



June 25, 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



Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

الأحد الرابع بعد العنصرة

Troparion of the resurrection, (Tone 3)

Let all in heaven rejoice and all on earth be glad, for the Lord has exerted power with His arm: by death He has trampled upon Death and has become the firstborn of the dead. He has delivered us from the bosom of Hades and has granted to the world great mercy.

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 الثالث

لتفرح السماويات، وتبتهج الارضيات. لأن الرب صنع عزاً بساعده، ووطيء الموت بالموت، وصار بكر الاموات، وأنقذنا من جوف الجحيم، ومنح العالم عظيم الرحمة.

طروبانية القديس باسيليوس

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

نشيد الختام (القنفاق)

يا نصيرة المسيحيين التي لا تُخزي، ووسيطتهم الدائمة لدى الخالق، لا تعرضي عن أصوات الخطاة الطالبين اليك. بل بما انك صالحة، بادري إلى معونتنا، نحن الصارخين اليك بإيمان: هلمي إلى الشفاعة، وأسري إلى الإبتهال، 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: 4th Sunday of Pentecost, Rom 6:18-23, PROKIMENON (Tone 3)

Sing praise to our God, sing praise! Sing praise to our King, sing praise!

Stichon: All you peoples, clap your hands! Shout to God with cries of gladness!

Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans
Brethren, now that you have been freed from sin, you have come to serve justification. I speak in a human way because of the weakness of your flesh. For as you yielded your members as slaves to uncleanness and iniquity, so now yield your members as slaves of justification so as to be sanctified. For while you were the slaves of sin, you had nothing to do with justification. But what fruit did you gather then of those deeds of which you are now ashamed? For the end of such things is death. But now, set free from sin and become slaves to God, you have your fruit resulting in sanctification, and as your end, life everlasting. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is life everlasting in Christ Jesus our Lord.

ALLELUIA (Tone 3)

In you, O Lord, I have hoped: let me never be put to shame. In your goodness, save me and deliver me; lend your ear and hasten my deliverance.

Stichon: Be for me a protecting God, a sheltering house to save me.

Gospel: FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Matthew 8, 5-13

At that time when Jesus had entered Capharnaum, there came to Him a centurion who entreated Him, saying, "Lord, my servant is lying sick in the house, paralyzed, and is grievously afflicted." Jesus said to him, "I will come and cure him." But in answer the centurion said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof; but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I too am a man subject to authority, and have soldiers subject to me; and I say to one, 'Go', and he goes; and to another, 'Come', and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this', and he does it." And when Jesus heard this, He marveled, and said to those who were following Him, "Amen I say to you, I have not found such great faith in Israel. And I tell you that many will come from the east and from the west, and will feast with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, but the children of the kingdom will be put forth into the darkness outside; there will be weeping and the gnashing of teeth." Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go your way; as you have believed, so be it done to you." And the servant was healed in that hour.

رسالة الاحد الرابع بعد العنصرة

مقدمة الرسالة

رَنِّمُوا لِإِلَهِنَا رَنِّمُوا، رَنِّمُوا لِمَلِكِنَا رَنِّمُوا
يا جميع الأمم صفِّقوا بالأيدي، هلِّلوا لله بصوت
الابتهاج

الرسالة (رومة 6: 18-23)

يا إخوة، بعد أن أعتقتم إلى الخطيئة استعبدتم
إلى للبر، أقول كلاماً بشرياً من أجل ضعف
جسدكم. فكما جعلتم أعضاءكم عبيداً للنجاسة
والإثم للإثم، كذلك الآن اجعلوا أعضاءكم عبيداً
للبر للقداسة. لأنكم حين كنتم عبيداً للخطيئة،
كنتم أحراراً من البر، فأئِ ثمر حصل لكم حينئذ
من الأمور التي تستحيون منها الآن؟ انما عاقبتها
الموت، وأما الآن وقد أعتقتم من الخطيئة
واستعبدتم لله، فتحوزون ثمركم للقداسة،
والعاقبة حياة أبدية، لأن أجره الخطيئة موت،
وأما موهبة الله فحياة أبدية في المسيح يسوع
ربنا.

هللوا

عليك يا ربُّ توكلتُ فلا أخزي إلى الابد، بعدلك
نجي وانتشلي

كن لي إلهاً محامياً، وبيت ملجأٍ لخلاصي.

الانجيل (متى 8: 13)

في ذلك الزمان، لما جاء يسوع إلى كفرناحوم، دنا
اليه قائد مئة وسأله قائلاً: يا سيدي إن غلامي
مُلِقٌ في البيت مُقعداً يُعَدُّ بعداً شديداً فقال
له يسوع: أنا آتي وأشفيه. فأجاب قائلاً المئة
وقال: يا سيدي لسئ أهلاً أن تدخل تحت
سقي، ولكن قل كلمة لا غير فيبراً غلامي. فإني أنا
أيضاً إنسان تحت سلطان، ولي جند تحت يدي.
فأقول لهذا اذهب فيذهب ولاخر أت فيأتي.
ولعبدي أعمل هذا فيعمل. فلما سمع يسوع
تعجب وقال: للذين يتبعونه: الحق أقول لكم إني
لم أجد مثل هذا الإيمان حتى ولا في إسرائيل وأنا
أقول لكم إن كثيرين يأتون من المشرق
والمغرب، ويتكثون مع إبراهيم وإسحق ويعقوب
في ملكوت السماوات، وأما بنو الملكوت فيلقون
في الظلمة البرانية هناك يكون البكاء وصرير
الأسنان. ثم قال يسوع لقائد المئة: اذهب،
ولیکن لك كما آمنت. فسفي غلامه في تلك
الساعة.



Divine Liturgy Intentions

THIS WEEKEND, SATURDAY, JUNE 24 & SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 2023: FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. COMMEMORATION OF THE WOMAN MARTYR FEBRONIA.

5:00 p.m. DIVINE LITURGY

- + ALICE AZAR (40 Day) by her children Valerie & Joseph & their Families.
- + MICHAEL TAHHAN (The Father of Wafaa Tahhan. He reposed in the Lord in California on June 12th) by Wafaa & Bishara Tahhan.
- + MARION E. BAKER by Alberta Mardo & Family.
- + SAMUEL HANNA by Sandra Elias.
- + JOSEPH & ANGELA KAYATA by Michael & Barbara O'Rourke & Family.
- + CHARLES & ANNE O'ROURKE by Michael & Barbara O'Rourke & Family.
- + LAYLA ANGELA CHARETTE by Uncle Michael, Auntie Barbara, Greg & Katie.
- + LOUIS P. TAGER, SR. by daughter, Barbara, Doug & Family.

10:00 a.m. DIVINE LITURGY:

- + ROUBA KHOURI (40 Day) by Amal & Souheir Khouri.
- + MICHAEL TAHHAN (The Father of Wafaa Tahhan. He reposed in the Lord in California on June 12th) by Wafaa & Bishara Tahhan.
- + GEORGE KARDOUS by Deacon Gilbert & Mimi Altongy.
- + PETER MASHATA by Eugenie Mashata & Family.
- + JAN CHARCHAFLIAH by Eugenie Mashata & Family.
- + JOHN ROWEY by Rouaida Aghia.
- + MARY SACKAL by Joseph & Yolanda Saggal.

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.





SACRIFICIAL GIVING: June 17 & 18, 2023: Budgets: \$1,697.00: (Envelopes: \$1,603.00, Loose: \$94.00); Candles: \$79.00; Building Fund: \$605.00; Stole Offerings: \$75.00; Addit'l Melkite Support: \$44.00.

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.

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: "Economy is the wealth of the poor and the wisdom of the rich." (French (on thrift))

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.



Following Jesus Kids bulletin



I am not worthy that you should come under my roof; but only say the word, and my servant will be healed



Jesus went to Capernaum.



A centurion came and asked for help.



He said, "My servant is not well".

Jesus told the centurion that He will come to heal his servant.



The centurion said, "No, I am not worthy to have You come to my house. I have faith that You can heal him from here."



Jesus said, "Go home".



The centurion went home.



His servant was well!

مقياس الايمان



فتعجب المخلص قائلاً: "الحق أقول لكم إنني لم أجد إيماناً بمقدار هذا ولا في إسرائيل!"

ولكن لماذا أُنِيها الإخوة والأخوات اختار الله رجلاً وثنيًا وليس يهوديًا كقدوة للإيمان القوي أثناء تبشيره؟ ألم يكن الذين تبعوه من العبرانيين وقد كان تلاميذه السبعون والاثني عشر من أمثال أولئك العبرانيين والذين قد اختارهم المخلص وسماهم هو ذاته رُسلًا؟ كان اليهود يتمنون أن يروا في المسيح ليس نبياً عظيماً فحسب بل وملكاً أرضياً أيضاً والذي سيمنحهم تلك الأشياء التي يمكن للحياة الدنيا أن تمنحهم إيَّها. أما الرجل الوثني فقد رأى فيه رباً وملكاً الملكوت السماوي والأرضي معاً.

قال يسوع للذين يتبعونه: "الحق أقول لكم إن كثيرين سيأتون من المشارق والمغرب ويتكفون مع إبراهيم واسحق ويعقوب في ملكوت السماوات." (متى 8: 11). ليس عند الله كلمة إلا ولها معنى. وكما أنه خلق كل إنسان على صورة الله فذلك يمكنه أن يخلص وينال الحياة الأبدية إذا ما كان لديه إيمان ذلك الرجل الوثني.

وليكم عبرة أخرى: لقد كشف قائد المائة عن إيمانه لكي يخلص عبده المريض من الموت. إنه لم يطلب لنفسه شيئاً آخر. إن أعمال الإيمان هي أعمال محبتنا للرب إذ يقول القديس بولس الرسول: "وإن أطمعت كل أموالي، وإن سلّمت جسدي حتى أحترق، ولكن ليس لي محبة، فلا أنفع شيئاً." (1كورنثوس 13: 2) ولأنه "إننا نعلم إلى حد ما وإلى حد ما نتنبأ ولكن حينما تحل المعرفة الكاملة حينئذ سيختفي ذلك الحد".

ولكن ما الذي سيحل بأولئك الذين يتقيدون بالحرف ويؤمنون به؟ هم "بنو الملكوت" الذين سبقت فأعطيت لهم الممالك الكنعانية حيث وُعدوا بها والذين يملكون بسبب إيمان الأنبياء والأبرار من الشعب اليهودي الحق في أن يرثوا الملكوت السماوي كذلك أيضاً إنهم سيُلقى بهم في الظلمة الخارجية حيث سيكون البكاء وصريف الأسنان. إنهم لم يجلسوا على المادية مع الملك في ملكوته السماوي بل سيُشعرون بعذاب الجحيم الأبدي لأنهم لم يعرفوا بأن يسوع هو المسيح المنتظر. سيُعطي كل واحد على مقدار إيمانه. قال يسوع لقائد المائة: "أذهب وأنت لك كما أمّنت." فشفني غلامه لوقت. لقد طلب الرجل مساعدة من الرب فنالها.

أُنِيها الإخوة والأخوات إننا إذ نكون مثقلين بالاهتمامات الدنيوية غاباً ما نتجه نحو المسيح طالبين يد العون منه وإننا نحصل عليه أحياناً ولا نحصل عليه على نحو ما كنا نتوقه أحياناً أخرى. إذاً كيف يجب علينا أن نطلب العون من الرب؟ يجب علينا أن نطلب ذلك بالتضرع والإيمان والتواضع!

تقدّم الرجل الوثني إلى يسوع بطلبه. إن مثال هذه الطلبة هو واضح بالنسبة للمسيحي الأرثوذكسي – الطلبة أي الصلاة. إن الله ليس مديناً لنا بل نحن خاصته! ولذلك فإنا لا نطلب ونصر على الله بل إننا نسال منه!

لقد أظهر قائد المائة إيمانه أمام الجمع الذي كان يتبع يسوع والذي كانوا يُجرّبون أمامه بقلة إيمانهم عدّة مرّات. كان ذلك الإنسان واعياً بخطاياهم وقد تواضع عن طريق التوبة ونال مطلبه الذي كان يطلبه.

أُنِيها الإخوة والأخوات دعونا لا نضيع ولا لحظة من حياتنا! فلنأخذ معنا كل الأثاث الذي سنأخذه معنا بعد موتنا أعني نفسنا الخالدة ولندخل في محبة الرب بتواضعٍ وصلاةٍ وإيمانٍ!

لا يوجد هنالك مقياس للإيمان. إنّه من الصعب أن يقارن الإيمان عند أحد الناس مع إيمان شخص آخر. ويحصل أن يختبر أكبر المؤمنين إيماناً صراعاً مع الشكّ حينما يقَرُّ الله أن يمتحنه ويسمح بهجوم الأرواح الشريرة الساقطة عليه.

كذلك يختبر إنسان آخر أقلّ إيماناً منه أو الإنسان الشكّ

بشكل مستمرّ فجأة الغبطة من أن يُقيم في محبة الله ويشعر بالحاجة أن يكون معه دوماً. إن المتعة هي بمثابة بديل للسعادة الأبدية وإنها لا بد أن تزول من بعد أن يشبع الجسد منها تاركةً نفساً فارغة في إثرها. إن السعادة الدنيوية هي ككل شيء أرضي لها بداية ولها نهاية. إنك إذا اختبرتها ليوم واحد فقط سواء أكان ذلك لأيام أو أسابيع أو أشهر عدّة فإن هذه السعادة تزول ولا يبقى شيء منها سوى الذكرى التي تجعل أيماناً مرّةً. إن غبطة الإنسان المقيم في كنف المحبة الإلهية فقط لا تنتهي أبداً وذلك إذا ما عرف الإنسان بأن مفتاح هذه الغبطة هو الإيمان. يقول القديس الرسول بولس: "وأما الإيمان فهو الثقة بما يُرجى والإيقان بما مور لا تُرى." (عبرانيين 11: 1).

عندما دخل مخلص الجنس البشري في مدينة كفرناحوم الجليلية اقترب إليه قائد مائة وسأله أن يشفي فتاه المريض والمستلقي في بيته والذي كان يعاني بشدّة من مرضه. هذا ما يخبرنا به الإنجيل الإلهي الذي سمعناه اليوم معكم. وإذا قد أمسينا بعيدين مدّة ألفي سنة عن الأحداث الإنجيلية فإنا وللأسف دائماً ما لا نفهم بأنّه لا يوجد في العهد الجديد للكتاب المقدس أيّة حادثة قد حصلت مصادفةً. إن لكل كلمة في البشارة معناها الإرشادي والعميق.

وفي الحقيقة ماذا في ذلك أن يأتي إلى يسوع قائد مائة ويسأله عن مساعدة عجائبية؟ كان قائد المائة وثنيًا وأما في ذلك الزمان فلم يكن من المقبول أصولياً أن يسأل هو الساجد للأوثان والتي يمكن أن يكون الإمبراطور ذاته من بينها أن يطلب مساعدة عجائبية من رجل يهودي بالجسد الذي يلتقي به لأول مرّة والذي يعرف عنه اسمه فقط. ولكن كان في قلب ذلك القائد الأجنبي أمراً مخفياً عن مواطنيه ويبدو أنه لذلك لم يحفظ شهود العيان اسمه. إن ذلك الأمر الذي كان مخفياً عنهم لم يكن مخفياً بالنسبة لله الفاحص الكلي الذي كانت أبواب قلب قائد المائة مفتوحة أمامه والذي كان يخترقه نور الإيمان. وهكذا عرف ذلك الرجل العادي أن الذي يقف أمامه هو كلمة الله الأزلي والذي كان عند الله قبل كل الدهور وكان الكلمة ذاته إلهاً (يوحنا 1: 1). عند حصوله لتلك المعرفة القلبية (الإيمان) فهم ذلك الرجل فجأة كم أن الطبيعة البشرية خاطئة وقال: "يا رب إنني لست مستحقاً أن تدخل تحت سقفي..." (متى 8: 8).

لم يكن ذلك الرجل خارج وضعه الاجتماعي كقائد مائة إنساناً عشوائياً. لقد كان ذلك الرجل يحترم الإله الواحد الذي كان اليهود يمجّدونه كقدوة للأمم الأخرى وكان قد بنى نفسه مجمعا لليهود في كفرناحوم على حسابه الخاص. كما أنه كان يعدّ عبده كفرّد من أفراد عائلته على خلاف الكثير من الأسياد الآخرين وكان يشاركه الأمانة. أرسل قائد المائة في البداية شيوخ اليهود ومن ثمّ معارفه إلى يسوع إذ عدّ نفسه غير مستحقّ كما يخبرنا القديس لوقا الإنجيلي (لوقا 7: 3، 6).

إن إيمان قائد المائة ولو كان غير ظاهر وواضح للناس بالرغم من ذلك فقد رأى الله أنه موجود في قلبه: "ولكن قل كلمة فيبراً فتأي فإني أنا إنسان تحت سلطان...". هكذا سأل الإنسان الوثني يسوع. لقد مكّنه إيمانه من أن يختبر القدرة الإلهية: "إن كلمة المسيح بحذ ذاتها تكفي إنفا فعالة مثل أمر يصدره قائد مائة إلى جنوده الذين تحت إمرته.

Levels of Faith in the Bible

The Bible has a lot to say about different levels of faith. While some types of faith are somewhat related, others are distinctly different, with names such as common, great, genuine, and one we all hope to avoid, wavering.

Christian faith is based on God's promises, rather than feelings, or things visible. Great faith holds fast regardless of outward appearances.

"And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform," (Rom 4:18-22).

The one who truly believes and has faith will act on God's Word, with perfect assurance that his request will be granted.

These fifteen Levels of Faith are found in Scripture at random. They are listed here in this order only for practicality.

"Measure of Faith"

We begin with measure of faith because without it none of the succeeding steps of faith would be possible. A measure of faith is given by God to all men. It is a faith that has not grown but is sufficient for belief in God and salvation. In Romans 12:3 it is referred to as "The Measure of Faith." The Measure of Faith is a gift from God.

"Growing Faith"

A growing faith steadily progresses from the measure of faith to a great strong faith. A growing faith is pleasing to God: "We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly..." (2 Thes 1:3) As nutritious milk helps a baby to grow strong and healthy; Spiritual food will help a baby Christian grow into a deeper level of faith.

"Great Faith"

An unrelenting totally persuaded type of faith, that does not give up until the request is granted. A Centurion who had asked Jesus to heal his sick child, and whose faith was so great that he said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed." "When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, "Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!" (Matt 8:8-10)

And there was the woman from Canaan, a Gentile, (not a Jew). The Gentiles, as a rule, had very little, if any, faith in God.

This woman requested Jesus to heal her severely demon-possessed daughter. When Jesus refused, saying that He had only been sent to the Jews, she persisted, and demonstrated a level of faith so great that it brought the following response from Jesus:

"...O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire..." (Matt 15:21-28). Great faith will always move God to answer.

"Unwavering Faith"

Sincere, Unbendable - (opposite of wavering) - To believe God without question. "Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful." (Heb. 10:23). Unwavering faith is to count those things that be not as though they are, (Rom.4:17; Mark 11:22-24).



There is no need for God's Children to be trapped in fear, weakness, poverty, or despair. To receive from God we must believe and hold to our faith without wavering, (Heb 10:23).

"But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; 8 he is a double

-minded man, unstable in all his ways," (James 1:6-8). All things are possible with God, and nothing is beyond His power. Unwavering faith gives thanks for the answer from the moment it asks, then looks forward to its fulfillment with child-like expectation.

When you genuinely believe, you have acted. The act of believing is a necessary step in getting what you want from God.

"Strong Faith"

"He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God," (Rom 4:20). Abraham had a strong faith that refused to surrender or be defeated. Following the faith of Abraham is the way to receive what might be considered impossible and unprecedented.

Strong faith will not be turned away. Regardless of the situation or outlook, it digs in and holds fast until it receives what has been asked of God.

Most Christians desire this level of faith, but it seems that only a few can maintain faith, while thanking God for the answer in advance.

I believe another term for strong faith might be, "Ruthless Faith." The kind that refuses to doubt and waver when things do not seem to be going as requested of God. This is the way to get tangible answers from God.

"Historical Faith"

Jesus used Scripture as one of four witnesses, to prove that He was the Messiah, the "Son of God:"

1. The witness of John the Baptist
2. The witness of His works (Signs)
3. The witness of God the Father
4. The witness of the Scriptures

"You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me," (John 5:39).

The Scriptures Jesus used to persuade the Jews will also speak to modern day man. Fulfilled prophecy and manuscripts, such as the Dead Sea Scrolls, provide proof that Jesus was who He claimed to be.

Historical levels of faith are bound to the records contained in Gods Word. The proof is there for anyone willing to do the research.

"Active Faith"

Active faith takes action as soon as the Word of God is understood. It is actively doing and living in faith as if the things requested of God although not yet seen, are a reality. Active faith is a requirement for receiving from God.

Answered prayer is perhaps the greatest faith-building experience possible. How great to pray to Almighty God, and to have Him answer. This is God's plan, and it can happen to

Levels of Faith in the Bible



every child of God.

"If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you," (John 15:7).

You must become aware of your new life in Christ.

You have the Spirit of Jesus within you, as well as His love and nature. His power flows through you to bear much fruit. Jesus died to make this possible. Cling to His promises, allow His Words to give you the faith to ask and receive.

Faith is action, in counting those things that be not as though they were (Rom 4:17; Mark 11:22-24).

"Genuine Faith"

This type of faith permits no deception, pretense, charlatans, or braggarts. It is a genuine and sincere faith that flows from a true heart, with the desire to do what is right.

"when I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also." (2 Tim 1:5)

"Common Faith"

A faith commonly or mutually shared by all Christians who believe humanity can find salvation and eternal life through Jesus Christ the Messiah, Savior of the world, and that He hears and answers prayers.

In Titus 1:4, it is referred to as, "common faith;" in God shared by all Christians that makes it possible to Obtain Eternal Life.

"Titus, a true son in our common faith..."

In Romans 1:12, The Apostle Paul uses the word, "mutual faith."

"That is, that I may be encouraged together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me."

"Human Level of Faith"

Human Level of Faith Is the exercise and determination of man to have confidence in any object or person, as he chooses, including the Word of God. He can choose to have faith that a chair will support him, that which another person tells him is true, or, that the sun will continue to rise each morning.

"Faith Without Root"

Jesus spoke of having faith without root. It is the type of faith that springs up quickly, and beautifully, but because it has no depth, fails just as quickly when temptation and trials come along. For the most part, this is because the soil has not been adequately prepared by digging and searching for knowledge, guidance, and truth, in God's Word.

"...the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away" (Luke 8:13).

"Little Faith"

"Fearful, displaying a lack of total trust;" was used by the Lord as a tender rebuke for anxiety and fear." (Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary)

"if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?" (Matt 6:30)

"But He said to them, "Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?" Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm, (Matt 8:26).

"Weak Faith"

"And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb," (Rom.4:19).

"Receive one who is weak in the faith, but not to disputes over doubtful things. 2 For one believes he may eat all things, but he who is weak eats only vegetables," (Rom 14:1-3).

For someone to forbid and condemn the things he considers to be sin, when there is no clear leading in scripture, would be a sin.

"But he who doubts is condemned if he eats, because he does not eat from faith; for whatever is not from faith is sin," (Rom 14:23).

Those who are strong in faith are told to accept the weak:

"We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves," (Rom 15:1).

"Faith Without Works"

"But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works," (James 2:18).

Faith without works passively believes and accepts the Bible literally, but without action. Many people believe and have faith that God can do all His Word says. They believe in miracles, yet fail to act on His Word.

"Wavering Faith"

"To bend," "to be insincere,"

James encourages believers to put their faith in action: "But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed," For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord." he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways, (James 1:5-7).

A wavering faith is one that doubts and is unstable in all his ways. Unbelief is either refusing to act or ignorance of the Word of God. Regardless of how impossible the situation the answer is unwavering faith.



LITURGICAL CALENDAR



JUNE	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>حزيران - يونيو 2023</p> <p>MAY 2023</p> <p>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 31</p> <p>JULY 2023</p> <p>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 31</p>					1 St Justin the Philosopher Romans 1:28-2:10 Matthew 5:27-32	2 St Niphoros 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
	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
	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
	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	

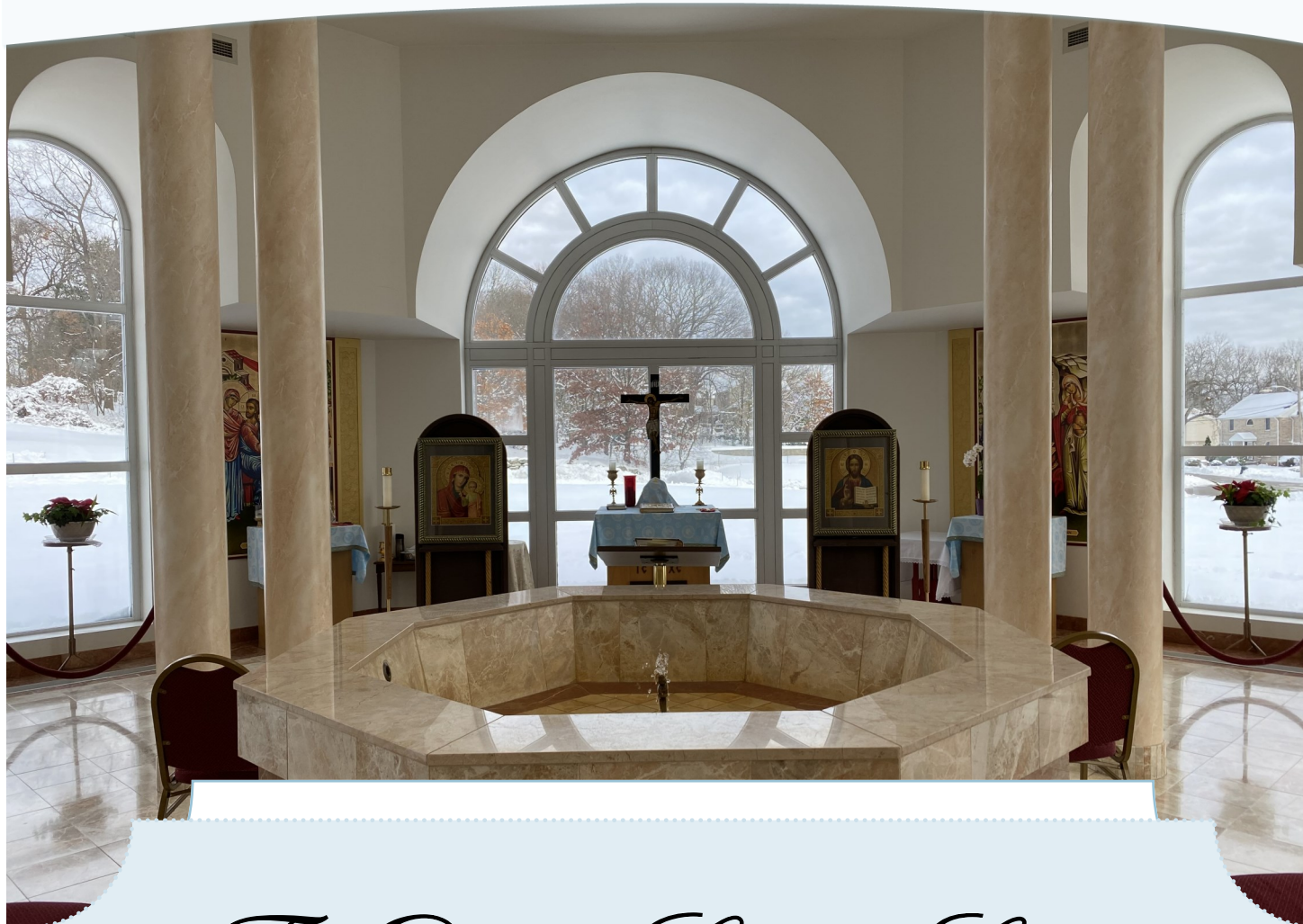
✠ Church Major Feasts

🐟 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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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



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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!

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Ann Sabbagh: 508-243-1190

Kyle Mardo: 401-578-5369

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