and origin of the renewal in the most difficult moment in the Church's history".
Pope Saint Jean Paul II

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Our Annual Christmas Bazaar will be held on **Saturday, November 14, and Sunday, November 15**, in the Church Hall. Mark your calendars so that you can join us for these 2 days. Great food, raffles, vendors, and performances from your children will make this event truly special.

NEEDED GIFTS FOR THE CARAVAN AUCTION, BASKET RAFFLES, SILENT AUCTION AND THE KID'S ZONE GAMES



Items needed include: Electronics, housewares, giftware, tools, gift cards, gift baskets, sporting event tickets, jewelry, toys, sporting goods etc.

We also need small children's gifts for the game tables such as: Books, coloring books and crayons or markers, small cars and trucks, dolls, stuffed toys, puzzles models, games etc.

We need gifts of various values from $2-$25, $25-$50 and $50 and up.

If you wish to donate but have no time to shop, you can donate the money and we will shop for you. All help in any amount is greatly appreciated.

BAZAAR NEEDS LIST

8 Cases Water Bottle
3 Cases Orange Soda

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS FOR....

This week the sanctuary candle burns for David Dickinson requested by Mae Dickinson. 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.

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 7, 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Hieron). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Hayat Thomas requested by Rafic Abi Ramia and Family. May her soul rest in peace.

Sunday, November 8, 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Michael the Archangel). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Mansour Barbour requested by Norma Barbour and Family. May his soul rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Ivone Choubah requested by a Friend. May her soul rest in peace.

Tuesday, November 10, 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Maura). Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Hayat Thomas requested by Jacques and Amal Barbour. May her soul rest in peace.

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

Wednesday, November 11, 9:00 PM, (Feast of Saint Mennas and His Companions, Feast of Saint Martin, Bishop of Tours).

Thursday, November 12, 9:00 AM, (Feast of Saint Theodore the Studite).

Saturday, November 14, 4:30 PM, (Feast of Saint Philip). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Leo and Virginia Farhat requested by Sean, Marie and Keira McLaughlin. May their souls rest in peace. Liturgy is being offered for the soul of Elizabeth Grenier requested by Annie Costa (FM). May her soul rest in peace.

Sunday, November 15, 10:30 AM, (Feast of Saint Gurias, Samonas, and Habib the Deacon). Liturgy is being offered for the souls of Fouad and Helen Yamine requested by Family. May their souls rest in peace.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Norma Barbour, 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, Michael Bruce, Beverly Parlapiano, Debbie Freedenberg, Efrangieh Daou, Sharon Conti, David Techlin, Peter Helmer, Renee Helmer, Jacob Rego, Denise Magaletta, Fernanda Thomas, Theresa John, Angela Scorza-Anderson, 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 November is offered for John, Malvena and Joseph David requested by Joann, Anthony and Lorraine David. May their souls rest in peace.

LECTORS FOR NOVEMBER, 2026

Saturday, November 7,
Rachael Higgins
Intercessions: Anna & Helen Higgins
Sunday, November 8,
Rana Choubah / Halim Choubah
Saturday, November 14,
Eric Tavares
Intercessions: Annemarie Espindola
Sunday, November 15,
Ann Dupre / Joumana Chedid
Saturday, November 21,
Mae Dickinson
Intercessions: Annemarie Espindola
Sunday, November 22,
Chritine ElKhoury / Jano Baroody
Saturday, November 28,
Smitty Cabral
Intercessions: Annemarie Espindola
Sunday, November 29,
John Barbour / Hiba Chdid

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

Maronite Servants of Christ the Light

With gratitude to God for His abundant blessings,
Mother Marla Marie & the Maronite Servants of Christ the Light
cordially invite you to join us in celebrating the

Perpetual Profession of Vows of

Sister Emily Mary Lattouf

The Profession will take place within the
Divine Liturgy Celebrated by

His Excellency, Bishop Gregory J. Mansour
Bishop of the Eparchy of Saint Maron

Monday, December 7, 2026
the Vigil of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception
7:00 PM
Our Lady of Purgatory Church
4254 Acushnet Avenue, New Bedford, MA

Reception will follow in the Hall

Please keep Sister Emily Mary in your prayers as she prepares for this commitment.

RSVP by November 27th
to Mother Marla Marie via email or telephone
Email: sister@maroniteservant.org -or- Telephone: 508-996-1753

To make a gift in honor of Sr. Emily Mary, go to maroniteservants.org or mail to: Maronite Servants, 856 Tucker Rd, Dartmouth, MA 02747

WEEK OF OCTOBER 31-NOVEMBER 01, 2026

Sunday Collection	**$**	**3,088.00**
October Online Giving	**$**	**693.31**
Bazaar Raffle Tickets	**$**	**210.00**
Hall Donations	**$**	**200.00**
Sanctuary Candle	**$**	**10.00**
Total	**$**	**4,201.31**

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.



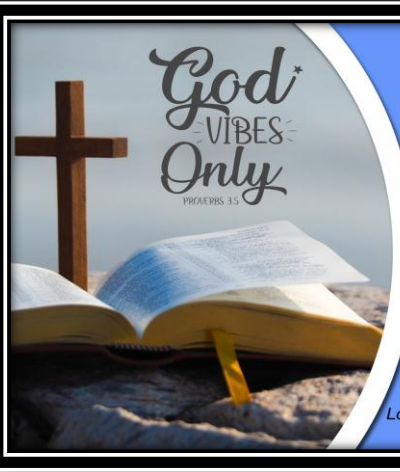
BARBERSHOP x LOUNGE
CHEDID Cuts
EST. 2022

CHRISTOPHE CHEDID
Owner/Licensed Barber
578 Dartmouth St.
South Dartmouth, MA 02748
chedidcuts@gmail.com
(508) 343 - 0009
@chedidcuts

ROUTE 18
GAS & SERVICE
Complete Automotive Repair
Foreign / Domestic
State Inspection Station
Eli Nassif
508-998-3445
Fax 508-998-9549
4227 Acushnet Ave.
New Bedford, MA 02745
We Sell Diesel Fuel

Counseling
ASSOCIATES
152 Dean Street, Taunton, MA
508-837-0790

M & S Excavation
Milad Maalouf
Licensed
LAND CLEARING • SITE WORK
ROADS • SEPTIC SYSTEMS
134 Old Westport Road
N. Dartmouth, MA 02747
508-971-0067
Fax 508-991-5631



For all your jewelry needs
A&A JewelerS
Your Trusted Jeweler
for over 28 years
508-992-5320
Located: 279 State Rd. Dartmouth, MA 02747
www.aajewelersinc.com

CYCLONE CLEANING & RESTORATION SERVICES
- Carpets & Upholstery
- Commercial/Residential Cleaning
- Smoke/Water Damage
- Washing/Waxing/Stripping Floors

Call the company you've counted on for years — CALL CYCLONE!
Anthony David • 508-995-8816
833 Mount Pleasant Street • New Bedford, MA 02745
www.CycloneCleaning.com


We miss seeing your smile and hearing your laugh. We Love you and miss you even more with each passing day.
Your Loving Family


FULL SERVICE SALON
Wassim Chedid
401-837-0664
Tuesday & Thurs
1-6pm
Saturday
1-5pm
HEADS OF STATE
DARTMOUTH MA
Zakhia Chedid
774-444-3337
Monday, Wednesday & Friday
1-6pm
WWW.HEADSOFSTATESALON.COM
North Dartmouth, MA
653 State Road (Route 6) • 508-999-0177

SALON PERSIA
308 THAYER STREET, PROVIDENCE, RI
Wassim Chedid 401-837-0664
Tuesday & Saturday..... 9-12:30pm
Wednesday & Friday..... 9-6pm
Zakhia Chedid 774-444-3337
Monday & Friday..... 9-12:30pm
Tuesday & Thursday..... 9-6pm
Saturday..... 9-4pm
401-831-9536 • WWW.SALONPERSIA.COM

OVER 75 YEARS OF MASONRY & CONCRETE CRAFTSMANSHIP

DUPRE INC.
BLOCK • BRICK • GLASS BLOCK
BLUESTONE • FIELDSTONE • COBBLESTONE
Cutting and Core Drill • Driveways
Steel Fabrication and Installation
Handicap Access
508-993-8088
369 Nash Rd. • New Bedford
www.duprecontractors.com