



October 1, 2023

ST. BASIL THE GREAT MELKITE GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH

Address

15 Skyview Drive
Lincoln, Rhode Island 02865

Tel (401) 722-1345

Parish Website

www.stbasilthegreatchurch.com

Facebook

[https://www.facebook.com/
StBasilTheGreatMelkiteGreek
CatholicChurchRI/](https://www.facebook.com/StBasilTheGreatMelkiteGreekCatholicChurchRI/)

YouTube

<https://bit.ly/3gkl2Uk>

Email

office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com

Office hours

Tue-Fri 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Divine Liturgy

Winter Schedule Begins This week

Saturday: 9:00 AM

Sunday: 11:15 AM

Pastoral Emergencies and anointing of the sick

(401)722-1345

Holy Mysteries

Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available before and after the Divine Liturgy or by appointment

Baptism

Please arrange with the pastor

Marriage

A notice of at least 6 months should be given to the pastor, before the proposed wedding date to arrange for the required interview and instructions



Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos - 2nd Sunday After the Holy Cross

عيد سيّدة الحماية أوستر والدة الإله—الأحد الثاني بعد رفع الصليب الكريم المحي

Troparion of the resurrection (1st tone)

After the stone was sealed by the Jews and the while the soldiers were watching Your spotless body, You rose, O Savior, on the third day, giving life to the world. Wherefore, the heavenly powers cried out to you, O Giver of life: "Glory to Your resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Your kingdom! Glory to Your economy, O You who alone are the lover of mankind!"

Troparion of the Protection, (1st Tone)

We praise your great protection, O Virgin, which you spread forth like a radiant, transcendent cloud. Invisibly you guard your people from every foe's attack. Since you are to us a shelter and a sure defense, we cry to you with our whole heart: Glory to your great deeds, O Lady! Glory to your divine shelter! Glory to your care and providence, O most pure Virgin!

Troparion of St Basil

Your voice has sounded all over the earth, that accepted your preaching. You gave a divine explanation of doctrine, and made clear the nature of creatures, and set a rule of life for men. Holy Father, and Kingly Priest, intercede with Christ God to grant us great mercy.

نشيد القيامة باللحن الاول

إن الحجر ختمه اليهود، وجسدك الطاهر حرسه الجنود. لكنك قمت في اليوم الثالث، أيها الخالص، واهباً للعالم الحياة. لذلك قواّت السماوات هتفت اليك، يا مُعطي الحياة: المجد لقيامتك أيها المسيح. المجد لمملك. المجد لتديرك، يا محب البشر وحدك.

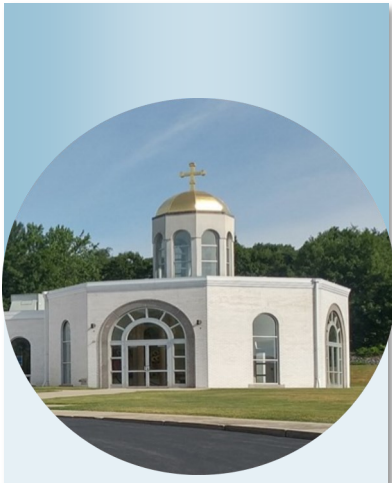
نشيد للسيدة باللحن الثاني

أيُّها الصّالحة، إنك تنصّرين كلّ المُلتجئين بإيمانٍ الى ذراعك المقتدرة. فإنّه ليس لنا، نحن الخطاة الرازحين تحت كثرة الزلاّت، وسيط دائم لدى الله، في الأخطار والصّبيقات، سواك يا أمّ العليّ. لذلك نجثو لك، فأيقدي عبيدك من كلّ شدّة.

طروبارية القديس باسيليوس

لقد ذاع منطقتك في كل الأرض. فانها قد قبِلت كلامك، الذي به بيّنت العقائد بياناً إلهياً، وأوضحت طبيعة الكائنات، ونظمت أخلاق البشر. فيا أيها الأب البارّ ذو الكهنوت الملوكي، انتهل إلى المسيح الإله في خلاص نفوسنا.





Our church organizations:

MAYA: Organization of Melkite Catholics ages 18 – 26 (and at least 1 year out of high school) under patronage of our bishop, the Most Reverend Nicholas Samra.
<https://melkite.org/maya>

MYO: Provides a common forum for all the young people of St. Basil's Church, and that the Organization initiate, coordinate, and direct religious, social, educational, and humanitarian programs designed to promote the involvement of its membership in the Christian Faith and the Melkite tradition.
www.stbasilthegreatchurch.com/myo.html

NAMW: Promotes and supports vocations to the priesthood and religious life in the United States.
<https://melkite.org/namw>



Kondakion of the Protection, (8th Tone),

Let us faithful hasten now to the Theotokos; let us venerate her sacred veil as we sing fitting hymns of praise: for she shelters all her faithful and preserves them from danger, so that they may cry out to her: Hail, O Virgin, our most radiant Protection!"

Epistle: Hebrews 9:1-7 (For the Protection feast)

Prokimenon (Tone 3) Ps 31:11, 1, p14

Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, you just; exult, all you upright of heart.

Stichon: Happy are those whose faults are taken away, and whose sins are covered.

Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews

Brethren, the first tabernacle also had ritual ordinances and a sanctuary, though an earthly one. For there was set up a tabernacle in the outer part of which were the lampstand and the table and the show-bread, and this is called the Holy Place. But beyond the second veil was the tabernacle which is called the Holy of Holies, having a golden censer and the Ark of the Covenant, overlaid on every side with gold. In the ark was a golden vessel containing the manna, and the rod of Aaron which had budded, and the tablets of the covenant and above it were the Cherubim of glory, overshadowing the mercy-seat. But of all these we cannot now speak in detail. Such then being the arrangements, the priests always used to enter into the first tabernacle to perform the sacred rites; but into the second tabernacle, the high priest alone entered once a year, not without blood, which he offered for his own and the people's sins of ignorance.

Alleluia (Tone 8) Ps. 64:5, Stichon Sirach 44:14, p14

Happy the one you have chosen and adopted: he shall dwell in your courts.

Stichon: And his name shall survive for ever and ever.

Gospel Luke 6:31-36, (SECOND SUNDAY AFTER HOLY CROSS)

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST

The Lord said, "Even as you wish men to do to you, so also do you to them. And if you love those who love you, what merit have you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what merit have you? For even sinners do that. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive in return, what merit have you? For even sinners lend to sinners that they may get back as much in return. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, not hoping for any return, and your reward shall be great, and you shall be children of the Most High, for He is kind towards the ungrateful and evil. Be merciful, therefore, even as your Father is merciful."

قنداق الختام للسيدة باللحن الثامن

يا والدة الإله العذراء، لقد اتخذناكِ نصيرةً وملجأً لحياتنا. فقودينا إلى مينائك، يا علة الصالحات وثبات المؤمنين، يا جديرة بكل مديح وحدك.

مقدمة الرسالة

افرحوا بالرب وابتهجوا أيها الصديقون، وافتخروا يا جميع المستقيمي القلوب طوبى للذين غفرت ذنوبهم، والذين سرت خطاياهم

عبرانيين 9: 7-1

يا إخوة، إن المسكن الأول كانت له فرائض العبادة والقدس العالمي. لأنه نصب المسكن الأول الذي يقال له القدس. وكانت فيه المنارة والمائدة وحبر التقديم. وكان وراء الحجاب الثاني المسكن الذي يقال له قدس الاقداس، وفيه مستوقد البخور من الذهب، وتابوت العهد المعسى بالذهب من كل جهة. وفيه قسط من الذهب. فيه المنع وعصا هرون التي أوزقت ولوحا العهد. ومن فوقه كروبا المجد المظللان الغطاء. وليس هنا مقام تفصيل الكلام في ذلك. وإذ كانت هذه مهياً على هذا الترتيب، فالكهنة يدخلون إلى المسكن الأول كل حين فيتمون الخدم. وأما الثاني فإنما يدخله رئيس الكهنة وحده، مرة في السنة، ولا يدخل إلا بالدم الذي يقره عن نفسه وعن جهالات الشعب.

هللوا

طوبى لمن اخترتهم وقبلتهم، ليسكنوا في ديارك يا رب

وذكرهم يدوم إلى جيل وجيل

الاحد الثاني بعد الصليب

(لوقا 6: 31-36)

قال الرب: كما تريدون أن يفعل الناس بكم، كذلك أفعَلوا أنتم أيضاً بهم. فإنكم إن أحببتم الذين يحبونكم فأين فضل لكم؟ فإن الخطاة أيضاً يحبون الذين يحبونهم. وإن أحسنتم إلى الذين يحسنون إليكم فأين فضل لكم؟ فإن الخطاة أيضاً يفعلون ذلك بعينه. وإن أقرضتم الذين ترجون أن تستوفوا منهم، فأين فضل لكم؟ فإن الخطاة أيضاً يقرضون الخطاة لكي يستوفوا المثل. ولكن أحبوا أعداءكم، وأحسنوا وأقرضوا غير مؤملين شيئاً، فيكون أجركم كثيراً وتكونوا بني العلي، لأنه منعم على غير الشاكرين والأشرار. فكونوا أذن رُحماء كما أن أباكم رحيم.



Prayer for the dead

O God of all spirits and of all flesh, who have destroyed death, overcome the devil, and given life to the world: grant, O Lord to the souls of your servants, who have departed from this life, that they may rest in a place of light, in a place of happiness, in a place of peace, where there is no pain, no grief, no sighing. And since You are gracious God and Lover of mankind, forgive them every sin they have committed by thought, or word, or deed, for there is not a man who lives and does not sin: You alone are without sin, your righteousness is everlasting, and your word is true.

For You are the Resurrection and the Life, and the Repose of your departed servants, O Christ our God, and we render glory to You, together with your Eternal Father and your All-holy, Good and Life-giving Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. Amen.



Divine Liturgy Intentions

THIS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2023: SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EXALTATION OF THE PRECIOUS AND LIFE-GIVING CROSS. PROTECTION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD. APOSTLE ANANIAS. ROMANOS THE MELODIST.

9:00 a.m. DIVINE LITURGY:

- + **JANET MARTINEZ (40 Day)** by the Family.
- + **MARY ANNARINO (10th Anniv.)** by her Family.
- + **SCOTT & KYLE** by Eric Bashour.

11:15 a.m. DIVINE LITURGY:

- + **JOHN R. ROWEY** by Paul & Chirin Ashkar.
- + **FATHER BASIL SAMRA** by Deacon Gilbert & Mimi Altongy.
- + **YOUSEF GEORGI DEEB** by Mrs. Sarah Peters.
- + **MICHAEL TAHHAN (CA)** by Sleiman Family.





SACRIFICIAL GIVING: September 24, 2023: Budgets: \$4,051.00 (Envelopes: \$3,905.00, Loose: \$146.00); Candles: \$119.00; Stole Offerings: \$410.00; Building Fund: \$95.00; Registration Religious Education: \$275.00; Donation: \$300.00; Melkite Diocesan Support: \$318.00.

GENERAL HOME VISITATIONS, SICK CALLS, HOSPITAL VISITS: Father Ephrem has now been here three years and is fully available for parish services. Just email him at office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com and leave him your message. **PLEASE! NO GRATUITIES!** A cup of coffee or tea is just fine. He looks forward to in-person contact.

PLEASE NOTE: Anyone who is planning an **ENGAGEMENT/BAPTISM/MARRIAGE RECEPTION PLANS** is kindly requested to notify a member of the clergy **BEFORE** reception/party plans are made. The Clergy may be already scheduled for something else on the day that you have rented a hall/restaurant. Following this policy will help avoid any later misunderstandings/hurt feelings.

ANY NEEDS, THOUGHTS, CONCERNS, QUESTIONS, MISUNDERSTANDINGS, SUGGESTIONS, ETC. they you may have, please do not hesitate to contact any member of the Clergy or Council immediately, Explanations/Corrections/ Discussions/Changes will never be made unless all bring these concerns to us. Let us remain the united and caring community that we are.

TIME, TALENT & TREASURE: We are all links of a chain. A chain is as strong as its weakest link! What kind of link are you? Let us make this New Church Year the year that we give more of ourselves in the strengthening of the chain of St. Basil the Great Community. Hopefully, many more will step up in their real understanding of parish membership.

SEPTEMBER 6: HOLY AND GLORIOUS APOSTLE THOMAS: Thomas, called the Twin, was so distraught by the Passion of the Lord that when the apostles told him about the Resurrection, he replied with an impulsive challenge: "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." (John 20:25.) An early tradition sees him preaching the Gospel in Persia and India where he died a martyr for the Church.

TODAY, there will be a special collection for the Religious Education Program. Please be generous in your support to help defray the cost of books, paper stock, visual aids, and all that is involved to perfect our program and meet present day standards in this field of education.

REFLECTION: "Plan ahead- it wasn't raining when Noah built the ark."

O Jesus, Who has said,
"Ask and you shall
receive, seek and you
shall find, knock and it
shall be opened," through
the intercession of the
Theotokos, Your Most
Holy Mother, I knock, I
seek, I ask that my prayer
be granted.

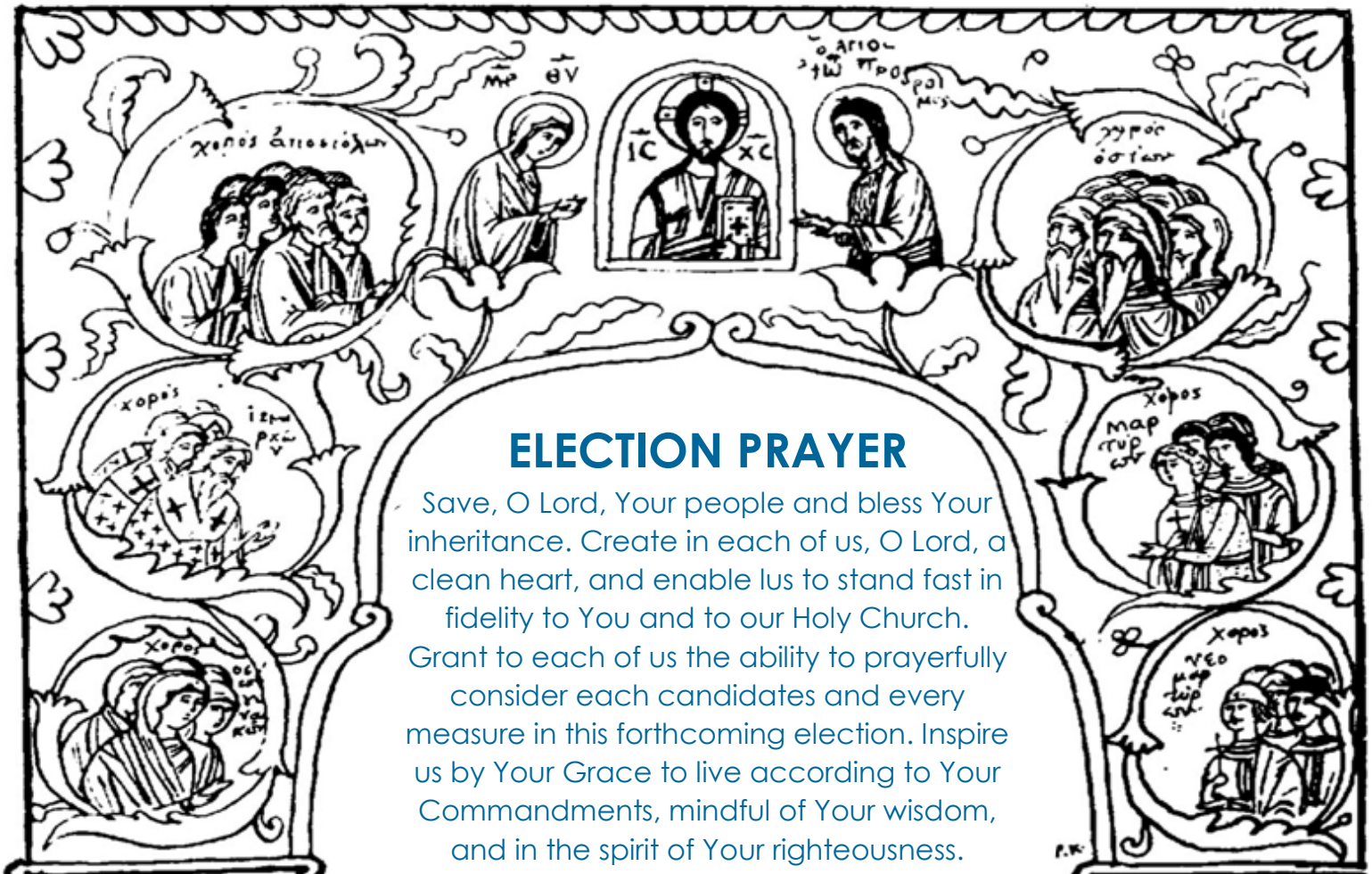
O Jesus, Who has said,
"All that you ask of the
Father in My Name, He
will grant you," through
the intercession of the
Theotokos Your Most Holy
Mother, I humbly and
urgently ask your Father
in your name that my
prayer will be granted.

O Jesus, Who has said,
"Heaven and earth shall
pass away but My word
shall not pass away,"
through the intercession
of the *Theotokos* Your
Most Holy Mother, I feel
confident that my prayer
will be granted.



Maamoul	Saturday, October 7 @ 10:00 am
Kata	Thursday, October 12 @ 10:00 am
Baklawa & Souart al Sit	Thursday, October 19 @ 10:00 am





ELECTION PRAYER

Save, O Lord, Your people and bless Your inheritance. Create in each of us, O Lord, a clean heart, and enable us to stand fast in fidelity to You and to our Holy Church. Grant to each of us the ability to prayerfully consider each candidates and every measure in this forthcoming election. Inspire us by Your Grace to live according to Your Commandments, mindful of Your wisdom, and in the spirit of Your righteousness.

To all Parishioners:

Due to the extreme weather, we experienced last night, we made a decision to extend the nomination process of the Parish Advisory Council (PAC). We did allow for the nominations by those in attendance on Wednesday evening, however we will also allow nominations to take place on Sunday September 24th during coffee hour (10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.). If you would like to nominate an individual, or if you are interested in being a nominee, please plan on being present on September 24th.

All accepting nominees will then prepare and submit a brief one-paragraph summary. This summary should include any relevant background and why he/she believes they should be elected to the PAC. This summary should be in a Word document and emailed to susanalbatal@yahoo.com by 9:00 a.m. on Friday September 29th.

The election of the new PAC will take place by in-person voting via secret ballot on Sunday October 1st where the above-mentioned summaries will be made available for all to review. Voting will begin immediately following the 9:00 a.m. liturgy and conclude at 1:00 p.m. The top 8 vote getters will become elected members of the PAC.

Any questions should be directed to the Nominating Committee, which is comprised of Deacon Gilbert Altongy, Susan Albatal and Tony Brahimsha. Thank you for your active participation in this critically important role within our Parish.

Following Jesus Kids bulletin



Love One Another

Jesus wants us to love each other just like God the Father loves us. Can you think of some ways to show you love the people around you?



1. What can you do to show you love your parents?

2. How can you be loving to your brothers and sisters?

3. What can you do for your grandparents to show you love them?

4. How do you show your friends you love them?

5. What can you do to love someone that doesn't like you?



When someone is loving toward you, think of how that person is being like God the Father and try to be like them!



The Protection of the Mother of God

October 1

"Today the Virgin stands in and with choirs of Saints for us. Angels and Bishops prophets rejoice together, to the Eternal God!"

From time immemorial, the Most-holy Theotokos protectress of the Christian intercessory prayers, sinners. The help of the has been clearly shown individuals and to nations, monastic deserts and in The event that the Church celebrates today confirms protection of Christian

On October 1st, 911 there Blachernae church of the Constantinople. The Constantinople, the capital was under threat of were praying for God's Church in the suburb of church that Virgin Mary was reserved



the midst of the Church, she invisibly prays to God venerate Her, Apostles and since for our sake she prays

the Church has celebrated as the patroness and people, who, by her implores God's mercy for us Most-holy Mother of God numerous times, to in peace and in war, in densely populated cities. commemorates and the Theotokos' consistent people.

was an all-night vigil at the Mother of God in church was crowded. of the Byzantine Empire, invasion and the people help in the Blachernae the city. It was in this the *omophor* or veil of the as a most precious relic.

According to tradition, on Sunday, October 1 at 4:00 am, the Holy Virgin appeared, accompanied by St. John the Forerunner, St. John the Evangelist and several saints. The Theotokos approached the center of the church, knelt down and remained in prayer for a long time. Her face was covered in tears. After completing her prayer, she took her veil and spread it over the people praying in church, protecting them from enemies both visible and invisible. The Most Holy Lady Theotokos, clad in gold-encrusted purple, was resplendent with heavenly glory, and the protecting veil in her hands shone with an unspeakable radiance. After the appearance of the Mother of God, the danger of barbarian invasion was averted and the city was spared from bloodshed and suffering.

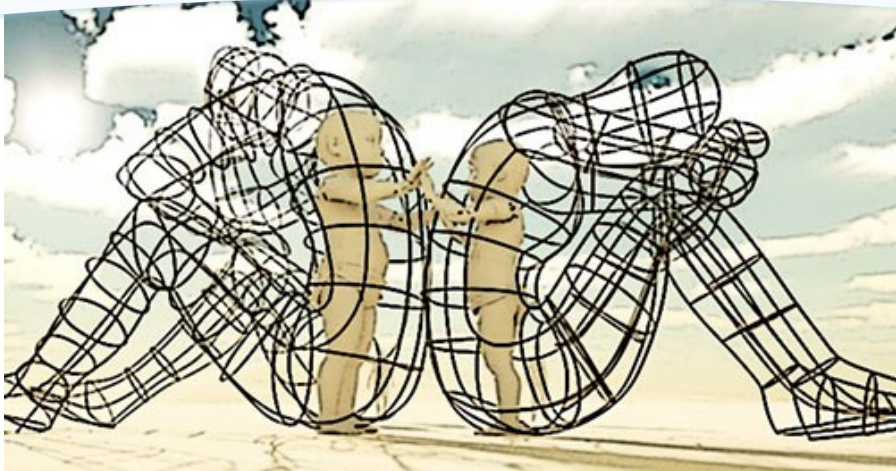
The Most Holy Virgin, Mother of God is the mediator between heaven and earth, the intercessor for the world before the throne of the glory of God. One could say that the Virgin sits in the front pew leading us in prayer to her Son. The world is not left in sorrow; mankind is not left to grieve alone. The Mother of God grieves and cries for us. We know that we are great sinners, but we also know that we are not forgotten by the Mother of God who is close to every human soul. What is more comforting? Throughout all the centuries the hearts of believers have been illumined with the joy of the Protection of the Mother of God, the joy of her prayers for the world. Yes, the joy and light of the Protection of the Mother of God is on us, in us, in our hearts and in our country.

On the Feast of the Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos we implore the defense and assistance of the Queen of Heaven, "Remember us in your prayers, O Lady Virgin Mother of God that we not perish by the increase of our sins. Protect us from every evil and from grievous woes, for in you do we hope, and venerating the Feast of your Protection, we magnify you."

Love Your Enemies

“But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your heavenly Father.” Matthew 5:44-45

This is not an easy command from our Lord. But it is a command of love. First, He calls us to love our enemies.



the most. This prayer will most likely not change your love for them over night, but if you commit to this form of prayer every day, over time God will slowly change your heart and free you of the burden of anger and hurt that may keep you from the love He wants you to have toward all people.

Who are our enemies? Hopefully we do not have “enemies” in the sense of those who we have willfully chosen to hate. But we may have people in our lives who we are tempted to have anger toward and who we have a difficult time loving. Perhaps we can consider anyone we struggle with as our enemies.

To love them does not necessarily mean we must become best friends with them, but it does mean we must work toward having a true affection of care, concern, understanding and forgiveness toward them. This can be hard to have toward everyone but it must be our goal.

The second part of this command will help. Praying for those who persecute us will help us grow in the proper love and affection we need to foster. This aspect of love is quite straightforward even though it is also quite difficult.

Think about those whom you have a very difficult time loving. Those toward whom you have anger. It could be a family member, someone at work, a neighbor or someone from your past with whom you have never reconciled. It is in keeping with this Gospel passage to honestly admit that there is at least someone, or perhaps more than one person, with whom you struggle, either externally or internally. Admitting this is simply an act of honesty.

Once you identify this person or persons, think about whether you pray for them. Do you spend time regularly offering them to God in prayer? Do you pray that God pours forth His grace and mercy upon them? This may be hard to do but it is one of the healthiest acts you can do. It may be difficult to show love and affection toward them, but it is not hard to consciously choose to pray for them.

Praying for those with whom we have a hard time is key to letting God foster a true love and concern in our hearts toward them. It's a way of letting God reform our emotions and feelings so that we will no longer have to hold on to feelings of anger or even hate.

Commit yourself this day to prayer for the person you struggle with

How To 'Love Our Enemies'

"How" is of the utmost importance. We aren't able to love our enemies without the help of God. Hating an enemy is what comes naturally. We need supernatural help. If we try and love our enemies apart from the help of God it will not be true love.

It's only by the grace of God, and the power of the Holy Spirit at work in us, that we can love our enemies.

We can only love our enemies by trusting God to help us.

Why Should We Love Enemies?

There are two reasons for us to love our enemies. One is simply because God said to, but the other is because God loved us first. It was when we were still God's enemies (Colossians 1:21 and Romans 5:10) that He demonstrated His love for us. Through Jesus (Romans 5:8) God's love brought salvation to us.

Love is what makes all the difference.

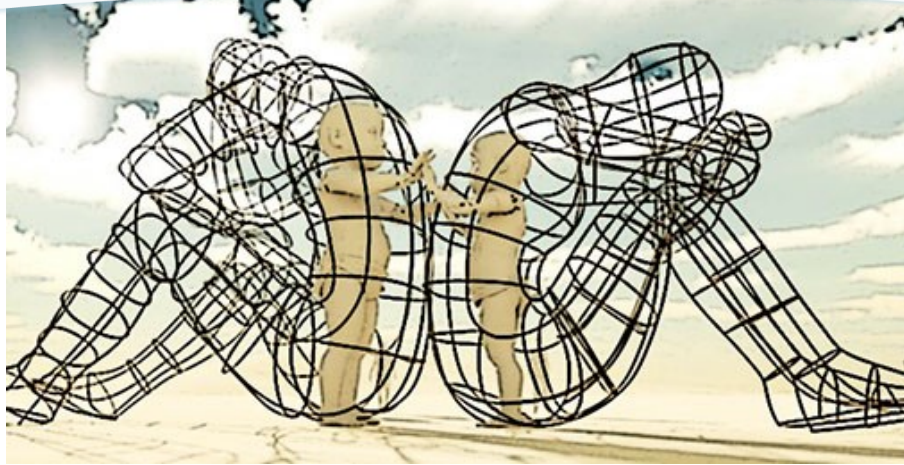
Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another. 1 John 4:10-11

Loving others, even enemies, flows out of knowing love.

Lord, I pray for the person for whom You want me to pray. Help me to love all people and help me to especially love those who are hard to love. Reorder my feelings toward them and help me to be free of any anger. Jesus, I trust in You.



لماذا علمنا السيد المسيح أن نحب أعدائنا



5- الدرجة الخامسة: يقابل الشرّ بالصمت، أي لا يقابله بأي شر، أي عدم مقاومته.

6- الدرجة السادسة: التي رفعنا إليها السيد المسيح وهي مقابلة الشرّ بالخير، ناظرين إلى الشرير كمريض يحتاج إلى علاج.

ويُعلّق القديس يوحنا الذهبي الفم على مقاومة الشرّ بالخير، قائلاً: لا تُطفأ النار بنارٍ أخرى، وإنما بالماء... ليس ما يصد صانعي الشرّ عن شرّهم مثل مقابلة المضرور ما يصيبه من ضرر برقة وتسامح. فإن هذا التصرف ليس فقط يمنعهم عن الاندفاع أكثر، وإنما يعمل فيهم بالتوبة عما سبق أن ارتكبه من شر، فإنهم إذ يندهبون برد الفعل هذا يرتدون عما هم فيه. هذا يجعلهم يرتبطون بك أكثر، فلا يصيروا أصدقاءً لك فحسب، بل وعبيداً عوض كونهم مبغضين وأعداء.

ومن شريعة المسيح: "سمعتم أنه قيل تحب قريبك وتبغض عدوك، وأما أنا فأقول لكم أحبوا أعداءكم، باركوا لاعينكم، أحسنوا إلى مبغضيك، وصلوا لأجل الذين يسيئون إليكم ويطردونكم، لكي تكونوا أبناء أباكم الذي في السموات..." (إنجيل متى 43-45).

لم تأمر شريعة الله لموسى ببغض العدو كوصية يلتزم بها المؤمن، في كسرهما كسر للناموس وإنما كان ذلك سماحاً أعطى لهم من أجل قساوة قلوبهم ولكونهم لم يصلوا إلى أعلى درجات الكمال في العلاقات الإنسانية. فلقد ألزمت الشريعة بحب القريب وسمحت بمقابلة العداوة بعداوة مساوية، لكي تمهد لطريق أكمل في شريعة المسيح، أن يحب الإنسان قريبه على مستوى عام، أي كل بشر وليس القريب فقط كصلة قرابه أو موده. يظهر ذلك بوضوح من الشريعة نفسها التي قدّمت نصيباً من محبة الأعداء ولو بنصيب قليل، فقيل: "إذا رأيت حمار مبغضك واقفاً تحت حملة وعدلت عن حله فلا بد أن تحلّ معه" (خروج 23: 5). وقيل أيضاً: "لا تكره أدمياً لأنه أخوك، ولا تكره مصرياً لأنك كنت زنبلاً في أرضه" (سفر التثنية 23: 7)، مع أن الأدميين والمصريين كانوا من أعدائهم. الطريق إلى الملكوت ليس بالأمر الهين فهناك طريق صعب وباب ضيق إلى ملكوت السماوات وقليلون هم الذين يجدونه فمحبة الرب يسوع المسيح الذي يريدنا أن نحياها مع الجميع لا يمكن أن تأتي من تلقاء ذاتنا ولا من قدرتنا الخاصة مهما كانت إنما المؤمن الحقيقي إذا أراد أن يحب الجميع بمحبة المسيح حتى يكون له نصيب في ملكوت السماوات لابد أن يطلبها منه له كل المجد وبالرحمة وصلاته وصوم دائم والرب يسوع نفسه سوف يمنحه من روحه القدس القوه حتى يحب الجميع حتى الأعداء.

ولإلهنا كل المجد والكرامه دائماً وإلى الأبد .. آمين

مامعني أن الله محبة؟

أولاً دعونا نلقي نظرة علي وصف كلمة الله أي الكتاب المقدس لكلمة "محبة" وعندها سنرى بعض الطرق التي من خلالها تنطبق هذه الكلمة علي الله. ففي كورنثوس الأولي (13: 4-8أ) "المحبة تتأني وترفق. المحبة لا تحسد. المحبة لا تتفاخر ولا تنتفخ. ولا تقبح ولا تطلب ما لنفسها. ولا تحتد ولا تظن السوء ولا تفرح بالأثم بل تفرح بالحق. وتحتمل كل شيء وتصدق كل شيء وترجو كل شيء وتصبر علي كل شيء. المحبة لا تسقط أبداً."

المحبة (أي الله) لا يرغب أي منا علي محبته. فالذين يأتون الي معرفته يفعلون ذلك كنتيجة طبيعية لمحبهته. الله (الرفيق) يبين حنانه لجميع الناس. والمحبة (أي يسوع) فعل خيرا لجميع الناس. والمحبة (أي يسوع) لم يتمني ما لغيره ولم يحسد، فقد عاش بأقل القليل ولم يعترض. المحبة (أي يسوع) لم يتفاخر ولم ينتفخ وهو في الجسد، رغم أنه كان بإمكانه أن يفعل ذلك. المحبة (أي الله) لا يرغبنا علي طاعته. فالله لم يرغب ابنه يسوع علي طاعته ولكن يسوع قام طوعاً بأطاعة أبيه السماوي "ولكن ليفهم العالم أني أحب الآب وكما أوصاني الآب هكذا أفعل" (يوحنا 14: 31). المحبة (أي يسوع) دائماً وأبداً يهتم بما نحتاج اليه.

فلماذا أدعو علي أعدائي؟! لماذا لا أصلي لأجلهم حتى يحولهم الله بقدرته العظيمة إلى أصدقاء؟! فأكون ربحت من الجانبين.. لماذا لا أقاوم الشر بالخير؟ فالله يريد خلاص النفوس وليس هلاكها وهذا هو هدفه فمن لا يفرق فهو يجمع.

فكما يرى القديس أغسطينوس في تفسيره للموعظة علي الجبل، أن السيد المسيح عندما قال لا تقاوموا الشر (إنجيل متي 5: 38) قد أدخل الكمال المسيحي كأعلى درجات الحب التي تربط الإنسان بأخيه.. إذ يرى أن العلاقة التي تقوم بين البشر تأخذ ست درجات:

1- الدرجة الأولى: تظهر في الإنسان البدائي الذي يبدأ بالاعتداء علي أخيه دون ذنب.

2- الدرجة الثانية: فيها يرتفع الإنسان عن المستوى السابق، فلا يبدأ بالظلم، لكنّه إذا أصابه شر يقابله بشرٍ أعظم.

3- الدرجة الثالثة: وهي درجة الشريعة الموسوية التي ترتفع بالمؤمن عن الدرجتين السابقتين فلا تسمح له بمقاومة الشرّ بشرٍ أعظم، إنّما تسمح له أن يقابل الشرّ بشرٍ مساوٍ. أنّها لا تأمر بمقابلة الشرّ بالشرّ، إنّما تمنع أن يرد الإنسان الشرّ بشرٍ أعظم، لكنّه يستطيع أن يواجه الشرّ بشرٍ أقل أو بالصمت أو حتى بالخير إن أمكنه ذلك.

4- الدرجة الرابعة: مواجهة الشرّ بشرٍ أقل.



LITURGICAL CALENDAR



OCTOBER	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 تشرين الأول - أكتوبر 2023	1 2 nd Sunday after Holy Cross الأحد الثاني بعد عيد الصليب 2 Corinthians 9:6-12 Luke 6:31-36	2 St Cyprian Philippians 1:1-7 Luke 6:24-30	3 St Stachys and his companions Philippians 1:8-14 Luke 6:37-45	4 St Hierotheos of Athens Philippians 1:12-19 Luke 6:46-7:1	5 St Charitina Philippians 1:20-27 Luke 7:17-30	6 St Thomas the Apostle 1 Corinthians 4:9-16 John 20:19-31	7 Sts Sergios and Bacchos 1 Corinthians 15:58-16:3 Luke 5:27-32
	8 3 rd Sunday after Holy Cross الأحد الثالث بعد عيد الصليب 2 Corinthians 11:31-12:9 Luke 7:11-16	9 St James the Apostle 1 Corinthians 4:9-16 Matthew 9:36-10:8	10 Sts Eulampios and Eulampia Philippians 2:16-23 Luke 8:1-3	11 St Theophane of Nicaea Philippians 2:24-30 Luke 8:22-25	12 Sts Probos, Tarachos and Andronicos Philippians 3:1-8 Luke 9:7-11	13 Sts Carpos, Papyllas and Agathonicos Philippians 3:8-19 Luke 9:12-18	14 St Cosmas of Maiuma 2 Corinthians 1:8-11 Luke 6:1-10
SEPTEMBER 2023 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	15 Second Council of Nicaea أحد آباء مجمع نيقية الثاني Titus 3:8-15 Luke 8:5-15	16 St Longinos the Centurion Philippians 4:10-23 Luke 9:18-22	17 St Andrew of Crete Colossians 1:1-11 Luke 9:23-27	18 St Luke the Apostle Colossians 4:5-11,14-18 Luke 10:16-21	19 Holy Prophet Joel Colossians 1:24-2:1 Luke 9:49-56	20 St Artemios Colossians 2:1-7 Luke 10:1-15	21 St Hilarion 2 Corinthians 3:12-18 Luke 7:1-10
NOVEMBER 2023 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	22 6 th Sunday after Holy Cross الأحد السادس بعد عيد الصليب Galatians 2:16-21 Luke 8:27-40	23 St James of Jerusalem Galatians 1:11-19 Matthew 13:54-58	24 St Arethas and his companions Colossians 2:20-3:3 Luke 11:1-10	25 Sts Marcian and Martyrios Colossians 3:17-4:1 Luke 11:9-13	26 St Demetrios 2 Timothy 2:1-10 John 15:17-16:2	27 St Nestor Colossians 4:10-18 Luke 11:23-26	28 Sts Terence and Neonila 2 Corinthians 5:1-10 Luke 8:16-21
	29 7 th Sunday after Holy Cross الأحد السابع بعد عيد الصليب Galatians 6:11-18 Luke 8:41-56	30 Sts Zenobios and Zenobia 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5 Luke 11:29-33	31 St Stachys and his companions 1 Thessalonians 1:6-10 Luke 11:34-41				

Weekly Divine Liturgy Schedule



The Divine Liturgy Schedule

Divine Liturgy

- Sunday at 9:00 am & 11:15 am

The Holy Sacrament of Reconciliation is available before and after the Divine Liturgy or by appointment.

Wine and Paint



St. Basil's Fellowship Presents...
Paint & Wine & Cheese Night
Learn to create your own painting!
Sip on Glasses of Wine or Coffee &
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Wednesday, October 4, 2023

6:30 p.m.

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YouTube
<https://bit.ly/2VJgvnS>

Contact us for information and ideas
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THE LORD SAID: "TRULY I TELL YOU THIS
POOR WIDOW HAS PUT IN MORE THAN ALL
OF THEM, FOR THEY ALL CONTRIBUTED
OUT OF THEIR ABUNDANCE, BUT SHE GAVE
OF HER POVERTY PUT IN ALL THE LIVING
THAT SHE HAD." *MARK 12:41-42*

"GOD LOVES THE CHEERFUL GIVER" 2 COR 9:7

Donations are greatly appreciated especially during this pandemic crisis. Please click on the link below to donate.
Thank you and God bless you and yours.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

As of 09/15/2023



St. Basil the Great Melkite Greek Catholic Church

15 Skyview Drive Lincoln, RI 02865

Sharing our Faith
SECURING OUR FUTURE



Campaign Facts:



Campaign Goal: \$1,000,000



Outstanding Goal: \$329,240



Contribution Ranges: \$20 to \$50,100

Parish Community Facts:



Total Registered Families: 410



Active Families: 200



% of Active Families Participation: 55%

"It's not about how much we give, but how much love we put into giving"
-Mother Teresa

Current & Future Projects:



Church Roof Replacement: Project completed, final cost \$321,000.



Rectory Roof Replacement: Project completed, final cost \$18,850.



Church Window Repairs: Project completed, final cost \$9,000. Additional window was found to need repair, awaiting additional estimate.



HVAC & Boiler Replacement: Proposals received, estimated cost \$196,000. Boiler does need immediate replacing, awaiting timeframe. HVAC system is okay for now.



Flooring Upgrades: Proposal received, estimated cost \$50,000 (carpeting for Church, Cultural Center, office & hallway), awaiting samples and timeframe.



Parking Lot Sealing: Project completed at both Rectory & Church, final cost \$14,000.



Interior Repairs, Expand Storage & HVAC Vent Cleaning: Partial proposals received. Vent cleaning completed, final cost \$9,020



Exterior/Masonry/Walkway Repairs: Awaiting proposals. Maintenance to mosaic of The Blessed Mother completed, cost \$8,000.



Security Cameras/Door Upgrades: Camera system complete, final cost \$10,500. Electrification of doorway proposal received, pending completion.



Central Air Conditioning and HVAC improvements to Rectory: Project completed, final cost \$56,665.

Important Highlights

- We are extremely grateful to all of those who have contributed and supported the campaign thus far.
- The finance committee has begun strategy planning on maximizing the return of current financial reserves for future projects. God willing, this will prevent the need for another capital campaign and *allow for a more spiritual focus!*
- As reflected above, donations have varied in amounts, we do not expect everyone to support with the same amount...*However, we do pray that everyone will support this important campaign!*
- This is an open and transparent campaign, if you have any questions, suggestion, or concerns Fr. Ephrem or any of the committee members would be more than happy review/discuss during coffee hour or feel free to call them at the numbers listed below.



For more information contact any of the committee members, [click here](#), or scan this code with your Smartphone Camera!

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Ann Sabbagh: 508-243-1190

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