



April 9th, 2023

ST. BASIL THE GREAT MELKITE GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH

Address

15 Skyview Drive
Lincoln, Rhode Island 02865

Tel (401) 722-1345

Parish Website

www.stbasilthegreatchurch.com

Facebook

[https://www.facebook.com/
StBasilTheGreatMelkiteGreek
CatholicChurchRI/](https://www.facebook.com/StBasilTheGreatMelkiteGreekCatholicChurchRI/)

YouTube

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

Email

office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com

Office hours

Tue-Fri 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Divine Liturgies

Sunday Divine Liturgy
9:00 AM - 11:15 AM

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

Holy Mysteries

Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will
be available before the Divine
Liturgy or by appointment

Baptism

Please arrange with the pastor

Marriage

A notice of at least 6 months should
be given to the pastor, before the
proposed wedding date to arrange
for the required interview and
instructions



Glorious Resurrection of our Lord

أحد الفصح العظيم المقدس

Antiphon Prayer

Almighty Word of God, Who rose from the tomb and appeared to your beloved ones, show us the prints of the nails and the wound of your side. Strengthen our faith so that we April confess before the world that by your suffering, You healed the sufferings of our souls and by your glorious Resurrection, you granted mankind a pledge of their own resurrection.

For You are our Light and our Resurrection, O Christ God, and to You we render glory and to your Eternal Father and your All-holy, Good and Life-giving Spirit, now and always and forever and ever.

Troparion of Pascha, 3 times

Christ is risen from the dead and by His death He has trampled upon death; and has given life to those who were in the tomb.

Hypacoi of Pascha

Mary and her companions went forth before dawn. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb and heard the angel say, "Why do you seek Him as a man among the dead, when He is in eternal splendor? Behold, the shroud is laid aside. Hasten and proclaim to the world that the Lord is risen and has put Death to death, for He is the Son of God, the Savior of mankind.

صلوة الأنديفوننة

أيها الكلمة القدير، يا من قام من القبر وأتى أحباءه، أرنا آثار المسامير وطعنة جنبك، وثبت إيماننا، لكي نعتزف أمام الجميع بأذك نألمت فشفيت آلام نفوسنا، وقمت من بين الأموات فوهبت للعالم عربون القيامة بقيامتك المجيدة. لأنك أنت نورنا وقيامتنا، أيها المسيح الإله، واليك نرفع المجد، وإلى أبوك الأزلي وروحك القدس، الآن وكل أوان وإلى دهر الدهرين.
آمين.

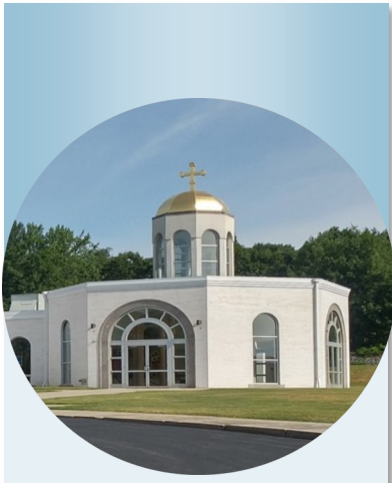
طروبارية العيد باللحن الخامس (3 مرات)

المسيح قام من بين الأموات ووطيء الموت بالموت ووهب الحياة للذين في القبور (ثلاثاً)

الايباكوي باللحن الرابع

سبقت الصبح اللواتي كن مع مريم، فوجدن الحجر مُدحرجاً عن القبر. وسمعن من الملاك: لم تطلبن من هو في الضوء الأزلي بين الموتى كإنسان؟ أنظرن لفائف الأكفان. أسرعن وبشرن العالم بأن الرب قد قام وأمات الموت، لأنه أبن الله المخلص جنس البشر.





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>



Kondakion of Pascha

Though You went down in the tomb, O immortal One, You overthrew the power of Hades and rose victorious, O Christ God. You greeted the ointment bearing women, saying "Rejoice!" You gave peace to Your apostles, and to those who had Fallen resurrection.

Instead of the Trisagion: All of you who have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ, Alleulia.

The Epistle: Acts of the Apostles: 1: 1-9

PROKIMENON (Tone 8)

This is the day the Lord has made: let us be glad and rejoice in it! Stichon: Give praise to the Lord, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever.

READING from the Acts of the Apostles

In the preceding book, Theophilus, I was concerned with everything Jesus did and taught from the beginning, until the day he was taken up, after giving commandments through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. To them also he showed himself alive after his passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about God's kingdom. And while eating with them, he told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for the Father's promise, "of which you have heard," he said, "by my mouth. For while John baptized with water, you shall be baptized in the Holy Spirit within a few days." Now, those gathered there questioned him, asking, "Lord, is it now that you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" But he answered them, "It is not for you to know the times or the proper moments the Father has set by his own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you shall be witnesses to me in Jerusalem, and in Judea and Samaria, and even to the very ends of the earth."

ALLELUIA (Tone 4)

You shall arise and have mercy upon Sion, for the time to pity her, the right time has come. Stichon: The Lord has looked down from heaven upon all the sons of men.

Gospel of Pascha: John 1: 1-17 (In the beginning was the Word)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God; and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was made nothing that has been made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness; and the darkness grasped it not. There was a man, one sent from God, whose name was John. This man came as a witness, to bear witness concerning the light, that all might believe through him. He was not himself the light, but was to bear witness to the light. It was the true light that enlightens every man who comes into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, and the world knew him not. He came to his own, and his own received him not. But to as many as received him he gave the power of becoming children of God; to those who believe in his name: who were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelled among us. And we saw his glory (glory as of the only-begotten of the Father) full of grace and of truth. John bore witness concerning him, and cried, "This was the one of whom I said, 'He who is to come after me has been set above me, because he was before me.'" And of his fullness we have all received, grace for grace. For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

القنداق باللحن الثاني (أو الثامن)

وإن نزلت إلى القبر يا من لا يموت، فقد نقضت قدرة الجحيم وقمت كظافر، أيها المسيح الإله. وللنساء حاملات الطيب قلت افرحن. ولرسلك وهبت السلام، يا مناخ الواقعين القيام.

بدل التريصاجيون نرنم: أنتم الذين بالمسيح اعتمدتم. المسيح قد لبستم. هلوليا.

مقدمة الرسالة

هذا هو اليوم الذي صنعه الرب، فلنبتهج ونفرح به اعترفوا للرب فإنه صالح. لأن إلى الابد رحمته

الرسالة (أعمال الرسل 1: 9-1)

قد أنشأت الكلام الأول يا ثاوفيلس، في جميع الأمور التي أبتدأ يسوع يعملها ويعلم بها، إلى اليوم الذي صعد فيه. من بعد أن أوصى بالروح القدس الرسل الذين اصطفاهم، الذين أراهم أيضاً نفسة حياً بعد تألمه بآهين كثيرة. وهو يترأى لهم مدة أربعين يوماً ويكلّمهم عما يخص ملكوت الله. وفيما هو يأكل معهم أوصاهم أن لا تبرحوا من أورشليم. بل انتظروا موعد الآب الذي سمعتموه مني. فإن يوحنا إنما عمد بالماء. أما أنتم فستعمدون بالروح القدس بعد هذه الأيام بقليل. فسأله المجتمعون قائلين: يارب أفي هذا الزمان ترد الملك إلى إسرائيل؟ فقال لهم: ليس لكم أن تعرفوا الأوقات والأزمنة التي جعلها الآب في سلطانه الخاص، ولكنكم ستنالون قوة بحلول الروح القدس عليكم. فتكونون لي شهوداً في أورشليم. وفي جميع اليهودية والسامرة وإلى أقاصي الأرض.

هلوليا

أنت يارب تقوم وترأف بصهيون لأنه وقت الرأفة بها. والوقت قد حضر الرب من السماء نظر، فأبصر جميع بني البشر.

الانجيل (يوحنا 1: 1-17)

في البدء كان الكلمة. والكلمة كان عند الله. وكان الكلمة الله. هذا كان في البدء عند الله. كل به كون. وبغيره لم يكون شيء مما كون. فيه كانت الحياة. والحياة كانت نور الناس، والنور يضيء في الظلمة. والظلمة لم تدركه. كان رجل مرسل من الله اسمه يوحنا، هذا جاء للشهادة لكي يشهد للنور. حتى يؤمن الجميع بواسطته. لم يكن هو النور بل كان ليشهد للنور. كان النور الحقيقي الذي يضيء كل إنسان آت إلى العالم، كان في العالم والعالم به كون. والعالم لم يعرفه. أتى إلى خاصيته وخاصيته لم تقبله فأما كل الذين قبلوه فأعطاهم سلطاناً أن يكونوا أبناء الله. الذين لا من دم ولا من مشيئة لحم، ولا من مشيئة رجل، لكن من الله وولدوا. والكلمة صار جسداً وحلّ فينا. وقد أبصرنا مجده مجد وحيد من الآب، مملوءاً نعمة وحفاً. ويوحنا شهد له وصرخ قائلاً: هذا هو الذي قلت عنه إن الذي يأتي بعدي قد كان قبلي لأنه أقدم مني. ومن امتلأه نحن كلنا أخذنا، ونعمة مكان نعمة، لأن الناموس أعطي بموسى. وأما النعمة والحق فبیسوع المسيح قد خلاصا.



Divine Liturgy Intentions

TODAY, APRIL 9, 2023: EASTER SUNDAY. THE GLORIOUS RESURRECTION OF CHRIST.

6:30 p.m. SATURDAY DIVINE LITURGY: For the **SPIRITUAL & TEMPORAL WELFARE** of all the parishioners and friends of St. Basil's Church.

10:00 a.m. SUNDAY DIVINE LITURGY: For the **SPIRITUAL & TEMPORAL WELFARE** of all the parishioners and friends of St. Basil's Church.

Prayer for the dead

O God of all spirits and of all flesh, who have destroyed death, overcome the devil, and given life to the world: grant, O Lord to the souls of your servants, who have departed from this life, that they may rest in a place of light, in a place of happiness, in a place of peace, where there is no pain, no grief, no sighing. And since You are gracious God and Lover of mankind, forgive them every sin they have committed by thought, or word, or deed, for there is not a man who lives and does not sin: You alone are without sin, your righteousness is everlasting, and your word is true.

For You are the Resurrection and the Life, and the Repose of your departed servants, O Christ our God, and we render glory to You, together with your Eternal Father and your All-holy, Good and Life-giving Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. Amen.





SACRIFICIAL GIVING: April 2, 2023: Budgets: \$6,512.00: Envelopes: \$6,070.00, Loose: \$442.00; Candles: \$165.00: Stole Offerings: \$100.00; Fuel \$567.00; Building Fund: \$10.00, Additil Melkite Support: \$70.00; Easter Lilies: \$300.00; Easter Agape Vigil Sweet Breat Donation: \$175.00; Lenten Dinners: \$430.00.

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

GENERAL HOME VISITATIONS, SICK CALLS, HOSPITAL VISITS: Father Ephrem has been fully vaccinated and is now available for these parish services. Just email him at office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com and leave him your message. **PLEASE! NO GRATUITIES!** A cup of coffee or tea is just fine. He looks forward to in-person contact.

2023 ECCLESIASTICAL CALENDARS are available – free for the taking – at both entrances of the church. By following the liturgical cycle of the church year and remembering the Saints each day is an excellent way to attach yourself more closely to the worshipping community that is the church.

EASTER FLOWERS: Many parishioners have followed the long-time tradition of donating lilies to the Church for the Easter Season. If you would like to participate in this tradition, it is not too late to come forward. Since we have a larger sanctuary area to cover, we would appreciate your generosity in this regard to enhance the Church at this most blessed season. Please give your donation to Christine Durnin.

There will be a special collection for your **EASTER OFFERINGS** at both Divine Liturgies 6:30 p.m. & 10 a.m. Envelopes may be found in your weekly budgets, or you may obtain a special envelope for this offering after both Divine Liturgies. The envelopes will be located at both entrances to the Church. Your generosity would be greatly appreciated.

SHEPHERD'S CARE: The final Shepherd's Care Prograam collection will be taken up today to help the needy, homeless, poor, to be distributed here and abroad for this noble cause. Please transfer the monies from the mite boxes to cash or check. This would be greatly appreciated, and then it will be forwarded to the Diocese of Newton for distribution to the respective beneficiaries.

After the Saturday evening Divine Liturgy, Agape refreshments will be served in the Cultural Center to socialize, and greet one another with the Paschal Salutation:

CHRIST IS RISEN! To which we respond: HE IS TRULY RISEN!

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.





ARABIC EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION 2023 SCHOLARSHIP: Application, eligibility information and check list is available at aef-ri.org. All scholarships and transcripts must be postmarked by April 15, 2023. Question(s) contact: aef1966@cox.net

**DEAR PARISHIONERS
A BLESSED AND JOYFUL EASTER TO EACH OF YOU!**

May we take this opportunity to thank you for your cooperation in our parish work and extend to you and your loved ones our prayerful best wishes as we chant the victory hymn.....

"CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD, AND BY HIS DEATH, HE HAS TRAMPLED UPON DEATH, AND HAS GIVEN LIFE TO THOSE WHO ARE IN THE TOMBS,"

*Sincerely yours in Christ,
Father Ephrem
Father Joe
Deacon Edmond
Deacon Gilbert*



REFLECTION: "Dad, I need your help to find out where it talks about the Easter Bunny in the Bible."

O Jesus, Who has said, "Ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find, knock and it shall be opened," through the intercession of the Theotokos, Your Most Holy Mother, I knock, I seek, I ask that my prayer be granted.






















































O Jesus, Who has said, "All that you ask of the Father in My Name, He will grant you," through the intercession of the Theotokos Your Most Holy Mother, I humbly and urgently ask your Father in your name that my prayer will be granted.

O Jesus, Who has said, "Heaven and earth shall pass away but My word shall not pass away," through the intercession of the Theotokos Your Most Holy Mother, I feel confident that my prayer will be granted.



Following Jesus Kids bulletin



While  and His apostles were in the  of Gethsemane, wicked men came and took Him away. And at a place called Calvary, they crucified  on a  between two thieves. From the  prayed, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do." Later  cried, "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit." and bowed His head and died. The death of  made the  who loved Him very sad. His body was taken to a  in a nearby . After wrapping Him in white fine linen, He was tenderly laid in the . A large  was rolled in front of the entrance to the . Those who had  put to death asked that the  be sealed.  were also ordered to stand guard. For two days  lay in the  and the  kept watch. Then before the morning  of the third day an  came and rolled the  away. When the  saw the , they were frightened and fell to the ground. The  then fled in fright. On this same morning  and several other  came to the tomb bringing  for the body of . They found the  gone and the  rolled away. There was an  standing at the , and the  were afraid. The  said, "He is not here: for he is risen, as he said." The  told the  to go and tell the . Later  returned to the . As she stood outside the  weeping,  appeared to her. Many other  also saw . He appeared to the  and stayed with them for **40** days. He ate with  and taught them many things.  told these men to teach all nations and baptize the . After  taught the , He blessed them. Then the  saw  taken up to heaven and two  declared, "This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven."

The Joy of the Resurrection

"If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ" (1 Corinthians 15:14-15). With these words Saint Paul explains quite drastically what faith in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ means for the Christian message overall: it is its very foundation. The Christian faith stands or falls with the truth of the testimony that Christ is risen from the dead.

If this were taken away, it would still be possible to piece together from the Christian tradition a series of interesting ideas about God and men, about man's being and his obligations, a kind of religious world view: but the Christian faith itself would be dead. Jesus would be a failed religious leader, who despite his failure remains great and can cause us to reflect. But he would then remain purely human, and his authority would extend only so far as his message is of interest to us. He would no longer be a criterion; the only criterion left would be our own judgment in selecting from his heritage what strikes us as helpful. In other words, we would be alone. Our own judgment would be the highest instance.

Therefore it is necessary to listen with particular attention as the New Testament bears witness to the Resurrection. Yet first we have to acknowledge that this testimony, considered from a historical point of view, is presented to us in a particularly complex form and gives rise to many questions.

- 1) We are to be a Resurrection people: Easter, the feast of the Resurrection, gives us the joyful message that we are a "Resurrection people." This means that we are not supposed to lie buried in the tomb of our sins, evil habits and dangerous addictions. It gives us the Good News that no tomb can hold us down anymore - not the tomb of despair, discouragement or doubt, nor that of death. Instead, we are expected to live a joyful and peaceful life, constantly experiencing the real presence of the Risen Lord in all the events of our lives. "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad" (Psalm 118:24).
- 2) We need to seek our peace and joy in the Risen Jesus: The living presence of the Risen Lord gives us lasting peace and celestial joy in the face of the boredom, suffering, pain and tensions of our day-to-day life. "Peace be with you!" was His salutation to His disciples at all post-Resurrection appearances. For the true Christian, every day must be an Easter Day, lived joyfully in the close company of the Risen Lord.
- 3) We are to be transparent Christians: We are called to be transparent Christians, showing others, through our lives of love, mercy, compassion and self-sacrificing service, that the Risen Jesus is living in our hearts.
- 4) We need to live new, disciplined lives in the Risen Jesus: Our awareness of the all-pervading, loving presence of the Risen Lord in and around us, and the strong conviction of our own coming



resurrection, help us control our thoughts, desires, words and behavior. These salutary thoughts inspire us to honor our bodies, keeping them holy, pure and free from evil habits and addictions. Our conviction that the Risen Lord is present in our neighbors and in all those we encounter should encourage us to respect them, and to render them loving, humble and selfless service.

●5) We need to remember Easter in our Good Fridays: Easter reminds us that every Good Friday in our lives will have an Easter Sunday and that Jesus will let us share the power of His Resurrection. Each time we display our love of others, we share in the Resurrection. Each time we face a betrayal of trust, we share in the Resurrection of Jesus. Each time we fail in our attempts to ward off temptations – but keep on trying to overcome them – we share in the Resurrection. Each time we continue

to hope – even when our hope seems unanswered – we share in the power of Jesus' Resurrection. In short, the message of Easter is that nothing can destroy us – not pain, sin, rejection or death – because Christ has conquered all these, and we too can conquer them if we put our Faith in Him.

- 6) We are to be bearers of the Good News of Resurrection power. Resurrection is Good News, but at the same time, it's sometimes painful because it involves death. Before the power of the Resurrection can take hold in our own lives, we're called to die to sin, to die to self. We may even have to die to our own dreams, so that God can do what He wants to do with our lives. Resurrection is about seeing our world in a new way. Early that Easter morning, Mary Magdalene did not find what she was looking for, the dead body of Jesus. But she found something better than she could have imagined: The Risen Jesus. Sometimes, the things we think we want most are not granted to us. What we get instead is an experience of God's new ways of working in the world. That's the power of the Resurrection. When those moments come, we must spread the news – just as Mary Magdalene did: We have seen the Lord!
- 7) We need to be Easter people: We are in truth called to be an "Easter people", because there are many Easter moments in our lives. It may be in prayer, when for a moment we really experience the love of God, especially having felt His absence, as we often do, like the disciples who experienced the emptiness of the tomb. It may be that moment when we are touched and given hope by a word of Scripture - like the disciples on the road to Emmaus when their hearts were uplifted in joy and hope as the Lord opened up the scriptures to them. Or it may be a moment during the sacrament of reconciliation, after we have acknowledged honestly our weakness and selfishness, our sinfulness and come to experience his forgiveness. Indeed, there are times in our lives when we know, through Faith, that the times of calm after the storm, of joy after sorrow, of restored vitality after weary days on our journey of Faith, are truly times when we share in his paschal mystery

فرح القيامة

المسيح قام! حقًا قام!

للقِيامة معاني كثيرة: هي ختام عمل الفداء وتمجيد يسوع وتحقيق النبوات والوعود ومركز كرازة الجماعة المسيحية الاولى وموضوع ايماننا المسيحي الاساسي:

- قيامة يسوع تكملة عمل الفداء

بدأ يسوع عمل الفداء بالتجسد والالام والصليب والموت واكملة بالقيامة. أنقذنا الرب يسوع من الخطايا، وبقيامته أعاد كل ما فقدناه من خلال الخطيئة وفتح لنا ابواب الحياة الأبدية كما جاء في تعليم بولس الرسول " أسلم إلى القوت من أجل زلاتنا وأقيم من أجل يَرتنا." (رومة 4، 25). فإن كان قد ذبح لأجلنا، فقيامته تؤكد قبول الذبيحة. وإن كان قد صُلب من أجل ديون ذنوبنا، فقيامته تعلن وفاة الدين. وعلّق القديس ميليتيون أسقف سردينيا " اتخذ الرب، مع كونه إلهًا، طبيعة الإنسان، وتألّم عمّن كان يتألّم. وقبّد بدل من كان مُقبّدًا، وحكّم عليه بدل من كان مُجرّمًا، ودَفن بدل من كان مدفونًا، وقام من بين الأموات.

- قيامة يسوع طريق للمجد

دخل يسوع الى المجد من خلال قيامته. فعندما كان يسوع على الارض لم يظهر مجده الا ببعض العلامات "جاء إلى بيته. فما قبله أهل بيته. (يوحنا 1: 11)، وفي لحظات قصيرة كالحظة التجلي" مضى. يسوع يُبطرس ويعقوب ويوحنا فانفرد بهم وحدهم على جبل عالٍ، وتجلّى بمرآى منهم." (مرقس 9: 2)؛ اما بعد القيامة دخل يسوع عالم جديد تنبأ عنه اشعيا النبي (اشعيا 65: 17) وأصبح "ربّ المَجد" (1 قورنثس 2: 8). إن جسده الآن مُمجد، خالدًا وغير قابل للتدمير. يُشارك جسد المسيح الرب في المجد الذي كان لديه من البداية، عندما كان حاضرًا مع الآب قبل الخلق. وبهذه القيامة، أثبت المسيح الرب مجد ألوهيته. لم يُفيمه أي أحد بل إنه قام بقوته الذاتية. قال الرب يسوع: " أبلّغ نفسي لأنّها ثابتة ما من أحدٍ يَترَعها مِنّي بل إنّي أبلّغها بِرضائي. فلي أن أبلّغها ولي أن أأنالها ثابتة" (يوحنا 10، 18، 19).

- قيامة يسوع تحقيق للنبوءات

ان قيامة يسوع حقت ما قد تنبأ يسوع نفسه لتلاميذه " أن ابنَ الإنسان يَجِبُ عليه أن يُعاني آلامًا شديدة، وأن يذُلّه الشيوخ وعظماء الكهنة والكتبة، وأن يُقتل، وأن يقوم بعد ثلاثة أيام" (مرقس 8: 31). فقيامته يسوع حقت نبوءة علامة يونان " فكما بقى يونان في بطن الخوت ثلاثة أيام وثلاث ليالٍ، فكذلك يقبى ابن الإنسان في جوف الأرض ثلاثة أيام وثلاث ليالٍ" (متى 12: 40). وقيامته يسوع هي أيضاً علامة الهيكل كما اشار يسوع الى ذلك بقوله "انقضوا هذا الهيكل أتمه في ثلاثة أيام" (يوحنا 2: 19-21).

- قيامة يسوع تحقيق الوعد

حقت القيامة وعد رفع يسوع ممجدا الى يمين الله "فداود لم يصعد إلى السموات، وهو نفسه مع ذلك يقول: قال الرب لربي: اجلس عن يميني" (اعمال الرسل 2: 34) كما حقت القيامة تمجيد عبد الرب اليعقبي الشفاء والآيات والأعاجيب باسم عبيد القدوس يسوع" (اعمال الرسل 4: 30) كما حقت القيامة ايضا الوعد بجلوس يسوع عن يمين الله "ها إني أرى السموات مُتَمَتِّحة، وابن الإنسان قائمًا عن يمين الله" (اعمال الرسل 7: 56).

- القيامة هي مركز الكرازة الرسولية

وتقوم كرازة الرسل على ان يسوع قد صلب ومات، الا ان الله اقامه، وبه يُقدّم للناس الخلاص كما صرّح بطرس الرسول "قتلتم سيّد الحياة، فأقامه الله من بين الأموات، وتحنّ شهود على ذلك" (اعمال الرسل 3: 14-15). ويؤكد لنا بولس الرسول ايضا إيمان الجماعة الأولى بالقيامة، حيث يقول "سلمت إليكم قبل كل شيء ما تسلّمته أنا أيضًا، وهو أن المسيح مات من أجل خطايانا، كما ورد في الكتب، وأنه قبّر وقام في اليوم الثالث كما ورد في الكتب" (1 قورنثس 15: 3-4). "وان كان المسيح لم يقم، فقتبضنا باطلًا وإيمانكم أيضًا باطل" (1 قورنثس 15: 14). وان رؤساء اليهود لم يكدبوا حقيقة القيامة بل اکتفوا بالبحث عن تفسير آخر له وذلك برشوة رجال الحرس بقولهم لهم " قولوا إن تلاميذه جاؤوا ليلاً فسرقوه وتحنّ ثامون" (متى 28: 13). ويمكننا أن نلقب سفر الأعمال ببشارة القيامة. للجماعة المسيحية الأولى القيامة لها الأهمية الأولى إذ بدون قيامة الرب لما قامت الكنيسة المسيحية على الإطلاق.

القيامة هي عربون قيامتنا

قيامته المسيح هي موضوع إيماننا واساس رجائنا في القيامة في اليوم الاخير. قام يسوع باعتباره "باكورة الراقدين (1 قورنثس 15: 20) وهو "أول القائم من بين الأموات" (أعمال الرسل 26: 23). فنحن نقوم، لان يسوع قد قام "فألذّي أقام يسوع المسيح من بين الأموات يُحيي أيضًا أجسادكم الفانية بِرُوحه الحالّ فيكم" (رومة 8: 11). ويقول الرسول بطرس أننا قد وُلدنا من جديد إلى رجاء حي عن طريق قيامته يسوع المسيح من الموت "تبارك الله أبو ربنا يسوع المسيح، سَمَلْنَا بواوفا رحمة فولدنا ثابتة لرجاء حي بقيامة يسوع المسيح من بين الأموات" (1 بطرس 1، 3). ويصرّح بولس الرسول " ننتظر مجيء المُخلص الرب يسوع المسيح الذي سيغيّر هيئة جسدينا الخفير فيجعلنا على صورة جسده المجد بما له من قدرته يُخضع بها لتفسيه كل شيء" (فيلبي 3: 21).

موقفنا تجاه القيامة

بعدما بحثنا في معاني قيامته المسيح يكشف يوحنا الإنجيلي عن مراحل نرتقي بها إلى معرفة القيامة وفهمها من خلال الانتقال من رؤية مريم المجدلية السطحية، الى نظرة بطرس التحليلية، الرؤية التلميذ الحبيب وإيمانه. فمن خلال خبرة الرسل يمكن ان يتخذ المرء اربعة مراحل ليصل الى الايمان بقيامته يسوع من

الاموات:

المرحلة الاولى: التساؤل

قد يظن المرء ان القيامة مجرد تليق يُستحال تصديقه او فكرة إمكانية خطف الجنة كما كان الحال مع مريم المجدلية التي تساءلت امام القبر الفارغ "أخذوا الرب من القبر، ولا نعلم أين وضعوه" (يوحنا 20: 2). فقد رأت مريم المجدلية كما يرى كل إنسان بحاسة النظر ولم تفقه بعد سبب القبر الفارغ ولم تدخل اليه. والجدير بالذكر ان انجيل يوحنا أشار بان مريم المجدلية كانت وحدها عند القبر دون ذكر سائر النسوة، لأنها مثل توما ترمز الى الذين يحتاجون الى ان يروا لكي يؤمنوا.

المرحلة الثانية: التحليل والايمان

تقوم المرحلة الثانية بتحقق المرء من الحقائق كما هو الحال مع بطرس ويوحنا "دخل القبر فأبصر. اللفائف ممدودة" (20: 6) رأى بطرس الالكفان مرتبة في مكانها على الارض واستدل من كل ما رأى ان جسد يسوع قد تحرر من اللفائف والمنديل ولكنه ظلّ مذهولًا من حدث القيامة؛ بطرس رأى وتعجب كما يصفه لوقا الإنجيلي "غير أن بطرس قام فأسرع إلى القبر وانحنى، فلم يزلّ إلا اللفائف، فانصرفت إلى بيته مُتَعَجِّبًا مِمَّا جرى" (لوقا 24: 12)، اما يوحنا الحبيب "فرأى وآمن" (يوحنا 20: 8). فهم يوحنا فورًا لغة القبر الفارغ، والالكفان الممدودة، والمنديل ملفوفًا على حدة. فهذه التفاصيل تنفي سرقة الجسد. فأمن بقيامته الرب. وعلى إيمان الرسل ثبت إيمان الكنيسة. وليس الإيمان تصديق الأشياء التي تتناقض مع العقل، بل هو فوق وما وراء العقل كما جاء في تعليم صاحب الرسالة الى العبرانيين "فالإيمان قوام الأمور التي تُرعى ويُزهاق الحقائق التي لا تُرى" (عبرانيين 11، 1). إن أساس الإيمان المسيحي هو أحداثًا جرت بالفعل، من شهادة شهود عيان جديرين بالثقة.


يسوع المسيح هو شخصيا "القيامة والحياة من آمن بي، وإن مات، فسَيَحْيَا" (يوحنا 11: 25). وهو يُشركنا منذ الآن في الحياة الجديدة عن طريق علامات اسرار الكنيسة. فالحياة الجديدة التي دخلنا فيها ليست شيئًا آخر سوى حياته ذاتها كمشخص قام من بين الاموات "مع أننا كنا أومأًا بزلّاتنا، أحيانا مع المسيح (بالنعمة نلّم الخلاص) وأقامنا معه وأجلستنا معه في السموات في المسيح يسوع (أفسس 2: 6-5). إن ايماننا بقيامته يسوع يوجّه كل كياننا المسيحي "أما وقد قُتِمْت مع المسيح، فاسعوا إلى الأمور التي في العلى حيث المسيح قد جلس عن يمين الله". (قولوسي 3: 1).

أيها الرب يسوع المسيح، يا من غلبت الموت وخرجت من ظلمة القبر منتصرًا ونقض موتك موتنا وبقيامتك اعدت الحياة الينا، امنحنا رُوحك القدوس وأظهر غفرانك وسلامك وفرحك في قلوبنا وحياتنا فنشهد بيقيننا أن يسوع ربّ، ونؤمن بقلبي أنّ الله أقامه من بين الأموات، ونكون شهودًا لقيامتك على مثال الرسل " فلا نستطيع الشكوت عن ذكر ما رأينا وما سمعنا وما اختبرنا" (اعمال الرسل 4: 21)، ونشع هذا الايمان للجميع منشدين مع الكنيسة "المسيح قام من بين الأموات ووطئ الموت بالموت، ووهب الحياة للذين في القبور."



LITURGICAL CALENDAR



APRIL	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 نيسان – أبريل 2023 MARCH 2023 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 MAY 2023 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	30 Sunday of the Paralytic أحد المفلج Acts 9:32-42 John 5:1-15						1 Lazarus Saturday سبت لعازر Hebrews 9:24-28 Mark 8:27-31
	2 Palm Sunday أحد الشعانين Philippians 4:4-9 John 12:1-18	3 Great & Holy Monday الاثنين العظيم المقدس Acts 10:34-43 Matthew 24:3-35	4 Great & Holy Tuesday الثلاثاء العظيم المقدس Ephesians 1:1-9 Matthew 24:36-26:2	5 Great & Holy Wednesday الأربعاء العظيم المقدس 1 Corinthians 2:6-9 Matthew 26:6-16	6 Great & Holy Thursday الخميس العظيم المقدس 1 Corinthians 11:23-32 Matthew 26:1-27:1-2 John 13:3-17 Luke 22:43-44	7 Great & Holy Friday الجمعة العظيمة المقدسة Eothinon: Twelve Gospels	8 Great & Holy Saturday سبت النور المقدس Romans 6:3-12 Matthew 28:1-20
9 Easter Sunday أحد الفصح العظيم المقدس Acts 1:1-8 John 1:1-17	10 Monday of New Week الإثنين لتجديدات Acts 1:12-17, 21-26 John 1:18-28	11 Tuesday of New Week الثلاثاء لتجديدات Acts 2:14-21 Luke 24:12-35	12 Wednesday of New Week الأربعاء لتجديدات Acts 2:22-38 John 1:35-51	13 Thursday of New Week الخميس لتجديدات Acts 2:38-43 John 3:1-15	14 Friday of New Week الجمعة لتجديدات Acts 3:1-8 John 2:12-22	15 Saturday of New Week سبت لتجديدات Acts 3:9-16 John 3:22-33	
16 St Thomas Sunday أحد الرسول توما Acts 5:12-20 John 20:19-31	17 St Simeon the Persian Acts 3:19-26 John 2:1-11	18 St John, disciple of Gregory Acts 4:1-10 John 3:16-21	19 St John the Hermit Acts 4:13-22 John 5:17-24	20 St Theodore Trichinas Acts 4:23-31 John 5:24-30	21 St Theodore of Pergia Acts 5:1-11 John 5:30-6:2	22 St Theodore Sykeotes Acts 5:21-32 John 6:14-27	
23 St George the Triumphant Sunday of Holy Myrrh-bearers أحد حمامات الطيب Acts 12:1-11 Mark 15:43-16:8	24 St Elizabeth the Wonderworker Acts 6:8-7:5, 47-60 John 4:46-54	25 Anzac Day St Mark the Apostle 1 Peter 5:6-14 Luke 10:16-21	26 St Basil of Amasia Acts 8:18-25 John 6:35-39	27 St Simeon Acts 8:26-39 John 6:40-44	28 Sts Jason and Sosipater Acts 8:40-9:19 John 6:48-54	29 St Memnon the Wonderworker Acts 9:19-31 John 15:17-16:2	

Church Major Feasts

Abstain from Meat

Fast from midnight until noon

Lenten Season

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Welcome to

St. Basil The Great Melkite Greek Catholic Church

**Check our website
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<https://bit.ly/2VJgvnS>

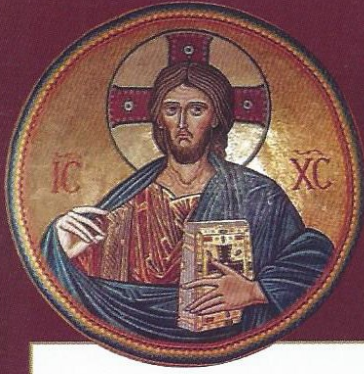
Contact us for information and ideas
office@stbasilthegreatchurch.com



"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.



MELKITE CATHOLIC  EPARCHY OF NEWTON

VOCATION PLAN

Christ Calls All to Serve

FEBRUARY 2023

Bishop François forms New Vocation Team

The goal is to create a “Culture of Service & Vocations” within the Melkite Catholic Church

As Bishop François Beyrouti begins his episcopal ministry, he is emphasizing the Lord’s invitation to “serve one another humbly in love” (Gal 5:13). In this spirit, one of his key priorities is to strengthen our focus on vocations throughout the Melkite Catholic Eparchy of Newton.

Thanks be to God, over the past few years, the Melkite Catholic Church in the United States has been blessed with many new vocations to the priesthood and diaconate. Looking toward the future, we can also see that many parishes have aging clergy who have been faithfully serving for so many years. Thus, there is a serious need to ensure uninterrupted pastoral care for our 50 churches and communities and to respond to the needs of our faithful who are asking us to establish new parishes.

Thus Bishop François has convened a new Vocation Team, headed by Fr. John Mefrige and composed of four other priests from each region of the eparchy. The challenge for the team is threefold.

The first task is to re-organize our efforts, both by standardizing the formation of priests and deacons, as well as establishing a clear process for men to discern God’s call.

Secondly, Bishop François’ vision is that new vocations will flow organically from active ministry in local parishes. Put simply, the men who will one day serve as priests and deacons must now be serving generously in other capacities. A campaign is planned to identify these men—both single and married—and invite them to discern a potential role as reader, subdeacon, deacon, or priest.



Finally, the Vocation Team aims to dramatically improve communications about vocations within the eparchy. For example, the Melkite Catholic community in the United States needs to see the joys of married clergy with families, as well as the blessing of men who serve celibately or enter monastic life. We have a number of digital and print projects planned for 2023 and beyond.

In summary, the Vocation Team is preparing to enter a multi-year process of organizing, inviting, and communicating a “pro-vocations” message throughout the eparchy. The overall vision is to build upon the core message that *Christ calls all to serve*—in all sorts of capacities—to make us a true *ecclesia*, a living Church. Every vocation is vital, including marriage and family, nuns, monks, and the clergy who lead our liturgical worship. ☀

INSIDE

Three Key Areas of the New Vocation Plan

1. Organization
2. Invitation
3. Communication



Organization



BEGAN NOVEMBER 2022

Vocation Team Roles

Fr. John Mefrige in San Antonio, Texas, is the director of our new Vocation Team. He is joined by representatives from various regions:

- Fr. Dimitri Saliba - Western Region
- Fr. Elias Dorham - MidAtlantic Region
- Fr. Philip Raczka - New England
- Fr. Bryan McNeil - Deacon Formation

In addition to representing a region of the eparchy, each member will also take on specific roles, including:

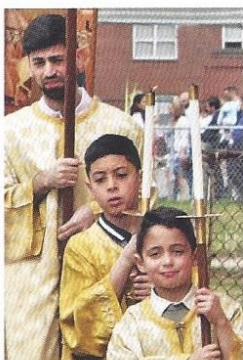
- Vocation promotion and communications
- Interviewing potential candidates
- Handling the application process
- Overseeing the formation of seminarians



SPRING 2023

Clergy & Candidate Databases

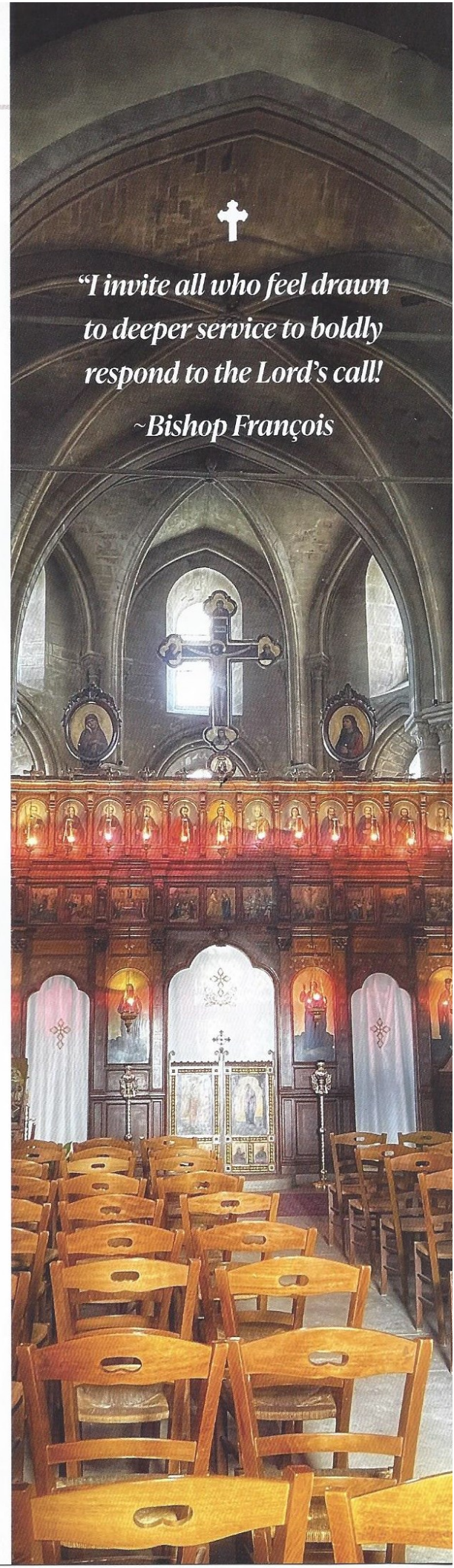
One essential task is to update the biographical information of all our clergy. This will help Bishop François to review the assignments of each deacon and priest and plan for future transitions and retirements. For example, simply knowing the birth dates of all priests allows us to project retirement dates and estimate how many new men we need in formation to serve our growing communities. Similarly, our Vocation Team is streamlining the way we keep track of prospects with a new database of candidates.



2023-2024

Standardizing the Application & Formation Process

We have had a wealth of excellent candidates, but their paths to ordination have been widely varied. Our plan is to standardize the entire process, for both priests and deacons, beginning with a new, more rigorous application process, and continuing with well-defined tracks for both married and celibate seminarians.



*“I invite all who feel drawn
to deeper service to boldly
respond to the Lord’s call!”*

~Bishop François

Invitation

Becoming Fishers of Men

A call to deeper service is always a call from Christ himself. Experience shows, however, that the call is most often mediated by parish priests. Over the next three years, the role of priests as “inviters” will be a recurring theme in our regular Clergy meetings and annual Clergy Conference. We will also be sending resources to equip priests to be mentors to men in their parishes. The goal is to encourage priests to be true “fishers of men.”



FALL 2023

Called by Name ✠

Will You Help Identify Future Clergy?

Perhaps the most exciting part of our Vocation Plan is a campaign to identify candidates for readers, subdeacons, deacons, and priests. “Called by Name” will be an eparchy-wide process in which clergy and laity can submit the names of men in our parishes who may

be called to these ministries. Importantly, candidates should be longstanding, faithful members who have demonstrated stability of life and a heart for service. As Jesus told us: “If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you” (John 13:14-15).

WINTER 2023-2024

Online Discernment Meetings

Men who are submitted in the Called by Name campaign will be invited to begin the discernment process through a series of online meetings with Bishop François and the Vocation Team. The purpose is to open dialogue and offer guidance for listening to God’s call.

SPRING 2024

Discernment Retreat

Those who have faithfully participated in the online meetings will be invited to an in-person Discernment Retreat. This is an opportunity for talks, personal prayer, and Liturgical Prayer. The goal is that after the retreat, we will have a good sense of the next cohort of men who will advance into formation, either toward diaconate or priesthood.



Communication



SPRING AND FALL, 2023-2024

Vocations Bulletin

In the coming months, keep your eyes open for our Vocations Bulletin! It will be similar in format to this Vocation Plan and will include articles and photos highlighting our new seminarians, readers, subdeacons, deacons, priests, monks, and nuns. We will also focus on their families who nourish them and also highlight couples who are in ministry together. The overall goal is to show that living out one's baptism is the path to holiness—and that responding to God's call begins with faithful service and an open heart.

APRIL AND NOVEMBER, 2023-2024

Bi-annual Vocation Days

Twice a year, in Spring and Fall, the Vocations Team will prepare resources for parishes to place special emphasis on vocations, by preaching as well as in children's catechesis and youth ministry. This will align with the readings and Feast days in our Melkite Catholic liturgical calendar.

New Online Presence for Vocations

We will include robust vocation pages on the Melkite Catholic Eparchy of Newton's website, Melkite.org. This will refresh our online presence, and provide a platform for our Called by Name program and other Vocation resources.

Other Communication Efforts

In Year Two of our Vocation Plan, we would like to re-energize our social media presence, specifically with a series of videos on priests, deacons, and seminarians. We will also work on an e-newsletter with tips and encouragement for young people to live out their baptism and discern their vocations.



All Have a Role to Play

The Vocation Plan is not just the work of the Vocation Team. It requires the enthusiastic support of clergy, educators, and those who work with youth. Above all, it requires families who make their home a true domestic church. All are encouraged to find some role to play. Keep in mind that our Melkite Catholic Eparchy of Newton's Vocation Plan is open to your feedback and creativity. Feel free to be creative in your parish and to share with us your ideas and most importantly begin to develop a culture of ministry that encourages Vocations in your family and parish. It is never too early to reply personally or to keep your eyes open to send us names of those you feel should be encouraged to serve in this way. 🌟

MELKITE CATHOLIC  EPARCHY OF NEWTON

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Ending Thank You. Weekend of April 9 or 16, 2023

A special Thank You! to all who donated to the Shepherd's Care Associated Charities 2023. Your generous compassion for the earthquake victims of Turkey and Syrian will help make things a little brighter for them, and show the world there is compassion, love, generosity, and humanity in our hearts. We especially thank the children and youth who gave of themselves by helping those less fortunate. Our children are our bright light for the future. Thank you again, and God bless you all. Christ is Risen!

Shepherd's Care Associated Charities

Shepherd's Care began in 1988 at the request of the faithful and clergy who saw a need for a united effort among all Melkite Catholic Parishes in the United States to reach out to people in need. By means of this initiative, our eparchy reaches out in love through financial assistance to people in need here in the United States and abroad. Over the years Shepherd's Care has raised more than \$250,000.

Through your love and faithful support, the diocese has been able to help orphans, the hungry, the homeless, drug addicted, the destitute, runaway teens, victims of war, victims of disease and disasters, and so many more.

Donations are distributed to local parish charities such as soup kitchens, food pantries, homeless shelters, eparchial charities, world charities, and offers tuition assistance to seminarians of the Eparchy.

But Shepherd's Care is much more than raising funds for charitable causes. More importantly, it is a guide to assist us in living a Holy Lent through understanding and practicing the Lenten cornerstones of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.



**Shepherd's Care
Associated Charities
Eparchy of Newton
3 V.F.W. Parkway
West Roxbury, MA 02132-7727**



SHEPHERD'S CARE Associated Charities Great Lent

**"There is no sin that
alms cannot cleanse.
Charity is a medicine
suitable for any wound."**

St. John Chrysostom

The Widow's Mite

Each year during the Great Fast, the Church encourages us with the example of the "widow's mite". We receive a little box – a "mite box" which we take home. This box symbolizes the offerings (alms) we give during Lent, together with our increased prayers, fasting, and abstinence.

"When He looked up, he saw some wealthy people putting their offering into the treasury, and He noticed a poor widow putting in two small coins. He said, "I tell you truly, this poor widow put in more than all the rest; for those others have all made offerings from their surplus wealth. But she, from her poverty, has offered her whole livelihood"



Our Lord, in His infinite wisdom, recognized that the widow's mite was so very valuable. The poor widow gave from her need. She gave to God everything she had.



Lenten Gift Box

Each family, indeed every person, is invited to take home a Lenten gift (mite) box. Put it on your dining table, or in your icon corner, anywhere you will see it and be inspired to remember the needy. Throughout Lent place your offerings in the box. Some people try to put in the amount they save by abstaining from certain foods. Children find it especially fun to use a coin calendar.

At the end of Great Lent bring the proceeds of your mite box to the church as your offering for Shepherd's Care. If you are presenting a check please make it payable to **SHEPHERD'S CARE ASSOCIATED CHARITIES**. You may also

make donations by check directly to the Eparchial Office. Address is on the back. Together our eparchial family can help alleviate the sufferings of God's people.

All proceeds from Shepherd's Care Associated Charities go directly to the charities. The Bishop, together with his advisors, insures that 100% of the money is given to the needy at home and abroad.

Your tax-deductible contributions are greatly appreciated by all who will benefit from them. The Fathers of the Church encourage us to always be humbly grateful and remember those in need. In helping others, we are doing the will of God.

"The bread you do not use is the bread of the hungry. The garment in your wardrobe is the garment of the person who is naked. The money you keep locked away is the money of the poor."

St. Basil the Great

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

As of 12/30/2022



St. Basil the Great Melkite Greek Catholic Church

15 Skyview Drive Lincoln, RI 02865

Sharing our Faith
SECURING OUR FUTURE



Campaign Facts:



Campaign Goal: \$1,000,000



Outstanding Goal: \$340,000



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

Parish Community Facts:



Total Registered Families: 415



Active Families: 250



% of Active Families Participation: 51%

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

Current & Future Projects:



Church Roof Repair: Project completed, estimated cost of \$400,000...final cost \$321,000.



Rectory Roof Repair: Proposals received, estimated cost \$18,000, pending review.



Church Window Repairs: Proposals received, estimated cost \$9,000, pending review.



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



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



Parking Lot Sealing: Project complete at both Rectory & Church...final cost \$14,000.



Interior Repairs, Expand Storage & Vent Cleaning: Partial proposals received. Vent cleaning estimated cost \$9,000.



Exterior/Masonry /Walkway Repairs: Awaiting proposals.



Security Cameras/Door Upgrades: Camera system complete, final cost \$10,500. Door proposal received, pending review.

Important Highlights

- We are extremely grateful to all of those who have contributed and supported the campaign thus far.
- The finance committee has begun strategy planning on maximizing the return of current financial reserves for future projects. God willing, this will prevent the need for another capital campaign and *allow for a more spiritual focus!*
- As reflected above, donations have varied in amounts, we do not expect everyone to support with the same amount...*However, we do pray that everyone will support this important campaign!*
- This is an open and transparent campaign, if you have any questions, suggestion, or concerns Fr. Ephrem or any of the committee members would be more than happy review/discuss during coffee hour or feel free to call them at the numbers listed below.



For more information contact any of the committee members, [click here](#), or scan this code with your Smartphone Camera!

Jeff Boudjouk: 401-441-2737

Ann Sabbagh: 508-243-1190

Kyle Mardo: 401-578-5369

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