



July 24th, 2022

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

Tuesday through Friday at 9:00 AM

Weekend

Saturday 5:00 PM

Sunday 10:00 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



7th Sunday After Pentecost
Jesus heals the two blind men

الاحد السابع بعد المنتصرة
شفاء الأعميين

Troparion of the Resurrection, (6th Tone)

The angelic powers appeared at your tomb, and the guards became as dead men, and Mary stood by the Sepulcher seeking your spotless Body. You despoiled Hades and yet were not tempted by it, You met the Virgin O Bestower of Life. O Lord who rose from the dead glory to you.

نشيد القيامة باللحن السادس

إن القوات الملائكية ظهرت على قبرك،
والحراس صاروا كالأموات، ومريم وقفت عند
القبر، طالبة جسدك الطاهر. فسلبت الجحيم
ولم تنلك بأذى، ولاقيت البتول. واهباً الحياة.
فيا من قام من بين الأموات، يا رب المجد لك.

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.

طروبارية القديس باسيليوس

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

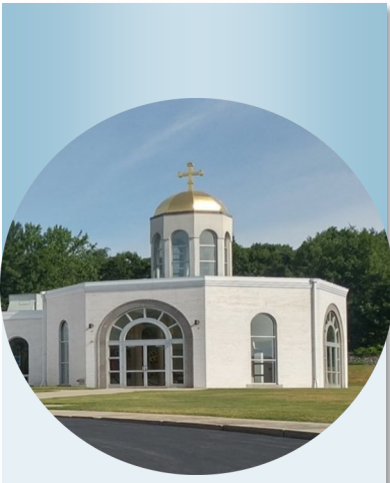
Kondakion

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 الختام (الفنديق)

يا نصيرة المسيحيين التي لا تخزي، ووسيطتهم
الدائمة لدى الخالق، لا تعرضي عن أصوات
الخطاة الطالبين اليك. بل بما أنك صالحة،
بادري الى معونتنا، نحن الصارخين اليك بإيمان:
هلمي الى الشفاعة، وأسري الى 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 15:1-7

PROKIMENON (Tone 6)

O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance!

Stichon: to You, O Lord, I have called: O my Rock, be not deaf to me!

READING from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans:

Now, we the strong should bear the infirmities of the weak, instead of catering to ourselves. Let every one of you please his neighbor by doing good for his edification: for Christ did not seek his own pleasure, but as it is written, The reproaches of those who, reproach you have fallen on me. (Ps.6: 10) For whatever has been written has been written for our instruction, that through the patience and consolation afforded by the Scriptures, we may have hope. May then the God of patience and comfort grant you to be of one mind towards one another according to Jesus Christ, so that being one in spirit you may with one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Wherefore receive one another as Christ has received you, in a manner that gives honor to God.

ALLELUIA (Tone 6) Ps.90: 1, 2

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High abides in the shadow of the God of heaven.

Stichon: He will say to the Lord, "My wall, my refuge, my God in whom I will trust!"

Gospel Matthew 9:27-35

At that time as Jesus was passing on, two blind men followed Him, crying out and saying "Have pity on us, Son of David" And when He had reached the house, the blind men came to Him. And Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I can do this to you?" They answered Him, "Yes, Lord." Then He touched their eyes, saying, "Let it be done to you according to your faith." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus strictly charged them, saying, "See that no one knows of this!" But they went out and spread His fame abroad throughout all that district. Now as they were going out, behold, there was brought to Him a dumb man possessed by a devil. And when the devil had been cast out, the dumb man spoke; and the crowds marveled, saying, "Never has the like of this been seen in Israel." But the Pharisees said, "By the prince of devils He casts out devils." And Jesus was going about all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the Good News of the kingdom, and curing every kind of disease and infirmity in the people.

الرسالة للأحد السابع بعد العنصرة

مقدمة الرسالة

خلص يا رب شعبك، وبارك ميراثك

اليك يا رب أصرخ، إلهي لا تتصامم عني

الرسالة (رومة 15: 7-1)

يا إخوة، يجب علينا نحن الاقوياء أن نحتمل أوهان الضعفاء، ولا نرضي أنفسنا. فليرض كل واحد منا القريب للخير لأجل البنين. فإن المسيح لم يرض نفسه، بل كما كتب، تعبيراً معيبراً وقعت على. لأن كل ما كتب من قبل، أنما كتبت لتعليمنا، ليكون لنا الرجاء بالصبر وبتعزية الكتب. وليؤتكم الله الصبر والتعزية، اتفاق الآراء فيما بينكم، بحسب المسيح يسوع. حتى إنكم بنفس واحدٍ وفيهم واحد، تمجدون الله أباً ربنا يسوع المسيح. لذلك فليقبل بعضكم بعضاً كما قبلكم المسيح لمجد الله

هللوا

السكن في كنف العلي، يسكن في حمى اله السماء

يقول للرب: أنت ناصرِي وملجأِي، إلهي الذي عليه أتوكل.

انجيل الاحد السابع بعد العنصرة

الانجيل متى (9: 27-35)

في ذلك الزمان، فيما يسوع مجتاز تبعه أعميان يصيحان ويقولان: ارحمنا يا ابن داود. فلما دخل البيت، دنا اليه الاعميان. فقال لهما يسوع: هل تؤمنان أني أقدر أن أفعل ذلك؟ قالوا له: نعم يا سيد. حينئذ لمس أعينهما قائلاً كأيمانكما فليكن لكما. فانفتحت أعينهما. فنهأهما قائلاً احذرا أن يعلم أحد. أما هما فخرجا وشهراً في تلك الارض كلها. وبعد خروجهما، قدموا اليه إنساناً أخرس به شيطان. فلما أخرج الشيطان تكلم الأخرس. فتعجب الجموع قائلين: لم يظهر قط مثل هذا في إسرائيل. أما الفريسيون فكانوا يقولون: إنه برئيس الشياطين يخرج الشياطين. وكان يسوع يطوف في جميع المدن والقرى، ويعلم في مجامعهم، ويكرز ببشارة الملكوت، ويشفي كل مريض وكل ضعيف في الشعب.





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

TODAY, SATURDAY, JULY 23, AND SUNDAY, JULY 24, 2022: SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. GREAT MARTYR CHRISTINA.

5:00 p.m. DIVINE LITURGY:

- + **CATHERINE KANDO** by Nora & Tom Lee.
- + **CAROL TURCHETTA** by Pamela Desmarais.
- + **MARGARET SABBAGH** by Dennis & Lillian Rawan.
- + **PATICA MORAN** by Hon. Thomas Lazieh & Sons.

10:00 a.m. DIVINE LITURGY:

- + **MICHAEL GEORGE BOUDJOUK (NJ)** by Mr. Albert & Lina Kishfy.
- + **GEORGETTE S. SAGGAL** by Najib & Seda Hana.
- + **JULIA, FRED & ELIAS J. KISHFY** by M/M Norman E. Kishfy.





SACRIFICIAL GIVING: July 17, 2022: Budgets: \$1,732.00: Envelopes: \$1,669.00, Loose: \$63.00; Candles: \$50.00; Stole Offerings: \$90.00; Building Fund: \$25.00; Addit'l Cemetery: \$45.00;

PLEASE NOTE: Before making any **ENGAGEMENT/BAPTISM/MARRIAGE RECEPTION PLANS**, please contact the Church in advance. We would rather not have you disappointed if you've already made commitments without checking our schedule first.

GENERAL HOME VISITATIONS, SICK CALLS, HOSPITAL VISITS: Father Ephrem has been fully vaccinated and is now available for these 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.

Canon Law prohibits accepting stipends or offerings for Liturgies more than one year in advance (rolling calendar) Canon 953. The time within which Liturgies must be celebrated (1 year) begins the day the intention is received. (Canon 955 #2). Formerly under the jurisdiction of the local Latin Ordinaries before the Exarchate was established under the leadership of the late Bishop Justin Najmy of this Parish, all Melkites have been subject to the latter since its erection in 1966. The Constitution of the Melkite Eparchy which is now a sole Diocese since 1976 still acknowledges this definitive protocol. Our parishes follow local discipline in the various customs e.g. every day clergy attire, stipends (Liturgy Offerings), etc. except in Liturgy and Ritual. Our relationship with the local Latin Dioceses and Latin pastors must be permeated with a spirit of love and friendship and cooperation.

PLEASE NOTE: Presently effective, the schedule of offerings in the parishes is now: Liturgies: \$25.00; Funerals: \$300.00; Weddings: \$300.00; Baptisms: \$100.00.

Thus far, all Liturgy Offerings received from Funerals, which exceeded more than one year or even more, have had the maximum and minimum celebrations. Surplus ones have been deposited in the Building Fund, and placed on the altar and remembered collectively, similar to the customs of Spiritual Bouquets, Perpetual Mass Enrollments & Memorial Cards, as in Chapels, Shrines, & Monasteries.

May the memories of our beloved deceased rest in peace & be eternal. Many thanks for your understanding and undivided attention in regard to these canonical guidelines and restrictions.

SO DON'T FOR GET US: During the summer months, many of our parishioners spend time away on vacation. And that's great. We would respectfully ask that all make sure that they include the Lord during the time away by going to Liturgy wherever they are. Also, please remember to remember that your Parish must maintain its (really, your) financial obligations during the summer months. Please do not neglect your responsibility to maintain your spiritual home. A few send in their weekly support before they go away; a few make up for the weeks missed when they return. We thank all those who remember to display their love and support for their Church in a responsible manner.

A THOUGHT WORTH ANALYSIS & DISCUSSION: When you or those around you feel that, at certain times, there are too many requests for money, please consider these points: Are we the only parish in the entire United States that has these requests? Have we ever researched life in other parishes? Does the real solution lie with the church lifestyle itself or with some of our parishioners? Do we want to return to a much simpler and minimal parish life that may have been in existence before? Are there are other options that you can offer for meeting our expenses? How badly do we want to maintain this presence here? A review of our (your) weekly finances may be beneficial.

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.





THIS YEAR'S SUMMER FESTIVAL, EID EL SAYDEH, SATURDAY, AUGUST 13th and SUNDAY, AUGUST 14th:
*(No outside food, drinks or hookahs allowed – Rain or Shine this event will take place)
 Fun for All Ages and an Excellent Arabic Cuisine for two days!*

The goal of the festival is to promote the rich heritage and culture of the Middle East, provide an opportunity to network and connect with others in the community. Many volunteers are needed to help with set-up, activities, cooking, clean up, and tear down. Various donations, and banners are most welcomed and needed. You may sign up with *Samir Boudjouk* in the lobby of the Church or with any member of the Committee.

TODAY'S ECONOMY: If you find things getting tight at work & home, do you think that it might be beneficial to consult the Divine Economos (planner) for His wisdom, guidance and inspiration during these trying and uncertain times? (It can't hurt!! Look at what some earthly advisors have done. It involves a re-commitment of Christians to faith and a real trust in His promise to test Him. How strong is our own faith especially in difficult times? Let us show it. He should come first.)

Just imagine if we all took a step in faith.
 Have we denied anything for ourselves, bodies families, homes or cars?
If not, let us not deny our beloved Church anything either.

ST. ANN is commemorated on July 25th, the Feast of the Dormition of the Mother of the Mother of God. On December 9, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Maternity of St. Ann, commemorating the conception of the Mother of God. St. Ann is also honored on September 9, the Synaxis of Saints Joachim & Ann which is the day following the Great Feast of the Nativity of the Mother of God.

TIME, TALENT, AND 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 2022 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.

NEXT WEEEND, JULY 30th and JULY 31st, there will be a special collection taken up for **MELKITE DIOCESAN SUPPORT**. Please help subsidize our monthly payment for the operation of our Diocese. Please give generously.

Dear Parishioners: We trust your summer has been a pleasant and safe one thus far, & that you found time to relax with family and friends; and enjoy some precious time as well, especially stay calm, cool and collective weathering the heat wave we are having.

REFLECTION: "Happiness keeps you Sweet, Trials keep you Strong, Sorrows keep you Human, Failures keep you Humble, Success keeps you Glowing."

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 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.





**FOOD FAIR COOKING SCHEDULE
THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!**

SfeeHa – Tuesday, July 26 @ 10: 00 a.m.

SfeeHa – Thursday, August 4 @ 10:00 a.m.

Kibbeh – Tuesday, August 23 @ 10:00 a.m.

SfeeHa – Tuesday, September 6 @ 10:00 a.m.

Grapeleaves – Wednesday, September 14 @ 10:00 a.m.

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**FOOD FAIR BAKING SCHEDULE
THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!**

Kaak – Thursday, September 1 @ 10:00 a.m.

Mamool – Thursday, September 22 @ 10:00 a.m.

Ka'ta – Saturday, October 1, @ 10:00 a.m.

Ba'lawa – Saturday, October 8, @ 10:00 a.m.

O Jesus, Who has said,
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وكان إيمانها عاملاً، فصَلَّيا: «ارحمنا يا ابن داود.» «وكان إيماناً مثابراً، فبذلاً جهداً لأنهما تبعاه واستمرا يسيران حتى وصلا إلى البيت الذي دخله، وهما لا يريان شيئاً في تلك الشوارع الضيقة وفي وسط الزحام. هذا هو الإيمان الذي لا يياس بل ينتظر: «انْتَظَرَا انْتِظَرْتُ الرَّبَّ فَمَالَ إِلَيَّ وَسَمِعَ صُرَاخِي» (مزمو ٤٠: ١).

وكان إيمانها متعاوناً، فاهتم كل واحدٍ منهما بالآخر، وظلاً معاً يدعوان الرب لنوال الرحمة.

ولقد أكرم المسيح إيمانها بأن فتح أعينهما على رؤية وجهه المحب، ويا له من وجه مشرقٍ مشعٍّ بالمحبة والخير والنعمة!

بعد شفاء الأعميين قال المسيح لهما: «انظرا! لا يعلم أحد.» «إلا أنهما أشاعا هذا الأمر في المنطقة كلها.

وهذا ما نسميه بعصيان المحبة، فهما لا يقصدان شراً، ولكن من شدة فرحتهما بالشفاء وحبهما للمسيح لم يستطيعا أن يحتفظا بالسر.

أراد الأعميان أن يكون الشفاء في الطريق، وأن يتم فوراً، فصرخا في الطريق يطلبان الشفاء. لكن المسيح مضى في سيره إلى أن وصل إلى البيت.

ولا شك أن توقيت شفاء الأعميين ومكانه هو لمصلحتهما، لأن المسيح أراد أن ينشئ علاقة شخصية بينهما وبينه، فتركهما يسيران وراءه إلى أن وجدا نفسيهما معه داخل البيت.

كثيراً ما يبدو أن الله يتأخر في الاستجابة، ولكنه لا يتأخر، بل يُوجد الظرف المناسب لينشئ لنا معه العلاقة الأعمق والأقوى، ليمتلئ القلب من نعمة المسيح قبل أن يتمتع الجسد بعطاياه. ولقد أجل المسيح الشفاء إلى أن يصل للبيت، ليُجري المعجزة في السر، لا في العلن. وهذا ما ندركه من طلب المسيح من الأعميين عدم إذاعة خبر شفائهما.

شفى المسيح كثيرين بكلمة، ولكن مع العميان كان الشفاء بلمسة، لأن الذي لا يرى يشعر باللمسة. هكذا شفى المولود أعمى (يوحنا ٩: ٦) وهكذا شفى أعمى بيت صيدا (مرقس ٨: ٢٣).

والله دائماً يكلمنا بلغة نفهمها، ويتعامل معنا بطريقة تتناسب مع تفكيرنا ومع احتياجنا الذي يحدده هو بحكمته، أخذاً في الاعتبار حالتنا وحالة المجتمع الذي نعيش فيه.

أجرى المسيح هذه المعجزات في القديم، ولا يزال مستعداً أن يجريها اليوم، وهو يريد أن يفتح عينيك لترى محبته، وطريقته لغفران خطاياك، لتنال الخلاص والحياة الأبدية.

صلاة

أبانا السماوي، نشكر لك لأنك باركت الأعميين وفتحت عيونهما، فكان أول ما رآياه وجه المسيح الجميل. أشرق علينا بنور وجهك، حتى بنورك نرى نوراً، وافتح عيوننا على المسيح نور العالم. باسم المسيح. آمين.

تفتيح أعين العميان من أهم المعجزات وقد فتح المسيح أعين عميان كثيرين جداً، وهذه المعجزة لها أبعاد عديدة جداً بالنسبة للإنسان، ومن أهم ما تكشفه هذه المعجزة أنها إشارة قوية جداً على ظهور عصر المسيا،

وقد أخذ اشعياء النصيب الكبير في هذه النبوات حتى رسخ في ذهن جميع الشعب ارتباط ظهور المسيح بشفاء المرض وتفتيح أعين العميان.

وهذا الذي جعل يسوع يكتفي بهذا البرهان للرد على يوحنا المعمدان عندما ارسل تلاميذه يستفسرون من المسيح عن شخصه فقال لهم:

اذهبا واخبرا يوحنا بما رأيتما وسمعتما. ان العمي يبصرون والعرج يمشون والبرص يطهرون والصم يسمعون والموتى يقومون والمساكين يبشرون

وفي هذا النص الإنجيلي فتح المسيح عيون الأعميين في ذات النهار الذي أقام فيه ابنة يائرس وشفى نازفة الدم، فبعد إقامة الابنة الميتة أخذ المسيح طريقه إلى بيت سمعان بطرس.

وفي الطريق ناداه أعميان بأعلى صوت: «ارحمنا يا ابن داود.»

ولا بد أنهما سمعا أخبار معجزاته في تلك المنطقة وعرفا عن مجيئه القريب، وأنه ابن داود أي المخلص.

وأدركا سلطانه العظيم على المرض والطبيعة وعلى الأبالسة والموت نفسه، فلا يوجد شيء غير خاضع له، وهو الذي قال: «دَفِعْ إِلَيَّ كُلُّ سُلْطَانٍ فِي السَّمَاءِ وَعَلَى الْأَرْضِ» (متى ٢٨: ١٨).

فسلطانه السماوي واضح في مغفرة الخطية، ومنح الحياة الأبدية، واستجابة الصلاة، والشفاعة. وسلطانه على الأرض واضح في الشفاء، والحماية إذ يُرسل ملائكته من السماء ليعتصروا بالمؤمنين فإن «مَلَاكُ الرَّبِّ حَالٌ حَوْلَ خَائِفِيهِ وَيُجَبِّهِمْ» (مزمو ٣٤: ٧).

كانت عيونهما عمياء، ولكن بصيرتيهما كانتا مفتوحتين! فقد عرفا في المسيح «ابن داود» المخلص الآتي.

عندما أجرى المسيح معجزاته قال رجال الدين اليهود عنه إنه برئيس الشياطين يُخرج الشياطين (مرقس ٣: ٢٢). ولكن الأعميين ناديا: «ارحمنا يا ابن داود» لأنهما آمنا أنه المخلص المنتظر غالب الموت.

عندما سألهما المسيح: «أتؤمنان أنني أقدر أن أفعل هذا؟» كانت إجابتهما: «نعم يا سيد.» والإيمان الذي يتوقع القليل ينال القليل، والذي يتوقع الفشل يفشل. وإيمان هذين الأعميين توقع البصر، فنالاه!

الإيمان هو الدلو الذي ندليه في بئر عميقة لنستقي ماء الحياة. وهو الجيب الذي لا يُغني صاحبه، ولكنه يغني بالثروة التي تُوضع فيه. فالإيمان مهمٌ في موضوع ثقته وليس في ذاته، وهو الوسيلة التي نحصل بها على البركة الموهوبة لنا في المسيح. ولكن المسيح هو واهب البركة، وهو مُغني الحياة، وهو مُروي القلب. والإيمان الصحيح يُبنى على كلمة الله، لا على وعود البشر. وهذا ما فعله الأعميان عندما صدّقوا نبوات العهد القديم عن المسيح، وعرفا أنها تحققت في يسوع الناصري.

The Authority to give Sight



Blindness : It is probably worth studying this topic at the start since it is what the passage is all about. Apparently, for some reason, blindness was fairly common in the days of Jesus. We do not know if the cases were all the same, whether they were blind from birth, or were blinded in some way. But to be blind then, as at any time, was a terrible handicap. The self-righteous leaders in the days of Jesus would have added to the problem by accusing such handicapped people of being sinners whom God had punished. And, it is true, that there are cases in the Bible where blindness was a punishment from God; but it is also true that that was not the automatic explanation for Christ (see John 9:1-5).

Blindness also was symbolic of spiritual ignorance, just as sight was symbolic of understanding. When God announced judgment on the nation of Israel through the prophet Isaiah, part of the judgment was that they would not understand the truth and not believe the message. In other words, some who have their physical sight are blind to the truth—they are spiritually blind. If they continue to refuse to believe, then like ancient Israel they would remain in their blindness. He has the authority to seal up their spiritual blindness as a judgment if they persist in it—let the blind remain blind still.

But there were those who were physically blind, and they wanted to see, and so they were healed by Jesus who gave them sight. Because faith was required of those who were blind and wanted to see, those blind people were interpreted by the evangelists to be symbolic or at least representative of those in the nation of Israel, spiritually blind and ignorant of the truth, who through faith received their “sight.” In other words, these men might have been blind, but because of their faith they could see better than others.

Faith in Jesus the Messiah is the requirement for receiving sight (9:28-30a). It does not matter whether we are talking about receiving physical sight or spiritual understanding, faith is the prerequisite.

Their answer to Jesus’ question affirms their strong faith. Jesus asked them, “Do you believe that I am able to do this?” Jesus was not trying to make it difficult for them; rather, He often gave people the opportunity to pour out their whole heart, to express their full faith and show their earnestness, before He answered. When He questioned them here indoors, they responded convincingly, “Yes, Lord.” Then Jesus touched their eyes and said, “According to your faith will it be done to you.” This does not mean that the amount of healing depends on the amount of faith; rather, it simply means that because they had faith they would receive their sight. And so because of their steadfast faith their sight was restored.

The Lord was fully able to give them sight, but He waited until He was able to draw from them a statement of their faith. They had come to the point of faith based on what they knew the Scripture predicted and what they had heard Jesus was doing. And that is usually the way faith develops. People have the clear word from God of how the Messiah will release us from the dark prison of sin and grant us spiritual understanding, and they can see how Jesus fulfilled Scripture again and again in meeting the needs of people in the gospel records, and down through history in the life of the church, and so they can cry with confidence to Him for mercy. It is the way for the blind men to be healed. It is the way for anyone to be healed, physically. But most importantly, it is the way to be healed spiritually, to have the spiritual blindness removed and spiritual sight given. Christ Jesus has the authority to give sight.

The passage teaches that Jesus has the authority to give sight. He can certainly restore physical sight to people who are blind, and did that frequently enough to show He has that power. This is why people today can pray for healing, although they must allow that the answer to their prayer may come now, or in the resurrection, for God has His timetable and His purposes.

But behind the healing of the blind men is the deeper meaning of the healing of their souls. Jesus was more concerned with the spiritual blindness in Israel than the physical blindness, which was often a symbol of the former. And the fact that these men came by faith to be healed physically shows that Jesus had already begun to reveal Himself to their souls, that they already had been enabled to see spiritually.

The second main point, then, of the passage is that **faith is required to gain sight, both physically and spiritually**. Whoever comes to Christ must believe that He is the promised Messiah and that He has the power and the authority to give sight.

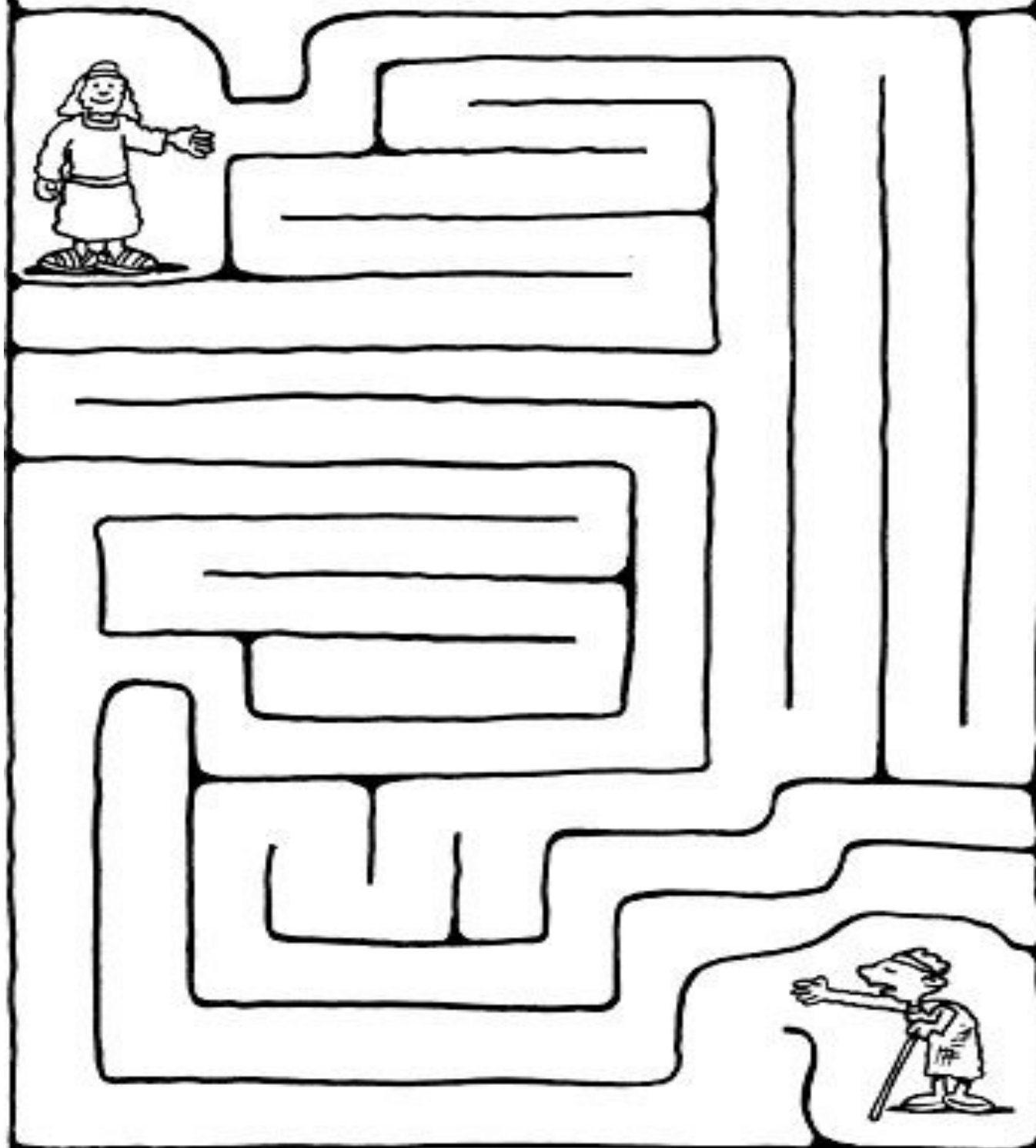
The task of the church is therefore to take this message to a world that is blinded by the god of this world, the evil one, the deceiver. The people the church reaches out to may be educated, brilliant, clever, and even concerned with moral and ethical matters—much like Paul was! But if they do not believe in Christ Jesus as the Son of God, the Lord of Glory, the Savior of the world, they are spiritually blind. We who have received our sight, who have come to faith, should then be characterized by (1) praise and thanksgiving, (2) devotion to Christ, (3) a growing spiritual discernment in all things, and (4) public witness of the glories of the Lord.

Following Jesus Kids bulletin



HELP THE BLIND MAN FIND JESUS

To do this puzzle, you must shut your eyes and let someone else tell you where to draw the line, as you go through the maze!





LITURGICAL CALENDAR

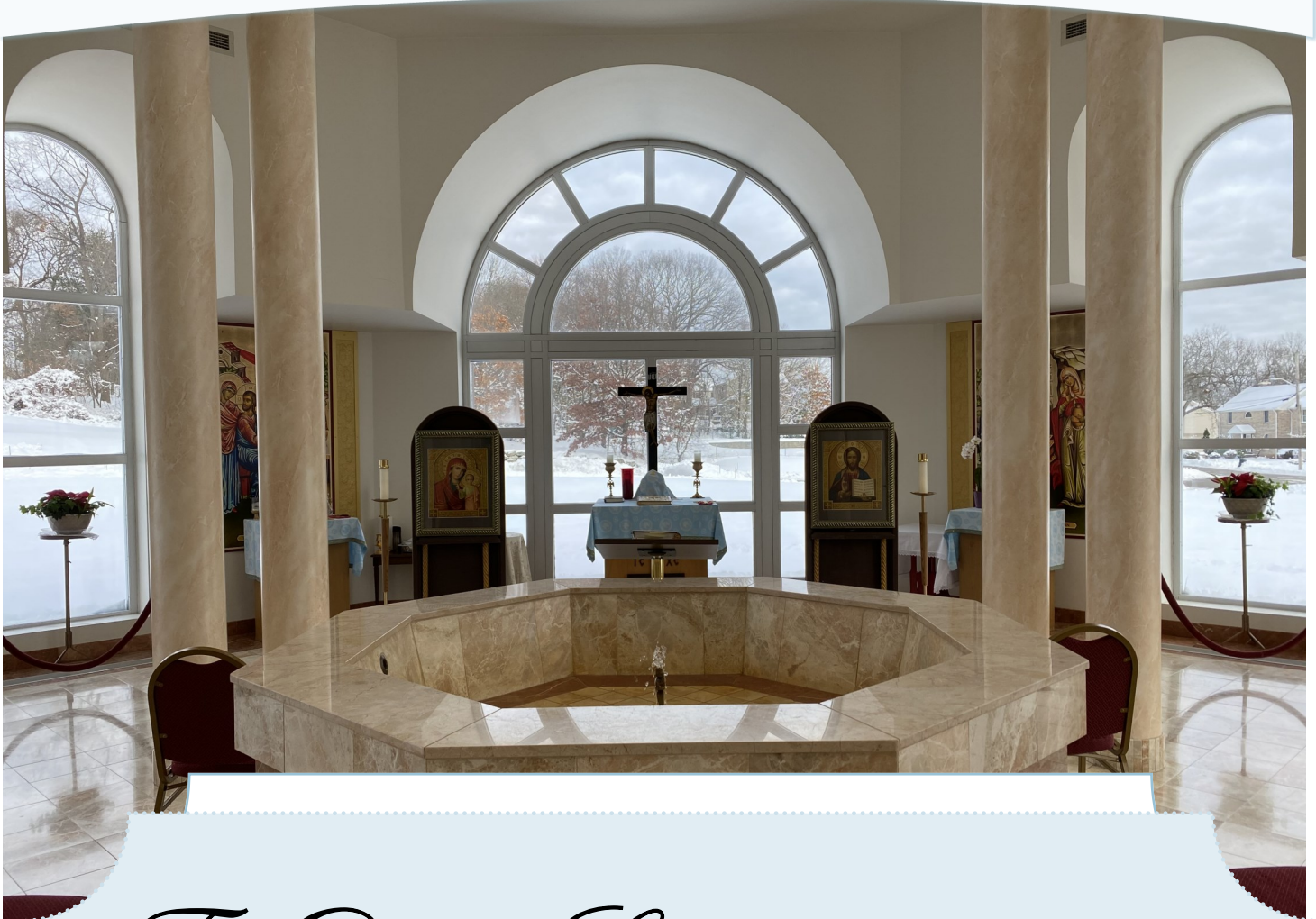


JULY	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 تموز – يوليو 2022	31 8 th Sunday after Pentecost الأحد الثامن بعد العنصرة 1 Corinthians 1:10-17 Matthew 14:14-22					1 Sts Cosmas & Damian 1 Corinthians 12:27-31; 13:1-7 Matthew 10:1; 5-8	2 Mantle of Our Lady at Blachernae Hebrews 9:1-7 Luke 1:39-49,56
	3 4 th Sunday after Pentecost الأحد الرابع بعد العنصرة Romans 6:18-23 Matthew 8:5-13	4 St Andrew of Crete Romans 12:4-5,15-21 Matthew 12:9-13	5 St Athanasios of Athos Romans 14:9-18 Matthew 12:14-16,22-30	6 St Sisoies the Great Romans 15:7-16 Matthew 12:38-45	7 St Thomas of Maleum Romans 15:17-29 Matthew 12:46-13:3	8 St Procopios Romans 16:1-16 Matthew 13:3-9	9 St Pancratios of Taormina Romans 8:14-21 Matthew 9:9-13
	10 5 th Sunday after Pentecost الأحد الخامس بعد العنصرة Romans 10:1-10 Matthew 8:28-9:1	11 St Euphemia 2 Corinthians 6:1-10 Luke 7:36-50	12 Sts Proclus & Hilarion 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 Matthew 13:24-30	13 Synaxis of Archangel Gabriel 1 Corinthians 2:9-3:8 Matthew 13:31-36	14 St Joseph the Confessor 1 Corinthians 3:18-23 Matthew 13:36-43	15 Sts Cyricos and Julitta 1 Corinthians 4:5-8 Matthew 13:44-54	16 St Athenogenes and his 10 disciples Romans 9:1-5 Matthew 9:18-26
	17 Fathers of the first 6 Ecumenical Councils آباء المجمع المسكونية الستة الأولى Titus 3:8-15 Matthew 5:14-19	18 St Emilian 1 Corinthians 5:9-6:11 Matthew 13:54-58	19 St Macrina 1 Corinthians 6:20-7:12 Matthew 14:1-13	20 The prophet Elijah (Elias) النبي إيليا التثمبي James 5:10-20 Luke 4:22-30	21 Sts Simeon Salos and John 1 Corinthians 7:24-35 Matthew 15:12-21	22 St Mary Magdalene 1 Corinthians 9:2-12 Luke 8:1-3	23 Holy Prophet Ezekiel Romans 12:1-3 Matthew 10:37-11:1
	24 7 th Sunday after Pentecost الأحد السابع بعد العنصرة Romans 15:1-7 Matthew 9:27-35	25 Dormition of St Anne Galatians 4:22-27 Luke 8:16-21	26 St Hermolaos and his companions 1 Corinthians 10:5-12 Matthew 16:6-12	27 St Panteleimon 2 Timothy 2:1-10 Luke 21:12-19	28 Sts Prochor, Nicanor, Timon and Parmenas 1 Corinthians 10:28-11:8 Matthew 16:24-28	29 Sts Callinicos and Theodota 1 Corinthians 11:8-23 Matthew 17:10-18	30 Sts Silas and Sylvan Romans 13:1-10 Matthew 12:30-37

JUNE 2022	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		

AUGUST 2022	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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	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			

Weekly Divine Liturgy Schedule



The Divine Liturgy is celebrated

At St. Elias Chapel

|(St. Basil the Great Melkite Greek Catholic Church)

Tuesday to Friday at 9:00 am (Postponed until further notice)

Weekend Divine Liturgy

Saturday: 5:00 pm — Sunday: 10:00 am

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



Eid El Saydeh Summer Festival

At St. Basil the Great Melkite Greek Catholic Church, RI

15 Skyview Dr / Lincoln, RI 02865 / 401.722.1345

Saturday, August 13th, 4:00 pm to 11:00 pm

Sunday, August 14th from noon to 8:00 pm

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Welcome to

St. Basil The Great Melkite Greek Catholic Church

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www.stbasilthegreatchurch.com

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<https://www.facebook.com/StBasilMelkiteChurchRI/>

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Contact us for information and ideas
office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com



"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 7/21/2022



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: \$376,000



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

Parish Community Facts:



Total Registered Families: 415



Active Families: 250



% of Active Families Participation: 45%

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

Current & Future Projects:



Roof Repair: Contract Signed - March 2022, estimated cost \$400,000, project started June 2022, awaiting completion



Mold Remediation: Proposals received, no remediation necessary, estimated cost \$0



Window Repairs: Proposals received, estimated cost \$9,000



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



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



Parking Lot & Walkway Repairs: Proposals received, asphalt estimated cost \$14,000, awaiting walkway quotes



Interior Repairs: Partial proposals received, estimated cost \$6,000



Walk In Cooler & Kitchen Repairs: Reviewing needs and potential options



Exterior/Masonry Repairs: Reviewing needs



Door Upgrades: Awaiting proposals

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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