



June 18, 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 Liturgies

Sunday Divine Liturgy

9:00 AM - 11:15 AM

Pastoral Emergencies and anointing of the sick

(401)722-1345

Holy Mysteries

Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available before 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



Third Sunday After Pentecost

الأحد الثالث بعد العنصرة

Troparion of the resurrection, (Tone 2)

When You descended to death, O immortal Life, You put Hades to death by the splendor of Your divinity. And when You raised the dead from below the earth, all the heavenly powers cried out to you: "O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You!"

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.

Kondakion:

O never failing Protectress of Christians and their ever-present intercessor before the Creator, despise not the petitions of us sinners, but in your goodness extend your help to us who call upon you with confidence. Hasten, O Mother of God, to intercede for us, for you have always protected those who honor you.

نشيد القيامة باللحن الثاني

لما نزلت الى الموت، أيها الحياة الخالدة، أمت الجحيم بسنى لاهوتك. ولما أقمت الاموات من تحت الترى، صرخت جميع قوات السماوين: أيها المسيح ألهنا، يا مُعطي الحياة، المجد لك.

طروبارية القديس باسيليوس

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

نشيد الختام (القنداق)

يا نصيرة المسيحيين التي لا تُخزي، ووسيطتهم الدائمة لدى الخالق، لا تعرضي عن أصوات الخطاة الطالبين اليك. بل بما أنك صالحة، بادري إلى معونتنا، نحن الصارخين اليك بإيمان: هلمي إلى الشفاعة، وأسري إلى الابتهاال، يا والدة الإله المحامية دائماً عن مكرميك.

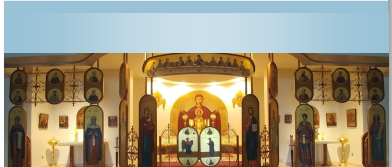


Our church organizations:

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>



Epistle Romans 5:1-10, PROKIMENON (Tone 2)

My strength and my courage is the Lord, and He has been my Savior.

Stichon: The Lord has chastised me through His teaching, yet He has not delivered me to death.

Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans

Brethren, now that we have been justified by faith, let us have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through Whom we have access by faith to that grace in which we stand and exult in the hope of God's glory.

And not only this, but we exult also in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces endurance, and endurance challenge, and challenge hope, and hope does not deceive, for God's love is poured forth in our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

For why did Christ die at the appointed time for the wicked while we were still weak? Hardly would someone die for a just man; perhaps someone would have the courage to die for a virtuous man. But God proves His love for us, since Christ died for us while we were still sinners. Much more now that we are made just in His blood, shall we be saved by Him from wrath.

For if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled with God through His death, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by His life.

ALLELUIA (Tone 2) Ps.19: 1; 27: 9

May the Lord answer you in the days of distress; may the name of the God of Jacob defend you.

Stichon: O Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance

Gospel 3rd Sunday after Pentecost, Matthew 6:22-33

The Lord said: The lamp of the body is the eye. If your eye is sound, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is evil, your whole body will be full of darkness. Therefore, if the light that is in you is darkness, how great is the darkness itself! No man can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will stand by the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore, I say to you, do not be anxious for your life, what you shall eat and drink; nor yet for your body, what you shall wear. Is not life a greater thing than food, and the body than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow, or reap, or gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are not you of much more value than they? But which of you by being anxious about it can add to his stature a single cubit? And as for clothing, why are you anxious? See how the lilies of the field grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory was adorned like one of these. But if God so clothes the wild flower of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more you, O you of little faith! Therefore, do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or, 'What shall we drink?', or, 'What are we to wear?' (For all these things the Gentiles seek); for your heavenly Father knows you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His justice, and all the rest shall be given you besides."

مقدمة الرسالة

الربُّ قُوَّتِي وتَسْبِيحِي لقد كان لي خلاصاً
أَدَّبِي الرَّبُّ تَأْدِيباً، والى الموت لم يُسَلِّفني

الرسالة (رومة 5: 10-11)

يا إخوة، إذ قد بُرِّزنا بالآيمان، لنا سلامٌ لدى الله برَبِّنا يسوع المسيح الذي نلنا به أيضاً الدخول بالآيمان الى هذه النعمة، التي نحنُ مقيمون فيها، ومفتخرون في رجاءِ مجدِ الله. وليس هذا فقط، بل نفتخرُ أيضاً في الشدائد، عالمين بأنَّ الشدَّة تُنشئُ صبراً والصبرُ امتحاناً، والامتحانُ رجاءً، والرجاءُ لا يُخزي، لان محبَّة الله قد أفيضت في قلوبنا بالروح القدس المُعطي لنا. لان المسيح، ونحنُ بعد ضعفاء، قد مات في الاوانِ عن الكافرين. ولا يكادُ أحدٌ يموت عن بازٍ، فلعلَّ أحداً يُقدِّمُ أن يموت عن صالح. أما اللهُ فيُبرهنُ على محبته لنا، بأنَّ المسيح، ونحنُ بعد خطاة، قد مات عتاً، فبالأحرى كثيراً اذ قد بُرِّزنا بدمه نخلصُ به من الغضب. لانا إذا كنَّا قد صولحنا مع الله بموتِ ابنه ونحنُ أعداء، فبالأحرى كثيراً ونحنُ مصالحوونُ نخلصُ بحياته.

هللوا

ليستجِبْ لكِ الرَّبُّ في يوم الضيق، ليعظِّمَكَ اسمُ
اله يعقوب

خَلِّصْ يا رَبُّ شعبَكَ، وبارك ميراثَكَ

انجيل الاحد الثالث بعد العنصرة

الانجيل (متى 6: 22-33)

قال الرب: سراج الجسد العين. فإن كان عيناك بسيطةً، فجسدك كله يكون نيراً. وإن كانت عيناك شريرةً، فجسدك كله يكون مُظليماً. وإذا كان النور الذي فيك ظلاماً، فالظلامُ كم يكون مُدلهماً؟ لا يستطيع أحد أن يعبدَ ربَّين. فإنه إما يُبغضُ الواحدَ ويحبُّ الآخر، أو يُلزِمُ الواحدَ ويؤذِلُ الآخر. لا تُقدِّرون أن تعبدوا الله والمال. فلهذا أقول لكم: لا تهتمُّوا لنفوسكم بما تأكلون، بما تشربون، ولا لجسديكم بما تلبسون. أليست النفسُ أفضلُ من الطعام، والجسدُ أفضلُ من اللباس؟ أنظروا الى طيور السماء، فإنها لا تزرع ولا تحصد ولا تجمع في الأهرار، وأبوكم السماويُّ يقوتها. أفليستم أنتم أفضلُ منها؟ من منكم يُقدِّرُ باهتمامه، أن يزيده على قامته ذراعاً واحدة؟ ولماذا تهتمُّون باللباس؟ تأملوا زنايق الحقل كيف تنمو. إنها لا تتعب ولا تغزل. وأنا أقول لكم: إنَّ سليمان نفسه في كلِّ مجده لم يلبس كواحدةٍ منها. فإذا كان عُشبُ الحقل الذي يكون اليوم، وغداً يُطرح في التَّنُّور، يلبسه الله هكذا، أفلا يُلبسكم بالأحرى أنتم يا قليلي الايمان. فلا تهتمُّوا إذن قائلين، ماذا نأكل، أو ماذا نشرب، أو ماذا نلبس. فإنَّ هذا كله تطلبه الأمم، وأبوكم السماويُّ يعلم أنكم تحتاجون الى هذا كله. بل اطلبوا أولاً ملكوت الله وويله، وهذا كله يُزاد لكم.



Divine Liturgy Intentions

THIS WEEKEND, SATURDAY, JUNE 17 & SUNDAY, JUNE 18, 2023: THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. COMMEMORATION OF THE HOLY MARTYR LEONTIUS. FATHER'S DAY.

5:00 p.m. DIVINE LITURGY:

Liturgy for ALL THE FATHERS OF THE PARISH both living and deceased on the occasion of FATHER'S DAY.

10:00 a.m. DIVINE LITURGY:

Liturgy for ALL THE FATHERS OF THE PARISH both living and deceased on the occasion of FATHER'S DAY.

SPECIAL REMEMBRANCE for ALL GRADUATES from High School, College, or Institutions of Higher Learning.

On FATHER'S DAY, we offer our best wishes to all the Fathers, Grandfathers, and God-Fathers of St. Basil's Community. God give long life and health to those living, and grant eternal happiness to those who have preceded us to everlasting life. May their love and dedication inspire us all!!!

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.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

To our Heavenly Father and our Earthly Fathers; Dads, Grandpas, Godfathers, Foster fathers, stepfathers, Spiritual fathers and Priests!



St. Basil the Great Melkite Greek Catholic Church, RI





SACRIFICIAL GIVING: June 10 & 11, 2023: Budgets: \$1,775.00: Envelopes: \$1,635.00, Loose: \$140.00); Candles: \$94.00; Building Fund: \$410.00; Stole Offerings: \$325.00; Addit'l Melkite Support: \$25:00.

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. Thank you!

GRAPE LEAVES: The Food Fair Committee is appealing to all parishioners and friends to donate sufficient grape leaves to accommodate the needs of this popular cuisine. Anyone willing to donate some leaves can bring them to the kitchen and they will be stored in the freezer. If Christine Durnin or Jane Hanna are not there, arrangements will be made to freeze them.

2023 Food Fair Cooking Schedule Thank you for your help!

Kibbeh – Thursday, June 29 @9:00 a.m.

Sfeeha – Tuesday, July 11 @ 9:00 a.m.

Grapeleaves – Thursday, August 3, 9:00 a.m.

Sfeeha – Thursday, August 24@ 9:00 a.m.

Sfeeha - Thursday, September 7@ 9:00 a.m.

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.





HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: TODAY, SUNDAY, JUNE 18th, 2023, Deacon Dr. Edmond B. Raheb celebrates his 23rd Anniversary of Ordination to the Diaconate. We offer our heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to Deacon Edmond, his wife Theresa and his family. We thank God for the generous and selfless ministry rendered to our community. Many more blessed years filled with peace, health and joy!

TODAY, JUNE 17th and 18th, there will be a special collection taken up for the **CHARITIES OF POPE FRANCIS** (Peter's Pence). This collection enables the Holy Father to respond to request for emergency funds for the most disadvantaged throughout the world. This special appeal is an opportunity to demonstrate justice and kindness to our brothers and sisters in need. Please pray for the Holy Father's works and contribute generously to the appeal.

SUMMER IS COMING: We wish to bring to your attention two items: 1) making sure that you still attend Liturgy on Sundays if you are here or away; if traveling, you can go to: www.melkite.org to find a Melkite church near where you will be or www.masstimes.com to find either an Eastern or a Roman Catholic church. Sunday is the Kyriake...the Day of the Lord. Even while you are away, your spiritual journey is still our concern. 2) Your Parish's expenses will continue to be present even if you have been fortunate to go away. Please do not forget your responsibility to support your Parish while you are away. Every summer, unfortunately, your parish suffers greatly as all of our parishioners are not here, Income is not as steady. Church bills are held. Penalties are added. Summer is indeed a time of pleasure, leisure and rest. If you were on automatic bank payment, this would not be a concern for you or us. God has not rested in assuring His blessings for you and those you love. Please do not refrain from thanking Him, whether here or not. Remember to bless Him through His Church!

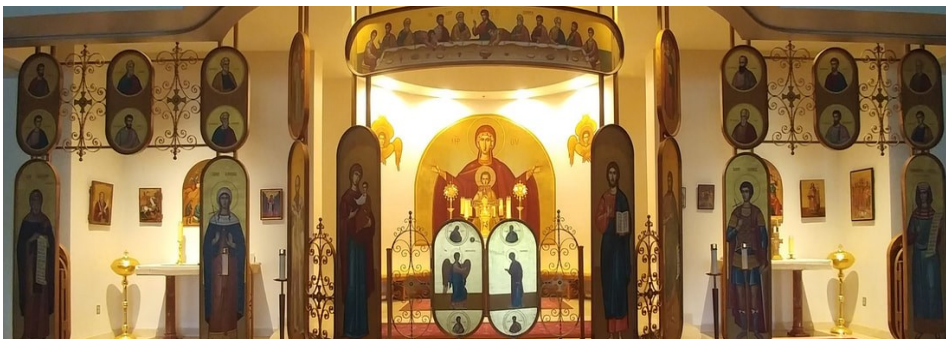
BUDGET ENVELOPE USERS: If for any reason, you do not receive your budget-packets, please contact any member of the clergy immediately. In this way, we will be able to notify the company at once, and in turn they will mail you a first class packet.

REFLECTION: "A blind person who sees is better than a seeing person who is blind." Iranian (on wisdom)

O Jesus, Who has said,
"Ask and you shall
receive, seek and you
shall find, knock and it
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HAPPY DIACONATE ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY!

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Deacon Dr. Edmond B. Raheb

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We offer our heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to Deacon Edmond, his wife Theresa and his Family.

We thank God for the generous and selfless ministry rendered to our community.

Many more blessed years filled with Peace, health and joy!





Congratulations!

CLASS OF 2023

Graduate	Parents/Spouse	School/Degree
Meshlin Alam	Elias Alam & Nesrin Hana	Lincoln High School
Jad Albatal	Camille Albatal & Dima Chamaoun	Cumberland High School
Lauren Azmy	Mervat Khalil & Wagih Abader	University Of Rhode Island for Honors Program, Biological Sciences & Medical Lab Science on the pre-med track.
Mary Boghos	Kamil & Caroline Boghos	Providence College
Meghan Ghazal	Ghazal & Maureen Ghazal	Doctor of Optometry, New England School of Optometry
Hunter Isbitsky	Ron & Tina Isbitsky (Kishfy)	Miller Place High School
Alec G. Lazieh	Hon. George J. Lazieh & Gianna Lazieh	Northeastern University with a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering
Joelle Madour	George Madour & Rita Sadek	Cumberland High School
Alex Michael Massud	Michael & Shiralynn Massud	Bishop Feehan High School
Audrey Nassaney	Jason & Ana Nassaney	Lincoln High School
Kyle Elias Poccia	Christine Deeb Poccia & Wayne Poccia	East Greenwich High School
Brianna Procter	James & Nicole Procter	Lincoln High School
Leila Toubia	Dr. Nabil & Nancy Toubia	La Salle Academy - will attend Tufts University

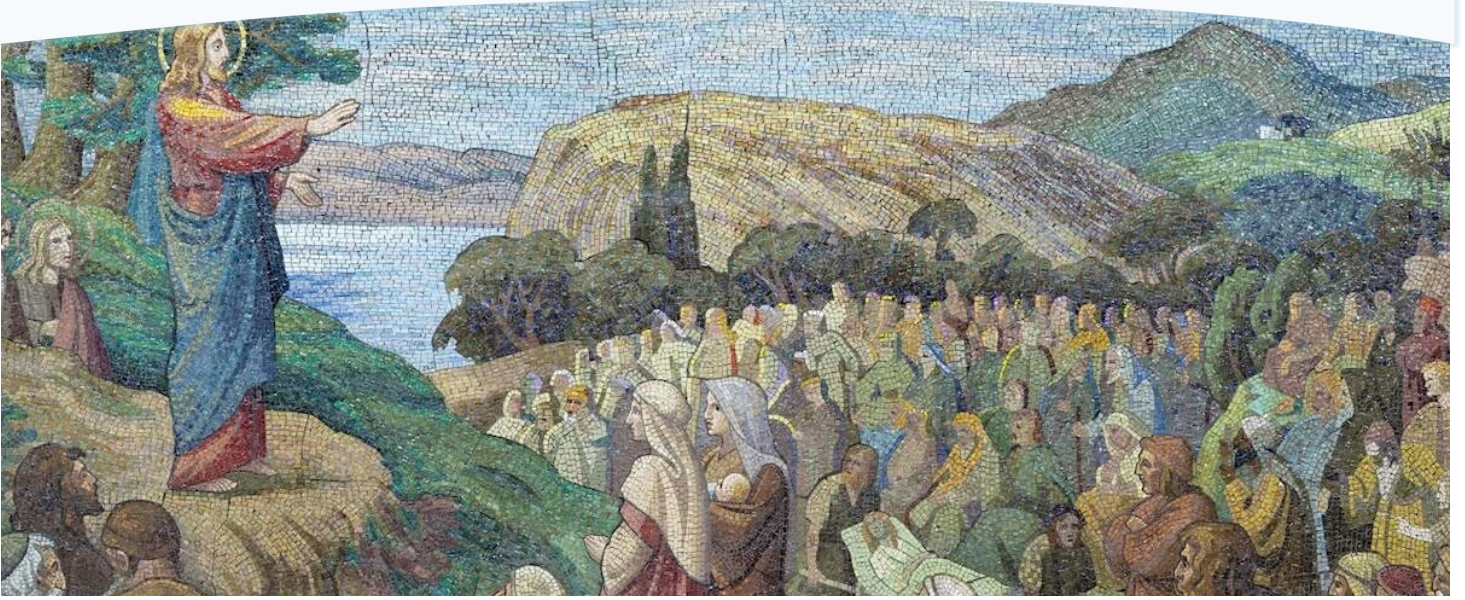
Following Jesus Kids bulletin



Help the crowd find Jesus to listen to his parable.



ملكوت الله



الخسارة أو الوحدة. وعندما يحدث هذا، فإننا في أيدي أمينة.

لقد أحب الله كل من أيوب وإيليا، ولكنه سمح للشيطان أن يدمر أيوب (تحت رقابته)، وسمح للمرأة الشريرة، إيزابل، أن تكسر روح نبيه إيليا (أيوب 1-2؛ ملوك الأول 18-19). وفي كلتا الحالتين، تبع الله هذه التجارب بإسترداد ومساندة لذا على الإنسان أن يطلب البر بنفسه وحسب قول الرب (أطلبوا أولاً البر) فعلينا أن لا نهتم بالماديات الضرورية للجسد، فنقول ماذا نأكل وماذا نشرب أو نلبس وكما تطلبها الأمم، لأن أبانا السماوي يعلم بتلك الاحتياجات كلها. فعلينا أن لا نفرضها على البر والقداسة المطلوبة منا من قبل الله، ولأن ملكوت الله هو الضرورة الملحة فيجب أن نسعى إليه أولاً، أما المتطلبات الأخرى فهي مجرد ضروريات نحتاج إليها في الزمن فقط ونوضح هنا ونقول ما هو الملكوت؟ الملكوت هو حب الإنسان المطلق لله، فعندما يعيش الإنسان على هذا المستوى من الحب فملكوت الله ستهيمن على عقله ووجدانه. أي عن طريق المحبة المتبادلة بين الخالق والمخلوق. فالمحبة تملك القلوب! فتصبح قوية لا تهاب الخوف أو الموت (يو 18:4). لذا ليس (أبناء الملكوت) الذين هم أبناء الله قوماً يخافون الرب، كما أنهم لا يخافون من وسائل الترهيب والتعذيب لأن الله هو راعيهم، والمسيح قال أنا الراعي الصالح الذي أبذل نفسي عن خرافي. فملكوت المسيح هي مسيرة خلف المسيح الراعي الذي حمل الصليب متحدياً الموت. فالمؤمن بالمصلوب لا يخاف من الصليب، بل يفخر به كما أفخر الرسول بولس قائلًا (أما أنا فحاشى لي أن أفخر إلا بصليب ربنا يسوع المسيح) (غل 6: 14)

بعد أن اختار المسيح تلاميذه، ألقى عليهم عظة فريدة وافية شاملة أبدية، تُعتبر قاعدة المواعظ وخالصة الدين، وتُسمى «الموعظة على الجبل». ألقاها المسيح في مكان مرتفع بقرب كفرناحوم، والموعظة على الجبل هي أهم وأكمل ما ورد من عظات المسيح، كما أنها الأكثر شهرة

هذه الموعظة دستور الملكوت الروحي الجديد الذي أنشأه المسيح على أساس النظام القديم الإلهي الذي أنزل على موسى والأنبياء، وجاء المسيح لا لينقضه بل ليكمّله.

في هذا الملكوت نرى أن المسيح هو الملك الذي أنبأ الله عنه قديماً بضم نبيه داود: «أما أنا فقد مسحتُ ملكي على صهيون جبل قديسي» (مز 2:6).

الله يريدك أن ترفع عينيك إليه، خلقهما لكي تراه بهما، الله يسعد بأن يرى عينيك متجهتين نحوه في العلاء، في السماء. ارفع عينيك إليه حيث البهاء والخير والعون.

ابعد عينيك عن التراب حيث النجاسة والشر والعثرة. ما أروع أن ترى الله دائماً فهو دائماً يراك، دائماً. سراج الجسد بحسب توجيه العين وهي "العين" المرشد الموجه للإنسان. يُعبر الرب في حديثه هنا عن العين بالنافذة التي منها يدخل النور، فعن طريق العين يدخل النور إلى كياننا من الداخل. والعين البسيطة، تعرف أن تستقر على هدف وهدف واحد، وهو الرب تبارك اسمه، وبذلك نجد النظرة مستقرّة وهادئة، وبذلك يُصبح الجسد كله نيرًا.

فإذا ارتفعنا بأعيننا نحو عرش السماء كذا أحاسيسنا وسلوكنا ومشاعرنا نسمو نحو السماويات والعكس تماماً فيما لو نظرنا نحو الأرضيات.

يشبه القديس يوحنا الذهبي الفم العين "بالقائد"، وإذا وقع ماذا ينفع الجسد "الجسد"؟ والعين مثل "رَبان" السفينة "إن هَوَت للغرق بفقدان قائدها فما ينفع الجسد والخيرات التي على متنها؟!

البساطة هي أن عيوننا لا تبصر سوى غرض واحد: «سراج الجسد هو العين، فإن كانت عينك بسيطة فجسدك كله يكون نيرًا» (مت 6: 22).

يجب علينا ألا نطلب الأشياء كما لو كانت مصدر سعادتنا، كما لا نصنع الخير لأجل نوالها رغم كونها ضرورية في حياتنا. لقد أوضح لنا الرب الفارق بين السعادة التي نطلبها وبين حصولنا على ضروريات الحياة، وذلك بقوله "اطلبوا أولاً ملكوت الله وبره، وهذه كلها تزداد لكم" فملكوت الله وبره هو الخبز الذي نسعى إليه والذي نقصده من كل أعمالنا. ولكننا إذ نخدم في هذه الحياة كجنود راغبين في ملكوت السماوات نحتاج إلى الضروريات اللازمة للحياة، لذلك قال الرب "هذه كلها تزداد لكم"، ولكن اطلبوا أولاً ملكوت الله وبره (مت 6: 33)

لذا علينا أن نطلب أمور الله كأولوية فوق أمور العالم. وهذا يعني، أساساً، أننا يجب أن نطلب الخلاص الكامل في ملكوت الله لأن قيمته أعظم من كل غنى العالم. هل يعني هذا أن نهمل الواجبات اليومية المنطقية التي تساعدنا على الحياة؟ بالتأكيد كلا. ولكن بالنسبة للمؤمن، يجب أن يكون هناك إختلاف في إتجاهه نحوها. فإذا كنا نعطي الإهتمام بشئون الله الأولية – مثل طلب الخلاص الذي يقدمه، والحياة في طاعته، ومشاركة الآخرين بالأخبار السارة عن ملكوت الله – فإنه سوف يهتم بشئونا كما وعد – وإذا كان هذا هو الإفتاق، فلماذا القلق؟

لقد وعد الله أن يهتم بخاصته، وأن يبدر كل احتياجاتهم (فيلبي 4: 19)، ولكن أحياناً يختلف فكره بشأن ما نحتاجه عن أفكارنا، ويختلف توقيته عن توقعاتنا. فمثلاً، قد نرى حاجتنا للأموال أو الترفي، ولكن ربما يرى الله أن حاجتنا الحقيقية هي فترة من العوز أو

ان الرب يسوع طلب من تلاميذه أن لا تخفهم هموم الدنيا كما يخفق الشوك الزرع . فأوصاهم قائلًا (اطلبوا أولاً ملكوت الله وبره وهذه كلها تزداد لكم) (مت 6: 31-33" فعلى المؤمن أن ينظر الى الأعلى لأنهم أبناء الملكوت ، ليسوا من هذا العالم رغم وجودهم في العالم .

وجودهم في العالم له ايجابياته لأنهم ملح العالم والخميرة التي يجب أن تبقى في العجين . في كل مؤمن يوجد ملك المسيح وهذا الملك هو المحبة ، وشعاره الصليب ، وثمرته أعطاه النور لبني البشر لكي يشهدوا للحق ويقتربوا من الملكوت ، فالمطلوب من أبناء الملكوت في هذا العالم ان يسالموا جميع الناس وأن يحبوا حتى أعدائهم ، وأن لا يعادوا أحداً ، بل أن يحاربوا مبادئ الشر الكامنة لا في الآخرين فحسب ، بل في ذواتهم أولاً ، ان في كل مؤمن انسان عتيق يقاوم الانسان الجديد في نفس الانسان . أي في كل انسان هناك معركة بين الخير والشر ، بين الانانية والتفاني ، بين المسيح وقوى الظلام ، بين النور والظلام ، بل بين ملكوت المسيح وملكة الشيطان ، فعلى المؤمن أن يتق بقول الرب القائل في يو 33:16

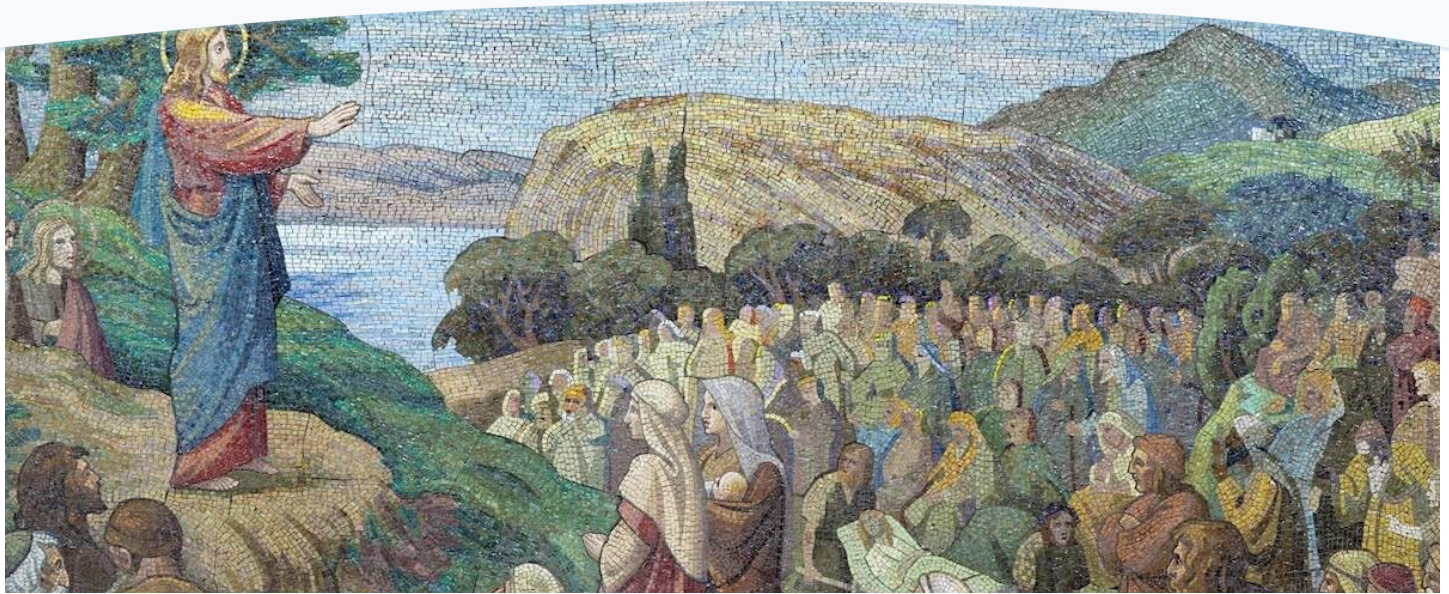
نشرك ونسبك ونباركك على كل أعمالك وأحساناتك الجزيلة علينا ونسألك يا سيدنا ان تنعم علينا بحواس مقدسة وأفكار طاهرة وقلب محب لك وللجميع.

أفتح يارب عيني لأعين مجدك، وهبني بصيرة داخلية ترى حكمتك في الأحداث، واعطني حكمة وقوة لاجهاد على رجاء القيامة وأضبط جسدي واقعه لينطلق في خدمتك بعيون مختونة بنعمتك ومستتيرة بهياه مجدك ومقدسة بالنظر الي صورتك المقدسة.

يا مسيحنا القدوس شمس البر، أشرق في قلبي بنور برك، وقدس جسدي ونفسي وروحي.

أكتب وصاياك على لوح قلبي وأنزع مني كل قساوة وتجبر وعلمني إن اكون رحيم على أختي، أنظر نظرا طاهرا للجميع. قدس حواسي بنعمتك واضبط فكري بروحك القدوس وهبني حكمة ونعمة لكي ارضيك كل أيام حياتي، آمين

What is faith?



Today, on this Sunday, the Gospel reading is about what we really need in life, about what our real requirements are. In this Gospel, the Lord offers several images or comparisons, saying: *The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thy eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. But if thy eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness* (Matthew 6:22-23).

Here the Lord offers us three images.

First, the Lord speaks about the eyes, about how important it is for them to see all that is full of light, for then the whole body will be full of light. If the eyes only look for good, then the whole person will be good and light. But if the eyes are darkened, then the whole person will be blackened.

The second image compares the eye with a lamp. A lamp dispels the darkness around it and gives light to any quarter – and the eye should do likewise for the body.

The Lord implicitly offers us a third image, that of the mind. If our mind be full of light, then all the remaining powers of the soul will likewise be full of light. If, on the contrary, our mind be darkened, then our entire soul will become dark and gloomy.

This is the first instruction the Lord gives us today: we should seek not only visible light, but also the spiritual light that would illumine our mind and thereby our soul as well.

Next the Lord warns us against avarice, saying: *Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on* (Matthew 6:25). Here He identifies two kinds of avarice. There are people who fall into the sin of avarice and begin to gather money. This form of avarice is called greed. Moreover, people who gather money give way to greed to such an extent that they are afraid to spend their money, so seized are they by this passion. There is another form of avarice, when one does not simply gather money, but hastens to spend it on mundane pleasures, thereby falling into spiritual dissipation. Both are dangerous. The Lord calls this “mammon,” saying: *No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon* (Matthew 6:24). Here the Lord is speaking about the qualities of our heart, that it is impossible to unite

love for God with love for earthly riches. Moreover, there is also the risk that this “mammon” might not even be riches, but even a small amount of money. The Lord forewarns us, by giving us – as though we were little children – various images and comparisons. He comforts, instructs, and upholds us, saying: *Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them* (Matthew 6:26). If He feeds the birds, surely He can feed us as well. What a vivid comparison, invigorating and admonishing us!

The Lord also says: *Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall He not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?* (Matthew 6:28-30). Here again the Lord instructs and comforts by making a comparison, saying that we, of course, are better than birds or ephemeral flowers. Moreover, the Lord calls us to break away from corrupt, earthly concerns that are vain and sinful, and to direct our gaze to the surrounding world that He created.


The most important thing is to see that God is present in everything in this world: He gives thought to birds and flowers of the field. But, brothers and sisters, when the Lord offers us these comparisons, He is also cautioning us against another extreme. When He offers us these examples of the birds of the heavens or flowers, He does not want us, once we have heard these examples, to stop doing anything, sit down, fold our hands, and say: “That’s it, Lord! Now You will take care of us, and we’ll put aside all earthly cares.” No, nothing of the sort! The Lord certainly does not want us to wilt like these wildflowers. Indeed, their lifespan at time lasts only days or hours, but this does not mean that we should imitate flowers by stopping and doing nothing. Nor are we to be like birds that fly about at random, as they please, and do nothing else. The Lord guards us from extremes, and is certainly not calling upon us to do nothing.

Therefore, today’s Gospel proclamation concludes with these sobering words: *But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you* (Matthew 6:33). Amen.



LITURGICAL CALENDAR



JUNE	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 St Justin the Philosopher Romans 1:28-2:10 Matthew 5:27-32	2 St Nicephoros the Confessor Romans 2:14-28 Matthew 5:33-41	3 Leave-taking of Pentecost وداع العنصرة Romans 1:7-12 Matthew 5:42-48
حزيران - يونيو 2023	4 All Saints Sunday أحد جميع القديسين Hebrews 11:33-12:2 Matthew 10:32-38; 19:27-30	5 St Dorotheos of Tyre Romans 2:28-3:18 Matthew 6:31-34, 7:9-11	6 St Hilarion the Younger Romans 4:4-12 Matthew 7:15-21	7 St Theodotos of Ancyra Romans 4:13-25 Matthew 7:21-23	8 Feast of the Divine Body عيد الجسد الالهي 1 Corinthians 11:23-32 John 6:48-54	9 St Cyril of Alexandria Hebrews 7:26-8:2 Matthew 5:14-19	10 Sts Alexander and Antonina Romans 3:19-26 Matthew 7:1-8
MAY 2023	11 2 nd Sunday after Pentecost الأحد الثاني بعد العنصرة Romans 2:10-16 Matthew 4:18-23	12 King's Birthday St Peter of Athos Romans 7:1-13 Matthew 9:36-10:8	13 St Aquilina Romans 7:14-8:2 Matthew 10:9-15	14 Holy Prophet Elisha Romans 8:2-13 Matthew 10:16-22	15 Leave-taking of the Feast of the Divine Body وداع جسد الرب Romans 8:22-28 Matthew 10:23-31	16 St Tikhon of Cyprus Romans 9:6-19 Matthew 10:32-36, 11:1	17 Sts Manuel, Sabel and Ishmael Romans 3:28-4:3 Matthew 7:24-8:4
JULY 2023	18 3 rd Sunday after Pentecost الأحد الثالث بعد العنصرة Romans 5:1-10 Matthew 6:22-33	19 St Jude the Apostle Jude 1:1-15-2:11-25 Matthew 11:2-15	20 St Methodios of Patara Romans 10:11-11:2 Matthew 11:16-20	21 St Julian of Tarsus Romans 11:2-12 Matthew 11:20-26	22 St Eusebios of Samosata Romans 11:13-24 Matthew 11:27-30	23 Holy Martyr of Agrippina Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 1:29-45	24 Nativity of St John the Forerunner مولد يوحنا المعمدان Romans 13:11-14:4 Luke 1:1-25, 57-68, 76, 80
	25 4 th Sunday after Pentecost الأحد الرابع بعد العنصرة Romans 6:18-23 Matthew 8:5-13	26 St David of Thessalonica Romans 12:4, 5, 15-21 Matthew 12:9-13	27 St Samson the Hosteller Romans 14:9-18 Matthew 12:14-16, 22-30	28 Relics of Sts Cyrus and John Romans 15:7-16 Matthew 12:38-45	29 Sts Peter and Paul the Apostles الرسولان بطرس وبولس 2 Corinthians 11:21-12:9 Matthew 16:13-19	30 Synaxis of the Apostles محفل مقدس للرسول 1 Corinthians 4:9-16 Matthew 9:36-10:8	

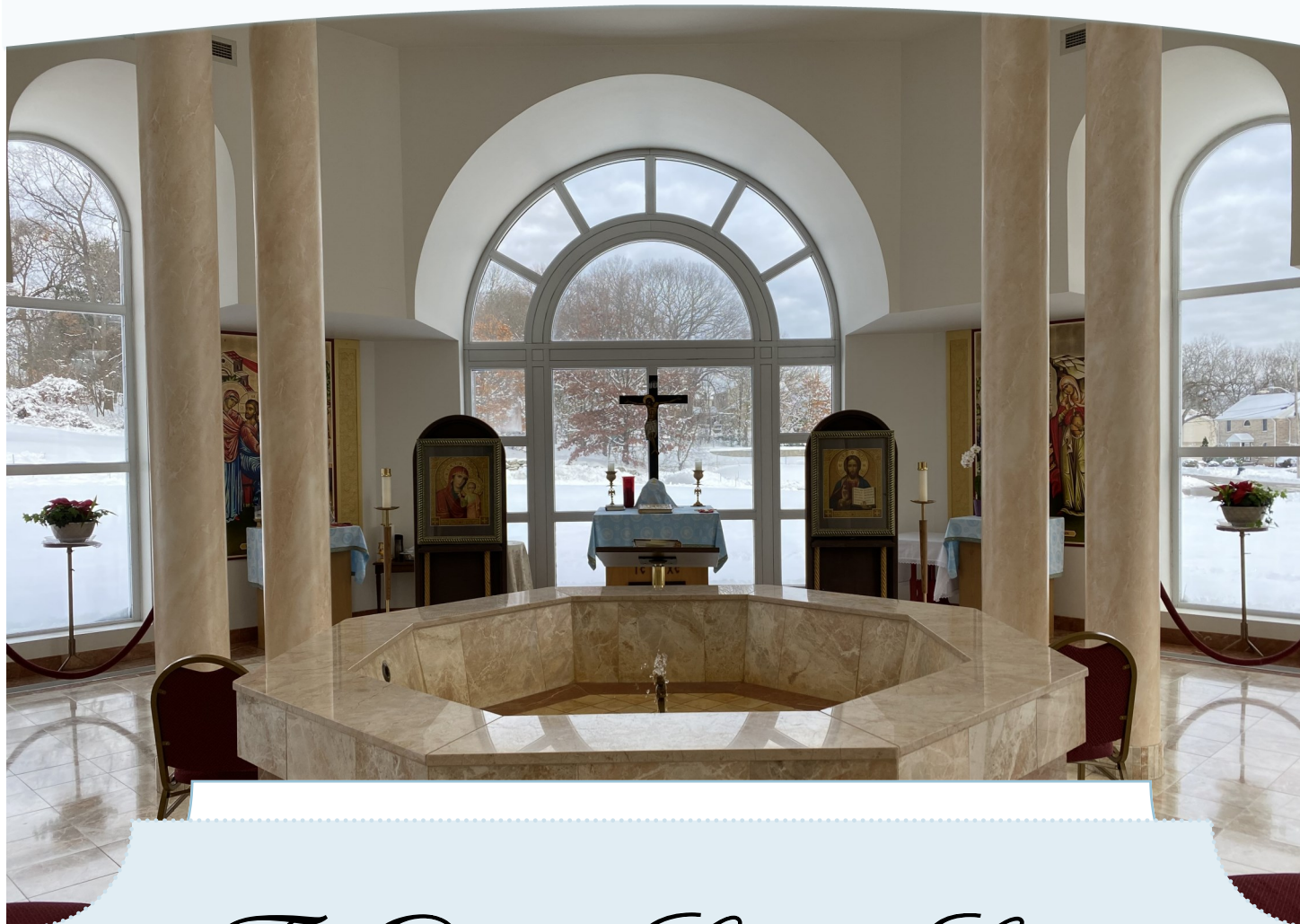
✠ Church Major Feasts

🐟 Abstain from Meat

🕒 Fast from midnight until noon

🌸 Lenten Season

Weekly Divine Liturgy Schedule



The Divine Liturgy Schedule

Divine Liturgy

- **Saturday at 5:00 pm**
- **Sunday at 10:00 am**

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available before or after the Divine Liturgy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Welcome to

St. Basil The Great Melkite Greek Catholic Church

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for Church news and updates at**
www.stbasilthegreatchurch.com

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

Contact us for information and ideas
office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com



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 12/30/2022



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: \$340,000



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

Parish Community Facts:



Total Registered Families: 415



Active Families: 250



% of Active Families Participation: 51%

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

Current & Future Projects:



Church Roof Repair: Project completed, estimated cost of \$400,000...final cost \$321,000.



Rectory Roof Repair: Proposals received, estimated cost \$18,000, pending review.



Church Window Repairs: Proposals received, estimated cost \$9,000, pending review.



HVAC & Boiler Replacement: Proposals received, estimated cost \$196,000.



Flooring Upgrades: Proposal received, estimated cost \$50,000 (carpeting for Church, Cultural Center, office & hallway), pending review.



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



Interior Repairs, Expand Storage & Vent Cleaning: Partial proposals received. Vent cleaning estimated cost \$9,000.



Exterior/Masonry /Walkway Repairs: Awaiting proposals.



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

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!

Jeff Boudjouk: 401-441-2737

Ann Sabbagh: 508-243-1190

Kyle Mardo: 401-578-5369

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221 Broadway Providence RI 02903

401-274-8400

Fax : 401-274-9242

Email: steve@mlcpa.com

webpage: mlcpa.com



SHARON DeSIMONE, EA
401-651-1112

LincolnTaxServicesofRI@yahoo.com
650 George Washington Hwy.
Lincoln, RI 02865-4206

JAMES A. BRIDEN

Attorney At Law

Blais Cunningham & Crowe Chester, LLP

P.o.Box 1325 150 Main street Pawtucket, RI 02862

www.Blaislaw.com

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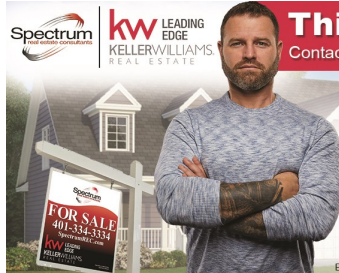
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