



March 21<sup>st</sup> 2021

## ST. BASIL THE GREAT MELKITE GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH

**Address :**  
15 Skyview Dr.  
Lincoln, Rhode Island 02865

**Parish Website :**  
[www.stbasilthegreatchurch.com](http://www.stbasilthegreatchurch.com)

**Facebook :**  
<https://www.facebook.com/StBasilTheGreatMelkiteGreekCatholicChurchRI/>

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

**Email :**  
[office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com](mailto:office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com)

**Telephone :** (401)722-1345

**Office hours :**  
Tue-Fri 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

**Divine Liturgies :**  
Tuesday through Friday at 9: 00 A.M.  
Saturday at 4:00 P.M.  
Sunday at 11:00 A.M.

**Pastoral Emergencies and anointing  
of the sick:** (401)722-1345

**Holy Mysteries:**

**Reconciliation:**  
Saturday 2:30 –3:30 P.M.,  
Sunday 9:30-10:30 A.M., or by  
appointment.

**Baptisms:** Please arrange with the  
pastor.

**Marriages:** 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.



**Sunday of our Venerable Mother Mary of Egypt**  
*Fifth Sunday of Lent*

**تذكار أمنا البارة مريم المصرية**  
الأحد الخامس من الصوم المقدس

### Antiphon Prayer

O Lord God, You examine the inner heart. You know our concerns before they emerge into being. You saved Mary of Egypt from the tribulations of this earth, for she had recourse to You. We implore You to purify our hearts and to make us temples of your Holy Spirit and rich in virtues, so that we may glorify You by hymns of praise and good works.

For You are our God and to You are due all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever.

### Troparion of the Resurrection (First tone)

While the stone was sealed by the Jews and soldiers were watching your sacred body, You rose, O Savior, on the third day, giving life to the world. Wherefore, O Giver of life, the powers of heaven cried out: Glory to your resurrection, O Christ. Glory to your kingdom, glory to your Plan of redemption, O You who alone are the Lover of mankind.

### Troparion of our Mother Mary of Egypt

In you, O Mother Mary, the faithful image of God shone forth, for you carried your cross and followed Christ. You taught by your deeds how to spurn the body, for it passes away and how to value the soul, for it is immortal. Wherefore your soul is forever in happiness with the angels.

### صلاة الأنديفوننة

أيها الرب الإله الفاحص أعماق القلوب والعارف أموزنا كلها قبل أن تكون، لقد اختطفتم من اضطرابات الحياة من لجأت اليك. فنصرخ اليك أن تطهر قلوبنا، وتظهرنا هياكل لروحك القدس، وأغنياء بالفضائل، فنعظمك بالتسابيح والأعمال الصالحة

لأنك أنت هو إلهنا ولك ينبغي كل مجد وكرام وسجود، أيها الأب والابن والروح القدس، الآن وكل أوان وإلى دهر الداهرين.

### نشيد القيامة بالبحن الأول

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

### نشيد للبارة مريم المصرية بالبحن الثامن

فيك حُفِظَتْ صورة الله بتدقيق أيتها الأم مريم. فقد أخذت الصليب وتبعبت المسيح، وعلمت بالعمل إهمال الجسد لأنه زائل، والاهتمام بالنفس لأنها خالدة. فلذلك تبتهج روحك أيتها البارة مع الملائكة.





### 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.

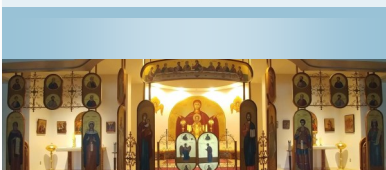
<https://melkite.org/maya>

**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](http://www.stbasilthegreatchurch.com/myo.html)

**NAMW:** Promotes and supports vocations to the priesthood and religious life in the United States.

<https://melkite.org/namw>



### 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

We your servants, ascribe to you, O Mother of God, thank-offerings of victory, O Champion Leader, for we have been liberated from terror; but as you have that invincible power do you free us from every kind of danger, so that we may cry out to You: Hail, O Virgin and Bride Ever-Pure!

### Hirmos

In you, O Full of Grace, all creation rejoices, the orders of angels and human race as well. O Sanctified Temple, Spiritual Paradise, and Glory of Virgins, from whom our God, who exists before all eternity, took flesh and became a little child. He has taken your womb as his throne, making it more spacious than the heavens. Therefore, O Full of Grace, in you all creation rejoices. Glory to you!

### Epistle of the 5th Sunday of Lent, Hebrews 9: 11-14

PROKIMENON (Tone 8)

Make vows to the Lord your God and fulfill them; let all round about bring gifts to the awesome God.

Stichon: God is renowned in Judah; in Israel great is his name. Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews BRETHREN, when Christ appeared as the high priest of the good things to come (Cf. Lv. 16: 14; 19: 4), he entered once for all through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made by hands (that is, not as a part of the present creation), nor again by virtue of blood of goats and calves, but by virtue of his own blood, into the sanctuary, having obtained eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls and the sprinkled ashes of a heifer sanctify the unclean for the cleansing of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ (Cf. Rv. 1: 5), who through the Holy Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God!

ALLELUIA (Tone 8)

Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord; let us acclaim the Rock of our salvation.

Stichon: Let us greet him with thanksgiving; let us joyfully sing psalms to him.

### Gospel of the 4th Sunday of Lent, Mark 9: 17-31 (Healing of a possessed boy)

At that time Jesus took the Twelve, and began to tell them what would happen to him, saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and the Scribes; and they will condemn him to death, and will deliver him to the Gentiles; and they will mock him, and spit upon him and scourge him, and put him to death; and on the third day he will rise again." And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him, saying, "Master, we want thee to do for us whatever we ask." But he said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" And they said, "Grant to us that we may sit, one at thy right hand and the other at thy left hand, in thy glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking for. Can you drink of the cup of which I drink, or be baptized with the baptism with which I am to be baptized?" And they said to him, "We can." And Jesus said to them "Of the cup that I drink, you shall drink; and with the baptism with which I am to be baptized, you shall be baptized; but as for sitting at my right hand or at my left, that is not mine to give, but it belongs to those for whom it has been prepared." And when the ten heard this, they were at first indignant at James and John. But Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that those who are regarded as rulers among the Gentiles I lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it is not so among you. On the contrary, whoever wishes to become great shall be your servant; and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be the slave of all; for the Son of Man also has not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

### طروبارية القديس باسيليوس

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

### نشيد الختام

نَحْنُ عِبِيدُكَ يَا وَالِدَةَ الْإِلَهِ، نَكْتُبُ لَكَ آيَاتِ الْغَلَبَةِ يَا قَائِدَةَ قَاهِرَةِ. وَنُقَدِّمُ الشُّكْرَ لَكَ وَقَدْ أَنْقَذَنَا مِنَ الشَّدَائِدِ. لَكِنْ بِمَا أَنَّ لَكَ الْمِرَّةَ الَّتِي لَا تَحَارِبُ، أَعْتَقِمْنَا مِنْ أَضْيَافِ الْفَخَاطِرِ لِكَيْ نَضْرِبَ إِلَيْكَ: أَفْرَاحِي يَا عَزُوسَةً لَا عَرُوسَ لَهَا.

### النشيد لوالدة الإله

إن الربا بأسرها تفرح بك يا ممتلئة نعمة. محافل الملائكة وأجناس البشر، لك يعظمون. أيها الهيكل المقدس والفردوس الناطق، وفخر البتولية، مريم، التي منها تجسد الإله وصار طفلاً، وهو إلهنا قبل الدهور. الذي صَنَعَ مستودعك عرشاً، وجعل بطنك أرحب من السماوات. لذلك يا ممتلئة نعمة، تفرح بك كل البرايا وتمجّدك!

### مقدمة رسالة الأحد الخامس من الصوم

أُذَرُّوا وَأَوْفُوا الرَّبَّ إِلَهُنا، كُلِّ الَّذِينَ حَوْلَهُ يَأْتُونَ بِهَدَايَا اللَّهِ مَعْرُوفٍ فِي يَهُودَا، واسمُهُ عَظِيمٌ فِي إِسْرَائِيلَ

الرسالة (عبرانيين 9: 11-14)

يا إخوة، إِنَّ الْمَسِيحَ الَّذِي جَاءَ خَبيراً لِلْخِرَاتِ الْآتِيَةِ، وَاجْتَنَزَ بِالْمَسْكَنِ الْأَعْظَمِ وَالْأَكْمَلِ الْغَيْرِ الْمَصْنُوعِ بِيَدٍ، أَيِ الَّذِي لَيْسَ مِنْ هَذِهِ الْخَلِيقَةِ، دَخَلَ الْأَقْدَاسَ مَرَّةً وَاحِدَةً، لَيْسَ بِدَمِ ثِيُوسٍ وَغُجُولٍ، بَلْ بِدَمِهِ الْخَاصِ، فَوَجَدَ فِدَاءً أَبَدِيًّا. لِأَنَّهُ كَانَ ذَمُّ ثِيرَانٍ وَثِيُوسٍ وَزَمَادُ عِجْلِهِ يُرِثُ عَلَى الْمُتَنَجِّسِينَ، فَيُقَدِّسُهُمْ لَتَطْهِيرِ الْجَسَدِ، فَكَمْ بِالْأَجْرَى دَمُ الْمَسِيحِ، الَّذِي قَرَّبَ بِالرُّوحِ الْأَزَلِيِّ نَفْسَهُ لِلَّهِ بِلاَ غَيْبٍ، يُطَهِّرُ صَمِيرَكُمْ مِنَ الْأَعْمَالِ الْمُتَيْتَةِ لَتَعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ الْحَيَّ.

هَلَلُوا، هَلِّمُوا نَبْتَهِجَ بِالرَّبِّ، وَنَهْلِلْ لِلَّهِ مَخْلَصِنَا

لِنُبَادِرَ إِلَى وَجْهِهِ بِالاعْتِرَافِ، وبِالْمَزَامِيرِ نُهْلِلْ لَهُ.

### الانجيل للأحد الخامس من الصوم العظيم

في ذلك الزمان، أخذ يسوع تلاميذه الاثني عشر، وطفق يقول لهم ما سيعرض له: ها نحن صاعدون إلى أُورُشليم، وابن البشر سيُسلم إلى رؤساء الكهنة والكتبة، فيحكمون عليه بالموت ويُسلمونه إلى الامم، فيهزؤون به، ويجلدونه، ويصقون عليه، ويقتلونه، وفي اليوم الثالث يقوم. فتقدم اليه يعقوب ويوحنا ابنا زبدي قائلين: يا معلم، نريد أن تصنع لنا كل ما نسألك. فقال لهما: ماذا تريدان ان اصنع لكما؟ قالوا له: هب لنا أن يجلس أحدهنا عن يمينك والآخر عن يسارك في مجدك. فقال لهما يسوع: انكما لا تعلمان ما تطلبان. أتستطيعان أن تشربا الكأس التي أشربها أنا، وأن تصطبغان بالصبغة التي اصطبغ بها أنا؟ فقالا له: نستطيع. فقال لهما يسوع أما الكأس التي أشربها فتشربانها، والصبغة التي اصطبغ بها فتصطبغان بها. وأما الجلوس عن يميني أو يساري فليس لي أن أعطيه بل هو للذين أعد لهم. فلما سمع العشرة أخذوا يغضبون على يعقوب ويوحنا. فدعاهم يسوع وقال لهم: تعلمون ان الذين يُعْزِدُونَ أركانهم الامم يسودونهم، وعظماءهم يتسلطون عليهم. وأما فيما بينكم فلا يكن هكذا. بل من أراد أن يكون فيكم كبيراً، يكون لكم خادماً. ومن أراد أن يصير فيكم الأول، يكون للجميع عبداً. فإن ابن الانسان لم يأت ليُخْدَم بل ليُخْدَم، ولينبذل نفسه فداءً عن كثيرين.





## ST. BASIL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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.

**SACRIFICIAL GIVING:** March 14, 2021: Budgets: \$9,948.00; Envelopes: \$9,923.00; Loose: \$25.00; Stipends: \$400.00; Candles: \$98.00; Addit'l Fuel: \$51.00; Building Fund: \$1,025.00; Addit'l Melkite Support: \$15.00; St. Vincent de Paul to Community Fund: \$1,000.00; Addit'l Religious Ed: \$3.00; Cemetery: \$173.00.

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.

**ASSOCIATED MELKITE CHARITIES:** Shepherd's Care was begun in 1988 at the suggestion of the Melkite faithful and Clergy who saw a need for a special united effort of all Melkite Catholics to reach out to those in need. Through Shepherd's Care the Melkite Church of America reaches out in love through financial assistance in your name to the Lord's "needy ones" in our country and around the world. Shepherd's Care is not just raising money for the poor and the sick, but more importantly, it is a guide to assist us in living a "Holy Lent" through understanding and properly using the Lenten tripod of "Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving." Don't just "give up" during lent, "give up so others can have". Therefore, because of the lack of mite boxes, a SPECIAL COLLECTION WILL BE TAKEN UP TODAY FOR SHEPHERD'S CARE. Please do not take this noble cause lightly but give generously and act wisely in your giving. God bless you and reward you a hundredfold.

Next Weekend, March 27 & 28, there will be a **SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR MELKITE DIOCESAN SUPPORT.** Please give out of the abundance of your heart.

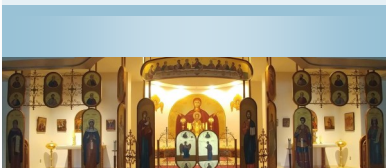
**PRAYERS FOR FR. DANIEL NASSANEY:** Fr. Dan is halfway through his 4-week rest period between radiation sessions and the upcoming right leg calf operation to remove the cancer. March 17<sup>th</sup> he was scheduled to have an MRI to determine the results of the radiation treatment and the size and condition of the tumor. The operation itself has been scheduled for Wednesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. What happens after will depend on the results of the operation. He thanks you all for your messages, cards, prayers and good wishes and conveys a BLESSED EASTER to all! May Almighty God, Physician of our souls and bodies stretch forth His right hand above the priest-servant, Fr. Dan, and heal him from this devastating illness in His Divine Providence.

**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. Various Services will be conducted during the weekdays of Lent, thereby making it convenient for more people. All services will be celebrated at 6:30 p.m. except the Saturday Liturgy at 4:00 p.m. and the Sunday Liturgy at 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday, March 23	- Great Compline	Friday, March 26	- Akathist Hymn
Wednesday, March 24	- ANNUNCIATION VIGIL LITURGY	Saturday, March 27	- Divine Liturgy
Thursday, March 25	- Great Compline	Sunday, March 28	- Divine Liturgy

**2020 BUDGET STATEMENTS AVAILABLE:** It is that time of year to start thinking about the preparation of your 2020 Federal Income Tax Returns. Statements of your offerings to the Church for 2020 will only be issued upon request. If you would like a statement, please contact Father Joe at the rectory at 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!!!**

**REFLECTION:** He that respects himself is safe from others. (Henry Wadsworth Longfellow)





## Divine Liturgy Intentions



**TODAY, SATURDAY, MARCH 20, AND SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 2021: FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT. SUNDAY OF ST. MARY OF EGYPT.**

### 4:00 p.m. DIVINE LITURGY:

- + **ANTHONY NAJJAR (40 Day)** by his wife Annette & children
- + **MARION ASERMELY** by the Family.
- + **PETER & AGNES MUNLEY** by M/M V. Edward Fayan.
- + **NANCY AISSIS** by M/M V. Edward Fayan.
- + **MARY & ROGER LAMONTAGNE** by M/M V. Edward Fayan.
- + **GEORGE KAHLA** by Deacon Gilbert & Mimi Altongy
- + **JOSEPH HARRAKA** by Christine Lee, Brendan & Nicholas.
- + **LATIF KUFFREY** by the Family
- + **VICTORIA PROCHNIAK** by Delores & Loriann Agag.
- + **MARY TAHAN** by Margaret Sabbagh.
- + **YVONNE HAGGAR COLABELLA** by Mrs. Joyce Fontas (NY)
- + **CLAUDINE RABBAT** by Gloria Deckey (NY).
- + **JAY PAUL** by his parents, Dr. & Mrs. Biswa N. Paul.
- + **JAMES N. ALLAM** by Pat-Luc St. Germain.

### 11:00 a.m. DIVINE LITURGY:

- + **AUDETTE BAROODY HADDAD (1<sup>st</sup> Anniv.)** by her daughter Zeina and husband David Baroody.
- + **YOUSSEF MADOUR (3<sup>rd</sup> Anniv.)** by the Family.
- + **FLORENCE EID (3<sup>rd</sup> Anniv.)** by the Family.
- + **BAHJAT KHOURY (7<sup>th</sup> Anniv.)** by the Family.
- + **CLAUDINE RABBAT** by Gloria Deckey (NY).
- + **JOSEPH YOUAKIM** by Bassil Youakim & Family.
- + **CHARLES & EVA ROBAT** by Charlie & Francine Robat & Family.
- + **LOUIS P. KISHFY** by Gary, Maria, Louis & Jillian Kishfy.
- + **REV. ARCHDEACON GEORGE YANY & ANGELA MAZZONE** by the Aleppian Aid Society & Ladies' Auxiliary.
- + **ADEL ALBATAL** by Najat & John Khoury & Family.
- + **GEORGE DECKEY** by Jane Jabren.
- + **GEORGEANNA DECKEY** by Jalal & Souad Dekki & Family.
- + **JOSEPH P. AZAR, JR.** by M/M Jim Briden.
- + **YUSUF & BLANCHE MUSSALLI** by Federico & Jessica Cavallini.
- + **FAOUZIEH ALAM** by her Family.
- + **MICHAEL ALAM** by his Family.
- + **GEORGETTE A. SAGGAL** by Nabil & Gloria Baalbaki.
- + **MARIE CLAIRE CHOUHA** by Kawsar Boudjouk & Family.
- + **ALBERT ALBA, SR.** by the Alba Family.
- + **FRANCIS A. SAGGAL** by Neil & Yola Karraz & Family.
- + **ALBERT J. KISHFY** by M/M Jeffrey Boudjouk & Family.
- + **YOUSSEF AGHIA** by Paul & Chirin Ashkar.
- + **JAY PAUL** by his parents, Dr. & Mrs. Biswa N. Paul.
- + **BASHIR & SAYOUD BOUDJOUK** by Samir & Hanaa Boudjouk & Family.
- + **MICHEL, GEORGE & AGIB BOUDJOUK** by Samir & Hanaa Boudjouk & Family.
- + **LINDA ALKHOULY HADDAD** by Neil, Yola Karraz & Family
- + **RUTH PERRY** by Kenneth, Ann, Allyson & Kimberly Sabbagh.
- + **JULIA & FRED KISHFY** by the Family.
- + **ELIAS J. KISHFY** by Christine Deeb Poccia.
- + **HOLY & FORGOTTEN SOULS IN PURGATORY** by M/M Joseph 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.





# Only When We Descend in Humility Can We Ascend to Heaven

Where shall I begin to weep for the actions of my wretched life? What first-fruit shall I offer, O Christ, in this my lamentation? But in Thy compassion grant me forgiveness of sins." (The Canon of St. Andrew, Canticle 1, vs. 2.)

During Great Lent we remember and venerate Saint Mary of Egypt both on April 1 and the Fifth Sunday of Lent. With the Canon of St. Andrew, read in many churches during the first and fifth weeks of Lent, we uphold her as an icon of repentance, an example for every Orthodox Christian to emulate. Yet for many years, she lived a life of bondage to sexual passions. If St. Mary of Egypt were alive today, would we welcome her into our assembly?

"I confess to Thee, O Savior, the sins I have committed, the wounds of my soul and body, which murderous thoughts, like thieves, have inflicted inwardly upon me." (The Canon of St. Andrew, Canticle 1, vs. 12.)



While we don't know about the very early years of her life, we do know that she lost her virginity at age twelve and ran away from home. For the next seventeen years she was a slave to her insatiable appetite for sexual perversions, including sexual encounters with "young men," even against their will. This sounds very much like a victim of pedophilia who recoils and continues in her victimization by taking on the role of a predator herself, victimizing others in the process. Many adults who fall into the bondage of pedophilia are victims of sexual abuse as children. In a futile attempt to reconcile the horror of their own victimization, they try to regain control of their lives through exploitation, continuing to inflict wounds on their own souls and bodies.

"Like David, I have fallen into lust and I am covered in filth; but wash me clean, O Savior, by my tears." (The Canon of St. Andrew, Canticle 2, vs. 54.) "O Lady, thou hast brought forth our Joy: Grant me the spirit of mourning that in the coming Day of Judgment I may be comforted by God." (The Canon of St. Andrew, Canticle 9, vs. 327.) "For all have sinned and fall short of the Glory of God." (Romans 3:23)

For seventeen years, Saint Mary of Egypt lived a lifestyle that isolated her from the community and God. Covered with filth amassed over the years, her heart yet longed for union with God. People in prison feel ostracized too, isolated from God and society, as they sit in shame in prison cells longing for the same tears of repentance that lead to joy and reconciliation.

"Christ became man, calling to repentance thieves and harlots. Repent, my soul: the door of the kingdom is already open, and Pharisees and publicans and adulterers pass through it before thee, changing their lives." (The Canon of St. Andrew, Canticle 9, Vs. 342)

The healing of the venerable Saint Mary of Egypt was not instantaneous but required a rigorous and lengthy spiritual journey. Being led by the Holy Spirit, she retreated to the wilderness where she lived the life of a hermit for seventeen years, seeking freedom from bondage of the passions. She spent a further thirty years in the wilderness having obtained the true gifts of repentance, healing and freedom from the enslavement of sin.

During Great Lent, each of us seeks repentance, turning from our own vices and passions and setting our minds and hearts on God. Through the intercessions of the most Holy Theotokos, God grants us the gift of compunction to turn from our wounds and sins to find healing and comfort in Him.

Only when we submit to God do we find true freedom. Only when we descend in humility can we ascend to the Heavens. It's only when we die to ourselves do we truly live. And we should not be afraid! Our spiritual life should not be wrought with anxiety, with fear and with doubt. After venerating the relic of the true cross, St. Mary of Egypt returned to the church to give thanks, and heard a voice telling her, "If you cross the Jordan, you will find glorious rest." And then, as St. Zosimas tells us, St. Mary spent 47 years in the desert alone, taking nothing with her but three loaves of bread, and once they were gone, she lived only on what she could find in the wilderness. We marvel at this, as we, I think, almost write this story of, thinking, "Oh, this was a great

saint in the olden days. This is all beyond our capability." But this is not true at all, and this is precisely why we hear the life of St. Mary of Egypt in church and on this week in Lent. Human nature has not changed in all the years from then until now. St. Mary was once an exceedingly sinful person and far from God. But she repented. She had a change of heart. She found humility, and in giving her whole life and her whole will entirely to God, she found the "glorious rest" to God promised her. Now we look to her – this former harlot and sex addict – as a great saint whom we must emulate, and to whom we pray so that she may intercede for us at the throne of God. And so, there is hope. There is hope for us, and we must not despair!

On this final Sunday of Great Lent, it would do well for us to take stock of where we are. Have we left our fallen city? Have we exited the gate? Have we travelled for miles, only to retrace our steps? Have we followed the way of the Pharisee, relying on our own efforts and perceived righteousness? Or have we learned to follow the way of the Publican and St. Mary of Egypt, crying out with a contrite heart and humility: "Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner!" Far too often we find ourselves at Holy Week, and even at the very night of Pascha, looking back to Lent wondering: "Where did Lent go? All this time... and I've wasted it!" All this time is given to us – is a gift to us – to use for our repentance, and don't we so often squander it in anxieties, trivialities, bickering, distractions, sins and passions. And when the trumpet sounds and we find ourselves at the Dread Judgment, will we look back and ask, "Where did the time go? How have I wasted my life?" Yet it does not have to be this way. Let us heed the words of the St. Paul who said: 'Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, And Christ will give you light.' See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil... be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord. (Ephesians 14-16, 19)

Let us rejoice, then, in the Lord in these remaining days of Lent as we look towards Christ's Holy Passion and glorious Resurrection, and let us never cease to have the words of St. Anthony the Great on our lips: "Today I will make a good beginning!" May God grant us strength and perseverance, not just to make a good beginning, but to finish the race set before us. Amen.



# أقوال مختارة من كتاب (السلم إلى الله) للقديس يوحنا السلمي

سبيل الى ذلك الا بتوبة صادقة ودموع وتواضع وحمل الصليب واتباع يسوع.

مريم المصرية من أكثر القديسين الذين احبهم وآثروا في بتوبتها الصادقة وبساطة ايمانها وقوته في ذات الوقت نسكت الصحراء وهي من اعتادت الرفاهية ولم تكتس بشيء وهي التي اعتادت ان تلبس الحرير والحرير. ابتعدت عن حياة الزنى والشهوة عند اقتراب الفصح. لذا يجب علينا ونحن على مقربة من عيد الفصح وايضا لمن لم يستفيد من الصوم والصلاة ولم يغير الصوم مسلكه وحياته نحو الفضيلة، عليه ان يتخذ موقفا مثل موقف مريم المصرية الحاسم والمصيري، اي ان ينتقل من ضفة الموت الى ضفة الحياة والخلص.

ليس المطلوب منا ان نتنسك في الصحراء لكي نخلص، ليس المطلوب ان تكون لنا امتيازات لكي نخلص ونجلس الى يمين السيد وعن يساره، كما طلب الرب اليوم في الانجيل الذي سمعناه، ليست الكرامة وحب الرئاسة هي تجعلنا قريبين من الرب يسوع.

يقول القديس افرام السرياني في صلاة التوبة: "... اعتقني من روح البطالة

والفضول وحب الرئاسة..." نعم حب الرئاسة او السلطة، هي اصعب واخطر صعوبة تواجه الانسان المسيحي هي التخلي عن حب السلطة والتسلط والانانية والكبرياء.

نعتقد كلنا ان قربنا من الرب يسوع يعطينا الحق ويمنحنا حقوق وامتيازات. نعتقد اذا كنا معلمين ومرشدين يمكننا ان نطلب من المسيح ان يفعل لنا كل ما نطلبه وهذا غير صحيح ابدا.

قال يسوع لتلاميذه الذين كانوا يسعون الى حب الرئاسة والظهور اذ قال لهم: "انتم تعلمون ان الذين يحسبون رؤساء الامم يسودونهم وان عظماءهم يتسلطون عليهم. فلا يكون هكذا فيكم، بل من اراد ان يصير فيكم عظيما يكون لكم خادما، ومن اراد ان يصير فيكم اولاً، يكون للجميع عبداً، لان ابن الانسان ايضا لم يات ليخدم بل ليخدم ويبذل نفسه فدية عن كثيرين"

هذا هو المطلوب من كل انسان مسيحي مؤمن حقيقي.

النص الانجيلي لهذا اليوم يعلمنا ويعلمنا ويجعلنا نفهم ويجعلنا ندرك ان قضية خلاصنا واكتساب الامتيازات ليس في السلطة والتسلط. ان الامر حقيقة هو بالخدمة، اخلاء الذات والعودة الى الذات، هو الصليب هو التواضع، من اراد ان يصير فيكم اولاً يكون للجميع عبداً (مرقس 10 - 44).

هذه هي الامتيازات التي تؤهلنا ان نكون مرافقين ليسوع في ملكوته.

احبائي عليكم ان تعيدوا النظر بالاتجاه الصحيح وان تقلبوا الموازين والمفاهيم، اي تحولوا سعيكم وحياتكم نحو السلطة الى سعي نحو الخدمة واخلاء الذات وعطاء بلا حدود ان تكونوا على الصليب على صورة المسيح. مثل ما فعلت قديستنا العظيمة مريم المصرية.

اذا بدأت تحويل حياتها حياة الزنى الى حياة القداسة عندما سجدت امام الصليب في يوم عيده اثناء رحلتها الى اورشليم.

هذا هو سر وقوة الصليب المحيي الذي انتم اتخذتموه قوة لكم وحماية لكم. فتمريموا كونوا مثل مريم المصرية واعبروا معها كما عبرت من خطاياها الى الفصح الدائم، وقتها تعيدون الفصح وتهنئون مع الملائكة المسيح قام.. آمين

"اقتربوا الى الله فيقترب إليكم" (يع 4: 8). اذا قمنا بخطوة نحو الله فهو سيبدارنا بخطوات، الجحيم ليس للخطاة بل لغير التائبين، هو لهؤلاء الذين لا يشعرون بقيمة امام الله وللذين لا يعرفون قيمة المسامحة وللذين يرفضون الفردوس ومحبة الله وللذين لا يحيون الرجاء والإيمان.

يمكن للكنيسة أن تقول لكل واحد: لا تخف من شيء ولا تحزن، حالما تتوب سيغفر لك الله كل شيء، ولا يمكن أن يحدث بأن لا يغفر الله للذين يتوبون حقيقة. ولا يوجد خطيئة مهما كبرت لا يمكن لله أن يغفرها بمحبته.



رتبت الكنيسة في الأحد الخامس من الصوم تذكار امرأة هي الأم البارة مريم المصرية التي بدأت من حياة الرذيلة وانتهت لحياة الجهاد. حياتها كانت نسكية لحد بعيد، تشبه عري آدم في الفردوس، فيها لا مبالاة بالحياة الطبيعية غير مهتمة بالحاجات البشرية والضرورية للحياة ومحاولة إعادة الجسد والنفس لعزيرتهما الأولى قبل السقوط، فيها انغماس في نعمة الله الغير محدودة. غاية هذا الترتيب، أي أحد القديسة مريم المصرية، في أواخر الصوم الكبير هو بسبب تمردها العميق والكبير ضد الخطيئة، فكلنا يعرف أن مريم المصرية عاشت الخطيئة في أقصاها واكتشفت المعنى الحقيقي للتوبة فعاشت سبع وأربعين سنة في صحراء الأردن، وفيها عاشت محبة الله الغير المحدودة للخطاة والضعفاء، وكشفت لنا كيف أن الله يكشف طرقاً لا تُحصى ويضعها أمامنا في حياتنا اليومية تودى بنا للخلاص، وأوضحت لنا مقدار التواضع والوداعة والصبر التي نحتاجها للوصول للتوبة الحقيقية.

التوبة تفتح ابواب السماء تأخذ الانسان الى الفردوس تتجاوز الشيطان واعماله

اخجل عندما تخطئ ولا تخجل عندما تتوب، فان الخطيئة هي الجرح والتوبة هي العلاج.

القديس يوحنا الذهبي الفم

ايها الاحباء: ها نحن نقترّب من الصعود الى اورشليم حتى نعيد الفصح. اليوم المحطة الاخيرة في مسيرة الصوم الكبير قبل دخولنا في الاسبوع العظيم والفصح.

الكنيسة تضع لنا اليوم تذكارا لقديسة البارة مريم المصرية. اختارت الكنيسة ان تجعل عيد مريم المصرية في هذا الأحد الخامس من الصوم الكبير. لتقدمها لنا نموذجاً حياً للتوبة وللنسك بلا حدود. كما فعلت في بداية الصوم بمثل الفريسي والعشار ومثل الابن الشاطر، اللذان يذكرونا بان نتوب واليوم تذكرنا الكنيسة المقدسة بان التوبة بامكاننا ان نعيشها وتصير حياة حية.

فمريم سلكت وانغمست في الخطيئة فعاشت حياتها في اقصى دركات الخطيئة، اخطأت الى الحد الاقصى بحيث لم يكن ممكناً ان يخطئ كائن بشري اكثر منها. لقد وصلت الى ذروة الخطيئة والى اعماقها، لكن الرب انتشلها بواسع رحمته وايقظها من خلالها واعاد اليها رشدها فقبلت التوبة مدى عمرها الباقي.

وبمقدار اكبر من المقدار الذي مارست فيه الخطيئة مارست التوبة. وبشوق ملتهب اكثر من الشوق الذي احببت فيه الخطيئة فكانت مريم ايقونة التوبة، ايقونة إعادة للعودة الى الذات، فانتقلت مريم من ضفة الخطيئة الى ضفة المسيح، من ضفة الخطاة الى ضفة القديسين القائمين على الفضيلة، اي عبرت الى الطريق الصحيح الذي يؤدي الى التوبة والاهتداء والخلص.

لهذا تضع الكنيسة المقدسة اليوم مريم المصرية نموذجاً يجب ان يتمثل به المؤمنون كي يبلغوا الى ما بلغت اليه القديسة مريم. هذا ما اكدته صلاتنا لها اليوم، اذ قرأنا في صلاة السحر "يا مريم المصرية بما اتنا حويناك نموذجاً للتوبة توسلي الى المسيح ان يمنحنا اياها في اوان الصيام" (الاكسابيستيلاري).

اذا مريم هي نموذج حي عن الانسان الخاطئ الذي اذا سعى الى التوبة يجد ذراعي الله مفتوحين لاستقباله كما استقبل الأب ابنه الضال في المثل الشهير.

مريم المصرية هي مثال ونموذج لنا نحن الخطاة كي لا نياس من امكانية التوبة فمهما بلغت ضخامة الخطيئة علينا ان نعرف تمام المعرفة ان الله ينتظرنا ليضمنا الى مختاريه. لاجل هذا جاء المسيح ليرفع عنا الخطايا ويردنا الى الله، لهذا الله لا يخيب رجاء التائبين والساعين اليه فهو التواب على مساوي الناس.

لا خلاص بدون توبة. التوبة تعني تحولاً في الانسان تغييراً من حالة الى حالة، فحياة المسيحي حياة توبة دائمة بهذا المعنى انها سعي نحو الله لا ينقطع. سعي مستمر كل الايام اي رجوع متواصل الى الله. لا تعني التوبة انها فترة او مدة محددة من الحياة. التوبة تأخذها حياة، حياة مع الله اي حياتنا كلها توبة.

سيرة مريم المصرية مليئة بالعبير والدوروس فهي توجه لنا دعوة لكل واحد منا، دعوة لتوبة عن خطايانا مهما كانت وهي برهان لرحمة الله العظيمة، فمهما كانت الخطيئة عظيمة علينا ان لا ننسى رحمة الرب اعظم. ومحبة لا تترك ولكي نحصل عليها فلا

# 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 mischaracterized as a form of deprivation, rather than a spiritual discipline. Because fasting is so misunderstood, it is many times done incorrectly.

In the Orthodox world, we use the word "passions" to describe tendencies that each person has that lead us to sin. Each of us has a "passion" for anger, lust, power, greed, ego, etc. We do not get through life without wrestling with each of these, sometimes on a daily basis. The most basic "passion" is hunger. While we can go a day without a lustful thought or an angry thought, we can't go more than a few hours without a hungry thought. So, if we can tame our passion for eating, we can hopefully tame our other passions. If we can discipline ourselves to go without certain kinds of food, we can hopefully discipline ourselves so that we can go without certain kinds of behavior that are spiritually destructive. Thus, fasting is not about giving up something only to get it back. Fasting is about getting control of our passions, maintaining control over them, and ultimately giving control of ourselves to God.

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, Trans. by Fr. Seraphim Dedes)*

**Give some thought to your fasting plan for Lent today!**



# Following Jesus

## Kids bulletin



∞  
THE LIFE OF  
**ST. MARY**  
OF  
**EGYPT**  
∞  
manymercies.blogspot.com



MARY WAS FROM EGYPT, AND SHE LIVED A LIFE OF SHAME. ONE DAY SHE GOT ON A BOAT TO GO TO JERUSALEM.

SHE WANTED TO GO IN THE CHURCH TO SEE THE LIFE-GIVING CROSS...



...BUT SHE COULDN'T GO IN! SHE SAW AN ICON OF THE MOTHER OF GOD, AND WEPT FOR ALL HER SINS.

SHE HEARD A VOICE FROM THE HEAVENS...



∞  
"Cross the Jordan to find glorious rest."  
∞



...SO SHE WENT ACROSS THE JORDAN...



...TO THE DESERT TO PRAY FOR 47 YEARS, WITH THE HELP OF THE MOTHER OF GOD.



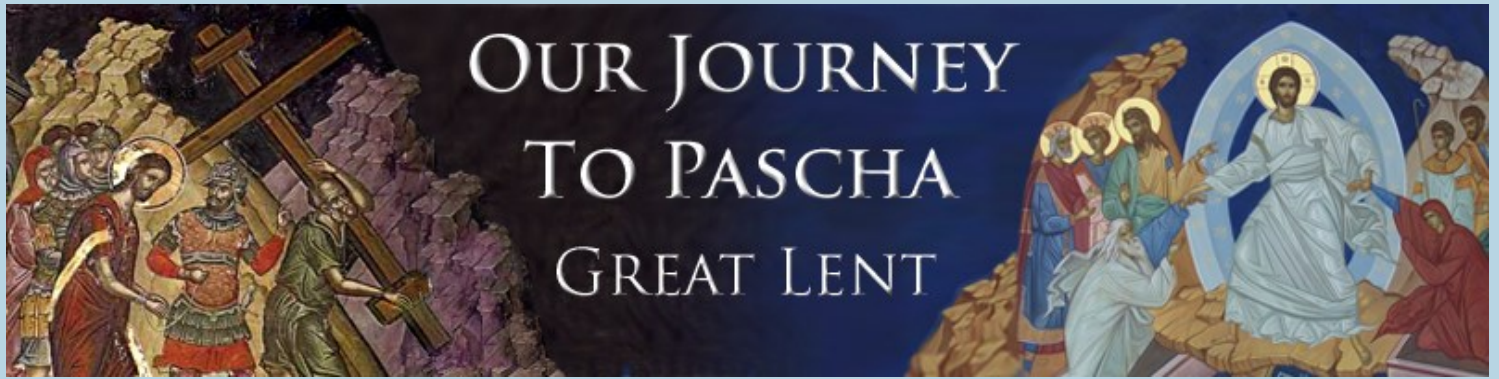
SHE MET FR. ZOSIMAS IN THE DESERT. WHEN HE BROUGHT HER HOLY COMMUNION SHE WALKED ACROSS THE JORDAN AS ON DRY LAND.

WHEN ST. MARY REPOSED, FR. ZOSIMAS COVERED HER FEET WITH HIS TEARS, AND A LION DUG HER GRAVE. LATER, FR. ZOSIMAS TOLD HER STORY TO OTHERS, BRINGING HOPE TO SINNERS AND GLORY TO GOD.



**HOLY ST. MARY OF EGYPT, PRAY TO GOD FOR US!**





SUNDAY of FORGIVENESS	SUNDAY of ORTHODOXY	SUNDAY of ST GREGORY PALAMAS	SUNDAY of the HOLY CROSS	SUNDAY of ST JOHN CLIMACUS and the LADDER	SUNDAY of ST MARY of EGYPT	SATURDAY of LAZARUS
February 14	February 21	February 28	March 7	March 14	March 21	March 27
GOSPEL Matthew 6:14-21	GOSPEL John 1:43-51	GOSPEL Mark 2:1-12	GOSPEL Mark 8:34-38, 9:1	GOSPEL Mark 9:17-31	GOSPEL Mark 10:32-45	GOSPEL John 11:1-45
MESSAGE: Adam & Eve cast out of Paradise because of food. Moses fasted for 40 days from food to see God. <b>We too begin fast</b> from food to get back into Paradise and encounter God.	MESSAGE: Icons restored by St Theodora and son Emperor Michael in 843 AD. We rejoice in <b>One Lord, One God, One Baptism, and One Faith</b> shown in icons. God sees us, as Nathaniel in Gospel	MESSAGE FROM GOSPEL: Christ heals the paralytic brought by 4 friends thru the roof and all confess - <b>Who can forgive sins but God alone?</b> Discuss His authority given to our clergy for Confession	MESSAGE: The symbol of our faith as Christians which gives us strength to <b>continue to struggle</b> in the fast until we reach the Resurrection.	MESSAGE FROM GOSPEL: Jesus says, <b>"All things are possible to him who believes."</b> and heals epileptic child. Dad cried out <b>"I believe; help my unbelief!"</b>	MESSAGE: From age 12, St Mary lived a very sinful life but at age 30 wanted to become Christian and <b>repented</b> in the desert for forgiveness. She walked on water and a lion buried her! What is repentance?	MESSAGE: One week before Christ resurrects, He shows us <b>His power over death as fully God</b> by raising Lazarus from the dead, while also weeping <b>as fully man</b> for His dear friend Lazarus.
JESUS PRAYER SONG: "Lord Jesus Christ Son of God Have Mercy on Me the Sinner"	CRAFT: Make a family icon tree using each persons' Patron Saint. Christ is the trunk.	COLORING: Icon of Christ healing paralytic	CRAFT: Making Cross necklaces with string & beads	SENTENCE SCRAMBLE  COLORING: Icon of Christ healing epileptic child	COLORING: Icon of Christ preaching repentance	ACTIVITY: Mummy Wraps with toilet paper



# LITURGICAL CALENDAR

MARCH



آذار - مارس

2021

February 2021

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						

April 2021

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	

Liturgical Symbols:

- Abstain from meat
- Church Major Feasts
- Fast from midnight until noon
- Lenten Season

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 St Eudocia Genesis 6:9-22 Proverbs 8:1-21	2 St Theodotos of Cyrene Genesis 7:1-5 Proverbs 8:32-9:1	3 Sts Eutropios, Cleonicos and Basiliscos Genesis 7:6-9 Proverbs 9:12-18	4 St Gerasimos Genesis 7:11-8:3 Proverbs 10:1-22	5 3 <sup>rd</sup> Akathist المدائح الثالثة Genesis 8:4-21 Proverbs 10:31-11:12	6 The 42 Martyrs of Amorion Hebrews 10:32-38 Mark 2:14-17
7 Veneration of Holy Cross أحد السجود للصليب الكريم Hebrews 4:14-5:6 Mark 8:34-9:1	8 St Theophylactos of Nicomedia Genesis 8:21-9:7 Proverbs 11:19-12:6	9 Forty Martyrs of Sebastea Hebrews 12:1-10 Matthew 20:1-16	10 St Codratos and his companions Genesis 9:18-10:1 Proverbs 12:23-13:9	11 St Sophronios of Jerusalem Genesis 10:32-11:9 Proverbs 13:19-14:6	12 4 <sup>th</sup> Akathist المدائح الرابعة Genesis 12:1-7 Proverbs 14:15-26	13 Relics of St Nicephoros Hebrews 6:9-12 Mark 7:31-37
14 St John Climacos القديس يوحنا السلمى Hebrews 6:13-20 Mark 9:17-31	15 St Agapios and his companions Genesis 13:12-18 Proverbs 14:27-15:4	16 St Sabinos the Egyptian Genesis 15:1-15 Proverbs 15:7-19	17 St Alexis Genesis 17:1-9 Proverbs 15:20-16:9	18 Thursday of Great Canon خميس القاتون الكبير Genesis 18:20-33 Proverbs 16:17-17:17	19 5 <sup>th</sup> Akathist المدائح الخامسة Genesis 22:1-18 Proverbs 17:17-18:5	20 Saturday of the Akathist Hebrews 9:24-28 Mark 8:27-31
21 Sunday of Mary of Egypt أحد مريم المصرية Hebrews 9:11-14 Mark 10:32-45	22 St Basil of Ancyra Genesis 27:1-41 Proverbs 19:16-25	23 St Nikon and his 200 pupils Genesis 31:3-16 Proverbs 21:3-21	24 Preparation of the Annunciation Genesis 43:26-31; 45:1-16 Proverbs 21:23-22:4	25 Annunciation عيد البشارة Hebrews 2:11-18 Luke 1:24-38	26 Synaxis of Archangel Gabriel Genesis 49:33-50:26 Proverbs 31:8-31	27 Lazarus Saturday سبت لعازر Hebrews 12:28-13:8 John 11:1-45
28 Palm Sunday أحد الشعانين Philippians 4:4-9 John 12:1-18	29 Great & Holy Monday الاثنين العظيم المقدس Ezekiel 1:1-21 Zechariah 3:14-19 Zechariah 9:9-15	30 Great & Holy Tuesday الثلاثاء العظيم المقدس Ezekiel 1:21-28 Exodus 1:1-20 Job 1:1-12	31 Great & Holy Wednesday الأربعاء العظيم المقدس Ezekiel 2:3-10, 3:1-3 Exodus 2:5-10 Job 1:13-22			

True fasting lies in rejecting evil, holding one's tongue, suppressing one's hatred and banishing one's lust, evil words, lying and betrayal of vows. *St Basil the Great*  
الصيام الحقيقي يكمن في رفض الشر، ومسك اللسان، وقمع الكراهية وابعاد الشهوة والكلام الشرير والكذب وخيانة الوعود — القديس باسيليوس الكبير

Jesus Christ, you travelled through towns and villages "curing every disease and illness."

At your command, the sick were made well.

Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow. Be with those who have died from the virus.

May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace. Be with the families of those who are sick or have died.

As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with our priests and spiritual care givers. May they know that they are loved and cared for.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks.

May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

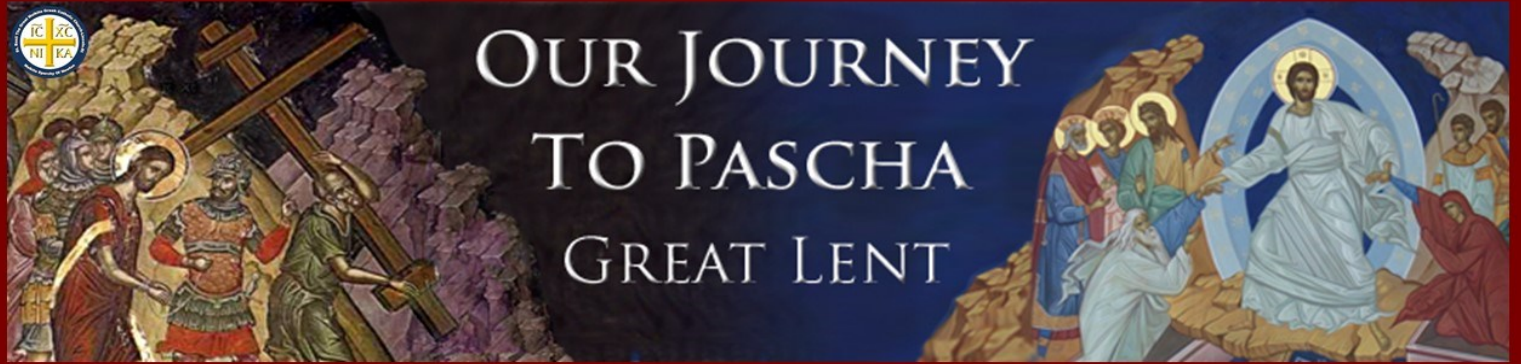
Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few,

Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace.

For You are a God of mercy, kindness, and love, and we glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



St. Basil the Great Melkite Greek Catholic Church

## Weekly Prayer Services for the Great and Holy Lent

## خدمة الصلوات الأسبوعية خلال الصوم الكبير و المقدس

Tuesday	6:30 pm	Great Compline
Wednesday	6:30 pm	Presanctified Divine Liturgy
Thursday	6:30 pm	Great Compline
Friday	6:30 pm	Akathist (Hymn to the <i>Theotokos</i> )
Saturday	4:00 pm	Divine Liturgy
Sunday	11:00 am	Divine Liturgy

الثلاثاء	الساعة 6:30 مساءً	صلاة النوم الكبرى - يارب القوات
الأربعاء	الساعة 6:30 مساءً	الإحتفال بالآقداس السابق تقديسها (البروجيازمين)
الخميس	الساعة 6:30 مساءً	صلاة النوم الكبرى - يارب القوات
الجمعة	الساعة 6:30 مساءً	صلاة المدائح لوالدة الإله الفانقة القداسة
السبت	الساعة 4:00 مساءً	الإحتفال بالقداس الإلهي
الأحد	الساعة 11:00 صباحاً	الإحتفال بالقداس الإلهي



St Basil's Melkite Greek Catholic Church

## Holy Week Liturgical Services



### PALM SUNDAY – March 28

- 4:00 pm † Divine Liturgy on Saturday: The Entrance of Our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ into Jerusalem
- 11:00 am † Divine Liturgy on Sunday: The Entrance of Our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ into Jerusalem

- 4:00 يوم السبت مساءً † الإحتفال بالقداس الإلهي-عيد دخول السيد المسيح إلى أورشليم (أحد الشعانين)
- 11:00 يوم الأحد صباحاً † الإحتفال بالقداس الإلهي-عيد دخول السيد المسيح إلى أورشليم (أحد الشعانين)



### GREAT AND HOLY WEDNESDAY – March 31

- 6:30 pm † Blessing of the Oil of the Penitents and the Lord's Last Supper commemoration at Vespers Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great with the Solemn Washing of Feet

- 6:30 مساءً † الإحتفال بالليتورجية الإلهية للقداس باسيلوس الكبير يليها رتبة تبريك الزيت و مسح المؤمنين بالزيت المقدس ثم خدمة غسل الأرجل



### GREAT AND HOLY THURSDAY – April 1

- 8:00 am to 5:00 pm † Vigil at the Foot of the Cross
- 6:30 pm † Matins Service of the Crucifixion with the reading of the Passion Gospels.

- 8:00 صباحاً حتى 5:00 مساءً † صلاة سجود و تأمل عند أقدام الصليب
- 6:30 مساءً † قراءة الأناجيل المقدسة مع خدمة الألام الخلاصية و رتبة الصليب



### GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY – Passion of Our Lord – April 2

- 6:30 pm † Burial Service of Our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ- Matins of Holy Saturday-Procession of Triumph

- 6:30 مساءً † صلاة السحر و رتبة جناز السيد المسيح تليها خدمة قبض النور ونثر الغار كعلامة إنتصار السيد المسيح على الموت



### GREAT AND HOLY SATURDAY – The Descent Into Hades – April 3

- 4:00 pm † Resurrection Matins (Rush Service) followed by the Divine Liturgy of Pascha

- 4:00 مساءً † رتبة الهجمة وخدمة القداس الإلهي إحتفالاً بعيد الفصح المجيد



### EASTER SUNDAY – Resurrection of Our Lord – April 4

- 11:00 am † Resurrection Matins (Rush Service) followed by the Divine Liturgy of Pascha

- 11:00 صباحاً † رتبة الهجمة وخدمة القداس الإلهي إحتفالاً بعيد الفصح المجيد

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

"I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live" John 11:25

*Remember me in your Kingdom*

You are invited to the Divine Liturgy for the departed  
in the Lord in the Hope of Resurrection  
On the last Wednesday of the Month at 6:30 pm

أَنَا هُوَ الْقِيَامَةُ وَالْحَيَاةُ. مَنْ آمَنَ بِي وَلَوْ مَاتَ فَسَيَحْيَا. (يو 11: 25)

**اذكرني في ملكوتك**

أدعوكم إلى القداس الإلهي

من أجل الراقدين على رجاء القيامة

في الأربعاء الأخير من كل شهر الساعة 6:30 مساءً



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



*Welcome to*

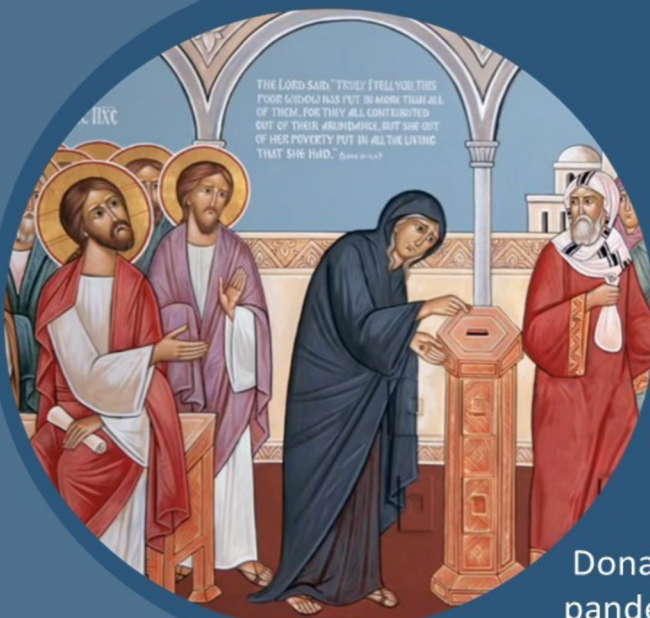
## **St. Basil The Great Melkite Greek Catholic Church**

**Check our website  
for Church news and updates at**  
[www.stbasilthegreatchurch.com](http://www.stbasilthegreatchurch.com)

**On Facebook**  
<https://www.facebook.com/StBasilMelkiteChurchRI/>

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

**Contact us for information and ideas**  
[office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com](mailto: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.

**Click here for donations** <https://bit.ly/32BgjtB>

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



*Come, take light from the Light  
That never fades...*

**Bring the Light to others:  
BE A PRIEST!**

*Melkite Eparchy of Newton ~ Office of Vocations*

*1428 Ponce de Leon Ave., NE ~ Atlanta, Georgia 30307*

*Voice: 404-373-9522 ~ Fax: 404-373-9755 ~ [www.melkite.org/vocations](http://www.melkite.org/vocations) ~ E-mail: [vocations@melkite.org](mailto:vocations@melkite.org)*



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## **St Basil the Great Church is sponsoring a \$15,000 Raffle!**

Due to the COVID-19 virus, Saint Basil's Church is unable to hold any of its annual fund raisers and has had to get creative.

We are sponsoring a raffle giving away \$15,000 in prizes:

- 1st: drawing for \$5,000
- 2nd: drawing for \$2,500
- 3rd: drawing for \$1,000
- Seven \$500 drawings
- Eight \$250 drawings
- Ten \$100 drawings



Drawing will be held the Easter weekend on April 3, 2021 with only three hundred (300) tickets to be sold at \$100 each.

For tickets or more information please contact:

- Sandra (Elias) Longtin, 401-617-8433
- Christine (Tahan) Durnin 401-474-5805.

Thank you for your continued prayer and generosity.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Seeking  
Money  
for College?**

**Apply for the Arabic Educational  
Foundation of RI**

**Arabic Educational Foundation of RI  
is now accepting college scholarship applications**

**Scholarship Applicants must meet the following  
requirements:**

**High school seniors and current undergraduates of Arabic descent  
who are or will be enrolled as full-time students at an accredited  
college for the 2021-2022 academic year**

Eligibility information and applications can be found on the AEF website or  
Facebook. For more information, Please contact  
AEF board member: Theresa McMichael at [tmcmichael@cox.net](mailto:tmcmichael@cox.net)

**DEADLINE: JUNE 1, 2020**

**VISIT [www.aef-ri.org](http://www.aef-ri.org)**

**FACEBOOK <https://bit.ly/37wNCBj>**



# Alerts and Latest Guidance

- **Social Gatherings:** as of October 30, the indoor and outdoor social gathering limit is 10 people because social gatherings have been the source of many positive cases.
- **Early closures:** All restaurants, bars, gyms, recreational facilities, and personal services must close at 10 p.m. Sunday – Thursday and at 10:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. (*Effective November 8, 2020*)
- **Stay-at-home advisory** is in effect from 10 p.m. – 5 a.m. Sunday – Thursday and from 10:30 p.m. – 5 a.m. on Friday and Saturday. (*Effective November 8, 2020*)
- **Venues of assembly:** The capacity limit for indoor venues (performing arts venues, movie theaters, houses of worship) is 50% of normal capacity with a maximum of 125 people. The limit for outdoor venues is 66% of normal capacity with a maximum of 150 people. (*Effective November 8, 2020*)
- **Catered events:** The capacity limit for indoor catered events is 25 and for outdoor catered events is 75, with exceptions for previously scheduled weddings. (*Effective November 8, 2020*)
- **Large retailers:** The capacity limit for big box stores (more than 30,000 square feet of space) is one person per 150 square feet. (*Effective November 8, 2020*)
- **Business travel:** Businesses are asked to cancel any non-essential, work-related travel. (*Effective November 8, 2020*)
- **Masks** are required any time you're near people who don't live with you, including at the gym.

## REOPENING RI

### Wear a mask that protects you and others

Wearing a face covering in public places helps protect you and anyone near you from COVID-19. **Your mask should fit snugly but comfortably over your nose, mouth, and chin without any gaps.**



#### RECOMMENDED

- Face mask worn the right way and at least two layers thick
- \* N-95 respirators are critical supplies that should be reserved for healthcare providers and other first responders



#### NOT RECOMMENDED

- Face shield alone
- Loose-fitting bandana
- Face mask with valve
- Face mask worn the wrong way
- Neck gaiter only one layer thick

Always wash your hands after handling or touching a used mask. Wash and dry cloth face coverings after use each day. Learn more about how to handle and care for your mask at [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html)

Masks should not be worn by children younger than age two, anyone who has trouble breathing, or anyone who is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the mask without help.

Last updated: 08/25/2020

# ADVERTISEMENTS

**NAYCO**

**Great Family Store**

190 Front Street  
Lincoln Shopping Center

724-7504



**Gonsalves/Pastore Realty**  
126 Broad Street, Cumberland,  
RI 02864

**V. Edward Fayan**

**Broker/Associate \* Licensed in RI & MA**

**Bus: 401-728-2770 Cell : 401-474-7279**

**Shirley A. Moon Lemay, CPIW**



**Blais**  
INSURANCE

Tel : 401-725-0070  
Fax : 401-726-2620  
P.O. Box 158, One Walker Street  
Lincoln, Rhode Island 02865

**FAYAN**  
LAW PC

[www.fayanlaw.com](http://www.fayanlaw.com)

**Keith E. Fayan, Esq.**

Hope Artiste Village  
1005 Main Street, Unit 1204  
Pawtucket, RI-02860  
T: 401-475-2755 F: 401-223-6387  
kef@fayanlaw.com  
Admitted in Mass & RI

**Diamond**  
 **Cleaners**

A Brilliant Choice!

**Carl J. Sahady**

President  
Narragansett Shopping Plaza  
(Next to Stop & Shop)  
Pawtucket, Rhode Island

**Park Printers, Inc**

**Service-Quality-Affordability**

Full service Printing since 1976  
496 Power Road, Pawtucket, RI  
401-728-8650



"NO JOB TOO BIG"

**THE AFFORDABLE  
PLUMBER & SON**  
**401.255.6996**



"NO JOB TOO SMALL"

**Elie Jewelers**

"CUSTOMIZE YOUR DREAMS"

SPECIALIZING IN CUSTOM MADE JEWELRY & ON-SITE  
JEWELRY AND WATCH REPAIR WHILE YOU WAIT  
CASH 4 \*GOLD/SILVER/DIAMONDS/PLATINUM\*  
SAMI KARRAZ, PRESIDENT - 508-643-3543  
ELIEJEWELERS@COMCAST.NET  
999 SOUTH WASHINGTON ST., N. ATTLEBORO, MA 02760  
(EMERALD SQUARE MALL LOCATED ON THE FIRST FLOOR)

**Feel Better Live Better**

**ELITE**  
PHYSICAL THERAPY

YOUR HEALTH. YOUR CHOICE.

**Lincoln: 401.475.6599**

**PATRICIA MELKOUN VP of Administration**

[www.elitephysicaltherapy.com](http://www.elitephysicaltherapy.com)

[pmelkoun@elitephysicaltherapy.com](mailto:pmelkoun@elitephysicaltherapy.com)

Lincoln: 401.475.6599  
Cranston: 401.533.9616  
N. Smithfield: 401.597.5840  
Warwick: 401.737.4581  
E. Greenwich: 401.398.7988  
Providence: 401.276.0800  
Coventry: 401.615.3140

**Northeast**  
INVESTMENT GROUP



**Jeffrey M. Boudjouk**  
Managing Partner - Wealth Advisor  
[jeff@northeastinvestmentgroup.com](mailto:jeff@northeastinvestmentgroup.com)

**Phone:** 401-213-8315 • **Toll Free:** 855-232-6748 • **eFax:** 401-329-0039  
1000 Chapel View Blvd., Suite 200 • Cranston, RI 02920  
[www.northeastinvestmentgroup.com](http://www.northeastinvestmentgroup.com)

If you wish to advertise your  
business in our weekly bulletin,  
please email  
[office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com](mailto:office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com)



**kw** LEADING  
EDGE  
KELLERWILLIAMS  
REAL ESTATE

**Thinking About Selling?**  
Contact Justin for a Complimentary Home Valuation



**Justin Dower**

Listing Specialist & Realtor®  
Licensed in RI, MA & NY

**(631) 466-1399**

Find me: [Justin.SpectrumREC.com](http://Justin.SpectrumREC.com)



Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated Equal Housing Opportunity



# ADVERTISEMENTS

## MASSUD & SONS FLOOR COVERING, INC. ESTABLISHED 1972

(401) 724-6674

772 Dexter Street., Central Falls, RI

[www.massudflooring.com](http://www.massudflooring.com)

Carpets-Vinyl-Hardwood-Laminate-Ceramic Tile

*"Come See The Massud Family Today"*

**FAMILY  
OWNED & OPERATED  
FOR OVER 48 YEARS!**

[Schedule your appointment](#)



**JAMES M. PROCTER**

SALES MANAGER

NMLS# 23362

TOLL FREE : 844-500-5552X3501

DIRECT : 401-589-1601

MOBILE : 401-744-1532

E-FAK : 866-449-9855

JAMES.PROCTER@NATIONSLENDING.COM

800 OAKLAWN AVE. SUITE C-201, CRANSTON, RI 02920

## New England Stone

15 Branch Pike

Smithfield, RI 02917

(401) 232-2040

Monuments . Benches . Paving Blocks



**Lila Delman**  
Real Estate

**MICHELLE H. LEFRANCOIS**

Sales Associate

369 South Main St.

Providence, RI 02903

401-274-1644

M 401-935-5854

F 401-331-1719

E Michelle.Lefrancois@LilaDelman.com

**JOSEPH RAHEB  
ATTORNEY AT LAW**

650 WASHINGTON HIGHWAY  
LINCOLN, RHODE ISLAND 02865  
401-333-3377

**STEPHEN M. CUSHMAN, CPA., MST**



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

401-274-8400

Fax : 401-274-9242

Email: [steve@mlcpa.com](mailto:steve@mlcpa.com)

webpage: [mlcpa.com](http://mlcpa.com)



## Offshore Seafood

'Quality at its best'

Fresh Frozen

Bob Marcoux 401-737-3763

**JAMES A. BRIDEN**

Attorney At Law

**Blais Cunningham & Crowe Chester, LLP**

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

[www.Blaislaw.com](http://www.Blaislaw.com)

401-723-1122

Fax : 401-726-6140

Email : [jbriden@blaislaw.com](mailto:jbriden@blaislaw.com)

**REGAL CONSULTING GROUP**  
REAL ESTATE CONSULTING AND VALUATION

**MICHAEL P. LEFRANCOIS JR.**

PRESIDENT & CHIEF CONSULTANT

640 GEORGE WASHINGTON HWY-BLDG B

SUITE 103-LINCOLN RI 02865

401-626-6619

[MIKE@REGALCGROUP.COM](mailto:MIKE@REGALCGROUP.COM)

## COSTIGAN - O'NEILL FUNERAL HOME



Phone: (401) 723-4035  
220 COTTAGE STREET • PAWTUCKET, RI 02860

**John H. O'Neill  
Vincent P. O'Neill**

*"Catholic Funeral Directors"*

FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATION SERVICES



**Navigant**  
CREDIT UNION

Proud to be part of your community.

401.233.4700 — [www.navigantcu.org](http://www.navigantcu.org)

**New location:**

3102 Mendon Rd. Cumberland, RI 02864

Phone: (401) 658-1155