

Address

15 Skyview Drive Lincoln, Rhode Island 02865

Tel (401) 722-1345

Parish Website

www.stbasilthegreatchurch.com

Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/ StBasilTheGreatMelkiteGreek CatholicChurchRI/

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 Sunday

English 9:00 AM Arabic 11:15 AM

Religious Education

Sunday 10:00 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



ST. BASIL THE GREAT MELKITE GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH



Cheese Fare – Forgiveness Sunday

أحد الغفران – احد مرفع الجبن

Antiphon Prayer

O Creator of the Universe, You fashioned Adam from the dust of the earth. You infused him with a breath of life. You gave him dominion over the earth. By the enticement of the Serpent he rebelled against Your Commandments and fell. You therefore exiled him from Paradise. But your Onlybegotten Son was incarnate, endured Passion and restored us to the Garden of Eden which we had lost. We therefore implore You, at the threshold of Holy and Great Lent, to make us worthy of a sincere repentance, so that we may avoid even the shadow of evil and abstain from carnal pleasure in order to gain You, Divine River of Paradise that quenches the thirst of our souls. Thus, having lived according to your commandments, we may share the glory of the Resurrection of Christ, our God and Savior.

For You are long-suffering, most compassionate and You call all people to salvation; and to You we render glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever.

Troparion of the Resurrection (7th tone)

Through your Cross You destroyed death, You opened Paradise to the thief, and turned into joy the mourning of the ointment bearing women, and You ordered your Apostles to proclaim that You rose, O Christ God, Bestowing great mercy upon the world.

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.

صلاة الأنديفونة

أيها الإلهُ المُبدع، لمَّا جبلتَ آدم من تُراب الأرض نفخت فيه نسمةً حياة، وسلَّطتَه على هذا الكون. لكنه سقط بغوايةِ الحيَّة، لمَّا عصى. أمركَ وتناولَ من الثمرة المحرمة. فنفيته من الفردوس. ولمَّا تجسد مسيخُك واحتمل الآلام لأجلنا، أعادنا إلى جنة عدن التي خسرناها بآدم. فنضرَعُ إليكَ، ونحنُ على عتبةِ الصومِ الأربعيئِ المقدس، أن تُؤهلنا للتوبة الصادقة، فنمتنع عن كل شبهِ شرّ، ونصوم عن اللذات لنحظى بكَ، أنتَ نهر النعيم المروي نفوسنا الظمأى، وإذا ما سلكنا سُبُلَ وصاياك نبلغُ الى التمتع بأمجاد قيامة المسيح إلهنا ومخلصنا.

لأنكَ أنت الطويل الأناة، الكثير الرحمة والداعي الجميع الى الخلاص، ولك ينبغي كلُ مجدٍ وإكرامٍ وسجود، أيها الاب والابن والروح القُدُس، ألآن وكل أوان ... الشعب: آمين.

طروبارية القيامة باللحن السابع

لاشيتَ بصليبكَ الموت، وفتحت للصِ الفردوس، وحولت نوحَ حاملات الطيب الى فرح، وأمرتَ رسلكَ أن يكرزوا مبشرين بأنك قد قمت، أيها المسيحُ الاله، مانحاً العالم عظيمَ الرحمة.

طروبارية القديس باسيليوس

لقد ذَاعَ منطقُكَ في كل الأَرض. فانها قد قَبِلَتْ كلامك، الذي به بيَّنت العقائدَ بياناً إلهيّاً، وأوضحتَ طبيعةً الكائنات، ونظَّمتَ أخلاقَ البشر. فيا أيها الآبُ البارُّ ذو الكهنوت الملوكي، إبتهل إلى المسيح الإله في خلاص نفوسنا.



Our church organizations:

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

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

www.stbasilthegreatchurch.co

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

m/myo.html

Kondakion of Cheese Fare

O You who guide men toward wisdom, and give them intelligence and understanding, instructor of the ignorant and helper of the poor, strengthen and enlighten my heart, O Lord, give me word, O Word of the Father, for behold I will not refrain my lips from crying out to You: O merciful One, have mercy on me who have fallen.

Epistle Romans 13:11-14:4

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 our salvation is nearer than when we came to believe. The night is far advanced: the day is at hand. Let us therefore lay aside the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light. Let us walk becomingly as in daytime, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in debauchery and wantonness, not in strife and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and as for the flesh, pay no attention to its lusts.

But whoever is weak in faith, receive him without arguing about opinion. For one believes he may eat all things but another who is weak, let him eat vegetables. Let not the one who eats despise the one who does not; and let not the one who does not eat judge the one who does, for God has received him. Who are you to judge another's servant? To his own master he stands or falls but he will stand, for God is able to make him stand.

Alleluia (Tone 3)

In you, O lord, I have hoped: let me never be put to shame.

In your Justice, save me and deliver me.

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

Gospel Matthew 6:14-21

The Lord said, "If you forgive men their offenses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their offenses, neither will your Father forgive you your offenses. And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, who disfigure their faces in order to appear to men as fasting. Amen I say to you they have had their reward. But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you may not be seen by men to fast, but by your Father, who is in secret; and your Father, who sees in secret, will reward you. Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where worm and rodent consume, and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither worm nor rodent consumes, nor thieves break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there also will be your heart."

قنداق مرفع الجبن الختام باللحن السادس

أيها الهادي الى الحكمة، وواهبُ الفطنة، ومُثقَّفُ الجُهَّال، ومُجِرُ المساكين، شدَّد قلبي وامنحه فهماً، أيُّها السيد، وأعطني كلاماً، يا كلمةَ الآب. فها انا لن أُمسِكَ شفقً عن الصراخ اليك: أيُّها الرَّحيم، ارحُمني أنا الواقع

مقدمة الرسالة

رنّموا لإلهنا رنّموا، رنّموا لملكِنا رنّموا يا جميعَ الأُممِ صَفِقوا بالأيادي، هلِلّوا للهِ بصوت الابتهاج

الرسالة (رومة 13 :11 ج الى 14: 4) يا إِخوة، أن الخلاصَ أقربُ إلينا الآنَ مما كانَ حينَ آمنًا. قد تناهى الليلُ وأقتربَ النهار، فلنخلغ أذن أعمال الظلمة، ونلبس اسلحة النور. لنسلكنَّ سُلوكاً لائقاً كما في النهار، لا القصوفِ والسكر، ولا بالمضاجع والعهر، ولا بالخصام والحسد. بل البسوا الربَ يسوع المسيح، ولا تهتموا بالجسد لقضاءِ شهواتِه. من كانَ ضعيفاً في الايمانِ فقبلوه بغير مباحثةٍ في الآراء. مِنَ الناسِ من يعتقد أن له ان يأكلَ كُلَ شيءٍ، أما الضعيفُ فيأكل بقولاً. فلا يزدرِ الذي يأكل من لا يأكل، ولا يدنِ الذي يأكل من لا يأكل، ولا يدنِ الذي يأكل من لا يأكل، لان الله قد قبله. أنتَ من أنتَ يامنْ يدن عبد غيره، انه لمولاه يثبتُ أو يسقط ، لكنه سيثبتُ لأن الله قادرٌ أن يُثَبتَهُ.

هللویا علیك یا ربّ توكلت، فلا أخزَ إِلَى الابد، بعدلكَ نجّنی وانتشلنی

كن لى إلها محامياً وبيت ملجاً لخلاصي

انجيل أحد مرفع الجبن

الانجيل (متى 6: 14-21)

قال الرب: إن غفرتم للناس زلاَّتِهم، يغفرُ لكم أيضاً أبوكم السماوي زلاَّتِكم. وإن لم تغفروا للناس زلاَّتهم، فأبوكم أيضاً لا يغفرُ لكم زلاَّتكم. واذا صمتم فلا تكونوا معبّسين كالمرائين فإنهم يئككرون وجوهَهم ليظهروا للناس صائمين. الحقَّ أقول لكم، انهم قد نالوا اجرهم. أما أنت تظهرَ للناس صائماً بك لأبيكَ الذي في الخفية، فإدكَ الذي ينظرُ في الخفية هو يجازيكَ وأبوكَ الذي ينظرُ في الخفية هو يجازيكَ علانية. لا تكنزوا لكم كنوزاً على الارض، حيثُ يفسدُ السوس والصداً، وحيثُ ينقبُ السارقون ويسرقون. لكن اكنزوا لكم كنوزاً في السماء، ويسرقون ولا يسرقون. ولا صداً، ولا ينقبُ السارةون السارةون ولا يسرقون. فإنه حيثُ يكونُ كنزكم أيضاً







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 Allholy, Good and Life-giving Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. Amen.





Divine Liturgy Intentions

TODAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2022: SUNDAY OF CHEESE-FARE. SEVENTH SUNDAY BEFORE EASTER.

9:00 a.m. DIVINE LITURGY:

- REV. ARCHDEACON GEORGE YANY & ANGELA MAZZONE by Justin & Danielle Boudjouk & Family.
- + ELIZABTH A. JOUBERT by her children & grandchildren.
- + LAWRENCE & MARY (NOURY) MOON by their children & grandchildren.
- + STEVEN KANAKRY by Linda Koussa.
- + FREDERICK KOUSSA by Judy Ameen Wilchynski.
- + MARGARET SABBAGH by Edward Fayan.
- LILLIAN NASSANEY by Abe, Michele Domaney & Family.
- + 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 B. & Greg & Katie.

11:15 a.m. DIVINE LITURGY:

- ROSE KHOURY (5th Anniv.) by Tony & Fadia Kabak.
- + GEORGETTE S. SAGGAL by George & Kristen Baalbaki.
- + YVONNE COLABELLA by Joan Ray.
- JULIA, FRED, & ELIAS J. KISHFY by M/M Norman E. Kishfy.
- + VICTORIA PROCHNIAK by M/M Craig Kishfy.
- + LOUIS P. KISHFY by Vicky Boudjouk.





SACRIFICIAL GIVING: February 20, 2022: Budgets: \$3,420.00; (Envelopes): \$3,280.00; Loose: \$140.00); Candles: \$51.00; Stipends: \$650.00; Addit'l Melkite Diocesan Support: \$60.00; Building Fund: \$315.00; Addit'l Fuel: \$165.00; Cemetery: \$15.00; Religious Ed: \$362.00; Cook Book: \$30.00.

TODAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2022, there will be a special collection taken up for **MELKITE DIOCESAN SUPPORT.** Please help subsidize our monthly payment for the operation of our Diocese by giving generously.

NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2022, there will be a special collection for your **FUEL OFFERINGS.** Help defray the cost of heating the Church and rectory, as prices are escalating rapidly. We must remember that utilities are more than doubled in our new complex. Your generosity would be greatly appreciated.

Please be advised that the weekly bulletin has not been printed due to the COVID-19 guidelines and restrictions, but presently, information is available online, church Facebook page and on YouTube.

<u>GENERAL HOME VISITATIONS, SICK CALLS, HOSPITAL VISITS:</u> Father Ephrem has been fully vaccinated and is now available for these parish services. Just email him at <u>office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com</u> 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 Bishiop 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.

<u>PLEASE NOTE:</u> 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.

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.





FATHER DAN UPDATE: Dear loved ones, family and friends: Personally, I have much to be thankful for this past year. Eight months after my cancer operation, there is no sign of a return of sarcoma. The hole left by the removal of the tumor and calf muscle is almost closed. And I am now doing ministry here at our Tewksbury residence and in local parishes. I have been able to accept more responsibilities within the community, including driving my brothers to local appointments and solving computer and loud-speaker problems. I have been giving monthly conferences and have been asked if I could start up again weekly talks as I did before going to White Earth. Until the provincial gives me an assignment, I shall be serving here. I may not know my future, but I do know God is with us. I love you all and keep you present in my prayers, morning and night. And, even if Covid keeps getting in the way of free travel, you are always with me. May your Christmas not only be merry, but blessed, full of Christ Child's graces, and the New Year under the promised protection of our Blessed Mother.

- Father Dan.

<u>CHANGE OF ADDRESS:</u> All the faithful who have recently changed their address or who are planning to do so, please remember to inform the church office at (401) 722-1345. Please also be sure to update new telephone numbers because there is a cost that the Church has to absorb which adds up slowly but surely.

2022 ECCLESIASTICAL CALENDARS are available – free for the taking – at the entrance of the Church. By following the liturgical cycle of the church year and remembering the Saints each day, is an excellent way to attach yourself more closely to the worshipping community, that is the church.

OUT OF RESPECT FOR THE HOUSE OF GOD, please remember to remove any chewing gum before entering the church building. Also, please place your pagers and cell phones on silent.

2021 BUDGET STATEMENT AVAILABLE: It is that time of year to start thinking about the preparation of your 2021 Federal Income Tax Returns. Statements of your offerings to the Church for 2021 will only be issued upon request. If you would like a statement, please contact Father Joe at the rectory at 401-722-1345. To those who have been using envelopes, we extend our thanks and a reminder to please mark the amount enclosed which facilitates the recording of your contributions and allows for more accuracy. THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION IN THIS REGARD!!!

Rule of Fasting in the Eparchy of Newton

So as not to burden anyone's conscience, the Holy Synod of the Melkite Greek Catholic Church permits each eparchial bishop to ease the canonical obligations of fasting, while, at the same time, exhorts all the faithful to fast according to the ancient tradition. The minimum rule that Melkites in the Eparchy of Newton must observe are: *Fasting* from all food and drink from midnight until noon on the first day of Great Lent (Monday, March 6th), and on the last three days of Holy Week (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday). *Abstinence* at least from meat, must be observed on every Friday of Great Lent. These requirements are the minimum. The faithful are encouraged to do more, such as also abstaining from meat every Wednesday or throughout the whole of Great Lent.

THE GREAT AND HOLY TIME OF LENT

Great Lent involves deepening of our prayer life. This includes private prayer as well as the services mentioned below. An important facet of Lent is Almsgiving. "The Shepherd's Care" mandated in our Melkite Parishes and Missions throughout the United States is one good way to put the Almsgiving into practice.

Tuesday, March 1st: GREAT COMPLINE Friday, March 4th: AKATHIST HYMN

We encourage and urge you to join us in the scheduled services.

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.



REFLECTION: Nobody really knows who you are inside but you and God. R U who U say U R?

الصوم ، المحبة والمسامحة (مرفع الجبن)

ان غفرتم للناس زلاتهم يغفر لكُم ُابوكـم الْسـَـمـاوُيُ

فان جاع عدوك فاطعمه وان عطش فاسقه ، لانك أن فعلت هذا تجمع جـمـر نـار على راسه (رو20- 21)

ايها الاحباء : ها نحن في الاحد السابع قبل الفصح وايضا نحن في الاحد الرابع من احاد التهيئـة لـلـصـيـام الكبير والاخير فيها .

ان هذا اليوم معروف بمـرفـع الجبن ويسمى كذلك باحد الغفران ، حيث غـدا نـدخـل باذن الله الصيام الكبير المقدس . الذي هـو لـيـس

بنظام اكّل خاص فقطً وانما هو اعمق من ذلك بكثير ها نحن داخلون فترة حرب وجهاد روحي مع قوى الشر الكامنة فينا .

يقول القديس بولس الرسول في رسالته اليوم ، علينا ألا نهتم باجسادنا لقضاء حاجاتها كالاكل او الملبس انتم تعرفون المثل الانجيلي الذي يقول : انظروا الى طيور السماء انها لا تزرع ولا تحصد وابوكم السماوي يقيتها . لذلك لا نتهم للمأكل او الملبس ، علينا ان نكنز في فترة الصوم لنا كنوزا في السماء تقربنا من الله ، وتساعدنا ان نرث الملكوت السماوي

ايها الاحباء في صلواتنا السحرية لهذا اليوم كما في انجيل الـيـوم هنَّاكَ محورات تدور حولها كل صلواتنا وطقوسنا لهذا اليوم .

المحور الاول: هو اقامة تذكار لطرد آدم من الفردوس ، الذي جلس هناك يبكي ، ألا يشبه طرد آدم وحواء من الَفردوسُ حَـالَـة الانســان بـعـدّ السقوط ، حالة البكاء والشقاء التي تستحق التوبة والنحيب ، كما تقول

السبب لطرد آدم وحواء من الفردوس هو غياب الصوم ، فالصوم هـو الاداة التي تعيد المصالحة بين الادميين والله .

يقول القديس باسيليوس الكبير : بدأ الصوم في الفردوس ، لا تـأكـل مـن يتوف الخير والشر ، طرد ابوين الاولين من الفردوس بسبب عدم الصوم . بالصوم نحن ندخل الى الملكوت . بالصوم نحن ندخل الى الملكوت .

المحور الثاني: هو الغفران ، اي طلب الغفران من الله ووهب الغفران للقريب ، هذا ما يتكلم عنه انجيل اليوم . اذ يتكلم عن غفران الله وغفراننا للاخْرَيْن مباشرة قبل كُلامه عن الصوم ، لاجـل هـُذا الـكـنُـيـسـة ـُتـنـهُـي استعدادها للصوم بالغفران لكي ندخل الصوم بالفرح وبالسـلام وبالقوة .

هذا يعني اننا سنتصالح مع الله بالصوم الذي نبدأه بالغفران للـقريب والمصالحة معه ، قد يكون من السهل ان نساعد الفقير ونحسن الى انسان غريب او قريب ، لكن الاصعب هو ان نسامح الانسان القريب .

لان الغفران والصفح والمسامحة هو الحب الذي يشـفـي الـمـرض ويـزيـل الالم ، مغفورة خطاياك قم وامش .

هناك سؤال دائما يطرح كم من مرة اغفر ذنوب اخي ، هـل ســبـع مـرات؟ سؤال طرَّحه بطرس الْرَسول للَّربُ يسوعُ ، وَنحن مَن الممكِّن انَ نسـَالـه ايضًا للربِّ يسوعُ ونسَألُه لأنفسنا بالرغمَ من اننا نعرف الجواب الوافي وذلك من خلال الرب يسوع لبطرس ، بالغفران سبعبن مرة سبع مرات ، أي ما يعني ان نعفر ذنوبُ الاخرين على الدوام وبدون تعداد .

ان نغفر ذنوب الاخرين دائما يعتبر امر في غاية الصعوبة ، فنحن بشــر لـنـا طبيعة ضعيفة ، فكرامتنا وعزة النفس التي نملكها تمنعنا من أن نغفر او تجعلنا متزمتين براينًا ولا نُقبلُ الاخرينَ .

فكيف ان نسامح من خدعنا وجرحنا واراد الشر .فهل كان الرب يسوع يعلم



بصعِوبة هذا الامر؟ نعم بالتأكيد كان يعلم بذلك ، لذلك يعتبر الغفران عنصر إساسـي فـي الايـمـانُ المسيحي.

لقد علمنا يسوع منذ بداية رسالته على اللارض على ضرورة الغفران وذلك من خلألً الصلاة الاباناً علمهاً لتلاميذه ولنا نحن من بعدهم ، اذًا من الواجب والضروري ان نغـفـرذنـوب الْاخرينُ لكن نحن ننألُ الغفران ، الغفران يتطلب محبة كبيرة وايمان كبير وشجاعة لُكي نستطيع ان نغفر وفي نفس الوقت ننال

فلقد ارانا يسوع بجسده البشري الضعيف قوة ايمانيه بالله الآب وكييف تحمل الآم الصليب وطلب ان تغفر ذنوب جلاديه وصالبيه، فالبعض منا يقـول فليس الهدف ان نصوم عن طعام فقط وانما نحن نحارب شهواتنا ومغريات بانهم ليسوا يسوع لَكي يستطعيوا أن يغفروا ذنوب الآخرين. هـذا الـكـلاًم غير صحيح وغير مثمر ، بل يعني اننا لم نفهم رسالة يسوع ودعوة يسـوع

فنحن يجب ان نكون اقوياء ، ثابتين في الايمان لكي نستطيع غفران ذنوب الاخرينُ . هذه القُوة التِّي نالها تلاميذ المسيح حين حل ٱلَّـروح ُ الـقـدسُ عليهم ، ونحن من بعدهم حين نقبل الروح القدس ونتركه يعمل فينا .(لناّ امثلَةً كُثيرَة من الرسل والقديسين سلكُوا في نفس طريق معلمُهم يسوع لكي يكونوا لنا ايضا مثالا صالحا في الغفران ، مثل القديس

الشيطان يحاول دائما العمل في نقاط ضعفنا ، في الكبرياء وعزة النفس ، نعم الشيطَّانُ يجربنا كما حاُّول من قبل ان يجرب الرب يُسُوعُ ،ُلـكـن الـَّرب عمر الشيطان يجربنا حلق حوف ش خبل أن يجرب الرب يشوع الحص الحرب يسوع استطاع أن يتغلب على الشيطان بطبيعته البشرية ، أذا نحن أيضاً لنا القدرة على أن نتغلب على الشيطان بأيماننا بأن الرب يسـوع صـلب ومات وقام من بين الأموات ، كل هذا من أجل مغفرة خطايانا .

ايها الاحباء: الله يقول لنا في هذا النص الذي قراناه الآن : مـهـمـا كـانـت قُسُوة وعناد الانسانُ فامام المحبة والغفران يستلَم ويضعف وتخور قـوتـه، اي أن المحبة تقوى على كل جبروت . لن تستطيعوا أن تغفروا او تسامحوا منَ القلب الَّا اذا طلبتم المسَّاعدةُ من الله لانكم في الحقيقـُةُ الْمامِ عـدُو شرس وخبيث يوحي لكم بان الاهانة كبيرة ، اين الكرامة .. انت مُجـنـي عليك . فاهزموا عدوكم الحقيقي اولا بطلب القوة من الله لتغفروا .

عندما تغفروا من قلبكم بقوة من الله فستتمتعون بشعور جديد لم تحسوه من قبل ، هو شعور بانكم فعلا تجبون هذا الشخص وعلي استعداكم لمُساعَدته ، تشعرُون باحساس الفُرح وبانكم تطيرون فوق الارض بحرية .

لذلك يا احبائي : فان الصوم ليس فترة تعذيب للذات ، انما هو فترة تسودها المحبة والشعور بمحبة وفيضان النور علينا ، الصوم هو فترة يملؤها النعم والبركات السماوية التي يسكبها الله في قلوبنا وفي حياتنا .

الصوم هو فترة نتعلم فيها المحبـة ، والـمـحبـة هـي كـل شـيء فـي المسيحية ومتى وجد الأنسان المحبة وجد الله المحبة ، وهَّذا ما يُعنيـهُ قول الانجيل : ان غفرتم للناس زلاتهم يغفر اباكم السـمـاوي زلاتـكم ، والمحبة لا يقابلها الا المحبة.

ولكم اخير ا يا احبتي جميعا: ان تكونوا من داخلين الى الملكوت ولـيـكـون صُومكُم مَّباركًا ومفعمًا بالنَّعم السماوية وصياما سهلا موصلا لجميعنا الـى الملكوت السماوي .

وان تحيوا حياتكم كلها حياة الغفران دائما .

فالآن وقت التوبة ابدوأ صيامكم بكلمة : اغفر لي يا اخي لاجل الـمـسـيـح ودخلوا الصيام وصافحوا بعضكم بعضا بقبلة السلام لكي تقولون مع الملائكة المسيح قام .

Temptation of pride

Tomorrow is Monday. Not just any Monday, but Clean Monday, the first day of Clean Week, the beginning of Great Lent, a time of particular prayer and fasting. Great Lent will take us on a journey through forty days, or six weeks, to Lazarus Saturday, Palm Sunday and then Holy Week. At the end of that Week, God willing, we celebrate Resurrection of Christ on Easter Night. For we are now fifty days exactly from Easter Day.



This Sunday is known as Forgiveness Sunday, and also Cheesfare Sunday for it is the last day on which we may eat dairy produce. On it we remember the Fall of Adam and Eve and how they lost Paradise by eating 'the forbidden fruit', which is why we fast, eating only 'the permitted fruit'. How exactly did that Fall happen?

We know from the Scriptures that the first man and the first woman lived in Paradise, in Eden. We know also that they walked with God, meaning that they lived in harmony and communion with God, suffering neither sin, nor sorrow, neither aging, nor death.

We know also that they disobeyed God. The cause of their disobedience was in the temptation of pride: they thought that they knew better than their Maker. Creation, given freedom, thought that it was greater than the Creator. The fact that the first man and first woman preferred to trust in themselves, rather than in God, to trust in their proud self-importance, led to their fall from communion with God. But once they had rejected God, they also rejected freedom from sin and its result, sorrow, and freedom from aging and its result, death.

The cure for their Fall was made clear to them; it was in doing the opposite of all they had done. Instead of disobedience, they needed obedience; instead of pride, they needed humility. In other words they had to turn back on what they had done in repentance and ask forgiveness. At first they had been unable to do this. When God had first spoken to Adam and Eve after their act of disobedience, Adam had blamed Eve, and Eve had blamed the serpent. Neither had had the humility to take responsibility for his errors and ask for forgiveness. It was not that God did not know what they had done; it was simply that He wanted to give them the opportunity to ask Him, and to ask each other, for forgiveness. Instead they blamed each other and in the process blamed God their Maker. We can hear the Devil laughing.

To us, as children of Adam and Eve, God also gives opportunities to ask for forgiveness, as Adam and Eve should have done. He gives us the sacrament of Confession. Confession does not exist because God wants to know what

we have done or left undone. He already knows that. Confession exists because God is giving us an opportunity to up to mistakes and failings. He wants us to ask for forgiveness, so that we can then take strength from Him through the prayers of the priest, so as to clean ourselves and strive not to repeat our mistakes.

Giving and receiving forgiveness is an

action that purifies and that opens the door for even greater things. The more the soul is filled with God the more He calls it to move further beyond. If we refuse to forgive, it is not that God is unable to forgive us. Forgiveness shines from the Cross for all whether we desire it or not. But if we refuse to forgive, then we cannot know forgiveness for ourselves. We will not recognize what it is when it comes. "In thy light we shall see light," we sing every Sunday because only in God can we know God. So it is with forgiveness. Only by forgiving can we recognize and come to embrace forgiveness and if we are in God, then forgiveness flows from us. It is a movement that goes both ways. For if forgiveness does not flow from us to others, then it is a sign that we have not embraced it for ourselves.

God does not need our confession, but we do.

Every confession is a repeat, in the New Eden of the Church, of that opportunity given to Adam and Eve in Eden, to ask God for forgiveness.

Unlike human-beings, God always forgives those who sincerely, with repentance, ask Him for forgiveness.

However, before we ask forgiveness of God, we first have to ask forgiveness of each other.

And just at this time, on Forgiveness Sunday and all during Clean Week, it is the custom of Orthodox throughout the world to come to Confession, to ask God for forgiveness, preparing ourselves for Communion next Sunday. First, therefore, we must ask each other for forgiveness. We can ask forgiveness of those who are not here by visiting them or telephoning them. But of those who are here, we can now ask forgiveness directly, for all our errors towards them in thought, word or deed, whether conscious or unconscious.

For if we do not first ask each other for forgiveness, we cannot ask God for forgiveness. And without forgiveness, there is no way back into Paradise for any of us.

Forgive me, brothers and sisters.

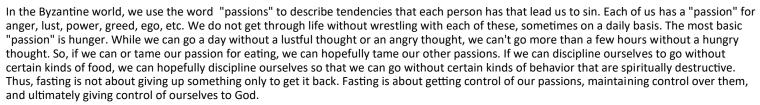
When you fast

Jesus said, 'and when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret; and your father who sees in secret will reward you:'

Matthew 6: 16-18 (Gospel of Cheesefare Sunday)

When people think of the word "Lent," the word "fasting" is one of the first things that comes to mind. The cornerstone of Lent is not fasting, but repentance and growing in our faith. Fasting is a tool that is used to assist in

spiritual growth. Fasting is also mischarac-terized as a form of deprivation, rather than a spiritual discipline. Because fasting is so misun-derstood, it is many times done incorrectly.



If you've never fasted before, I would not recommend doing a strict fast. Try fasting from meat on Wednesdays and Fridays of Lent (and then throughout the year), then next year try fasting Wednesdays and Fridays plus all of the first week of Lent and all of Holy Week. Then work up from that.

Below is a guide of some levels of fasting:

- •Level one -- Fast from meat on Wednesdays and Fridays and during Holy Week
- •Level two -- Fast from meat and fish on Wednesdays and Fridays and during Holy Week
- •Level three -- Fast from meat the entirety of Lent and Holy Week
- •Level four -- Fast from meat and fish the entirety of Lent and Holy Week
- •Level five -- Level four and eliminate dairy products during Holy Week
- •Level six -- Level four and eliminate dairy products on Wednesday and Fridays and during Holy Week.
- •Level seven -- Level four plus eliminate dairy products during all of Lent and Holy Week
- •Level eight -- Level seven plus eliminate oil and wine during Holy Week
- •Level nine -- The strict fast no meat, fish, dairy products, wine or oil during the entirety of Great Lent

**Fish is allowed on March 25 (Annunciation) and Palm Sunday; oil and wine are allowed on Saturdays and Sundays, except for Holy Saturday.

After a few years at one level, challenge yourself to go up a level.

More important, however, than fasting from food, is fasting from the behaviors that are spiritually destructive. We need to fast from things that get us in trouble - perhaps the television, alcohol, inappropriate materials on the computer and in movies, foul language, etc. Fasting also does not mean "looking" deprived, complaining about what you can't eat, or making a show of your fasting. In fact, if you are fasting and you are invited to someone's home for dinner and they serve meat, eat the meat, don't make a big deal out of your fasting. Also, do not pass judgment on others who are not fasting to the degree you are. Saint Paul reminds us in Romans 14:3-4: "Let not him who eats despise him who abstains, and let not him who abstains pass judgment on him who eats; for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own Master that he stands or falls." As Christ tells us, our fasting is seen by our "Father who is in secret," and He will reward us for our efforts.

Again, Lent is not a season of deprivation, nor should we "give up" something only to get it back once Lent is over. Lent is about repentance, and making small and permanent changes to bring us closer to the Lord, changes that will last long after Lent is over. This is the purpose of the Lenten journey. Fasting is an aid to help us in this.

The time has come - the start of our spiritual contests, the victory over demons, the full armor of self-control the angels' dignity, the confidence before God. Thereby did Moses become conversant with the Creator, and heard the invisible voice. Lord, through fasting make us worthy to worship Your Passion and Holy Resurrection, as You love humanity. (Doxastikon of Orthros, Cheesefare Sunday)

Give some thought to your fasting plan for Lent today!



Following Jesus Kids bulletin



My name is

God blesses those who assist the poor and rebukes those who turn away from them. The Church gives us seven ways to show mercy to all. Here are the Corporal Works of Mercy and some ways to carry them out.

'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.' -Matthew 25:40



1. To Feed the Hungry

a. Put money in the St. Vincent de Paul poor box. b. Share your lunch with a friend who might not have as much.



2. To Give Drink

a. Help Mom serve drinks to the family at dinner or to auests.

to the Thirsty

- b. Start a Lemonade stand and give the money to the
- c. Help Dad put water bottles in the car to give to the homeless.



4. To Shelter the Homeless

- a. Donate blankets or clothing to a homeless shelter.
- b. Help mom fill a bag of processes to give to a shelter.



3. To Clothe the Naked

a. Share your coat with someonewho is cold. b. Give your used clothes away to the



5. To Care for the Sick

- a. Visit children in the hospital.
- b. Send a card to a sich friend.
- c. Share a homework assignment with a student who missed
- d. Pray for anyone who is ill.

6. To Visit the Imprisoned

- a. Draw pictures for elderly neighbors who cannot leave their homes.
- b. Pray for those who are in prison, and their families.



7. To Bury the Dead

- a. Visit a cemetery and pray for departed family and friends.
- b. Bring flowers to put on the graves of your loved ones.

What are some other ways you can help?

Дидонт* четов оделе снязатим внимовичением и сням

Our Journey to Pascha 2022

SUNDAYS

THEMES / GOSPEL READING

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Fast - Free Week **FEBRUARY 6th**



TRIODION WEEKS

Publican and the Pharisee 2 Timothy 3: 10-15 Gospel: Luke 18: 10-14

Show compassion on the poor and distressed. Trust in God, not yourself and ask for His help before every task this week.

Normal Fast Week **FEBRUARY 13th**



The Prodigal Son Returns

1 Corinthians 6: 12-20 Epistle: Gospel: Luke 15: 11-32

Schedule a Confession. Every morning say, 'Today I will be humble." Use up/freeze meats this week.

Meatfare

FEBRUARY 20th FAREWELL TO MEAT TODAY The Last Judgment

1 Corinthians 8: 8-9:2 Epistle: Gospel: Matthew 25: 31-46

Pray facing East this week. Christ is returning from the East and we wait for Him! Use up/freeze dairy this week.

Cheesefare

FEBRUARY 27th **FAREWELL TO CHEESE TODAY**



Adam and Eve are cast from Paradise FORGIVENESS SUNDAY

Epistle: Romans 13: 11-14:4 Gospel: Matthew 6:14-21

Ask each other for forgiveness each evening this week before bed.

1st Sunday of Lent

MARCH 6th



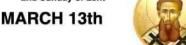
GREAT LENT BEGINS WITH FORGIVENESS VESPERS

SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2 Epistle:

John 1:43-51 Gospel:

Bring an icon to church for a procession.

2nd Sunday of Lent



ST GREGORY PALAMAS

Hebrews 1:10-2:3 Epistle: Gospel: Mark 2:1-12

Bring a prayer rope to be blessed today. Use it and pray the Jesus Prayer each day this week.

3rd Sunday of Lent

MARCH 20th



VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

HALF WAY TO PASCHA!

Epistle: Hebrews 4: 14-5:6 Gospel: Mark 8: 34-9:1

Wear your cross to church and kiss the cross each morning with a bow.

4th Sunday of Lent





ST JOHN OF THE LADDER

Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20 Mark 9: 17-31 Gospel:

Every time you climb stairs this week ask St. John to help you reach Paradise with the sign of the cross!

5th Sunday of Lent

APRIL 3rd



ST MARY OF EGYPT

Hebrews 9: 11-14 Mark 10: 32-45 Gospel:

Ask the Theotokos to offer you and the world pure thoughts and ideas this week.

FLOWERY (PALM) SUNDAY APRIL 10th

GREAT WEEK BEGINS



GREAT AND HOLY WEEK ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM

Epistle: Philippians 4: 4-9 Gospel: John 12: 1-18

Place your palm branches and pussywillows behind an icon at home

and in your car.

GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY

APRIL 15th



GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY

JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS CHECK WITH YOUR PARISH FOR ROYAL HOURS AND VESPERS SCHEDULE

Refrain from TV, Internet & Phones to honor Christ's Death.

FEAST OF FEASTS!

APRIL 17th



BRIGHT WEEK

HOLY PASCHA! (CHRIST IS RISEN!)

Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: John 1:1-17

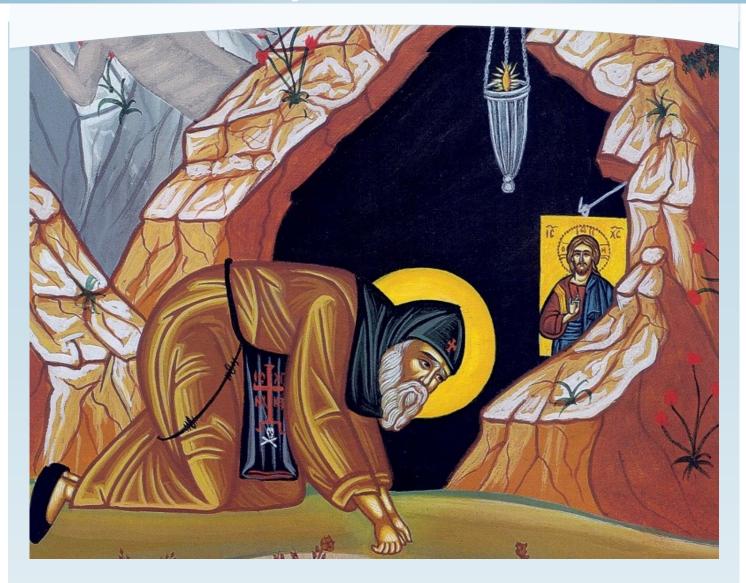
Greet everyone with "CHRIST IS RISEN!" & say it before good morning and good night.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR



| FEBRUARY | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|--------------------------------------|---|
| 9 | | | 1 Preparation of | Presentation of our Lord | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | | | Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ to the Temple | Jesus Christ to the Temple دخول السيد إلى الهيكل | Sts Simeon & Anna | St Isidore of Pelusium | St Agatha |
| | | | 1 Peter 3:10-22 Mark 12:18-27 | Hebrews 7:7-17 Luke 2:22-40 | Hebrews 9:11-14 Luke 2:25-38 | 2 Peter 1:1-10 Mark 13:1-8 | 2 Timothy 2:11-19 Luke 18:2-8 |
| 4.000 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| شباط – فبراير 2022 | Publican & Pharisee Sunday أحد الفرّيسيّ والعشّار | St Luke the Greek | Holy Prophet Zechariah | Leave-taking of the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord | St Charalampos | St Blaise | St Meletios |
| JANUARY 2022 | 2 Timothy 3:10-15 Luke 18:10-14 | 2 Peter 1:20-2:9 Mark 13:9-13 | 2 Peter 2:9-22 Mark 13:14-23 | 2 Peter 3:1-18 Mark 13:24-31 | 1 John 1:8-2:6 Mark 13:31-14:2 | 1 John 2:7-17 Mark 14:3-9 | 1 Timothy 6:11-16 Luke 20:45-21:4 |
| S M T W T F S | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 | Sunday of the Prodigal | St Maron the Hermit | St Onesimos | St Pamphilos and his | St Theodore | St Leo, Pope of Rome | First Saturday of the dead |
| 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 | Son أحد الابن الشاطر | | | companions | | | السبت الاول للراقدين |
| MARCH 2022 | 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 Luke 15:11-32 | 1 John 2:18-3:8 Mark 11:1-11 | 1 John 3:9-22 Mark 14:10-42 | 1 John 3:21-4:11 Mark 14:43-15:1 | 1 John 4:20-5:21 Mark 15:1-15 | 2 John 1-13 Mark 15:22, 25, 33-41 | 1 Corinthians 10:23-29 Luke 21:8-9, 25-27, 33-36 |
| S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 🌇 🛰 | 24 | 25 🐠 🛰 | 26 |
| 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 | Meat-fare Sunday أحد مرفع اللحم | Holy Father Timothy | Relics of Martyrs at Eugenios | St Polycarp of Smyrna | Discoveries of the Head of John the Forerunner | St Tarasios | Saturday of Ascetics مبت جميع الأباء النساك |
| 27 23 23 33 37 | 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2 Matthew 25:31-46 | 3 John 1-13 Luke 19:29-40; 22:7-39 | Jude 1-10 Luke 22:39-23:1 | Romans 14:6-9 Matthew 26:57-75 | 2 Corinthians 4:6-15 Matthew 11:2-15 | Ephesians 5:8-19 John 19:25-37 | Romans 14:19-23; 6:25-27 Matthew 6:1-13 |
| | 27 | 28 🐠 🛰 | | | | | |
| | Cheese-fare Sunday | Beginning of Holy and Great Fast | | | | | |
| | أحد مرفع الجبن | بدء الصوم المقدس الكبير | | | | | |
| | Romans 13:11-14:4 Matthew 6:14-21 | 1 Corinthians 3:18-23 Luke 21:8-36 | | | | | |
| | | Church Major Feasts | Abstain from Meat | Fast from midnight until noon | Lenten Season | | |

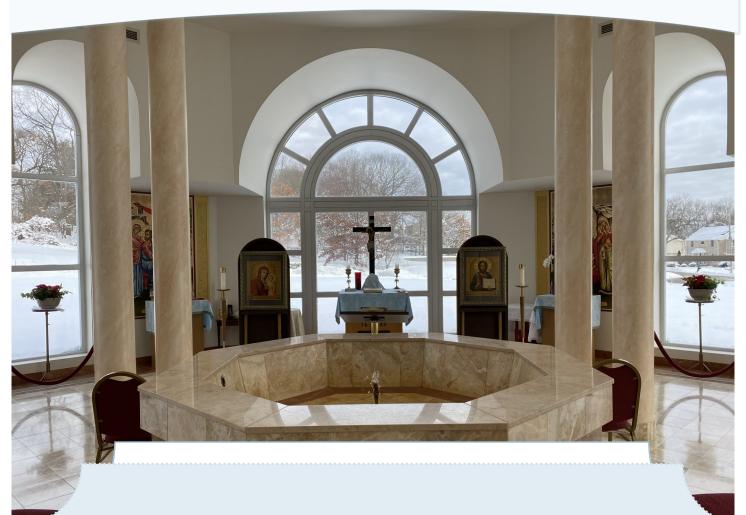
Prayer for Lent



"O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth, faintheartedness, the lust of power, and idle talk. But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to your servant. Yes, O Lord, and King grant me to see my own sin and not to judge my brother, for You are blessed from all ages to all ages. Amen"

(Prayer of St. Ephraim the Syrian)

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

Sunday Divine Liturgy:
English at 9:00 am—Arabic at 11:15 am

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

LITURGY OR MASS INTENTIONS



Divine Liturgy intentions can be scheduled for those who have died, and on the occasion of a birthday, wedding anniversary, for healing for the conversion of sinners, for the grace to face the challenges in life, for the success in a new job, for those serving in the church and country in different levels, for good weather, bountiful harvest, for world peace, in thanksgiving for the blessings received, etc. You can find so many reasons to think about a Mass offering. We offer the Mass for a specific intention because we believe in the immense spiritual value of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

The custom of giving offering to have Liturgies said for specific intentions is a laudable one and should be maintained as much as possible. Church teaching and Canon Law (nos. 942-958) provide important guidelines on how to preserve the dignity and appreciation of this practice. Overall, it should be well noted that Liturgy offerings are never to be viewed as a means of parish fundraising.

<u>COMMEMORATIONS OF THE DEAD</u>: The Apostolic Constitutions refer to the repetition of the Mass on the third, ninth and fortieth days: "Let the third day be observed in remembrance of the dead with psalms, lessons, and prayers, because Christ rose from the dead on the third day. Let the ninth day be observed in remembrance both of the living and the dead, and also the fortieth day, in accordance with mourning customs of the Israelites at the time of Moses' death. Finally, let the anniversary day be observed in memory of the dead."

In contemporary Byzantine practice, the dead are commemorated on the ninth and fortieth days and on the anniversary of their departure from this world.

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 since1976 still acknowledges this definitive protocol. Our parishes follow local discipline in the various customs e.g., clergy attire, stipends (Mass 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.

Effective January 1, 2008, which by-passed us, the schedule of offerings for Masses in parishes is now \$25.00; Funerals: \$300.00; Weddings: \$300.00.

Canon Law prohibits accepting stipends or offerings for Masses more than one year in advance (rolling calendar) Canon 953. The time within which Masses must be celebrated (1 year) begins the day the intention is received (Canon 955 #2.)

May the memories of our beloved deceased be eternal and many thanks for your understanding and undivided attention in regard to these guidelines and restrictions.

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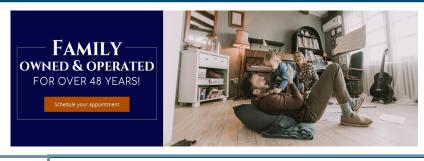
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STEPHEN M. CUSHMAN, CPA., MST

Certified Public Accountants Mardo, Lachapelle & Palumbo, LLP 221 Broadway Providence RI 02903

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SHARON DESIMONE, EA 401-651-1112

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

JAMES A. BRIDEN

Attorney At Law

Blais Cunningham & Crowe Chester, LLP

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

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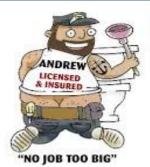
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