



March 14th 2021

ST. BASIL THE GREAT MELKITE GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH

Address :
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Lincoln, Rhode Island 02865

Parish Website :
www.stbasilthegreatchurch.com

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

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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 Father John Climacus Fourth Sunday of Lent

تذكار ابينا البار يوحنا السلمي الاحد الرابع من الصوم المقدس

Antiphon Prayer

O Lord, Lover of mankind, You saved the people of Niniva as they repented, fasting and weeping. Have mercy on us, for we fall short of any defense. And since You are compassionate, strengthen in our hearts our faith in your name and steady our footsteps in the way of your Commandments.

For You are good and forbearing, O our God, 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 (8th tone)

O Merciful One, Who came down from on high and endured burial for three days in order to save us from suffering. O our Life and our Resurrection, glory to you.

Troparion of St. John Climacus, (8th Tone)

Your abundant tears made the wilderness to sprout and bloom, and your deep sighs of love made your labors fruitful a hundredfold; you became a shining star showering miracle upon the world. Holy Father John, pray to Christ God that He may save our souls.

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 الأنديفون

أيها الربُّ المحبُّ البشر، لقد خلّصتَ أهلَ نينوى لَمَّا تابوا بالصَّوم والدموع. فأرأفْ بنا نحن العاجزين عن كلِّ جواب. فبما أنك حنون، وظد في قلوبنا الإيمان باسمك، وثبّت خطواتنا في سبيل وصاياك

لأنك إله صالح وطويل الأناة، وإليك نرفعُ المجد أيها الأب والابن والروح القدس، الآن وكلَّ أوان وإلى دهر الدهرين.

نشيد القيامة باللحن الثامن

إنحدرت من العلاء أيها التحنن، وقبِلت الدفن ثلاثة أيام، لكي تعتقنا من الآلام، فيا حياتنا وقيامتنا، يا رب المجد لك.

نشيد للبار يوحنا السلمي مؤلف كتاب "سُلَم الفضائل" (على اللحن الثامن)

بسيول دموعك أخصب القفر العقيم. وبزفرائك العميقة أثمرت أتعابك مئة ضعف. فصرت للمسكونة كوكباً متألئناً بالعجائب يا أبانا البار يوحنا. فاشفع إلى المسيح الإله في خلاص نفوسنا.

طروبارية القديس باسيليوس

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





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 4th Sunday of Lent, Hebrews 6: 13- 20 Prokimenon (Tone 7) Psalm 28:11, 1

The Lord will give strength to his people; the Lord will bless his people with peace.

Stichon: Give to the Lord. You sons of God, give to the Lord glory and praise.

Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews

Brethren, when God made his promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater to swear by, he swore by himself, saying, "I will surely bless you, and will surely multiply you Gn.22: 14)." And so, after patient waiting, Abraham obtained the promise. For men swear by one greater than themselves, and an oath given as a guarantee is the final settlement of all their disagreements. Hence God, meaning to show more abundantly to the heirs of the promise the firmness of his will interposed an oath, so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to deceive, we may have the strongest comfort — we who have sought refuge in holding fast the hope set before us. This hope we have as a sure and firm anchor of the soul, reaching even behind the veil where our forerunner Jesus has entered for us, as he became a high priest forever according to the order of Melchisedek.

Alleluia (Tone 7), Psalm 91:1,2

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High!

Stichon: To proclaim your kindness at dawn and your faithfulness throughout the night.

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

At that time one of the crowd came to Jesus and bowed to him saying: "Master, I have brought to you my son, who has a dumb spirit; and whenever it seizes him it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth; and he is wasting away. And I told your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." And he, answering him, said, "O unbelieving generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring him to me." And they brought him to him; and the spirit, when it saw Jesus, immediately threw the boy in convulsions, and he fell down on the ground and rolled about foaming at the mouth. So he asked his father, "How long is it since this has come upon him?" And he said, "From his infancy. Oftentimes, it has thrown him into the fire and into the waters to destroy him. But if you can do anything have compassion on us and help us." But Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to the man of faith." At once the father of the boy cried out and said with tears, "I do believe; help my unbelief." Now when Jesus saw that a crowd was rapidly gathering, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, go out of him and enter him no more." And crying out and violently convulsing him, it went out of him, and he became like one dead, so that many said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand, and raised him and he stood up. And when he had come into the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And he said to them, "This kind can be cast out in no way except by prayer and fasting." And leaving that place, they were passing through Galilee, and he did not wish anyone to know it. For he was teaching his disciples, and saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and having been killed, he will rise again on the third day."

نشيد الختام

تَحْرِ عِبْدِكَ يَا وَالِدَةَ الْإِلَهِ، نَكُنْتُ لَكَ آيَاتِ الْغَلْبَةِ يَا قَائِدَةَ قَاهِرَةِ. وَنُقَدِّمُ الشُّكْرَ لَكَ وَقَدْ أَنْقَذَنَا مِنَ الشَّدَائِدِ. لَكِنْ بِمَا أَنَّ لَكَ الْعِزَّةَ الَّتِي لَا تُخَارَبُ، أَغْتَفِقِينَا مِنْ أَصْنَافِ الْمَخَاطِرِ لِكَيْ نَضْرِبَ إِلَيْكَ: أَفْرَاجِي يَا غَزُوسَةً لَا غَزُوسَ لَهَا.

النشيد لوالدة الإله

إن البرايا 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 إلهاً قبل الدهور. الذي صنع مستودعك عرشاً، وجعل بطنك أرحب من السماوات. لذلك يا ممتلئة نعمة، تفرح بك كل البرايا وتمجّدك!

مقدمة رسالة الاحد الرابع من الصوم

الرب يؤتي شعبه قوة، الرب يبارك شعبه بالسلام قدّموا للرب يا أبناء الله، قدّموا للرب أبناء الكباش

الرسالة (عبرانيين 6: 13 – 20)

يا إخوة، ان الله عند وعده لإبراهيم، أذ لم يكن له أن يقسم بما هو أعظم منه، أقسم بنفسه قائلاً: لأباركك بركة وأكثرتك كثيراً. وهكذا إذ تأتى نال الموعد. وإنما الناس يقسمون بما هو أعظم منهم، وتنقضي كل مُشَاجَرَة بينهم بالقسم للتثبيت. لذلك لما شاء الله أن يزيد وَرَثَة الموعد بياناً لعدم تحول عزمه، تَوَسَّطَ يقسم، حتى نحصل بأمرين لا يتحولان ولا يُمكن أن يحلف الله فيهما، على تعزية قوية، نحن الذين التجأنا إلى التمسك بالرجاء الموضوع أمامنا. الذي هو لنا كمرساة للنفس أمانة وراسخة. وهو يُدخل إلى داخل الحجاب، حيث دخل يسوع كسابق لأجلنا، صائراً رئيس كهنه إلى الأبد على رتبة ملكيصادق.

هللوا

صالح الاعتراف للرب، والترنيم لاسمك أيها العلي لُبْخَر برحمتك في الغداة، وبيحّك كلّ ليله.

الانجيل - الاحد الرابع من الصوم (مرقس 9: 17 – 31)

في ذلك الزمان، دنا إلى يسوع انسانٌ وسجد له قائلاً: يا معلم، قد أتيتك بابني به روح ابكم. وحيثما اعتراه بصرعه فيزيد ويصرف بأسنانه ويبيس. وقد قلت لتلاميذك أن يخرجوه فلم يقدرُوا. فأجابه قائلاً: أيها الجيل الغير المؤمن، إلى متى أكون عندكم وحتى متى أحتلمكم؟ هلم به إلّ. فأتوا به إلّ. فلما رآه للوقت صرعه الروح، فسقط علي الأرض يترع ويترع. فسأل أباه: منذ كم من الزمان أصابه هذا؟ فقال منذ صباه. وكثيراً ما ألقاه في النار وفي المياه ليُهلّكه، لكن إن استطعت شيئاً فتحنّ علينا وأغننا. فقال له يسوع: إن استطعت أن تؤمن فكل شيء ممكن للمؤمن. فصاح أبو الصبي لساعته بدموع وقال: إني أؤمن يا رب، فأعن قلّة إيماني. فلما رأى يسوع أن الجمع يتبادرون إليه، انتهز الروح النجس قائلاً له: أيها الروح الأصم الأبكم، أنا أمرك أن اخرج منه ولا تغد إليه من بعد. فصرخ وخبطه كثيراً وخرج منه، فصار كالصبي حتى قال كثيرون إنه قد مات. فأخذ يسوع بيده وأنهضه فقام. ولما دخل البيت سأله تلاميذه على انفراد: لماذا لم نستطيع نحن أن نخرجه؟ فقال لهم: إن هذا الجنس لا يمكن أن يخرج بشيء إلا بالصلاة والصوم. ولما خرجوا من هناك، اجتازوا في الجليل، ولم يكن يريد أن يدري أحد. وكان يعلم تلاميذه ويقول لهم: إن ابن الإنسان سيُسَلَّم إلى أيدي الناس فيقتلونه، وبعد أن يُقتل يقوم في اليوم الثالث.

Our church organizations:

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

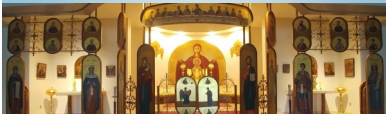
<https://melkite.org/maya>

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

www.stbasilthegreatchurch.com/myo.html

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

<https://melkite.org/namw>



HAPPY PRIESTHOOD ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY!

This Saturday, March 13, 2021,

Fr. Joe

will celebrate his 55th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood

We offer our heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to

Fr. Joe

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

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





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 7, 2021: Budgets: \$4,091.00: Envelopes: \$4,060.00; Loose: \$31.00; Stipends: \$375.00; Candles: \$71.00; Fuel: \$241.00; Building Fund: \$45.00; Addit'l Melkite Support: \$65.00; St. Vincent de Paul to Community Fund: \$300.00; St. Vincent de Paul for Palms: \$600.00; St. Vincent de Paul for Cemetery Maintenance: \$600.00; Addit'l Cemetery Budget: \$10.00.

TODAY, March 13 & 14, 2021, there will be a special collection taken up for the **UPKEEP, MAINTENANCE, and IMPROVEMENT OF THE CEMETERY**. Please give wholeheartedly to our loved ones who sleep in the Lord.

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.

PRAYERS FOR FR. DANIEL NASSANEY: Fr. Dan is still under the care of DANA FARBER CANCER RESEARCH HOSPITAL in Boston, MA. He has undergone a number of radiation treatments already out of the 25 needed, and if all goes well, the removal of the tumor could be in April. Please continue to remember him in your prayers, as he in turn remembers you. 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 16	- Great Compline	Friday, March 19	- Akathist Hymn
Wednesday, March 17	- Divine Liturgy	Saturday, March 20	- Divine Liturgy
Thursday, March 18	- Great Compline	Sunday, March 21	- 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: Deal with the faults of others as gently as your own. (Chinese Proverb).





Divine Liturgy Intentions



TODAY, SATURDAY, MARCH 13, AND SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 2021: FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT. SUNDAY OF ST. JOHN CLIMACUS.

4:00 p.m. DIVINE LITURGY:

- + **REV. ARCHDEACON GEORGE YANY** by Alberta Mardo.
- + **ANGELA MAZZONE** by George & Jeanne Harraka.
- + **GEORGE KAHLA** by Michael L. Koussa, Jr.
- + **JOSEPH HARRAKA** by Niece Barbara & Doug Knapp & Family
- + **MARY TAHAN** by Sandra Longtin.
- + **VICTORIA PROCHNIAK** by Mrs. Sally T. Gravino.
- + **YVONNE HAGGAR COLABELLA** by George & Dolores Hajjar & Family (CT)
- + **JAY PAUL** by his parents, Dr. & Mrs. Biswa N. Paul.
- + **JAMES N. ALLAM** by Pat-Luc St. Germain.

11:00 a.m. DIVINE LITURGY:

- + **SAMUEL SABBAGH (7th Anniv.)** by his wife Margaret & Family.
- + **FAOUZIEH ALAM** by her Family.
- + **MICHAEL ALAM** by Najat Khoury Madour & Family.
- + **ADEL ALBATAL** by Neil & Yola Karraz & Family.
- + **MARIE CLAIRE CHOUHA** by Vicky Boudjouk.
- + **ALBERT ALBA, SR.** by the Alba Family.
- + **LINDA ALKHOULY HADDAD** by Barbara & Elias Deeb.
- + **LOUIS P. KISHFY** by M/M Michael Raheb.
- + **YOUSSEF AGHIA** by George Madour.
- + **GEORGETTE A. SAGGAL** by M/M Marco Pacheco & Family.
- + **ROBERT D. KING, SR.** by Janet, Tony, Andree Charchafiah & Family.
- + **RUTH PERRY** by Kenneth, Ann, Allyson & Kimberly Sabbagh.
- + **JOSEPH P. AZAR, JR.** by Riad & Souhair Khoury.
- + **ROSE KHOURY** by Dr. Roland & Micheline Ghanem.
- + **GEORGE BOUDJOUK** by Robert & Katie Gaboriault.
- + **YOUSSEF MADOUR** by Faiz Albatal & Family.
- + **YUSUF & BLANCHE MUSSALLI** by Ronald & Stacey Raheb.
- + **GEORGE DECKEY** by Gloria Deckey & Family.
- + **GEORGEANNA DECKEY** by Dennis Dakake.
- + **ELIAS J. KISHFY** by Rose Alba & Family.
- + **JULIA & FRED KISHFY** by the Family.
- + **ALBERT J. KISHFY** by M/M Justin Boudjouk & Family.
- + **FRANCIS A. SAGGAL** by Patrick, Mary, Brooke & J.P. Saggal.
- + **JAY PAUL** by his parents, Dr. & Mrs. Biswa N. Paul.
- + **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.



The Ladder of Divine Ascent

An important part of understanding our spiritual lives as an ascent, is the possibility of falling down a few rungs, or even completely off the ladder, which is the reality that we constantly face. In fact, the classic icon of St. John and his ladder clearly depicts the successful ascent of those truly holy and spiritually advanced monks, versus those who have succumb to various passions, causing them to fall into the pit of hell.

As we continue on our Lenten journey, I would like to share a few thoughts and reflections on this holiest period of the liturgical year, as well as Holy and Great Week.

During the remaining period of Great Lent, there are two particular Sundays on which I would like to focus. The first of these Sundays, which is the fourth Sunday of the Fast, is dedicated to the memory of St. John Climacus, or St. John of the Ladder.

St. John is commemorated during Lent because of his great spiritual work called The Ladder of Divine Ascent. Although this work was written specifically for the monastic world, the author being a monk himself, St. John's "Ladder" is a classic work of Orthodox spirituality that speaks to all members of the Church, in all places and in all times. His book presents us with a spiritual ladder ascending to heaven, with each rung representing a particular vice or passion to be conquered in order to proceed upward. The approach is very straightforward and logical, being that going that next step in our spiritual growth necessitates overcoming the sinful obstacles, which have kept us in the state where we presently find ourselves.

An important part of understanding our spiritual lives as an ascent, is the possibility of falling down a few rungs, or even completely off the ladder, which is the reality that we constantly face. In fact, the classic icon of St. John and his ladder clearly depicts the successful ascent of those truly holy and spiritually advanced monks, versus those who have succumb to various passions, causing them to fall into the pit of hell.

The following Sunday, the fifth Sunday of the Fast, we commemorate our Venerable Mother, Mary the Egyptian. This former prostitute who sought tearful reconciliation with Christ and became a desert wanderer in order to live out her repentance, is the example par excellence, of the repentant sinner. Her story is quite moving, and very motivating to anyone who is unrepentant and continues to carry the burden of sin.

The Church, in Her Spirit-filled great wisdom, places the memory of St. Mary of Egypt on the last Sunday of Great Lent, as a spiritual "wake-up" call to us to finish the race and accomplish the goal of sincere repentance. If we have truly made some serious efforts during Great Lent, then we hopefully have reached the point of repentance which will lead us to the holy mystery of confession, prior to the celebration of



the Lord's passion and resurrection. We must remember that repentance and confession are key components of the spiritual life, because without them there is no true spiritual life, but only a meager attempt, at best.

So thus, Great Lent comes to a close during the week after the Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt. Specifically, Lent ends on the following Friday at the reading of the 9th hour, immediately preceding the vespers of St. Lazarus, included in the service of the Presanctified Gifts. Many of our faithful do not realize that the forty day fast ends on this particular Friday, and that Holy Week is separate from Great Lent, standing on its own as a solemn week of strict fasting in commemoration of the last days of our Lord on earth. This is important to know, because the focus of Great Lent and Holy Week are different.

Great Lent is a time for deep, personal reflection. The entire spirit of the forty day fast, is that of an intense spiritual journey that brings us back to God through our spiritual efforts, in order to be properly prepared for Holy Pascha, the greatest of all feasts. In contrast, Holy and Great Week is totally focused on the Lord and His passion and burial, hence the strict fast. In Holy Week, we follow the Lord during His last days, and hear his final teachings and warnings about the Kingdom of Heaven and His second glorious coming to earth for the final judgment. As we all know and have experienced each year, the darkness of Holy Week gradually gives way to the brightness and joy of the Resurrection. This is most profoundly exemplified in the Orthros of Holy Saturday, popularly known as the Epitaphios Lamentation, celebrated on Holy Friday evening.

Beloved in Christ, our Orthodox Church is at its absolute best, so to speak, during Great Lent and especially Holy Week. This is not to say that there is anything inferior about the remainder of the liturgical year, which in reality, is actually a reflection of Holy Pascha, which gives light and life to everything we do in the Church. It is precisely because of the magnitude of the feast of Pascha, that such liturgical beauty experienced through hymnography and ritual is presented to the faithful for their spiritual edification.

May we all take advantage of what remains of Great Lent, and thus, be prepared to enter Holy and Great Week with eager anticipation and love for the Bridegroom Christ. This should be the highlight of the year for each and every Orthodox Christian who truly loves the Church.

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



● الصمت بمعرفة هو أم للصلاة وقرين للهدوء ومبدع للتأمل وتقدم خفي وصعود غير منظور.

● صديق الصمت يقترب من الله واذا يناجيه سراً يستنير بنوره.

● إن عقل الصوم يصلي بأفكار طاهرة.

● من يفتكر ويحس كل الإحساس أنه واقف يصلي أمام الله تراه عاموداً ثابتاً لا يميل.

● من يشاء أن يغلب روح النميمة فلا ينسب المذمة إلى من يزل بل إلى الشيطان الذي يوجي، لأنه لا يوجد إنسان يريد أن يخطأ حقيقةً إلى الله. بالرغم من أننا نخطأ جميعاً دون أن نكون مجبرين على ذلك.

● كل رذيلة غير الضجر تبطل فضيلة واحدة أما الضجر فهو موت كامل لكل فضائل الراهب.

● الوادعة هي أن يبتهل المرء من أجل قريبه الذي يثير فيه الاضطراب ابتهاًلاً خالصاً خالياً من الإحساس بالاضطراب.

● الوادعة باعثة على السرور وتشبه بالمسيح وخاصة ملائكية.

● في قلوب الودعاء يستقر الرب ويستريح.

● متى ابتدأ مادحونا بامتداحنا فلنذكر سريعاً آثامنا، فنجد أنفسنا غير أهل لما يُقال فينا أو يُعمل إكراماً لنا.

● اجلد محاربك باسم يسوع فإنه ليس من سلاح أقوى في السماء وعلى الأرض.

● الصبور مجاهد لا يسقط بل من خلال السقطات يصنع لنفسه الظفر.

● حيثما حلت سقطة فهناك سبقت وسكنت الكبرياء، لأن حضور هذه يؤذن بحلول تلك.

● إننا لن نستطيع أن نجد عذراً، لا عن سقطة ولا عن إضاعة وقت، وليس من سبيل للاحتجاج بثقل الوصايا لأن جميع الذين لبسوا المسيح بحميم المعمودية قد أعطاهم الرب سلطاناً أن يصيروا أولاد الله.

● ورث أبناءك قبل كل شيء إيماناً خالصاً وعقيدة سليمة، وهكذا تقود إلى الرب في طريق استقامة الرأي ليس فقط أبناءك بل أبناء

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.

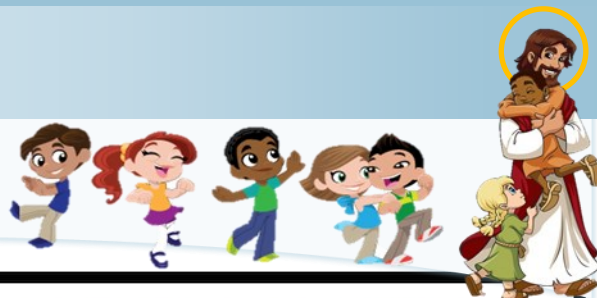
Again, Lent is not a season of deprivation, nor should we "give up" something only to get it back once Lent is over. Lent is about repentance, and making small and permanent changes to bring us closer to the Lord, changes that will last long after Lent is over. This is the purpose of the Lenten journey.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



OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA! 2021

Edited by Bohdan Vasylyv for UGCC

Created by Fr. Jonathan Bannon (ACROD)

SUNDAYS

THEMES / GOSPEL READING

HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

Fast - Free Week
JANUARY 24th



TRIODION WEEKS
Publican and the Pharisee
Epistle: 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
JANUARY 31st



The Prodigal Son Returns!
Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20
Gospel: Luke 15:11-32

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

Meatfare
FEBRUARY 7th
FAREWELL TO MEAT TODAY



The Last Judgement
Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2
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 14th
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.

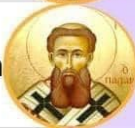
1st Sunday of Lent
FEBRUARY 21st



GREAT LENT BEGINS WITH FORGIVENESS VESPERS
SUNDAY of ORTHODOXY
Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2
Gospel: John 1:43-51

Bring an icon to church for a procession.

2nd Sunday of Lent
FEBRUARY 28th



ST GREGORY PALAMAS
Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3
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 7th



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
MARCH 14th



ST JOHN of the LADDER
Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20
Gospel: Mark 9:17-31

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
MARCH 21st



ST MARY of EGYPT
Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14
Gospel: Mark 10:32-45

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

FLOWERY (PALM) SUNDAY!
MARCH 28th
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 2nd



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

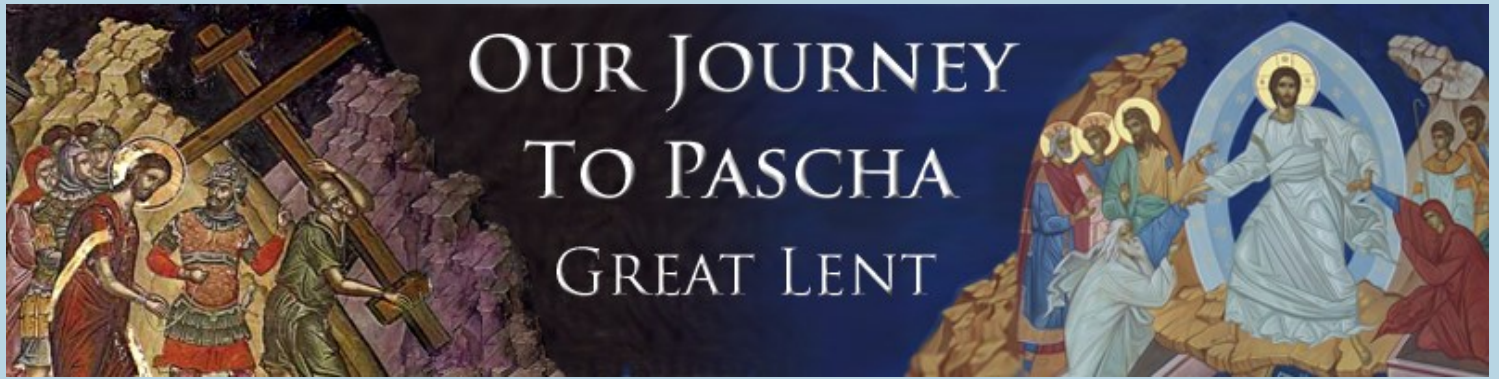
Refrain from TV, Internet & Phones to honor Christ's Death.

FEAST OF FEASTS!
APRIL 4th
NO FASTING!



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 goodnight!



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. We too begin fast 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 One Lord, One God, One Baptism, and One Faith 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 - Who can forgive sins but God alone? Discuss His authority given to our clergy for Confession	MESSAGE: The symbol of our faith as Christians which gives us strength to continue to struggle in the fast until we reach the Resurrection.	MESSAGE FROM GOSPEL: Jesus says, "All things are possible to him who believes." and heals epileptic child. Dad cried out "I believe; help my unbelief!"	MESSAGE: From age 12, St Mary lived a very sinful life but at age 30 wanted to become Christian and repented 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 His power over death as fully God by raising Lazarus from the dead, while also weeping as fully man 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, Cleonikos and Basiliscos Genesis 7:6-9 Proverbs 9:12-18	4 St Gerasimos Genesis 7:11-8:3 Proverbs 10:1-22	5 3 rd 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 th 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 th 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 الوعد - 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.

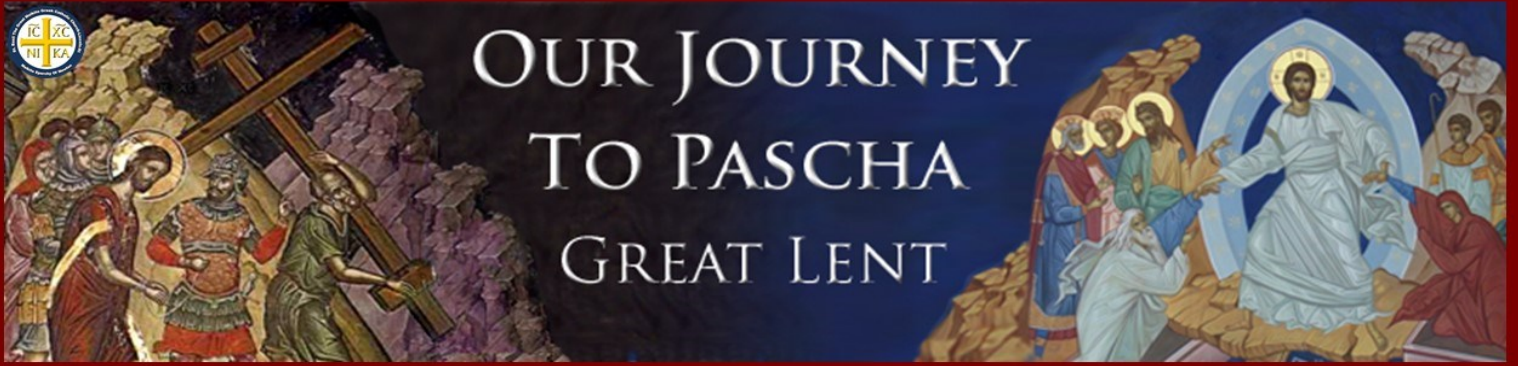
May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

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	الثلاثاء	الساعة 6:30 مساءً	صلاة النوم الكبرى - يا رب القوات
Wednesday	6:30 pm	Presanctified Divine Liturgy	الأربعاء	الساعة 6:30 مساءً	الإحتفال بالآقداص السابق تقديسها (البروجيازمين)
Thursday	6:30 pm	Great Compline	الخميس	الساعة 6:30 مساءً	صلاة النوم الكبرى - يا رب القوات
Friday	6:30 pm	Akathist (Hymn to the Theotokos)	الجمعة	الساعة 6:30 مساءً	صلاة المدائح لوالدة الإله الفانقة القداسة
Saturday	4:00 pm	Divine Liturgy	السبت	الساعة 4:00 مساءً	الإحتفال بالقداس الإلهي
Sunday	11:00 am	Divine Liturgy	الأحد	الساعة 11:00 صباحاً	الإحتفال بالقداس الإلهي

"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 الراقيدين على رجاء القيامة

في الأربعاء الأخير من كل شهر الساعة 6:30 مساءً

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Welcome to

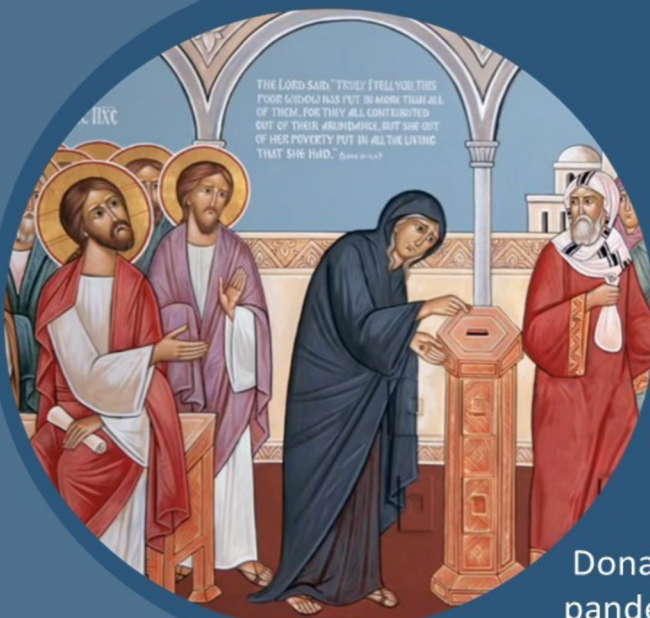
St. Basil The Great Melkite Greek Catholic Church

**Check our website
for Church news and updates at**
www.stbasilthegreatchurch.com

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

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

Contact us for information and ideas
office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com



"GOD LOVES THE CHEERFUL GIVER"

2 COR 9:7

Donations are greatly appreciated especially during this pandemic crisis. Please click on the link below to donate.

Thank you and God bless you and yours.

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 ~ E-mail: 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

DEADLINE: JUNE 1, 2020

VISIT 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

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

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